

Constraints for Type Class Extensions

Master's Thesis Defense

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Type classes

class *Eq* *a* **where**

eq :: *a* → *a* → *Bool*

instance *Eq* *Char* **where**

eq = *primEqChar*

instance *Eq* *a* ⇒ *Eq* [*a*] **where**

eq [] [] = *True*

eq (*x* : *xs*) (*y* : *ys*) = *eq* *x* *y* ∧ *eq* *xs* *ys*

eq _ _ = *False*

elem :: *Eq* *a* ⇒ *a* → [*a*] → *Bool*

elem *x* [] = *False*

elem *x* (*y* : *ys*) = *eq* *x* *y* ∨ *elem* *x* *ys*

main = *elem* "Hello" ["Hello", "World"]



Type classes

```
class Eq a where  
  eq :: a → a → Bool
```

$$eq :: Eq\ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow Bool$$

```
instance Eq Char where  
  eq = primEqChar
```

```
instance Eq a ⇒ Eq [a] where  
  eq [] [] = True  
  eq (x : xs) (y : ys) = eq x y ∧ eq xs ys  
  eq _ _ = False
```

```
elem :: Eq a ⇒ a → [a] → Bool  
elem x [] = False  
elem x (y : ys) = eq x y ∨ elem x ys  
  
main = elem "Hello" ["Hello", "World"]
```



Type classes

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class Eq a where
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```
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```
  eq (x : xs) (y : ys) = eq x y ∧ eq xs ys
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elem :: Eq a ⇒ a → [a] → Bool
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elem x (y : ys) = eq x y ∨ elem x ys
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```
main = elem "Hello" ["Hello", "World"]
```

$eq :: Eq\ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow Bool$

overloading \neq polymorphism

$length :: [a] \rightarrow Int$



Type classes

```
class Eq a where
  eq :: a → a → Bool
```

$$eq :: Eq\ a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow a \rightarrow Bool$$

```
instance Eq Char where
  eq = primEqChar
```

$$Eq = \{ Char, [Char], [[Char]], \dots \}$$

```
instance Eq a  $\Rightarrow$  Eq [a] where
```

```
  eq [] [] = True
```

```
  eq (x : xs) (y : ys) = eq x y  $\wedge$  eq xs ys
```

```
  eq _ _ = False
```

```
elem :: Eq a  $\Rightarrow$  a → [a] → Bool
```

```
elem x [] = False
```

```
elem x (y : ys) = eq x y  $\vee$  elem x ys
```

```
main = elem "Hello" ["Hello", "World"]
```



Translation

```

data Eq a =    Eq{ eq :: a → a → Bool }

eqChar ::      Eq Char
eqChar =      Eq{ eq = primEqChar  }

eqList :: Eq a → Eq [a]
eqList d      = Eq{ eq = f          }
    where f []      []      = True
          f (x : xs) (y : ys) = eq d x y ∧ eq (eqList d) xs ys
          f _         _      = False

elem :: Eq a ⇒ a → [a] → Bool
elem x []      = False
elem x (y : ys) = eq x y ∨ elem x ys

main = elem "Hello" ["Hello", "World"]

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Translation

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          f _         _      = False

elem :: Eq a → a → [a] → Bool
elem d x []      = False
elem d x (y : ys) = eq d x y ∨ elem d x ys

main = elem (eqList eqChar) "Hello" ["Hello", "World"]

```



Superclasses

```
class Eq a  $\Rightarrow$  Ord a where  
    cmp :: a  $\rightarrow$  a  $\rightarrow$  Ordering  
  
instance Ord Char where  
    cmp = cmpChar
```



Superclasses

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Eq *a* \Rightarrow *Ord* *a*
means
Eq \supseteq *Ord*



Superclasses

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  cmp :: a  $\rightarrow$  a  $\rightarrow$  Ordering

instance Ord Char where
  cmp = cmpChar
```

Eq *a* \Rightarrow *Ord* *a*
means
Eq \supseteq *Ord*

```
data Ord a = Ord { cmp   :: a  $\rightarrow$  a  $\rightarrow$  Bool
                    , eqOrd :: Eq a      }
```

```
ordChar ::      Ord Char
ordChar =      Ord { cmp   = cmpChar
                    , eqOrd = eqChar }
```



