Fitting the Pieces Together: A Machine-Checked Model of Safe Composition

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Safe Composition

• Features

- Word Processor has formatting, printing, spell check, tables..
- Cut across traditional modularity boundaries
- Reify functionality into distinct **feature modules**

Software Product Line (SPL)

- Multiple products from one code base
- Product = subset of features

Safe Composition

- Type check all products
- Products are exponential in number of features

• Goal

- Sound type system
- Foundation for efficient implementation

• Features are sets of class definitions and refinements

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```
feature Account {
    class Account extends Object {
        int balance = 0;
        void update(int x) {
            int newBal = balance + x;
            balance = newBal;
        }
        Account
    }
}
```

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} Account

feature InvestAccount {
 refines class Account extends WaMu {
 int 401kbalance = 0;
 refines void update (int x) {
 x = x/2;
 Super();
 401kbalance += x;
 }
 NestAccount

feature RetireAccount {
 refines class Account extends Lehman {
 int 401kbalance = 10000;
 int update (int x) {
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 RetireAccount
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Composing Features

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Composing Features







C InvestAccount • Investor

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RetireAccount

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ccount

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+ InvestAccount







RetireAccount • Investor

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Feature Models

- A SPL has a set of available features: {Account, RetireAccount, InvestAccount}
- Typically feature combinations are constrained
 - A feature model represents these constraints
 - Propositional formula is compact representation [Batory05] RetireAccount ∨ InvestAccount
 - Product corresponds to truth assignment
- FMs should enforce implementation constraints
 - Safe Composition

(RetireAccount ∨ InvestAccount) ∧

(RetireAccount ⇒ Account) ∧ (InvestAccount ⇒ Account)

Checking Safe Composition

- Could synthesize entire product line
 - Computationally expensive:

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Difficulties



Combinatorial nature of SPLs problematic:

```
feature Payroll {
    class Employer extends Object {
        Account Employee1;
        ...
        Employee1.401kbalance += 10000;
        ...
    }}
```

- Bailout feature needs Account
- Account needs 401kbalance
- Multiple ways to satisfy
 - Introduction
 - Inheritance

- Features are static
 - Surrounding program is not
- Dependencies are resolved by a combination of features
 - These features have their own set of dependencies

C Lightweight Feature Java

- Lightweight Java [Strnisa07]
 - Minimal imperative subset of Java formalized in Coq
- Lightweight Feature Java
 - Lightweight Java extended with features

```
Feature Table
FT ::= {FD}
Product specification
PS ::= F
Feature declaration
FD ::= feature F {cld; rcld}
Class refinement
rcld ::= refines class dcl extending cl {fd; md; rmd}
Method Refinement
rmd ::= refines method ms {s; Super(); s; return y}
```

• Formalized in the Coq Proof Assistant



Programs built from product specifications



• compose

- Refine existing classes
 - Apply method refinement
 - Introduce fields, methods
- Introduce new classes
- Recursively apply **compose** to specification

LJ Type System

 $\operatorname{distinct}(\overline{var_k}^k)$ $\overline{\mathbf{type}(cl_k) = \tau_k}^k$ $\mathbf{type}(cl) = \tau'$ $\Gamma = [\overline{var_k \mapsto \tau_k}^k] [\mathbf{this} \mapsto \tau]$ (WF-METHOD) $\Gamma(y) = \tau''$ $\overline{\mathsf{P},\Gamma\vdash s_\ell}^\ell$ $\mathbf{P} \vdash \tau'' \prec \tau'$ $\overline{\mathsf{P}} \vdash \mathbf{defined} \ cl_k^k$ $\mathsf{P} \vdash_{\tau} cl \ meth \ (\overline{cl_k \ var_k}^k) \ \{\overline{s_\ell}^\ell \ \mathbf{return} \ y; \}$

• Program not available until composition

LJ Type System



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Constraint-Based Typing

• External premises become constraints

 $\begin{aligned} \operatorname{distinct}(\overline{var_{k}}^{k}) \\ \overline{\operatorname{type}(cl_{k}) = \tau_{k}}^{k} & (WF-METHOD) \\ \operatorname{type}(cl) = \tau' \\ \Gamma = [\overline{var_{k} \mapsto \tau_{k}}^{k}][\operatorname{this} \mapsto \tau] \\ \overline{\Gamma \vdash s_{\ell} \mid \mathcal{C}_{\ell}}^{\ell} \\ \Gamma(y) = \tau'' \\ \hline \vdash_{\tau} cl \ meth \ (\overline{cl_{k} \ var_{k}}^{k}) \ \{\overline{s_{\ell}}^{\ell} \ \operatorname{return} \ y; \} \mid \{\tau'' \prec \tau', \overline{\operatorname{defined} \ cl_{k}}^{k}\} \cup \bigcup_{\ell} \mathcal{C}_{\ell} \end{aligned}$

- Compositional Constraints
- Uniqueness Constraints
- Structural Constraints

Constraint-Based Typing

- Two typing phases
- Typing Feature Tables

$$\vdash \overline{FD}_{k}^{k} | \mathbf{WF}_{k} \\ \neg \{\overline{FD}_{k}^{k}\} | U_{k} \{\mathbf{In}_{FD_{k}} \Rightarrow \mathbf{WF}_{k}\}$$

Well-typed product specification

$$\mathsf{PS} \models \mathsf{U}_k \{ \mathsf{In}_{\mathsf{FD}_k} \Rightarrow \mathsf{WF}_k \}$$

- Feature Constraint
- Compositional Constraints
- Uniqueness Constraints
- Structural Constraints





Space of products



- First premise describes subset of type-safe products
- Second ensures product in this space





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Validating Feature Models



- Feature Models describe desired product space
 - Should be contained in type-safe space
- Recall Feature Models are propositional formulas
 - Describe type-safe space in propositional logic, WF_{Safe}
 - Reduction from typing constraints
- Reduce to SAT:

$$\mathsf{FM} \Rightarrow \mathsf{WF}_{\mathsf{Safe}}$$

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Evaluation



Checking validity coNP-complete in general
Our formulas are highly structured

Product Line	# of Features	# of Programs	Code Base	Program Jak/	Typechecking Time
JPL	70	56	34K/48K	22K/35K	<30s

- Previous implementation of approach [Thaker07]
 - Identified errors in existing product lines
- Evidence of erroneous product

Conclusion

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- Feature-based Software Product Lines
- Safe Composition
- Lightweight Feature Java
 - Verified in Coq proof assistant
 - Constraints describe program space
- Validating Feature Models
 - Reduce to SAT
 - Efficient evaluation



