## **RESEARCH CENTRE**

Inria Center at Rennes University

## **IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:**

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# 2022 ACTIVITY REPORT

# Project-Team GALLINETTE

# Gallinette: developing a new generation of proof assistants

IN COLLABORATION WITH: Laboratoire des Sciences du numerique de Nantes

## DOMAIN

Algorithmics, Programming, Software and Architecture

THEME Proofs and Verification



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## **Project-Team GALLINETTE**

Creation of the Project-Team: 2018 June 01

## Keywords

## Computer sciences and digital sciences

- A2.1.1. Semantics of programming languages
- A2.1.2. Imperative programming
- A2.1.3. Object-oriented programming
- A2.1.4. Functional programming
- A2.1.11. Proof languages
- A2.2.3. Memory management
- A2.4.3. Proofs
- A7.2.3. Interactive Theorem Proving
- A7.2.4. Mechanized Formalization of Mathematics
- A8.4. Computer Algebra

## Other research topics and application domains

B6.1. - Software industry

## 1 Team members, visitors, external collaborators

## **Research Scientists**

- Nicolas Tabareau [Team leader, INRIA, Senior Researcher, HDR]
- Assia Mahboubi [INRIA, Senior Researcher, HDR]
- Kenji Maillard [INRIA, ISFP, from Dec 2022]
- Guillaume Munch [INRIA, Researcher]
- Pierre-Marie Pedrot [INRIA, Researcher]
- Matthieu Sozeau [INRIA, Researcher]

## **Faculty Members**

- Julien Cohen [UNIV NANTES, Associate Professor]
- Rémi Douence [IMT ATLANTIQUE, Associate Professor, HDR]
- Hervé Grall [IMT ATLANTIQUE, Associate Professor, until Sep 2022]
- Guilhem Jaber [UNIV NANTES, Associate Professor]

## **Post-Doctoral Fellows**

- Yannick Forster [INRIA]
- Matthieu Piquerez [INRIA]

## **PhD Students**

- Martin Baillon [INRIA]
- Enzo Crance [MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC]
- Pierre Giraud [INRIA]
- Christopher Hughes [Inria, until Nov 2022]
- Hamza Jaafar [INRIA]
- Meven Lennon-Bertrand [UNIV NANTES, until Aug 2022]

## **Technical Staff**

- Gaetan Gilbert [INRIA, Engineer]
- Kenji Maillard [INRIA, Engineer, until Nov 2022]
- Loic Pujet [UNIV NANTES, Engineer, until Aug 2022]
- Kazuhiko Sakaguchi [INRIA, Engineer, from Nov 2022]

#### **Interns and Apprentices**

- Arthur Adjedj [ENS Lyon, Intern, from Jun 2022 until Jul 2022]
- Yann Leray [ENS Paris, from Mar 2022 until Jul 2022]
- Iwan Quemerais [ENS LYON Student, Intern, from Jun 2022 until Jul 2022]
- Yee Jian Tan [National University of Singapore, from May 2022 until Aug 2022, Bachelor Student]
- Tomàs Javier Vallejos Parada [Escuela de Ingeniería y Ciencias de la Facultad de Ciencias Físicas y Matemáticas de la Universidad de Chile, Intern, from Apr 2022 until Aug 2022]

## Administrative Assistant

• Anne-Claire Binetruy [INRIA]

#### **Visiting Scientist**

• Kazuhiko Sakaguchi [University of Tsukuba - Japan , from Jun 2022 until Jun 2022, Phd Student]

## 2 Overall objectives

The EPI Gallinette aims at developing a new generation of proof assistants, with the belief that practical experiments must go in pair with foundational investigations:

- The goal is to advance proof assistants both as certified programming languages and mechanised logical systems. Advanced programming and mathematical paradigms must be integrated, notably dependent types and effects. The distinctive approach is to implement new programming and logical paradigms on top of Coq by considering the latter as a target language for compilation.
- The aim of foundational investigations is to extend the boundaries of the Curry-Howard correspondence. It is seen both as providing foundations for programming languages and logic, and as a purveyor of techniques essential to the development of proof assistants. Under this perspective, the development of proof assistants is seen as a full-fledged experiment using the correspondence in every aspect: programming languages, type theory, proof theory, rewriting and algebra.

## **3** Research program

#### 3.1 Scientific Context

Software quality is a requirement that is becoming more and more prevalent, by now far exceeding the traditional scope of embedded systems. The development of tools to construct software that respects a given specification is a major challenge in computer science. *Proof assistants* such as Coq [57] provide a formal method whose central innovation is to produce *certified programs* by transforming the very activity of programming. Programming and proving are merged into a single development activity, informed by an elegant but rigid mathematical theory inspired by the correspondence between programming, logic and algebra: the *Curry-Howard correspondence*. For the certification of programs, this approach has shown its effectiveness in the development of important pieces of certified software such as the C compiler of the CompCert project [89]. The extracted CompCert compiler is reliable and efficient, running only 15% slower than GCC 4 at optimisation level 2 (gcc -02), a level of optimisation that was considered before to be unreliable from critical applications such as embedded systems.

Proof assistants can also be used to *formalise mathematical theories*: they not only provide a means of representing mathematical theories in a form amenable to computer processing, but their internal logic provides a language for reasoning about such theories. In the last decade, proof assistants have been used to verify extremely large and complicated proofs of recent mathematical results, sometimes requiring either intensive computations [69, 74] or intricate combinations of a multitude of mathematical theories

[70]. But formalised mathematics is more than just proof checking and proof assistants can help with the organisation of mathematical knowledge or even with the discovery of new constructions and proofs.

Unfortunately, the rigidity of the theory behind proof assistants restricts their expressiveness both as programming languages and as logical systems. For instance, a program extracted from Coq only uses a purely functional subset of OCaml, leaving behind important means of expression such as side-effects and objects. Limitations also appear in the formalisation of advanced mathematics: proof assistants do not cope well with classical axioms such as excluded middle and choice which are sometimes used crucially. The fact of the matter is that the development of proof assistants cannot be dissociated from a reflection on the nature of programs and proofs coming from the Curry-Howard correspondence. In the EPC Gallinette, we propose to address several limitations of proof assistants by pushing the boundaries of this correspondence.

In the 1970's, the Curry-Howard correspondence was seen as a perfect match between functional programs, intuitionistic logic, and Cartesian closed categories. It received several generalisations over the decades, and now it is more widely understood as a fertile correspondence between computation, logic, and algebra.

Nowadays, the Curry-Howard correspondence is not perceived as a perfect match anymore, but rather as a collection of theories meant to explain similar structures at work in logic and computation, underpinned by mathematical abstractions. By relaxing the requirement of a perfect match between programs and proofs, and instead emphasising the common foundations of both, the insights of the Curry-Howard correspondence may be extended to domains for which the requirements of programming and mathematics may in fact be quite different.

Consider the following two major theories of the past decades, which were until recently thought to be irreconcilable:

- (Martin-Löf) Type theory: introduced by Martin-Löf in 1971, this formalism [96] is both a programming language and a logical system. The central ingredient is the use of *dependent types* to allow fine-grained invariants to be expressed in program types. In 1985, Coquand and Huet developed a similar system called the *calculus of constructions*, which served as logical foundation of the first implementation of Coq. This kind of systems is still under active development, especially with the recent advent of homotopy type theory (HoTT) [119] that gives a new point of view on types and the notion of equality in type theory.
- The theory of effects: starting in the 1980's, Moggi [101] and Girard [67] put forward monads and co-monads as describing various compositional notions of computation. In this theory, programs can have side-effects (state, exceptions, input-output), logics can be non-intuitionistic (linear, classical), and different computational universes can interact (modal logics). Recently, the safe and automatic management of resources has also seen a coming of age (Rust, Modern C++) confirming the importance of linear logic for various programming concepts. It is now understood that the characteristic feature of the theory of effects is sensitivity to *evaluation order*, in contrast with type theory which is built around the assumption that evaluation order is irrelevant.

We now outline a series of scientific challenges aimed at understanding of type theory, effects, and their combination.

More precisely, three key axes of improvement have been identified:

- 1. Making the notion of equality closer to what is usually assumed when doing proofs on black board, with a balance between irrelevant equality for simple structures and equality up-to equivalences for more complex ones (Section 3.2). Such a notion of equality should allow one to implement traditional model transformations that enhance the logical power of the proof assistant using distinct compilation phases.
- 2. Advancing the foundations of effects within the Curry-Howard approach. The objective is to pave the way for the integration of effects in proof assistants and to prototype the corresponding implementation. This integration should allow for not only certified programming with effects, but also the expression of more powerful logics (Section 3.3).
- 3. Making more programming features (notably, object polymorphism) available in proof assistants, in order to scale to practical-sized developments. The objective is to enable programming styles closer

to common practices. One of the key challenges here is to leverage gradual typing to dependent programming (Section 3.4).

To validate the new paradigms, we propose in Section 3.5 three particular application fields in which members of the team already have a strong expertise: code refactoring, constraint programming and symbolic computation.

### 3.2 Enhance the computational and logical power of proof assistants

The democratisation of proof assistants based on type theory has likely been impeded by one central problem: the mismatch between the conception of equality in mathematics and its formalisation in type theory. Indeed, some basic principles that are used implicitly in mathematics—such as Church's principle of propositional extensionality, which says that two propositions are equal when they are logically equivalent—are not derivable in type theory. Even more problematically, from a computer science point of view, the basic concept of two functions being equal when they are equal at every "point" of their domain is also not derivable: rather, it must be added as an additional axiom. Of course, these principles are consistent with type theory so that working under the corresponding additional assumptions is safe. But the use of these assumptions in a definition potentially clutters its computational behaviour: since axioms are computational black boxes, computation gets stuck at the points of the code where they have been used.

We propose to investigate how expressive logical transformations such as forcing [80] and sheaf construction might be used to enhance the computational and logical power of proof assistants—with a particular emphasis on their implementation in the Coq proof assistant by the means of effective translations (or compilation phases). One of the main topics of this task, in connection to the ERC project CoqHoTT, is the integration in Coq of new concepts inspired by homotopy type theory [119] such as the univalence principle, and higher inductive types.

#### 3.2.1 A definitional proof-irrelevant version of Coq.

In the Coq proof assistant, the sort **Prop** stands for the universe of types which are propositions. That is, when a term *P* has type **Prop**, the only relevant fact is whether *P* is inhabited (that is true) or not (that is false). This property, known as *proof irrelevance*, can be expressed formally as:  $\forall x \ y : P, x = y$ . Originally, the *raison d'être* of the sort **Prop** was to characterise types with no computational meaning with the intention that terms of such types could be erased upon extraction. However, the assumption that every element of **Prop** should be proof irrelevant has never been integrated to the system. Indeed, in Coq, proof irrelevance for the sort **Prop** is not incorporated into the theory: it is only compatible with it, in the sense that its assumption does not give rise to an inconsistent theory. In fact, the exact status of the sort **Prop** in Coq has never been entirely clarified, which explains in part this lack of integration. Homotopy type theory brings fresh thinking on this issue and suggests turning **Prop** into the collection of terms that a certain static inference procedure tags as proof irrelevant. The goal of this task is to integrate this insight in the Coq system and to implement a definitional proof-irrelevant version of the sort **Prop**.

#### 3.2.2 Extend the Coq proof assistant with a computational version of univalence

The univalence principle is becoming widely accepted as a very promising avenue to provide new foundations for mathematics and type theory. However, this principle has not yet been incorporated into a proof assistant. Indeed, the very mathematical structures (known as  $\infty$ -groupoids) motivating the theory remain to this day an active area of research. Moreover, a correct and decidable type checking procedure for the whole theory raises both computational complexity and logical coherence issues. Observational type theory [36], as implemented in Epigram, provides a first-stage approximation to homotopy type theory, but only deals with functional extensionality and does not capture univalence. Coquand and his collaborators have obtained significant results on the computational meaning of univalence using cubical sets [46, 51]. Bickford has initiated a promising formalisation work <sup>1</sup> in the NuPRL system. However, a complete formalisation in intensional type theory remains an open problem.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Cubical Type Theory

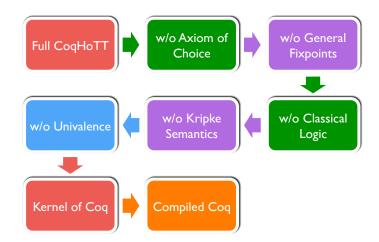


Figure 1: Multiple compilation phases to increase the logical and computational power of Coq.