Problem statement: HUGE design space



Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

class *Monad* *m* **where**

return :: $a \rightarrow m\ a$

$(\gg=)$:: $m\ a \rightarrow (a \rightarrow m\ b) \rightarrow m\ b$

instance *Monad* []

instance *Monad* *Maybe*



Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

instance *Show* *a* \Rightarrow *Show* [*a*]

instance *Show* [*Char*]

instance *Show* *a* \Rightarrow *Show* [[*a*]]



Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

Multi-parameter type classes

```
class Coll c e where
```

```
  empty :: c
```

```
  insert :: e → c → c
```

```
instance Coll [a] a
```

```
test c = insert 'c' (insert True c)
```



Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

Multi-parameter type classes

Functional dependencies

```
class Coll c e | c → e where
```

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  empty :: c
```

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  insert :: e → c → c
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```
instance Coll [a] a
```

```
test c = insert 'c' (insert True c)
```



Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

Multi-parameter type classes

Functional dependencies

Local instances

```
f g = let instance Eq Int where  
      x  $\equiv$  y = primEqInt (x 'mod' 360) (y 'mod' 360)  
      in ...
```



Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

Multi-parameter type classes

Functional dependencies

Local instances

Different context-reduction strategies

$$f \ (x : xs) \ (y : xs) = x > y \wedge xs \equiv ys$$

-- Possible types for f

$$f :: Ord \ a \Rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow Bool$$

$$f :: (Ord \ a, Eq \ a) \Rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow Bool$$

$$f :: (Ord \ a, Eq \ [a]) \Rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow Bool$$


Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

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Local instances

Different context-reduction strategies

Type class directives

```

never   Eq ( $a \rightarrow b$ )           : "functions cannot be tested for equality"
never   Num Bool                : "arithmetic on booleans isn't supported"
close   Integral                : "the only Integral instances are Int and Integer"
disjoint Integral Fractional    : "something which is fractional can't be integral"
  
```



Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

Multi-parameter type classes

Functional dependencies

Local instances

Different context-reduction strategies

Type class directives

Other extensions encoded using predicates

$$f :: (r \text{ lacks } l) \Rightarrow \dots$$
$$g :: (?width) \Rightarrow \dots$$
$$h :: (a \leqslant b) \Rightarrow \dots$$


Problem statement: HUGE design space

Constructor classes

Overlapping instances

Multi-parameter type classes

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Different context-reduction strategies

Type class directives

Other extensions encoded using predicates

Associated type synonyms

class *Collects* *c* **where**

type *Elem* *c*

empty :: *c*

insert :: *Elem* *c* \rightarrow *c* \rightarrow *c*



Problem statement and approach

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- No uniform approach to formulate type class extensions.
- Not easy to experiment with design decisions and extensions.
- Type error messages are difficult to understand.



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Approach

- Formulate overloading into constraints.
- Let CHRs generate every (type) correct reduction alternative.
- Represent reduction alternatives in a graph.
- Use heuristics to find a solution in the graph.



Formulating overloading into constraints

Constraint language:

data *Constraint* $\pi = \textit{Prove } \pi \mid \textit{Assume } \pi$



Formulating overloading into constraints

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data *Constraint* $\pi = \text{Prove } \pi \mid \text{Assume } \pi$

Example 1:

-- *eq* :: *Eq* *a* \Rightarrow *a* \rightarrow *a* \rightarrow *Bool*

test = *eq* "" "Hello"



Formulating overloading into constraints

Constraint language:

data *Constraint* $\pi = \text{Prove } \pi \mid \text{Assume } \pi$

Example 1:

-- *eq* :: *Eq* *a* \Rightarrow *a* \rightarrow *a* \rightarrow *Bool*

test = *eq* "" "Hello"

Prove (*Eq* [*Char*])



Annotating predicates with scope

Example 2: Local instances

```
-- insert :: Ord a => a -> [a] -> [a]
```

```
-- sort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]
```

```
testInsert :: Ord a => a -> [a] -> Bool
```

```
testInsert x xs = let instance Eq a => Eq [a] where
```

```
    eq = ...
```

```
    ys = insert x (sort xs)
```

```
in eq ys (sort ys)
```



Annotating predicates with scope

Example 2: Local instances

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-- insert :: Ord a => a -> [a] -> [a]
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in eq ys (sort ys)
```

Identification of scopes

- A scope is identified by a list of integers ($[Int]$),
- $[]$ is the global scope, and
- $[1, 1]$, $[1, 2]$ are sibling scopes.



Annotating predicates with scope

Example 2: Local instances

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-- insert :: Ord a => a -> [a] -> [a]
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```
testInsert x xs = let instance Eq a => Eq [a] where
```

```
    eq = ...
```

```
    ys = insert x (sort xs)
```

```
  in eq ys (sort ys)
```

```
{ Assume (Ord c1, [] )
  , Prove (Ord c1, [1])
  , Prove (Eq [c1], [1]) }
```

Identification of scopes

- A scope is identified by a list of integers
- [] is the global scope, and
- [1, 1], [1, 2] are sibling scopes.



