fn score_candidates_constants

Michael Shoemate

June 30, 2025

This proof resides in "contrib" because it has not completed the vetting process.

Proves soundness of score_candidates_constants in mod.rs at commit f5bb719 (outdated¹). score_candidates_const returns a fractional decomposition of alpha and an upper bound on dataset size to protect against overflow.

1 Hoare Triple

Precondition

None

Function

```
def score_candidates_constants(size: Optional[u64], alpha: f64) -> tuple[u64, u64, u64]:
      if alpha < 0.0 or 1.0 < alpha:</pre>
           return ValueError("alpha must be within [0, 1]")
      alpha_num_exact, alpha_den_exact = RBig.try_from(alpha).into_parts()
      if size is not None:
          # choose the finest granularity that won't overflow
          # must have that size * denom < MAX, so let denom = MAX // size
          alpha_den_approx = u64.MAX.neg_inf_div(size)
10
11
          # default to an alpha granularity of .00001
12
          u64.exact_int_cast(10_000)
14
      if alpha_den_exact < UBig.from_(alpha_den_approx):</pre>
15
          alpha_num = u64.try_from(alpha_num_exact.into_parts()[1])
16
          alpha_den = u64.try_from(alpha_den_exact)
17
18
          # numer = alpha * denom
19
          alpha_num_approx = u64.round_cast(alpha * f64.round_cast(alpha_den_approx))
20
          alpha_num, alpha_den = alpha_num_approx, alpha_den_approx
21
22
      if size is not None:
23
          size_limit = size
24
          size_limit = u64.MAX.neg_inf_div(alpha_den)
26
27
      assert alpha_num <= alpha_den #</pre>
28
      size_limit.alerting_mul(alpha_den)
29
30
      return alpha_num, alpha_den, size_limit #
```

¹See new changes with git diff f5bb719..3fc1a47 rust/src/transformations/quantile_score_candidates/mod.rs

Postcondition

Theorem 1.1. When the function does not fail, it returns the following constants:

- alpha_num
- alpha_den
- size_limit

The constants follow the following properties:

- 1. $alpha_num/alpha_den \in [0, 1]$
- $2. \ size_{l}imit \cdot alpha_{d}en < 2^{64}$

An error is raised if these properties cannot be met.

Proof. While the code is complicated, all that is needed is to observe that the function does not return until line 31, and that the conditions are explicitly checked on lines 28 and 29.

Therefore, the postcondition holds.