

InvarGenT: Implementation

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Abstract

InvarGenT is a proof-of-concept system for invariant generation by full type inference with Guarded Algebraic Data Types and existential types encoded as automatically generated GADTs. This implementation documentation focuses on source code, refers to separate technical reports on theory and algorithms.

1 Data Structures and Concrete Syntax

Following [5], we have the following nodes in the abstract syntax of patterns and expressions:

- p-Empty.** 0: Pattern that never matches. Concrete syntax: `!`. Constructor: `Zero`.
- p-Wild.** 1: Pattern that always matches. Concrete syntax: `_`. Constructor: `One`.
- p-And.** $p_1 \wedge p_2$: Conjunctive pattern. Concrete syntax: e.g. `p1 as p2`. Constructor: `PAnd`.
- p-Var.** x : Pattern variable. Concrete syntax: lower-case identifier e.g. `x`. Constructor: `PVar`.
- p-Cstr.** $K p_1 \dots p_n$: Constructor pattern. Concrete syntax: e.g. `K (p1, p2)`. Constructor: `PCons`.
- Var.** x : Variable. Concrete syntax: lower-case identifier e.g. `x`. Constructor: `Var`. External functions are represented as variables in global environment.
- Cstr.** $K e_1 \dots e_n$: Constructor expression. Concrete syntax: e.g. `K (e1, e2)`. Constructor: `Cons`.
- App.** $e_1 e_2$: Application. Concrete syntax: e.g. `x y`. Constructor: `App`.
- LetRec.** `letrec $x = e_1$ in e_2` : Recursive definition. Concrete syntax: e.g. `let rec f = function ... in ...`. Constructor: `Letrec`.
- Abs.** $\lambda(c_1 \dots c_n)$: Function defined by cases. Concrete syntax: for single branching via `fun` keyword, e.g. `fun x y -> f x y` translates as $\lambda(x.\lambda(y.(fx) y))$; for multiple branching via `match` keyword, e.g. `match e with ...` translates as $\lambda(\dots)e$. Constructor: `Lam`.
- Clause.** $p.e$: Branch of pattern matching. Concrete syntax: e.g. `p -> e`.
- CstrIntro.** Does not figure in neither concrete nor abstract syntax. Scope of existential types is thought to retroactively cover the whole program.
- ExCases.** $\lambda[K](p_1.e_1 \dots p_n.e_n)$: Function defined by cases and abstracting over the type of result. Concrete syntax: `function` and `ematch` keywords – e.g. `function Nil -> ... | Cons (x,xs) -> ...; ematch l with ...`. Parsing introduces a fresh identifier for K . Constructor: `ExLam`.
- ExLetIn.** `let $p = e_1$ in e_2` : Elimination of existentially quantified type. Concrete syntax: e.g. `let v = f e ... in ...`. Constructor: `Letin`.

We also have one sort-specific type of expression, numerals.

For type and formula connectives, we have ASCII and unicode syntactic variants (the difference is only in lexer). Quantified variables can be space or comma separated. The table below is analogous to information for expressions above. Existential type construct introduces a fresh identifier for K . The abstract syntax of types is not sort-safe, but type variables carry sorts which are inferred after parsing. Existential type occurrence in user code introduces a fresh identifier, a new type constructor in global environment `newtype_env`, and a new value constructor in global environment `newcons_env` – the value constructor purpose is to store the content of the existential type, it is not used in the program.

type variable	x	x		TVar
type constructor	List	List		TCons(CNamed...)
number (type)	7	7		NCst
numeral (expr.)	7	7		Num
numerical sum (type)	$a + b$	$a+b$		Nadd
existential type	$\exists \alpha \beta [a \leq \beta]. \tau$	$\text{ex } a \ b \ [a \leq b]. \tau$	$\exists a, b [a \leq b]. \tau$	TCons(Extype...)
type sort	s_{ty}	type		Type_sort
number sort	s_R	num		Num_sort
function type	$\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$	$t1 \rightarrow t2$	$t1 \rightarrow t2$	Fun
equation	$a \doteq b$	$a = b$		Eqty
inequation	$a \leq b$	$a \leq b$	$a \leq b$	Leq
conjunction	$\varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2$	$a=b \ \&\& \ b=a$	$a=b \ \wedge \ b=a$	built-in lists

Toplevel expressions (corresponding to structure items in OCaml) introduce types, type and value constructors, global variables with given type (external names) or inferred type (definitions).

type constructor	<code>newtype List : type * num</code>	TypConstr
value constructor	<code>newcons Cons : all n a. a * List(a,n) --> List(a,n+1)</code>	ValConstr
	<code>newcons Cons : $\forall n, a. a * \text{List}(a,n) \rightarrow \text{List}(a,n+1)$</code>	
declaration	<code>external filter : $\forall n, a. \text{List}(a,n) \rightarrow \exists k [k \leq n]. \text{List}(a,k)$</code>	PrimVal
rec. definition	<code>let rec f =...</code>	LetRecVal
non-rec. definition	<code>let v =...</code>	LetVal

For simplicity of theory and implementation, mutual non-nested recursion and or-patterns are not provided. For mutual recursion, nest one recursive definition inside another.

2 Generating and Normalizing Formulas

We inject the existential type and value constructors during parsing for user-provided existential types, and during constraint generation for inferred existential types, into the list of toplevel items, which allows to follow [5] despite removing `extype` construct from the language. It also facilitates exporting inference results as OCaml source code.

Functions `constr_gen_pat` and `envfrag_gen_pat` compute formulas according to table 2 in [5], and `constr_gen_expr` computes table 3. Due to the presentation of the type system, we ensure in `ValConstr` that bounds on type parameters are introduced in the formula rather than being substituted into the result type. We preserve the FOL language presentation in the type `cnstrnt`, only limiting the expressivity in ways not requiring any preprocessing. The toplevel definitions (from type `struct_item`) `LetRecVal` and `LetVal` are processed by `constr_gen_letrec` and `constr_gen_let` respectively. They are analogous to `Letrec` and `Letin` or a `Lam` clause. We do not cover toplevel definitions in our formalism (without even a rudimentary module system, the toplevel is a matter of pragmatics rather than semantics).

