A Lock-Free Hash Trie Design for Concurrent Tabled Logic Programs

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Tabling in Prolog Systems

- ➤ Tabling is an implementation technique that overcomes some of the limitations of Prolog resolution:
 - ◆ Tabled subgoals are evaluated by storing their answers in an appropriate data space, called the table space
 - Repeated calls to tabled subgoals are resolved by consuming the answers already stored in the table instead of being re-evaluated against the program clauses.

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- Implementations of Tabling are currently available in systems like:
 - ◆ XSB Prolog, Yap Prolog, B-Prolog, ALS-Prolog, Mercury, Ciao Prolog.
- ➤ Multithreading combined with Tabling:
 - ♦ XSB Prolog
 - ♦ Yap Prolog [ICLP 2012]

Table Space - Example

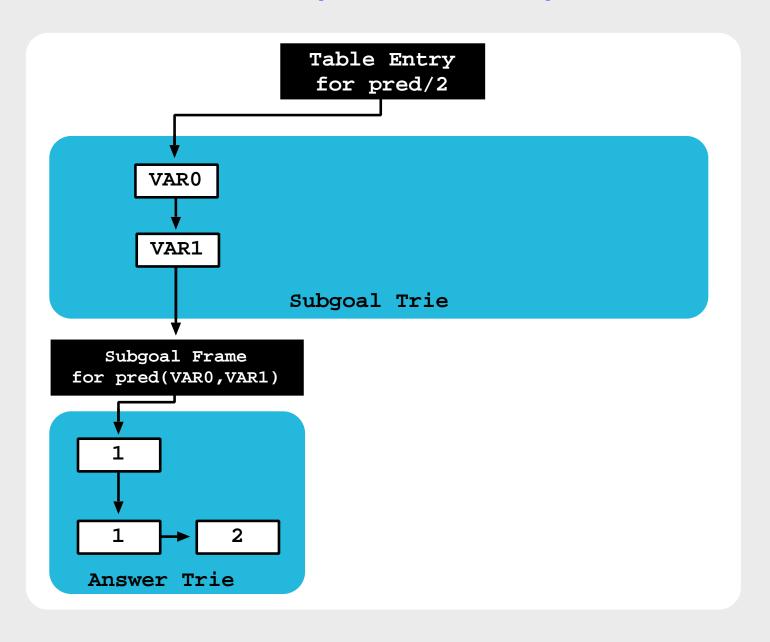
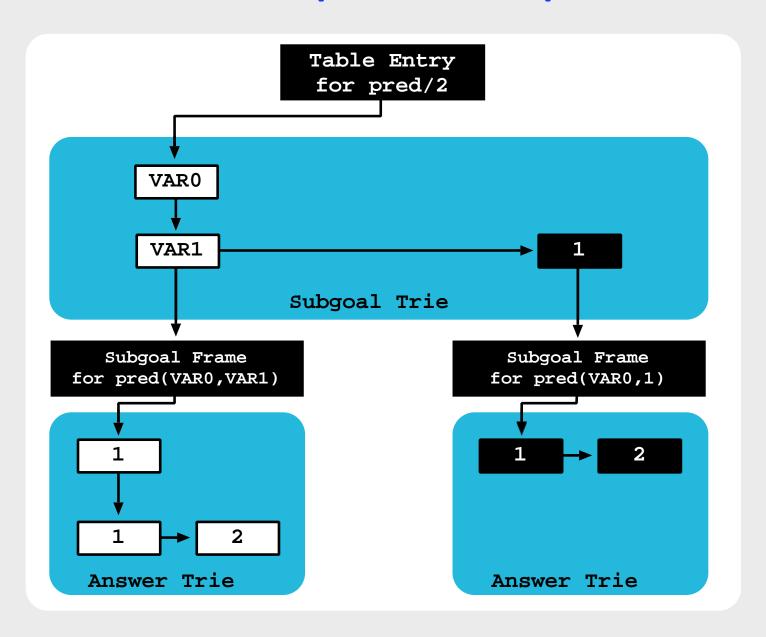
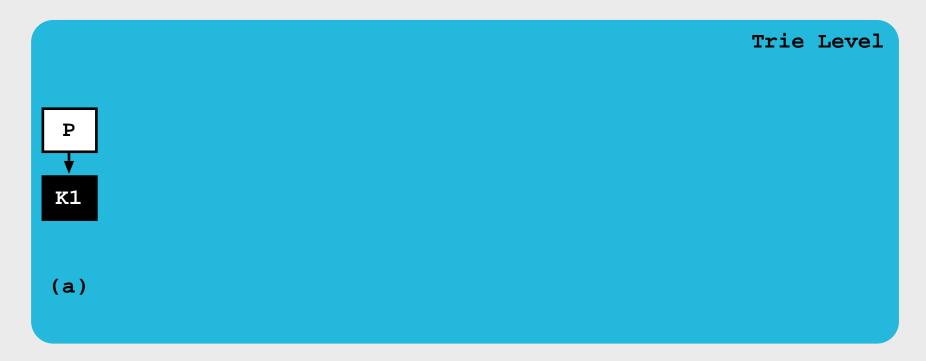


