

CS 3110

Functional Programming in Coq

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Today's music: Theme from *Downton Abbey* by John Lunn

Review

Previously in 3110:

- Functional programming
- Modular programming
- Data structures
- Interpreters

Next unit of course: [formal methods](#)

Today:

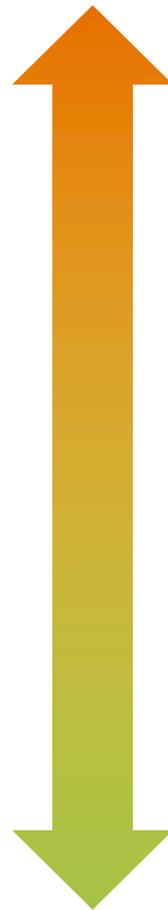
- Proof assistants
- Functional programming in Coq
- Proofs about simple programs

Building reliable software

- Suppose you run a software company
- Suppose you've sunk 30+ person-years into developing the "next big thing":
 - Boeing Dreamliner2 flight controller
 - Autonomous vehicle control software for Tesla
 - Gene therapy DNA tailoring algorithms
 - Super-efficient green-energy power grid controller
- How do you avoid disasters?
 - Turns out software endangers lives
 - Turns out to be impossible to build software

Approaches to validation [lec 11]

- Social
 - Code reviews
 - Extreme/Pair programming
- Methodological
 - Design patterns
 - Test-driven development
 - Version control
 - Bug tracking
- Technological
 - Static analysis (“lint” tools, FindBugs, ...)
 - Fuzzers
- Mathematical
 - Sound type systems
 - “Formal” verification



Less formal: Techniques may miss problems in programs

All of these methods should be used!

Even the most formal can still have holes:

- did you prove the right thing?
- do your assumptions match reality?

More formal: eliminate *with certainty* as many problems as possible.

Verification

- In the 1970s, scaled to about tens of LOC
- Now, research projects scale to real software:
 - **CompCert**: verified C compiler
 - **seL4**: verified microkernel OS
 - **Ynot**: verified DBMS, web services
- In another 40 years?

Automated theorem provers

- You give prover a theorem
- Prover searches for:
 - a proof
 - a counterexample
 - or runs out of time
- e.g.,
 - Z3: Microsoft started shipping with device driver developer's kit in Windows 7
 - ACL2: used to verify AMD chip compliance with IEEE floating-point specification, as well as parts of the Java virtual machine

Proof assistants

- You give assistant a theorem
- You and assistant cooperatively find proof
 - Human guides the construction
 - Machine does the low-level details
- e.g.,
 - NuPRL [Prof. Constable, Cornell]: Formalization of mathematics, distributed protocols, security, ...
 - Coq: CompCert, Ynot [Dean Morrisett, Cornell], ...