Toplevel definitions are intended as boundaries for constraint solving. This way the programmer can decompose functions that could be too complex for the solver. `LetRecVal` only binds a single identifier, while `LetVal` binds variables in a pattern. To preserve the flexibility of expression-level pattern matching, `LetVal` has to pack the constraints $\llbracket \Sigma \vdash p \uparrow \alpha \rrbracket$ which the pattern makes available, into existential types. Each pattern variable is a separate entry to the global environment, therefore the connection between them is lost.

The formalism (in interests of parsimony) requires that only values of existential types be bound using `Letin` syntax. The implementation is enhanced in this regard: if the normalization step cannot determine which existential type is being eliminated, the constraint is replaced by one that would be generated for a pattern matching branch. This recovers the common use of the `let...in` syntax, with exception of polymorphic `let` cases, where `let rec` still needs to be used.

In the formalism, we use $\mathcal{E} = \{\varepsilon_K, \chi_K | K :: \forall \alpha \gamma [\chi_K(\gamma, \alpha)]. \gamma \rightarrow \varepsilon_K(\alpha) \in \Sigma\}$ for brevity, as if all existential types $\varepsilon_K(\alpha)$ were related with a predicate variable $\chi_K(\gamma, \alpha)$. In the implementation, we have user-defined existential types with explicit constraints in addition to inferred existential types. We keep track of existential types in cell `ex_types`, storing arbitrary constraints. For `LetVal`, we form existential types after solving the generated constraint, to have less intermediate variables in them. The first argument of the predicate variable $\chi_K(\gamma, \alpha)$ provides an “escape route” for free variables, e.g. precondition variables used in postcondition. It is used for convenience in the formalism. In the implementation, after the constraints are solved, we expand it to pass each free variable as a separate parameter, to increase readability of exported OCaml code.

For simplicity, only toplevel definitions accept type and invariant annotations from the user. The constraints are modified according to the $\llbracket \Gamma, \Sigma \vdash \text{ce} : \forall \bar{\alpha} [D]. \tau \rrbracket$ rule. Where `Letrec` uses a fresh variable β , `LetRecVal` incorporates the type from the annotation. The annotation is considered partial, D becomes part of the constraint generated for the recursive function but more constraints will be added if needed. The polymorphism of $\forall \bar{\alpha}$ variables from the annotation is preserved since they are universally quantified in the generated constraint.

The constraints solver returns three components: the *residue*, which implies the constraint when the predicate variables are instantiated, and the solutions to unary and binary predicate variables. The residue and the predicate variable solutions are separated into *solved variables* part, which is a substitution, and remaining constraints (which are currently limited to linear inequalities). To get a predicate variable solution we look for the predicate variable identifier association and apply it to one or two type variable identifiers, which will instantiate the parameters of the predicate variable. We considered several ways to deal with multiple solutions:

1. report a failure to the user;
2. ask the user for decision;
3. perform backtracking search for the first solution that satisfies the subsequent program.

We use an enhanced variant of approach 1 as it is closest to traditional type inference workflow. Upon “multiple solutions” failure the user can add `assert` clauses (e.g. `assert false` stating that a program branch is impossible), and `test` clauses. The `test` clauses are boolean expressions with operational semantics of run-time tests: the test clauses are executed right after the definition is executed, and run-time error is reported when a clause returns `false`. The constraints from test clauses are included in the constraint for the toplevel definition, thus propagate more efficiently than backtracking would. The `assert` clauses are: `assert = type e1 e2` which translates as equality of types of `e1` and `e2`, `assert false` which translates as `CFalse`, and `assert e1 <= e2`, which translates as inequality $n_1 \leq n_2$ assuming that `e1` has type `Num n1` and `e2` has type `Num n2`.

We treat a chain of single branch functions with only `assert false` in the body of the last function specially. We put all information about the type of the functions in the premise of the generated constraint. Therefore the user can use them to exclude unintended types. See the example `equal_assert.gadt`.

2.1 Normalization

Rather than reducing to prenex-normal form as in our formalization, we preserve the scope relations and return a `var_scope`-producing variable comparison function. Also, since we use `let-in` syntax to both eliminate existential types and for traditional (but not polymorphic) binding, we drop the `Or1` constraints (in the formalism they ensure that `let-in` binds an existential type). During normalization, we compute unifiers of the type sort part of conclusions. This facilitates solving of the disjunctions in `ImplOr2` constraints. We monitor for contradiction in conclusions, so that we can stop the `Contradiction` exception and remove an implication in case the premise is also contradictory.

Releasing constraints from under `ImplOr2`, when the corresponding `let-in` is interpreted as standard binding (instead of eliminating existential type), violates declarativeness. We cannot include all the released constraints in determining whether non-nested `ImplOr2` constraints should be interpreted as eliminating existential types. While we could be more “aggressive” (we can modify the implementation to release the constraints one-by-one), it shouldn’t be problematic, because nesting of `ImplOr2` corresponds to nesting of `let-in` definitions.

2.2 Simplification

After normalization, we simplify the constraints by [TODO: explain] applying shared constraints, and removing redundant atoms. We remove atoms that bind variables not occurring anywhere else in the constraint, and in case of atoms not in premises, not universally quantified. The simplification step is not currently proven correct and might need refining.

3 Abduction

The formal specification of abduction in [4] provides a scheme for combining sorts that substitutes number sort subterms from type sort terms with variables, so that a single-sort term abduction algorithm can be called. Since we implement term abduction over the two-sorted datatype `typ`, we keep these *alien subterms* in terms passed to term abduction.

