



Brokers and Web-Services for Automatic Deduction: a Case Study

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Outline

- Motivations
- HELM's Proof Assistant
- H-Bugs
 - architecture
 - a brief demo
 - implementation highlights (maybe)
 - future work

Motivations

Web-Service approach at software development . . .

- helps in getting rid of a wide range of software incompatibilities
- is (hopefully) granted to have longevity

. . . thus the WWW is moving . . .

from a disorganized repository of human-understandable HTML documents

to a disorganized repository of application exchanging XML documents

Motivations

The open challenge:

- Provide a set of stable and reliable services over this disorganization

What about solutions? ... none :-)

- Just an useful architecture / widespread idea:
add an additional intermediate level of stable services and call them
[brokers](#)

HELM's Proof Assistant

Pros

The Big Picture

- document centric
- exploits the HELM distributed library (\approx 40000 theorems/defs)
- modular, based on the HELM Web-Services (via XML + OMDoc)
- XML based GUI (XSLT stylesheets, MathML)
- a wonderful name: **TODO** (gTopLevel? CICIIDE?)

HELM's Proof Assistant

Cons

- **Beginners' Cons**
 - get lost in the available tactics
 - focus shouldn't be on interface issues, but rather on formal proof development
- **Experts' Cons**
 - computational expensive / resource consuming tactics
 - too low exploitation of the HELM library

An improvement

A **suggestion engine** that ...

- ... works in background
- ... notify the user out-of-band
- ... is as much re-usable as possible

Ω mega-Ants?

H-Bugs!

