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Towards an Integrated Development tool for GA and a symbolic CGA implementation based on CasADi for application in robotics

Oliver Rettig, Fabian Hinderer, Marcus Strand

Background

Robot and Human Motion Lab
RaHM-Lab
@ DHBW Karlsruhe

DHBW
Duale Hochschule
Baden-Württemberg
Karlsruhe

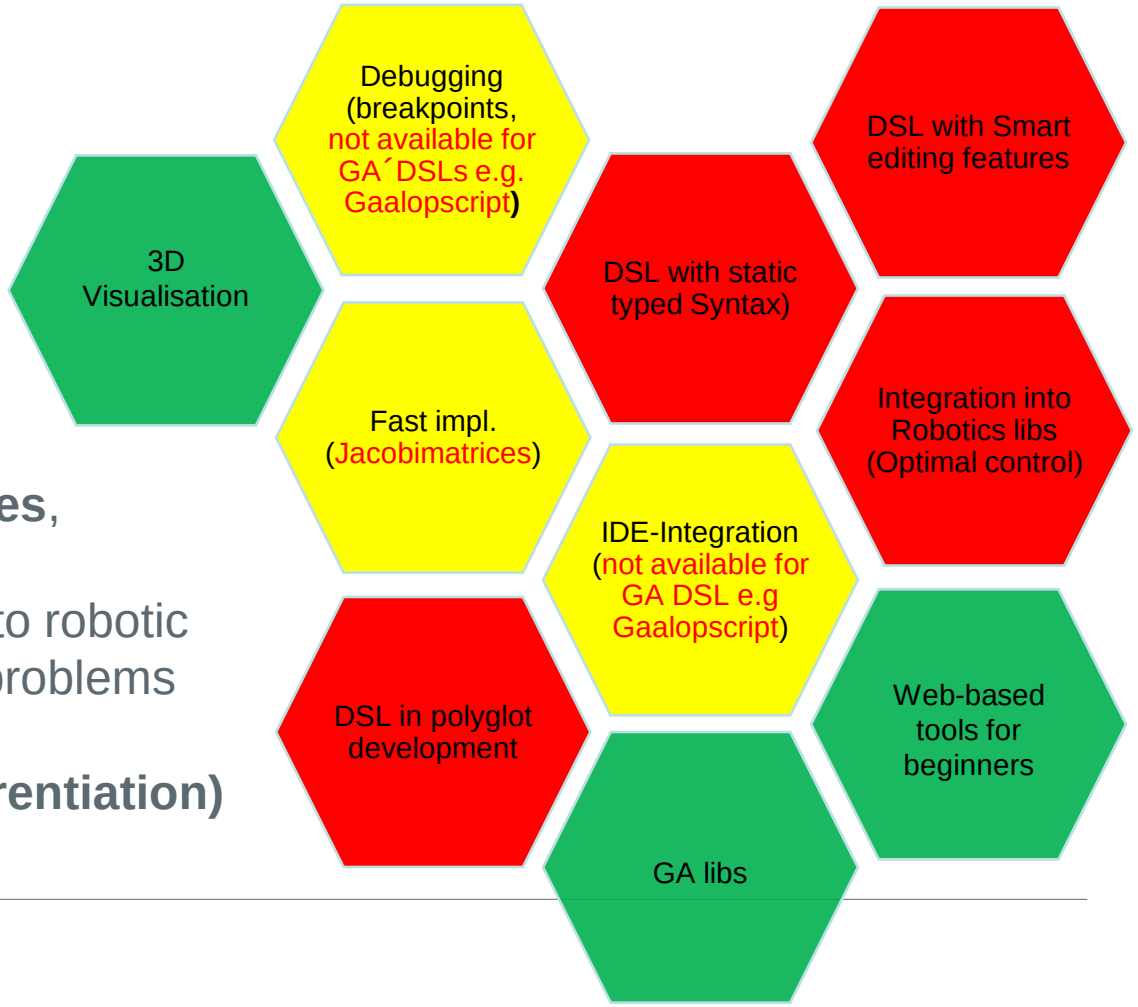
- Collaborative robotics, motion analysis, grinding/sanding with robots
- Sustainability topics: e.g. energy consumption reduction, remanufactoring

Goal: Simplify usage of geometric algebra not only in robotics applications

Application:
- Robotics: IK, RNEA, …
- Optimal-Control

Available:
- many good GA libs and tools

Missing:
- DSL (statically typed)
- Tooling (**Smart editing features**, **debugging**, 3d visualization)
- Software architecture fitting into robotic tools to solve optimal control problems
- **Jaccobian/Hessian (automatic/algorithmic differentiation)**



How to reach the goal: Simplify usage GA in robotics apps

How to get tooling support?