Hence a major objective is to achieve a complete internalisation of univalence in intensional type theory, including an integration to a new version of Coq. We will strive to keep compatibility with previous versions, in particular from a performance point of view. Indeed, the additional complexity of homotopy type theory should not induce an overhead in the type checking procedure used by the software if we want our new framework to become rapidly adopted by the community. Concretely, we will make sure that the compilation time of Coq's Standard Library will be of the same order of magnitude.

#### 3.2.3 Extend the logical power of type theory without axioms in a modular way

Extending the power of a logic using model transformations (*e.g.*, forcing transformation [81, 80] or the sheaf construction [112]) is a classic topic of mathematical logic [55, 87]. However, these ideas have not been much investigated in the setting of type theory, even though they may provide a useful framework for extending the logical power of proof assistant in a modular way. There is a good reason for this: with a syntactic notion of equality, the underlying structure of type theory does not conform to the structure of topos used in mathematical logic. A direct incorporation of the standard techniques is therefore not possible. However, a univalent notion of  $\infty$ -topos recently studied by Lurie [94]. The goal of this task is to revisit model transformations in the light of the univalence principle, and to obtain in this way new internal transformations in type theory which can in turn be seen as compilation phases. The general notion of an internal syntactical translation has already been investigated in the team [47].

#### 3.2.4 Methodology: Extending type theory with different compilation phases

The Gallinette project advocates the use of distinct compilation phases as a methodology for the design of a new generation of proof assistants featuring modular extensions of a core logic. The essence of a compiler is the separation of the complexity of a translation process into modular stages, and the organization of their re-composition. This idea finds a natural application in the design of complex proof assistants (Figure 1). For instance, the definition of type classes in Coq follows this pattern, and is morally given by the means of a translation into a type-class free kernel. More recently, a similar approach by compilation stages, using the forcing transformation, was used to relax the strict positivity condition guarding inductive types [81, 80]. We believe that this flavour of compilation-based strategies offers a promising direction of investigation for the purpose of defining a decidable type checking algorithm for HoTT.

# 3.3 Semantic and logical foundations for effects in proof assistants based on type theory

We propose the incorporation of effects in the theory of proof assistants at a foundational level. Not only would this allow for certified programming with effects, but it would moreover have implications for both semantics and logic.

We mean *effects* in a broad sense that encompasses both Moggi's monads [101] and Girard's linear logic [67]. These two seminal works have given rise to respective theories of effects (monads) and resources (co-monads). Recent advances, however have unified these two lines of thought: it is now clear that the defining feature of effects, in the broad sense, is sensitivity to evaluation order [90, 58].

In contrast, the type theory that forms the foundations of proof assistants is based on pure  $\lambda$ -calculus and is built on the assumption that evaluation order is irrelevant. Evaluation order is therefore the blind spot of type theory. In Moggi [102], integrating the dependent types of type theory with monads is "the next difficult step [...] currently under investigation".

Any realistic program contains effects: state, exceptions, input-output. More generally, evaluation order may simply be important for complexity reasons. With this in mind, many works have focused on certified programming with effects: notably Ynot [106], and more recently  $F^*$  [118] and Idris [48], which propose various ways for encapsulating effects and restricting the dependency of types on effectful terms. Effects are either specialised, such as the monads with Hoare-style pre- and post-conditions found in Ynot or  $F^*$ , or more general, such as the algebraic effects implemented in Idris. But whereas there are several experiments and projects pursuing the certification of programs with effects, each making its own choices on how effects and dependency should be merged, there is on the other hand a deficit of logical and semantic investigations.

We propose to develop the foundations of a type theory with effects taking into account the logical and semantic aspects, and to study their practical and theoretical consequences. A type theory that integrates effects would have logical, algebraic and computational implications when viewed through the Curry-Howard correspondence. For instance, effects such as control operators establish a link with classical proof theory [72]. Indeed, control operators provide computational interpretations of type isomorphisms such as  $A \cong \neg \neg A$  and  $\neg \forall x A \cong \exists x \neg A$  (e.g. [103]), whereas the conventional wisdom of type theory holds that such axioms are non-constructive (this is for instance the point of view that has been advocated so far in homotopy type theory [119]). Another example of an effect with logical content is state (more precisely memoization) which is used to provide constructive content to the classical dependent axiom of choice [45, 84, 76]. In the long term, a whole body of literature on the constructive content of classical proofs is to be explored and integrated, providing rich sources of inspiration: Kohlenbach's proof mining [83] and Simpson's reverse mathematics [116], for instance, are certainly interesting to investigate from the Curry-Howard perspective.

The goal is to develop a type theory with effects that accounts both for practical experiments in certified programming, and for clues from denotational semantics and logical phenomena, in a unified setting.

#### 3.3.1 Models for integrating effects with dependent types

A crucial step is the integration of dependent types with effects, a topic which has remained "currently under investigation" [102] ever since the beginning. The difficulty resides in expressing the dependency of types on terms that can perform side-effects during the computation. On the side of denotational semantics, several extensions of categorical models for effects with dependent types have been proposed [33, 120] using axioms that should correspond to restrictions in terms of expressivity but whose practical implications, however, are not immediately transparent. On the side of logical approaches [76, 77, 88, 100], one first considers a drastic restriction to terms that do not compute, which is then relaxed by semantic means. On the side of systems for certified programming such as  $F^*$ , the type system ensures that types only depend on pure and terminating terms.

Thus, the recurring idea is to introduce restrictions on the dependency in order to establish an encapsulation of effects. In our approach, we seek a principled description of this idea by developing the concept of *semantic value* (thunkables, linears) which arose from foundational considerations [66, 115, 104] and whose relevance was highlighted in recent works [91, 108]. The novel aspect of our approach is

to seek a proper extension of type theory which would provide foundations for a classical type theory with axiom of choice in the style of Herbelin [76], but which moreover could be generalised to effects other than just control by exploiting an abstract and adaptable notion of semantic value.

#### 3.3.2 Intuitionistic depolarisation

In our view, the common idea that evaluation order does not matter for pure and terminating computations should serve as a bridge between our proposals for dependent types in the presence of effects and traditional type theory. Building on the previous goal, we aim to study the relationship between semantic values, purity, and parametricity theorems [114, 68]. Our goal is to characterise parametricity as a form of intuitionistic *depolarisation* following the method by which the first game model of full linear logic was given (Melliès [97, 98]). We have two expected outcomes in mind: enriching type theory with intensional content without losing its properties, and giving an explanation of the dependent types in the style of Idris and F<sup>\*</sup> where purity- and termination-checking play a role.

#### 3.3.3 Developing the rewriting theory of calculi with effects

An integrated type theory with effects requires an understanding of evaluation order from the point of view of rewriting. For instance, rewriting properties can entail the decidability of some conversions, allowing the automation of equational reasoning in types [31]. They can also provide proofs of computational consistency (that terms are not all equivalent) by showing that extending calculi with new constructs is conservative [117]. In our approach, the  $\lambda$ -calculus is replaced by a calculus modelling the evaluation in an abstract machine [59]. We have shown how this approach generalises the previous semantic and proof-theoretic approaches [37, 90, 92], and overcomes their shortcomings [105].

One goal is to prove computational consistency or decidability of conversions purely using advanced rewriting techniques following a technique introduced in [117]. Another goal is the characterisation of weak reductions: extensions of the operational semantics to terms with free variables that preserve termination, whose iteration is equivalent to strong reduction [32, 63]. We aim to show that such properties derive from generic theorems of higher-order rewriting [113], so that weak reduction can easily be generalised to richer systems with effects.

#### 3.3.4 Direct models and categorical coherence

Proof theory and rewriting are a source of *coherence theorems* in category theory, which show how calculations in a category can be simplified with an embedding into a structure with stronger properties [95, 86]. We aim to explore such results for categorical models of effects [90, 58]. Our key insight is to consider the reflection between *indirect and direct models* [66, 104] as a coherence theorem: it allows us to embed the traditional models of effects into structures for which the rewriting and proof-theoretic techniques from the previous section are effective.

Building on this, we are further interested in connecting operational semantics to 2-category theory, in which a second dimension is traditionally considered for modelling conversions of programs rather than equivalences. This idea has been successfully applied for the  $\lambda$ -calculus [82, 78] but does not scale yet to more realistic models of computation. In our approach, it has already been noticed that the expected symmetries coming from categorical dualities are better represented, motivating a new investigation into this long-standing question.

#### 3.3.5 Models of effects and resources

The unified theory of effects and resources [58] prompts an investigation into the semantics of safe and automatic resource management, in the style of Modern C++ and Rust. Our goal is to show how advanced semantics of effects, resources, and their combination arise by assembling elementary blocks, pursuing the methodology applied by Melliès and Tabareau in the context of continuations [99]. For instance, combining control flow (exceptions, return) with linearity allows us to describe in a precise way the "Resource Acquisition Is Initialisation" idiom in which the resource safety is ensured with scope-based destructors. A further step would be to reconstruct uniqueness types and borrowing using similar ideas.

#### 3.4 Language extensions for the scaling of proof assistants

The development of tools to construct software systems that respect a given specification is a major challenge of current and future research in computer science. Certified programming with dependent types has recently attracted a lot of interest, and Coq is the *de facto* standard for such endeavours, with an increasing number of users, pedagogical resources, and large-scale projects. Nevertheless, significant work remains to be done to make Coq more usable from a software engineering point of view. The Gallinette team proposes to make progress on three lines of work: (i) the development of gradual certified programming, (ii) the integration of imperative features and object polymorphism in Coq, and (iii) the development of robust tactics for proof engineering for the scaling of formalised libraries.

#### 3.4.1 Gradual Certified Programming

One of the main issues faced by a programmer starting to internalise in a proof assistant code written in a more permissive world is that type theory is constrained by a strict type discipline which lacks flexibility. Concretely, as soon as you start giving a more precise type/specification to a function, the rest of the code interacting with this function needs to be more precise too. To address this issue, the Gallinette team will put strong efforts into the development of gradual typing in type theory to allow progressive integration of code that comes from a more permissive world.

Indeed, on the way to full verification, programmers can take advantage of a gradual approach in which some properties are simply asserted instead of proven, subject to dynamic verification. Tabareau and Tanter have made preliminary progress in this direction [61]. This work, however, suffers from a number of limitations, the most important being the lack of a mechanism for handling the possibility of runtime errors within Coq. Instead of relying on axioms, this project will explore the application of Section 3.3 to embed effects in Coq. This way, instead of postulating axioms for parts of the development that are too hard/marginal to be dealt with, the system adds dynamic checks. Then, after extraction, we get a program that corresponds to the initial program but with dynamic checks for parts that have not been proven, ensuring that the program will raise an error instead of going outside its specification.

This will yield new foundations of gradual certified programming, both more expressive and practical. We will also study how to integrate previous techniques with the extraction mechanism of Coq programs to OCaml, in order to exploit the exception mechanism of OCaml.

#### 3.4.2 Imperative features and object polymorphism in the Coq proof assistant

**Imperative features.** Abstract data types (ADTs) become useful as the size of programs grows since they provide for a modular approach, allowing abstractions about data to be expressed and then instantiated. Moreover, ADTs are natural concepts in the calculus of inductive constructions. But while it is easy to declare an ADT, it is often difficult to implement an efficient one. Compare this situation with, for example, Okasaki's purely functional data structures [107] which implement ADTs like queues in languages with imperative features. Of course, Okasaki's queues enforce some additional properties for free, such as persistence, but the programmer may prefer to use and to study a simpler implementation without those additional properties. Also in certified symbolic computation (see 3.5.3), an efficient functional implementation of ADTs is often not available, and efficiency is a major challenge in this area. Relying on the theoretical work done in 3.3, we will equip Coq with imperative features and we will demonstrate how they can be used to provide efficient implementations of ADTs. However, it is also often the case that imperative implementations are hard-to-reason-on, requiring for instance the use of separation logic. But in that case, we benefit from recent works on integration of separation logic in the Coq proof assistant and in particular the Iris project.

