

Computing Science MSc Thesis

Incremental Computation for Algebraic Datatypes in Haskell

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Write abstract

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1

Introduction

1.1 Motivation

Write a motivation

1.2 Contributions

Write the contributions

1.3 Research Questions

Write the research questions

Specific Implementation

Computing a value of a data structure can easily be defined in Haskell, but every time there is a small change in the Tree, the entire Tree needs to be recomputed. This is inefficient, because most of the computations have already been performed in the previous computation.

To prevent recomputation of already computed values, the technique memoization is introduced. Memoization is a technique where the results of computational intensive tasks are stored and when the same input occurs, the result is reused.

The comparison of two values in Haskell is done with the Eq typeclass, which implements the equality operator (==) :: a -> a -> Bool. So, an example implementation of the Eq typeclass for the Tree datatype would be:

The problem with using this implementation of the Eq typeclass for Memoization is that for every comparison of the Tree datatype the equality is computed. This is inefficient because the equality implementation has to traverse the complete Tree data structure to know if the Tree's are equal.

To efficiently compare the Tree datatypes, we need to represent the structure in a manner which does not lead to traversing to the complete Tree data structure. This can be accomplished using a hash function. A hash function is a process of transforming a data structure into an arbitrary fixed-size value, where the same input always generates the same output.

One of the disadvantages of using hashes is *hash collisions*. Hash collisions happen when two different pieces of data have the same hash. This is because a hash function has a limited amount of bits to represent every possible combination of data. However, common hash functions have such a low chance of getting a hash collision, it is negligible.

Add an example of hash collision probability for popular hash function

```
class Hashable a where
   hash :: a -> Hash

instance Hashable a => Hashable (Tree a) where
   hash (Leaf x) = concatHash [hash "Leaf", hash x]
   hash (Node l x r) = concatHash [hash "Node", hash x, hash l, hash r]
```

The hashes can then be used to efficiently compare two Tree data structures, without having to traverse the entire Tree data structure. To keep track of the intermediate results of the computation, we store the results in a Map. A Map, also known as a dictionary, is an implementation of mapping a key to a value. In our next example the Hash is the key and the value is the intermediate result.

```
sumTreeInc :: Tree Int -> (Int, Map Hash Int)
sumTreeInc l@(Leaf x) = (x, insert (hash 1) x empty)
sumTreeInc n@(Node 1 x r) = (y, insert (hash n) y (m1 <> mr))
    where
        y = x + x1 + xr
        (x1, ml) = sumTreeInc 1
        (xr, mr) = sumTreeInc r
```

Then after the first computation over the entire Tree, we can recompute the Tree using the previously created Map. Thus, when we recompute the Tree, we first look in the Map if the computation has already been performed then return the result. Otherwise, compute the result and store it in the Map.

Maybe add the more efficient implementation of merging maps?

```
sumTreeIncMap :: Map Hash Int -> Tree Int -> (Int, Map Hash Int)
sumTreeIncMap m l@(Leaf x) = case lookup (hash 1) m of
    Just x -> (x, m)
    Nothing -> (x, insert (hash 1) x empty)
sumTreeIncMap m n@(Node 1 x r) = case lookup (hash n) m of
    Just x -> (x, m)
    Nothing -> (y, insert (hash n) y (ml <> mr))
    where
    y = x + x1 + xr
```

```
(x1, m1) = sumTreeIncMap m 1
(xr, mr) = sumTreeIncMap m r
```

Generating a hash for every computation over the data structure is time-consuming and unnecessary, because most of the Tree data structure stays the same. The work of Miraldo and Swierstra[3] inspired the use of the Merkle Tree. A Merkle Tree is a data structure which integrates the hashes within the data structure.

2.1 Merkle Tree (TreeH)

First we introduce a new datatype TreeH, which contains a Hash for every constructor in Tree. Then to convert the Tree datatype into the TreeH datatype, the structure of the Tree is hashed and stored into the datatype using the merkle function.

