General purpose AC-3 solver with various applications

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Abstract

We give a toy example of a report in *literate programming* style. The main advantage of this is that source code and documentation can be written and presented next to each other. We use the listings package to typeset Haskell source code nicely.

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1 Introduction

Many problems in computer science can be written as a set of possible values for each body in the problem instance, and a set of restrictions, or constraints, between pairs of bodies. Using this method, we can then define a problem instance as a graph, where each vertex has a set of possible values, or domain, and where each edge between two vertices is a constraint.

This forms the basis behind the arc consistency algorithms discussed in [Mac77], including the AC-3 algorithm we use in our implementation. The AC-3 algorithm aims to efficiently iterate over all of the constraints, and remove any values for which the constraints is invalidated.

Take as an example X with domain [1,2] and Y with domain [2,3], with an edge connecting them representing the contraint (==). The AC-3 algorithm will remove the value 1 from X's domain and the value 3 from Y's domain, as there is no value in the other body's domain such that the constraint is true for X = 1 or Y = 3.

Notably, AC-3 cannot *solve* problems. As an example, take 3 entities X, Y, Z, each with domain [0,1], and with edges (/=) between each. The AC-3 algorithm does not purge any values. For each value, the other entities have a value for which the constraint holds. However, if we try to find a solution with backtracking, we find that no solution exists, as the three entities need to all have a unique value.

As such, AC-3's main purpose is to reduce the search space, by pruning values for which no solution can exist. If at least one vertex has no possible values, then there is no solution. Else, we can use backtracking to determine if a solution exists, and if so what said solution is.

We discuss our AC-3 and backtracking implementation in Section 2. We then introduce a number of different computer science problems in Section 3, and show how our implementation attempts to solve them.

2 The skeleton files

These files form the basis of our implementation, which we then use to solve various problems.

2.1 The AC3Solver library

This module contains the main algorithm and definition for our project, the AC3 type.

```
module AC3Solver where

import Control.Monad.Writer

( runWriter, MonadWriter(tell), Writer )
```

To start of, we define the AC3 instance. An AC3 instance constains a list of constraints Arc, and a list of domains. Each Arc contains a pair of variables (X, Y), and then a function, such as (==), which is the constraint on the arc from X to Y. Each Domain item contains an variable, and then a list of values of type b.

¹Note that we only allow for *binary* constraints. The AC-3 algorithm does not allow for ternary (or greater) constraints, and unary constraints can be resolved by restricting that variables's domain. [Mac77] provides other approaches for achieving path consistency, where you may have ternary (or greater) constraints.

We may have multiple constraints for a pair of variables (X, Y), such as both (>) and (>=), or an variable may not be in any constraint. The programme however expects that each variable has exactly 1 (possibly empty) domain specified for it.

Note that we do not define an arbitrary instance for AC3. Instead, we can define arbitrary instances for specific problems. (See for example Section 3.2.)

For each constraint (X, Y, f), we want to check for each value x in the domain of X whether there is at least one value y in Y's domain such that $f \times y$ is satisfied. Values of X for which there is no such value in Y are removed from X's domain. We make use of the Writer monad to do an O(1) lookup to see if we removed items from X's domain.

```
-- | Return the elements of xs for which there exist a y \in ys, such that c x y holds.

-- | Using the writer monad, we also give a O(1) method to check whether we altered x's domain after termination.

checkDomain :: [a] -> [a] -> Constraint a -> Writer String [a]

checkDomain [] _ _ = return []

checkDomain (x:xs) ys c = do

rest <- checkDomain xs ys c

if not $ null [ y' | y'<-ys, c x y'] then return $ x:rest

else tell "Altered domain" >> return rest -- This is nicely formatted for readability,

it could just be something simple such as ".".
```

Each time we call iterate, we start by looking for the domains of variables X & Y for our constraint (X,Y). Once we find these, we are likely to replace the original domain for X with a reduced one. We use popXy and popX to find the domains for X & Y, and at the same time we also remove the *old* domain for X. Using popXy, we do one walk through the list, and save two walks, compared to doing a separate lookup for y, and a separate walk to delete the old x.

```
-- | PRE: x is an element of (a:as)
-- | POST: Output = (X's domain, the original domain with X's domain removed.)
popX :: Eq a => Variable a -> [Domain a b] -> ([b], [Domain a b] )
popX _ [] = error "No domain found for a Variable X in a constraint." -- should not occur.
popX x (a@(aA, aD):as) = if x == aA then (aD,as)
                         else let (x', as') = popX x as in (x', a:as')
-- | PRE: x != y; x,y are elements of (a:as).
        (else, this is not a binary constraint but a unary one.)
-- | POST: Output = (X's domain [b], Y's domain [b], the original domain d with X's domain
   removed.)
popXy :: Eq a => Variable a -> Variable a -> [Domain a b] -> ([b], [b], [Domain a b] )
popXy _ _ [] = error "No domains found for both variables X & Y in a constraint." -- should
    not occur.
popXy x y (a@(aA, aD):as)
   | x == aA = let -- we want to REMOVE a from the list.
       -- search through the rest of the list and return y's domain.
        yDomain = head [b' | (a',b')<-as, y==a']</pre>
       in (aD, yDomain, as)
    | y == aA = let (retX, retAs) = popX x as in (retX, aD, a:retAs)
```

```
| otherwise = let (retX, retY, retAs) = popXy x y as in (retX, retY, a:retAs)
```

We now come to the main part of the algorithm. The iterateAC3 function runs as long as the queue of constraints is not empty, starting with the original set of constraints. We get the domains of X & Y, and remove the *old* domains of X. We then run checkDomain, and add the new domain of X back to the list of domains. If X's domain was altered, then we add all constraints of the form (Y, X) to the back of the queue.

```
Given an legal AC3 instance, this function returns a reduced list of domains,
        each variable's domain now only contains values which are arc-consistent with
        the set constraints.
  | POST: for each variable x, x's domain in the output \subseteq x's domain originally.
ac3 :: (Ord a, Ord b) => AC3 a b -> [Domain a b] -- return a list of domains.
ac3 m@(AC3 c d) = let
    queue = c
    in iterateAC3 m queue d
iterateAC3 :: (Ord a, Ord b) => AC3 a b -> [Arc a b] -> [Domain a b]
                -> [Domain a b]
iterateAC3 _ [] d = d
iterateAC3 m@(AC3 fullCS _) ((x,y,c):cs) d = let
    (xDomain, yDomain, alteredD) = popXy x y d
    (newX, str) = runWriter $ checkDomain xDomain yDomain c
    newDomains = (x, newX) : alteredD
    -- take all constraints of the form (y,x, c)
    z = if null str then cs else cs ++ [c' | c'@(y1,x1,_)<-fullCS, y1/=y && y1/=x, x1==x]
    in iterateAC3 m z newDomains
```

