

Term Indexing Techniques in OCaml

Final Presentation



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Bachelor Project

Goals of the Bachelor Project

- implement a term indexing library in OCaml
 - **Discrimination Trees**
 - **Code Trees**
 - **Substitution Trees**
- run **performance** tests

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Goals of this Talk

- What is term indexing?
- Why is term indexing necessary?
- How do the implemented techniques work?
- Which technique works best?

Preliminaries

Definition (Terms)

$$\mathbf{t} ::= x \mid c \mid f(\mathbf{t}_1, \dots, \mathbf{t}_n)$$

Definition (Substitutions)

- substitution σ is given by bindings $\{x_1 \mapsto t_1, \dots, x_n \mapsto t_n\}$
- $t\sigma$ denotes application of σ to term t

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Definition (Relations between Terms)

- $\text{UNIF}(t, q) \iff \exists \sigma \ t\sigma = q\sigma$
- $\text{INST}(t, q) \iff \exists \sigma \ t = q\sigma$
- $\text{GEN}(t, q) \iff \exists \sigma \ t\sigma = q$
- $\text{VAR}(t, q) \iff \exists \sigma \ t\sigma = q$ and σ is a renaming

Motivation

Why is Term Indexing necessary?

fast retrieval of terms from a huge set is required for:

- selecting candidate clauses in logic programming
- finding applicable rules in Knuth-Bendix completion
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Program Degeneration

“... after a few CPU minutes of use . . . , a reasoning program typically made deductions at less than 1% of its ability at the beginning of a run.” [Wos, 1992]

Indexing

Definition (Indexing)

Building a **data structure** on top of a set of data to **speedup retrieval** of data.

Examples (Indexing)

B-trees on relational databases or indexes at the end of textbooks

Term Indexing

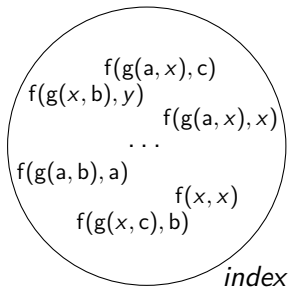
Definition (Term Indexing Problem)

Given a set of terms, a **relation** between two terms and a **query term**, retrieve all **candidate terms** from the set so that the relation holds.

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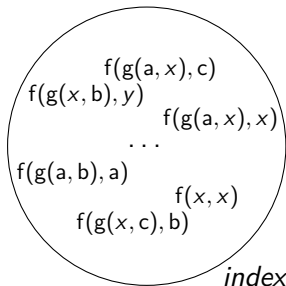
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$f(g(a, b), c)$

query term

UNIF

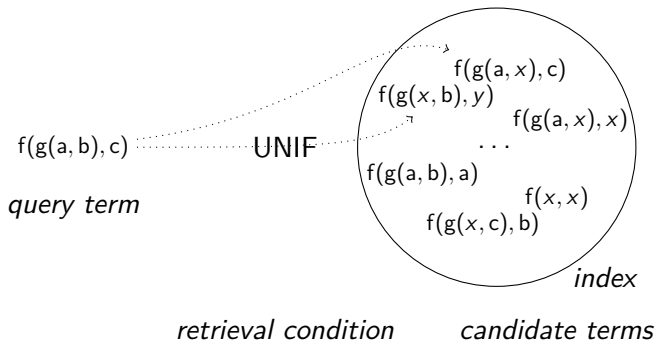


retrieval condition

Term Indexing

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Term Indexing

Operations on Term Indexes

■ index maintenance

- `val initialize: Term.t list -> t`
- `val insert: Term.t -> t -> t`
- `val remove: Term.t -> t -> t`

■ retrieval

- `val retrieve_generalizations: Term.t -> t -> Term.t list`
- `val retrieve_instances: Term.t -> t -> Term.t list`
- `val retrieve_unifiable_terms: Term.t -> t -> Term.t list`
- `val retrieve_variants: Term.t -> t -> Term.t list`

■ visualization

- `val to_dot: t -> string`

Discrimination Tree Indexing

Idea: Index a *string representation* of terms in a *trie*.
Support for retrieval conditions GEN, INST, UNIF and VAR.

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P-Strings

f . * . * f . * . *
g . b . a g . b . *

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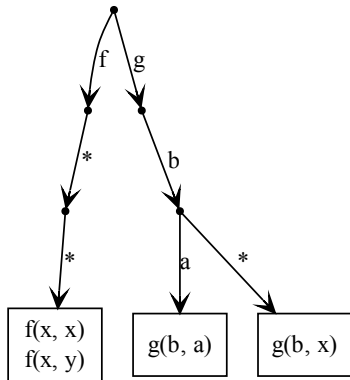
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$f . * . *$ $f . * . *$
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Discrimination Tree



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Idea:

- Compile term into *instruction sequence*.
- Integrate sequences into *code tree*.
- *Evaluate* instructions during retrieval.

