CWIProfiling SharingOpportunities in Java



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Goal: Predict potential benefits of "maximal sharing" optimization (runtime and memory) a priori.

Maximal sharing a.k.a. hash-consing enforces: x.equals(y) \leftrightarrow x == y

Problem:

- Maximal sharing is a cross-cutting concern and engineering intensive, which makes experiments expensive.
- Effectiveness of maximal sharing is dependent on redundancy present in programs and the amount of deep equality comparisons.



Solution:

- Object redundancy profiling with fingerprinting along program run.
- Calculating object lifetime overlaps to predict memory gains.
- Validation of prediction accuracy by comparing against a maximal sharing implementation.
- Predicting impact on equality checks and reference comparisons by simulating maximal sharing hash table data structures.

Conclusion: We accurately predict the impact of maximal sharing on memory and equality comparisons a priori.

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