**Object polymorphism.** Object-oriented programming has evolved since its foundation based on the representation of computations as an exchange of messages between objects. In modern programming languages like Scala, which aims at a synthesis between object-oriented and functional programming, object-orientation concretely results in the use of hierarchies of interfaces ordered by the subtyping relation and the definition of interface implementations that can interoperate. As observed by Cook and Aldrich [56, 35], interoperability can be considered as the essential feature of objects and is a requirement

for many modern frameworks and ecosystems: it means that two different implementations of the same interface can interoperate.

Our objective is to provide a representation of object-oriented programs, by focusing on subtyping and interoperability.

For subtyping, the natural solution in type theory is coercive subtyping [93], as implemented in Coq, with an explicit operator for coercions. This should lead to a shallow embedding, but has limitations: indeed, while it allows subtyping to be faithfully represented, it does not provide a direct means to represent union and intersection types, which are often associated with subtyping (for instance intersection types are present in Scala). A more ambitious solution would be to resort to subsumptive subtyping (or semantic subtyping [65]): in its more general form, a type algebra is extended with boolean operations (union, intersection, complementing) to get a boolean algebra with operators (the original type constructors). Subtyping is then interpreted as the natural partial order of the boolean algebra.

We propose to use the type class machinery of Coq to implement semantic subtyping for dependent type theory. Using type class resolution, we can emulate inference rules of subsumptive subtyping without modifying Coq internally. This has also another advantage. As subsumptive subtyping for dependent types should be undecidable in general, using type class resolution allows for an incomplete yet extensible decision procedure.

#### 3.4.3 Robust tactics for proof engineering for the scaling of formalised libraries

When developing certified software, a major part of the effort is spent not only on writing proof scripts, but on *rewriting* them, either for the purpose of code maintenance or because of more significant changes in the base definitions. Regrettably, proof scripts suffer more often than not from a bad programming style, and too many proof developers casually neglect the most elementary principles of well-behaved programmers. As a result, many proof scripts are very brittle, user-defined tactics are often difficult to extend, and sometimes even lack a clear specification. Formal libraries are thus generally very fragile pieces of software. One reason for this unfortunate situation is that proof engineering is very badly served by the tools currently available to the users of the Coq proof assistant, starting with its tactic language. One objective of the Gallinette team is to develop better tools to write proof scripts.

Completing and maintaining a large corpus of formalised mathematics requires a well-designed tactic language. This language should both accommodate the possible specific needs of the theories at stake, and help with diagnostics at refactoring time. Coq's tactic language is in fact two-leveled. First, it includes a basic tactic language, to organise the deductive steps in a proof script and to perform the elementary bureaucracy. Its second layer is a meta-programming language, which allows users to define their own new tactics at toplevel. Our first direction of work consists in the investigation of the appropriate features of the basic tactic language. For instance, the design of the Ssreflect tactic language, and its support for the small scale reflection methodology [71], has been a key ingredient in at least two large scale formalisation endeavours: the Four Colour Theorem [69] and of the Odd Order Theorem [70]. Building on our experience with the Ssreflect tactic language, we will contribute to the ongoing work on the basic tactic language for Coq. The second objective of this task is to contribute to the design of a typed tactic language. In particular, we will build on the work of Ziliani and his collaborators [121], extending it with reasoning about the effects that tactics have on the "state of a proof" (e.g. number of sub-goals, metavariables in context). We will also develop a novel approach for incremental type checking of proof scripts, so that programmers gain access to a richer discovery-engineering interaction with the proof assistant.

#### 3.5 Practical experiments

The first three axes of the EPC Gallinette aim at developing a new generation of proof assistants. But we strongly believe that foundational investigations must go hand in hand with practical experiments. Therefore, we expect to benefit from existing expertise and collaborations in the team to experiment our extensions of Coq on real world developments. It should be noticed that those practical experiments are strongly guided by the deep history of research on software engineering of team members.

#### 3.5.1 Certified Code Refactoring

In the context of refactoring of C programs, we intend to formalise program transformations that are written in an imperative style to test the usability of our addition of effects in the proof assistant. This subject has been chosen based on the competence of members of the team.

We are currently working on the formalisation of refactoring tools in Coq [53]. Automatic refactoring of programs in industrial languages is difficult because of the large number of potential interactions between language features that are difficult to predict and to test. Indeed, all available refactoring tools suffer from bugs : they fail to ensure that the generated program has the same behaviour as the input program. To cope with that difficulty, we have chosen to build a refactoring tool with Coq : a program transformation is written in the Coq programming language, then proven correct on all possible inputs, and then an OCaml executable program is generated by the platform. We rely on the CompCert C formalisation of the C language. CompCert is currently the most complete formalisation of an industrial language, which justifies that choice. We have three goals in that project :

- Build a refactoring tool that programmers can rely on and make it available in a popular platform (such as Eclipse, IntelliJ or Frama-C).
- Explore large, drastic program transformations such as replacing a design architecture for an other one, by applying a sequence of small refactoring operations (as we have done for Java and Haskell programs before [52, 54, 34]), while ensuring behaviour preservation.
- Explore the use of enhancements of proof systems on large developments. For instance, refactoring tools are usually developed in the imperative/object paradigm, so the extension of Coq with side effects or with object features proposed in the team can find a direct use-case here.

#### 3.5.2 Certified Constraint Programming

We plan to make use of the internalisation of the object-oriented paradigm in the context of constraint programming. Indeed, this domain is made of very complex algorithms that are often developed using object-oriented programming (as it is the case for instance for CHOCO, which is developed in the Tasc Group at IMT Atlantique, Nantes). We will in particular focus on filtering algorithms in constraint solvers, for which research publications currently propose new algorithms with manual proofs. Their formalisation in Coq is challenging. Another interesting part of constraint solving to formalise is the part that deals with program generation (as opposed to extraction). However, when there are numerous generated pieces of code, it is not realistic to prove their correctness manually, and it can be too difficult to prove the correctness of a generator. So we intend to explore a middle path that consists in generating a piece of code along with its corresponding proof (script or proof term). A target application could be interval constraints (for instance Allen interval algebra or region connection calculus) that can generate thousands of specialised filtering algorithms for a small number of variables [42].

Finally, Rémi Douence has already worked (articles publishing [73, 111, 62, 44, 40, 39], PhD Thesis advising [110, 38]) with different members of the Tasc team. Currently, he supervises with Nicolas Beldiceanu the PhD Thesis of Jovial Cheukam Ngouonou in the Tasc team. He studies graph invariants to enhance learning algorithms. This work requires proofs, manually done for now, we would like to explore when these proofs could be mechanized.

#### 3.5.3 Certified Symbolic Computation

We will investigate how the addition of effects in the Coq proof assistant can facilitate the marriage of computer algebra with formal proofs. Computer algebra systems and proof assistants are both designed for doing mathematics with the help of a computer, by the means of symbolic computations. These two families of systems are however very different in nature: computer algebra systems allow for implementations faithful to the theoretical complexity of the algorithms, whereas proof assistants have the expressiveness to specify exactly the semantics of the data-structures and computations. By adding effects in the Coq proof assistant, it should be possible to specify and certify computer algebra routines in Coq, thus getting efficiency at the same time as formal correctness.

Experiments have been run that link computer algebra systems with Coq [60, 50]. These bridges rely on the implementation of formal proof-producing core algorithms like normalisation procedures. Incidentally, they require non trivial maintenance work to survive the evolution of both systems. Other proof assistants like the Isabelle/HOL system make use of so-called reflection schemes: the proof assistant can produce code in an external programming language like SML, but also allows to import the values output by these extracted programs back inside the formal proofs. This feature extends the trusted base of code quite significantly but it has been used for major achievements like a certified symbolic/numeric ODE solver [79].

We would like to bring Coq closer to the efficiency and user-friendliness of computer algebra systems: for now it is difficult to use the Coq programming language so that certified implementations of computer algebra algorithms have the right, observable, complexity when they are executed inside Coq. We see the addition of effects to the proof assistant as an opportunity to ease these implementations, for instance by making use of caching mechanisms or of profiling facilities. Such enhancements should enable the verification of computation-intensive mathematical proofs that are currently beyond reach, like the validation of Helfgott's proof of the weak Goldbach conjecture [75].

## 4 Application domains

#### Programming

- Correct and certified software engineering through the development and the advancement of Coq (e.g. gradualizing type theory, MetaCoq) and practical experiments for its application.
- More general contributions to programming languages: theoretical works advancing semantic techniques (e.g. deciding equivalence between programs, abstract syntaxes and rewriting, models of effects and resources), and practical works for functional programming (e.g. related to OCaml and Rust).

#### Foundations of mathematics

- Formalisation of mathematics
- Contributions to mathematical logic: type theory (e.g. dependent types and univalence), proof theory (e.g. constructive classical logic), categorical logic (e.g. higher algebra, models of focusing and linear logic)

## 5 Highlights of the year

- The Gallinette team has organized the TYPES'22 conference in June in Nantes (140 participants).
- The paper [9] has been selected as a distinguished paper of the POPL'22 conference.
- · Gaëtan Gilbert has been hired as a permanent research engineer on Dec 1st 2022.
- Kenji Maillard has been hired on an Inria Starting Faculty Position (ISFP) on Dec 1st 2022.
- Guilhem Jaber is on leave at Inria since Sept 1st 2022.

## 6 New software and platforms

#### 6.1 New software

6.1.1 Ltac2

Keywords: Coq, Proof assistant

Functional Description: A replacement for Ltac, the tactic language of Coq.

Contact: Pierre-Marie Pedrot

#### 6.1.2 Equations

Keywords: Coq, Dependent Pattern-Matching, Proof assistant, Functional programming

**Scientific Description:** Equations is a tool designed to help with the definition of programs in the setting of dependent type theory, as implemented in the Coq proof assistant. Equations provides a syntax for defining programs by dependent pattern-matching and well-founded recursion and compiles them down to the core type theory of Coq, using the primitive eliminators for inductive types, accessibility and equality. In addition to the definitions of programs, it also automatically derives useful reasoning principles in the form of propositional equations describing the functions, and an elimination principle for calls to this function. It realizes this using a purely definitional translation of high-level definitions to core terms, without changing the core calculus in any way, or using axioms.

The main features of Equations include:

Dependent pattern-matching in the style of Agda/Epigram, with inaccessible patterns, with and where clauses. The use of the K axiom or a proof of K is configurable, and it is able to solve unification problems without resorting to the K rule if not necessary.

Support for well-founded and mutual recursion using measure/well-foundedness annotations, even on indexed inductive types, using an automatic derivation of the subterm relation for inductive families.

Support for mutual and nested structural recursion using with and where auxilliary definitions, allowing to factor multiple uses of the same nested fixpoint definition. It proves the expected elimination principles for mutual and nested definitions.

Automatic generation of the defining equations as rewrite rules for every definition.

Automatic generation of the unfolding lemma for well-founded definitions (requiring only functional extensionality).

Automatic derivation of the graph of the function and its elimination principle. In case the automation fails to prove these principles, the user is asked to provide a proof.

A new dependent elimination tactic based on the same splitting tree compilation scheme that can advantageously replace dependent destruction and sometimes inversion as well. The as clause of dependent elimination allows to specify exactly the patterns and naming of new variables needed for an elimination.

A set of Derive commands for automatic derivation of constructions from an inductive type: its signature, no-confusion property, well-founded subterm relation and decidable equality proof, if applicable.

**Functional Description:** Equations is a function definition plugin for Coq (supporting Coq 8.13 to 8.17, with special support for the Coq-HoTT library), that allows the definition of functions by dependent pattern-matching and well-founded, mutual or nested structural recursion and compiles them into core terms. It automatically derives the clauses equations, the graph of the function and its associated elimination principle.

