On the Design of a Java Computer Algebra System

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Introduction

- object oriented design of a computer algebra system
 - = software collection for symbolic (non-numeric) computations
- type safe through Java generic types
- thread safe, ready for multicore CPUs
- dynamic memory system with GC
- 64-bit ready
- jython (Java Python) front end

Overview

- Introduction
- Types
- Classes
- Functionality
- Implementation
- Conclusions



Polynomials

$$p \in R = C[x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

- multivariate polynomials
- polynomial ring
 - in n variables

$$p = \frac{3x_1^2x_3^4 + 7x_2^5 - 61}{3x_1^2x_3^4 + 7x_2^5 - 61} \in \mathbb{Z}[x_1, x_2, x_3]$$

- over a coefficient ring

$$p = T \rightarrow C$$
 • polynomial

 $x_{1}^{2}x_{3}^{4} \rightarrow 3, \ x_{2}^{5} \rightarrow 7, \ x_{1}^{0}x_{2}^{0}x_{3}^{0} \rightarrow -61$ $else \quad x_{1}^{e_{1}}x_{2}^{e_{2}}x_{3}^{e_{3}} \rightarrow 0$

polynomials as mappings
from terms to coefficients

Polynomials (cont.)

one:
$$\left\{ x_1^0 x_2^0 \dots x_n^0 \rightarrow 1 \\ zero: \left\{ \right\} \right\}$$

 $x_1^2 x_3^4 >_T x_2^5$

- mappings to zero are not stored
- terms are ordered / sorted

$$x_j * x_i = c_{ij} x_i x_j + p_{ij}$$

$$\begin{split} &1 \leq i < j \leq n \,, \ 0 \neq c_{ij} \in C \,, \\ &x_i x_j >_T p_{ij} \in R \end{split}$$

 polynomials with noncommutative multiplication

• e.g. commutative $c_{ij}=1, p_{ij}=0$





Ring element creation

- recursive type for coefficients and polynomials
- creation of ZERO and ONE needs information about the ring
- new C() not allowed in Java, C type parameter
- solution with factory pattern: RingFactory
- factory has sufficient information for creation of ring elements
- eventually has references to other factories, e.g. for coefficients

Coefficients

- e.g. BigRational, BigInteger
- implement both interfaces
- creation of rational number 2 from long 2:
 - new BigRational(2)
 - cfac.fromInteger(2)
- creation of rational number 1/2 from two longs:
 - new BigRational(1,2)



- cfac.parse("1/2")

Polynomials

- GenPolynomial<C extends RingElem<C>>
- C is coefficient type in the following
- implements RingElem<GenPolynomial<C>>
- factory is GenPolynomialRing<...>
- implements RingFactory<GenPolynomial<C>>
- factory constructors require coefficient factory parameter



Polynomial creation

• types are

- GenPolynomial<BigRational>
- GenPolynomialRing<BigRational>
- creation is
 - new GenPolynomialRing<BigRational>(cfac,5)
 - pfac.getONE()
 - pfac.parse("1")
- polynomials as coefficients
 - GenPolynomial<GenPolynomial<BigRational>>
 - GenPolynomialRing<GenPolynomial<...>>(pfac,3)



Solvable polynomials

- extend generic polynomials
- called GenSolvablePolynomial
- inherit additive methods
- override clone() and multiply()
- uses factory for solvable polynomials also in inherited methods, hide super class factory
- factory stores table of relations $x_j * x_i = c_{ij} x_i x_j + p_{ij}$
- constructors permit RelationTable
 parameters (assumed commutative if omitted)





Ring element functionality

- C is type parameter
- C sum(C S), C subtract(C S), C negate(), C abs()
- C multiply(C s), C divide(C s), C remainder(C s), C inverse()
- boolean isZERO(), isONE(), isUnit(), int signum()
- equals(Object b), int hashCode(), int compareTo(C b)
- C clone() versus C copy(C a)
- Serializable interface is implemented

