Fancy types for provenance

James Cheney University of Edinburgh

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UAL Shares Fall as Old Story Surfaces Online
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The mysterious appearance on the internet of a hearly six-year-old news story about UAL
Corp.'s 2002 bankruptcy-court filing caused investors to dump the stock Monday.
After trading near \$12.50 a share early Monday, stock in United Airlines' parent quickly fell to \$3
on the Nasdag Stock Market on heavy volume before trading was halted and the company
issued a statement saving that reports of a new Chapter 11 filing were "completely untrue"
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Once trading resumed 90 minutes later, UAL shares rebounded, but they still closed off 11% for
the day at \$10.92. Nasdaq, a unit of Nasdaq OMX Group Inc.,



A Scientist's Nightmare: Software Problem Leads to Five Retractions

Until recently, Geoffrey Chang's career was on a trajectory most young scientists only dream about. In 1999, at the age of 28, the protein crystallographer landed a faculty position at the prestigious Scripps Research Institute in San Diego, California. The next year, in a ceremony at the White House, Chang received a

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2001 *Science* paper, which described the structure of a protein called MsbA, isolated from the bacterium *Escherichia coli*. MsbA belongs to a huge and ancient family of molecules that use energy from adenosine triphosphate to transport molecules across cell membranes. These so-called ABC transporters perform many



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Business	Mike Hulme and Jerome Ravetz	
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Also in the news	understanding the processes and practices of science and	



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Definition 4.1 (Tuple Derivation for an Operator). Let Op be any relational operator over tables T_1, \ldots, T_m , and let $T = Op(T_1, \ldots, T_m)$ be the table that results from applying Op to T_1, \ldots, T_m . Given a tuple $t \in T$, we define t's derivation in T_1, \ldots, T_m according to Op to be $Op_{(T_1, \ldots, T_m)}^{-1}(t) = \langle T_1^*, \ldots, T_m^* \rangle$, where T_1^*, \ldots, T_m^* are maximal subsets of T_1, \ldots, T_m such that (a) $Op(T_1^*, \ldots, T_m^*) = \{t\}$. (b) $\forall T_i^* : \forall t^* \in T_i^*: Op(T_1^*, \ldots, \{t^*\}, \ldots, T_m^*) \neq \emptyset$. We also say that $Op_{T_i}^{-1}(t) = T_i^*$ is t's derivation in T_i , and each tuple t^* in T_i^* contributes to t, for i = 1..m.

Definition 6. (Witness Basis) Consider a normal form query Q. The witness basis for a singular value t with respect to Q and D, denoted as $W_{Q,D}(t)$, is: Def (1) If Q is of the form $Q_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup Q_n$ then $W_{Q,D}(t) = W_{Q_1,D}(t) \cup \ldots \cup W_{Q_n,D}(t)$. tiona (2) If Q is of the form $\{e \mid p_0 \in e_0, ..., p_n \in e_n, condition\}$, let Ψ be the set of all valuations on the variables of Q such that "where" clause of Q holds under the each valuation in Ψ . Then, $W_{Q,D}(t) = \{\llbracket p_0 \rrbracket_{\psi} \sqcup \ldots \sqcup \llbracket p_n \rrbracket_{\psi} \mid \psi \in \Psi, t = \llbracket e \rrbracket_{\psi} \}.$ $t \in$ Note that e_i $(0 \le i \le n)$ is a database constant since Q is in normal form. $Op_{\langle \gamma}$ (3) Otherwise, $W_{Q,D}(t) = \{\}.$ T_1 , More generally, for any well-formed query Q, we can define the witness basis (a) by extending (2) as follows. We partition the set of $p_i \in e_i$ in the "where" clause of Q into two parts: $S_1 = \{p_i \mid e_i \text{ is the database constant } D\}$ and (b) $S_2 = \{(p_i, e_i) \mid p_i \text{ is a pattern matched against a query } e_i\}$. We use p_0^1, \dots, p_k^1 We to denote the members of S_1 and $(p_0^2, e_0^2), \dots, (p_m^2, e_m^2)$ to denote the members of T_i^* S_2 . Let Ψ be the set of all valuations on the variables of Q such that for each valuation in Ψ , "where" clause of Q holds. Then $W_{Q,D}(t) = \{P_1 \sqcup P_2 \mid \psi \in \Psi, t \sqsubseteq$ $[\![e]\!]_{\psi}, P_1 = [\![p_0^1]\!]_{\psi} \sqcup \ldots \sqcup [\![p_k^1]\!]_{\psi}, P_2 = w_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup w_m \text{ where } w_i \in W_{\psi(e_i^2), D}([\![p_i^2]\!]_{\psi})\}.$ For a compound value t, the witness basis is the product of individual witness basis of singular values making up t. That is, consider $t = t_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup t_m$ where each t_i is singular. Then $W_{Q,D}(t) = \{w_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup w_m \mid w_i \in W_{Q,D}(t_i)\}$. \Box