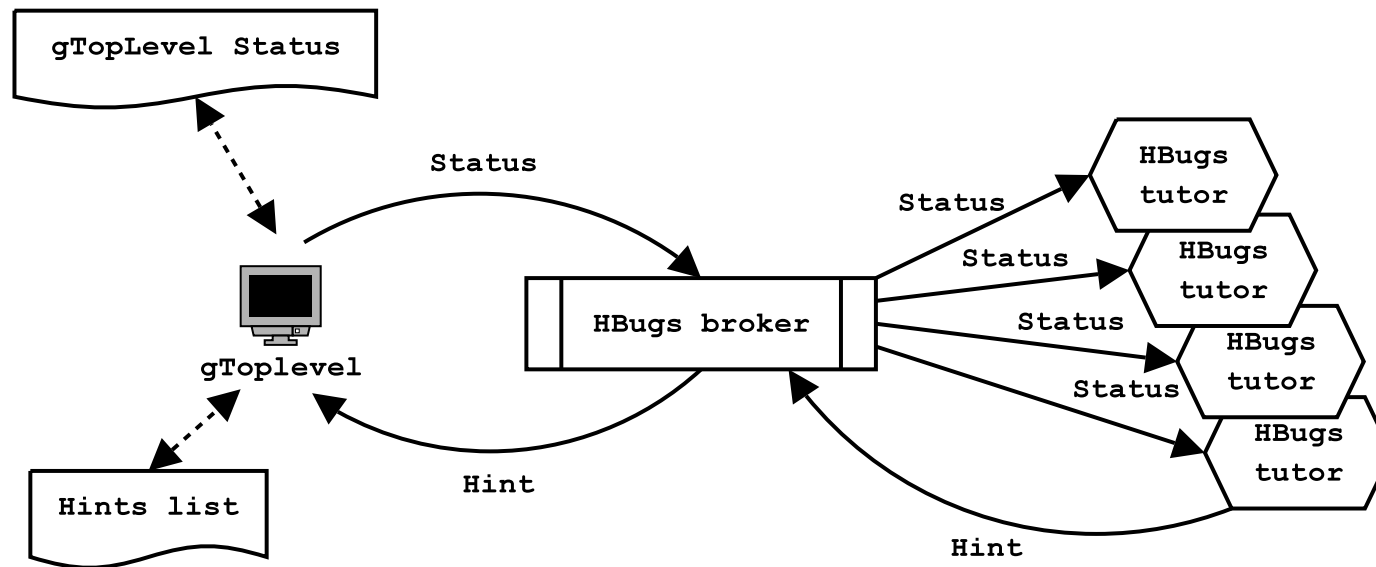
H-Bugs Actors

clients Software components able to produce **proof status**
consuming **hints**

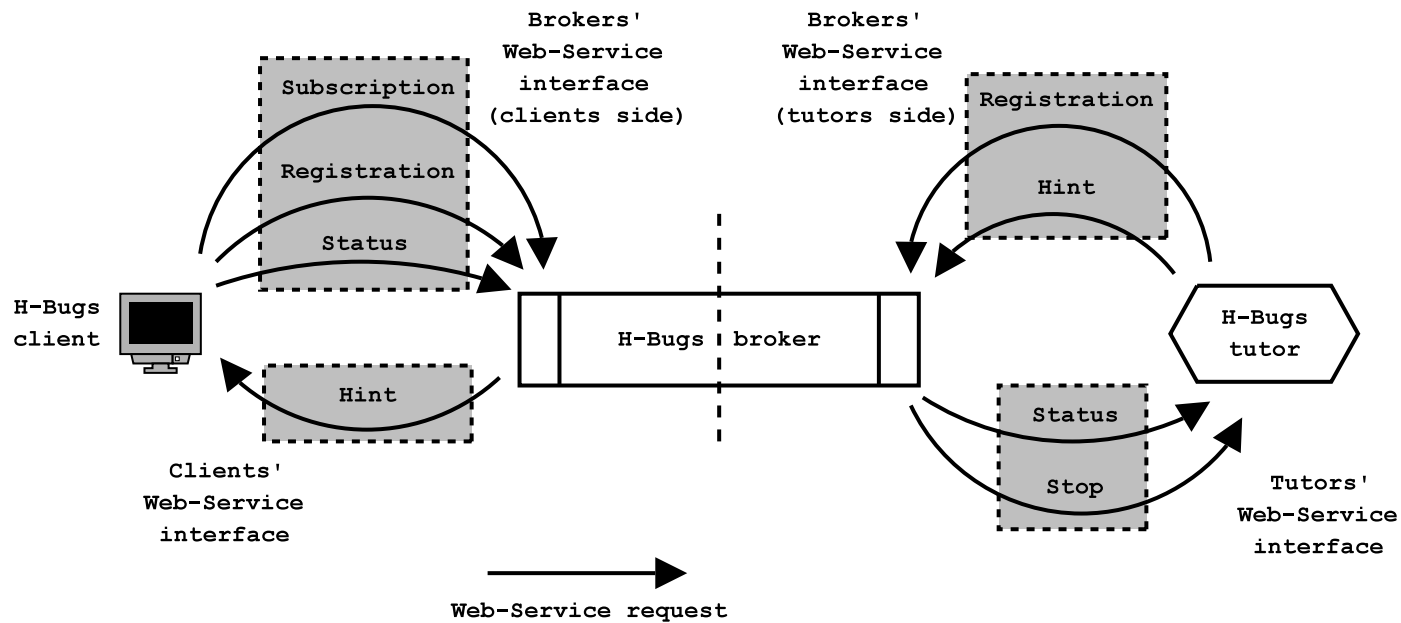
tutors Software components able to consume **proof status**
producing **hints**

brokers Software components which act as **intermediaries**
decoupling clients and tutors

H-Bugs Architecture



H-Bugs Web-Services



H-Bugs Messages

messages.dia

H-Bugs Tutors

I. Tutors for beginners

1. **Assumption** thesis equivalent to one of the hypotheses
2. **Contradiction** reductio ad absurdum
3. **Simmetry** commutative property over equalities
4. **Left/Right/Exists/Split/Reflexivity/Constructor** inductive type constructors application

H-Bugs Tutors

II. Tutors for computationally expensive tactics

1. **Ring** associative and commutative rewritings over ring structures
2. **Fourier** solves linear inequation systems (over \mathbb{R})

III. Intelligent tutors

1. **Search pattern Apply** search for applicable theorems from the HELM library (search + unification “attempts”)

H-Bugs Demo

Exercise 1.

Let x be a generic real number. Using the HELM proof-engine, prove that:

$$x = \frac{(x + 1)^2 - 1 - x^2}{2}$$

H-Bugs Tutors' Implementation

All tutors . . . :

- . . . are multi-threaded
- . . . present a Web-Service interface
- . . . perform a lot of similar operations (decoding proof status, encoding hints, parse and submit HTTP requests, . . .)

is not that difficult, but . . .

requires a lot of duplicated code/work :-)

H-Bugs Tutors' Implementation

To avoid the repetitive task of implementing a tutor each time we develop a new tactic:

- I. we have written a **generic tutor implementation**
- II. we **instantiate** it with each available tactic starting from an XML signature of each tutor

```
<tutor source="symmetry_tutor.ml">  
  <addr>127.0.0.1</addr>  
  <port>50004</port>  
  <tactic>EqualityTactics.symmetry_tac</tactic>  
  <hint>Hbugs_types.Use_symmetry_Luke</hint>  
  <hint_type>Use Symmetry Luke</hint_type>  
  <description>Symmetry tutor</description>  
  <environment_file>symmetry.environment</environment_file>  
</tutor>
```


H-Bugs Future Work

A lot!

- implement more (Intelligent) tutors
- interfacing of CASs (Field tactic?)
- non-hint (warnings?)
- hints rating
- MONET integration ontologies, reuse
- work on the GUI!

References

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<http://monet.nag.co.uk/cocoon/monet/publicsdocs/monet-overview.pdf>
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That's all Folks!