2.2 The Backtracking library

Using our AC3 instances, we now define a backtracking method to find one or all solutions (where possible) for a given instance. We start by defining the 'output' of our backtracking method, which will be a list [Assignment a b].

```
module Backtracking where
import AC3Solver
type Assignment a b = (Variable a, b)
```

First of all, we can provide a fast method to check that a solution is even *theoretically* possible: if at least 1 variable has an empty domain, then there will never be a legal assignment.

```
-- |Returns true iff at least 1 variable has an empty domain.
-- | Post: Returns true -> \not \exist a solution.
-- | However, returns false does NOT guarantee that a solution exists.
determineNoSol :: [Domain a b] -> Bool
determineNoSol = any (\(_,\ds\) -> null ds)
```

Next, we use backtracking to try and find a solution, using backtracking. For our variable X, we iterate over each value in X's domain. For every constraint (X,Y) or (Y,X), where Y has already got an assigned value, we check if this constraint holds. If at least one of these constraints does not hold, then we continue with the next value in X's domain. Else, we continue with the next variable. If we find a valid assignment Just ..., then we return this, else we try the next value in X's domain.

If no value in X's domain leads to a valid assignment, we return Nothing, and try a different assignment, or return Nothing if no solution exists for this instance.

Notably, while findSolution takes an instance of AC3, we can run findSolution without having run ac3, and so we can compare the runtime of findSolution before and after running ac3.

```
findSolution :: Eq a => AC3 a b -> Maybe [Assignment a b]
findSolution (AC3 c d) = helpFS c d []
helpFS :: Eq a => [Arc a b] -> [Domain a b] -> [Assignment a b] -> Maybe [Assignment a b]
helpFS _ [] as = Just as -- Done
helpFS constrs ((x, ds):dss) as = recurseFS ds where
    recurseFS [] = Nothing
    recurseFS (d:ds') = let
        -- we want to try assigning value {\tt d} to variable {\tt x}.
        -- Get all constraints (X, Y) and (Y, X), where Y already has a value assigned to it.
        -- Check if x=d works, for all previously assigned values Y.
        checkCons = and $
            [cf d (valY y as) | (x',y,cf) < -constrs, x==x', y 'elemAs' as] ++
            [cf (valY y as) d | (y,x',cf)<-constrs, x==x', y 'elemAs' as]
        if not checkCons then recurseFS ds' -- easy case, x=d is not allowed.
            case helpFS constrs dss ((x,d):as) of
               Nothing -> recurseFS ds' -- x=d causes issues later on.
                Just solution -> Just solution -- :)
```

As with findSolution, findAllSolutions returns the (possibly empty) list of all solutions, again using backtracking.

Given a solution, verify whether this solution is permissible with the provided constraints.

```
checkSolution :: Eq a => [Arc a b] -> [Assignment a b] -> Bool
checkSolution [] _ = True
checkSolution ((x,y,f):cs) as = elemAs x as && elemAs y as && let
    xN = valY x as
    yN = valY y as
    in f xN yN && checkSolution cs as
```

Help-functions used by our solution methods.

```
-- | Find whether variable Y has an assignment.
elemAs :: Eq a => Variable a -> [Assignment a b] -> Bool
elemAs _ [] = False
elemAs y ((x,_):as) = x==y || y 'elemAs' as

-- | Find variable Y's assigned value
-- | PRE: y \in as.
valY :: Eq a => Variable a -> [Assignment a b] -> b
valY _ [] = error "Y's value could not be found in the assignment." -- should not happen.
valY y ((x,b):as) = if x == y then b else valY y as
```

3 The problem files

3.1 The NQueens library

The NQueens module defines a constraint satisfaction problem where we place N queens on an $N \times N$ chessboard so that no two queens attack each other.

```
module NQueens where
import AC3Solver ( ac3, AC3(AC3) ) -- Import AC3 solver
import Backtracking (findSolution, findAllSolutions ) -- Import backtracking solver

notSameQueenMove :: (Int, Int) -> (Int, Int) -> Bool
notSameQueenMove (a1, a2) (b1, b2) =
   not (a1 == b1 || a2 == b2 || abs (a1 - b1) == abs (a2 - b2))

(//=) :: (Int, Int) -> (Int, Int) -> Bool
(a1, a2) //= (b1, b2) = notSameQueenMove (a1, a2) (b1, b2)
```

The nQueens function encodes the N-Queens problem as a constraint satisfaction problem. The domain is defined in such a way that exactly one queen must be placed in each row. Constraints are generated using list comprehension together with the custom infix function (//=), which ensures that no two queens share the same row, column, or diagonal.

```
nQueens :: Int -> AC3 Int (Int, Int)
nQueens n = let
   variables = [0 .. n-1] -- Queens as row numbers
   domain = [(row, [(row, col) | col <- [0 .. n-1]]) | row <- variables] -- 1 queen per
   row
   constraints = [(a, b, (//=)) | a <- variables, b <- variables, a < b]
   in AC3 constraints domain</pre>
```

There are two functions available to solve the problem. The function solveNQueens finds a single solution using backtracking. Meanwhile, the function solveAllNQueens finds all possible solutions.

```
solveNQueens :: Int -> Maybe [(Int, (Int, Int))]
solveNQueens n = findSolution (AC3 constraints (ac3 (nQueens n)))
where
   AC3 constraints _ = nQueens n

solveAllNQueens :: Int -> [[(Int, (Int, Int))]]
solveAllNQueens n = findAllSolutions (AC3 constraints (ac3 (nQueens n)))
where
   AC3 constraints _ = nQueens n
```

