Debugging Scientific Software

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Scientific computing

Use of advanced computing capabilities to solve complex problems, aiming to predict the behavior or outcome of a system, man-made or otherwise.

Why is it important?

Aerospace engineering, mechanical engineering, material science, chemistry, medicine and many more disciplines, but also...

Basis of scientific findings shaping **policy regarding wicked problems** such as COVID-19 or climate change.















Language matters! Power comes with responsibility!



We investigated the impact of language choice through the **balance of** responsibilities between language users and language designers.

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Example languages

Mathematica, MATLAB

Balance of responsibilities



Language users

- Model testing to assess mathematical model fidelity
- Discretization testing on the derived scientific software

Language designers

- Discretization testing of the provided continuous mathematical constructs
- Software engineering V&V concerns
- Providing tools for discretization testing

Example languages

 $\mathsf{C}{++},\ \mathsf{Fortran}$

Balance of responsibilities



Language users

- Software engineering V&V concerns
- Implementation testing
- Discretization testing
- Model testing

Example languages

NabLab, Julia, SciPy, GNU Octave

Balance of responsibilities



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- Implementation testing of the provided discrete mathematical constructs
- Providing tools for implementation testing

NabLab: Executable DSL (xDSL) for numerical analysis.

Abstract syntax: Metamodel reifying domain concepts, e.g.,

- Matrices, vectors, scalars
- Algebraic expressions over those
- Mathematical functions
- Iterative control structures

Operational semantics:

- Metamodel defining model state during the execution
- Set of execution rules ⇒ Interpreter

Available facilities:

• Output capabilities \Rightarrow designed for **production use**, not debugging.

```
VtkOutput
{
    periodReferenceVariable = iterativeHeatEquation.n;
    outputVariables = iterativeHeatEquation.u as "Temperature";
}
```

■ Interactive debugging ⇒ impractical for such highly iterative software.

Preferred approach:

Logging and monitoring of domain-specific properties (*e.g.*, physics conservation laws, numerical invariants). General obstacles to **domain-level** logging and monitoring facilities for xDSLs:

Restricted DSL expressivity:

- Introducing language constructs goes against SoC (e.g., printf, if)
- Different expressivity than offered by the DSL might be required
- Domain-specificness:
 - Cannot reuse libraries through domain concepts (e.g., Apache log4x)
 - Additional development costs for each DSL to support

Logging and monitoring are often dependent on one another:

- Monitoring can operate on derived data obtained through logging mechanisms
- Logging can be triggered or altered upon (in)validation of monitored properties

Yet, obstacles prevent domain experts from leveraging these complementarities:

- Requires DSL support for logging and monitoring frameworks
- Requires domain-level interoperability between frameworks

Proposed solution: MONILOG

Language-agnostic, unifying framework for runtime monitoring and logging allowing to define loggers, runtime monitors and combinations of the two, a.k.a. moniloggers.