Support only for retrieval conditions GEN and VAR.

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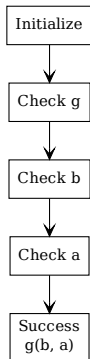
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Instructions

$$\mathbf{i} ::= \text{Initialize}(\mathbf{i}) \mid \text{Success} \mid \text{Failure} \mid \\ \text{Check}(\text{fs}, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{i}) \mid \text{Put}(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{i}) \mid \text{Compare}(v_1, v_2, \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{i})$$

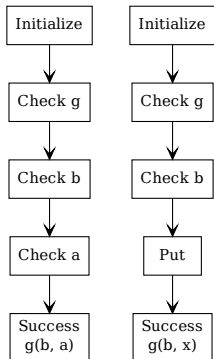
Code Tree Indexing

Instruction Sequences



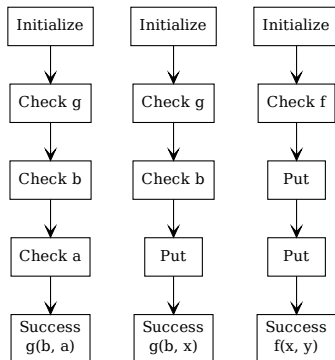
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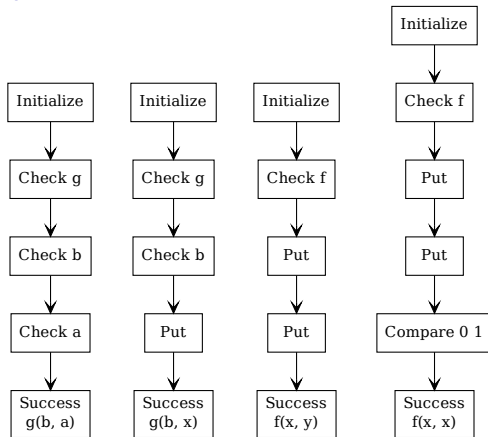
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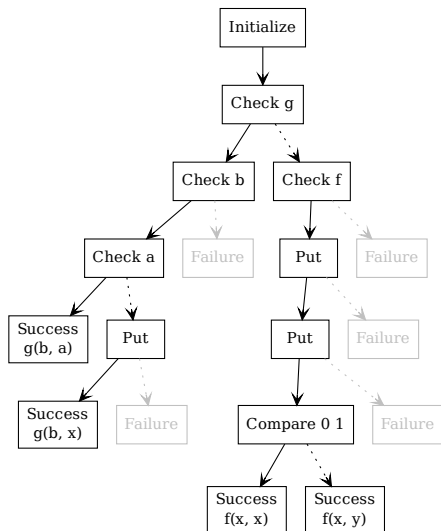


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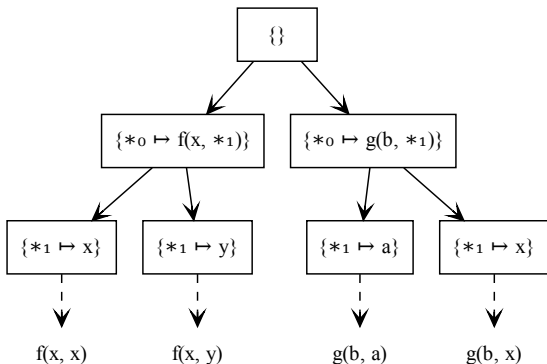


Substitution Tree Indexing

Idea: Represent terms as substitution sequences, collect in tree.
Support for retrieval conditions GEN, INST, UNIF and VAR.

Substitution Tree

$$*_0 \{ \} \{ *_0 \mapsto f(x, *_1) \} \{ *_1 \mapsto y \} = f(x, *_1) \{ *_1 \mapsto y \} = f(x, y)$$



Demonstration

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```
(* functor allows arbitrary entries to be indexed *)
# module DT = DiscriminationTree.Make(struct
  type t = Term.t * string ;;
  let term = fst ;;
  let to_string = snd ;;
  let compare (t1, _) (t2, _) = Term.compare t1 t2 ;;
end) ;;
module DT : sig (* ... *) end
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# let t1 = [x, "variable x"; f(x, a), "complex term"] ;;
val t1 : (Term.t * string) list =
  [(x, "variable x"); (f(x, a), "complex term")]
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# let tl = [x, "variable x"; f(x, a), "complex term"] ;;
val tl : (Term.t * string) list =
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# let i = DT.init tl ;;
val i : DT.t = <abstr>
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Demonstration