Equations is based on a simplification engine for the dependent equalities appearing in dependent eliminations that is also usable as a separate tactic, providing an axiom-free variant of dependent destruction.

**Release Contributions:** This is a new major release of Equations, working with Coq 8.15 to 8.17. This version adds an improved syntax (less ,-separation), integration with the Coq-HoTT library and numerous bug fixes. See the reference manual for details.

This version introduces minor breaking changes along with the following features:

Enhancements of pattern interpretation

No explicit shadowing of pattern variables is allowed anymore. This fixes numerous bugs where generated implicit names introduced by the elaboration of patterns could shadow user-given names, leading to incorrect names in right-hand sides and confusing environments.

Improved syntax for "concise" clauses separated by |, at top-level or inside with subprograms. We no longer require to separate them by ,. For example, the following definition is now accepted:

Equations foo : nat -> nat := | 0 => 1 | S n => S (foo n). The old syntax is however still supported for backwards compatibility.

Multiple patterns can be separated by , in addition to |, as in:

Equations trans {A} {x y z : A} (e : x = y) (e' : y = z) : x = z := | 1, 1 => 1. Require Import Equations. Equations. does not work anymore. One has to use Require Import Equations. Prop. Equations to load the plugin's default instance where equality is in Prop. From Equations Require Import Equations is unaffected.

Use Require Import Equations.HoTT.All to use the HoTT variant of the library compatible with the Coq HoTT library The plugin then reuses the definition of paths from the HoTT library and all its constructions are universe polymorphic. As for the HoTT library alone, coq must be passed the arguments -noinit -indices-matter to use the library and plugin. The coq-equations opam package depends optionally on coq-hott, so if coq-hott is installed before it, coq-equations will automatically install the HoTT library variant in addition to the standard one. This variant of Equations allows to write very concise dependent pattern-matchings on equality:

Require Import Equations.HoTT.All. Equations sym {A} {x y : A} (e : x = y) : y = x := | 1 => 1. New attribute #[tactic=tac] to set locally the default tactic to solve remaining holes. The goals on which the tactic applies are now always of the form  $\Gamma$  |-  $\tau$  where  $\Gamma$  is the context where the hole was introduced and  $\tau$  the expected type, even when using the Obligation machinery to solve them, resulting in a possible incompatibility if the obligation tactic treated the context differently than the conclusion. By default, the program\_simpl tactic performs a simpl call before introducing the hypotheses, so you might need to add a simpl in \* to your tactics.

New attributes #[derive(equations=yes,no, eliminator=yes|no)] can be used in place of the (noeqns, noind) flags which are deprecated.

**News of the Year:** Equations 1.3, was fist released in September 2021, bringing bugfixes, an improved grammar and more robust proof automation tactics. It has been maintained and updated to the latest Coq versions.

URL: http://mattam82.github.io/Coq-Equations/

Publications: hal-01671777, hal-01248807, inria-00628862

Contact: Matthieu Sozeau

Participant: Matthieu Sozeau

#### 6.1.3 Math-Components

Name: Mathematical Components library

Keyword: Proof assistant

- **Functional Description:** The Mathematical Components library is a set of Coq libraries that cover the prerequiste for the mechanization of the proof of the Odd Order Theorem.
- URL: https://math-comp.github.io/

Contact: Assia Mahboubi

**Participants:** Alexey Solovyev, Andrea Asperti, Assia Mahboubi, Cyril Cohen, Enrico Tassi, François Garillot, Georges Gonthier, Ioana Pasca, Jeremy Avigad, Laurence Rideau, Laurent Théry, Russell O'Connor, Sidi Ould Biha, Stéphane Le Roux, Yves Bertot

#### 6.1.4 Math-comp-analysis

Name: Mathematical Components Analysis

- Keyword: Proof assistant
- **Functional Description:** This library adds definitions and theorems to the Math-components library for real numbers and their mathematical structures.
- **Release Contributions:** The main change is the split into two packages coq-mathcomp-classical and coq-mathcomp-analysis.
- **News of the Year:** In 2021 were added parts of the theory of convergence for sequences and series, of trigonometric functions, and of measurable spaces and measures.

URL: https://github.com/math-comp/analysis

#### Publication: hal-01719918

#### Contact: Cyril Cohen

Participants: Cyril Cohen, Georges Gonthier, Marie Kerjean, Assia Mahboubi, Damien Rouhling, Laurence Rideau, Pierre-Yves Strub, Reynald Affeldt, Laurent Théry, Yves Bertot

Partners: Ecole Polytechnique, AIST Tsukuba

#### 6.1.5 MetaCoq

#### Keyword: Coq

Scientific Description: The MetaCoq project aims to provide a certified meta-programming environment in Coq. It builds on Template-Coq, a plugin for Coq originally implemented by Malecha (Extensible proof engineering in intensional type theory, Harvard University, 2014), which provided a reifier for Coq terms and global declarations, as represented in the Coq kernel, as well as a denotation command. Recently, it was used in the CertiCoq certified compiler project (Anand et al., in: CoqPL, Paris, France, 2017), as its front-end language, to derive parametricity properties (Anand and Morrisett, in: CoqPL'18, Los Angeles, CA, USA, 2018). However, the syntax lacked semantics, be it typing semantics or operational semantics, which should reflect, as formal specifications in Coq, the semantics of Coq's type theory itself. The tool was also rather bare bones, providing only rudimentary quoting and unquoting commands. MetaCoq generalizes it to handle the entire polymorphic calculus of cumulative inductive constructions, as implemented by Coq, including the kernel's declaration structures for definitions and inductives, and implement a monad for general manipulation of Coq's logical environment. The MetaCoq framework allows Coq users to define many kinds of general purpose plugins, whose correctness can be readily proved in the system itself, and that can be run efficiently after extraction. Examples of implemented plugins include a parametricity translation and a certified extraction to call-by-value lambda-calculus. The meta-theory of Coq itself is verified in MetaCoq along with verified conversion, type-checking and erasure procedures providing higly trustable alternatives to the procedures in Coq's OCaml kernel. MetaCoq is hence a foundation for the development of higher-level certified tools on top of Coq's kernel. A meta-programming and proving framework for Coq.

MetaCoq is made of 4 main components: - The entry point of the project is the Template-Coq quoting and unquoting library for Coq which allows quotation and denotation of terms between three variants of the Coq AST: the OCaml one used by Coq's kernel, the Coq one defined in MetaCoq and the one defined by the extraction of the MetaCoq AST, allowing to extract OCaml plugins from Coq implementations. - The PCUIC component is a full formalization of Coq's typing and reduction rules, along with proofs of important metatheoretic properties: weakening, substitution, validity, subject reduction and principality. The PCUIC calculus differs slightly from the Template-Coq one and verified translations between the two are provided. - The checker component contains verified implementations of weak-head reduction, conversion and type inference for the PCUIC

calculus, along with a verified checker for Coq theories. - The erasure compoment contains a verified implementation of erasure/extraction from PCUIC to untyped (call-by-value) lambda calculus extended with a dummy value for erased terms.

- **Functional Description:** MetaCoq is a framework containing a formalization and verified implementation of Coq's kernel in Coq along with a verified erasure procedure. It provides tools for manipulating Coq terms and developing certified plugins (i.e. translations, compilers or tactics) in Coq.
- Release Contributions: This new version integrates:

Support for primitive integers and floating point values, using the same typechecking mechanism as Coq's kernel, up to the erased lambda-box language. Better computational behavior of the safe checker. Support for nix and cachix (useful for CI, allows to reuse remotely compiled components) Registering of projections for inductive types defined as records More efficient eta-expansion transformation using environment maps instead of association lists.

**News of the Year:** This year has shown improvements on the clarity of the specification of PCUIC and the efficiency of the type-checker and erasure implementations. New verified phases in the erasure pipeline allow to connect to the CertiCoq certified compiler and bootstrap it.

URL: https://metacoq.github.io

Publications: hal-02901011, hal-02380196, hal-02167423, hal-01809681

Contact: Matthieu Sozeau

**Participants:** Abhishek Anand, Danil Annenkov, Meven Bertrand, Jakob Botsch Nielsen, Simon Boulier, Cyril Cohen, Yannick Forster, Kenji Maillard, Gregory Malecha, Matthieu Sozeau, Nicolas Tabareau, Théo Winterhalter

Partners: Concordium Blockchain Research Center, Aarhus University, Denmark, Saarland University

#### 6.1.6 Coq

Name: The Coq Proof Assistant

Keywords: Proof, Certification, Formalisation

- **Scientific Description:** Coq is an interactive proof assistant based on the Calculus of (Co-)Inductive Constructions, extended with universe polymorphism. This type theory features inductive and co-inductive families, an impredicative sort and a hierarchy of predicative universes, making it a very expressive logic. The calculus allows to formalize both general mathematics and computer programs, ranging from theories of finite structures to abstract algebra and categories to programming language metatheory and compiler verification. Coq is organised as a (relatively small) kernel including efficient conversion tests on which are built a set of higher-level layers: a powerful proof engine and unification algorithm, various tactics/decision procedures, a transactional document model and, at the very top an integrated development environment (IDE).
- **Functional Description:** Coq provides both a dependently-typed functional programming language and a logical formalism, which, altogether, support the formalisation of mathematical theories and the specification and certification of properties of programs. Coq also provides a large and extensible set of automatic or semi-automatic proof methods. Coq's programs are extractible to OCaml, Haskell, Scheme, ...
- **Release Contributions:** Coq version 8.16 integrates changes to the Coq kernel and performance improvements along with a few new features. We highlight some of the most impactful changes here:

The guard checker (see Guarded) now ensures strong normalization under any reduction strategy.

Irrelevant terms (in the SProp sort) are now squashed to a dummy value during conversion, fixing a subject reduction issue and making proof conversion faster.

Introduction of reversible coercions, which allow coercions relying on meta-level resolution such as type-classes or canonical structures. Also allow coercions that do not fullfill the uniform inheritance condition.

Generalized rewriting support for rewriting with Type-valued relations and in Type contexts, using the Classes.CMorphisms library.

Added the boolean equality scheme command for decidable inductive types.

Added a Print Notation command.

Incompatibilities in name generation for Program obligations, eauto treatment of tactic failure levels, use of ident in notations, parsing of module expressions.

Standard library reorganization and deprecations.

Improve the treatment of standard library numbers by Extraction.

See https://coq.inria.fr/refman/changes.html#version-8-16 for a detailed changelog.

**News of the Year:** Coq version 8.14 integrates many usability improvements, as well as an important change in the core language. See the changelog at https://coq.inria.fr/refman/changes.html#version-8-14 for an overview of the new features and changes, along with the full list of contributors.

#### URL: http://coq.inria.fr/

#### Contact: Matthieu Sozeau

Participants: Yves Bertot, Frederic Besson, Tej Chajed, Cyril Cohen, Pierre Corbineau, Pierre Courtieu, Maxime Denes, Jim Fehrle, Julien Forest, Emilio Jesús Gallego Arias, Gaetan Gilbert, Georges Gonthier, Benjamin Grégoire, Jason Gross, Hugo Herbelin, Vincent Laporte, Olivier Laurent, Assia Mahboubi, Kenji Maillard, Érik Martin-Dorel, Guillaume Melquiond, Pierre-Marie Pedrot, Clément Pit-Claudel, Kazuhiko Sakaguchi, Vincent Semeria, Michael Soegtrop, Arnaud Spiwack, Matthieu Sozeau, Enrico Tassi, Laurent Théry, Anton Trunov, Li-Yao Xia, Theo Zimmermann

Partners: CNRS, Université Paris-Sud, ENS Lyon, Université Paris-Diderot

#### 6.1.7 memprof-limits

#### Keyword: Library

**Scientific Description:** Memprof-limits is an implementation of per-thread global memory limits, and per-thread allocation limits à la Haskell, and CPU-bound thread cancellation, for OCaml, compatible with multiple threads.