A $\operatorname{MoniLog}$ specification allows to

- define instrumentation-specific variables,
- declare the execution events of interest,
- register moniloggers to these events, which can
 - update instrumentation variables,
 - access the execution state of the running model,
 - evaluate expressions with languages available on the execution platform,
 - call various appenders (*e.g.*, file, message queue, console),
 - start/stop moniloggers

```
🖹 IterativeHeatEquation-MonitorResidual.mnlg 😂
                                                                              V IterativeHeatEquation.n 🕅
   package iterativeheatequation
                                                                                  InitD: \forall c \in cells(), D\{c\} = 1.0;
   import org.gemoc.monilog.stl.*
                                                                                  ComputeDeltaTn: 6t = Min{c∈cells()}(V{c}/D{c}) * 0.1;
   import fr.cea.nabla.monilog.nablalib.*
                                                                                 ComputeV: \forall ifcells(), \forall i i = 0.5 * \sum pendesOfcell(i) (det(X{p}, X{p+1})))
   import IterativeHeatEquation.*
                                                                                 ComputeFaceLength: \forall fefaces(), faceLength(f) = 0.5 * \Sigma{penodes0fFace(f)}{norm(X{p})}
                                                                                 ComputeFaceConductivity: VfEfaces(), faceConductivity{f} = 2.0 * [[{clEcellsOfFace

    setup {

       prevResidual = 1.0:
                                                                                 // Assembling of the diffusion matrix
                                                                                GomputeAlphaCoeff: VcEcells(), {
 event ComputeTnReturned {
                                                                                      let R gDiag = 0.0:
                                                                                      VdEneighbourCells(c), VfEcommonFace(c,d), {
      after call ComputeTn
                                                                                          let R gExtraDiag = 5t / V{c} * (faceLength{f} * faceConductivity{f}) / n
                                                                                          \alpha{c, d} = \alphaExtraDiag;
                                                                                          \alpha Diag = \alpha Diag + \alpha ExtraDiag;
 event ResidualUpdated {
      after call ComputeResidual
                                                                                      \alpha{c, c} = -\alphaDiag:
                                                                                 x.
 monilogger correctResidual {
                                                                                  UpdateU: VcEcells(), u^{n+1}, k+1){c} = u^{n}{c} + a{c, c} * u^{n+1}, k}{c} + 5{den}
      when ResidualUndated
                                                                                  ComputeResidual: residual = Max{i \in cells()}(abs(u^{n+1,k+1}{i} - u^{n+1,k}{i}));
      if (context(residual) > prevResidual)
                                                                                 ComputeIn: t^{(n+1)} = t^{(n)} + \delta t:
      then {
          NabLabConsoleAppender.call(
               StringLayout.call("[n={0.number.000}, k={1.number.00}] " +
                                                                                                                              Console $2
                   "Incorrect residual! " +
                                                                             NabLab Console
                   "current residual: {2,number,0.0E0}, " +
                                                                              Ine018, ke091 current residual: 1.1E-6, previous residual: 1.8E-6
                   "previous residual: {3.number.0.0E0}".
                                                                              [n=018, k=10] current residual: 7.0E-7, previous residual: 1.1E-6
               context(n), context(k), context(residual), prevResidual));
                                                                              [n=018, k=11] current residual: 4.4E-7, previous residual: 7.0E-7
           correctResidual.stop():
                                                                              [n=018, k=12] current residual: 2.8E-7, previous residual: 4.4E-7
          resetResidual.stop();
                                                                              [n=018, k=13] current residual: 1.8E-7, previous residual: 2.8E-7
      } else {
                                                                              In=018, k=14] current residual: 1.2E-7, previous residual: 1.8E-7
          Nabl abConsoleAppender.call(
                                                                              [n=018, k=15] current residual: 8.0E-8, previous residual: 1.2E-7
               StringLayout.call("[n={0.number.000]. k={1.number.00}] " +
                                                                              [n=018, k=16] current residual: 5.3E-8, previous residual: 8.0E-8
                   "current residual: {2.number.0.0E0}. " +
                                                                              [n=018, k=17] current residual: 3.6E-8, previous residual: 5.3E-8
                   "previous residual: {3.number.0.0E0}".
                                                                              [n=018, k=18] current residual: 2.5E-8, previous residual: 3.6E-8
               context(n), context(k), context(residual), prevResidual));
                                                                              [n=818, k=19] current residual: 1.7E-8, previous residual: 2.5E-8
          nrevResidual = context(residual):
                                                                              [n=018, k=20] current residual: 1.2E-8, previous residual: 1.7E-8
                                                                              [n=018, k=21] current residual: 8.5E-9, previous residual: 1.2E-8
                                                                              [n=019, k=01] current residual: 9.0E-3, previous residual: 1.0E0
                                                                              [n=019, k=02] current residual: 7.0E-4, previous residual: 9.0E-3
 monilogger resetResidual &
                                                                              [n=019, k=03] current residual: 1.0E-4, previous residual: 7.0E-4
       when ComputeTnReturned
                                                                              [n=019, k=04] current residual: 2.4E-5, previous residual: 1.0E-4
                                                                              [n=019, k=05] current residual: 8.4E-6, previous residual: 2.4E-5
          prevResidual = 1.0:
                                                                              in=019, k=06] current residual: 3.9E-6, previous residual: 8.4E-6
                                                                              [n=019, k=07] current residual: 1.9E-6, previous residual: 3.9E-6
                                                                              [n=819_k=88] current residual: 1 1E-6_previous residual: 1 9E-6
```













- Applicable to Java-based interpreters
- Non-intrusive w.r.t. language definition
- Instrumentation interface = aspects weaved into the interpreter:

```
pointcut interpretaJob(Job job, Context context) :
cal(public static void fr.cea.nabla.ir.interpreter.JobInterpreter.interprete(Job, Context)) &&
    args(job, context);
after(Job job, Context context) : interpreteJob(job, context) {
    notifyAfter(job.getName(), null, context);
}
before(Job job, Context context) : interpreteJob(job, context) {
    notifyBefore(job.getName(), context);
}
```

Implementation – Truffle language implementation framework

- Applicable to languages with a Truffle-based interpreter (e.g., Python, R)
- Can evaluate expressions in any language installed on the GraalVM
- Instrumentation interface part of language definition:

```
public abstract class NablaWriteVariableNode
        extends NablaInstructionNode
        implements InstrumentableNode, TruffleObject {
    @Override
    public boolean hasTag(Class<? extends Tag> tag) {
        return tag.equals(StandardTags.WriteVariableTag.class) || super.hasTag(tag);
    }
```