Advantages

Constraints allows use to encode:

- Constructor classes
- Multi-parameter type classes
- Predicates annotated with a scope



Advantages

Constraints allows use to encode:

- Constructor classes
- Multi-parameter type classes
- Predicates annotated with a scope

Also other predicate extensions can be encoded:

- *lack* and *has* predicates for extensible records
- ? and % predicates for implicit parameters
-



Solving constraints

To solve constraints we

- Let CHRs generate *Reduction* constraints.
- Represent *Reduction* constraints in a graph.
- Use heuristics to find a solution in the graph.



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Extend the constraint language

```
data Constraint  $\pi$  info = ...  
                        | Reduction  $\pi$  info [ $\pi$ ]
```



Solving constraints

To solve constraints we

- Let CHRs generate *Reduction* constraints.
- Represent *Reduction* constraints in a graph.
- Use heuristics to find a solution in the graph

Extend the code

```
{ Reduction (Eq Char)    "eqChar"    []
  , Reduction (Eq (v1, v2)) "eqTuple" [Eq v1, Eq v2] }
```

```
data Constraint  $\pi$  info = ...
    | Reduction  $\pi$  info [ $\pi$ ]
```



Constraint Handling Rules

CHR syntax

$$C \Rightarrow G \mid D \text{ (propagation)}$$
$$C \Leftarrow G \mid D \text{ (simplification)}$$


Constraint Handling Rules

CHR syntax

$$C \Longrightarrow G \mid D \text{ (propagation)}$$
$$C \Longleftrightarrow G \mid D \text{ (simplification)}$$

Constraint Handling Rules

- Language for writing constraint solvers created by Thom Frühwirth.
- Idea of using CHRs for type classes proposed by Sulzmann et al.
- Understanding functional dependencies via CHRs.



Context reduction

Context reduction using instance declarations

instance *Eq Char* **where** ...

Prove (*Eq Char*, *s*) \implies [] 'visibleIn' *s*
 | *Reduction* (*Eq Char*, *s*) "eqChar" []



Context reduction

Context reduction using instance declarations

instance *Eq Char* **where** ...

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Prove } (Eq \text{ Char}, s) \implies [] \text{ 'visibleIn' } s \\ \quad | \quad \text{Reduction } (Eq \text{ Char}, s) \text{ "eqChar" } [] \end{array}$$

instance *Eq a \Rightarrow Eq [a]* **where** ...

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Prove } (Eq [a], s) \implies [] \text{ 'visibleIn' } s \\ \quad | \quad \text{Prove } (Eq a, s) \\ \quad , \quad \text{Reduction } (Eq [a], s) \text{ "eqList" } [(Eq a, s)] \end{array}$$


Context reduction

Context reduction using the class hierarchy

class *Eq* *a* **where** ...

class *Eq* *a* \Rightarrow *Ord* *a* **where** ...



Context reduction

Context reduction using the class hierarchy

class *Eq* *a* **where** ...

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-- reducing using the class hierarchy

Prove (*Eq* *a*, *s*), *Prove* (*Ord* *a*, *s*)

\Rightarrow *Reduction* (*Eq* *a*, *s*) "eqOrd" [(*Ord* *a*, *s*)]



Context reduction

Context reduction using the class hierarchy

class *Eq* *a* **where** ...

class *Eq* *a* \Rightarrow *Ord* *a* **where** ...

```
{ Assume (Ord c1, [])
  , Prove (Eq c1, []) }
```

-- reducing using the class hierarchy

Prove (*Eq* *a*, *s*), *Prove* (*Ord* *a*, *s*)

\Rightarrow *Reduction* (*Eq* *a*, *s*) "eqOrd" [(*Ord* *a*, *s*)]



Context reduction

Context reduction using the class hierarchy

class *Eq* *a* **where** ...

class *Eq* *a* \Rightarrow *Ord* *a* **where** ...

```
{ Assume (Ord c1, [])
  , Prove (Eq c1, []) }
```