Definition 6. (Witness Basis) Consider a normal form query O. The witness Def **Definition 8.** (Derivation Basis) Consider a normal form query Q. The deriva (1)tion basis for l:v where v is an atomic value, denoted as $\Gamma_{Q,D}(l:v)$ with respect tiona (2)the to Q and D, is defined as below: (1) If $Q = Q_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup Q_n$ then $\Gamma_{Q,D}(l:v) = \Gamma_{Q_1,D}(l:v) \cup \ldots \cup \Gamma_{Q_n,D}(l:v)$. $t \in$ (2) If Q has the form $\{e \mid p_0 \in e_0, ..., p_n \in e_n, condition\}$, let Ψ be the set of $Op_{\langle 7}$ valuations on the variables of Q such that the "where" clause of Q holds (3) T_1 , under each valuation and $\psi(e)$ contains $l{:}v.$ For each $\psi\in \varPsi,$ let p_{x_ψ} denote Mo (a) the path in e that points to a variable x_ψ such that there exists p' and p''by so that l = p' p'' and $\psi(p_{x_{\psi}}) = p'$ and $\psi(x_{\psi})(p'') = v$. Then, $\Gamma_{Q,D}(l:v) = v$. (b) clat $\{(\llbracket p_0 \rrbracket_{\psi} \sqcup \ldots \sqcup \llbracket p_n \rrbracket_{\psi}, S) \mid \psi \in \Psi, S = \{\psi(p'_i) \mid p''_i \text{ is the path that points to } \}$ S_2 We variable x_{ψ} in pattern $p_i, 0 \le i \le n$ }. to ϵ (3) Otherwise, $\Gamma_{Q,D}(l:v) = \{\}$ T_i^* S_2 More generally, the derivation basis of l:v where v is a compound value is valu $\llbracket e \rrbracket_{v}$ defined to be the derivation basis of all possible (path, value) pairs $p^\prime\!:\!v^\prime$ such that For p':v' points to a value in v. The derivation basis for multiple (path,value) pairs is basi defined to be the product of the derivation basis of individual (path, value) pairs. cacl That is, $\Gamma_{Q,D}(p_1:v_1, p_2:v_2) = \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_1:v_1) * \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_2:v_2) = \{(w_1 \sqcup w_2, P_1 \cup P_2) \mid$ $(w_1, P_1) \in \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_1, v_1), (w_2, P_2) \in \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_2, v_2) \}.$