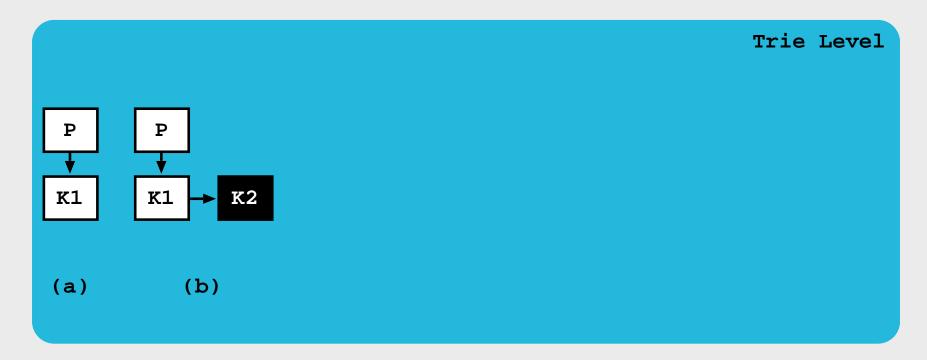
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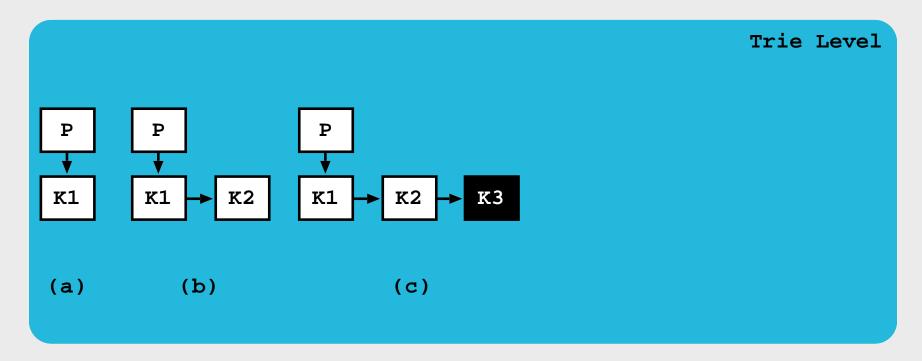
- ➤ A trie level is defined by a parent (P) node and at least one child (K) node.
- ➤ Only lookup and insert operations are executed.
- ➤ Insertion of new nodes is done in a chain, until a threshold is achieved and afterwards a hashing system is included in the trie level.