? Integrate a GA lib into a good supported general programming language (Python, C++, Julia…)?

? Create your own DSL from scratch and implement the complete tooling yourself

? Create your own DSL based on modern software-technology-stack for creating programming languages

How to reach good integration of GA lib into robotics appl.?

- fast symbolic expression based GA implementation which allows Jacobian/Hessian calculation by automated differentiation
- to solve nonlinear optimization problems e.g. by Optimal-Control or Model-Predictive-Control

? Create it from the scratch?

? Create it based on an existing modern software-technology-stack

Overview – Choosen open-source technologies

Apache NetBeans

language-server-protocol

Typical 100.000 lines of code for state-of-the-art IDE-support for a new programming language. With usage of GraalVMLSP only 10.000.

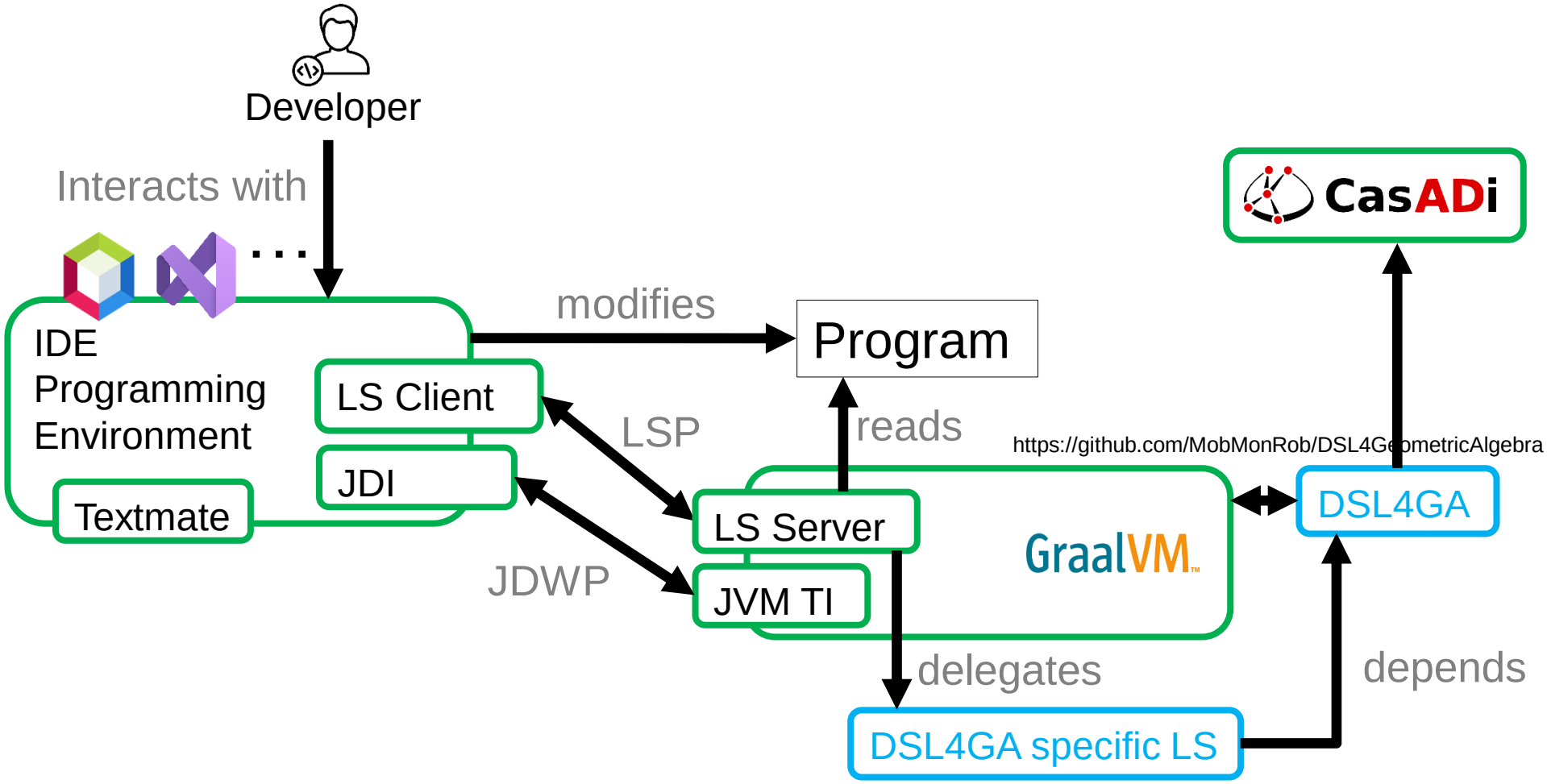
GraalVM™

- High-performance, polyglot virtual machine
- JIT- and Ahead-of-time-compiler
- Comes with Truffle, a language implementation framework
- Truffle provides an API for program instrumentation
- based on this API, GraalVM provides various lang-uageagnostic tools such as debuggers and profilers

CasADi