-- reducing using the class hierarchy

Prove (*Eq* *a*, *s*), *Prove* (*Ord* *a*, *s*)

\Rightarrow *Reduction* (*Eq* *a*, *s*) "eq0rd" [(*Ord* *a*, *s*)]

-- propagating the class hierarchy

Assume (*Ord* *a*, *s*)

\Rightarrow *Assume* (*Eq* *a*, *s*), *Reduction* (*Eq* *a*, *s*) "eq0rd" [(*Ord* *a*, *s*)]



Simplification of predicates annotated with scope

How can the following predicates be simplified?

$$\{ \text{Assume } (\text{Ord } c_1, []) \\ , \text{ Prove } (\text{Ord } c_1, [1]) \\ , \text{ Prove } (\text{Eq } c_1, [1]) \}$$


Simplification of predicates annotated with scope

How can the following predicates be simplified?

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Lifting a predicate to the parent scope

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prove } (p, s) &\implies \text{not } (\text{toplevel } s) \\ &\quad | \quad \text{Prove } (p, \text{parent } s) \\ &\quad , \quad \text{Reduction } (p, s) \text{ "scope" } [(p, \text{parent } s)] \end{aligned}$$


Simplification of predicates annotated with scope

How can the following predicates be simplified?

```
{ Assume (Ord c1, [])
  , Prove (Ord c1, [1])
  , Prove (Eq c1, [1]) }
```

Lifting a

Prove (

```
{ Reduction (Ord c1, [1]) "scope" [(Ord c1, [])]
  , Reduction (Eq c1, [1]) "eqOrd" [(Ord c1, [1])]
  , Reduction (Eq c1, [1]) "scope" [(Eq c1, [])]
  , Reduction (Eq c1, []) "eqOrd" [(Ord c1, [])]
}
```



Simplification graph for local instances

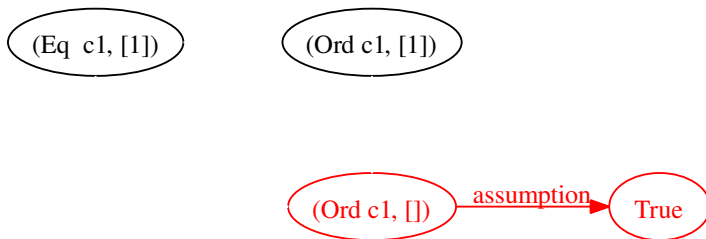
 $(Eq\ c1, [1])$ $(Ord\ c1, [1])$

Prove $(Eq\ c_1, [1])$

Prove $(Ord\ c_1, [1])$



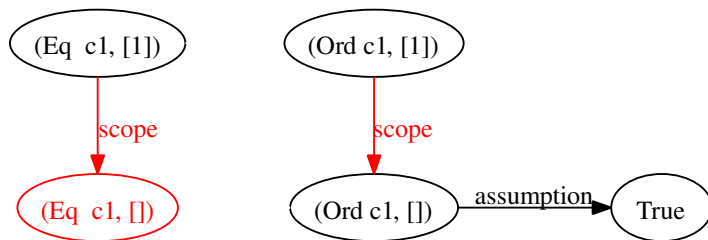
Simplification graph for local instances



Assume (*Ord* c_1 , [])



Simplification graph for local instances

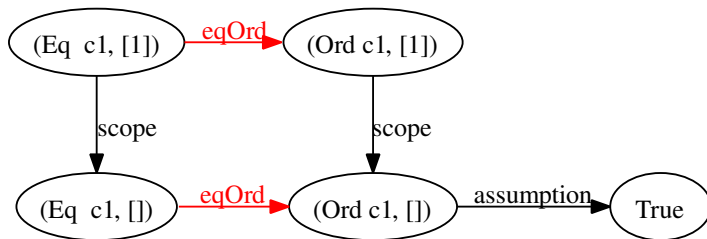


Reduction ($Eq\ c_1, [1]$) "scope" $[(Eq\ c_1, [])]$

Reduction ($Ord\ c_1, [1]$) "scope" $[(Ord\ c_1, [])]$



Simplification graph for local instances



Reduction $(Eq\ c_1, [1])$ "eqOrd" $[(Ord\ c_1, [1])]$

Reduction $(Eq\ c_1, [])$ "eqOrd" $[(Ord\ c_1, [])]$



Advantages of simplification graphs

Graphs make experimenting with type classes easy!