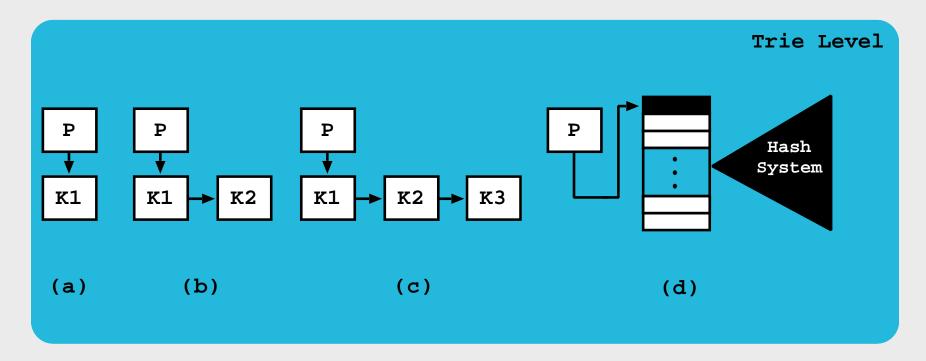
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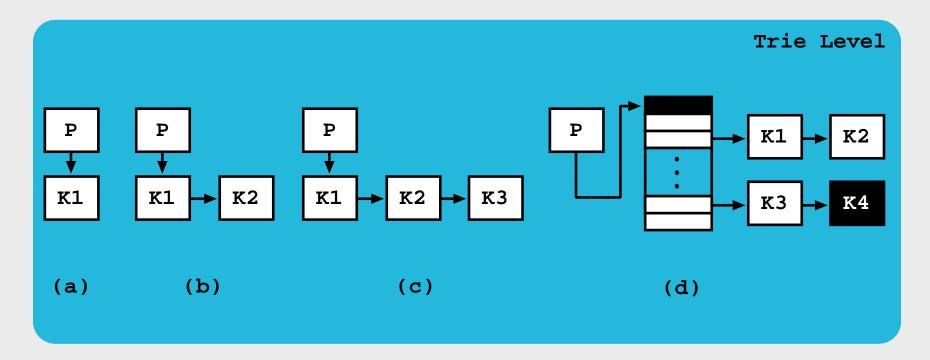
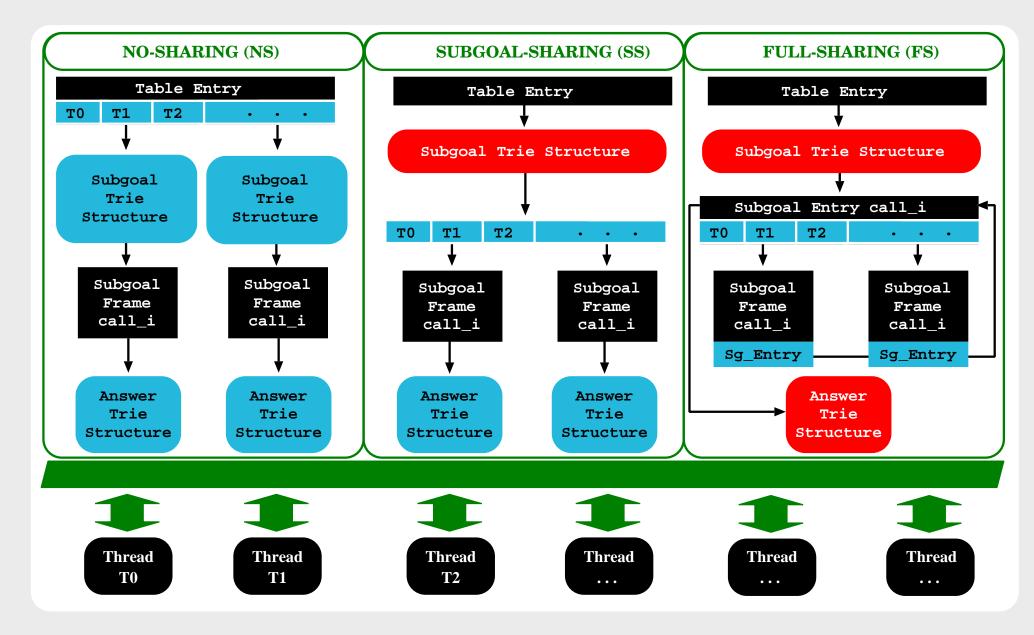


Table Space - Multithreaded Designs



- ➤ Until now to deal with concurrency we used the following mechanisms:
 - Standard Locking [Euro-Par 2004] and Try Locking [ICLP 2012]
 - ♦ Different lock locations [ICPADS 2012]:
 - * Lock Field per trie node
 - * Global array of lock entries.
 - ♦ Lock-Free using CAS (Compare-and-Swap) operations [PADL 2014].