- Symbolic framework implementing forward and reverse mode of algorithmic differentiation on expression graphs to construct gradients, large-and-sparse Jacobians and Hessians
- Evalution in its own VM or exported to standalone c-code.

Overview – software architecture



DSL – status

Syntax

- Symbols (unicode representations)
- function defs (multiple result values)
- Build-in functions
- Assignments

Usage

- Java integration (via annotation)
- Command line execution

```
$ ./ga test.ga
```

- Polyglot inside GraalVM
- Creation of c-code (CasADi)

```
fn main(P1, P2, P3, PIc) {
    :L01 := (ε0^ε3^εi)*
    :L12 := (P1^P2^εi)*
    :L23 := (P2^P3^εi)*
    :P0 := ε0
    a1 := ε2
    b1 := -PIc
    N1 := ε1^ε2
    x1 := (a1^b1)/N1
    y1 := a1·b1;
    // comment
    alpha := atan2(y1,x1)
    L01, L12, L23, alpha
}
```

Precedence	Symbol	Unicode code-points	Description
4	(space)	\u0020	geometric product
3	∧	\u2227	outer product (join, wedge)
3	∨	\u2228	regressive product (meet or intersection)
3	⌋	\u230B	left contraction
3	⌊	\u230A	right contraction
2	/	\u002F	division (inverse geometric product)
1	+	\u002B	sum
1	-	\u002D	difference

Smart editing features

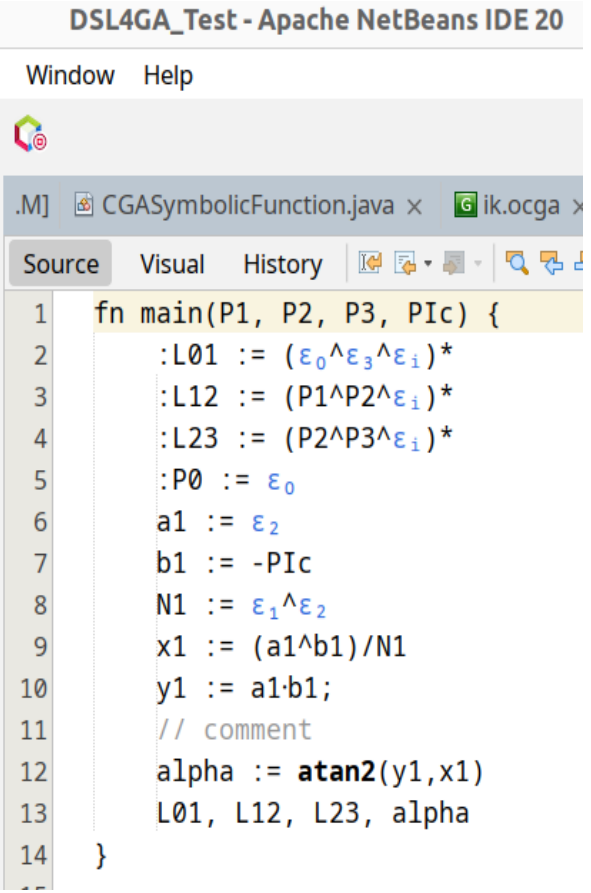
GraalVM's Language Server (generic, language-agnostic)

