More About Coq

Software Formal Verification

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The Coq library

Proof development often take advantage from the large base of definitions and facts found in the Coq library.

- The initial library: it contains elementary logical notions and datatypes. It constitutes the basic state of the system directly available when running Coq.
- The standard library: general-purpose libraries containing various developments of Coq axiomatizations about sets, lists, sorting, arithmetic, etc. This library comes with the system and its modules are directly accessible through the Require command.

http://coq.inria.fr/doc-eng.html

 Users' contributions: user-provided libraries or developments are provided by Coq users' community. These libraries and developments are available for download.

http://coq.inria.fr/contribs-eng.html

Coq standard library

In the Coq system most usual datatypes are represented as inductive types and packages provide a variety of properties, functions, and theorems around these datatypes.

Some often used packages: Classical logic and dependent equality Logic Basic Peano arithmetic Arith 7Arith Basic relative integer arithmetic Booleans (basic functions and results) Bool Lists Polymorphic lists and Streams Sets (classical, constructive, finite, infinite, power set, etc.) Sets Specification and implementations of finite sets and finite maps **FSets** Axiomatization of rational numbers QArith Formalization of real numbers Reals Relations (definitions and basic results) Relations

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Interpretation scopes

To simplify the input of expressions, the Coq system provides a notion of *interpretation scopes*, which define how notations are interpreted.

- An interpretation scope is a set of notations for terms with their interpretation.
- Interpretation scopes provides with a weak, purely syntactical form of notations overloading.
- Scopes may be opened and several scopes may be opened at a time.
- When a given notation has several interpretations, the most recently opened scope takes precedence (the collection of opened scopes may be viewed as a stack).
- It is possible to locally extend the interpretation scope stack using the syntax (term)%key (or simply term%key for atomic terms), where key is a special identifier called delimiting key and bound to a given scope.

Interpretation scopes

Check the following sequence of commands: Require Import ZArith. Require Import List. Locate "_ * _". Locate "_ + _". Print Scope nat_scope. Print Scope Z_scope. Print Scope list_scope. Check 3. Eval compute in 4+5. Check (3*5)%Z. Eval compute in (3 + 5)%Z. Open Scope Z_scope. Check 3. Check (S (S (S 0))). Eval compute in 7*3. Close Scope Z_scope. Check 3.

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Searching the environment

Some useful commands to find already existing proofs of facts in the environment.

- Search ident displays the name and type of all theorems of the current context whose statement's conclusion has the form (ident t1 .. tn)
- SearchAbout ident displays the name and type of all objects (theorems, axioms, etc) of the current context whose statement contains ident.
- SearchPattern pattern displays the name and type of all theorems of the current context which matches the expression pattern.
- SearchRewrite pattern displays the name and type of all theorems of the current context whose statement's conclusion is an equality of which one side matches the expression pattern.

```
Check the following commands:
```

```
Search le.
SearchAbout le.
SearchPattern (le (_ + _) (_ + _)).
SearchPattern (_ + _ <= _ + _).
SearchRewrite (_ + (_ - _)).
```

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Implicit arguments

Some typing information in terms are redundant.

A subterm can be replaced by symbol _ if it can be inferred from the other parts of the term during typing.

```
Definition comp : forall A B C:Set, (A->B) -> (B->C) -> A -> C
     := fun A B C f g x => g (f x).

Definition example (A:Set) (f:nat->A) := comp _ _ _ S f.
```

The implicit arguments mechanism makes possible to avoid $_{-}$ in Coq expressions. The arguments that could be inferred are automatically determined and declared as implicit arguments when a function is defined.

```
Set Implicit Arguments.

Definition comp1 : forall A B C:Set, (A->B) -> (B->C) -> A -> C
    := fun A B C f g x => g (f x).

Definition example1 (A:Set) (f:nat->A) := comp1 S f.
```

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Implicit arguments

A special syntax (using @) allows to refer to the constant without implicit arguments.

```
Check (@comp1 nat nat nat S S).
```

It is also possible to specify an explicit value for am implicit argument.

```
Check (comp1 (C:=nat) S).
```

The generation of implicit arguments can be disabled with

```
Unset Implicit Arguments.
```

It is possible to enforce some implicit arguments.

