

The Dafny and Boogie Verification Tools

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Motivation

A **correct** implementation of the recursive insertion sort?

```
1  method insertionSort(a: array<int>, b: int) {  
2    if (b = 1) { return; }  
3    insertionSort(a, b-1);  
4    var j: int := b-1;  
5    while j > 0  $\wedge$  (a[j] < a[j-1]) {  
6      swap (a, j-1, j);  
7      j := j - 1;  
8    }  
9  }
```

Motivation

- Writing correct algorithms = Writing + Verification
- Traditionally shown by proof with pen and paper
- Interactive proof-systems simplified process
- SMT-solvers allow automatic verification

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Desirable features:

- Completeness (*i.e.* find all errors)
- Abstraction (algebraic datatypes, side-effect free methods)
- Unrestricted quantifier support
- Termination metrics
- Verified standard libraries

Developed tools (e.g. ESC/Java, Spec#) **miss** some functionalities.

Dafny

- Imperative, class-based language
- Identically named, automatic verifier
- Uses Boogie as underlying system
- Just-in-time verification by using appropriate tools

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Language features:

- No syntactic sugar (e.g. do-while loops)
- Pre- and postconditions, predicates
- Loop invariants, termination metrics
- Ghost variables, functions, assertions
- Integrated datatypes, user defined datatypes, custom classes
- *No* libraries

Boogie

- Unstructured, non-deterministic, intermediate language
- Automatic verifier

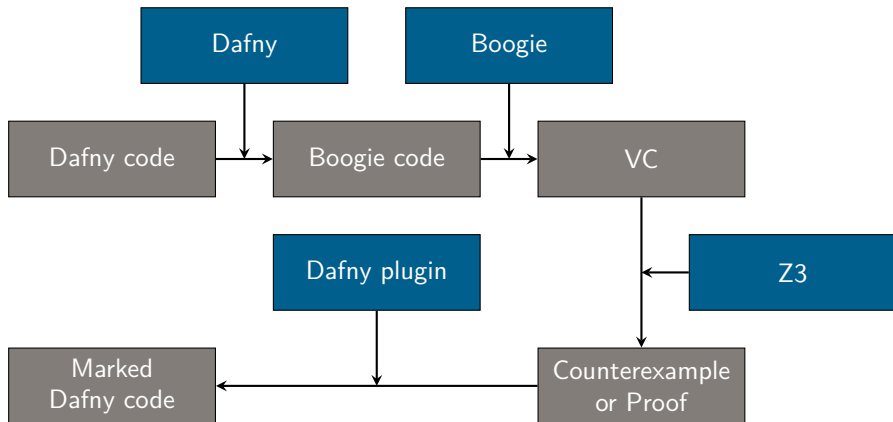
Boogie

- Unstructured, non-deterministic, intermediate language
- Automatic verifier

Language features:

- Similar annotations as in Dafny
- Implementations and declarations for methods
- **goto** with labels
- **havoc** commands and **where** clauses
- **Explicit** Heap
- No call-by-reference parameter passing
- Axioms for language features

Interaction of the Tools



Dafny – Conclusion

The Good

- Slim, Easy to use
- Design-time-feedback
- Finds all errors

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- Spurious counterexamples
- No inheritance and sub-typing for classes

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The Ugly

- No true invariants for objects
- Boogie knowledge required (e.g. error messages, counterexamples)

Back to the Start

A **correct** implementation of the recursive insertion sort?

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```
1  method insertionSort(a: array<int>, b: int)
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3
4
5
6      {
7      if (b = 1) { return; }
8      insertionSort(a, b-1);
9      var j: int := b-1;
10     while j > 0  $\wedge$  (a[j] < a[j-1])
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12
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14         {
15         swap (a, j-1, j);
16         j := j - 1;
17     }
18 }
```

```

1  method insertionSort(a: array<int>, b: int)
2      requires a ≠ null
3      requires a.Length ≥ b > 0
4      modifies a
5      ensures sorted(a, 0, b)
6          {
7          if (b = 1) { return; }
8          insertionSort(a, b-1);
9          var j: int := b-1;
10         while j > 0 ∧ (a[j] < a[j-1])
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14             {
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2    requires a ≠ null
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5    ensures sorted(a, 0, b)
6      {
7        if (b = 1) { return; }
8        insertionSort(a, b-1);
9        var j: int := b-1;
10       while j > 0 ∧ (a[j] < a[j-1])
11         invariant b ≥ j ≥ 0
12         invariant sorted(a, 0, j) ∧ sorted(a, j, b)
13         invariant  $\forall k, l \bullet 0 \leq k < j \wedge j < l < b \implies a[k] \leq a[l]$ 
14           {
15             swap (a, j-1, j);
16             j := j - 1;
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```

1  method insertionSort(a: array<int>, b: int)
2      requires a ≠ null
3      requires a.Length ≥ b > 0
4      modifies a
5      ensures sorted(a, 0, b)
6      decreases b {
7          if (b = 1) { return; }
8          insertionSort(a, b-1);
9          var j: int := b-1;
10         while j > 0 ∧ (a[j] < a[j-1])
11             invariant b ≥ j ≥ 0
12             invariant sorted(a, 0, j) ∧ sorted(a, j, b)
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```

1  method insertionSort(a: array<int>, b: int)
2    requires a  $\neq$  null
3    requires a.Length  $\geq$  b > 0
4    modifies a
5    ensures sorted(a, 0, b)
6    decreases b {
7      if (b = 1) { return; }
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16         j := j - 1;
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References

K. Rustan M. Leino. *Dafny: An Automatic Program Verifier for Functional Correctness*, pages 348–370.

Springer Berlin Heidelberg, Berlin, Heidelberg, 2010 Mike Barnett, Bor-Yuh Evan Chang, Robert DeLine, Bart Jacobs, and K. Rustan M. Leino.

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Getting started with dafny: A guide.

<https://rise4fun.com/Dafny/tutorial/Guide>.

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