Memprof-limits interrupts the execution by raising an asynchronous exception: an exception that can arise at almost any location in the program. It is provided with a guide on how to recover from asynchronous exceptions and other unexpected exceptions, summarising for the first time practical knowledge acquired in OCaml by the Coq proof assistant as well as in other programming languages.

Memprof-limits is probabilistic, as it is based on the statistical memory accountant memprof. It is provided with a statistical analysis that the user can rely on to have guarantees about the enforcement of limits.

**Functional Description:** Memprof-limits is an implementation of (per-thread) global memory limits, (per-thread) allocation limits, and cancellation of CPU-bound threads, for OCaml. Memprof-limits interrupts a computation by raising an exception asynchronously and offers features to recover from them such as interrupt-safe resources.

It is provided with an extensive documentation with examples which explains what must be done to ensure one recovers from an interrupt. This documentation summarises for the first time the experience acquired in OCaml in the Coq proof assistant, as well as in other situations in other programming languages.

Release Contributions: Initial version.

News of the Year: Version 0.2.0, first official and supported (non-prototype) release.

URL: https://gitlab.com/gadmm/memprof-limits

Publication: hal-03517592

Author: Guillaume Munch

Contact: Guillaume Munch

6.1.8 ocaml-boxroot

Keywords: Interoperability, Library, Ocaml, Rust

- **Scientific Description:** Boxroot is an implementation of roots for the OCaml GC based on concurrent allocation techniques. These roots are designed to support a calling convention to interface between Rust and OCaml code that reconciles the latter's foreign function interface with the idioms from the former.
- **Functional Description:** Boxroot implements fast movable roots for OCaml in C. A root is a data type which contains an OCaml value, and interfaces with the OCaml GC to ensure that this value and its transitive children are kept alive while the root exists. This can be used to write programs in other languages that interface with programs written in OCaml.

URL: https://gitlab.com/ocaml-rust/ocaml-boxroot

Contact: Guillaume Munch

Participants: Guillaume Munch, Gabriel Scherer

## 7 New results

#### 7.1 Type Theory and Proof Assistants

**Participants:** Martin Baillon, Yannick Forster, Gaëtan Gilbert, Meven Lennon-Bertand, Assia Mahboubi, Kenji Maillard, Pierre-Marie Pédrot, Loïc Pujet, Matthieu Sozeau, Nicolas Tabareau.

#### 7.1.1 Type Theory

**Gradualizing the Calculus of Inductive Constructions.** Acknowledging the ordeal of a fully formal development in a proof assistant such as Coq, we have investigated in [12] gradual variations on the Calculus of Inductive Construction (CIC) for swifter prototyping with imprecise types and terms. We observe, with a no-go theorem, a crucial tradeoff between graduality and the key properties of canonicity, decidability and closure of universes under dependent product that CIC enjoys. Beyond this Fire Triangle of Graduality, we explore the gradualization of CIC with three different compromises, each relaxing one edge of the Fire Triangle. We develop a parametrized presentation of Gradual CIC that encompasses all three variations, and jointly develop their metatheory. We first present a bidirectional elaboration of Gradual CIC to a dependently-typed cast calculus, which elucidates the interrelation between typing, conversion, and graduality. We then establish the metatheory of this cast calculus through both a syntactic model into CIC, which provides weak canonicity, confluence, and when applicable, normalization, and a monotone model that purports the study of the graduality of two of the three variants. This work informs and paves the way towards the development of malleable proof assistants and dependently-typed programming languages.

A Reasonably Gradual Type Theory. Gradualizing the Calculus of Inductive Constructions (CIC) involves dealing with subtle tensions between normalization, graduality, and conservativity with respect to CIC. Recently, GCIC has been proposed as a parametrized gradual type theory that admits three variants, each sacrificing one of these properties. For devising a gradual proof assistant based on CIC, normalization and conservativity with respect to CIC are key, but the tension with graduality needs to be addressed. Additionally, several challenges remain: (1) The presence of two wildcard terms at any type-the error and unknown terms—enables trivial proofs of any theorem, jeopardizing the use of a gradual type theory in a proof assistant; (2) Supporting general indexed inductive families, most prominently equality, is an open problem; (3) Theoretical accounts of gradual typing and graduality so far do not support handling type mismatches detected during reduction; (4) Precision and graduality are external notions not amenable to reasoning within a gradual type theory. All these issues manifest primally in CastCIC, the cast calculus used to define GCIC. In [13], we present an alternative to CastCIC called GRIP. GRIP is a reasonably gradual type theory that addresses the issues above, featuring internal precision and general exception handling. For consistent reasoning about gradual terms, GRIP features an impure sort of types inhabited by errors and unknown terms, and a pure sort of strict propositions. By adopting a novel interpretation of the unknown term that carefully accounts for universe levels, GRIP satisfies graduality for a large and well-defined class of terms, in addition to being normalizing and a conservative extension of CIC. Internal precision supports reasoning about graduality within GRIP itself, for instance to characterize gradual exception-handling terms, and supports gradual subset types. We develop the metatheory of GRIP using a model formalized in Coq, and provide a prototype implementation of GRIP in Agda.

**Observational Equality: Now For Good.** Building on the recent extension of dependent type theory with a universe of definitionally proof-irrelevant types, we introduce in [14]  $TT^{obs}$ , a new type theory based on the setoidal interpretation of dependent type theory.  $TT^{obs}$  equips every type with an identity relation that satisfies function extensionality, propositional extensionality, and definitional uniqueness of identity proofs (UIP). Compared to other existing proposals to enrich dependent type theory with these principles, our theory features a notion of reduction that is normalizing and provides an algorithmic canonicity result, which we formally prove in Agda using the logical relation framework of Abel et al. Our paper thoroughly develops the meta-theoretical properties of  $TT^{obs}$ , such as the decidability of the conversion and of the type checking, as well as consistency. We also explain how to extend our theory with quotient types, and we introduce a setoidal version of Swan's Id types that turn it into a proper extension of MLTT with inductive equality.

**Impredicative Observational Equality** In dependent type theory, impredicativity is a powerful logical principle that allows the definition of propositions that quantify over arbitrarily large types, potentially resulting in self-referential propositions. Impredicativity can provide a system with increased logical strength and flexibility, but in counterpart it comes with multiple incompatibility results. In particular, Abel and Coquand showed that adding definitional uniqueness of identity proofs (UIP) to the main proof assistants that support impredicative propositions (Coq and Lean) breaks the normalization procedure, and thus the type-checking algorithm. However, it was not known whether this stems from a fundamental incompatibility between UIP and impredicativity or if a more suitable algorithm could decide type-checking for a type theory that supports both. In [23], we design a theory that handles both UIP and impredicativity by extending the recently introduced observational type theory TTobs with an impredicative universe of definitionally proof-irrelevant types, as initially proposed in the seminal work on observational equality of [36]. We prove decidability of conversion for the resulting system, that we call CCobs, by harnessing proof-irrelevance to avoid computing with impredicative proof terms. Additionally, we prove normalization for CCobs in plain Martin-Löf type theory, thereby showing that adding proof-irrelevant impredicativity does not increase the computational content of the theory.

**Gardening with the Pythia: A model of continuity in a dependent setting.** In [16],we generalize to a rich dependent type theory a proof originally developed by Escardó [64] that all System T functionals are continuous. It relies on the definition of a syntactic model of Baclofen Type Theory, a type theory where dependent elimination must be strict, into the Calculus of Inductive Constructions. The model is given by three translations: the axiom translation, that adds an oracle to the context; the branching

translation, based on the dialogue monad, turning every type into a tree; and finally, a layer of algebraic binary parametricity, binding together the two translations. In the resulting type theory, every function  $f : (\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}) \to \mathbb{N}$  is externally continuous.

**MetaCoq and CertiCoq.** The MetaCoq project formalizes the theory of Coq, a reference implementation of its type-checking kernel and a verified erasure pipeline. During this year, we completed the completeness proof of the system, including a bidirectional version of the type-checker described in [12], and improved both the clarity of the specification and the efficiency of the implementations of type-checking and erasure. In parallel, work on later stages of the erasure pipeline consisted in proving various optimization phases correct, to bring the idealized  $\lambda$ -box language produced by the verified erasure function down to a more standard lambda-calculus where recursion is not guarded, constructors are fully applied and there are no "dummy" pattern matches on irrelevant values. This allows in particular to connect straightforwardly to the CertiCoq project compiling down to CompCert C-light (which has seen its first beta release in October) and to the first untyped intermediate language of the OCaml compiler (through a formalization of the Malfunction language). CertiCoq now enjoys a bootstrapped implementation: it can compile itself, and can also compile the certified checker of MetaCoq. In addition it supports primitives values (ints, floats) and a primitive FFI. We are working on articles on both MetaCoq and these two verified extraction facilities.

#### 7.1.2 Proof Assistants

The Advantages of Maintaining a Multitask, Project-Specific Bot: An Experience Report. Bots are becoming a popular method for automating basic everyday tasks in many software projects. This is true in particular because of the availability of many off-the-shelf task-specific bots that teams can quickly adopt (which are sometimes completed with additional task-specific custom bots). Based on our experience in the Coq project, where we have developed and maintained a multi-task project-specific bot, we argue that this alternative approach to project automation should receive more attention because it strikes a good balance between productivity and adaptibility. In [15], we describe the kind of automation that our bot implements, what advantages we have gained by maintaining a project-specific bot, and the technology and architecture choices that have made it possible. We draw conclusions that should generalize to other medium-sized software teams willing to invest in project automation without disrupting their workflows.

**Compositional pre-processing for automated reasoning in dependent type theory.** In the context of interactive theorem provers based on a dependent type theory, automation tactics (dedicated decision procedures, call of automated solvers, ...) are often limited to goals which are exactly in some expected logical fragment. This very often prevents users from applying these tactics in other contexts, even similar ones. [18] discusses the design and the implementation of pre-processing operations for automating formal proofs in the Coq proof assistant. It presents the implementation of a wide variety of predictible, atomic goal transformations, which can be composed in various ways to target different backends. A gallery of examples illustrates how it helps to expand significantly the power of automation engines.

**Trakt : Uniformiser les types pour automatiser les preuves.** Dans un assistant de preuve comme Coq, un même objet mathématique peut souvent être formalisé par différentes structures de données. Par exemple, le type Z des entiers binaires, dans la bibliothèque standard de Coq, représente les entiers relatifs tout comme le type ssrint, des entiers unaires, fourni par la bibliothèque MathComp. En pratique, cette situation familière en programmation est un frein à la preuve formelle automatique. Dans [24], nous présentons trakt, un outil dont l'objectif est de faciliter l'accès des utilisateurs de Coq aux tactiques d'automatisation, pour la représentation des théories décidables de leur choix. Cet outil construit une formule auxiliaire à partir d'un but utilisateur, et une preuve que cette dernière implique ce but initial. La formule auxiliaire est conçue pour être adaptée aux outils de preuve automatique (lia, SMTCoq, etc). Cet outil est extensible, grâce à une API permettant à l'utilisateur de définir plusieurs natures de plongements dans un jeu de structures de données de référence. Le méta-langage Coq-Elpi, utilisé pour l'implémentation, fournit des facilités bienvenues pour la gestion des lieurs et la mise en oeuvre des parcours de termes en jeu dans ces tactiques.

#### 7.2 Logical Foundations of Programming Languages

Participants: Hamza Jaafar, Guillhem Jaber, Guillaume Munch-Maccagnoni.

**Games, mobile processes, and functions.** In [22], a tight connection between two models of the  $\lambda$ -calculus is established, namely Milner's encoding into the  $\pi$ -calculus (precisely, the Internal  $\pi$ -calculus), and operational game semantics (OGS). The operational correspondence between the behaviours of the encoding provided by  $\pi$  and OGS is first explored, for various LTSs: the standard LTS for  $\pi$  and a new 'concurrent' LTS for OGS; an 'output-prioritised' LTS for  $\pi$  and the standard alternating LTS for OGS. Then it is shown that the equivalences induced on  $\lambda$ -terms by all these LTSs (for  $\pi$  and OGS) coincide. These connections allow us to transfer results and techniques between  $\pi$  and OGS. In particular up-to techniques from  $\pi$  onto OGS are imported and congruence and compositionality results for OGS from those of  $\pi$  are derived. The study is illustrated for call-by-value; similar results hold for call-by-name.