The function prettyPrintBoard is responsible for printing the board. Solutions are displayed using numbers (0,1,2,...) to represent queens, while empty spaces are represented by a dot (.).

```
prettyPrintBoard :: Int -> [(Int, (Int, Int))] -> IO ()
prettyPrintBoard n solution = do
    let board = [[if (r, c) 'elem' map snd solution then show r else "." | c <- [0 .. n-1]]
        | r <- [0 .. n-1]]
        mapM_ (putStrLn . pptHelper) board
        putStrLn ""

pptHelper :: [String] -> String
pptHelper [] = ""
pptHelper [x] = x
pptHelper (x:xs) = x ++ " " ++ pptHelper xs
```

The nQueensMain function provides user interaction by asking for an input value N. It then

solves the problem and either prints the full solutions or just the count of solutions, depending on whether prettyPrintBoard is enabled. To start the NQueens program, run stack ghci and then nQueensMain, after which you are prompted to give an integer for N.

```
nQueensMain :: IO ()
nQueensMain = do
    putStrLn "Enter board size (N):"
    n <- readLn
    let solutions = solveAllNQueens n
    -- Uncomment for 1 solution instead
    -- let solutions = solveNQueens n
    if null solutions
    then putStrLn "No solution found."
    else do
        putStrLn "Solutions: "
        -- Comment out if only interested in the number of solutions
        -- mapM_ (prettyPrintBoard n) solutions
        putStrLn $ "Found " ++ show (length solutions) ++ " solution(s)"</pre>
```

3.2 The Graph Colouring library

Graph colouring is a well-known NP-Complete problem [GJS74]. Its nature as a graph problem lends it well to being modelled as an AC3 instance, and then being solved using our backtracking functions.

A problem instance consists of an undirected graph, and an integer n > 0. We are asked to assign a colour 0..(n-1) to each vertex, where for each edge (u,v), u and v have different colours.

```
module GraphCol where

import Control.Monad (when, foldM_)
import Criterion.Main
import Data.Char (toUpper)
import Data.Graph
import Data.Maybe
import Data.List
import Text.Read (readMaybe)
import Test.QuickCheck

import AC3Solver
import Backtracking
import Scheduling (parseInput)
```

We make use of Haskell's Graph library, following in its convention that vertices are numbers, and edges are pairs of vertices.

We define a newtype GraphCol using AC3, where the variables are of type Vertex and the domain is a set of colours $\subseteq [0..(n-1)]$. All constraints should be of the form (X,Y,(/=)), and this represents an edge (X,Y) in the graph.

We define arbitrary instances for GraphCol using following these conventions.

```
-- We define a newtype, so that we can generate arbitrary instances.

newtype GraphCol = GC (AC3 Vertex Int)

seqPair :: (Gen a, Gen a) -> Gen (a,a)
seqPair (ma, mb) = ma >>= \a -> mb >>= \b -> return (a,b)

-- It appears that Haskell graphs do not already have an arbitrary instance.
instance Arbitrary GraphCol where
arbitrary = sized arbitGraphColN where
arbitGraphColN n = do
```

```
nColours <- chooseInt (1, max (n 'div' 4) 1) -- we require n to be > 0
            --nColours <- chooseInt (2, max (n 'div' 4) 2)
            sizeV <- choose (0, n 'div' 3) -- we make vertices 0..sizeV INCLUDING SIZEV!
            --let sizeV = 498
            let eMax = max sizeV $ (sizeV*(sizeV-1)) 'div' 4
            sizeE <- chooseInt (sizeV, eMax)</pre>
            e <- sequence [seqPair (chooseInt (0, sizeV), chooseInt (0, sizeV)) | _<-[0..
               sizeEll
            -- we do not want edges (x,x), nor do we want repeat edges.
            let nonReflE = nub $ filter (uncurry (/=)) e
            let g = buildG (0, sizeV) nonReflE
            return $ convertGraphToAC3 g nColours --return $ convertGraphToAC3 g n
-- | We require show to use the arbritary instance above in QuickCheck.
-- | Note that we cannot actually check that each constraint is a (/=), we must
-- | assume it to be so.
instance Show GraphCol where
 show (GC (AC3 c d)) = let
   strCon = "[" ++ makeShow c ++ "]" where
      makeShow [] = ""
      makeShow ((x,y,_):cs) =
        "(" ++ show x ++ ", " ++ show y ++ ", (/=))"
        ++ if not $ null cs then ", " ++ makeShow cs else ""
    strD = show d
    in "GC (AC3 " ++ strCon ++ " " ++ strD ++ " )"
```

We define a method to convert a graph into an instance of GraphCol, and vice versa. Note that graph colouring concerns un directed graphs while the Graph library concerns directed graphs. As a result, g == ac3ToGraph\$ convertGraphToAC3 g n (for any n > 0) is NOT guaranteed to hold.

```
-- | NOTE: The Graph library uses *directed* graphs.
           We add both (x,y,/=) and (y,x,/=), as graph colouring concerns Undirected graphs
-- | Create an instance with colours [0..(n-1)]
-- | PRE: n >= 1
convertGraphToAC3 :: Graph -> Int -> GraphCol
convertGraphToAC3 g n = let
    variables = vertices g
    constr = [(x,y, (/=)) | (x,y) < -edges g]
   in GC $ AC3
        (constr ++ reverseCons constr)
         -- In graph colouring, we want to check both X's domain to Y, and Y's to X.
        ((head variables, [0]): [(a, [0..(n-1)]) \mid a \leftarrow tail variables])
-- | Help function: If we have an edge (x,y), we need both (x,y,\ /=) and (y,x,/=) as
    constraints
reverseCons :: [(a,b,c)] -> [(b,a,c)]
reverseCons = map (\ (a,b,c) \rightarrow (b,a,c))
-- | Given a graph colouring instance, return the graph of it.
-- \mid POST: Edges contains at most 1 Directed edge (x,y) for all vertices x/=y.
ac3ToGraph :: GraphCol -> Graph
ac3ToGraph (GC (AC3 c d)) = let
    v = [a | (a,_) < -d]
    e = nub [ (a,b) | (a,b,_) < -c] -- If we originally had <math>(x,y) AND (y,x) in our graph,
        then c contains each twice.
    in buildG (foldr min 0 v, foldr max minBound v) e
```

We provide a section of code that may optimise the GraphCol instance. We assign the colour 0 to the vertex 0, as in graph colouring we can arbitrarily assign a colour to the 'first' vertex.