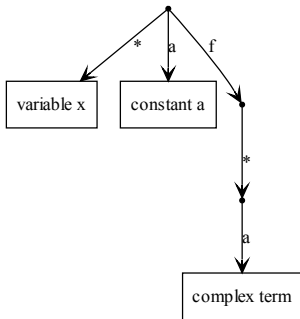
```
# let tl = [x, "variable x"; f(x, a), "complex term"] ;;  
val tl : (Term.t * string) list =  
  [(x, "variable x"); (f(x, a), "complex term")]
```

```
# let i = DT.init tl ;;  
val i : DT.t = <abstr>
```

```
# let i' = DT.insert (a, "constant a") i ;;  
val i' : DT.t = <abstr>
```

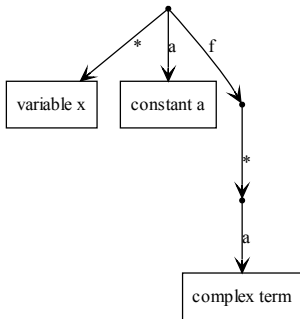
Demonstration

```
# print_string (DT.to_dot i') ;;  
digraph {  
  ...  
  1 -> 2[label="*"];  
  2[label="variable x"];  
  ...  
}  
- : unit = ()
```



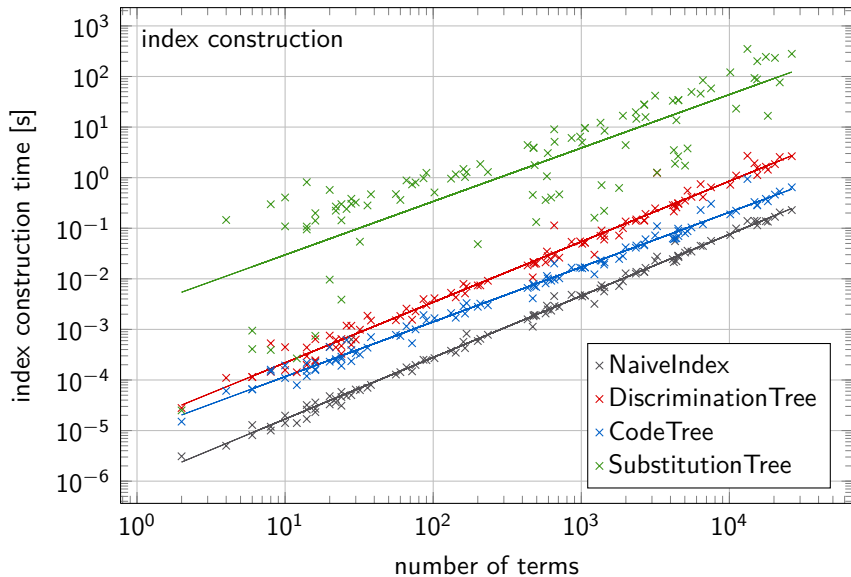
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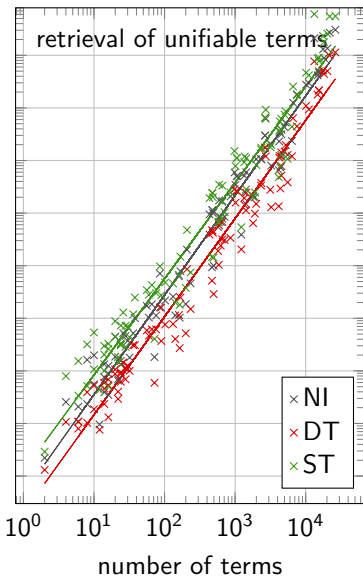
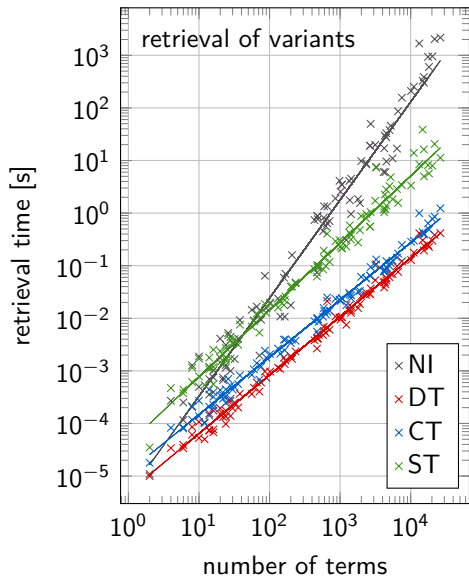


```
# DT.retrieve_generalizations a i' ;;
- : DT.entry list =
  [(a, "constant a"); (x, "variable x")]
```


Evaluation



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Conclusion

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employing term indexing results in performance gain

- Discrimination Trees
 - pros: easy to implement, fast retrieval
 - cons: nonlinearity lost
- Code Trees
 - pros: substitution factoring
 - cons: supports only GEN and VAR
- Substitution Trees
 - pros: compact structure
 - cons: slow, hard to implement

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Thank you for your attention!
Questions?