**Mixing linearity-based and GC allocation techniques in a functional programming language.** [25] reports an experiment with a large pages allocator for the OCaml runtime, with measured performance improvements. One goal was to evaluate the possible performance of a page table for multicore OCaml, a data structure of the OCaml runtime used by libraries implementing experimental memory allocation and memory sharing schemes. While we did not use original techniques, some of the results are unexpected a priori based on expressed beliefs in the OCaml community: it lets programs run *faster* rather than slower, by letting statically-allocated values be skipped during garbage collection.

In [26], we propose a new API and implementation for managing garbage collector (GC) roots for the OCaml foreign-function interface (FFI), which offers:

- better performance than existing APIs (local or global roots);
- efficient support for OCaml 5 with a more multicore-friendly design, with per-domain data structures;
- a reasoning based on resource-management idioms, enabling an easier FFI for Rust.

Our contributions include a C library called Boxroot which is already in use in several OCaml-Rust interfacing libraries (ocaml-rs, ocaml-interop). We believe that this approach generalizes beyond OCaml, to other FFI situations where a language with GC interacts with a language without pervasive GC.

The first paper reports, in essence, the good hypothetical performance of embedding (borrowing) linearly-allocated values inside garbage-collected values. The second paper reports a symmetrical result: how to efficiently embed (own) garbage-collected values inside linearly-allocated values. Taken together, the broader motivation is to show the feasibility of basing linear allocation with re-use [85, 41] in languages that would still leverage state-of-art garbage collection for non-linear values.

## 7.3 Program Certifications and Formalisation of Mathematics

Participants: Yannick Forster, Rémi Douence.

**Synthetic Kolmogorov Complexity in Coq.** In [21], we present a generalised, constructive, and machinechecked approach to Kolmogorov complexity in the constructive type theory underlying the Coq proof assistant. By proving that nonrandom numbers form a simple predicate, we obtain elegant proofs of undecidability for random and nonrandom numbers and a proof of uncomputability of Kolmogorov complexity. We use a general and abstract definition of Kolmogorov complexity and subsequently instantiate it to several definitions frequently found in the literature. Whereas textbook treatments of Kolmogorov complexity usually rely heavily on classical logic and the axiom of choice, we put emphasis on the constructiveness of all our arguments, however without blurring their essence. We first give a high-level proof idea using classical logic, which can be formalised with Markov's principle via folklore techniques we subsequently explain. Lastly, we show how to eliminate Markov's principle from a certain class of computability proofs, rendering all our results fully constructive. All our results are machine-checked by the Coq proof assistant, which is enabled by using a synthetic approach to computability: rather than formalising a model of computation, which is well-known to introduce a considerable overhead, we abstractly assume a universal function, allowing the proofs to focus on the mathematical essence.

**Constructive and Synthetic Reducibility Degrees: Post's Problem for Many-one and Truth-table Reducibility in Coq.** In [19, 30], we present a constructive analysis and machine-checked theory of oneone, many-one, and truth-table reductions based on synthetic computability theory in the Calculus of Inductive Constructions, the type theory underlying the proof assistant Coq. We give elegant, synthetic, and machine-checked proofs of Post's landmark results that a simple predicate exists, is enumerable, undecidable, but many-one incomplete (Post's problem for many-one reducibility), and a hypersimple predicate exists, is enumerable, undecidable, but truth-table incomplete (Post's problem for truth-table reducibility). In synthetic computability, one assumes axioms allowing to carry out computability theory with all definitions and proofs purely in terms of functions of the type theory with no mention of a model of computation. Proofs can focus on the essence of the argument, without having to sacrifice formality. Synthetic computability also clears the lense for constructivisation. Our constructively careful definition of simple and hypersimple predicates allows us to not assume classical axioms, not even Markov's principle, still yielding the expected strong results.

Parametric Church's Thesis: Synthetic Computability Without Choice. In synthetic computability, pioneered by Richman, Bridges [49], and Bauer [43], one develops computability theory without an explicit model of computation. This is enabled by assuming an axiom equivalent to postulating a function  $\varphi$  to be universal for the space  $\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$  (CT $_{\varphi}$ , a consequence of the constructivist axiom CT), Markov's principle, and at least the axiom of countable choice. Assuming CT and countable choice invalidates the law of excluded middle, thereby also invalidating classical intuitions prevalent in textbooks on computability. On the other hand, results like Rice's theorem are not provable without a form of choice. In contrast to existing work, we base our investigations in constructive type theory with a separate, impredicative universe of propositions where countable choice does not hold and thus a priori  $CT_{\varphi}$  and the law of excluded middle seem to be consistent. In [27], we introduce various parametric strengthenings of  $CT_{\varphi}$ , that are equivalent to assuming  $CT_{\varphi}$  and an Smn operator for  $\varphi$  like in the Smn theorem. The strengthened axioms allow developing synthetic computability theory without choice, as demonstrated by elegant synthetic proofs of Rice's theorem. Moreover, they seem to be not in conflict with classical intuitions since they are consequences of the traditional analytic form of CT. Besides explaining the novel axioms and proofs of Rice's theorem we contribute machine-checked proofs of all results in the Coq proof assistant.

A Computational Cantor-Bernstein and Myhill's Isomorphism Theorem in Constructive Type Theory: **Proof Pearl.** The Cantor-Bernstein theorem (CB) from set theory, stating that two sets which can be injectively embedded into each other are in bijection, is inherently classical in its full generality, i.e. implies the law of excluded middle, a result due to Pradic and Brown [109]. Recently, Escardó has provided a proof of CB in univalent type theory, assuming the law of excluded middle. It is a natural question to ask which restrictions of CB can be proved without axiomatic assumptions. In [20], we give a partial answer to this question contributing an assumption-free proof of CB restricted to enumerable discrete types, i.e. types which can be computationally treated. In fact, we construct several bijections from injections: The first is by translating a proof of the Myhill isomorphism theorem from computability theory-stating that 1-equivalent predicates are recursively isomorphic-to constructive type theory, where the bijection is constructed in stages and an algorithm with an intricate termination argument is used to extend the bijection in every step. The second is also constructed in stages, but with a simpler extension algorithm sufficient for CB. The third is constructed directly in such a way that it only relies on the given enumerations of the types, not on the given injections. We aim at keeping the explanations simple, accessible, and concise in the style of a "proof pearl". All proofs are machine-checked in Coq but should transport to other foundations: they do not rely on impredicativity, on choice principles, or on

large eliminations.

Acquiring Maps of Interrelated Conjectures on Sharp Bounds. To automate the discovery of conjectures on combinatorial objects, we introduce in [17] the concept of a map of sharp bounds on characteristics of combinatorial objects, that provides a set of interrelated sharp bounds for these combinatorial objects. We then describe a Bound Seeker, a constraint-programming-based system, that gradually acquires maps of conjectures. The system was tested for searching conjectures on bounds on characteristics of digraphs: it constructs sixteen maps involving 431 conjectures on sharp lower and upper-bounds on eight digraph characteristics.

## 8 Bilateral contracts and grants with industry

#### 8.1 Bilateral Contracts with Industry

#### CoqExtra

Participants: Pierre-Marie Pédrot, Matthieu Sozeau, Nicolas Tabareau, Yannick Forster, Pierre Giraud, Kazuhiko Sakaguchi.

Title: A Formally Verified Extraction Mechanism using Precise Type Specifications

Duration: 2020 - 2023

Coordinator: Nicolas Tabareau

#### **Partners:**

- Inria
- Nomadic Labs

Inria contact: Nicolas Tabareau

- **Summary:** The extraction mechanism from Coq to OCaml can be seen as a compilation phase, from a functional language with dependent types to a functional language with a weaker type system. It is very useful to be able to run and link critical pieces of code that have been certified with the rest of a software system. For instance, for Tezos, it is important to certify the Michelson language for smart contracts and then to be able to extract it to OCaml so that it interacts with the rest of the code that has been developed. Unfortunately, the current extraction mechanism of Coq suffers from two major flaws that prevent extraction from being used in complex situations—and in particular for the Michelson language. First, the extraction mechanism does not make use of new features of OCaml type system, such as Generalized Abstract Data Types (GADTs). This prevents code using indexed inductive types (Coq's generalization of GADTs) to be extracted to code using GADTs. Therefore, in the case of Michelson in OCaml as it jeopardizes its type specification. The second flaw comes from the fact that extraction sometimes produces ill-typed pieces of code (even if it uses Obj.magic to cheat the type system), for instance when the arity of a function depends on some value. Therefore, the extracted program fails to type-checked in OCaml and cannot be used.
- **Expected Impact:** This project proposes to remedy to the situation so that the formalized Michelson implementation can be extracted to OCaml in a satisfactory and certified way. But this project is also of great interest outside Nomadic Labs as it will allow Coq users to use a better extraction mechanism and, on a longer term, it will allow OCaml developers to prove their OCaml programs using a formal semantics of (a fragment of) OCaml defined in Coq.

#### CIFRE PhD grant, funded by Mitsubishi Electric R&D Centre Europe (MERCE)

Participants: Assia Mahboubi, Enzo Crance.

Title: Automated theorem proving and dependent types: automated reasoning for interactive proof assistants

Duration: 2020 - 2023

Coordinator: Denis Cousineau (MERCE), Assia Mahboubi (Inria)

#### **Partners:**

- Inria
- Mitsubishi Electric R&D Centre Europe (MERCE)

#### Inria contact: Assia Mahboubi

- Summary: The aim of this project is to vastly improve the automated reasoning skills of proof assistants based on dependent type theory, and in particular of the Coq proof assistant. Automated provers, like SAT solvers or SMT solvers, can provide fast decision answers on large formulas, typically quantifier-free first order statements generated by code analysis instruments like static analyzers. Modern provers are moreover able to produce additional data, called certificates, which contain enough information for an a posteriori verification of their results, e.g., using a formal proof. In this project, we would like to use this feature to expand the automation available to users of proof assistants. The main motivation here is thus to increase the class of goals that can be proved formally and automatically by the interactive proof assistant, rather than to work on the formal verification of specific albeit large decision problems. In this case, the central research problem is to bridge the gap between the rich specification language of the proof assistant, and the restricted fragment handled by the automated prover. This project will thus investigate the design, and the implementation, of the corresponding translation phase. This translation transforms a logical statement possibly featuring user-defined data structures and higher-order quantifications, into another statement, logically stronger, than can be sent to the automated prover. We thus aim at a triple objective: expressivity, extensibility and efficiency. This grant is funding the PhD of Enzo Crance.
- **Expected Impact:** Enhancing the automated reasoning skills of proof assistants based on dependent type theory will be key to their wider usage in industry. As of today, they are considered too expensive to be used in the large outside of specific niches.

#### **OCaml-Rust**

Participants: Guillaume Munch-Maccagnoni.

Title: OCaml/Rust bindings

Duration: 2021-2023

Coordinator: Gabriel Scherer (INRIA Saclay, EPI Partout)

#### **Participants:**

- Guillaume Munch-Maccagnoni (INRIA Rennes, EPI Gallinette),
- Jacques-Henri Jourdan (CNRS, LRI)

#### Partners: Inria, Nomadic Labs

Inria contact: Gabriel Scherer

- **Summary:** We often want to write programs with components in several different programming languages. Interfacing two languages typically goes through low-level, unsafe interfaces. The OCaml/Rust project studies safer interfaces between OCaml and Rust.
- **Expected Impact:** We investigated safe low-level representations of OCaml values on the Rust side, representing GC ownership, and developed a calling convention that reconciles the OCaml FFI idioms with Rust idioms. We also developed Boxroot, a new API to register values with the OCaml GC, for use when interfacing with Rust (and other programming languages) and possibly when writing concurrent programs. This resulted in novel techniques which can benefit other pairs of languages in the future. These works are now integrated in the ocaml-rs interface between OCaml and Rust used in the industry.