COQ



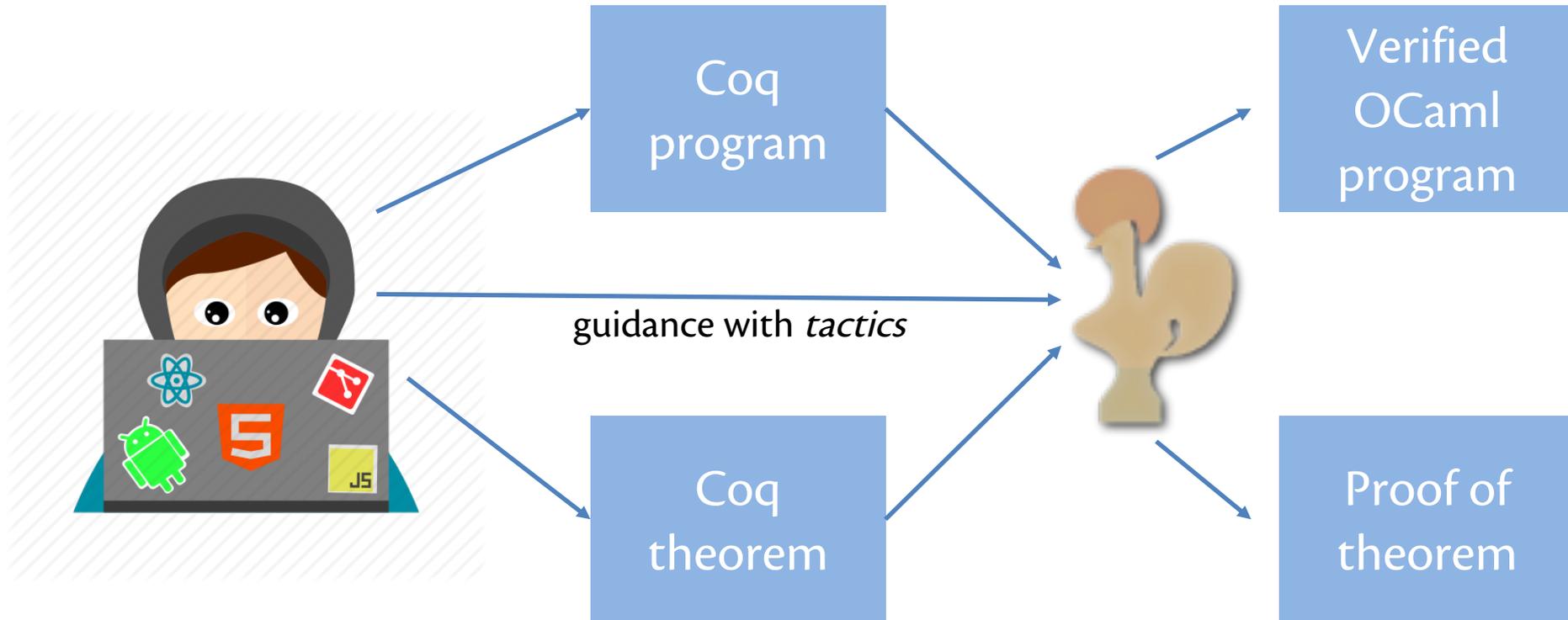
Coq

- 1984: Coquand and Huet implement Coq based on *calculus of inductive constructions*
- 1992: Coq ported to Caml
- Now implemented in OCaml

