Some thoughts on designing a genomic query language

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Two perspectives on a query language

Surface syntax

Easy to read, understand, & write queries correctly Sufficient power to express needed **queries**

Prevent expensive queries

Abstract syntax

Easy to analyze, manipulate, and optimize

Easy to cater for extensions

Sufficient power to express needed algorithms

```
\{ \{x, z\} \mid (x,y) \in A, (y',z) \in B, y = y' \}
select (a.x, b.z)
from a in A, b in B
where a.y = b.y'
```

```
U{ U{ if a.y = b.y'
then { (a.x, bz) } else {}
| b ∈ B}
|a ∈ A}
```

Compositionality & orthogonality are key principles for query language design

Compositionality & orthogonality in NRC

Types

$$s,t ::= \mid bool \mid b \mid s \times t \mid \{s\}$$

Expressions, constructs are provided for each type orthogonally

Translating into comprehension syntax

$$(\{!, e_1 | x \in e_2\}) = \{!, y | x \in e_2, y \in e_1\}$$

Translating from comprehension syntax

$$\{! e_1 | x \in e_2, \Delta\} = \bigcup \{! \{! e_1 | \Delta\} | x \in e_2\}$$

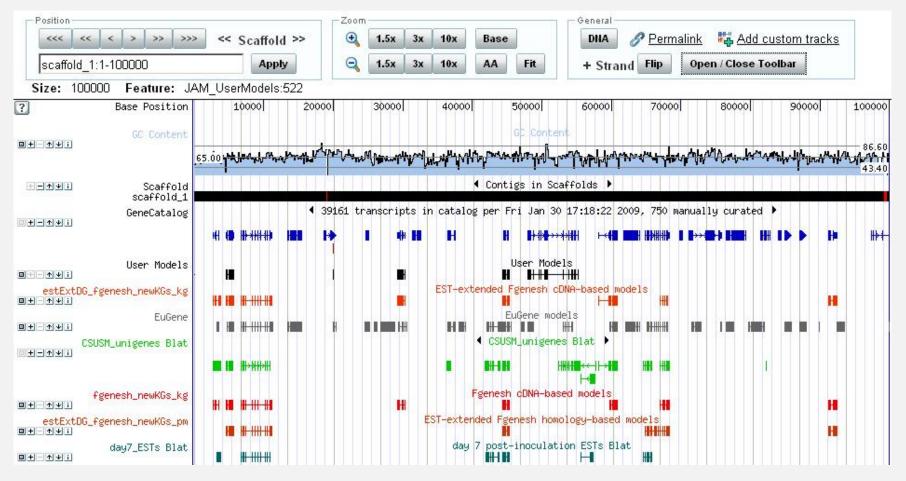
 $\{! e_1 | C, \Delta\} = \text{if C then } \{! e_1 | \Delta\} \text{ else } \{\}$
 $\{! e_1 | \} = \{! e_1\}$

 \Rightarrow Treat comprehension as a nice syntactic sugar

Genomic data

Loci Tracks Annotations

E.g. you see a row denoted "Base position"; this is the coordinates on a reference genome. The rest of the rows (e.g. "Gene catalog" and "day7_ESTs blat") are "tracks" bearing different kinds of annotations. Each track corresponds to one kind of experiments, one kind of predictions, etc.; e.g. "day7_ESTS blat" are short stretches of RNAs from a day-7 sample that have been mapped (using a tool called "blat") to specific positions on the reference genome.



Genomic data types

An annotation datatype !t and its subtype landmark !!t

of type t = (#name: string, #pval: real, ...)

are represented as (#loc: Loc, #anno: (name: string, #pval: real, ...))

A **track** datatype {!t} and its subtype **landmark track** {!!t} are represented as { !t } and { !!t }

