

# An Existential Rule Framework for Computing Why-Provenance On-Demand for Datalog Campanion

Ali Elhalawati, Markus Krötzsch, and Stephan Mennicke

Knowledge-Based Systems Group, TU Dresden, Germany  
{firstname.lastname}@tu-dresden.de

**Abstract.** This short paper accompanies a submission of the paper with the same title as this document. It contains a holistic example of all the notions. We explain in detail how the different stages of our approach look like for the particular example given in the paper.

## 1 Databases and Datalog

Consider the database  $\mathcal{D} = \{e(1, 2), e(2, 2), e(2, 3), e(4, 3)\}$  which may be interpreted as a graph with set of nodes  $\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and edge relation  $\{(1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 3), (4, 3)\}$ . Note,  $\mathcal{D}$  encodes a directed graph. Furthermore, let  $\Sigma$  be the rule set containing the following rules:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_1: & \quad e(x, y) \rightarrow t(x, y) \\ \rho_2: & \quad e(x, z) \wedge t(z, y) \rightarrow t(x, y)\end{aligned}$$

$\Sigma$  is a classic transitive closure of the predicate  $e$ . Applying  $T_\Sigma$  iteratively on  $\mathcal{D}$  yields additional  $t$ -atoms  $t(1, 2), t(1, 3), t(2, 2), t(2, 3), t(4, 3)$ , such that  $\Sigma(\mathcal{D}) = \mathcal{D} \cup \{t(1, 2), t(1, 3), t(2, 2), t(2, 3), t(4, 3)\}$ . For instance,  $t(1, 2)$  can be obtained from applying  $\rho_1$  for  $\sigma_1 = \{x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2\}$  (i.e., for rule instance  $e(1, 2) \rightarrow t(1, 2)$ ). Another possibility to derive the same fact is by  $\rho_2$  for match  $\sigma_2 = \{x \mapsto 1, y \mapsto 2, z \mapsto 2\}$  (i.e., for rule instance  $e(1, 2) \wedge t(2, 2) \rightarrow t(1, 2)$ ). Of course, this application requires us to have also derived  $t(2, 2)$ , which can be done by  $\rho_1$  and  $\sigma_3 = \{x \mapsto 2, y \mapsto 2\}$ .

## 2 The Graph of Rule Instances

The set of all rule instances for rule set  $\Sigma$  and database  $\mathcal{D}$  above is the following:

$$e(1, 2) \rightarrow t(1, 2) \tag{1}$$

$$e(2, 2) \rightarrow t(2, 2) \tag{2}$$

$$e(2, 3) \rightarrow t(2, 3) \tag{3}$$

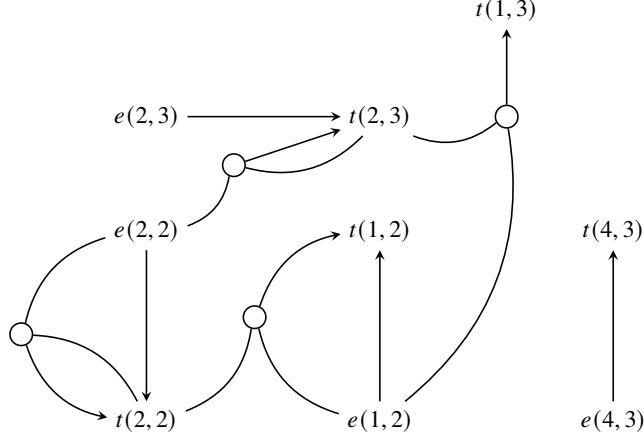
$$e(4, 3) \rightarrow t(4, 3) \tag{4}$$

$$e(1, 2) \wedge t(2, 2) \rightarrow t(1, 2) \tag{5}$$

$$e(1, 2) \wedge t(2, 3) \rightarrow t(1, 3) \tag{6}$$

$$e(2, 2) \wedge t(2, 2) \rightarrow t(2, 2) \tag{7}$$

$$e(2, 2) \wedge t(2, 3) \rightarrow t(2, 3) \tag{8}$$

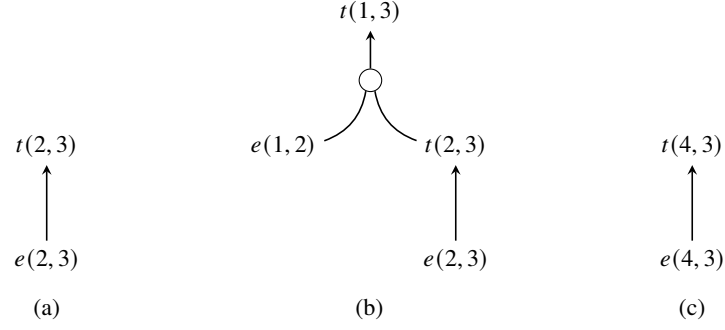
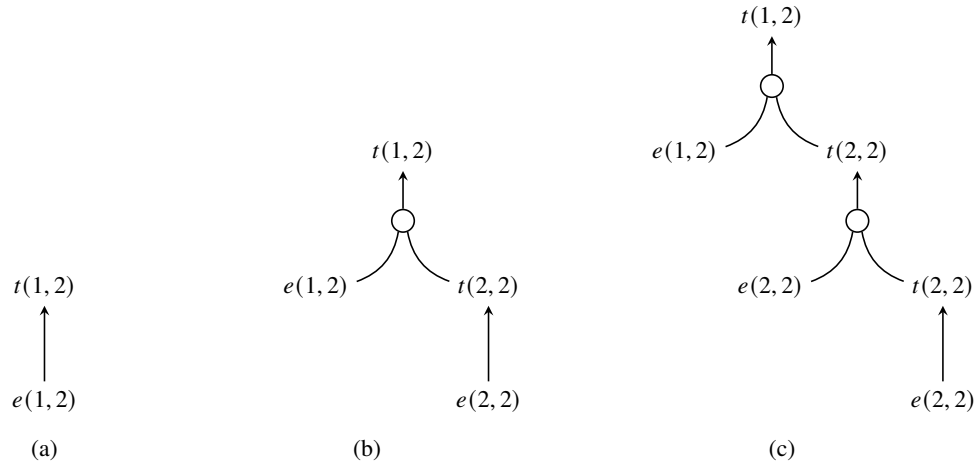
Fig. 1: The Graph of Rule Instances of  $\Sigma$  and  $\mathcal{D}$ 

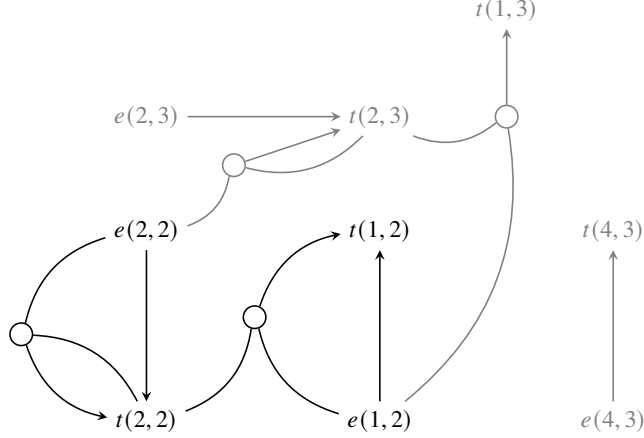
Each atom  $A \in \Sigma(\mathcal{D})$  is a node in the set of all nodes of the graph of rule instances  $GRI(\Sigma, \mathcal{D}) = (\Sigma(\mathcal{D}), \mathcal{E}, \text{tip}, \text{tail}, \text{id}_{\Sigma(\mathcal{D})})$ . The hyperedges ( $\mathcal{E}$ ) are determined by the eight rule instances above. For instance,  $e = \{e(1, 2), t(1, 2)\} \in \mathcal{E}$  with  $\text{tip}(e) = t(1, 2)$  and  $\text{tail}(e) = \{e(1, 2)\}$  due to (1). Fig. 1 shows a depiction of the full graph, including all the edges. If an edge has a single tail-node, just like  $e$  above, we depict it as a directed arc, having the arrow tip pointing to the tip of the edge. Edges having more than one tail-node use a small circle to join the tail-nodes via undirected edges. For each such circle, there is exactly one directed edge, pointing to the tip of the edge.