The precomputed hashes can then be used to easily create a Map, without computing the hashes every time the sumTreeIncH function is called.

```
sumTreeIncH :: TreeH Int -> (Int, Map Hash Int)
sumTreeIncH (LeafH h x) = (x, insert h x empty)
sumTreeIncH (NodeH h l x r) = (y, insert h y (ml <> mr))
    where
        y = x + xl + xr
        (xl, ml) = sumTreeInc l
        (xr, mr) = sumTreeInc r
```

The problem with this implementation is, that when the Tree datatype is updated, the entire Tree needs to be converted into a TreeH, which is linear in time. This can be done more efficiently, by only updating the hashes which are impacted by the changes. Which means that only the hashes of the change and the parents need to be updated.

The first intuition to fixing this would be using a pointer to the value that needs to be changed. But because Haskell is a functional programming language, there are no pointers. Luckily, there is a data structure which can be used to efficiently update the data structure, namely the Zipper[2].

2.2 Zipper

The Zipper is a technique of representing a data structure by keeping track of how the data structure is being traversed through. The Zipper was first described by Huet[2] and is a solution for efficiently updating pure recursive data structures in a purely functional programming language (e.g., Haskell). This is accomplished by keeping track of the downward current subtree and the upward path, also known as the *location*.

To keep track of the upward path, we need to store the path we traverse to the current subtree. The traversed path is stored in the Cxt datatype. The Cxt datatype represents three options the path could be at: the Top, the path has traversed to the left (L), or the path has traversed to the right (R).

Using the Loc, we can define multiple functions on how to traverse through the Tree. Then, when we get to the desired location in the Tree, we can call the modify function to change the Tree at the current location.

```
left :: Loc a -> Loc a
left (Node l x r, c) = (l, L c r x)

right :: Loc a -> Loc a
right (Node l x r, c) = (r, R c l x)

up :: Loc a -> Loc a
up (t, L c r x) = (Node t x r, c)
up (t, R c l x) = (Node l x t, c)

modify :: (Tree a -> Tree a) -> Loc a -> Loc a
modify f (t, c) = (f t, c)
```

Eventually, when every value in the Tree has been changed, the entire Tree can then be rebuilt using the Cxt. By recursively calling the up function until the top is reached, the current subtree gets rebuilt. And when the top is reached, the entire tree is then returned.

```
leave :: Loc a -> Loc a
```

```
leave 1@(t, Top) = 1
leave 1 = top (up 1)
```

2.2.1 Zipper TreeH

The implementation of the Zipper for the TreeH datatype is the same as for the Tree datatype. However, the TreeH also contains the hash of the current and underlying data structure. Therefore, when a value is modified in the TreeH, all the parent nodes of the modified value needs to be updated.

The updateLoc function modifies the value at the current location, then checks if the location has any parents. If the location has any parents, go up to that parent, update the hash of that parent and recursively update the parents hashes until we are at the top of the data structure. Otherwise, return the modified locations, because all the other hashes are not affected by the change.

```
updateLoc :: (TreeH a -> TreeH a) -> Loc a -> Loc a
updateLoc f l = if top l' then l' else updateParents (up l')
where
    l' = modify f l

    updateParents :: Loc a -> Loc a
    updateParents (Loc x Top) = Loc (updateHash x) Top
    updateParents (Loc x cs) = updateParents $ up (Loc (updateHash x) cs)
```

Then, the update function can be defined using the updateLoc function, by first traversing through the data structure with the given directions. Then modifying the location using the updateLoc function and then leave the location and the function results in the updated data structure.

```
update :: (TreeH a -> TreeH a) -> [Loc a -> Loc a] -> TreeH a -> TreeH a
update f dirs t = leave $ updateLoc f l'
    where
    l' = applyDirs dirs (enter t)
```

Datatype-Generic Programming in Haskell

The implementation in Chapter 2 is an efficient implementation for incrementally computing the summation over a Tree datatype. However, when we want to implement this functionality for a different datatype, a lot of code needs to be copied while the process remains the same. This entails poor maintainability and a lot of redundant code.

