

Faculty Summit 2012

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Engineering Methods for Ensuring Program Correctness

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Some formal methods at Microsoft

Model checking: Static Driver Verifier

White-box fuzzing: SAGE

Semantic differencing: SymDiff

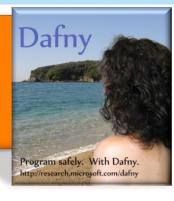
Program verification: VCC, Dafny



Program verification

functional correctness level correctional co

Dafny and others



traditional mechanical program verification

hand proofs (or hand waving)

limited checking

extended static checking

technology:

automatic decision procedures (SMT solvers) interactive proof assistants

no machine assistance





Dafny

- Class-based language
 - · generic classes, no subclassing
 - · object references, dynamic allocation
 - · sequential control
- Built-in specifications
 - · pre- and postconditions
 - framing
 - · loop invariants, inline assertions
 - · termination
- Specification support
 - · Sets, sequences, inductive datatypes, ...
 - User-defined recursive functions
 - Ghost variables



Basic features

demo

TreeFill.dfy, BinarySearch.dfy, SchorrWaite.dfy

Classes

demo

Counter.dfy

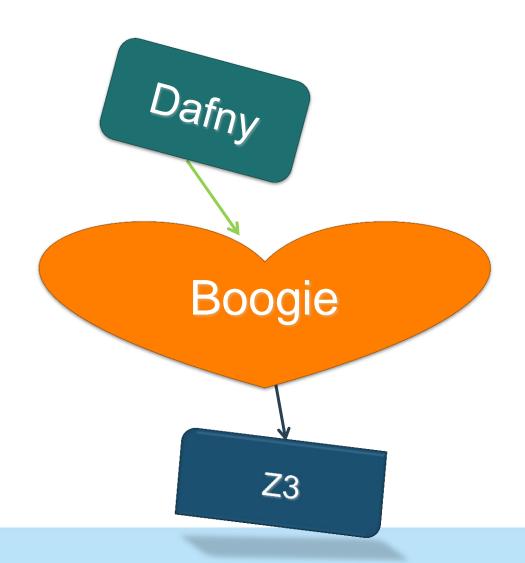
Proving lemmas

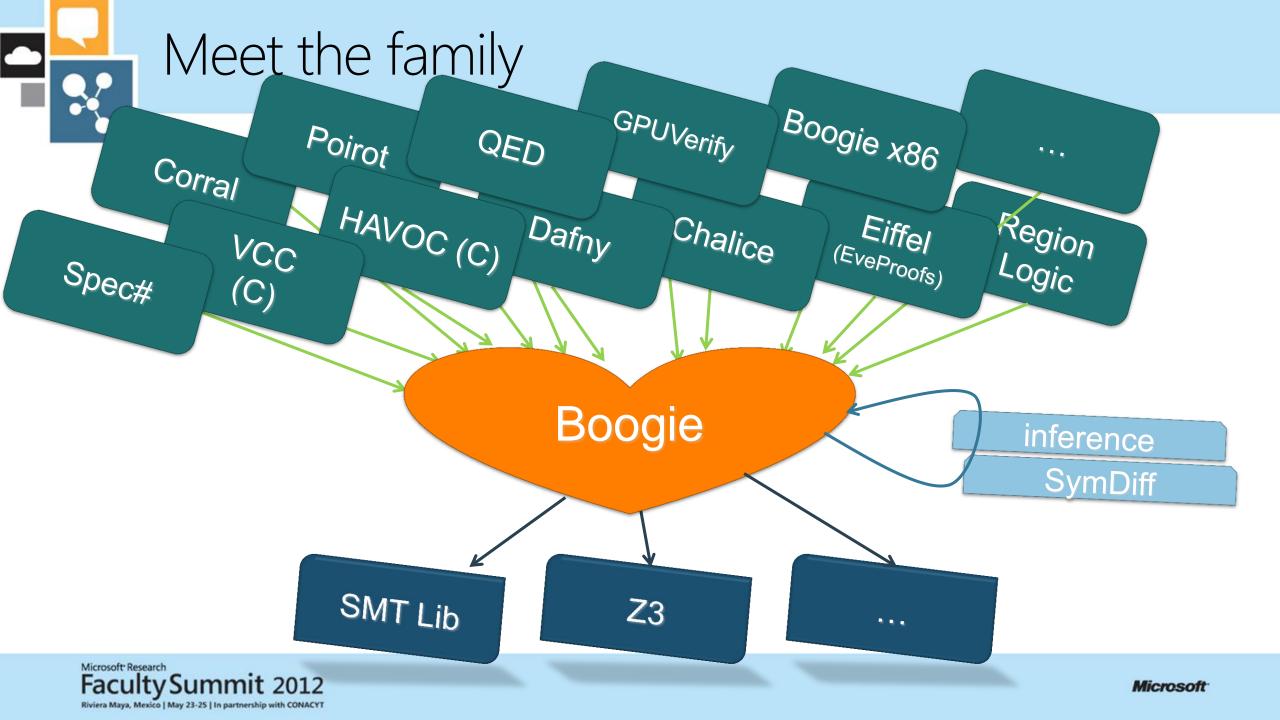
demo

Induction.dfy, TortoiseHare.dfy



Verification architecture







Dafny users

- Used in teaching
- >100,000 unique Dafny programs submitted to rise4fun.com
- 6 teams of out 29 made use of Dafny at the VSTTE 2012 program verification competition
- 2 of 6 medalists at the competition used Dafny





Using Dafny on the web

Dafny tutorial

```
- - X
       6 http://rise4fun.com/Dafny
P → C × 6 Dafny @ rise4fun - from Mi... ×
                                                                    金 ☆
                        Research
dafny
Is this program correct? Ask dafny!
   method Enqueue(X: T)
     ensures Contents == old(Contents) + [x] && old(N) <= N;
     if (len == data.Length) {
       var d := new T[2 * data.Length];
       parallel (i | 0 <= i < data.Length) {
          d[if i < first then i else i + d.Length -
                      tutorial
                                  /ideo
                                         permalink
 ask dafny
               hom
More samples
                 About Dafny - A language and program verifier for functional
Fibonacci
                 correctness
CountToN
                 Dafny is an imperative, object-oriented programming language
                 with classes and inductive datatypes, and specification
Ackermann
                 constructs for describing intended behavior. The Dafny verifier
Mul
                 checks that programs live up to their specifications.
zb
Cube
```



What's next

- More use
- More teaching
- Refinement programming in stages
- Synthesis programming by specification



Conclusions

- Full functional-correctness verification is becoming more automatic
- Dafny
 - Use
 - · Teach
 - Extend

- Dafny (download, source, documentation)
 http://research.microsoft.com/dafny
 http://rise4fun.com/Dafny/tutorial/guide
- rise4fun http://rise4fun.com
- Verification Corner http://research.microsoft.com/verificationcorner



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