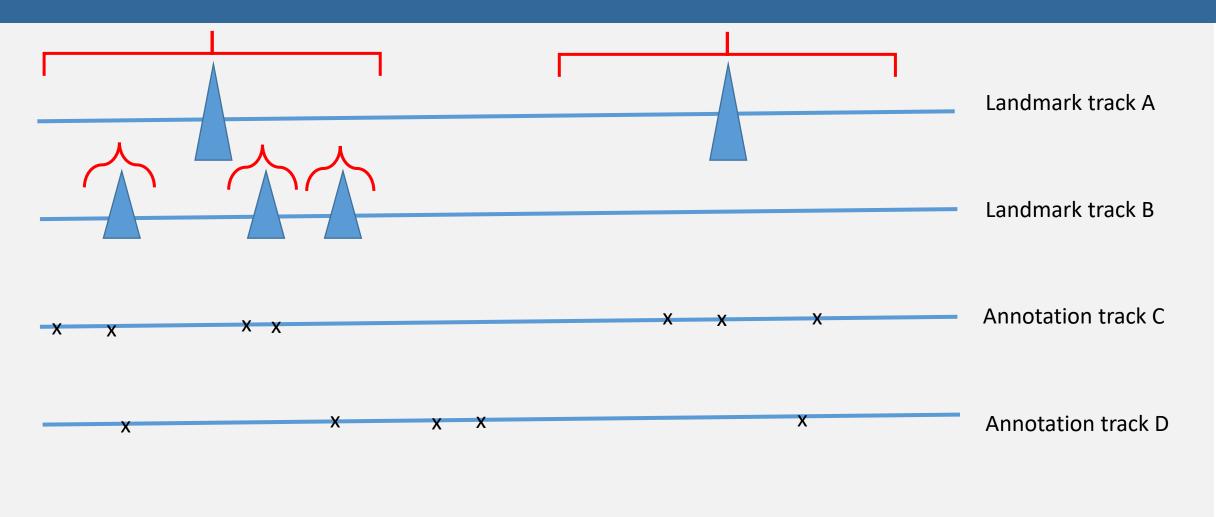
Meta info can be added to tracks.
But let's not worry about these here

Equipped with some implicit / automatic normalizations / constraints, e.g. sorted by #loc, idempotency and non-overlapping loci on the same track

Landmarks on the same landmark track are non-overlapping, and all annotations can "see" no more than one landmark on the same landmark track

Landmarks can be used for organizing storage & distribution of annotations

Conceptual organization of annotation & landmark tracks



Some operations for the loci type

```
p before q
p overlap q
p near q ...

p toc
p can-see r
p: Loc, r: !!t
```

satisfying "p can-see r whenever (p overlap or near q) & q = r.loc", plus maybe other convexity constraints to be thought up

Precise set of operations on loci (e.g. p is-nearer q₁ than q₂) is not important here

But a well-designed set of operations should constraint users from "bad" "expensive" queries, while providing sufficient expressive power for commonly needed queries

Operations on annotations and tracks

Semantics: Same as those for sets, except keep things sorted on #loc & maintains other constraints that we may come up with

Ditto for !!t, but maybe ban !!(#loc, #anno)

Plus some set-track conversion ops & syntactic sugars

Let's call this language NRC_{genome} in this talk

Common genomic queries in NRC_{genome}

"Extract from a track R, the annotations in a given region (e.g. 21q22.3) of the genome"

```
\{! \ x \ | \ x \in R, x.loc overlap 21q22.3 \}
```

"Extract from the HMMPFAM prediction track, those RBP predictions with pval < 1E-6"

```
{! x | x ∈ HMMPFAM, x.anno.name = "RBP", x.anno.pval < 1E-6 }
```

These queries operate on a single track

They can be executed efficiently, viz. O(n), in NRC_{genome}

Common genomic queries in NRC genome

"Extract from the TP53 chip-seq track, those TP53 binding sites with pval < 1E-6 and are in promoters of genes"

This query operates on two tracks

Its "natural" complexity is O(|GENES| * |TP53|) in NRC_{genome}

Does this need to be quadratic?

Common genomic queries in NRC genome

"Extract from the TP53 and the HDAC1 chip-seq tracks, those TP53 and HDAC1 binding sites that are closest to each other in the promoters of the same genes"

```
{! (#loc: g.loc, #anno: (#name: g.anno.name, #pval: 0, #tp53: u, #hdac1: v))
| g ∈ GENES,
(u, v) ∈ closest { (x, y) | x ∈ TP53, x.loc near g.loc, x.loc before g.loc, y ∈ HDAC1, y.loc near g.loc, y.loc before g.loc } }
```

This query has complexity O(|GENES| * |TP53| * |HDAC1|) in NRC_{genome}

Does this need to be cubic?