Research questions:

- RQ#1 How does the proposed approach allow to combine runtime monitoring and logging to extract relevant data from running models?
 - > Answered through demonstration cases similar to the provided example.
- RQ#2 How is the overhead induced by the approach affected by different scenarios?
 - Answered through quantitative evaluation

RQ#1: Demonstration case (Coarsen Interval)

```
🖹 IterativeHeatEquation-CoarsenInterval.mnlg 😂
 package heatequation
 import org.gemoc.monilog.stl.*
 import fr.cea.nabla.monilog.nablalib.*
 import IterativeHeatEquation.*
 import "/home/vagrant/workspace/NabLabExamples/Utils.is" as isutils
 setun {
     currentTime = 0.0:
     outputInterval = 0.0001:
     stdev = 1.0:
     dateString = is(isutils.getDate);
     filePath = "/home/vagrant/workspace/NabLabExamples/dumps/";
 event ComputeTnReturned {
     after call ComputeTn
 monilogger LogTemperature {
     when ComputeTnReturned
     if (currentTime + outputInterval <= context(t n))</pre>
     then {
          stdev = is(isutils.stdev(context(u n)));
         FileAppender.call(
              StringLayout.call(
                  "{0,number,0,0000}, {1,number,0,000E0}",
                  context(t n).
                  stdev).
             StringLayout.call("{0}iterativeheateguation-{1}.csv", filePath, dateString));
          currentTime = currentTime + outputInterval:
 monilogger CoarsenInterval {
     when ComputeTnReturned
     if (stdev <= 0.20)
     then {
          outputInterval = 0.01
          CoarsenInterval.stop:
```

- Log standard deviation of u_n to file at interval of 0.0001
- When standard deviation less than 0.2, increase interval to 0.01
- Derived data leveraged by monitor
- Monitor affects logger behavior

Setup:

CPU: Intel® CoreTM i7-9850H CPU @ 2.60GHz \times 12 OS: Ubuntu 20.04.2, VM: GraalVM 21.1.0

Overhead induced by 3 $\operatorname{MONILOG}$ specifications over simulation times from 0.2 to 1.0

AspectJ:			Truffle:		
baseline:	from \approx 42.6s	to ${pprox}134.89$ s	baseline:	from $pprox$ 10.21s	to $pprox$ 29.76s
absolute:	from $pprox$ 8.75s	to $pprox$ 18.27s	absolute:	from $pprox$ 2.75s	to ${\approx}4.85$ s
relative:	from $pprox 26\%$	to ${\approx}16\%$	relative:	from $pprox$ 36.5%	to $pprox$ 19.5%

Suitable for debugging as absolute overhead reasonably low on shorter execution times, and relative overhead decreases by 40 to 50% on longer execution times.

Prerequisites:

- MONILOG host language interpreter embeddable in target language
- Extend code generators to generate model-specific instrumentation interface

The generated model-specific instrumentation interface is split between:

- the target language of the DSL's code generator, to expose runtime data and events of the model, and
- the host language of MONILOG, to execution events of the model from moniloggers.

MONILOG for compiled DSLs (ongoing work)





Example use of Python-based MONILOG

```
src > iterativeheatequation > 🔮 logStdev.py > ...
      import iterativeheatequation as ihe
      from monilog import *
      import statistics
      currentTime = 0
      outputInterval = 0.0001
      stdev = 1.0
      @after(ihe.ComputeTn)
      def logTemperature(context):
          global currentTime
          global outputInterval
          global stdev
          currentTime += outputInterval
          if (currentTime <= context.t n):</pre>
               stdev = statistics.stdev(context.u n)
              print("[" + str(context.t n) + "] stdev=" + str(stdev))
      @after(ihe.ComputeTn)
      def coarsenInterval(context):
          global stdev
          global outputInterval
          if (stdev <= 0.20):
               outputInterval = 0.01
               coarsenInterval.stop()
```

- High-level languages allow scientists and numerical analysts to focus on their area of expertise and associated V&V concerns.
- Designers of high-level languages must guarantee correctness and performance of derived scientific software.
- Designers must furthermore give tools to address the V&V concerns corresponding to the level of abstraction of the language.
- In the context of languages for numerical schemes such as NABLAB, MONILOG is particularly suited to this thanks to:
 - its combination of logging and monitoring,
 - its ability to use the best suited languages for the task (*e.g.*, Python for data analysis)

Thank you for your attention!

When Scientific Software Meets Software Engineering

Leroy, Dorian, Sallou, June, Bourcier, Johan, Combemale, Benoit Computer 2021

Monilogging for executable domain-specific languages

Leroy, Dorian, Lelandais, Benoît, Oudot, Marie-Pierre, Combemale, Benoit In Proceedings of the 14th ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Software Language Engineering 2021