Ring factory functionality

- create 0 and 1
 - C getZERO(), C getONE()
- C copy(C a)
- embed integers C fromInteger(long a)
 - C fromInteger(java.math.BigInteger a)
- random elements C random(int n)
- parse string representations
 - -C parse(String s), C parse(Reader r)
- isCommutative(), isAssociative()

Polynomial factory constructors

- coefficient factory of the corresponding type
- number of variables
- term order (optional)
- names of the variables (optional)
- GenPolynomialRing<C>(RingFactory<C> cf, int n, TermOrder t, String[] v)





Polynomial factory functionality

- ring factory methods plus more specific methods
- GenPolynomial<C> random(int k, int l, int d, float q, Random rnd)
- embed and restrict polynomial ring to ring with more or less variables
 - GenPolynomialRing<C> extend(int i)
 - GenPolynomialRing<C> contract(int i)
 - GenPolynomialRing<C> reverse()
- handle term order adjustments

Polynomial functionality

- ring element methods plus more specific methods
- constructors all require a polynomial factory
 - GenPolynomial(GenPolynomialRing<C> r, C c, ExpVector e)
 - GenPolynomial(GenPolynomialRing<C> r, SortedMap<ExpVector,C> v)
- access parts of polynomials
 - ExpVector leadingExpVector()
 - C leadingBaseCoefficient()
 - Map.Entry<ExpVector,C> leadingMonomial()
- extend and contract polynomials



- + GenPolynomialRing(coFac : RingFactory, n : int)
- + GenPolynomialRing(coFac : RingFactory, n : int, to : TermOrder)
- + GenPolynomialRing(coFac : RingFactory, n : int, to : TermOrder, v : String[])
- + contract(i : int) : GenPolynomialRing
- + extend(i : int) : GenPolynomialRing
- + toString() : String
- + random(k : int, I : int, d : int, q : float) : GenPolynomial

Example

BigInteger z = new BigInteger(); TermOrder to = new TermOrder(); String[] vars = new String[] { "x1", "x2", "x3" }; GenPolynomialRing<BigInteger> ring

= new GenPolynomialRing<BigInteger>(z,3,to,vars);

GenPolynomial<BigInteger> pol
 = ring.parse("3 x1^2 x3^4 + 7 x2^5 - 61");

Example (cont.)



Solvable polynomials

- extend generic polynomials, new multiplication
- want: implement ring element with solvable polynomial as type parameter
 - RingElem<GenSolvablePolynomial<C>>
- but: already implement ring element with polynomial as type parameter by inheritance
 - RingElem<GenPolynomial<C>>
- problem because type erasure makes them equal
- Java forbids implementation of same interface twice

Solvable polynomial functionality

- non commutative multiplication
 - multiply(GenSolvablePolynomial<C> p)
 - multiply(C b, ExpVector e)
 - multiplyLeft(C b, ExpVector e)
- return type is GenSolvablePolynomial<C>
- but sum() returns formal type
 GenPolynomial<C> but run time type
 GenSolvablePolynomial<C>
- so one must often use a cast
 (GenSolvablePolynomial<C>) p.sum(q)

Solvable polynomial factory

- same problem with interface implementation as for solvable polynomials
- factory constructor with relation table
 - GenSolvablePolynomialRing<C>(
 RingFactory<C> cf, int n, TermOrder t,
 RelationTable<C> rt)
- e.g. relation table for Weyl algebras
 - (new WeylRelations<BigRational>(spfac)). generate()
- RelationTable(GenSolvablePolynomialRing<C> r)
 - problem with constructor initialization sequence

Example (cont.)