Common genomic queries in NRC genome

"Extract from the TP53 and the HDAC1 chip-seq tracks, those TP53 and HDAC1 binding sites that are in the promoters of the same genes"

This query has complexity O(|GENES| * (|TP53| + |HDAC1|)) in NRC_{genome}

Does this need to be quadratic?

What is needed? An idea

$$e : \{! \ t \}, e_1 : \{!! \ t_1 \}, e_2 : \{! \ t_2 \}, \dots, e_k : \{! \ t_k \}$$

$$\cup \{! \ e \mid (x_1, X_2, \dots, X_k) \in \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k\} \} : \{! \ t \}$$

Semantics

The part in bold is executed for each landmark, considering only annotations which can see that landmark (assuming these are stored with that landmark)

Common genomic queries revisited

"Extract from the TP53 chip-seq track those TP53 binding sites with pval < 1E-6 and are in promoters of genes"

GENES is a landmark track

Common genomic queries revisited

"Extract from the TP53 and the HDAC1 chip-seq tracks, those TP53 and HDAC1 binding sites that are closest to each other in the promoters of the same genes"

```
  \{! \ (\#loc: g.loc, \#anno: (\#name: g.anno.name, \#pval: 0, \#tp53: u, \#hdac1: v)) \\ | \ g \in GENES, \\ (u, v) \in closest \{ (x, y) \mid x \in TP53, x.loc near g.loc, x.loc before g.loc, \\ y \in HDAC1, y.loc near g.loc, y.loc before g.loc \} \}
```

```
 \{! \ (\#loc: g.loc, \#anno: (\#name: g.anno.name, \#pval: 0, \#tp53: u, \#hdac1: v)) \\ | \ (g, U, V) \in \in (GENES, TP53, HDAC1), \\ (u, v) \in closest \{(x,y) \mid x \in U, x.loc near g.loc, x.loc before g.loc, \\ y \in V, y.loc near g.loc, y.loc before g.loc} \}
```

Complexity is maybe O(|GENES| * (1% of |TP53| * 1% of |HDAC1|))

Common genomic queries revisited

"Extract from the TP53 and the HDAC1 chip-seq tracks, those TP53 and HDAC1 binding sites that are in the promoters of the same genes"

```
{! (#loc: g.loc, #anno: (#name: g.anno.name, #pval: 0, #tp53: { x \mid x \in TP53, x.loc near g.loc, x.loc before g.loc}, #hdac1: { y \mid y \in HDAC1, y.loc near g.loc, y.loc before g.loc} ) ) | g \in GENES}
```

Is it necessary to process U and V twice?

```
{! (#loc: g.loc, #anno: (#name: g.anno.name, #pval: 0, #tp53: {! x \mid x \in U, x.loc near g.loc, x.loc before g.loc}, #hdac1: {! y \mid y \in V, y.loc near g.loc, y.loc before g.loc})) | (g, U, V) \in (GENES, TP53, HDAC1) }
```

Complexity is maybe O(|GENES| * (1% of |TP53| + 1% of |HDAC1|)

A better idea?

$$\begin{array}{l} e: \{!\ t\ \},\ e_1: \{!!\ t_1\ \}\ ,\ e_2: \{!\ t_2\ \}\ ,\ \dots\ ,\ e_k: \{!\ t_k\ \},\ \gamma_1: bool,\ \dots,\ \gamma_k: bool\\ \\ \cup \{!\ e\ |\ x_1\in \in\ e_1\ st\ \gamma_1,\ X_2\subseteq e_2\ \ni\ x_2\ st\ \gamma_2,\ \dots,\ X_k\subseteq e_k\ \ni\ x_k\ st\ \gamma_k\ \}: \{!\ t\ \}\\ \\ \text{FV}(\gamma_j)\setminus \{x_1,\ x_j\}\subseteq \text{FV}(\cup \{!\ e\ |\ x_1\in \in\ e_1,\ X_2\subseteq e_2\ \ni\ x_2\ st\ \gamma_2,\ \dots,\ X_k\subseteq e_k\ \ni\ x_2\ st\ \gamma_k\}),\ and\ \text{FV}(e)\cap \{x_2,\ \dots,\ x_k\}=\{\}\\ \end{array}$$

Semantics

The part in bold is executed for each landmark, considering only annotations which can see that landmark (assuming these are stored with that landmark)