#### CAVOC

**Participants:** Guilhem Jaber, Hamza Jaafar.

Title: Compositional Automated Verification for OCaml

Duration: 2021-2024

Coordinator: Guilhem Jaber

#### **Partners:**

- Inria
- Nomadic Labs

#### Inria contact: Guilhem Jaber

- **Summary:** This project aims to develop a *sound and precise static analyzer* for OCaml, that can catch large classes of bugs represented by uncaught exceptions. It will deal with both user-defined exceptions, and built-in ones used to represent *error behaviors*, like the ones triggered by failwith, assert, or a match failure. Via "assert-failure" detection, it will thus be able to check that invariants annotated by users hold. The analyzer will reason *compositionally* on programs, in order to analyze them at the granularity of a function or of a module. It will be *sound* in a strong way: if an OCaml module is considered to be correct by the analyzer, then one will have the guarantee that no OCaml code interacting with this module can trigger uncaught exceptions coming from the code of this module. In order to be *precise*, it will take into account the abstraction properties provided by the type system and the module system of the language: local values, abstracted definition of types, parametric polymorphism. The goal being that most of the interactions taken into account correspond to typeable OCaml code (that do not use unsafe features of the Obj Module, or the Foreign Function Interface to some external code).
- **Expected Impact:** Being modular the analyzer should be able to automatically check the absence of bugs of a large base of code written in the considered subset of OCaml. This subset will include most of the codebase developed by Nomadic Labs, which is an heavy user of GADT, for example to enforce subject reduction in the implementation of Michelson. We would then be able to get a higher degree of trust in its codebase, and possibly to find undetected bugs in it. The impact of this project could be large for the OCaml ecosystem in general, where automated analysis of programs to check soundness properties of the code could be really useful (for example for the Coq proof assistant, whose full analysis would be nonetheless too ambitious for this project).

## 9 Partnerships and cooperations

### 9.1 International initiatives

# 9.1.1 Associate Teams in the framework of an Inria International Lab or in the framework of an Inria International Program

GECO

Participants: Kenji Maillard, Matthieu Sozeau, Nicolas Tabareau.

Title: Gradual verification and robust proof Engineering for COq

**Duration:** 2018 -> 2022

Coordinator: Éric Tanter (etanter@dcc.uchile.cl)

### Partners:

• Universidad de Chile

Inria contact: Nicolas Tabareau

#### 9.1.2 Participation in other International Programs

Participants: Assia Mahboubi.

A. Mahboubi holds a part-time endowed professor position in the Department of Mathematics at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (the Netherlands).

### 9.2 International research visitors

#### 9.2.1 Visits of international scientists

Other international visits to the team

Éric Tanter

Status Full Professor

Institution of origin: Universidad de Chile

Country: Chile

Dates: June-July 2022

Context of the visit: Inria GECO associate team TYPES'22 Conference in Nantes

Mobility program/type of mobility: research stay

#### 9.3 European initiatives

### 9.3.1 H2020 projects FRESCO

Participants: Christopher Hughes, Assia Mahboubi, Matthieu Piquerez.

#### FRESCO project on cordis.europa.eu

Title: Fast and Reliable Symbolic Computation

Duration: From November 1, 2021 to October 31, 2026

#### **Partners:**

• INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE EN INFORMATIQUE ET AUTOMATIQUE (INRIA), France

Inria contact: Assia Mahboubi

#### Coordinator: Assia Mahboubi

**Summary:** The use of computers for formulating conjectures, but also for substantiating proof steps, pervades mathematics, even in its most abstract fields. Most computer proofs are produced by symbolic computations, using computer algebra systems. Sadly, these systems suffer from severe, intrinsic flaws, key to their amazing efficiency, but preventing any flavor of post-hoc verification.

But can computer algebra become reliable while remaining fast? Bringing a positive answer to this question represents an outstanding scientific challenge per se, which this project aims at solving.

Our starting point is that interactive theorem provers are the best tools for representing mathematics in silico. But we intend to disrupt their architecture, shaped by decades of applications in computer science, so as to dramatically enrich their programming features, while remaining compatible with their logical foundations.

We will then design a novel generation of mathematical software, based on the firm grounds of modern programming language theory. This environment will feature a new, high-level, performanceoriented programming language, devised for writing efficient and correct code easily, and for serving the frontline of research in computational mathematics. Users will have access to fast implementations, and to powerful proving technologies for verifying any component à la carte, with high productivity. Logic- and computer-based formal proofs will prevent run-time errors, and incorrect mathematical semantics.

We will maintain a close, continuous collaboration with interested high-profile mathematicians, on the verification of cutting-edge research results, today beyond the reach of formal proofs. We ambition to empower mathematical journals to install high-quality artifact evaluation, when peer-reviewing falls short of assessing computer proofs. This project will eventually impact the use of formal methods in engineering, in areas like cryptography or signal-processing.

#### Coqaml

Participants: Yannick Forster, Nicolas Tabareau.

#### Coqaml project on cordis.europa.eu

Title: Verified Extraction from Coq to OCaml with GADTs

Duration: From December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2023

#### **Partners:**

• INSTITUT NATIONAL DE RECHERCHE EN INFORMATIQUE ET AUTOMATIQUE (INRIA), France

#### Inria contact: Nicolas Tabareau

#### **Coordinator:**

**Summary:** The Coq proof assistant is a popular tool to verify the correctness of security-critical software. The CompCert C compiler, some implementations of blockchain languages, and the implementation of the P-256 elliptic curve in Google's BoringSSL library are all OCaml programs obtained by extraction from Coq functions.

While a type checker for Coq has recently been verified via a machine-checked mathematical proof based on the MetaCoq project for verified meta-programming, the extraction process from Coq to OCaml is still part of the trusted computing base (TCB).

The Coqaml project will minimise the TCB for extracted programs even further by also providing a machine-checked correctness proof for the extraction mechanism to OCaml. Under the supervision of Nicolas Tabareau, head of the Inria Gallinette team in Nantes, the experienced researcher (ER) will implement Coq's extraction as mechanically verified MetaCoq-plugin, obtaining the guarantee that extracted OCaml programs behave exactly like the Coq function specified.

In order to be usable in industrial applications, Coqaml will include a novel extraction targeting generalized algebraic datatypes (GADTs) in OCaml. The project includes a secondment of the ER to Nomadic Labs in Paris, who require GADTs as target for Coq's extraction. The intermediate semantic correctness proof for type and proof erasure, allowing axioms like functional extensionality or proof irrelevance in verified programs, can also be exploited in other extraction projects like the CertiCoq compiler from Coq to C code.

The Coqaml project is interdisciplanary by design, spanning logic, type theory, programming languages, and compilers. The density of some of the world's leading experts on Coq and type theory in the Gallinette team and the expertise at Nomadic Labs will ensure that the environment is ideal for the success of the Coqaml project and the most beneficial development of the ER, greatly enhancing his future career prospects.

## 9.4 National initiatives NUSCAP

Participants: Enzo Crance, Assia Mahboubi.

Title: Numerical Safety for Computer-Aided Proofs

Program: ANR AAPG2020,

Type: PRC, CES 48

Duration: Feb 2021 - Jan 2024

Coordinator: UMR CNRS - ENS Lyon - UCB Lyon 1 - INRIA 5668

Local Contact: Assia Mahboubi

**Summary:** The last twenty years have seen the advent of computer-aided proofs in mathematics and this trend is getting more and more important. They request various levels of numerical safety, from fast and stable computations to formal proofs of the computations. Hovewer, the necessary tools and routines are usually ad hoc, sometimes unavailable, or inexistent. On a complementary perspective, numerical safety is also critical for complex guidance and control algorithms, in the

context of increased satellite autonomy. We plan to design a whole set of theorems, algorithms and software developments, that will allow one to study a computational problem on all (or any) of the desired levels of numerical rigor. Key developments include fast and certified spectral methods and polynomial arithmetic, with subsequent formal verifications. There will be a strong feedback between the development of our tools and the applications that motivate it.

#### ReCiProg

Participants: Guilhem Jaber.

Title: Reasoning on Circular proofs for Programming

Program: ANR AAPG2021,

Type: PRC, CES 48

Duration: Jan 2022 - Jan 2025

Coordinator: UMR CNRS - IRIF - Université de Paris

Local Contact: Guilhem Jaber

**Summary:** ReCiProg is a collaborative project (Lyon-Marseille-Nantes-Paris) aiming at extending the proofs-as-programs correspondence (also known as Curry-Howard correspondence) to recursive programs and circular proofs for logic and type systems using induction and coinduction. The project will contribute both to the necessary theoretical foundations of circular proofs and to the software development allowing to enhance the use of coinductive types and coinductive reasoning in the Coq proof assistant: such coinductive types present, in the current state of the art serious defects that the project will aim at solving.

#### **DyVerSe**

Participants: Guillaume Munch.

Title: Dynamic Versatile Semantics

Program: ANR AAPG2019,

Type: PRC, CES 48

Duration: Jan 2020 - Dec 2023

Coordinator: Pierre Clairambault (CR CNRS, LIP, UMR 5668)

Local Contact: Guillaume Munch-Maccagnoni

**Summary:** DyVerSe aims to develop a theoretical framework for dynamic/game semantics for programming languages, capturing in one versatile setting a spectrum of computational features, representative of the heterogeneity of software (e.g. higher-order functions, concurrency, probabilities or other quantitative aspects). Our ambition is (1) to help unify denotational semantics by providing the missing link between various incompatible models focusing on specific aspects, and (2) to provide a toolbox to reason compositionally about the dynamic behaviour of programs, with an eye towards specification and verification.

#### CANofGAS

Participants: Guilhem Jaber.

Title: Cost Analysis of Game Semantics

Program: Inria Exploratory Action,

Duration: Sep 2022 - Dec 2025

**Coordinator:** Beniamino Accattoli (CR Inria, LIX, PARTOUT Team) and Guilhem Jaber (MCF, LS2N, Gallinette Team)

Local Contact: Guilhem Jaber

**Summary:** CANofGAS aims at capturing the time and space cost of the evaluation of higher-order programs at the semantic level. The directions we plan to explore are using the advances in reasonable cost models to develop a cost-based understanding of game semantics. In particular, we aim at modelling the efficient call-by-need evaluation scheme, at work for instance in the Haskell language and in the Coq proof assistant.

#### 9.5 Regional initiatives

#### ASCOC

Participants: Hamza Jaafar, Guilhem Jaber.

Title: Analyse Statique Compositionnelle pour OCaml

Program: Atlanstic 2020/Amorçage grant

Duration: 09/2020 - 12/2022

Coordinator: G. Jaber.

Summary: Compositional Analysis of OCaml code

## **10** Dissemination

This section involves all the permanent members of the team.

**Participants:** Julien Cohen, Rémi Douence, Guilhem Jaber, Assia Mahboubi, Kenji Maillard, Guillaume Munch, Pierre-Marie Pedrot, Matthieu Sozeau, Nicolas Tabareau.

#### **10.1** Promoting scientific activities

#### 10.1.1 Scientific events: organisation

#### 28th International Conference on Types for Proofs and Programs (TYPES 2022)

Date: 20-25th June 2022, Nantes, France.

Sponsorship: CNRS, Inria, EU COST

Website

#### Mathematical Components Workshop 2023

Date: 7th December, Sophia Antipolis, France.

**Sponsorship:** ERC, Inria

#### Website

**Member of the organizing committees** Matthieu Sozeau and Nicolas Tabareau organized the TYPES 2022 conference.

#### 10.1.2 Scientific events: selection

The Gallinette team had held the TYPES 2022 conference in June 2022 in Nantes.

#### Chair of conference program committees

• Pierre-Marie Pédrot was a Program Committee co-chair of TYPES 2022 and the TYPES 2022 post-proceedings.