3.1 Simple constraint abduction for terms

Our initial implementation of simple constraint abduction for terms follows [3] p. 13. The mentioned algorithm only gives *fully maximal answers* which is loss of generality w.r.t. our requirements. To solve $D \Rightarrow C$ the algorithm starts with $U(D \wedge C)$ and iteratively replaces subterms by fresh variables $\alpha \in \bar{\alpha}$ for a final solution $\exists \bar{\alpha}.A$. To mitigate some of the limitations of fully maximal answers, we start from $U(A(D \wedge C))$, where $\exists \bar{\alpha}.A$ is the solution to previous problems solved by the joint abduction algorithm, and $A(\cdot)$ is the corresponding substitution. During abduction $\text{Abd}(\mathcal{Q}, \bar{\zeta}, \bar{D}_i, \bar{C}_i)$, we ensure that the (partial as well as final) answer $\exists \bar{\alpha}.A$ satisfies $\models \mathcal{Q}.A[\bar{\alpha}\bar{\zeta} := \bar{t}]$ for some \bar{t} . We achieve this by normalizing the answer using parameterized unification under quantifiers $U_{\bar{\alpha}\bar{\zeta}}(\mathcal{Q}.A)$. $\bar{\zeta}$ are potential parameters of the invariants.

In implementing [3] p. 13, we follow top-down approach where bigger subterms are abstracted first – replaced by fresh variable, together with an arbitrary selection of other occurrences of the subterm. If dropping the candidate atom maintains $T(F) \models A \wedge D \Rightarrow C$, we proceed to neighboring subterm or next equation. Otherwise, we try all of: replacing the subterm by the fresh variable; proceeding to subterms of the subterm; preserving the subterm; replacing the subterm by variables corresponding to earlier occurrences of the subterm. This results in a single, branching pass over all subterms considered. TODO: avoiding branching when implication holds might lead to another loss of generality, does it? Finally, we clean up the solution by eliminating fresh variables when possible (i.e. substituting-out equations $x \doteq \alpha$ for variable x and fresh variable α).

Although our formalism stresses the possibility of infinite number of abduction answers, there is always finite number of *fully maximal* answers, one of which we compute. The formalism suggests computing them lazily using streams, and then testing all combinations – generate and test scheme. Instead, we use a search scheme that tests as soon as possible. The simple abduction algorithm takes a partial solution – a conjunction of candidate solutions for some other branches – and checks if the solution being generated is satisfiable together with the candidate partial solution. The algorithm also takes several indicators to let it select the expected answer:

- a number that determines how many correct solutions to skip;
- a validation procedure that checks whether the partial answer meets a condition, in joint abduction the condition is consistency with premise and conclusion of each branch;
- the initial parameters of the invariants (represented by $\overline{\beta_\chi \beta^x}$ in the main algorithm) to which all variables of every atom in the answer for which $\text{FV}(c) \cap \bar{\zeta} \neq \emptyset$ should be *connected*;
- a discard list that contains answer atoms – substitution terms – disallowed in the pursued solution. The main algorithm will pass the answer atoms from previous iterations as a discard list.

To ensure connected variables condition, if an atom $\text{FV}(c) \cap \bar{\zeta} \neq \emptyset$, we only add it to the answer if it contains a connected variable, and since then count all its $\text{FV}(c) \cap \bar{\zeta}$ variables as connected. The initially connected variables are the initial parameters of the invariants. If such atom does not have a connected variable, we move it through the candidates past an atom that would make it connected. If none would, we drop the atom. In terms of the notation from the main algorithm, every $\bar{\zeta}^x$ atom of the answer has to be connected to a $\beta_\chi \bar{\beta}^x$ atom using only the atoms in the answer.

Besides multisort joint constraint abduction **abd** we also provide multisort simple fully maximal constraint abduction **abd_s**.

To recapitulate, the implementation is:

- **abstract** is the entry point.
- If **cand=[]** – no more candidates to add to the partial solution: check for repeated answers, skipping, and discarded answers.
- Otherwise, pick the next atom and check if it's connected, if no, loop with reordered candidates (possibly without the atom).
- **step** works through a single atom of the form $x = t$.
- The **abstract/step** choices are:
 1. Try to drop the atom (if the partial answer + remaining candidates can still be completed to a correct answer).
 2. Replace the current subterm of the atom with a fresh parameter, adding the subterm to replacements; if at the root of the atom, check connected and validate before proceeding to remaining candidates.
 3. Step into subterms of the current subterm, if any, and if at the sort of types.
 4. Keep the current part of the atom unchanged; if at the root of the atom, check connected and validate before proceeding to remaining candidates.
 5. Replace the current subterm with a parameter introduced for an earlier occurrence; branch over all matching parameters; if at the root of the atom, check connected and validate before proceeding to remaining candidates.
- Choices 2-5 are guarded by **try-with**, as tests raise **Contradiction** if they fail, choice 1 only tests **implies_concl** which returns a boolean.
- We provide an option **more_general**, which when set to false reorders the choices into: 1, 4, 2, 3, 5 – pushing 4 up minimizes the amount of branching in 5.
- Recompute modifications of parameters due to partial answer, e.g. **cparams**, for clarity of joint constraint abduction; we could compute them incrementally and pass around.
- Form initial candidates $U(A(D \wedge C))$. Reorder substitutions $\alpha := \beta$ for $\beta \in \overline{\beta_x \beta^x}$ to $\beta := \alpha$. This optimization mitigates quantifier violations.
- Sort the initial candidates by decreasing size.

The above ordering of choices ensures that more general answers are tried first. Moreover:

- choice 1 could be dropped as it is equivalent to choice 2 applied on the root term;
- choices 4 and 5 could be reordered but having choice 4 as soon as possible is important for efficiency.

3.2 Joint constraint abduction for terms

We further lose generality by using a heuristic search scheme instead of testing all combinations of simple abduction answers. In particular, our search scheme returns from joint abduction for types with a single answer, which eliminates deeper interaction between the sort of types and other sorts. Some amount of interaction is provided by the validation procedure, which checks for consistency of the partial answer, the premise and the conclusion of each branch, including consistency for other sorts.