Common genomic queries revisited again

"Extract from the TP53 and the HDAC1 chip-seq tracks, those TP53 and HDAC1 binding sites that are in the promoters of the same genes"

```
{! (#loc: g.loc, #anno: (#name: g.anno.name, #pval: 0, #tp53: { x \mid x \in TP53, x.loc near g.loc, x.loc before g.loc}, #hdac1: { y \mid y \in HDAC1, y.loc near g.loc, y.loc before g.loc} ) ) | g \in GENES}
```

```
{! (#loc: g.loc, #anno: (#name: g.anno.name, #pval: 0, #tp53: U, #hdac1: V)) | g \in GENES, U \subseteq TP53 \ni u st u.loc near g.loc & u.loc before g.loc, V \subseteq HDAC1 \ni v st v.loc near g.loc, v.loc before g.loc }
```

Complexity is maybe O(|GENES| * (1% of |TP53| + 1% of |HDAC1|)

Common genomic queries revisited again

"Extract from the TP53 and the HDAC1 chip-seq tracks, those TP53 and HDAC1 binding sites that are closest to each other in the promoters of the same genes"

```
{! (#loc: g.loc, #anno: (#name: g.anno.name, #pval: 0, #tp53: u, #hdac1: v)) | g \in GENES, (u, v) \in closest \{ (x, y) | x \in TP53, x.loc near g.loc, x.loc before g.loc, y \in HDAC1, y.loc near g.loc, y.loc before g.loc } }
```

```
{! (#loc: g.loc, #anno: (#name: g.anno.name, #pval: 0, #tp53: x, #hdac1: y)) | g \in GENES, U \subseteq TP53 \ni u \text{ st u.loc near g.loc } \& \text{ u.loc before g.loc}, V \subseteq HDAC1 \ni v \text{ st v.loc near g.loc } \& \text{ v.loc before g.loc}, (x, y) \in closest \{(u,v) \mid u \in U, v \in V\} \}
```

Complexity is maybe O(|GENES| * (1% of |TP53| * 1% of |HDAC1|))

And this idea? It is really a syntactic sugar

$$\begin{array}{l} e: \{!\;t\;\},\; e_1: \{!!\;t_1\;\}\;,\; e_2: \{!\;t_2\;\}\;,\; \dots\;,\; e_k: \{!\;t_k\;\},\; \gamma_1: bool,\; \dots\;,\; \gamma_k: bool\\ \\ \cup \{!\;e\;|\;x_1\in\in e_1\;st\;\gamma_1,\;x_2\in e_2\;st\;\gamma_2,\; \dots\;,\; x_k\in e_k\;st\;\gamma_k\;\}\;: \{!\;t\;\}\\ \\ \text{FV}(\gamma_j)\setminus \{x_1,\;x_j\}\subseteq \text{FV}(\cup \{!\;e\;|\;x_1\in\in e_1,\;x_2\in e_2\;st\;\gamma_2,\; \dots\;,\; x_k\in e_k\;st\;\gamma_k\}\;) \end{array}$$

Semantics

$$\cup \{! \; e \; | \; (x_1, \, X_2, \, ..., \, X_k) \in \{ \; (x_1, \, \{ \; x_2 \; | \; x_2 \in e_2, \, x_2.loc \; can\text{-see } x_1, \, \gamma_2 \}, \, ..., \\ \{ \; x_k \; | \; x_k \in e_k, \, x_k.loc \; can\text{-see } x_1, \, \gamma_k \}) \quad | \; x_1 \in e_1 \; , \, \gamma_1 \; \}, \\ x_2 \in X_2, \, ..., \, x_k \in X_k \; \}$$

The part in bold is executed for each landmark, considering only annotations which can see that landmark (assuming these are stored with that landmark)

Common genomic queries revisited again

"Extract from the TP53 chip-seq track those TP53 binding sites with pval < 1E-6 and are in promoters of genes"

```
\{! \ x \mid y \in \in GENES, \ x \in TP53 \ st \ x.loc before \ y.loc \ x.loc near \ y.loc \ x.anno.pval < 1E-6 \ \}
Complexity is maybe O(|GENES| * 1\% \ of |TP53|)
```