- ✓ Text Document Synchronization
- ✓ Hover Provider
- ✓ Completion Provider
- ✓ Signature Help Provider
- ✓ Code Action Provider (refactoring, quick fixes)
- ✓ CodeLens Provider (links in-between the source code)
- ✓ Execute Command Provider (key-bindings, e.g. command to uncomment a line)

DSL4GA specific Language Server

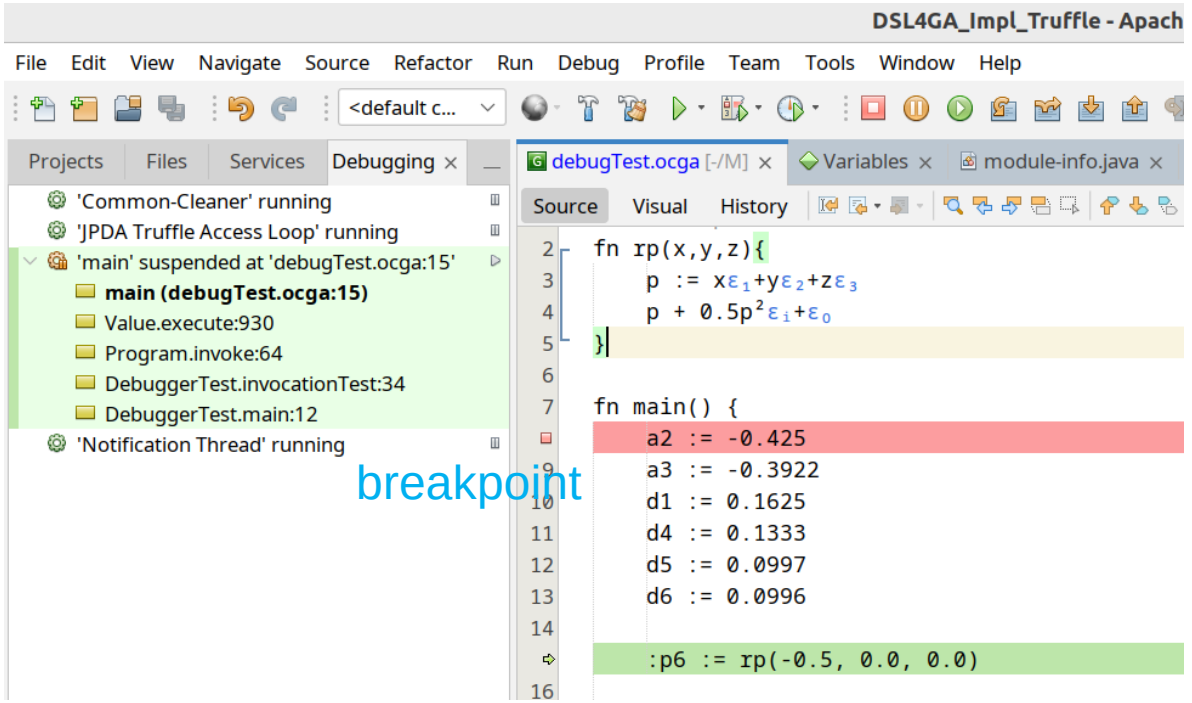
Textmate based Syntax-Highlighting

More powerful Syntax-Highlighting based on the anlr



Debugging

- ✓ *tested with the Netbeans IDE*
- ✓ *breakpoints, variables/watches*
- ✓ *3d visualization of the scope („:“ syntax)*
- ✓ *polyglot stacktrace*
- ✓ *Chrome Debugger*
- ✓ *VS but not tested*