#### Member of the conference program committees

- Nicolas Tabareau was a Program Committee member of POPL 2022.
- Pierre-Marie Pédrot was a Program Committee member of APLAS 2022, WITS 2022 and CPP 2023.
- Guilhem Jaber was a Program Commitee member of ESOP 2022 and PPDP 2022.
- Assia Mahboubi was a Program Commitee member of the international conference ICFP 2022, FOSSACS 2022, LICS 2022 and of the national conference JFLAs.
- Kenji Maillard was a Program Commitee member of LFMTP 2022, CPP 2023 and OOPSLA 2022.

#### 10.1.3 Journal

#### Member of the editorial boards

• Assia Mahboubi is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Automated Reasoning.

#### **Reviewer - reviewing activities**

- Pierre-Marie Pédrot was a reviewer for the Workshop on Type-Driven Development (TyDe'22) and the Journal of Functional Programming.
- Matthieu Sozeau was a reviewer for the Journal of Functional Programming.
- Assia Mahboubi was a reviewer for the Journal of Automated Reasoning.
- Guillaume Munch-Maccagnoni was a reviewer for the journal Logical Methods in Computer Science.

#### 10.1.4 Invited talks

• Assia Mahboubi has given invited talks at the 150th anniversary conference of the SMF and at the conference in the honor of Thierry Coquand's 60th birthday.

#### 10.1.5 Other administrative duties

- Matthieu Sozeau acted as the project coordinator of Coq.
- Pierre-Marie Pédrot was the release manager of Coq 8.16.

#### 10.2 Teaching - Supervision - Juries

#### 10.2.1 Teaching

- Licence : Julien Cohen, Discrete Mathematics, 48h, L1 (IUT), IUT Nantes, France
- Licence : Julien Cohen, Introduction to proof assistants (Coq), 8h, L2 (PEIP : IUT/Engineering school), Polytech Nantes, France
- Licence : Julien Cohen, Functional Programming (Scala), 22h, L2 (IUT), IUT Nantes, France
- Master : Julien Cohen, Object oriented programming (Java), 32h, M1 (Engineering school), Polytech Nantes, France
- Master : Julien Cohen, Functional programming (OCaml), 18h, M1 (Engineering school), Polytech Nantes, France
- Master : Julien Cohen, Tools for software engineering (proof with Frama-C, test, code management), 20h, M1 (Engineering school), Polytech Nantes, France
- Licence : Rémi Douence, Object Oriented Design and Programming, 45h, L1 (engineers), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Licence : Rémi Douence, Object Oriented Design and Programming Project, 30h, L1 (apprenticeship), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Master : Rémi Douence, Functional Programming with Haskell, 45h, M1 (engineers), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Master : Rémi Douence, Functional Programming with Haskell, 20h, M1 (apprenticeship), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Master : Rémi Douence, Formal Methods: Model checking with Alloy and from Haskell to Coq, 11h, M1 (apprenticeship), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Master : Rémi Douence, Introduction to scientific research in computer science (Project: compilation in Java of Haskell Class Types), 45h, M2 (apprenticeship), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Licence : Hervé Grall, Algorithms and Discrete Mathematics, 25h , L3 (engineers), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Licence : Hervé Grall, Object Oriented Design and Programming, 25h , L3 (engineers), IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Licence, Master : Hervé Grall, Modularity and Typing, 40h, L3 and M1, IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Master : Hervé Grall, Service-oriented Computing, 40h, M1 and M2, IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Master : Hervé Grall, Research Project (Linear) Logic Programming in Coq, 90h (1/3 supervised), M1 and M2, IMT-Atlantique, Nantes, France
- Licence : Guilhem Jaber, Computer Tools for Science, 18h, L1, Nantes Université France
- Licence : Guilhem Jaber, Foundations of Computer Science, 54h, L3, Nantes Université France
- Licence : Guilhem Jaber, Logic in Computer Science, 48h, L2, Nantes Université France
- Licence : Guilhem Jaber, Functional Programming, 36h, L3, Nantes Université France
- Master : Guilhem Jaber, Verification and Formal Proofs, 18h, M1, Nantes Université, France
- Master : Guilhem Jaber, Modelisation and Verification of Concurrent Systems, 9h, M2, Nantes Université, France
- Master : Nicolas Tabareau, Homotopy Type Theory, 24h, M2 LMFI, Université Paris Diderot, France
- Master : Matthieu Sozeau, Proof Assistants, 24h, M2 MPRI, Université Paris Diderot, France

#### 10.2.2 Supervision

- Meven Lennon-Bertrand has defended his Phd on June 2022, advisors: Matthieu Sozeau and Nicolas Tabareau [28].
- Loïc Pujet has defended his Phd in Dec 2022, advisors: Nicolas Tabareau [29]
- PhD in progress: Martin Baillon, Syntactic Models of Type Theory and Continuity Principles, Univ Nantes, advisors: Assia Mahboubi and Pierre-Marie Pédrot
- PhD in progress: Pierre Benjamin Giraud, Formalizing extraction of Coq to OCaml, Univ Nantes, advisors: Pierre-Marie Pédrot, Matthieu Sozeau and Nicolas Tabareau
- PhD in progress: Enzo Crance, Automated theorem proving and dependent types: automated reasoning for interactive proof assistants, Univ Nantes, advisors: Denis Cousineau and Assia Mahboubi
- PhD in progress: Antoine Allioux, Coherent Higher Structures in Homotopy Type Theory, Univ Paris Diderot, advisors: Pierre-Louis Curien (Univ. Paris Diderot), Eric Finster (Univ. Birmingham) and Matthieu Sozeau
- PhD in progress: Hamza Jaafar, Operational Game Semantics for OCaml, Univ. Nantes, advisor: Guilhem Jaber and Nicolas Tabareau
- PhD in progress: Peio Borthelle, Formalized Game Semantics for Interoperability, Univ. Savoie Mont-Blanc, advisor: Tom Hirschowitz, Guilhem Jaber and Yannick Zakowski

#### 10.2.3 Juries

- Nicolas Tabareau was a member of the jury for a full professorship position at Nantes Université.
- Assia Mahboubi was a member of the jury for a full professorship position at Nantes Université, for a PhD position at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, for Chargés de recherches at Inria Nancy Grand Est.
- Assia Mahboubi was a member of the jury of the Gilles Kahn PhD prize.
- Assia Mahboubi has served on the PhD jury of Meven Lennon-Bertrand (Nantes Université), Louis Noizet (Université de Rennes), Gabriel Hondet (Université Paris Saclay).

## 10.3 Popularization

#### 10.3.1 Articles and contents

Guilhem Jaber participated in the production of a popular science magazine during the residence of journalists from "Les Autres Possible".

#### 10.3.2 Education

Guilhem Jaber participated in an art and science teaching module for second year bachelor student with Pascale Kuntz and artists from "Compagnie Brume". This experience was covered in a paper in L'Étudiant.

#### 10.3.3 Interventions

Guilhem Jaber and Assia Mahboubi participated to performances of the "Pièces à pédales", an art and science collaboration with the Athenor theater (Saint-Nazaire, France) and composer Alessandro Bosetti. It was performed in GMEA (Albi, France) and GMEM, (Marseille, France).

## 11 Scientific production

#### 11.1 Major publications

- [1] R. Affeldt, C. Cohen, M. Kerjean, A. Mahboubi, D. Rouhling and K. Sakaguchi. 'Competing inheritance paths in dependent type theory: a case study in functional analysis'. In: *IJCAR 2020 -International Joint Conference on Automated Reasoning*. Paris, France, June 2020, pp. 1–19. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-02463336.
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- [4] E. Finster, A. Allioux and M. Sozeau. 'Types are internal infinity-groupoids'. In: LICS 2021. Rome, Italy, 21st June 2021. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03133144.
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   27. URL: https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-02388621.
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- [9] L. Pujet and N. Tabareau. 'Observational Equality: Now For Good'. In: POPL. Philadelphie, United States, 17th Jan. 2022. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03367052.
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- [11] N. Tabareau, É. Tanter and M. Sozeau. 'The Marriage of Univalence and Parametricity'. In: Journal of the ACM (JACM) 68.1 (15th Jan. 2021), pp. 1–44. DOI: 10.1145/3429979. URL: https://hal.i nria.fr/hal-03120580.

#### 11.2 Publications of the year

#### International journals

- [12] M. Lennon-Bertrand, K. Maillard, N. Tabareau and É. Tanter. 'Gradualizing the Calculus of Inductive Constructions'. In: ACM Transactions on Programming Languages and Systems (TOPLAS) (2022). DOI: 10.1145/3495528. URL: https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-02896776.
- [13] K. Maillard, M. Lennon-Bertrand, N. Tabareau and É. Tanter. 'A Reasonably Gradual Type Theory'. In: Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages (15th Sept. 2022). URL: https://hal.inr ia.fr/hal-03596652.

- [14] L. Pujet and N. Tabareau. 'Observational Equality: Now For Good'. In: Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages 6.POPL (15th Jan. 2022), pp. 1–29. DOI: 10.1145/3498693. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03367052.
- [15] T. Zimmermann, J. Coolen, J. Gross, P.-M. Pédrot and G. Gilbert. 'The Advantages of Maintaining a Multitask, Project-Specific Bot: An Experience Report'. In: *IEEE Software* (3rd June 2022), pp. 2–7. DOI: 10.1109/MS.2022.3179773. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03479327.

#### International peer-reviewed conferences

- [16] M. Baillon, A. Mahboubi and P.-M. Pédrot. 'Gardening with the PythiaA model of continuity in a dependent setting'. In: CSL 2022 - Computer Science Logic. Göttingen, Germany, 14th Feb. 2022, pp. 1–19. DOI: 10.4230/LIPIcs.CSL.2022.13. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03510671.
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#### National peer-reviewed Conferences

[24] D. Cousineau, E. Crance and A. Mahboubi. 'Trakt : Uniformiser les types pour automatiser les preuves (démonstration)'. In: *Journées Francophones des Langages Applicatifs*. JFLA 2022 - 33èmes Journées Francophones des Langages Applicatifs. Saint-Médard-d'Excideuil, France, 2nd Feb. 2022, pp. 261–263. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03626851.

#### Conferences without proceedings

- [25] G. Munch-Maccagnoni. 'Efficient "out of heap" pointers for multicore OCaml'. In: OCaml 2022
   OCaml Users and Developers Workshop. Ljubljana, Slovenia, 16th Sept. 2022, pp. 1–7. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03910312.
- [26] G. Munch-Maccagnoni and G. Scherer. 'Boxroot, fast movable GC roots for a better FFI'. In: ML Family Workshop. Ljubljana, Slovenia, 13th Sept. 2022. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-0391 0313.

#### Scientific book chapters

[27] Y. Forster. 'Parametric Church's Thesis: Synthetic Computability Without Choice'. In: Logical Foundations of Computer Science. Vol. 13137. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer International Publishing, 16th Dec. 2022, pp. 70–89. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-93100-1\_6. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03889493.

#### Doctoral dissertations and habilitation theses

- [28] M. Lennon-Bertrand. 'Typage Bidirectionnel pour le Calcul des Constructions Inductives'. Nantes Université, 24th June 2022. URL: https://theses.hal.science/tel-03848595.
- [29] L. Pujet. 'Computing with Extensionality Principles in Type Theory'. Nantes Université, 13th Dec. 2022. URL: https://hal.science/tel-03923041.

#### **Reports & preprints**

[30] Y. Forster, F. Jahn and G. Smolka. A Constructive and Synthetic Theory of Reducibility: Myhill's Isomorphism Theorem and Post's Problem for Many-one and Truth-table Reducibility in Coq (Full Version). 18th Feb. 2022. URL: https://hal.inria.fr/hal-03580081.

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- [31] A. Abel and T. Coquand. 'Untyped Algorithmic Equality for Martin-Löf's Logical Framework with Surjective Pairs'. English. In: *Typed Lambda Calculi and Applications*. Ed. by P. Urzyczyn. Vol. 3461. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer Berlin Heidelberg, 2005, pp. 23–38. DOI: 10.1007/11417170\\_4. URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/11417170\_4.
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- [33] D. Ahman, N. Ghani and G. D. Plotkin. 'Dependent Types and Fibred Computational Effects'. In: *Proc. FoSSaCS*. 2015.
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