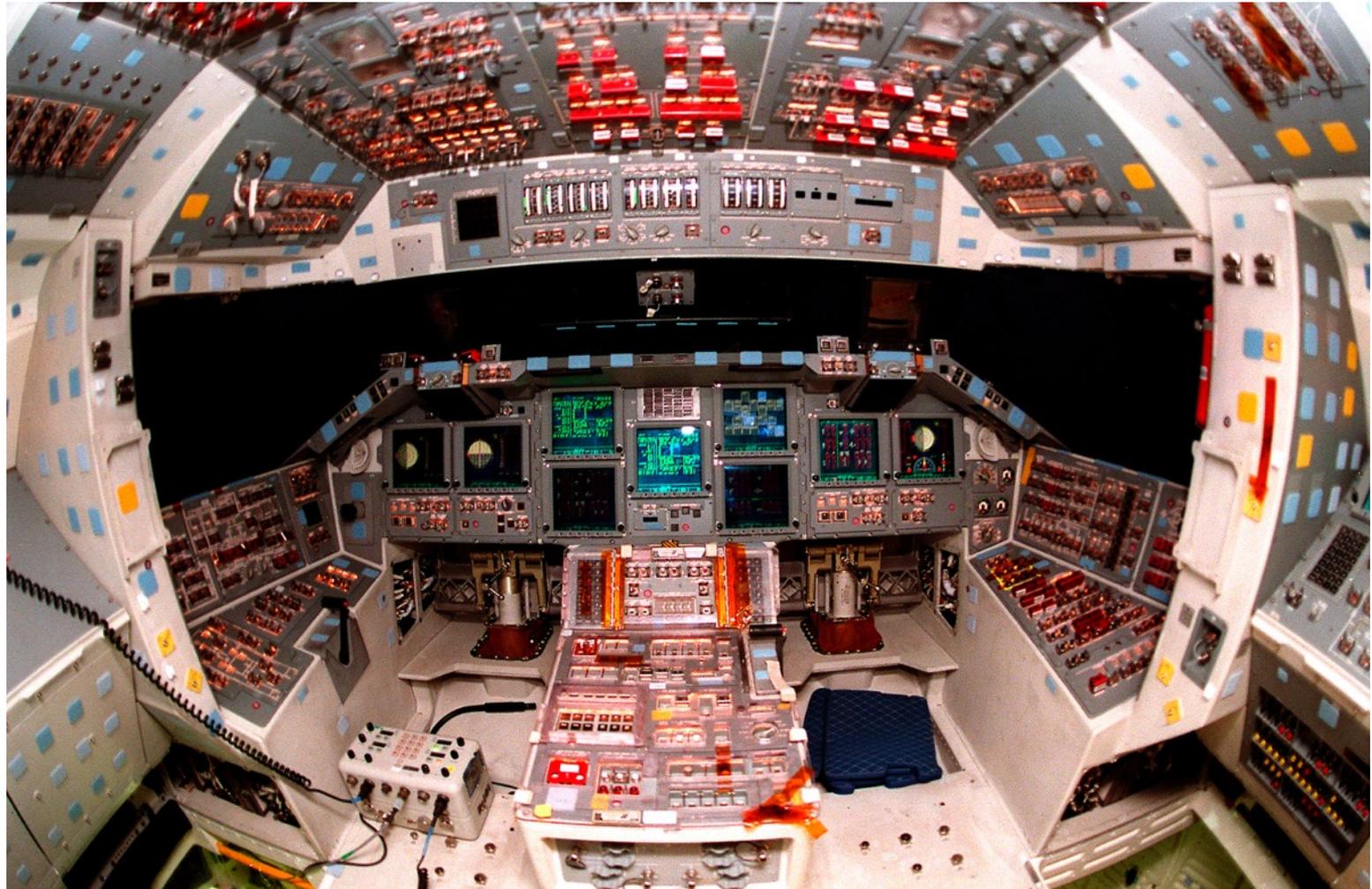


Thierry Coquand
1961 –

Coq for program verification



Coq's full system



Subset of Coq we'll use



Our goals

- Write **basic functional programs** in Coq
 - no side effects, mutability, I/O
- Prove **simple theorems** in Coq
 - CS 3110 programs: lists, options, trees
 - CS 2800 mathematics: induction, logic
- **Non goal:** full verification of large programs
- Rather:
 - help you understand what verification involves
 - expose you to the future of functional programming
 - solidify concepts about proof and induction by developing machine-checked proofs

CAUTION: HIGHLY ADDICTIVE

FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING IN COQ

Language features

- Anonymous, higher-order functions
- Type inference and annotations
- Pairs
- Lists
- Pattern matching

Commands

- `Let`
- `Check`
- `Print`
- `Compute`
- `Require Import`
- `Locate`
- `Inductive`

THEOREMS ABOUT DAYS

A first theorem

Theorem `wed_after_tue` :
`next_day tue = wed.`

How we might word proof for a human to read:

- "It's obvious"

OR

- `next_day tue` evaluates to `wed`.
- So we need to show `wed = wed`.
- That follows from the reflexivity of `=`

OR

- In OCaml, we'd write a test case:
`assert_equals wed (next_day tue)`

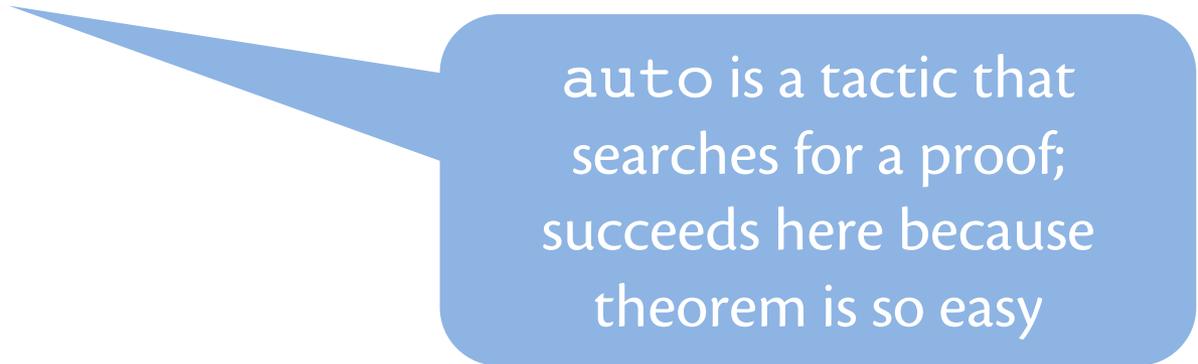
A first theorem

```
Theorem wed_after_tue :  
  next_day tue = wed.
```

```
Proof.
```

```
  auto.
```

```
Qed.
```