### 3 Proof Trees and Why-Provenance

For atoms  $t(1, 3)$ ,  $t(2, 3)$ , and  $t(4, 3)$  we have a single proof tree for each of them, all being depicted in Fig. 2. Note how the proof tree for  $t(2, 3)$  in Fig. 2 (a) is a subtree of the one in Fig. 2 (b). Let us denote the three proof trees by  $T_{(a)}$ ,  $T_{(b)}$ , and  $T_{(c)}$ , each referring to the proof tree behind the respective graphical representation Fig. 2. Recall that  $\alpha$  applied to a proof tree  $T$  returns the set of labels of its leaf nodes. Then  $\alpha(T_{(a)}) = \{e(2, 2)\}$ ,  $\alpha(T_{(b)}) = \{e(1, 2), e(2, 3)\}$ , and  $\alpha(T_{(c)}) = \{e(4, 3)\}$ .

The proof trees of Fig. 2 are even proper subgraphs of the graph of rule instances depicted in Fig. 1. This is, however, not generally the case. Take, for instance, the atom  $t(1, 2)$ , which can be directly derived via rule instance (1), depicted in Fig. 3 (a). Rule instance (5) is depicted in Fig. 3 (b). But there are more proof trees since  $t(2, 2)$  has alternative proof trees. In particular,  $T_{(b)}$  uses rule instance (2) as a subtree while Fig. 3 (c) shows a proof tree incorporating (7) as a subtree. This last proof tree contains two nodes with label  $t(2, 2)$  and two nodes with label  $e(2, 2)$ . Observe that the unfolding step performed between Fig. 3 (b) and (c) can be performed arbitrarily often, yielding an infinite set of proof trees for  $t(1, 2)$ . However, there is not more information to gain when it comes to Why-provenance.

Fig. 2: Simple Proof Trees for (a)  $t(2, 3)$ , (b)  $t(1, 3)$ , and (c)  $t(4, 3)$ Fig. 3: A Selection of Proof Trees for  $t(1, 2)$

Fig. 4: The Downward-Closure  $t(1, 2)^\downarrow$ 

Note,  $\alpha(T_{(a)}) = \{e(1, 2)\}$  and  $\alpha(T_{(b)}) = \{e(1, 2), e(2, 2)\} = \alpha(T_{(c)})$ . Therefore,  $w_1 = \{e(1, 2)\}$  and  $w_2 = \{e(1, 2), e(2, 2)\}$  are witnesses for  $t(1, 2)$ . In fact, **Why** $(t(1, 2), \Sigma, \mathcal{D}) = \{w_1, w_2\}$  because every other proof tree just appends  $e(2, 2)$  to  $w_2$  several times, yielding  $w_2$  again.

#### 4 Rule-Based Downward-Closure

We stick with atom  $t(1, 2) \in \Sigma(\mathcal{D})$  and prove the downward-closure  $t(1, 2)^\downarrow$  in Fig. 4 where all parts of the graph of rule instances that do not belong to the downward-closure are grayed-out.

The following rules construct the nodes of the graph of rule instances, collected as set  $\Sigma^r$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_e: \quad e(x, y) &\rightarrow \exists v. \widehat{e}(x, y, v) \\ \rho_t: \quad t(x, y) &\rightarrow \exists v. \widehat{t}(x, y, v) \end{aligned}$$

The trigger rule for  $t(1, 2)$  is:

$$\text{trig}(t(1, 2)) : \widehat{t}(1, 2, v) \rightarrow G(v).$$

The remaining rules to construct the downward closure are collected in  $\Sigma^\circ$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\rho}_0: \quad & \widehat{e}(x, y, v) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_1(v) \\ \widehat{\rho}_1: \quad & G(v) \wedge \widehat{t}(x, y, v) \wedge \widehat{e}(x, y, w) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_2(v, w) \wedge G(w) \\ \widehat{\rho}_2: \quad & G(v) \wedge \widehat{t}(x, y, u) \wedge \widehat{e}(x, z, v) \wedge \widehat{t}(z, y, w) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_3(u, v, w) \wedge G(v) \wedge G(w) \end{aligned}$$