We maintain an ordering of branches. We accumulate simple abduction answers into the partial abduction answer until we meet branch that does not have any answer satisfiable with the partial answer so far. Then we start over, but put the branch that failed in front of the sequence. If a branch i is at front for n_i th time, we skip the initial $n_i - 1$ simple abduction answers in it. If no front branch i has at least n_i answers, the search fails. After an answer working for all branches has been found, we perform additional check, which encapsulates negative constraints introduced by **assert false** construct. If the check fails, we increase the skip count of the head branch and repeat the search.

When a branch has no more solutions to offer – its skip factor n_i has reached the number of fully maximal solutions to that branch – we move it to a separate *runouts* list and continue search starting from a different branch. We do not increase its skip factor, but we check the runouts directly after the first branch, so that conflicting branches can be located. When the first branch conflicts with the runouts, we increase its skip factor and repeat. We keep a count of conflicts for the runouts so that in case of overall failure, we can report a branch likely to be among those preventing abduction.

As described in [7], to check validity of answers, we use a modified variant of unification under quantifiers: unification with parameters, where the parameters do not interact with the quantifiers and thus can be freely used and eliminated. Note that to compute conjunction of the candidate answer with a premise, unification does not check for validity under quantifiers.

Because it would be difficult to track other sort constraints while updating the partial answer, we discard numeric sort constraints in simple abduction algorithm, and recover them after the final answer for terms (i.e. for the type sort) is found.

When searching for abduction answer fails, we raise exception **Suspect** that contains the partial answer conjoined with conclusion of an implication that failed to produce an answer compatible with remaining implications.

3.3 Abduction for terms with Alien Subterms

The JCAQPAS problem is more complex than simply substituting alien subterms with variables and performing joint constraint abduction on resulting implications. The ability to “outsource” constraints to the alien sorts enables more general answers to the target sort, in our case the term algebra $T(F)$. Term abduction will offer answers that cannot be extended to multisort answers.

One might mitigate the problem by preserving the joint abduction for terms algorithm, and after a solution $\exists \bar{\alpha}. A$ is found, “dissociating” the alien subterms (including variables) in A as follows. We replace every alien subterm n_s in A (including variables, even parameters) with a fresh variable α_s , which results in A' (in particular $A'[\bar{\alpha}_s := \bar{n}_s] = A$). Subsets $A_p^i \wedge A_c^i = A^i \subset \bar{\alpha}_s \bar{n}_s$ such that $\exists \bar{\alpha} \bar{\alpha}_s. A', A_p^i, A_c^i$ is a JCAQPAS answer will be recovered automatically by a residuum-finding process at the end of **ans_typ**. This process is needed regardless of the “dissociation” issue, to uncover the full content of numeric sort constraints.

For efficiency, we use a slightly different approach. On the first iteration of the main algorithm, we dissociate alien subterms, but we do not perform other-sort abduction at all. On the next iteration, we do not perform dissociation, as we expect the dissociation in the partial answers (to predicate variables) from the first step to be sufficient. Other-sort abduction algorithms now have less work, because only a fraction of alien subterm variables α_s remain in the partial answers (see main algorithm in section 5). They also have more information to work with, present in the instantiation of partial answers.

3.4 Simple constraint abduction for linear arithmetic

We use *Fourier-Motzkin elimination*. To avoid complexities we initially only handle rational number domain, but if need arises we will extend to integers using *Omega-test* procedure as presented in [1]. The major operations are:

- *Elimination* of a variable takes an equation and selects a variable that isn't upstream of any other variable of the equation, and substitutes-out this variable from the rest of the constraint. The solved form contains an equation for this variable.
- *Projection* of a variable takes a variable x that isn't upstream of any other variable in the unsolved part of the constraint, and reduces all inequalities containing x to the form $x \leq a$ or $b \leq x$, depending on whether the coefficient of x is positive or negative. For each such pair of inequalities: if $b = a$, we add $x = a$ to implicit equalities; otherwise, we add the inequality $b \leq a$ to the unsolved part of the constraint.

We use elimination to solve all equations before we proceed to inequalities. The starting point of our algorithm is [1] section 4.2 *Online Fourier-Motzkin Elimination for Reals*. We add detection of implicit equalities, and more online treatment of equations, introducing known inequalities on eliminated variables to the projection process.

Our algorithm follows a familiar incrementally-generate-and-test scheme:

1. Build a lazy list of possible transformations with linear combinations involving $a \in D$.
 - a. For equations a , add combinations $k^s a + b$ for $k = -n \dots n$, $s = -1, 1$ to the stack of transformations to be tried for atoms $b \in C$.
 - b. For inequalities a , add combinations $k^s a + b$ for $k = 0 \dots n$, $s = -1, 1$ to the stack of transformations to be tried only for inequalities $b \in C$.
2. Start from $A := C$, $\text{Acc} := \{\}$. Try atoms $A = a A'$ in some order.
3. Let $B = A_i \wedge D \wedge A' \wedge \text{Acc}$.
4. If $B \Rightarrow C$, repeat with $A := A'$.
5. If $B \not\Rightarrow C$, for a transformation a' of a which passes validation against other branches in a joint problem: $\text{Acc} := \text{Acc} \cup \{a'\}$, or fail if all a' fail.
 - a. Let a' be a with some transformations applied.
 - b. If $A_i \wedge (\text{Acc} \cup \{a'\})$ does not pass **validate** for all a' , fail.
 - c. Optionally, if $A_i \wedge (\text{Acc} \cup \{a'\})$ passes **validate** for inequality a , add combinations to the stack of transformations as in step (1b).
 - d. If $A_i \wedge (\text{Acc} \cup \{a'\})$ passes **validate**, repeat with $A := A'$, $\text{Acc} := \text{Acc} \cup \{a'\}$. (Choice point.)
6. The answers are $A_{i+1} = A_i \wedge \text{Acc}$.