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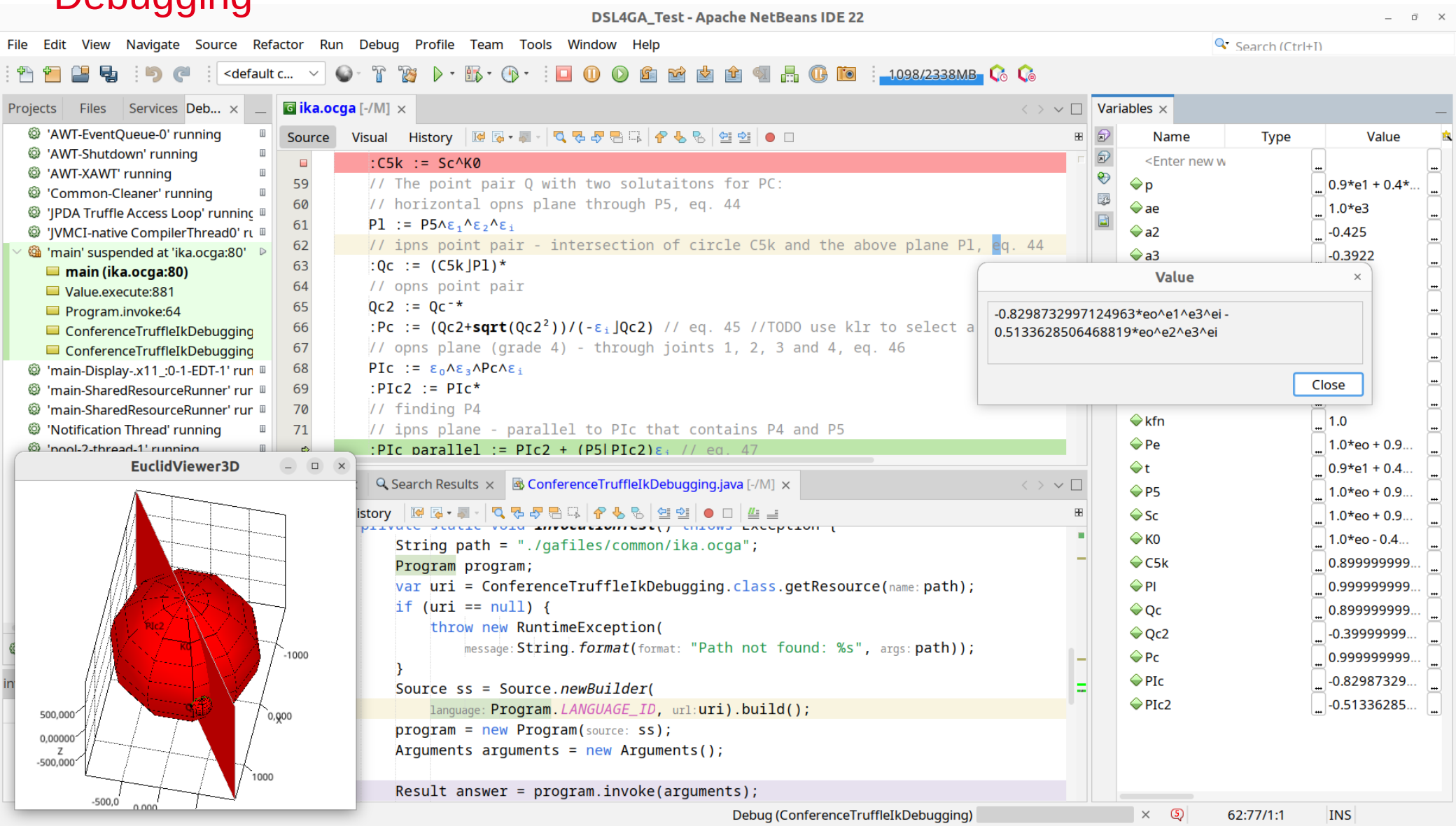
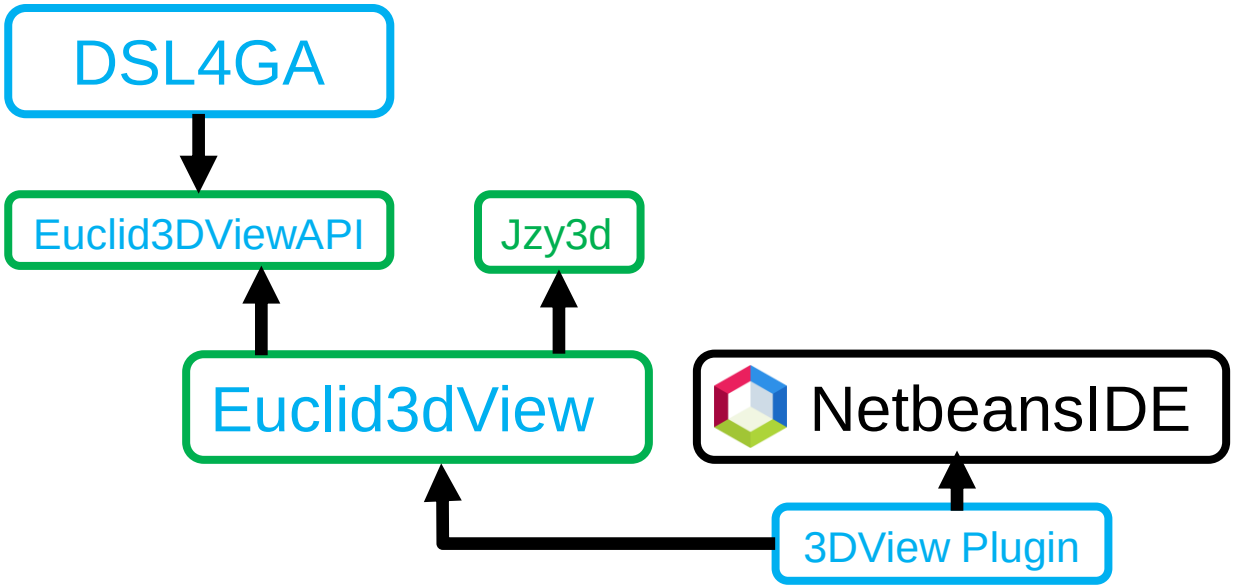
Debugging