- Visualization of the problem!
- Lot of information present for type error messages.
- Every (type) correct reduction alternative is present.
- Specify alternative reduction strategies in heuristics.



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Examples of heuristics:

- Heuristic emulating Haskell 98 or GHC context reduction.
- Cost-path heuristic.
- Heuristic that utilizes backtracking to find a solution.
- Or a nice combination of the above heuristics.



Example: local and overlapping instance declarations

```
class Show a where
```

```
  show :: a → [Char]
```

```
instance Show Char                                -- showChar
```

```
instance Show a ⇒ Show [a]                      -- show[]
```

```
instance Show [Char]                             -- show[Char]
```

```
ppTable hdr tbl
```

```
  = let instance Show a ⇒ Show [[a]]  -- show[[]]
```

```
    in ... show (hdr : tbl) ...
```

```
main = ppTable ["Name", "DOB"] [[ "G", "19830511" ]  
                                , [ "A", "19830208" ]]
```



Example: local and overlapping instance declarations

class *Show* *a* **where**

show :: *a* → [*Char*]

instance *Show* *Char*

-- showChar

instance *Show* *a* ⇒ *Show* [*a*]

-- show[]

instance *Show* [*Char*]

-- show[Char]

ppTable *hdr tbl*

= **let instance** *Show* *a* ⇒ *Show* [[*a*]] -- show[[]]

Prove (*Show* [[[*v*₁]]]])

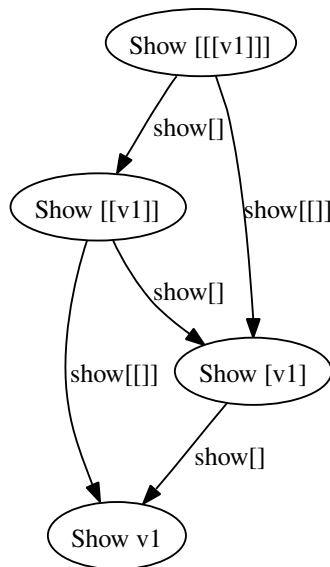
ppTable :: *Show* [[[*a*]]] ⇒ [[*a*]] → [[[*a*]]] → [*Char*]

m. *ppTable* :: *Show* [*a*] ⇒ [[*a*]] → [[[*a*]]] → [*Char*]

ppTable :: *Show* *a* ⇒ [[*a*]] → [[[*a*]]] → [*Char*]



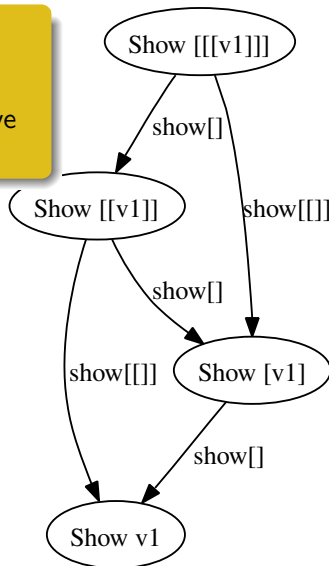
Simplification graph: first attempt



Simplification graph: first attempt

Heuristic:

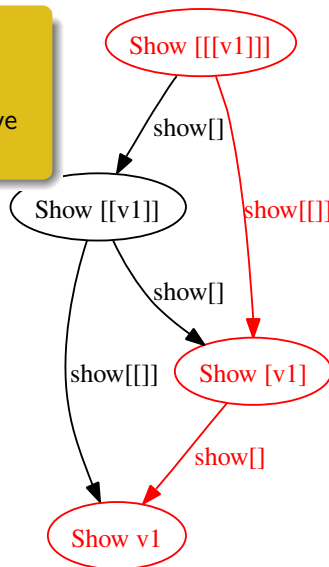
- Eager reduction
- Prefer local above global



Simplification graph: first attempt

Heuristic:

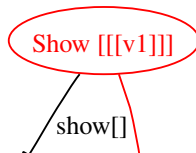
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Simplification graph: first attempt

Heuristic:

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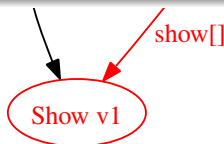


Inferred type for the function *ppTable*

```
instance Show [Char] -- show[Char]
```

```
ppTable :: Show a => [[a]] -> [[[a]]] -> [Char]
```