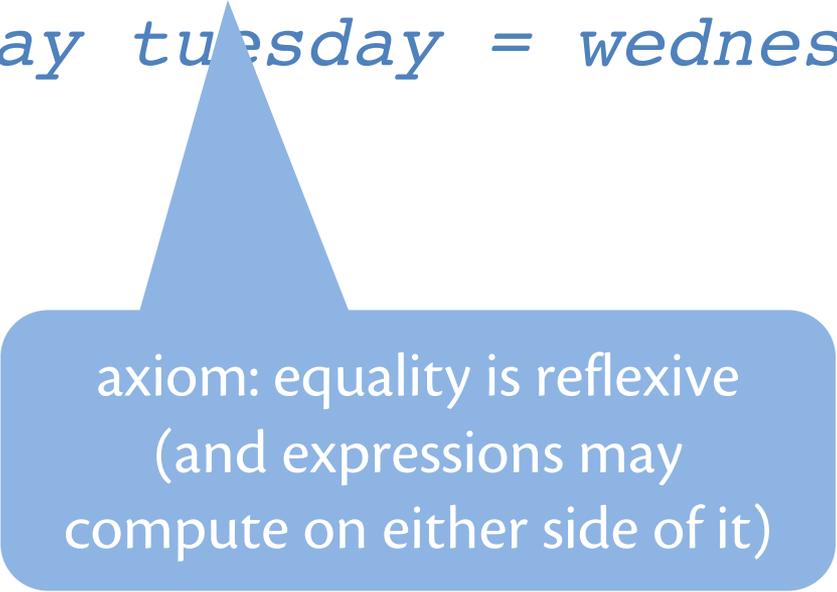


auto is a tactic that searches for a proof; succeeds here because theorem is so easy

Where is the proof?

Print `wed_after_tue`.

```
wed_after_tue = eq_refl  
  : next_day tuesday = wednesday
```



axiom: equality is reflexive
(and expressions may
compute on either side of it)

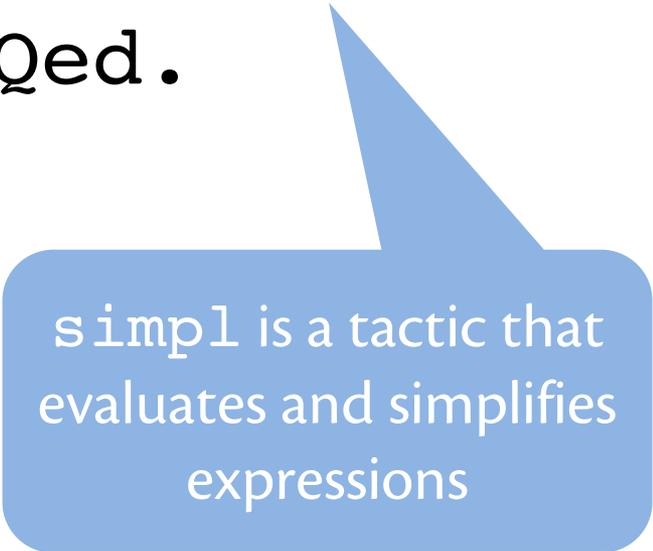
A first theorem

```
Theorem wed_after_tue :  
  next_day tue = wed.
```

Proof.

```
  simpl. trivial.
```

Qed.



simpl is a tactic that evaluates and simplifies expressions



trivial is a tactic that solves trivial equalities

THEOREMS ABOUT DAYS

A second theorem

Theorem `day_never_repeats` :
forall d, `next_day d` <> d.

Proof. Let d be some day, and proceed by case analysis on what d is.

- If d is `sun`, then `next_day d` is `mon`. `sun` <> `mon` because they are different constructors.
- If d is `mon`, then `next_day d` is `tue`. `mon` <> `tue` because they are different constructors.
- The other cases proceed in the same way.

Or in OCaml, we might write 7 test cases

A second theorem

Theorem `day_never_repeats` :
forall `d`, `next_day d` \neq `d`.

Proof.

```
intros d. destruct d.
```

`intros` is a tactic
that introduces
variables into proof

`destruct` is a tactic
that does case analysis

A second theorem

```
Theorem day_never_repeats :  
  forall d, next_day d <> d.
```

Proof.

```
  intros d. destruct d.  
  all: discriminate.
```

Qed.



all applies tactic to
all subgoals

Upcoming events

- N/A

This is formal.

THIS IS 3110