GENES is a landmark track

Implementing "synchronized" processing of multiple lists / tracks

```
|zip: (t_1 \rightarrow bool) * (t_1 * t_2 \rightarrow bool) * (t_1 * t_2 \rightarrow bool) * (t_2 * t' \rightarrow t') * (t_1 * t' \rightarrow t') * (t' \rightarrow \{t\}) * t' * t'
                                     \rightarrow \{t_1\} * \{t_2\} \rightarrow \{t\}
Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) ({}, Y) = f a
                                                                                                                  At every step, either x or y
Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) (X, \{\}) = f a
                                                                                                                 gets shifted. So complexity is
                                                                                                                 O(|X| + |Y| * \alpha), where \alpha is
Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) (x::X, y::Y) =
                                                                                                                   complexdity of sx, sy, etc.
            if sx(x)
            then if sy(x, y)
                    then if ay(x,y)
                            then Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, h(y, g(x, a)), e) (x::X, Y)
                            else lzip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, g(x, a), e) (x::X, Y)
                    else f (g(x, a)) \cup Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, e, e) (X, y::Y)
            else f a \cup Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, e, e) (X, y::Y)
```

Implementing $\cup \{! e \mid x_1 \in \in e_1 \text{ st } \gamma_{1,} X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 \text{ st } \gamma_2, \dots, X_k \subseteq e_k \ni x_k \text{ st } \gamma_k \}$

```
\cup{! e \mid x_1 \in e \mid e_1 \text{ st } \gamma_1, X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 \text{ st } \gamma_2} :=
           Izip(sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, (\{!!\}, \{!\}), (\{!!\}, \{!\})) (e_1, e_2) where
           sx(x_1) := \gamma_1
           ay(x_1, x_2) := x_2.loc can-see x_1 & y_2,
           sy(x_1, x_2) := x_2.loc before x_1.loc or ay(x_1, x_2),
           h(x_2, (X_1, X_2)) := (X_1, X_2 \cup \{!, X_2, \}),
           g(x_1, (X_1, X_2)) := (X_1 \cup \{!! \ x_1 \}, X_2),
           f(X_1,X_2) := \bigcup \{! e \mid X_1 \in X_1\};
```

Synchronized scan

```
\begin{aligned} &\text{lzip: } (t_1 \to \text{bool}) * (t_1 * t_2 \to \text{bool}) * (t_1 * t_2 \to \text{bool}) * (t_2 * t' \to t') * (t_1 * t' \to t') * (t' \to \{t\}) * t' * t' \\ & \to \{t_1\} * \{t_2\} \to \{t\} \end{aligned} \\ &\text{lzip } (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) \quad (\{\}, Y) = f a \\ &\text{lzip } (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) \quad (X, \{\}) = f a \\ &\text{lzip } (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) \quad (x::X, y::Y) = \\ &\text{if } sx(x) \\ &\text{then if } sy(x, y) \\ &\text{then if } ay(x, y) \\ &\text{then lzip } (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, h(y, g(x, a)), e) \quad (x::X, Y) \\ &\text{else } lzip \quad (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, g(x, a), e) \quad (x::X, Y) \\ &\text{else } f \quad (g(x, a)) \cup lzip \quad (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, e, e) \quad (X, y::Y) \end{aligned}
```

A nice property of $\cup \{! e \mid x_1 \in \in e_1 \text{ st } \gamma_{1, k} \in e_2 \in e_2 \text{ st } \gamma_{2, k} \in e_k \in e_k \in e_k \text{ st } \gamma_{k, k} \in e_k \in e$

```
\cup{! e \mid x_1 \in e \mid e_1 \text{ st } \gamma_1, X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 \text{ st } \gamma_2} :=
Izip (...) (e_1, e_2) where ...
```

is a homomorphism on e₁. Thus

```
\cup \{! e \mid x_1 \in \{!! o_1, ..., o_k\} \text{ st } \gamma_1, X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 \text{ st } \gamma_2 \}
                                                                                                                                      else f (g(x, a)) \cup Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, e, e) (X, y::Y)
                                                                                                                                 else f a \cup lzip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, e, e) (X, y::Y)
               \cup{! e \mid x_1 \in \{!! o_1\} st \gamma_1, X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 st \gamma_2} \cup \ldots \cup
                \cup \{! e \mid x_1 \in \{!! o_k\} \text{ st } \gamma_1, X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 \text{ st } \gamma_2 \}
```