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Proof irrelevance

Let P be a proposition and t a term of type P.

The following commands are **not** equivalent:

Theorem name: P.

Proof t.

Definition name : P := t.

- A definition made with Definition or Let is transparent: its value t and type P are both visible for later use.
- A definition made with Theorem, Lemma, etc., is opaque: only the type P and the existence of the value t are made visible for later use.
- Transparent definition can be unfolded and can be subject to δ -reduction, while opaque definitions cannot.

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Basic tactics

- intro, intros introduction rule for Π (several times)
- apply elimination rule for Π
- assumption match conclusion with an hypothesis
- exact gives directly the exact proof term of the goal

Tactics for first-order reasoning

Proposition (P)	Introduction	Elimination (H of type P)
<u></u>		elim H , contradiction
$\neg A$	intro	apply H
$A \wedge B$	split	elim H , destruct H as [H1 H2]
$A \Rightarrow B$	intro	$apply\; H$
$A \vee B$	left, right	elim H , destruct H as [H1 H2]
$\forall x : A. Q$	intro	$apply\; H$
$\exists x : A. Q$	exists witness	elim H , destruct H as [x H1]

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Tactics for equational reasoning

- rewrite rewrites a goal using an equality.
- rewrite <- rewrites a goal using an equality in the reverse direction.
- reflexivity reflexivity property for equality.
- symmetry symmetry property for equality.
- transitivity transitivity property for equality.
- replace a with b replaces a by b while generating the subgoal a=b.

...

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Convertibility tactics

- simpl, red, cbv, lazy, compute performs evaluation.
- unfold applies the δ rule for a transparent constant.
- pattern performs a beta-expansion on the goal.
- change replaces the goal by a convertible one.

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Tactics for inductive reasoning

- elim to apply the corresponding induction principle.
- induction performs induction on an identifier.
- case, destruct performs case analysis.
- constructor applies to a goal such that the head of its conclusion is an inductive constant.
- discriminate discriminates objects built from different constructors.
- injection applies the fact that constructors of inductive types are injections.
- inversion given an inductive type instance, find all the necessary condition that must hold on the arguments of its constructors

...

Other useful tactics and commands

- clear removes an hypothesis from the environment.
- generalize reintroduces an hypothesis into the goal.
- cut, assert proves the goal through an intermediate result.
- absurd applies False elimination.
- contradict allows to manipulate negated hypothesis and goals.
- refine allows to give an exact proof but still with some holes ("_").
- ...
- Admitted aborts the current proof and replaces the statement by an axiom that can be used in later proofs.
- Abort aborts the current proof without saving anything.

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Combining tactics

The basic tactics can be combined into more powerful tactics using tactics combinators, also called tacticals.

- t1; t2 applies tactic t1 to the current goal and then t2 to each generated subgoal.
- t1 || t2 applies tactic t1; if it fails then applies t2.
- \bullet t ; [t1 | ... | tn] applies t and then ti to the i-th generated subgoals; there must be exactly n subgoals generated by t.
- idtac does nothing
- try t applies t if it does not fail; otherwise does nothing.
- repeat t repeats t as long as it does not fail.
- solve t applies t only if it solves the current goal.

The Coq system has a tactic language for programing new tactics: Ltac

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Automatic tactics

- trivial tries those tactics that can solve the goal in one step.
- auto tries a combination of tactics intro, apply and assumption using the theorems stored in a database as hints for this tactic.
- eauto like auto but more powerful but also more time-consuming.
- autorewrite repeats rewriting with a collection of theorems, using these theorems always in the same direction.
- tauto useful to prove facts that are tautologies in intuitionistic PL.
- intuition useful to prove facts that are tautologies in intuitionistic FOL.
- ring does proves of equality for expressions containing addition and multiplication.
- omega proves systems of linear inequations (sums of n * x terms).
- field like ring but for a field structure (it also considers division).
- fourier like omega but for real numbers.
- subst replaces all the occurrences of a variable defined in the hypotheses.

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Controlling automation

Several *hint databases* are defined in the Coq standard library. The actual content of a database is the collection of the hints declared to belong to this database in each of the various modules currently loaded.