Note that if an equation $a \in \text{Acc}$, linear combinations with it $a + b \wedge \text{Acc}$ would remain equivalent to original $b \wedge \text{Acc}$. For inequalities $a \in \text{Acc}$, combinations $a + b \wedge \text{Acc}$ are weaker than $b \wedge \text{Acc}$, thus the optional step (5c). We precompute the transformation variants to try out. The parameter n is called **abd_rotations** and defaults to a small value (2 or 3).

To check whether $B \Rightarrow C$, we check for each $c \in C$:

- if $c = x \doteq y$, that $A(x) = A(y)$, where $A(\cdot)$ is the substitution corresponding to equations and implicit equalities in A ;
- if $c = x \leq y$, that $B \wedge y < x$ is not satisfiable.

We use the **nums** library for exact precision rationals.

Our algorithm finds only fully maximal answers. Unfortunately this means that for many invariant inference problems, some implication branches in initial steps of the main algorithm are insolvable. That is, when the instantiations of the invariants found so far are not informative enough, the expected answer of the JCA problem is not a fully maximal SCA answer to these branches. We mitigate this problem by removing, in the first two iterations of the main algorithm, branches that contain unary predicate variables in the conclusion.

3.5 Joint constraint abduction for linear arithmetic

We follow the scheme we established in joint constraint abduction for terms.

We maintain an ordering of branches. We accumulate simple abduction answers into the partial abduction answer until we meet branch that does not have any answer satisfiable with the partial answer so far. Then we start over, but put the branch that failed in front of the sequence. If a branch i is at front for n_i th time, we skip the initial $n_i - 1$ simple abduction answers in it. If no front branch i has at least n_i answers, the search fails. After an answer working for all branches has been found, we perform additional check, which encapsulates negative constraints introduced by **assert false** construct. If the check fails, we increase the skip count of the head branch and repeat the search.

When a branch has no more solutions to offer – its skip factor n_i has reached the number of fully maximal solutions to that branch – we move it to a separate **runouts** list and continue search starting from a different branch. We do not increase its skip factor, but we check the runouts directly after the first branch, so that conflicting branches can be located. When the first branch conflicts with the runouts, we increase its skip factor and repeat. We keep a count of conflicts for the runouts so that in case of overall failure, we can report a branch likely to be among those preventing abduction.

When searching for abduction answer fails, we raise exception **Suspect** that contains the partial answer conjoined with conclusion of an implication that failed to produce an answer compatible with remaining implications.

4 Disjunction Elimination

Disjunction elimination answers are the maximally specific conjunctions of atoms that are implied by each of a given set of conjunction of atoms. In case of term equations the disjunction elimination algorithm is based on the *anti-unification* algorithm. In case of linear arithmetic inequalities, disjunction elimination is exactly finding the convex hull of a set of possibly unbounded polyhedra. We roughly follow [6], but depart from the algorithm presented there because we employ our unification algorithm to separate sorts. Since as a result we do not introduce variables for *alien subterms*, we include the variables introduced by anti-unification in constraints sent to disjunction elimination for their respective sorts.

The adjusted algorithm looks as follows:

1. Let $\wedge_s D_{i,s} \equiv U(D_i)$ where $D_{i,s}$ is of sort s , be the result of our sort-separating unification.
2. For the sort s_{ty} :
 - a. Let $V = \{x_j, \overline{t_{i,j}} \mid \forall i \exists t_{i,j}. x_j \doteq t_{i,j} \in D_{i,s_{ty}}\}$.
 - b. Let $G = \{\bar{\alpha}_j, u_j, \overline{\theta_{i,j}} \mid \theta_{i,j} = [\bar{\alpha}_j := \bar{g}_j^i], \theta_{i,j}(u_j) = t_{i,j}\}$ be the most specific anti-unifiers of $\overline{t_{i,j}}$ for each j .
 - c. Let $D_i^u = \wedge_j \bar{\alpha}_j \doteq \bar{g}_j^i$ and $D_i^g = D_{i,s_{ty}} \wedge D_i^u$.
 - d. Let $D_i^v = \{x \doteq y \mid x \doteq t_1 \in D_i^g, y \doteq t_2 \in D_i^g, D_i^g \models t_1 \doteq t_2\}$.
 - e. Let $A_{s_{ty}} = \wedge_j x_j \doteq u_j \wedge \bigcap_i (D_i^g \wedge D_i^v)$ (where conjunctions are treated as sets of conjuncts and equations are ordered so that only one of $a \doteq b, b \doteq a$ appears anywhere), and $\bar{\alpha}_{s_{ty}} = \bar{\alpha}_j$.
 - f. Let $\wedge_s D_{i,s}^u \equiv D_i^u$ for $D_{i,s}$ of sort s .
3. For sorts $s \neq s_{ty}$, let $\exists \bar{\alpha}_s. A_s = \text{DisjElim}_s(\overline{D_i^s \wedge D_{i,s}^u})$.
4. The answer is $\exists \bar{\alpha}_i^j \bar{\alpha}_s. \wedge_s A_s$.

We simplify the result by substituting-out redundant answer variables.

We follow the anti-unification algorithm provided in [8], fig. 2.

4.1 Extended convex hull

[2] provides a polynomial-time algorithm to find the half-space represented convex hull of closed polytopes. It can be generalized to unbounded polytopes – conjunctions of linear inequalities. Our implementation is inspired by this algorithm but very much simpler, at cost of losing the maximality requirement.

First we find among the given inequalities those which are also the faces of resulting convex hull. The negation of such inequality is not satisfiable in conjunction with any of the polytopes – any of the given sets of inequalities. Next we iterate over *ridges* touching the selected faces: pairs of the selected face and another face from the same polytope. We rotate one face towards the other: we compute a convex combination of the two faces of a ridge. We add to the result those half-spaces whose complements lie outside of the convex hull (i.e. negation of the inequality is unsatisfiable in conjunction with every polytope). For a given ridge, we add at most one face, the one which is farthest away from the already selected face, i.e. the coefficient of the selected face in the convex combination is smallest. We check a small number of rotations, where the algorithm from [2] would solve a linear programming problem to find the rotation which exactly touches another one of the polytopes.