When annotations on track e2 are "clustered" (i.e. stored with) the specific γ_1 , $X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2$ st γ_2 can be run in parallel on each cluster

```
landmarks on track e1 these annotations "can see", each \cup \{! e \mid x_1 \in \in \{!! o_i\} \text{ st} \}
```

 $lzip: (t_1 \to bool) * (t_1 * t_2 \to bool) * (t_1 * t_2 \to bool) * (t_2 * t' \to t') * (t_1 * t' \to t') * (t' \to \{t\}) * t' * t'$

then Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, h(y, g(x, a)), e) (x::X, Y) else lzip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, g(x, a), e) (x::X, Y)

 $\rightarrow \{t_1\} * \{t_2\} \rightarrow \{t\}$

 $|z| = (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) ({}, Y) = f a$ $Izip (sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e) (X, {}) = f a$ |z|p(sx, sy, ay, h, g, f, a, e)(x::X, y::Y) =

then if ay(x,y)

if sx(x)

then if sy(x, y)

Can also have ...

with the requirement that

e₁, e₂ are landmark tracks

```
p can-see x_1 whenever
p can-see x_2 &
x_2.loc can-see x_1
```

```
Implemented using...
Izip (sx, sy, sz, az, j, h, g, f, a, e) ({}, Y, Z) = f a
Izip (sx, sy, sz, az, j, h, g, f, a, e) (X, {}, Z) = f a
Lzip(sx, sy, sz, az, j, h, g, f, a, e) (X, Y, {}) = f a
Izip (sx, sy, sz, az, j, h, g, f, a, e) (x::X, y::Y, z::Z) =
     if sx(x)
     then if sy(x, y)
            then if sz(x, y, z)
                  then if az(x, y, z)
                        then Izip (..., j(z, h(y, g(x, a))), e) (x::X, y::Y, Z)
                          else lzip (..., h(y, g(x, a)), e) (x::X, y::Y, Z)
                  else f (h(y, g(x, a))) \cup lzip (..., e, e) (X, Y, z::Z)
            else f (g(x,a)) \cup Izip (..., e, e) (X, y::Y, z::Z)
```

Some optimization rules

And ϕ is a "positive" condition on loci in both rules

```
 \begin{array}{c} \cup \{! \ \cup \{! \ \text{if} \ \phi \ \text{then} \ e \ \text{else} \ \{! \ \} \ \mid x \in X_j \} \\ \mid x_1 \in \in \ e_1 \ \text{st} \ \gamma_{1,} \ X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 \ \text{st} \ \gamma_{2}, \ \dots, \ X_k \subseteq e_k \ni x_2 \ \text{st} \ \gamma_k \} \\ \downarrow \downarrow \\ \downarrow \downarrow x \in FV(\phi) \ \text{and} \ FV(\phi) \cap \{x, x_1, X_2, \dots, X_k\} \subseteq \{x_1, x\} \\ \downarrow \downarrow \\ \cup \{! \ e \ \mid x \in X_j \} \\ \mid x_1 \in \in \ e_1 \ \text{st} \ \gamma_{1,} \\ X_2 \subseteq e_2 \ni x_2 \ \text{st} \ \gamma_{2}, \ \dots, \ X_j \subseteq e_j \ni x_j \ \text{st} \ \gamma_j \ \& \ \phi[x_j/x], \ \dots, \ X_k \subseteq e_k \ni x_2 \ \text{st} \ \gamma_k \} \end{array}
```

And ...

So a user does not need to worry about when to use $\cup \{! e \mid x_1 \in \in e_{1, \dots}\}$

In fact,

It is not necessary for a user to use {!, {!!, etc.

These can be inferred by a simple type system

And transformed into synchronized/parallel scans by an optimizer

```
\{ |x| \mid y \in \in GENES, \}
\{x \mid y \in GENES,
                                                   \{! x \mid y \in GENES,
     x \in TP53,
                                                         x \in TP53,
                                                                                                            x \in TP53 st
                                                                                        Optimiz-
                                      Type
          x.loc before y.loc,
                                                             x.loc before y.loc,
                                                                                                                 x.loc before y.loc &
                                                                                         ation
                                   inference
          x.loc near y.loc,
                                                             x.loc near y.loc,
                                                                                                                 x.loc near y.loc &
          x.anno.pval < 1E-6 }
                                                             x.anno.pval < 1E-6 }
                                                                                                                 x.anno.pval < 1E-6 }
```