Definition 6. (Witness Basis) Consider a normal form query O. The witness Def Definition 8. (Derivation Basis) Consider (1)tiona tion basis for l:v where v is an atomic value (2)the to Q and D, is defined as below: Not compositional (1) If $Q = Q_1 \sqcup \ldots \sqcup Q_n$ then $\Gamma_{Q,D}(l: \lambda)$ $t \in$ (2) If Q has the form $\{e \mid p_0 \in e_0, ..., p_n\}$ $Op_{\langle 7}$ valuations on the variables of Q such that \checkmark where clause of Q holds (3) T_1 , under each valuation and $\psi(e)$ contains p For each $\psi \in \Psi$, let $p_{x_{\psi}}$ denote Mo (a) the path in e that points to a variable x_{ψ} such that there exists p' and p''by so that l = p' p'' and $\psi(p_{x_{\psi}}) = p'$ and $\psi(x_{\psi})(p'') = v$. Then, $\Gamma_{Q,D}(l:v) = v$. (b) clau $\{(\llbracket p_0 \rrbracket_{\psi} \sqcup \ldots \sqcup \llbracket p_n \rrbracket_{\psi}, S) \mid \psi \in \Psi, S = \{\psi(p'_i) \mid p'_i \text{ is the path that points to } \}$ S_2 We variable x_{ψ} in pattern $p_i, 0 \le i \le n$ }. to c (3) Otherwise, $\Gamma_{Q,D}(l:v) = \{\}$ T_i^* S_2 More generally, the derivation basis of l:v where v is a compound value is valu $\llbracket e \rrbracket_{v}$ defined to be the derivation basis of all possible (path, value) pairs $p^\prime\!:\!v^\prime$ such that For p':v' points to a value in v. The derivation basis for multiple (path,value) pairs is basi defined to be the product of the derivation basis of individual (path, value) pairs. cacl That is, $\Gamma_{Q,D}(p_1:v_1, p_2:v_2) = \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_1:v_1) * \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_2:v_2) = \{(w_1 \sqcup w_2, P_1 \cup P_2) \mid$ $(w_1, P_1) \in \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_1, v_1), (w_2, P_2) \in \Gamma_{Q,D}(p_2, v_2)\}.$





Databases and programming languages

- Database query languages **are** purely functional
 - optimization by equational rewriting basis of £10⁹ DB industry
- Programming languages ideas can...
 - Help in analyzing, optimizing database queries (types, compilation, equational rewriting)
 - Integrate database or Web capabilities into higher-level languages (LINQ, Links)
- Database ideas can...
 - Lead to new programming idioms (Datalog, atomicity, STM)
 - Open up new problem spaces (high-level updates, **provenance**)

Provenance in curated databases



Provenance in curated databases



Provenance in curated databases



Formalization

• Consider types:

T ::= int | ... | T * T | T set

- And expressions:
- $e ::= x | let x = e_1 in e_2 | i | ...$
- $| (e_1,e_2) | \pi_i(e)$
- $\bullet \qquad \mid \varnothing \mid \{e\} \mid e_1 \cup e_2 \mid \cup \{e_2 \mid x \leftarrow e_1\}$

Type translation

• Translate:

P[int] = int * 'a optionP[T1 * T2] = P[T1] * P[T2] * 'a optionP[T set] = P[T] set * 'a option

Annotations 'a represent "pointers" to optional sources

Term Translation

Given $x_1:T_1,...,x_n:T_n \mid -e:T$ Want P[e] such that $x_1: P[T_1]...x_n:P[T_n] \mid -P[e]:P[T]$ s.t. each SOME-pointer points to the "source" Simple cases:

P[x] = xP[i] = (i,NONE) $P[let x = e_1 in e_2] = let x = P[e_1] in P[e_2]$

Pairs

$P[(e_1,e_2)] = (P[e_1],P[e_2],NONE)$

$P[\pi_i(e)] = \pi_i(\pi_1(P[e]))$

Sets

 $P[\emptyset] = (\emptyset, \text{NONE})$ $P[e_1 \cup e_2] = \text{let } (v_1, _) = P[e_1]$ $(v_2, _) = P[e_2]$ in $(v_1 \cup v_2, \text{ NONE})$ $P[\{e\}] = (\{P[e]\}, \text{NONE})$ $P[\cup \{e_2 \mid x \leftarrow e_1\}] = (\cup \{P[e_2] \mid x \leftarrow \pi_1(P[e_1])\}, \text{NONE})$

Dependency provenance [CAA DBPL07,MSCS11]

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Calgary Flames	CGY	64	33	31	0	9	Datsyuk	DEI	03	23	51	
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							Stastny	COI	50	10	33	
							Stastily	COL	50	19	55	

cf. Dependency Core Calculus [Abadi et al. 1999]

Dependency provenance



cf. Dependency Core Calculus [Abadi et al. 1999]

Dependency provenance [CAA DBPL07.MSCS11]



cf. Dependency Core Calculus [Abadi et al. 1999]