However, if the graph consists of multiple disconnected components, then we can do such an arbitrary assignment to a vertex in each separate component, thereby reducing the search space.

```
optimiseGC :: GraphCol -> GraphCol optimiseGC gc@(GC (AC3 c d)) = let
```

```
comps = components $ ac3ToGraph gc
-- As far as I can find with the tests, if 0 is an element of a component, then
-- 0 is at the root. (Assuming a normal, legal GC instance of course).
-- We assume this is the case. For each component, we assign the reduced domain [0]
-- to the root, thereby reducing the search space.
dChanges = map (\(Node r _) -> r) comps
in GC (AC3 c (map (\((a,b) -> ) if a 'elem' dChanges then (a,[0]) else (a,b)) d))
```

3.2.1 Benchmarking GraphCol

We set out to benchmark GraphCol in 2 different ways: given an instance of GraphCol, first, we determine the total number of options across all domains in the instance, and we compare this to the number of options once we have run ac3. We then do the same having run optimiseGC, with and without running ac3.

Next, we run findSolution on this instance, as well as on the same instance altered using ac3 and/or optimiseGC, and record the time using Haskell's Criterion library [O'S].

```
-- | Given a file name, run the benchmark suite on the graphcol instance in this file.
runBenchmark :: String -> IO ()
runBenchmark filename = do
gc@(GC inst) <- readGraphFromFile filename
```

Note: Only 1 of the following 2 code blocks should be run, and the other should be hidden.

To get the most fair comparison between the instance before and after running ac3, we will discusses instances where there is no solution.² In such cases, findSolution needs to go through the entire search space, and as such ac3 is most likely to be effective in reducing the run-time.

We highlight one specific example, but all results can be found in the benchmark folder.

We take the example_N200_AC3 case, which has 200 vertices, 11324 constraints or 10548 unique edges, and 3 colours. By running ac3 on this instance, we can reduce the total number of

²Note that the ac3 function can change the order of the domain. As a result, comparing runtimes of findSolution or findAllSolutions may lead to erroneous results.

options in the domain from 598 (200*3-2) to 553. Then, running findSolution, the runtime decreases from 119ms on the original instance to 45ms running on the reduced instance. This is an instance that greatly benefits from running AC-3, as we see the run-time reducing as a result of the reduced search space.