- Hint Resolve add theorems to the database of hints to be used by auto using apply.
- Hint Rewrite add theorems to the database of hints to be used by autorewrite
- **a**

Defined databases: core, arith, zarith, bool, datatypes, sets, typeclass_instances, v62.

One can optionally declare a hint database using the command Create HintDb. If a hint is added to an unknown database, it will be automatically created.

See the Reference Manual ...

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Some datatypes of programming

```
Inductive unit : Set := tt : unit.

Inductive bool : Set := true : bool | false : bool.

Inductive nat : Set := 0 : nat | S : nat -> nat.

Inductive option (A : Type) : Type := Some : A -> option A | None : option A.

Inductive identity (A : Type) (a : A) : A -> Type := refl_identity : identity A a a.
```

Some operations on bool are also provided: andb (with infix notation &&), orb (with infix notation ||), xorb, implb and negb.

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Some datatypes of programming

The constructive sum $\{A\}+\{B\}$ of two propositions A and B.

```
Inductive sumbool (A B : Prop) : Set :=
    | left : A -> {A} + {B}
    | right : B -> {A} + {B}.
```

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If-then-else

- The sumbool type can be used to define an "if-then-else" construct in Coq.
- Coq accepts the syntax if test then ... else ... when test has either of type bool or {A}+{B}, with propositions A and B.
- We can identify {P}+{~P} as the type of decidable predicates:

```
The standard library defines many useful predicates, e.g.
```

```
le_lt_dec : forall n m : nat, \{n \le m\} + \{m \le n\}

Z_eq_dec : forall x y : Z, \{x = y\} + \{x \le y\}

Z_lt_ge_dec : forall x y : Z, \{x \le y\} + \{x \ge y\}
```

If-then-else

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The "subset" type

• Coq's type system allows to combine a datatype and a predicate over this type, creating "the type of data that satisfies the predicate". Intuitively, the type one obtains represents a subset of the initial type.

```
Inductive sig (A : Type) (P : A -> Prop) : Type :=
   exist : forall x : A, P x -> sig A P.
```

- Given A: Type and P:A->Prop, the syntactical convention for (Sig A P) is the construct {x:A | P x}. (Predicate P is the *caracteristic function* of this set).
- We may build elements of this set as (exist x p) whenever we have a witness x:A with its justification p:P x.
- From such a (exist x p) we may in turn extract its witness x:A .
- In technical terms, one says that sig is a "dependent sum" or a Σ -type.

The "subset" type

A value of type $\{x:A \mid P \mid x\}$ should contain a *computation* component that says how to obtain a value v and a *certificate*, a proof that v satisfies predicate P.

A variant sig2 with two predicates is also provided.

```
Inductive sig2 (A : Type) (P Q : A -> Prop) : Type :=
  exist2 : forall x : A, P x -> Q x -> sig2 A P Q
```

The notation for (sig2 A P Q) is $\{x:A \mid P \times \& Q \times \}$.

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Functional correctness

There are two approaches to defining functions and providing proofs that they satisfy a given specification:

• To define these functions with a *weak specification* and then add *companion lemmas*.

For instance, we define a function $f:A \rightarrow B$ and we prove a statement of the form $\forall x\!:\!A,R\,x\,(fx)$, where R is a relation coding the intended input/output behaviour of the function.

• To give a strong specification of the function: the type of this function directly states that the input is a value x of type A and that the output is the combination of a value v of type B and a proof that v satisfies $R \, x \, v$.

This kind of specification usually relies on dependent types.

Partiality

The Coq system does not allow the definition of partial functions (i.e. functions that give a run-time error on certain inputs). However we can enrich the function domain with a precondition that assures that invalid inputs are excluded.

- A partial function from type A to type B can be described with a type of the form $\forall x : A, P x \rightarrow B$, where P is a predicate that describes the function's domain.
- Applying a function of this type requires two arguments: a term t of type A and a proof of the precondition $P\,t$.