3D Visualisation

- API to plugin visualizers
- Default: Euclid3dView
  - ✓ Plugin to integrate in the Netbeans IDE
  - ✓ can be used with every IDE
  - – too slow for animations, no scene graph
  - ✓ Visualize robots
  - ✓ and skeletons
- ? Ganja.js
- ○ Webots



CasADi based GA implementations

Truffle based AST implementation

- The magic of out-of-the-box tooling support needs the AST is based on Truffle-API
- All program statements (representing GA expressions) are immediately executed by CasADi, if the running programm reaches them
- The CasADi-Wrapper functions (or default Java objects) are invoked a lot

➢ Slow execution, fast compilation

Fast AST implementation

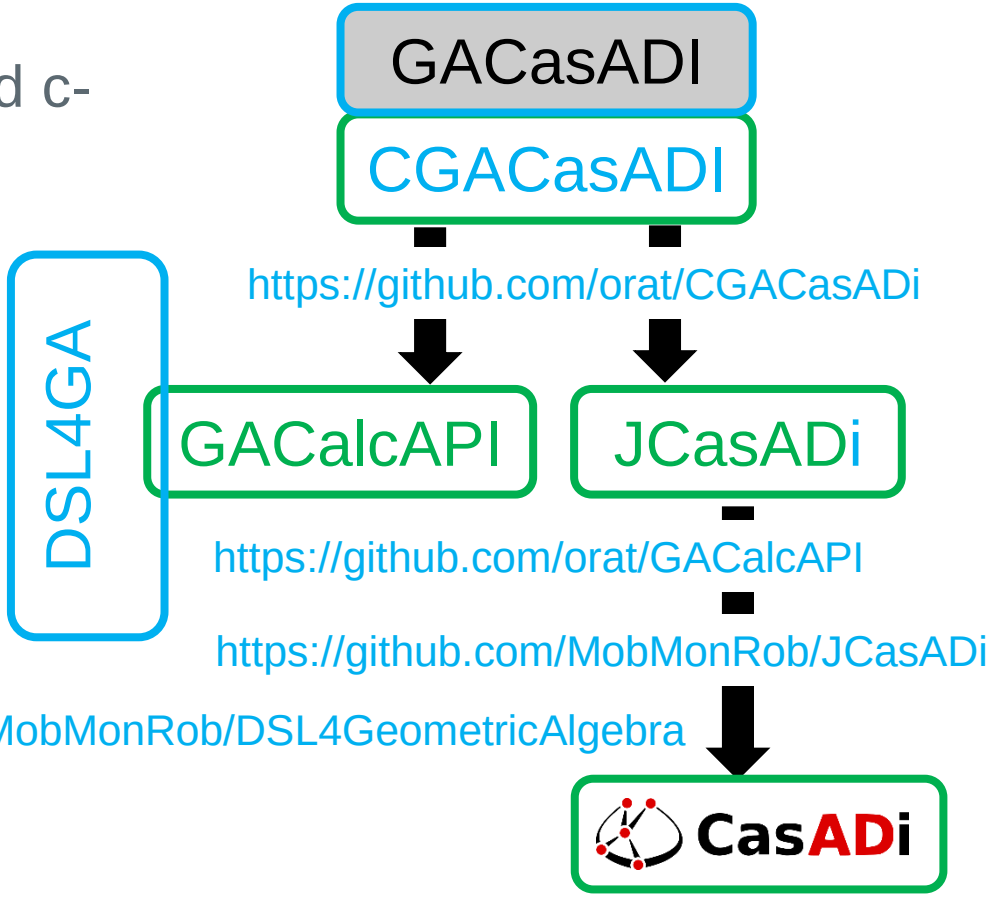
- creates a CasADi AST representation before the program is executed
- automatic resuse parts of the AST – optimization
- Automatic unrolling of loops in into matrices is possible
- CasADi can create automatically optimized c-Code
- code generation with parallelisation is available