3.3 The Scheduling library

```
module Scheduling where
import Text.Parsec
import Text.Parsec.String
import Control.Monad (replicateM)
import Data.List
import AC3Solver
import Backtracking (findSolution)
import Data.Char (toLower)
type ClassAssignment = (Int, Int, Int)
dayNames :: [String]
dayNames = ["monday", "tuesday", "wednesday", "thursday", "friday"]
parseInt :: Parser Int
parseInt = do
  spaces
  n <- many1 digit
  return (read n)
parseInput :: String -> IO Int
parseInput prompt = do
 putStrLn prompt
  read <$> getLine
getNames :: String -> Int -> IO [String]
getNames prompt n = do
 putStrLn prompt
 map (map toLower) <$> replicateM n getLine
getUserInputs :: IO (Int, Int, Int, [String], [String], [String])
getUserInputs = do
  numClasses <- parseInput "Enter the number of classes:"</pre>
  classNames <- getNames "Enter class names:" numClasses
 numRooms <- parseInput "Enter the number of rooms:'</pre>
 roomNames <- getNames "Enter room names:" numRooms numTimeSlots <- parseInput "Enter the number of time slots per day:"
 timeSlotNames <- getNames "Enter time slot names:" numTimeSlots
 return (numClasses, numRooms, numTimeSlots, classNames, roomNames, timeSlotNames)
readTextFile :: FilePath -> IO ([String], [String], [String], [String])
readTextFile filePath = do
  content <- readFile filePath</pre>
  let linesOfFile = filter (not . null) (lines content)
   - Ensure the sections exist and split based on section markers
 let (headerLines, rest1) = break (isPrefixOf "--- CONSTRAINTS ---") linesOfFile
  let (constraintLines, rest2) = break (isPrefixOf "--- STARTING VALUES ---") (tail rest1)
  -- Error checking
  if null headerLines || null rest1 || null constraintLines || null rest2
    then error "Invalid file format."
    else case headerLines of
      [classNamesLine, roomNamesLine, timeSlotNamesLine] -> do
        let classNames = words classNamesLine
        let roomNames = words roomNamesLine
        let timeSlotNames = words timeSlotNamesLine
        return (classNames, roomNames, timeSlotNames, constraintLines, tail rest2)
      _ -> error "Invalid header format."
testUserInputs :: IO ()
```

```
testUserInputs = do
  (numClasses, numRooms, numTimeSlots, classNames, roomNames, timeSlotNames) <-
      getUserInputs
 putStrLn "\nCollected Inputs:"
 putStrLn $ "Number of Classes: " ++ show numClasses
  putStrLn $ "Class Names: " ++ show classNames
 putStrLn $ "Number of Rooms: " ++ show numRooms
 putStrLn $ "Room Names: " ++ show roomNames
 putStrLn $ "Number of Time Slots per Day: " ++ show numTimeSlots
 putStrLn $ "Time Slot Names: " ++ show timeSlotNames
checkSameDay :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkSameDay (x,_,_) (y,_,_) = x == y
checkSameRoom :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkSameRoom (_,_,x) (_,_,y) = x == y
checkSameTime :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkSameTime (_,x,_) (_,y,_) = x == y
checkNotSameDay :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkNotSameDay (x,_,_) (y,_,_) = x /= y
checkNotSameRoom :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkNotSameRoom (_,_,x) (_,_,y) = x /= y
checkNotSameTime :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkNotSameTime (_,x,_) (_,y,_) = x /= y
checkBefore :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkBefore (x, x2, _) (y, y2, _) = x == y && x2 + 1 == y2
checkAfter :: ClassAssignment -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkAfter (x, x2, _) (y, y2, _) = x == y && x2 == y2 + 1
checkDay :: Int -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkDay a (x,_,_) = x == a
checkTime :: Int -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkTime a (\_,x,\_) = x == a
checkRoom :: Int -> ClassAssignment -> Bool
checkRoom a (\_,\_,x) = x == a
filterDomains :: [Domain Int ClassAssignment] -> [(Variable Int, ClassAssignment -> Bool)]
    -> [Domain Int ClassAssignment]
filterDomains domainList conditions =
    [(agent, [v | v <- values, all (\(a, f) -> (a /= agent) || f v) conditions]) | (agent,
        values) <- domainList]</pre>
getConstraint :: [String] -> IO (Maybe [Arc Int ClassAssignment])
getConstraint classNames = do
 putStrLn "Enter a constraint (e.g., 'class1 is before class2', 'class1 is the same day as
       class2', 'class1 is in the same room as class2' or 'class1 is not at the same time
      as class2'). Type 'Done' to finish:"
 input <- getLine</pre>
  let parts = map (map toLower) (words input)
 if input == "Done" | | input == "done" then return Nothing else do
    case parts of
      [class1, "is", "before", class2] -> Just <$> processConstraints class1 class2 "is
          before" classNames
      [class1, "is", "the", "same", "day", "as", class2] -> Just <$> processConstraints
         class1 class2 "is the same day as" classNames
      [class1, "is", "at", "the", "same", "time", "as", class2] -> Just <$>
         processConstraints class1 class2 "is at the same time as" classNames
      [class1, "is", "in", "the", "same", "room", "as", class2] -> Just <$>
          processConstraints class1 class2 "is in the same room as" classNames
      [class1, "is", "not", "the", "same", "day", "as", class2] -> Just <$>
         processConstraints class1 class2 "is not the same day as" classNames
      [class1, "is", "not", "at", "the", "same", "time", "as", class2] -> Just <$>
         processConstraints class1 class2 "is not at the same time as" classNames
```

```
[class1, "is", "not", "in", "the", "same", "room", "as", class2] -> Just <$>
         processConstraints class1 class2 "is not in the same room as" classNames
        -> do
         putStrLn "Invalid input format"
         getConstraint classNames
getFileConstraints :: [String] -> [String] -> [String] -> IO [Arc Int
    ClassAssignment]
getFileConstraints classNames _ _ constraints = do
    " classNames
              [class1, "is", "the", "same", "day", "as", class2] -> processConstraints class1
                  class2 "is the same day as" classNames
             [class1, "is", "at", "the", "same", "time", "as", class2] -> processConstraints class1 class2 "is at the same time as" classNames
[class1, "is", "in", "the", "same", "room", "as", class2] -> processConstraints class1 class2 "is in the same room as" classNames
             [class1, "is", "not", "the", "same", "day", "as", class2] -> processConstraints
    class1 class2 "is not the same day as" classNames
              [class1, "is", "not", "at", "the", "same", "time", "as", class2] ->
                  processConstraints class1 class2 "is not at the same time as" classNames
              [class1, "is", "not", "in", "the", "same", "room", "as", class2] ->
                 processConstraints class1 class2 "is not in the same room as" classNames
               -> error "Invalid constraint format"
    concat <$> mapM processLine constraints
processConstraints :: String -> String -> String -> [String] -> IO [Arc Int ClassAssignment
processConstraints class1 class2 keyword classNames = do
  let class1' = map toLower class1
      class2' = map toLower class2
  case (elemIndex class1' (map toLower) classNames), elemIndex class2' (map (map