Add an example of the usage of generics, e.g., the deriving mechanism in GHC

Could use deriving mechanism, but it is not the same as generic programming. Maybe use it as a precursor for generic programming.

In this Chapter, we introduce Datatype-Generic Programming[1], also known as *generic programming* or *generics* in Haskell, as a technique that allows defining functions which can operate on a large class of datatypes. This prevents the need to write the previously defined functionality for every datatype.

3.1 Introduction

Datatype-Generic programming is

Introduce generic programming and how it works

Using these datatypes, we can define the Tree datatype used in Chapter 2 as:

```
class GSize f where
    gsize :: (a -> Int) -> f a -> Int

instance GSize I where
    gsize f (I x) = f x

instance GSize (K a) where
    gsize _ _ = 0

instance (GSize f, GSize g) => GSize (f :+: g) where
    gsize f (Inl x) = gsize f x
    gsize f (Inr x) = gsize f x

instance (GSize f, GSize g) => GSize (f :*: g) where
    gsize f (Pair (x, y)) = gsize f x + gsize f y

size :: (Generic a, GSize (PF a)) => a -> Int
size = 1 + gsize size (from x)
```

Maybe remove the results?

```
t :: Tree Int
t = Node (Leaf 1) 2 (Leaf 3)

pt :: PFTree Int
pt = (Inr (Pair (Pair (I (Inl (K 1)), K 2), I (Inl (K 3))))
size t = 2
```

3.1.1 Deep vs Shallow recursion

All the datatypes defined in the previous section are pattern functors.

A pattern functor is the stripped-down description of a data type: only the shape of the constructors remain, but all the recursive structure is gone.

```
size' = cata ((1+) . sum) . from'
```

3.2 Comparison Generic Libraries

3.2.1 Pattern Functors vs Sums of products

Describe the differences between defining generic data types

3.2.2 Mutually recursive datatypes

Describe what mutually recursive datatypes are and why do we need to know about it

Prototype Implementation

4.1 Prototype language

The definition of the pattern functor only leads to shallow recursion. Meaning that pattern functor can only be used to observe a single layer of recursion. To apply a function over the complete data structure, deep recursion is used. To implement deep recursion, the fix point is introduced.

```
data Fix f = In { unFix :: f (Fix f) }
```

The fix point is then used to describe the recursion of the datatype on a type-level basis. Using pattern functors and fix point most of the Haskell datatypes can be represented. For example:

Because the generic representation of the Haskell datatypes can be represented using pattern functors, we can use Functors. Using the Functor class a cata function can be defined, which is a generic fold function.

```
cata :: Functor f => (f a -> a) -> Fix f -> a
cata alg t = alg (fmap (cata alg) (unFix t))
cataSum :: TreeG Int -> Int
cataSum = cata f
  where
```

```
f (Inl (K x)) = x
f (Inr (Pair (Pair (I 1, K x), I r))) = x + 1 + r
```

To store the intermediate results of cata, we want the structure of the data to be hashed. This way we can easily compare if the data structure has changed over time, without completely recomputing the resulting digests. To do this, first a fix point is introduced which additionally stores the digest.

```
type Merkle f = Fix (f :*: K Digest)
```

Then to convert the fix point to a fix point containing the structural digest, the Merkelize class is introduced.

Using the new fix point with its structural digest, a new cata function can be defined which can store its intermediate values in a Map Digest a.