All the rules we just mentioned are collected in the rule set  $\Sigma^\star = \Sigma \cup \Sigma^r \cup \Sigma^\circ \cup \{\text{trig}(t(1, 2))\}$ , such that  $\Sigma^\star(\mathcal{D}) = \Sigma(\mathcal{D}) \cup \mathcal{R}$  where

$$\mathcal{R} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} G(v_{t(1,2)}), G(v_{e(1,2)}), G(v_{t(2,2)}), G(v_{e(2,2)}), \mathcal{E}_1(v_{e(1,2)}), \\ \mathcal{E}_1(v_{e(2,2)}), \mathcal{E}_2(v_{t(1,2)}, v_{e(1,2)}), \mathcal{E}_2(v_{t(2,2)}, v_{e(2,2)}), \\ \mathcal{E}_3(v_{t(1,2)}, v_{e(1,2)}, v_{t(2,2)}) \end{array} \right\}.$$

## 5 System of Equations On-Demand

By querying  $\mathcal{R}$ , we derive the following system of equations on-demand:

$$v_{e(1,2)} = \{\{\alpha(e(1,2))\}\} \quad (9)$$

$$v_{e(2,2)} = \{\{\alpha(e(2,2))\}\} \quad (10)$$

$$v_{t(1,2)} = v_{e(1,2)} \oplus (v_{e(1,2)} \otimes v_{t(2,2)}) \quad (11)$$

$$v_{t(2,2)} = v_{e(2,2)} \oplus (v_{e(2,2)} \otimes v_{t(2,2)}) \quad (12)$$

Assuming  $\alpha(e(1,2)) = i$  and  $\alpha(e(2,2)) = j$  and interpreting the system over the Why-semiring, we obtain the following solution

$$\beta = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} v_{e(1,2)} \mapsto \{\{i\}\} \\ v_{e(2,2)} \mapsto \{\{j\}\} \\ v_{t(1,2)} \mapsto \{\{i\}, \{i, j\}\} \\ v_{t(2,2)} \mapsto \{\{j\}\} \end{array} \right\}$$

We verify  $\beta$  for  $v_{t(1,2)}$ , meaning that  $\beta(v_{t(1,2)}) = \beta(v_{e(1,2)}) \cup (\beta(v_{e(1,2)}) \uplus \beta(v_{t(2,2)})) = \{\{i\}\} \cup (\{\{i\}\} \uplus \{\{j\}\}) = \{\{i\}\} \cup \{\{i, j\}\}$ .

## 6 Datalog(S) Realization

The only aspect of the original program  $\Sigma$ , our Datalog(S) program depends on is the maximal number of atoms in a single rule of  $\Sigma$ . Here, we have  $k = 3$ , meaning we use program  $\Sigma_{\text{Why}}^3$ :

$$\begin{array}{ll} \epsilon_1: & \mathcal{E}_1(v) \rightarrow \text{prov}(v, \{v\}) \\ \epsilon_2: & \mathcal{E}_2(v, w) \wedge \text{prov}(w, X) \rightarrow \text{prov}(v, X) \\ \epsilon_3: & \mathcal{E}_3(u, v, w) \wedge \text{prov}(v, X) \wedge \text{prov}(w, Y) \rightarrow \text{prov}(u, X \cup Y) \end{array}$$

Considering  $(\Sigma_{\text{Why}}^3 \cup \Sigma^*)(\mathcal{D})$  we get  $\Sigma(\mathcal{D}) \cup \mathcal{R} \cup \mathcal{P}$  where

$$\mathcal{P} = \left\{ \text{prov}(v_{e(1,2)}, \{v_{e(1,2)}\}), \text{prov}(v_{e(2,2)}, \{v_{e(2,2)}\}), \text{prov}(v_{t(1,2)}, \{v_{e(1,2)}\}), \right. \\ \left. \text{prov}(v_{t(1,2)}, \{v_{e(1,2)}, v_{e(2,2)}\}), \text{prov}(v_{t(2,2)}, \{v_{e(2,2)}\}) \right\}.$$

When replacing  $v_A$  inside the sets by  $\alpha(A)$ , we obtain

$$\mathcal{P}' = \left\{ \text{prov}(v_{e(1,2)}, \{i\}), \text{prov}(v_{e(2,2)}, \{j\}), \text{prov}(v_{t(1,2)}, \{i\}), \right. \\ \left. \text{prov}(v_{t(1,2)}, \{i, j\}), \text{prov}(v_{t(2,2)}, \{j\}) \right\},$$

which perfectly reflects on solution  $\beta$  above.