When all variables of an equation $a \doteq b$ appear in all branches D_i , we can turn the equation $a \doteq b$ into pair of inequalities $a \leq b \wedge b \leq a$. We eliminate all equations and implicit inequalities which contain a variable not shared by all D_i , by substituting out such variables. We pass the resulting inequalities to the convex hull algorithm.

5 Solving for Predicate Variables

As we decided to provide the first solution to abduction problems, we similarly simplify the task of solving for predicate variables. Instead of a tree of solutions being refined, we have a single sequence which we unfold until reaching fixpoint or contradiction. Another choice point besides abduction in the original algorithm is the selection of invariants that leaves a consistent subset of atoms as residuum. Here we also select the first solution found. In future, we might introduce some form of backtracking, if the loss of completeness outweighs the computational cost.

5.1 Invariant Parameter Candidates

We start from the variables β_χ that participate in negative occurrences of predicate variables: $\chi(\beta_\chi)$ or $\chi(\beta_\chi, \alpha)$. We select sets of variables $\beta_\chi \bar{\zeta}^\chi$, the *parameter candidates*, by considering all atoms of the generated constraints. $\bar{\zeta}^\chi$ are existential variables that: are connected with β_χ in the hypergraph whose nodes are variables and hyperedges are atoms of the constraints, and are not connected with $\beta_{\chi'}$ for any $\beta_{\chi'}$ that is within scope of β_χ . If $\text{FV}(c) \cap \beta_\chi \bar{\zeta}^\chi \neq \emptyset$ for an atom c , and β_χ is not in the scope of $\beta_{\chi'}$ for which $\text{FV}(c) \cap \beta_{\chi'} \bar{\zeta}^{\chi'} \neq \emptyset$, then c is a candidate for atoms of the solution of χ .

5.2 Solving for Predicates in Negative Positions

The core of our inference algorithm consists of distributing atoms of an abduction answer among the predicate variables. The negative occurrences of predicate variables, when instantiated with the updated solution, enrich the premises so that the next round of abduction leads to a smaller answer (in number of atoms).

Let us discuss the algorithm from [?] for $\text{Split}(\mathcal{Q}, \bar{\alpha}, A, \bar{\beta}^\chi, \bar{\zeta}^\chi, \bar{A}_\chi^0)$. Note that due to existential types predicates, we actually compute $\text{Split}(\mathcal{Q}, \bar{\alpha}, A, \bar{\beta}^{\beta_\chi}, \bar{\zeta}^{\beta_\chi}, \bar{A}_{\beta_\chi}^0)$, i.e. we index by β_χ (which can be multiple for a single χ) rather than χ . We retain the notation from [?] here as it better conveys the intent. We do not pass quantifiers around to reflect the source code: the helper function `loop avs ans sol` of function `split` corresponds to $\text{Split}(\bar{\alpha}, A, \bar{A}_{\beta_\chi}^0)$.

1. $\alpha \prec \beta \equiv \alpha <_{\mathcal{Q}} \beta \vee (\alpha \leq_{\mathcal{Q}} \beta \wedge \beta \not\prec_{\mathcal{Q}} \alpha \wedge \alpha \in \bar{\beta}^\chi \wedge \beta \notin \bar{\beta}^\chi)$ The variables $\bar{\beta}^\chi$ are the answer variables of the solution from the previous round. We need to keep them apart from other variables even when they're not separated by quantifier alternation.
2. $A_0 = A \setminus \{\beta \doteq \alpha \in A \mid \beta \in \bar{\beta}^\chi \wedge (\exists \alpha) \in \mathcal{Q} \wedge \beta \prec \alpha\}$ We handle information carried in $\beta \doteq \alpha$ by substituting α with β .
3. $A_\chi^{\text{cap}} = \{c \in A_0 \mid \max_{\prec}(\bar{\beta}^\chi \bar{\zeta}^\chi \cap \text{FV}(c)) \cap \bar{\beta}^\chi \bar{\zeta}^\chi \neq \emptyset\}$ All of the atoms to consider incorporating in invariants for χ .
4. for one \bar{A}_χ^+ minimal w.r.t. \subset such that $\wedge_\chi (A_\chi^+ \subset A_\chi^{\text{cap}}) \wedge \models \mathcal{Q}.A \setminus \cup_\chi A_\chi^+$: Select invariants such that the residuum $A \setminus \cup_\chi A_\chi^+$ is consistent. The final residuum A_{res} represents the global constraints, the solution for global type variables. The solutions A_χ^+ represent the invariants, the solution for invariant type parameters.
5. $\bar{\alpha}_+^\chi, A_\chi^L, A_\chi^R = \text{Strat}(A_\chi^+, \bar{\beta}^\chi)$ is computed as follows: for every $c \in A_\chi^+$, and for every $\beta_2 \in \text{FV}(c)$ such that $\beta_1 <_{\mathcal{Q}} \beta_2$ for $\beta_1 \in \bar{\beta}^\chi$, if β_2 is universally quantified in \mathcal{Q} , then return \perp ; otherwise, introduce a fresh variable α_f , replace $c := c[\beta_2 := \alpha_f]$, add $\beta_2 \doteq \alpha_f$ to A_χ^R and α_f to $\bar{\alpha}_+^\chi$, after replacing all such β_2 add the resulting c to A_χ^L .
 - We add $\bar{\alpha}_+^\chi$ to $\bar{\beta}^\chi$.
6. $A_\chi = A_\chi^0 \cup A_\chi^L$ is the updated solution formula for χ , where A_χ^0 is the solution from previous round.
7. $\bar{\alpha}_0^\chi = \bar{\alpha} \cap \text{FV}(A_\chi)$ are the additional solution parameters coming from variables generated by abduction.
8. $\bar{\alpha}^\chi = (\bar{\alpha}_0^\chi \setminus \bigcup_{\chi' <_{\mathcal{Q}} \chi} \bar{\alpha}_0^{\chi'}) \bar{\alpha}_+^\chi$ The final solution parameters also include the variables generated by Strat.