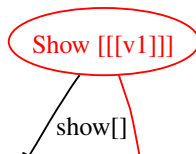
```
main = ppTable ["Name", "DOB"] [ ["G", "19830511"]  
                                , ["A", "19830208"] ]
```



Simplification graph: first attempt

Heuristic:

- Eager reduction
- Prefer local above global



Inferred type for the function *ppTable*

instance *Show* [*Char*] -- show[Char]

ppTable :: *Show* *a* \Rightarrow $[[a]] \rightarrow [[[a]]] \rightarrow [Char]$

main = *ppTable* ["Name", "DOB"] [["G", "19830511"]
 , ["A", "19830208"]]

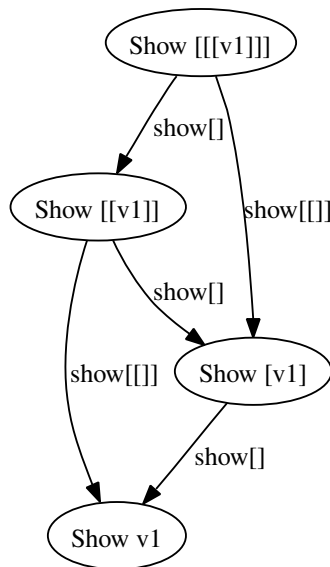
Prove (Show Char)

/show[]

Show v1



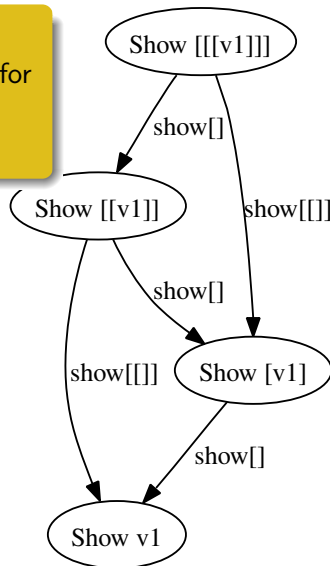
Simplification graph: second attempt



Simplification graph: second attempt

Heuristic II:

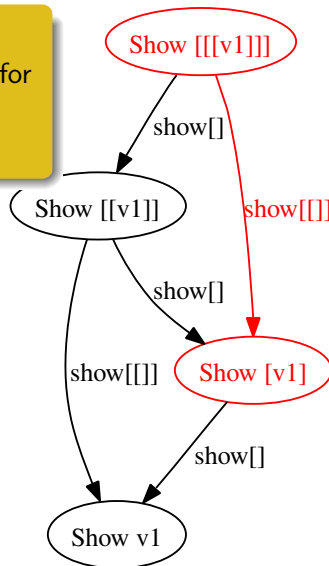
- Eager reduction for local instances.
- Otherwise stop.



Simplification graph: second attempt

Heuristic II:

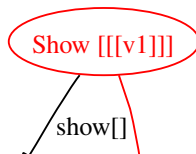
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Simplification graph: second attempt

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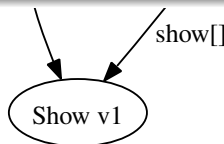


Inferred type for the function *ppTable*

instance *Show* [*Char*] -- show[*Char*]

ppTable :: *Show* [*a*] \Rightarrow [*a*] \rightarrow [[[*a*]]] \rightarrow [*Char*]

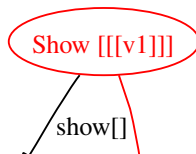
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 , ["A", "19830208"]]



Simplification graph: second attempt

Heuristic II:

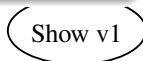
- Eager reduction for local instances.
- Otherwise stop

Inferred type for the function *ppTable***instance** *Show* [*Char*] -- show[*Char*]*ppTable* :: *Show* [*a*] \Rightarrow [*a*] \rightarrow [[[*a*]]] \rightarrow [*Char*]

```
main = ppTable ["Name", "DOB"] [ ["G", "19830511"]
                                   , ["A", "19830208"] ]
```

Prove (*Show* [*Char*])

/show[]



Conclusion

Contributions

- First in using graphs and heuristics to solve and experiment with type classes.
- First in using CHRs with explicit *Prove* and *Assume* constraints.
- Implementation of this framework and a basic CHR solver.



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Conclusion

- Uniform encoding of type class extensions.
- Graphs and heuristics make it easy to experiment with extensions.
- Every well known type class extension can be encode using this framework.
- Framework can be used for both Helium/Top and EHC.