Formalization

• Consider types:

T ::= int | ... | T * T | T set

• Translate:

P[int] = int * 'a setP[T1 * T2] = P[T1] * P[T2] * 'a setP[T set] = P[T] set * 'a set

Annotations 'a represent "pointers" to sets of sources

Term Translation

Given $x_1:T_1,...,x_n:T_n \mid -e:T$ Want P[e] such that $x_1: P[T_1]...x_n:P[T_n] \mid -P[e]:P[T]$ s.t. all "dependencies" are captured. Simple cases:

P[x] = x $P[i] = (i, \emptyset)$ $P[let x = e_1 in e_2] = let x = P[e_1] in P[e_2]$

Pairs

$P[(e_1,e_2)] = (P[e_1],P[e_2],\emptyset)$

$$\begin{split} P[\pi_i(e)] &= let (v,a) = P[e] \\ (v_i', b) &= \pi_i(v) \\ & in (v_i, a \cup b) \end{split}$$

Sets

 $P[\varnothing] = (\varnothing, \varnothing)$ $P[e_1 \cup e_2] = let(v_1, a_1) = P[e_1]$ $(v_2, a_2) = P[e_2]$ in $(v_1 \cup v_2, a_1 \cup a_2)$ $P[{e}] = ({P[e]}, \emptyset)$ $P[\cup \{e_2 \mid x \leftarrow e_1\}] = let(v,a) = P[e_1]$ in $(\cup \{P[e_2] \mid x \leftarrow v\},a)$

Question

- The translations seem to have a lot in common...
- Can we implement them "once and for all"
 - generic/dynamic typing?
 - dependent types?
- Can we implement them in a way that runs efficiently against database?

Links

- Currently supports superset of NRC corelanguage
 - Higher-order, impure features
 - Effect typing allows safe combination, query extraction [Cooper 2009]
- Ferry [Grust et al. 2010]: extending to support nested data
 - number of queries bounded by types, not data

Generic/Dependent Links?

- Ur/WEB also supports some generic web programming
- Would like to write something like this:

type family P a Int = (Int,a)

type family P a (b,c) =

(P a b, P a c, a)

type family P a [b] = ([P a b],a)

Dependent/Generic Links?

• Would like to write something like this:

whereprov :: Exp e t' \rightarrow

```
Exp (P e (Maybe a))
```

```
(Pt' (Maybe a))
```

```
whereprov (Const c) =
```

Pair (Const c) Nothing

whereprov (Var x) = Var x

•••

Other ways forward?

- Haskell: GADTs + type families/type-level computaion + HaskellDB?
- Agda: dependent types \checkmark , but not DB?
- Idris: dependent types √; can we implement query normalization & DB communication as a EDSL?
- Ur/Web: Maybe already has enough GP, but still learning
- (ideally: compile Links to another language that has a mature compiler :)

Database Wiki

• Idea: Wiki-like Web interface to (semi)structured data

- Joint work with Buneman, Mueller, Lindley
- Prototype showcases prior research on provenance, archiving, annotation, security
 - to present at workshop on "Biological Wikis" [NETTAB 2010]

CIA World Factbook _ce to (semi)structured data

Facts about Belgium

There is an interesting note about land use in Belgium:

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Mueller, Lindley

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Database Wiki

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Facts about Belgium Title There is an interesting note about land use in Belgium: ?wpath://COUNTRY[NAME='Belgium']/ CATEGORY[NAME='Geography']/ PROPERTY[NAME='Land use']? Joint Proto , archiv 2010] to p Save

Database Wiki

• Idea: Wiki-like Web interface to (semi)structured data

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other	71.09%		

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Databas

• Idea: Wiki-like Web interface to

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CIA World Factbook

Belgium > Geography > Land use

Edit

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Database Wiki

• Idea: Wiki-like Web interface to (semi)structured data

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Conclusions

- Provenance techniques can be defined as "type-dependent types/functions"
- Complex provenance transformations challenging to implement against real DBs
- Combining Links, Ur/WEB or LINQ with generic or dependent typing might be a good way to proceed