      toLower) classNames)) of
    (Just i, Just j) \rightarrow case keyword of
       "is before" -> return [(i, j, checkBefore), (j, i, checkAfter)]
      "is the same day as" -> return [(i, j, checkSameDay), (j, i, checkSameDay)]
"is in the same room as" -> return [(i, j, checkSameRoom), (j, i, checkSameRoom)]
"is at the same time as" -> return [(i, j, checkSameTime), (j, i, checkSameTime)]
"is not the same day as" -> return [(i, j, checkNotSameDay), (j, i, checkNotSameDay)
       "is not in the same room as" -> return [(i, j, checkNotSameRoom), (j, i,
          checkNotSameRoom)]
       "is not at the same time as" -> return [(i, j, checkNotSameTime), (j, i,
           checkNotSameTime)]
                    -> error "Invalid keyword"
    _ -> error "Invalid class names"
collectConstraints :: [String] -> IO [Arc Int ClassAssignment]
collectConstraints classNames = do
 let loop acc = do
         constraint <- getConstraint classNames</pre>
         case constraint of
           Nothing \rightarrow return acc
           Just cs -> loop (cs ++ acc)
 loop []
getStartingValues :: [String] -> [String] -> [String] -> 10 (Maybe (Variable Int,
   ClassAssignment -> Bool))
getStartingValues classNames roomNames timeslotNames = do
 putStrLn "Enter known values (e.g., 'class1 is in room3', 'class1 is at 11am' or 'class1
      is on monday'). Type 'Done' to finish:"
  input <- getLine
  if input == "Done" then return Nothing else do
    let parts = words input
    case parts of
      [class1, "is", "in", room] -> Just <$> processStartingValues class1 room "is in"
           {\tt classNames} \ {\tt roomNames}
       [class1, "is", "at", time] -> Just <$> processStartingValues class1 time "is at"
          classNames timeslotNames
       [class1, "is", "on", day] -> Just <$> processStartingValues class1 day "is on"
          classNames dayNames
       _ -> do
```

```
putStrLn "Invalid input format"
        getStartingValues classNames roomNames timeslotNames
getFileStartingValues :: [String] -> [String] -> [String] -> [String] -> IO [(Variable Int,
     ClassAssignment -> Bool)]
getFileStartingValues classNames roomNames timeslotNames startValues = do
  let processLine line = case words line of
            [class1, "is", "in", room] -> processStartingValuesFile class1 room "is in"
                {\tt classNames} \ {\tt roomNames}
             [class1, "is", "at", time] -> processStartingValuesFile class1 time "is at"
                classNames timeslotNames
             [class1, "is", "on", day] -> processStartingValuesFile class1 day "is on"
                classNames dayNames
              -> error "Invalid starting value format"
  concat <$> mapM processLine startValues
processStartingValues :: String -> String -> String -> [String] -> [String] -> IO (Variable
     Int, ClassAssignment -> Bool)
processStartingValues class1 value keyword classNames valueNames = do
  \verb|case| (elemIndex| class1| classNames|, elemIndex| value| valueNames|) of
    (Just i, Just j) -> case keyword of
      "is in" -> return (i, checkRoom j)
      "is at" -> return (i, checkTime j)
      "is on" -> return (i, checkDay j)
-> error "Invalid keyword"
     -> error "Invalid name"
processStartingValuesFile :: String -> String -> [String] -> [String] -> IO [(
    Variable Int, ClassAssignment -> Bool)]
processStartingValuesFile class1 value keyword classNames valueNames = do
  case (elemIndex class1 classNames, elemIndex value valueNames) of
    (Just i, Just j) -> case keyword of
      "is in" -> return [(i, checkRoom j)]
      "is at" -> return [(i, checkTime j)]
      "is on" -> return [(i, checkDay j)]
      _ -> error "Invalid keyword"
    _ -> error "Invalid name"
collectStartingValues :: [String] -> [String] -> [String] -> IO [(Variable Int,
   ClassAssignment -> Bool)]
collectStartingValues classNames roomNames timeslotNames = do
  let loop acc = do
        value <- getStartingValues classNames roomNames timeslotNames
        case value of
          Nothing -> return acc
          Just svs -> loop (svs : acc)
 loop []
printSolution :: [String] -> [String] -> [String] -> [(Variable Int,
    ClassAssignment)] -> IO ()
printSolution classNames days roomNames timeSlotNames list = putStrLn $ concat
  [classNames !! agent ++ " is scheduled on " ++ days !! dayId ++
" in " ++ roomNames !! roomId ++ " at " ++ timeSlotNames !! timeId ++ ".\n"
  | (agent, (dayId, roomId, timeId)) <- list]</pre>
schedulingMain :: Maybe String -> IO ()
schedulingMain Nothing = do
  (numClasses, numRooms, numTimeSlots, classNames, roomNames, timeSlotNames) <-
     getUserInputs
  constraints <- collectConstraints classNames</pre>
  let uniquenessConstraints = [(i, j, (/=)) | i <- [0..numClasses-1], j <- [0..numClasses
      -1], i /= j]
  let allConstraints = constraints ++ uniquenessConstraints
  let classDomains = [(i, [(d, t, r) | d \leftarrow [0..5], t \leftarrow [0..numTimeSlots-1], r \leftarrow [0..
      numRooms-1]]) | i <- [0..numClasses-1]]</pre>
  domainConditions <- collectStartingValues classNames roomNames timeSlotNames
  let filteredDomains = filterDomains classDomains domainConditions
  let possibleSolutions = ac3 AC3 { cons = allConstraints, domains = filteredDomains }
  let solution = findSolution AC3 { cons = allConstraints, domains = possibleSolutions }
```

```
case solution of
          Nothing -> putStrLn "No solution found."
           Just sol -> printSolution classNames dayNames roomNames timeSlotNames sol
schedulingMain (Just filepath) = do
     ({\tt classNames}\,,\,\,{\tt roomNames}\,,\,\,{\tt timeSlotNames}\,,\,\,{\tt fileConstraints}\,,\,\,{\tt fileStartingValues})\,\,\,{\tt <-constraints}\,,\,\,{\tt fileStartingValues})
               readTextFile filepath
     \verb|constraints| <- \verb|getFileConstraints| classNames| roomNames| timeSlotNames| fileConstraints| | timeSlotNames| timeSlotName
     startingValues <- getFileStartingValues classNames roomNames timeSlotNames
                fileStartingValues
    let numClasses = length classNames
    let numRooms = length roomNames
    let numTimeSlots = length timeSlotNames
    let uniquenessConstraints = [(i, j, (/=)) | i <- [0..numClasses -1], j <- [0..numClasses
    let allConstraints = constraints ++ uniquenessConstraints
    let classDomains = [(i, [(d, t, r) | d \leftarrow [0..5], t \leftarrow [0..numTimeSlots-1], r \leftarrow [0..
                numRooms-1]]) | i <- [0..numClasses-1]]
    let filteredDomains = filterDomains classDomains startingValues
    let possibleSolutions = ac3 AC3 { cons = allConstraints, domains = filteredDomains }
    let solution = findSolution AC3 { cons = allConstraints, domains = possibleSolutions }
     case solution of
                Nothing -> putStrLn "No solution found."
                Just sol -> printSolution classNames dayNames roomNames timeSlotNames sol
```

```
module Sudoku where

-- General imports
import Data.List ( intercalate )
import Data.Time.Clock ( getCurrentTime, diffUTCTime )
import Text.Printf ( printf )

-- Import AC3 solver and backtracking algorithm
import AC3Solver ( AC3 (..), ac3, Arc, Domain )
import Backtracking ( findSolution )
```

