Verified reversible programming for verified lossless compression

LAFI Workshop

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Why reversible programming?

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def encode(code, symbols):
    [symbol_1, symbol_2] = symbols  # (1)
    code = Categorical(             # (2)
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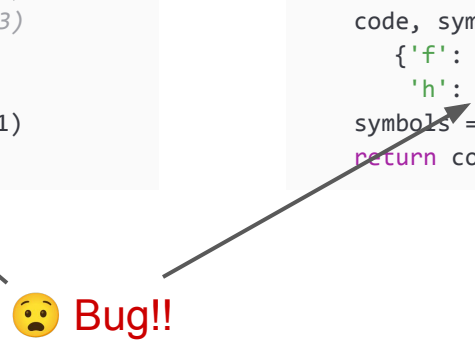

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Question: can we prevent such bugs automatically?

Idea: a *reversible* language, in which programs can be *done* and *undone.*

Flipper

Flipper is embedded in the (pure functional) language Agda.

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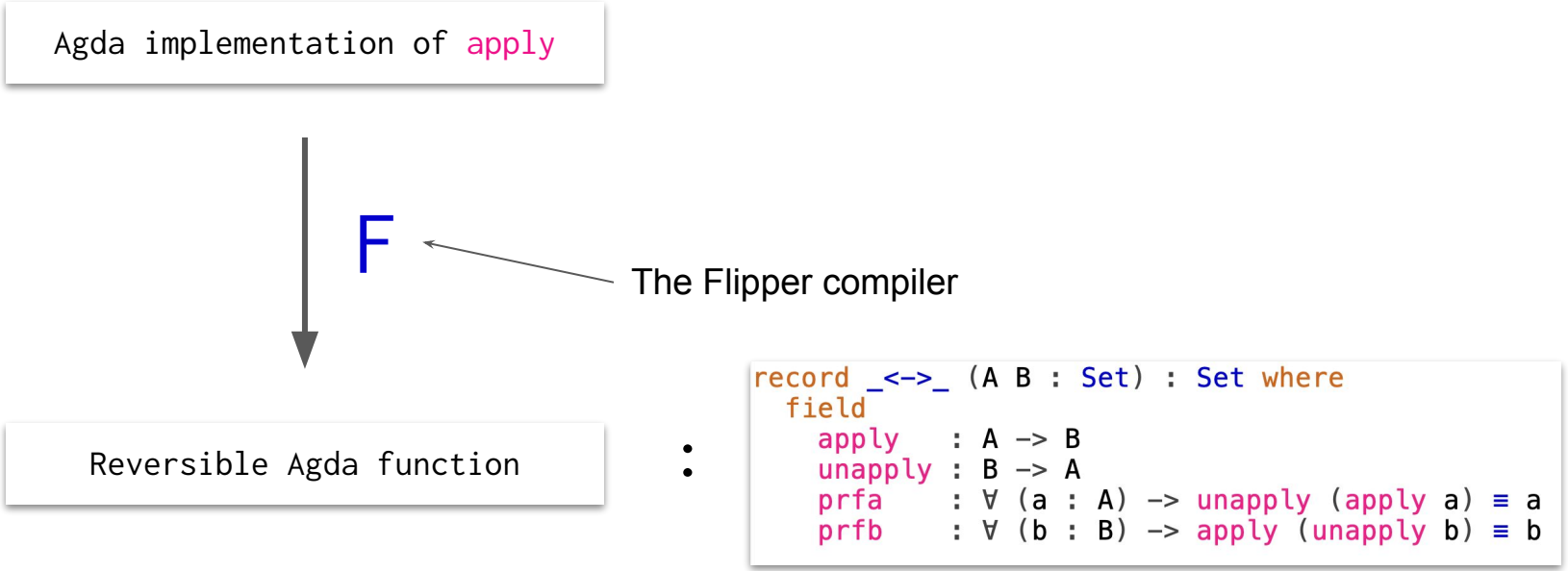

Flipper

Flipper is embedded in the (pure functional) language Agda.

Agda implementation of `apply`

Reversible Agda function

Grammar for `apply`

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
x & & \text{variables} \\
c & & \text{Agda constructors} \\
T & & \text{Agda terms} \\
p & ::= x \mid (c\ [\ p\ ]) & \text{patterns} \\
f & ::= \mathsf{F}\ \{\ bs\ \} \mid T & \text{flippables} \\
bs & ::= b \mid b\ ;\ bs & \text{branches} \\
b & ::= p \leftrightarrow B & \\
B & ::= p \mid p_1\ \langle\ f\ \rangle\ p_2 \leftrightarrow B &
\end{array}
$$

Flipper

Example: swap the elements of a pair

$$\text{pair-swp} : \forall \{A\ B\} \to A \times B \leftrightarrow B \times A$$
$$\text{pair-swp} = \mathsf{F}\ \lambda \{\ (a\ ,\ b) \to (b\ ,\ a)\ \}$$

Flipper

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Flipper

Example: swap the elements of a pair

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pair-swp : ∀ {A B} → A × B ↔ B × A
pair-swp = F λ { (a , b) → (b , a) }
```

```
{ (a ‘ b) ← (b ‘ a) } ⅄
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Flipper

Example: swap the elements of a pair

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pair-swp : ∀ {A B} → A × B ↔ B × A
pair-swp = F λ { (a , b) → (b , a) }
```

```
{ (v ‘ q) ← (q ‘ v) } ⅄
```

```
unapply = λ { (b , a) → (a , b) }
```

Next steps for Flipper

- Finish compression implementation (nearly done)
- Maybe make standalone
- Look out for other use cases

The End

Thanks for listening

P.S. Check out https://github.com/j-towns/flipper...