

Program verification with SPARK

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About

■ Me

- Informationssystemtechnik at TU Dresden
- Working since 2017 at Componolit
- OS/driver development with Ada, SPARK, C/C++

■ Componolit

- Secure component based systems
- Mobile devices
- Industrial security
- Free software
- Open development

Ada

- ISO/8652:1987, 1995, 2012, (2020)
- Object oriented
- Extensive compile time and runtime checks
- Strong type system
- Contract based programming
- Easy integration with C-FFI

```
1 with Ada.Text_Io;  
2 use Ada.Text_Io;  
3  
4 procedure Main is  
5 begin  
6     Put_Line(„Hello World“);  
7 end Main;
```

Contract based programming

```
1 #ifndef _STDLIB_H_
2 #define _STDLIB_H_
3
4 /* returns the absolute value */
5 int abs(int j);
6
7 #endif
```

Contract based programming

```
1 package Std is
2
3 function Abs_Value (J : Integer) return Integer
4   with
5     Post => Abs_Value'Result >= 0;
6
7 end Std;
```

Example: Abs

```
1 int abs(int j)
2 {
3     if(j > 0)
4         return j
5     else
6         return -j
7 }
```

abs(-1) => 1

abs(1) => 1

abs(0) => 0

abs(-2147483648) => -2147483648

Example: Abs

```
1 function Abs_Value(J : Integer) return Integer is
2 begin
3     if J > 0 then
4         return J;
5     else
6         return -J;
7     end if;
8 end Abs_Value;
```

Abs_Value(-2147483648) => raised CONSTRAINT_ERROR : overflow check failed

What about testing?

- **Still important**

- Integration
- Validating the specification

- **But**

- Exhaustive testing is impossible
- State explosion for non-trivial software
- Testing achieves 1 defect every 1000 lines at BEST
- Formal methods can be 50-100 times better than that

SPARK

- Subset of Ada
- Static analysis
- Formal verification of contracts
- Data flow and dependency checking
- Variable depth of verification

- **Valid SPARK**
 - No access types
 - Functions without side effects
- **Absence of runtime errors**
 - No overflows, exceptions, etc.
- **Full functional proof**
 - Proof of semantic properties of a function

Verification Conditions

■ Code



■ Verification Condition

```
1 C := A / B;
```



```
1 B /= 0
```

Example: Abs

```
1 function Abs_Value (J : Integer) return Integer is
2 begin
3     if J > 0 then
4         return J;
5     else
6         return -J;
7     end if;
8 end Abs_Value;
```

medium: overflow check might fail (e.g. when Abs_Value'Result = 0 and J = -2147483648)

Example: Abs

```
1 function Abs_Value (J : Integer) return Integer
2   with
3     Pre => J /= Integer'First,
4     Post => Abs_Value'Result >= 0;
```

info: overflow check proved
info: postcondition proved

Example: Abs

```
1 procedure Do_Something is
2   Value : Integer;
3 begin
4   ...
5   Value := Abs_Value (Value);
6   ...
7 end Do_Something;
```

medium: precondition might fail (e.g. when Value = -2147483648)

Example: Abs

```
1 begin
2     ...
3     if Value /= Integer'First then
4         Value := Abs_Value (Value);
5     end if;
6     ...
7 end Do_Something;
```

info: precondition proved

Example: Abs

```
1 type Symmetric_Int is new Integer -2**31 + 1 .. 2**31 - 1;  
2 -- regular Integer goes from -2**31 to 2**31 - 1  
3  
4 function Abs_Value (J : Symmetric_Int) return Symmetric_Int  
5   with  
6     Post => Abs_Value'Result >= 0;
```

Example: Abs

```
1 procedure Do_Something is
2   Value : Symmetric_Int;
3 begin
4   ...
5   Value := Abs_Value (Value);
6   ...
7 end Do_Something;
```


Where is it used?

■ Safety

- Rolls-Royce Trent Jet Engines
- EuroFighter
- Air traffic management, rail signaling
- Space Flight (e.g. CubeSat project)

■ Security

- Muen microkernel
- WooKey, a secure and trustworthy USB mass storage device

Example: Converting a string from C to Ada

■ Strings in C

- Pointer to a sequence of char
- Null terminated
- No explicit length attribute

■ Strings in Ada

- Array of Character
- Explicit size

- Calling Ada from C
- Passing a C string and using it in Ada
- Proofs:
 - Absence of runtime errors
 - An empty string or null pointer yields a preset default string

Questions?

■ Johannes Kliemann

- jk@jkliemann.de
- github.com/jklmnn
- <https://gitlab.com/jklmnn/sparkds2018>

■ Componolit

- <https://componolit.com/>
- [@Componolit](#)
- github.com/Componolit

■ AdaCore

- <https://learn.adacore.com/>
- GNAT GPL Toolchain <https://www.adacore.com/download>