3.4 The Sudoku Library

This file implements Sudoku in a suitable format for our AC3 and backtracking algorithms.

In our formulation:

- 1. Each cell on the Sudoku board is represented as a *Variable* with its associated domain A variable is identified by a coordinate (i, j) where i is the row [1 9] and j is the column [1 9] Each variable maintains a domain of possible values [1 9]
- 2. Sudoku's rules are encoded as binary constraints between variables:
 - Row constraint: All cells in the same row must contain different values
 - Column constraint: All cells in the same column must contain different values
 - Box constraint: All cells in the same 3-by-3 box must contain different values

These constraints are implemented as inequality relations (\neq) between cells. For instance, cell (3,2) and cell (3,7) are in the same row, thus, a constraint is added to ensure that they do not have the same value.

Below is the definition for a list of all cells, and the conditions for two cells being on the same row and in the same column.

```
allCells :: [(Int, Int)]
allCells = [(i,j) | i <- [1..9], j <- [1..9]]

sameRow :: (Int, Int) -> (Int, Int) -> Bool
sameRow (x1,_) (y1,_) = x1 == y1

sameCol :: (Int, Int) -> (Int, Int) -> Bool
sameCol (_,x2) (_,y2) = x2 == y2
```

A similar condition can be constructed for two cells being in the same 3-by-3 box.

```
sameBox :: (Int, Int) -> (Int, Int) -> Bool
sameBox (x1,y1) (x2,y2) = (x1 - 1) 'div' 3 == (x2 - 1) 'div' 3 && (y1 - 1) 'div' 3 == (y2 - 1) 'div' 3
```

With these conditions, the constraints can be modelled as a list of inequalities between cells. Two cells receive an inequality if they are distinct and share the same row, column, or box.

```
sudokuConstraints :: [Arc (Int, Int) Int]
sudokuConstraints = [(i, j, (/=)) | i <- allCells, j <- allCells, i /= j, i 'sameRow' j]
++ [(i, j, (/=)) | i <- allCells, j <- allCells, i /= j, i 'sameCol' j]
++ [(i, j, (/=)) | i <- allCells, j <- allCells, i /= j, i 'sameBox' j]
```

Below is an example of an empty Sudoku board, that is, the domain of every cell is [1..9].

```
sudokuDomains :: [Domain (Int, Int) Int]
sudokuDomains = [(i, [1..9]) | i <- allCells]
sudokuEmpty :: AC3 (Int, Int) Int
sudokuEmpty = AC3 sudokuConstraints sudokuDomains</pre>
```

Using the 'sudokuConstraints' as a backbone we can define our own sudoku puzzle. It is quite tedious because it requires us to specify the initial grid. The example below is a Sudoku puzzle with a unique solution.

```
startingCellsUnique :: [Domain (Int, Int) Int]
startingCellsUnique = [ ((1,3), [1]),
    ((1,5), [6]),
    ((1,9), [4]),
    ((2,1), [8]),
    ((2,4), [1]),
    ((2,6), [4]),
    ((2,8), [6]),
    ((3,2), [3]),
    ((3,7), [8]),
    ((3,9), [5]),
    ((4,1), [7]),
    ((4,3), [8]),
    ((4,5), [2]),
    ((4,9), [3]),
    ((5,2), [6]),
    ((5,3), [3]),
    ((5,7), [1]),
    ((5,8), [2]),
    ((5,9), [9]),
    ((6,5), [1]),
    ((7,1), [3]),
    ((7,7), [2]),
    ((7,9), [8]),
    ((8,1), [1]),
    ((8,3), [4]),
    ((8,5), [5]),
    ((8,6), [9]),
    ((8,7), [3]),
    ((9,2), [7]),
    ((9,4), [8]),
```

```
((9,6), [3]),
((9,7), [5]),
((9,8), [9]),
((9,9), [1])
]

sudokuExampleDomainUnique :: [Domain (Int, Int) Int] -- | Complete the initial grid by
    adding empty cells
sudokuExampleDomainUnique = startingCellsUnique ++ [(i, [1..9]) | i <- allCells, i 'notElem
    ' map fst startingCellsUnique]

sudokuExampleUnique :: AC3 (Int, Int) Int
sudokuExampleUnique = AC3 sudokuConstraints sudokuExampleDomainUnique</pre>
```

Instead of specifying our own sudoku puzzles we can leverage the repository of [Ash], in which 100+ puzzles are available. These puzzles are stored as nine rows separated by a newline character, each row containing nine entries. Empty cells are represented by ".".

```
readSudokuFromFile :: FilePath -> IO [Domain (Int, Int) Int]
readSudokuFromFile filePath = do
                                                 -- | filePath is the path to the sudoku
   puzzle file
    contents <- readFile filePath</pre>
    let rows = lines contents
    return (parseSudokuDomains rows)
parseSudokuDomains :: [String] -> [Domain (Int, Int) Int]
parseSudokuDomains rows = cellDomains where
    charToDomain :: Char -> [Int]
                                                  -- | Converts characters to domain values
    charToDomain '.' = [1..9]
                                                 -- | Empty cell
    charToDomain c = if c >= '1' && c <= '9'
                                                 -- | Should always be true if c!='.', added
         for safety
                                                 -- | Fixed cell
                         then [read [c]]
                         else [1..9]
                                                 -- | Empty cell
    cellDomains = [((i, j), charToDomain c) |
                  (i, row) <- zip [1..9] (take 9 rows),
                  (j, c) \leftarrow zip [1...9] (take 9 row)]
```

Leveraging these functions we can load a sudoku puzzle by specifying its name and return an AC3 instance.

```
loadSudokuPuzzle :: String -> IO (AC3 (Int, Int) Int)
loadSudokuPuzzle fileName = do -- | fileName is the name of the sudoku
puzzle
let filePath = "sudokuPuzzles/" ++ fileName ++ ".sud"
cellDomains <- readSudokuFromFile filePath
return (AC3 sudokuConstraints cellDomains)
```

With the tools above, we can finally define a few different functions that the user can interact with. To start with, we need a function that loads a sudoku puzzle from its file name, runs AC3, and returns the puzzle with its reduced domains.

```
runAC3OnSudokuFile :: String -> IO (AC3 (Int, Int) Int)
runAC30nSudokuFile fileName = do
   puzzle <- loadSudokuPuzzle fileName</pre>
                                                -- | Load sudoku puzzle from file name
   putStrLn "Initial puzzle:"
                                                -- | Display the initial puzzle
   printSudokuPuzzle puzzle
   putStrLn "Running AC3..."
                                                -- | Run AC3 and create a new puzzle with
       reduced domains
   let reducedDomain = ac3 puzzle
   let reducedPuzzle = AC3 sudokuConstraints reducedDomain
                                                -- | Display the average domain size before
   let oldDomain = getDomains puzzle
        and after running AC3
   let newDomain = getDomains reducedPuzzle
   let (beforeAC3, afterAC3) = computeDomainReduction oldDomain newDomain
   putStrLn "Average domain size"
                   Before AC3: " ++ beforeAC3
   putStrLn $ "
```

```
putStrLn $ " After AC3: " ++ afterAC3
return reducedPuzzle
```