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An example

An attempt to define the head function as follows will fail

```
Definition head (A:Type) (1:list A) : A :=
  match l with
  | cons x xs => x
  end.
Error: Non exhaustive pattern-matching: no clause found
     for pattern nil
```

To overcome the above difficulty, we need to:

- consider a precondition that excludes all the erroneous argument values;
- pass to the function an additional argument: a proof that the precondition holds;
- the match constructor return type is lifted to a function from a proof of the precondition to the result type.
- any invalid branch in the match constructor leads to a logical contradiction (it violates the precondition).

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An example

```
Definition head (A:Type) (1:list A) (p:l<>nil) : A.
refine (fun A l p=>
  match l return (l<>nil->A) with
  | nil => fun H => _
  | cons x xs => fun H => x
  end p).
elim H; reflexivity.
Defined.
```

```
Print Implicit head.
head : forall (A : Type) (1 : list A), 1 <> nil -> A
Arguments A, 1 are implicit
```

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An example

The specification of head is:

```
Definition headPre (A:Type) (1:list A) : Prop := 1<>nil.

Inductive headRel (A:Type) (x:A) : list A -> Prop := headIntro : forall 1, headRel x (cons x 1).
```

The correctness of function head is thus given by the following theorem:

Extraction

- Conventional programing languages do not provide dependent types and well-typed functions in Coq do not always correspond to well-typed functions in the target programing language.
- In CIC functions may contain subterms corresponding to proofs that have practically no interest with respect to the final value.
- The computations done in the proofs correspond to verifications that should be done once and for all at compile-time, while the computation on the actual data needs to be done for each value presented to functions at run-time.
- Coq implements this mechanism of filtering the computational content from the objects - the so called extraction mechanism.
- The distinction between the sorts Prop and Set is used to mark the logical aspects that should be discharged during extraction or the computational aspects that should be kept.

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Extraction

Coq supports different target languages: Ocaml, Haskell, Scheme.

```
Check head.
head: forall (A: Type) (1: list A), 1 <> nil -> A
```

```
Extraction Language Haskell.
Extraction Inline False_rect.
Extraction head.
```

```
head :: (List a1) -> a1
head l =
  case l of
  Nil -> Prelude.error "absurd case"
  Cons x xs -> x
```

Specification types

Using Σ -types we can express specification constrains in the type of a function - we simply restrict the codomain type to those values satisfying the specification.

• Consider the following definition of the inductive relation "x is the last element of list l", and the theorem specifing the function that gives the last element of a list.

```
Inductive Last (A:Type) (x:A) : list A -> Prop :=
| last_base : Last x (cons x nil)
| last_step : forall l y, Last x l -> Last x (cons y l).
```

- By proving this theorem we build an inhabitant of this type, and then we can extract the computational content of this proof, and obtain a function that satisfies the specification.
- The Coq system thus provides a certified software production tool, since the
 extracted programs satisfy the specifications described in the formal
 developments.

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Specification types

Let us build an inhabitant of that type

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Program extraction

We can extract the computational content of the proof of the last theorem.

```
Extraction Language Haskell.

Extraction Inline False_rect.

Extraction Inline sig_rect.

Extraction Inline list_rect.

Extraction last_correct.
```

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Case study: sorting a list

A simple characterisation of sorted lists consists in requiring that two consecutive elements be compatible with the \leq relation.

We can codify this with the following predicate:

```
Open Scope Z_scope.

Inductive Sorted : list Z -> Prop :=
    | sorted0 : Sorted nil
    | sorted1 : forall z:Z, Sorted (z :: nil)
    | sorted2 :
        forall (z1 z2:Z) (1:list Z),
        z1 <= z2 ->
        Sorted (z2 :: 1) -> Sorted (z1 :: z2 :: 1).
```

To capture permutations, instead of an inductive definition we will define the relation using an auxiliary function that count the number of occurrences of elements:

A list is a permutation of another when contains exactly the same number of occurrences (for each possible element):

```
Definition Perm (11 12:list Z) : Prop :=
  forall z, count z 11 = count z 12.
```

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Case study: sorting a list

Exercise:

Prove that Perm is an equivalence relation:

Exercise:

Prove the following lemmas:

A simple strategy to sort a list consist in iterate an "insert" function that inserts an element in a sorted list.

```
Fixpoint insert (x:Z) (l:list Z) {struct l} : list Z :=
  match l with
  nil => cons x nil
| cons h t =>
    match Z_lt_ge_dec x h with
    left _ => cons x (cons h t)
    | right _ => cons h (insert x t)
    end
end.
```

```
Fixpoint isort (1:list Z) : list Z :=
  match l with
   nil => nil
  | cons h t => insert h (isort t)
  end.
```

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Case study: sorting a list

The theorem we want to prove is:

We will certainly need auxiliary lemmas... Let us make a prospective proof attempt:

It is now clear what are the needed lemmas:

```
Lemma insert_Perm : forall x 1, Perm (x::1) (insert x 1).
unfold Perm; induction 1.
simpl. reflexivity.
simpl insert. elim (Z_lt_ge_dec x a). reflexivity.
intros. rewrite Perm_cons_cons.
pattern (x::1). simpl count. elim (Z_eq_dec z a).
intros. rewrite IH1; reflexivity.
intros. apply IH1.
Qed.
```

```
Lemma insert_Sorted : forall x 1, Sorted 1 -> Sorted (insert x 1).
intros x 1 H; elim H; simpl.
constructor.
intro z; elim (Z_lt_ge_dec x z); intros.
constructor.
auto with zarith.
...
Qed.
```

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Case study: sorting a list

Now we can conclude the proof of correctness...

```
Theorem isort_correct : forall (1 1':list Z),
                        l'=isort l -> Perm l l' /\ Sorted l'.
Proof.
induction 1; intros.
unfold Perm; rewrite H; split; auto.
simpl. constructor. simpl in H.
rewrite H. (* ????????? *)
elim (IHl (isort 1)); intros; split.
apply Perm_trans with (a::isort 1).
unfold Perm. intro z. simpl. elim (Z_eq_dec z a). intros.
elim HO; reflexivity.
intros. elim HO. reflexivity.
apply insert_Perm.
apply insert_Sorted.
assumption.
Qed.
```

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Exercise:

Complete the following proof and extract its computational content to an Haskell function.

Exercise:

Use the same method to extract the insert function from its specification.

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Non-structural recursion

When the recursion pattern of a function is not structural in the arguments, we are no longer able to directly use the derived recursors to define it.

Consider the Euclidean division algorithm written in Haskell

- In recent versions of Coq (after v8.1), a new command Function allows to directly encode general recursive functions.
- The Function command accepts a measure function that specifies how the argument "decreases" between recursive function calls.
- It generates proof-obligations that must be checked to guaranty the termination.

Non-structural recursion

The Function command generates a lot of auxiliary results related to the defined function. Some of them are powerful tools to reason about it.

Non-structural recursion

The Function command is also useful to provide "natural encodings" of functions that otherwise would need to be expressed in a contrived manner.

Exercise:

Complete the definition of the function merge, presenting a proof of its termination.

Another example of correctness

A specification of the Euclidean division algorithm:

```
Definition divRel (args:nat*nat) (res:nat*nat) : Prop :=
let (n,d):=args in let (q,r):=res in q*d+r=n /\ r<d.

Definition divPre (args:nat*nat) : Prop := (snd args)<>0.
```

A proof of correctness:

```
Theorem div_correct : forall (p:nat*nat), divPre p -> divRel p (div p).
Proof.
unfold divPre, divRel.
intro p.
(* we make use of the specialised induction principle to conduct the proof... *)
functional induction (div p); simpl.
intro H; elim H; reflexivity.
(* a first trick: we expand (div (a-b,b)) in order to get rid of the let (q,r)=\dots *)
replace (div (a-b,b)) with (fst (div (a-b,b)), snd (div (a-b,b))) in IHpO.
simpl in *.
intro H; elim (IHpO H); intros.
split.
(* again a similar trick: we expand "x" and "y0" in order to use an hypothesis *)
change (b + (fst (x,y0)) * b + (snd (x,y0)) = a).
rewrite <- e1.
omega.
(* and again... *)
change (snd (x,y0)<b); rewrite <- e1; assumption.
symmetry; apply surjective_pairing.
auto.
Qed.
```

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