4.1.1 Zipper

Describe the use of the Zipper and how the hashes are updated

4.2 HashMap vs Trie

Write a piece about the comparison of storing it in a HashMap or a Trie datastructure

Write about Hdiff and the use of Trie datastructure

Generic Implementation

5.1 Regular

Write about why Regular is chosen

Write about the implementation of Regular and what had to change compared to the prototype language

```
newtype K a r = K { unK :: a} -- Constant value
               = I { unI :: r } -- Recursive value
newtype I r
data <mark>U</mark> r
                = U
                                     -- Empty Constructor
data (f :+: g) r = L (f r) | R (g r) -- Alternatives
data (f : *: g) r = f r : *: g r
                                  -- Combine
             = C \{ unC :: fr \} -- Name of a constructor
data C c f r
               = S \{ unS :: fr \} -- Name of a record selector
merkle :: (Regular a, Hashable (PF a), Functor (PF a))
       => a -> Merkle (PF a)
merkle = In . merkleG . fmap merkle . from
cataSum :: Merkle (PF (Tree Int)) -> (Int, M.Map Digest Int)
cataSum = cataMerkle
  (\case
   L (C (K x))
    R (C (I 1 :*: K x :*: I r)) \rightarrow 1 + x + r
```

5.2 Complexity

Describe for every function used the complexity and what leads to the complete complexity

5.3 Memory Strategies

Describe multiple memory strategies for keeping memory usage and execution time low

