

Logic Programs as Compact Denotations
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Credits

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- ⑥ **Denotations** are maps. We show how to compact them and make them more efficient
- ⑥ This is achieved through their representation in terms of **logic programs**
- ⑥ Some experiments show the advantages of using our technique even compared to **BDD**'s.

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- ⑥ compositional: $\llbracket c_1; c_2 \rrbracket = \llbracket c_1 \rrbracket \circ \llbracket c_2 \rrbracket$
- ⑥ easy to implement (no memoization)

Concrete and abstract $\llbracket c \rrbracket$?????

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- ⑥ but it can be much richer [watchpoint semantics, Spoto, SAS 2001]
- ⑥ it can be concrete or abstract
- ⑥ if the abstract domain is finite, also the abstract map $\llbracket c \rrbracket$ is finite for every command c .

*An Example: **sign analysis***

Consider a program point with variables specified by a **type environment** $\tau = [a \mapsto \text{int}, b \mapsto \text{int}, c \mapsto \text{int}, \text{out} \mapsto \text{int}]$

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$$d(\text{empty}) = \text{empty}$$

$$d([+, +, +, +]) = [+, +, +, +] \quad d([+, +, +, -]) = [+, +, +, -]$$

$$d([+, +, -, +]) = [+, +, -, +] \quad d([+, +, -, \mathbf{u}]) = [+, +, -, \mathbf{u}]$$

$$d([+, -, +, +]) = [-, -, +, +] \quad d([+, -, \mathbf{u}, -]) = [-, -, \mathbf{u}, -]$$

$$d([+, -, -, +]) = [-, -, -, +] \quad \dots$$

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? we use it to handle recursion
 $\Rightarrow$ we need a check for **function equality** to stop the computation.

Is it a dream?



The (apparent) dimension of $\llbracket c \rrbracket$ is $O(2^n)$ where n is the number of integer variables in scope.

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Computing the abstract denotational semantics of a possible very small program looks computationally expensive.

Small Improvements

$$d([+, +, +, +]) = [+, +, +, +]$$

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entails that

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The BDD Revolution

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Very fast and compact in practice.

Why? Because many functions contain **regularity** or **default cases** that get exploited by the BDD's normal form.

How?



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3. Graphs can be kept in normal (minimal) form
4. Operations over graphs correspond to $\circ$, $\cup$ and functional equality.

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 - ⇒ a huge amount of memory is needed even for small programs
- ⑥ Encodings complicate the implementation
 - ⇒ we must find the encoding and program the encoder and the decoder (to show the output to the user).

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Only facts are used.

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Similar Techniques

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No general theory. No application to imperative programs

Compact Denotations

A **compact denotation** is a possibly non-ground set of arrows

$$cd = \{L_1 \rightarrow r_1, \dots, L_m \rightarrow r_m\}$$

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Its **meaning** is the denotation $\overline{cd}$ obtained by grounding the variables *w.r.t.* a set of **legal substitutions**.

Constraints on Compact Denotations



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We require that compact denotations:

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- ⑥ have non overlapping heads
- ⑥ have monotonic meaning.

Composition of Compact Denotations

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$$t_1 \circ^* t_2 = \left\{ (l_2 \rightarrow r_1)\theta \mid \begin{array}{l} l_2 \rightarrow r_2 \in t_2, l_1 \rightarrow r_1 \in t_1 \\ \text{domain_entails}(l_1, r_2) \\ \text{computes } \theta \end{array} \right\}.$$

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`domain_entails` is domain-dependent!

An Example

empty $\rightarrow$ empty

$[B, +] \rightarrow [-]$

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$=$ $\begin{array}{l} [A, +] \rightarrow [-] \\ [A, +] \rightarrow [+] \\ [A, -] \rightarrow [-] \end{array} \quad ([A, +] \rightarrow [u] !!)$

This is not a compact denotation!

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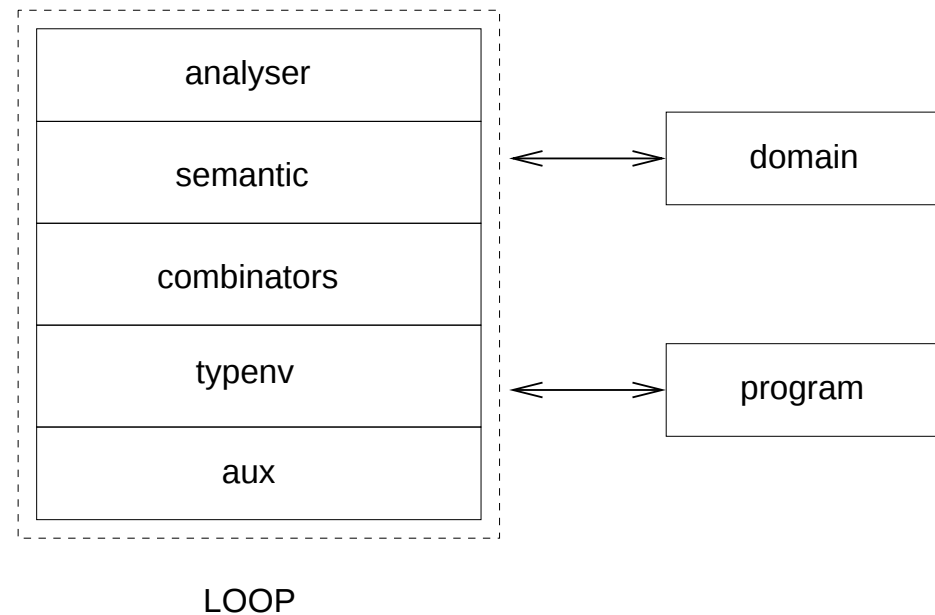
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- ⑥ for every basic operation of the language we have provided **basic compact denotations**
- ⑥ **equality on compact denotations** is first checked syntactically and then semantically.

The Localised Analyser for Object-Oriented Programs...



www.sci.univr.it/~spoto/loop

Our Abstract Domains

analysis	ground	non-ground	BDD's
sign	signs	signs_vars	signs_bdd
rapid type	rt	rt_vars	
dataflow class	df	df_vars	
P&S class	ps	ps_vars	
escape	e	e_vars	

Sign Analysis

Bmrk	signs		signs_vars	
	time	space	time	space
arith	108.578	13617292	0.163	26242

Rapid Type Analysis

Bmrk	rt		rt_vars	
	time	space	time	space
figures	2.956	776338	1.193	295880

Dataflow Class Analysis

Bmrk	df		df_vars	
	time	space	time	space
clone	11.450	2320420	0.078	18935

P&S Class Analysis

Bmrk	ps		ps_vars	
	time	space	time	space
clone	284.624	29393040	0.165	47855

Escape Analysis

Bmrk	e		e_vars	
	time	space	time	space
inv	0.432	14060	0.217	9268

Comparison with BDD's

Bmrk	signs_vars		signs_bdd <i>small</i>	
	time	space	time	space
arith	0.198	38485	0.481	1000

Bmrk	signs_vars		signs_bdd <i>large</i>	
	time	space	time	space
arith	0.198	38485	0.168	1000000

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- ⑥ Their efficiency is similar to that of a BDD implementation...
- ⑥ ... which is more complicated to write!
- ⑥ ... and requires many statically allocated BDD nodes
- ⑥ They are **less effective** for the domains which do not use a per-variable approximation (rapid type and escape analyses).

The Future

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- ⑥ Application to the **verification** of JML's assignable **specifications** [Spoto & Poll, FOOL-10, 2003]
- ⑥ Application to **on-card verification**?

Q & A