GenSolvablePolynomialRing<BigRational> sfac =
 new GenSolvablePolynomialRing<BigRational>(z,6);

WeylRelations<BigRational> wl =
 new WeylRelations<BigRational>(sfac);
wl.generate();

RelationTable(
(x3), (x0), (x0 * x3 + 1),
(x5), (x2), (x2 * x5 + 1),
(x4), (x1), (x1 * x4 + 1)



Implementation

- 100 classes and interfaces
- plus 50 JUnit test cases
- JDK 1.5 with generic types
- logging with Apache Log4j
- some jython scripts
- javadoc API documentation
- revision control with subversion
- build tool is Apache Ant
- open source, license is GPL

Coefficient implementation

- BigInteger based on java.math.BigInteger
- implemented like GnuMP library
- using facade pattern to implement RingElem (and RingFactory) interface
- about 10 to 15 times faster than the Modula-2 implementation SACI (in 2000)
- other classes: BigRational, ModInteger, BigComplex, BigQuaternion and BigOctonion



Polynomial implementation

- are (ordered) maps from terms to coefficients
- implemented with SortedMap interface and TreeMap class from Java collections framework
- alternative implementation with Map and LinkedHashMap, which preserves the insertion order
- but had inferior performance
- terms (the keys) are implemented by class ExpVector
- coefficients implement RingElem interface

Polynomial implementation (cont.)

- ExpVector is dense array of exponents (as long) of variables
- sparse array, array of int, Long not implemented
- would like to have ExpVector<long>
- polynomials are intended as immutable objects
- object variables are final and the map is not modified after creation
- eventually wrap with unmodifiableSortedMap()
- avoids synchronization in multi threaded code

Term order implementation

- need comparators for SortedMap<ExpVector,C>
- generated from class TermOrder
- has methods
 - getDescendComparator()
 - getAscendComparator()
- implemented all practically used orders
 - (inverse) lexicographical
 - (inverse) graded, i.e. total degree
 - defined by weight matrices
 - elimination orders (split orders)

Solvable polynomial implementation

- relations are stored in RelationTable object in the factory
- optimized for fast detection of commutative variables $x_j * x_i = x_i x_j$
- overhead to polynomial multiplication is 20%
- table is modified to store relations of powers of variables $x_{i}^{e_{i}} * x_{i}^{e_{k}} = c_{ikil} x_{i}^{e_{k}} x_{i}^{e_{l}} + p_{ikil}$
- update methods are synchronized
- additive methods are from the superclass

Advanced algorithms

- polynomial reduction (a kind of division with remainder for multivariate polynomials)
- Buchbergers algorithm to compute Groebner bases for sets of polynomials (a kind of Gauss elimination with Euclidean division)
- not much (mathematical) optimization yet, simple structure used also for parallel implementation
- sequential, parallel and distributed versions
- non-commutative left, right and two-sided versions
- modules over polynomial rings and syzygies

Parallel Groebner bases

- work queue of polynomials CriticalPairList
- with synchronized methods get(), put(), removeNext() to modify data structure
- scales well for 8 CPUs on a well structured problem (see next figures)
- distributed version uses some kind of a distributed list to store polynomials of set (implemented by a DHT)
- use of object serialization for transport of polynomials over the network







Conclusions (1)

- sound object oriented design and implementation of a library for algebraic computations
- type safe trough generic type parameters
- as expressive as categories and domains in Axiom
- multivariate polynomials with multi precision coefficients
- used for a large collection of Groebner base algorithms
- first OO design and implementation of non commutative polynomials and Groebner bases

Conclusions (2)

- employs various design patterns, e.g. creational patterns (factory), facade pattern
- working horses are from the Java collection framework
- parallel and distributed implementation draw heavily on the Java packages for concurrent programming and networking
- suitability of the design is exemplified by the successful implementation of a large part of `additive ideal theory', e.g. different Groebner base and syzygy algorithms

Conclusions (3)

- Java platform: 64-bit, garbage collection, threads
- Jython wrapper for interactive use
- Problems
 - type erasure in generic interfaces
 - want restrictions on constructors in interfaces
 - quite type safe: polynomials e.g. in 2 and in 3 variables have the same type and at run time an exception will most likely be thrown
- Future

- more `multiplicative ideal theory', e.g. factorization

Thank you

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- Comments?
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