9. $A_+ = \cup_\chi A_\chi^R$ and $A_{\text{res}} = A_+ \cup \widetilde{A}_+(A \setminus \cup_\chi A_\chi^+)$ is the resulting global constraint, where \widetilde{A}_+ is the substitution corresponding to A_+ .
10. if $\cup_\chi \bar{\alpha}_+^\chi \neq \emptyset$ then – If Strat generated new variables, we need to redistribute the $\widetilde{A}_+(A \setminus \cup_\chi A_\chi^+)$ atoms to make $\mathcal{Q}'.A_{\text{res}}$ valid again.
11. $A'_{\text{res}}, \overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}'^\chi.A'_\chi} = \text{Split}(\bar{\alpha} \setminus \cup_\chi \bar{\alpha}^\chi, A_{\text{res}}, \bar{A}_\chi)$ Recursive call includes $\bar{\alpha}_+^\chi$ in $\bar{\beta}^\chi$ so that, among other things, A_+ are redistributed into A_χ .
12. return $A'_{\text{res}}, \overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}^\chi \bar{\alpha}'^\chi.A'_\chi}$
13. else return $A_{\text{res}}, \overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}^\chi.A_\chi}$ Note that $\bar{\alpha} \setminus \cup_\chi \bar{\alpha}^\chi$ does not contain the current $\bar{\beta}^\chi$, because $\bar{\alpha}$ does not contain it initially and the recursive call maintains that: $\bar{\alpha} := \bar{\alpha} \setminus \cup_\chi \bar{\alpha}^\chi$, $\bar{\beta}^\chi := \bar{\beta}^\chi \bar{\alpha}^\chi$.

Finally we define $\text{Split}(\bar{\alpha}, A) := \text{Split}(\bar{\alpha}, A, \bar{\top})$. The complete algorithm for solving predicate variables is presented in the next section.

5.3 Solving for Existential Types Predicates and Main Algorithm

The general scheme is that we perform disjunction elimination on branches with positive occurrences of existential type predicate variables on each round. Since the branches are substituted with the solution from previous round, disjunction elimination will automatically preserve monotonicity. We retain existential types predicate variables in the later abduction step.

What differentiates existential type predicate variables from recursive definition predicate variables is that the former are not local to context in our implementation, we ignore the **CstrIntro** rule, while the latter are treated as local to context in the implementation. It means that free variables need to be bound in the former while they are retained in the latter.

In the algorithm we operate on all predicate variables, and perform additional operations on existential type predicate variables; there are no operations pertaining only to recursive definition predicate variables. The final algorithm has the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\exists \bar{\beta}^{\chi,k}.F_\chi} &= S_k \\ \wedge_i(D_K^i \Rightarrow C_K^i) &= \text{all such that } \chi_K(\alpha_3^i, \alpha_2) \in C_K^i \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}_g^{\chi_K}.G_{\chi_K}} = \text{Connected}(\delta, \text{DisjElim}(\overline{S_k(D_K^i \wedge C_K^i)} \wedge \delta \doteq \alpha_3^i))$$

$$\overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}_{g'}^{\chi_K}.G'_{\chi_K}} = \text{AbdS}(\mathcal{Q} \exists \bar{\alpha}_g^{\chi_K}, F_{\chi_K}, G_{\chi_K}) \quad (2)$$

$$\overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}_{g''}^{\chi_K}.G''_{\chi_K}} = \text{Simpl}(\overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}_g^{\chi_K} \bar{\alpha}_{g'}^{\chi_K}.G'_{\chi_K}}) \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{if } G''_{\chi_K} \neq \top \\ \text{then } \overline{\exists \bar{\beta}^{\chi_K,k}.F_{\chi_K}} &:= S_k(\chi_K) := \overline{\exists \bar{\beta}^{\chi_K,k} \exists \text{FV}(G''_{\chi_K}) \cap \bar{\alpha}_{g''}^{\chi_K}.F_{\chi_K} \wedge G''_{\chi_K}} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$$\mathcal{Q}'.\wedge_i(D_i \Rightarrow C_i) = S_k(\Phi)$$

$$\overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}.A} = \text{Abd}(\mathcal{Q}' \wedge \overline{\forall \beta_\chi \bar{\beta}^\chi}, \overline{\beta_\chi \bar{\beta}^\chi}, \overline{\zeta^\chi}, \overline{D_i}, \overline{C_i}) \quad (5)$$

$$(\mathcal{Q}^{k+1}, \overline{\alpha_+^\chi}, A_{\text{res}}, \overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}^{\beta_\chi}.A_{\beta_\chi}}) = \text{Split}(\mathcal{Q}', \bar{\alpha}, A, \overline{\beta_\chi \bar{\beta}^\chi}, \overline{\zeta^\chi})$$

$$\overline{\Xi(\exists \bar{\alpha}^{\chi_K}.F_{\chi_K})} = \overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}^{\chi_K} \text{FV}(F_{\chi_K}).\delta' \doteq \text{FV}(F_{\chi_K}) \setminus \bar{\alpha}^{\chi_K} \wedge F_{\chi_K}[\alpha_2 := \delta']} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{\Xi(\exists \bar{\alpha}^\chi.F_\chi)} &= \overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}^\chi.F_\chi} \text{ otherwise, i.e. for } \chi \in \text{PV}^1(\Phi) \\ &\text{if } \wedge_\chi \wedge_{\beta_\chi} A_{\beta_\chi} = \top \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

then:

$$\overline{\exists \bar{\beta}^{\chi'}.F'_\chi} = \text{Simpl}(\overline{\Xi(S_k)}) \quad (8)$$

