Seminar Configurable Systems

Prof. Zeller / Christian Lindig   Vesta

Questions

Here are four questions about *Caching Function Calls using Precise Dependencies* by Allan Heydon, Roy Levin, and Yuan Yu. You should devote the most time to question two.

1. Which of the concepts in Vesta do you know from other papers that we have read? Make a list.

2. Does the user of Vesta has to think about dependencies? How are dependencies handled in Vesta? Compare dependencies in Vesta and Make.

3. Why do you think the Vesta language is functional? What do you find otherwise unusual about it?

4. The paper claims, that after a change Vesta will only do work proportional to the size of the change, not proportional to the size of the system. Since consistency of builds is a global property, how can this be?

Small-group work

As a reminder, here is our procedure to tackle questions during our meetings.

1. Divide into groups. We will try to form groups that are diverse, so that each group contains people with different degree of experience and research interests. Once the groups have been formed, introduce yourselves to each other.

2. Choose a recorder. Agree on one person to record the views expressed in your group, in particular

   - decisions the group makes collaboratively,
   - significant dissent.

3. Discuss questions; use the black board, a laptop, or whatever you deem necessary to structure your answers.

The plenary session

1. Recorders from individual groups will present their groups' conclusions.

2. Class discussion. We will discuss the answers together.