The reduction in domain size from running AC3 varies between puzzles, easier puzzles experience greater reduction than harder puzzles. However, only getting the domain reduction is unsatisfactory, we want a solution to the sudoku as well. The following function does just that by running the backtracking algorithm over the AC3 reduced puzzle.

```
solveSudokuFromFile :: String -> IO ()
solveSudokuFromFile fileName = do
   reducedPuzzle <- runAC3OnSudokuFile fileName-- | Get the puzzle with reduced domains
   putStrLn "Running backtracking..."
                                                -- | Run backtracking to find a solution
   let solutions = findSolution reducedPuzzle
   let solvedDomain = case solutions of
                                                -- | Check for solutions, extract solved
       domain if found
                                                -- | No solution found
                 Nothing -> []
                 Just assignments -> [((row, col), [number]) | ((row, col), number) <-
                     assignments]
   if null solvedDomain
       then putStrLn "No solution was found"
       else do
           let solvedPuzzle = AC3 sudokuConstraints solvedDomain
           putStrLn "Solved puzzle:"
           printSudokuPuzzle solvedPuzzle
```

With these function we can define the main loop that the user interacts with. It asks the user to choose a sudoku puzzle, and then runs AC3 and backtracking on it. The user can choose between easy, hard, and special puzzles. Easy and hard puzzles are chosen by number, while special puzzles are chosen by name. Each of these three cases are considered, and the user is prompted to choose again if an invalid choice is made.

```
sudokuMain :: IO ()
sudokuMain = do
   showWelcomeMessage
   putStr "Choose your difficulty: \n\
         \ \ \ (1) easy\n\
           (2) hard n
           (3) special\n"
   putStr "\nSelect one of (1, 2, 3): "
   diff <- getLine
    fileName <- case diff of
        -- | Easy puzzle case
        "1" -> do getEasyPuzzle where -- | Start the recursive prompt
            getEasyPuzzle = do
                putStr "Choose a puzzle number between 1 and 50: "
                puzzleNum <- getLine</pre>
                 -- Check if input is a valid number in range
                case reads puzzleNum :: [(Int, String)] of
                    [(num, "")] | num >= 1 && num <= 50 ->
                       return ("easy" ++ puzzleNum)
                     -> do
                        putStrLn $ "Invalid choice. Please enter a number between 1 and 50.
                        getEasyPuzzle -- | Try again
        -- | Hard puzzle case
       "2" -> do getHardPuzzle where -- | Start the recursive prompt
            getHardPuzzle = do
                    putStr "Choose a puzzle number between 1 and 95: "
```

```
puzzleNum <- getLine
                     -- Check if input is a valid number in range
                    case reads puzzleNum :: [(Int, String)] of
                        [(num, "")] | num >= 1 && num <= 95 ->
                           return ("hard" ++ puzzleNum)
                        _ -> do
                            putStrLn $ "Invalid choice. Please enter a number between 1 and
                                 95.
                             getHardPuzzle -- | Try again
        -- | Special puzzle case
        "3" -> do askForSpecialPuzzle where -- | Start the recursive prompt
            askForSpecialPuzzle = do
putStr "Choose a puzzle: \n\
                    \ (1) impossible\n\
                    \ (2) Mirror\n\
\ (3) Times1\n"
                putStr "\nSelect one of (1, 2, 3): "
                puzzleName <- getLine
                case puzzleName of
                    "1" -> return "impossible"
                    "2" -> return "Mirror"
"3" -> return "Times1"
                    _ -> do
                        putStrLn $ "Sorry, " ++ show puzzleName ++ " is not a valid choice.
                            Please try again."
                        askForSpecialPuzzle -- | Try again
       -- | Invalid choice
        x -> do
            putStrLn $ "Sorry, " ++ show x ++ " is not a valid choice. Please try again."
            sudokuMain -- | Restart if invalid choice
return "" -- | This line is dealt with below
    if null fileName then return () -- | fileName is null after user executes case x, but
       the program has already successfully run
    else do
        -- | Solve the Sudoku puzzle from the file
        putStrLn $ "\nSolving Sudoku puzzle " ++ fileName ++ "..."
        solveSudokuFromFile fileName
-- | Display welcome banner
showWelcomeMessage :: IO ()
showWelcomeMessage = do
   putStrLn "-----
   putStrLn "|
                   WELCOME TO THE |"
SUDOKU AC3 SOLVER |"
   putStrLn "|
   putStrLn "-----
   putStrLn ""
```

4 Wrapping it up in an exectuable

TODO

```
module Main where
import Text.Read (readMaybe)

import GraphCol
import Scheduling
import Sudoku
import NQueens
import ZebraPuzzle

getChoice :: IO Int
getChoice = do
   putStr "Choose one of the following options: \n\
```

```
\1: Graph Colouring \n\
         \2: N-Queens \n\
         \3: Scheduling \n\
         \4: Sudoku \n\
         \5: Zebra Puzzle \n"
  choice <- getLine</pre>
  case readMaybe choice of
    Nothing -> do
      putStrLn "Invalid choice, please try again."
      getChoice
    Just n ->
      if n > 0 && n < 6 then return n else do
        putStrLn "Invalid choice, please try again."
        getChoice
main :: IO ()
main = do
 putStrLn "Hello!"
  --print somenumbers
  --print (map funnyfunction somenumbers)
  --myrandomnumbers <- randomnumbers
  --print myrandomnumbers
  --print (map funnyfunction myrandomnumbers)
  --putStrLn "GoodBye"
  -- Get choice
  choice <- getChoice
  case choice of
    1 -> graphColMain
    2 -> nQueensMain
    3 -> schedulingMain
    4 -> sudokuMain
    5 -> zebraPuzzleMain
    _ -> undefined
```

We can run this program with the commands:

```
stack build
stack exec myprogram
```

5 Conclusion

Finally, we can see that [LW13] is a nice paper.

6 Future works??

References

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