➢ Fast execution, long compile time

CasADi based GA implementations

- CasADI AST is created via JCasADi
- CasADI can export optimized c-code without dependences

- ✓ JCasADi
- ✓ GACalcAPI
- ✓ CGACasADi
- ○ Generic GA impl.
- ○ Gaalop
- ? Ganja.js



Conclusion

- ✓ The feasibility of creating a programming tool chain with a DSL for GA, based on **Truffle/GraalVM** is shown
- ✓ Base functionality (debugging, syntax-highlighing, …) cauld be implemented with less lines of code
- ✓ The build-in GraalVM-LS brings smart editing features out-of-the-box
- – Truffle-based (CasADi) implementation of the AST seems not to be fast enough for our robotics application
- • A symbolic based implementation based on the CasADi AST is fast and support **Jacobians** and **Hessians** out of the box
- ○ It is ambigous how to handle best further hand-in-hand development of truffle-based and fast GA implementation

DSL – extention of the syntax

- with respect to easy creation a fast CasADI AST representation
- following **DOP** (data orientated) instead of OOP pattern: 1. model the data, 2. data is immutable, 3. validate at the boundary, 4. make illegal states unrepresentable
- **keyword to define GA models**
- (static) multivector **subtypes**
- multidim. arrays of multivectors
- records (named tuples)
- if statements, for-loops
- polyglot API (import/export func.)

```
type ipns_sphere {ε₀=1, ε₁,ε₂,ε₃,εᵢ}
type ipns_rpoint {ε₀=1, ε₁,ε₂,ε₃,εᵢ=0.5(ε₁²+ε₂²+ε₃²)}
type ipns_plane {ε₁,ε₂,ε₃,εᵢ}
type ipns_line {ε₁₂, ε₁₃, ε₂₃, ε₁ᵢ, ε₂ᵢ, ε₃ᵢ}

ipns_plane pl := nxε₁+nyε₂+nzε₃+dεᵢ // plane with normalvector
ipns_line l:= ...
ipns_fpoint fp := pl^l
```

CasADi based implementations: Next steps

Truffle based AST implementation

- Impl. of GraalVM Polyglott API (ganjs.js 3d Visualisation?)

Fast implementation:

- „Hyperwedge“ impl.
- Loop unrolling by CasADi based parallelization (map)
- Symbolic optimization of math expressions with Maxima (Computer algebra system)
- Precompile CasADi into LLVM bitcode (by GraalVM toolchain)
- …

Next Milestone

- Bundle of all componentes together into a single plugin for the NetbeansIDE
- Completion of some features, testing, bug fixing
- Configuration of Windows-Build (JCasADi)

Discussion

- DSL Syntax extentions?
- Naming? Current idea „Gaazelle“
- Benchmarks? Quantifying runtime speed?
- Comparison with other ga-libs?
- Recommendations for further development?

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Thank you for your attention

Oliver Rettig
Oliver.Rettig@dhbw-karlsruhe.de