$$A_{\text{sel}} = \{c \in \wedge_\chi F'_\chi \mid \overline{\text{FV}(c) \cap \delta \bar{\beta}^{\chi'} = \emptyset}\}$$

$$\text{return } A_{\text{res}} \wedge A_{\text{sel}}, \overline{\exists \bar{\beta}^{\chi'}.F'_\chi} \setminus A_{\text{sel}}$$

else:

$$S'_k = \overline{\exists \bar{\beta}^{\chi,k} \bar{\alpha}^{\beta_\chi}.F_\chi \wedge_{\beta_\chi} A_{\beta_\chi}[\overline{\beta_\chi \bar{\beta}^\chi} := \delta \bar{\beta}^{\chi,k}]} \quad (9)$$

$$S_{k+1} = H(S_{k-1}, S_k, S'_k) \quad (10)$$

$$\bar{\beta}^{\chi,k+1} = \bar{\beta}^{\chi,k} \bar{\alpha}^\chi$$

$$\text{repeat } k := k + 1$$

Note that Split returns $\overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}^{\beta_\chi}. A_{\beta_\chi}}$ rather than $\overline{\exists \bar{\alpha}^{\chi}. A_\chi}$. This is because in case of existential type predicate variables χ_K , there can be multiple negative position occurrences $\chi_K(\beta_{\chi_K}, \cdot)$ with different β_{χ_K} when the corresponding value is used in multiple **let ... in** expressions. $\wedge_{\beta_\chi} A_{\beta_\chi}$ is a conjunction that spans all such occurrences. The variant of the algorithm to achieve completeness as conjectured in [?] would compute all answers for variants of Abd and Split algorithms that return multiple answers. Unary predicate variables $\chi(\beta_\chi)$ can also have multiple negative occurrences in the normalized form, but always with the same argument β_χ .

We start with $S_0 := \bar{\top}$. $\text{Connected}(\alpha, G)$ is the connected component of hypergraph G containing node α , where nodes are variables $\text{FV}(G)$ and hyperedges are atoms $c \in G$. $H(S_a, S_b, S_c)$ is a convergence improving heuristic, a dummy implementation is $H(S_a, S_b, S_c) = S_c$. \tilde{S} is the substitution of predicate variables $\bar{\chi}$ corresponding to S .

Solutions S_k growing with k introduce opportunity for simplifications not captured when the incremental improvements A_{β_χ} are derived. In step 8 we simplify and then prune each $\exists \bar{\beta}^{\chi}. F_\chi$. The updated residuum $Q'. A_{\text{res}} \wedge A_{\text{sel}}$ is checked for validity at a later stage.

We introduced the **assert false** construct into the programming language to indicate that a branch of code should not be reached. Type inference generates for it the logical connective **F** (falseness). We partition the implication branches D_i, C_i into $\{D_i, C_i | \mathbf{F} \notin C_i\}$ which are fed to the algorithm and $\Phi_{\mathbf{F}} = \{(D_i, C_i) | \mathbf{F} \in C_i\}$. After the main algorithm ends we check that for each $(D_i, C_i) \in \Phi_{\mathbf{F}}$, $S_k(D_i)$ fails. Optionally, but by default, we perform the check in each iteration. Turning this option *on* gives a limited way to express negative constraints. With the option *off*, the inferred type is the same as it would be without the impossible pattern matching branch in the program, but the check statically guarantees that the branch is in fact impossible. The option should be turned *off* when a single iteration (plus fallback backtracking described below) is insufficient to solve for the invariants.

We implement a simple form of backtracking. When abduction detects contradiction in the branches $S_k(\Phi)$ passed to it, it uses **fallback** branches $S_{k-1}(\Phi)$. Infinite loop is avoided because the discard list for step k contains answers of step $k - 1$. In case abduction used the fallback branches, we set $S_k := S_{k-1}$ before going on to compute S_{k+1} . Similarly, with checking for negative constraints *on*, when the check of negative branches $(D_i, C_i) \in \Phi_{\mathbf{F}}$, $\not\models \exists \text{FV}(S_k(D_i)). S_k(D_i)$ fails, we set $S_k := S_{k-1}$ before calling abduction.

5.4 Implementation details

We represent $\bar{\alpha}$ as a tuple type rather than as a function type. We modify the quantifier Q imperatively, because it mostly grows monotonically, and when variables are dropped they do not conflict with fresh variables generated later. Variables introduced by predicate variable substitution are always existential for positive occurrences, but for negative occurrences some parts of the algorithm assume they are universal, and some use a variant of the quantifier, e.g. $Q'[\forall \beta_\chi \bar{\beta}^{\chi} := \exists \beta_\chi \bar{\beta}^{\chi}]$, where they are existential.

The code that selects $\wedge_\chi (A_\chi^+ \subset A_\chi^{\text{cap}}) \wedge \models Q. A \setminus \cup_\chi A_\chi^+$ is an incremental validity checker. It starts with $A \setminus \cup_\chi A_\chi^{\text{cap}}$ and tries to add as many atoms $c \in \cup_\chi A_\chi^{\text{cap}}$ as possible to what in effect becomes A_{res} . The remaining atoms are distributed among $A_{\beta_\chi}^+$ by putting them into the last β_χ in Q , i.e. the first **b** in the **q.negbs** list, for which $x_{\prec}(\bar{\beta}^{\chi} \bar{\zeta}^{\chi} \cap \text{FV}(c)) \cap \bar{\beta}^{\chi} \bar{\zeta}^{\chi} \neq \emptyset$.

We count the number of iterations of the main loop, a fallback decreases the iteration number to the previous value. The main loop decides whether multisort abduction should dissociate alien subterms – in the first iteration of the loop – or should perform abductions for other sorts – in subsequent iteration. See discussion in subsection 3.3. In the first two iterations, we remove branches that contain unary predicate variables in the conclusion, as discussed at the end of subsection 3.4.

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