Write about paper selective memoization

5.4 Pattern Synonyms

Explain Pattern Synonyms

6

Experiments

6.1 Execution Time

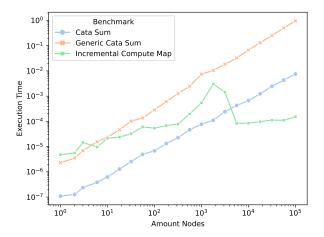


Figure 6.1: Overview execution time

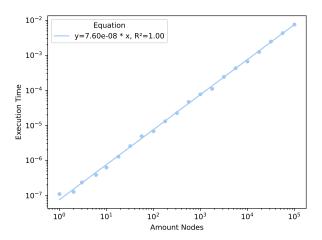


Figure 6.2: Execution time for Cata Sum

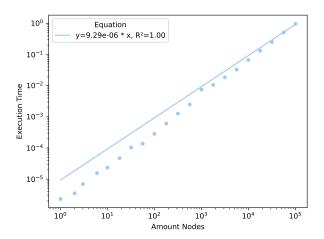


Figure 6.3: Execution time for Generic Cata Sum

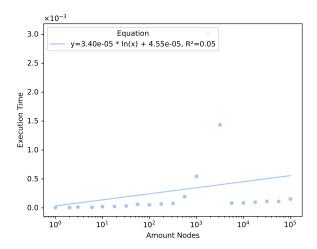


Figure 6.4: Execution time for Incremental Cata Sum

6.2 Memory Usage

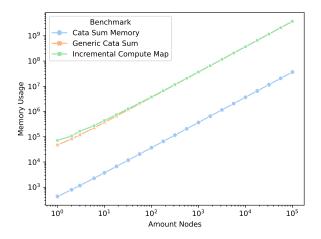


Figure 6.5: Overview memory usage

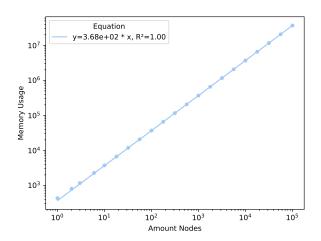


Figure 6.6: Memory usage for Cata Sum

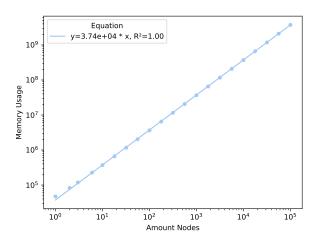


Figure 6.7: Memory usage for Generic Cata Sum

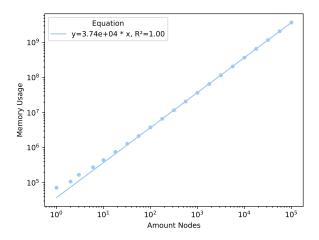


Figure 6.8: Memory usage for Incremental Cata Sum

6.3 Comparison Memory Strategies

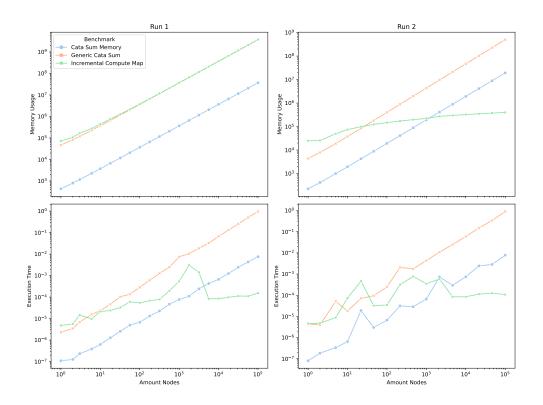


Figure 6.9: Comparison Memory Strategy

7

Conclusion and Future Work

7.1 Conclusion



Implementation Memo Cata

A.1 Definition Generic Datatypes

A.2 Implementation Hashable

```
class Hashable f where
  hash :: f (Fix (g :*: K Digest)) -> Digest

instance Hashable U where
  hash _ = digest "U"

instance (Show a) => Hashable (K a) where
  hash (K x) = digestConcat [digest "K", digest x]

instance Hashable I where
  hash (I x) = digestConcat [digest "I", getDigest x]
  where
    getDigest :: Fix (f :*: K Digest) -> Digest
    getDigest (In (_ :*: K h)) = h

instance (Hashable f, Hashable g) => Hashable (f :+: g) where
```

```
hash (L x) = digestConcat [digest "L", hash x]
hash (R x) = digestConcat [digest "R", hash x]

instance (Hashable f, Hashable g) => Hashable (f :*: g) where
hash (x :*: y) = digestConcat [digest "P", hash x, hash y]

instance (Hashable f) => Hashable (C c f) where
hash (C x) = digestConcat [digest "C", hash x]
```

A.3 Implementation Merkle

A.4 Implementation Cata Merkle

A.5 Implementation Zipper Merkle

```
data Loc :: * -> * where
  Loc :: (Zipper a) => Merkle a
                    -> [Ctx (a :*: K Digest) (Merkle a)]
                     -> Loc (Merkle a)
modify :: (a \rightarrow a) \rightarrow Loc a \rightarrow Loc a
modify f (Loc x cs) = Loc (f x) cs
updateDigest :: Hashable a => Merkle a -> Merkle a
updateDigest (In (x :*: _)) = In (merkleG x)
updateParents :: Hashable a => Loc (Merkle a) -> Loc (Merkle a)
updateParents (Loc x []) = Loc (updateDigest x) []
updateParents (Loc x cs) = updateParents
                           $ expectJust "Exception: Cannot go up"
                           $ up (Loc (updateDigest x) cs)
updateLoc :: Hashable a => (Merkle a -> Merkle a)
                         -> Loc (Merkle a) -> Loc (Merkle a)
updateLoc f loc = if top loc'
                   then loc'
                   else updateParents
                        $ expectJust "Exception: Cannot go up" (up loc')
  where
    loc' = modify f loc
```

B

Regular

B.1 Zipper

```
data instance Ctx (K a) r
data instance Ctx U r
data instance Ctx (f :+: g) r = CL (Ctx f r) | CR (Ctx g r)
data instance Ctx (f :*: g) r = C1 (Ctx f r) (g r) | C2 (f r) (Ctx g r)
data instance Ctx I r = CId
data instance Ctx (C c f) r = CC (Ctx f r)
data instance Ctx (S s f) r = CS (Ctx f r)
```

Bibliography

- [1] Jeremy Gibbons. "Datatype-generic programming". In: International Spring School on Datatype-Generic Programming. Springer. 2006, pp. 1–71.
- [2] Gérard Huet. "The zipper". In: Journal of functional programming 7.5 (1997), pp. 549–554.
- [3] Victor Cacciari Miraldo and Wouter Swierstra. "An efficient algorithm for type-safe structural diffing". In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages* 3.ICFP (2019), pp. 1–29.