Refinement Plans for Reasoned Modelling

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Motivation



Goal: To abstract away from the complexities of proof obligations, providing high-level modelling guidance.

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Proof planning uses proof patterns to automate the search for proofs.



- Reusability of proof strategies.
- Automatic proof failure analysis and patching.

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Reasoned Modelling

An approach that provides high-level modelling guidance by combining proof and modelling patterns.



- Currently the ideas of reasoned modelling are being developed in Event-B.
- We are working in *Refinement Plans*, a type of reasoned modelling method that focus on refinement.

Refinement in Event-B

Handle the complexity of large systems through the use of abstraction.



Different ways of doing refinement in Event-B:

- Variables can be added and/or removed.
- New events can be added.
- Existing events can be split, merged or modified.
- Gluing invariants, etc..
- Plus combinations of all the previous ones.

- Classify common patterns of refinement at the modelling level.
- Combine modelling and proof knowledge.
- Detect partial matches of known patterns of refinement in a development.
 - This allows failure analysis of a user's refinement step.
- Provide user guidance in terms of modelling decisions.

Roles of refinement plans (1)

• Correcting refinements:



• Layering refinements:



Roles of refinement plans (2)

• Abstracting refinements:



• Suggesting refinements:



refinement plan = refinement method + proof methods + critics

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- Describes a common pattern of refinement, i.e.:
 - abstract model
 - concrete model
 - gluing invariant
- Applicability of the pattern is determined by declarative preconditions.
- Through the verification of these preconditions partial or complete instances of the pattern are identified within a user's refinement.
- Partial matches are then handled by the critics mechanism (more on this later).

Refinement method example: sets-to-function

An instance of this pattern requires the:

- abstract model to contain a partition of sets (many variables),
- concrete model to replace the partition with a function (one variable)



• Knowing the pattern/structure of the refinement provides us with a better idea about the pattern/structure of the associated proofs, then:

Proof Methods = Reasoning patterns associated to a refinement method

- Proof methods are used when a user's refinement fully matches with a pattern but it has a set of unproven POs.
- The use of proof methods and the analysis of partial success at the level of proof planning represents future work.

- Exception handling mechanism.
- If a partial instance of a refinement method is found, critics are applied.
- Applicability is determined by declarative preconditions.
- All preconditions must succeed for a critic to be applicable.
- Modelling guidance to overcome the failure is automatically generated, instances of possible guidance are:
 - Modify/add guards.
 - Modify/add actions.
 - Modify/add (gluing) invariants, etc.
- The selection and decision to apply automatically generated guidance is left to the user.

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Example: sets-to-function refinement method applied to a logging system

 $\label{eq:precondition: There must exists a set of gluing invariants with the pattern: \\ stateVariable = concreteFunction^{-1}[{stateConstant}]$



There exists a partial instance of the refinement method!

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- There exists a partial instance of the sets-to-function refinement method for which the gluing invariant precondition fails.
- There exists a failed guard strengthening PO in the concrete model with the form:

$$\exists failed_po \in \{\langle_,_,_, PO\rangle \in POs \mid failed_proof(PO)\}.$$

$$failed_po = \langle M, E, _/GRD, (\Delta, \underbrace{stateFunction(x) = Y}_{concrete \ guard} \vdash \underbrace{x \in \{z\}}_{abstract \ guard})\rangle$$

There exists an instance of the gluing invariant pattern that makes the failed PO provable:

$$\textit{provable } (\Delta,\textit{stateFunction}(x) = Y, \{z\} = \textit{stateFunction}^{-1}[\{Y\}] \ \vdash \ x \in \{z\})$$

Instantiation of the critic: logging example

- There exists a partial instance of the sets-to-function refinement method for which the gluing invariant precondition fails.
- **②** Failed POs with the form " Δ , *stateFunction*(x) = $Y \vdash x \in \{z\}$ ": \checkmark

..., $rStatus(r) = ALLOCATED \vdash r \in \{allocated\}$..., $rStatus(r) = UNALLOCATED \vdash r \in \{unallocated\}$

The exists an instance of the gluing invariant pattern that makes the failed PO provable:

provable (..., rStatus(r) = ALLOCATED, {allocated} = rStatus⁻¹[{ALLOCATED}] \vdash r \in {allocated})

(A similar instantiation is given for state unallocated)

All preconditions succeed, then the guidance is the addition of the gluing invariants to the concrete model.

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The $REMO^1$ tool

- Prototype tool developed in OCaml (Objective Caml Language).
- Uses the CVC3 SMT solver to verify preconditions.
- Currently REMO is partially integrated with Rodin.



¹The REMO acronym follows from REasoned MOdelling \rightarrow $\langle \bigcirc \rangle$ $\langle \bigcirc \rangle$

- Further development of refinement plans and their evaluation through case studies.
- Explore the role of refinement plans for:
 - Guiding users in their initial choice of refinement.
 - Suggesting intermediate refinement steps.
- Tool implementation: REMO.
- Analysis of faulty user-given invariants through term-synthesis and automated theory formation techniques.
- Discover proof patterns associated to our refinement methods in order to enhance proof automation (through proof methods).

- We have introduced refinement plans, and outline several areas we believe they can help modellers.
- We have shown an example of the role of refinement plans when correcting a broken refinement step.
- Aim: to provide modelling guidance by automatically analysing specifications that lie just outside a known pattern of refinement.
- Analysis of failure and generation of guidance is automatic; however, final decision is left to the user.
- We believe that this approach will enable us to turn low-level proof-failures into high-level modelling guidance.

Thanks!

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