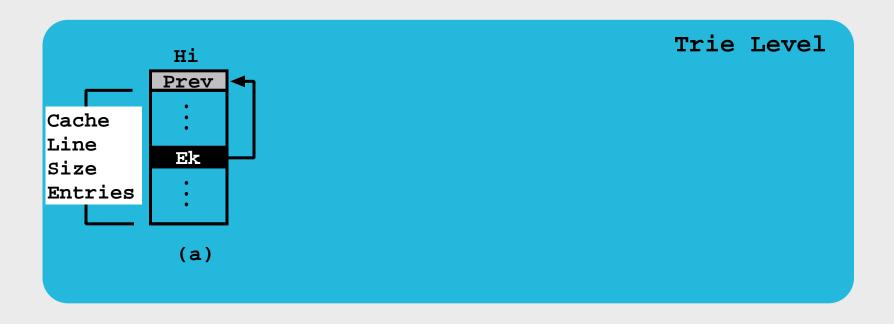
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- Problems faced with these approaches:
 - Locking mechanisms suffer from:
 - * Contention
 - * Convoying
 - * Priority inversion.

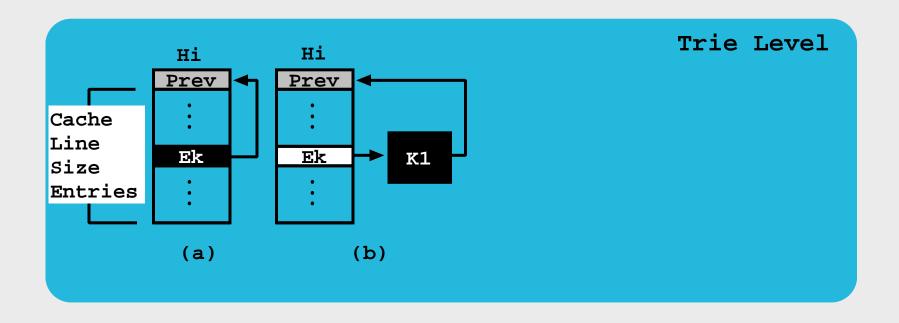
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- **Problems** faced with these approaches:
 - Locking mechanisms suffer from:
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 - ♦ The bucket array of entries inside the hashing system:
 - * Low dispersion of the synchronization points
 - * False sharing (memory cache secondary effects).

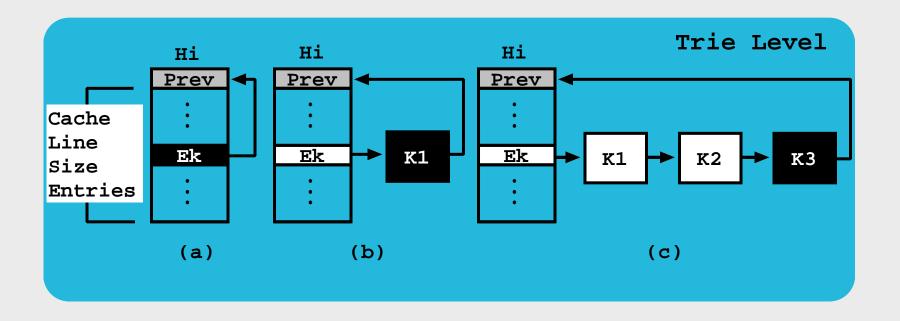
- ➤ Use lock-free linearizable objects because they permit greater concurrency since semantically consistent (non-interfering) operations may execute in parallel.
- ➤ Take ideas from the several lock-free designs that already exist:
 - ♦ Shalev and Shavit **Split-Ordered Lists**
 - Prokopec Concurrent Tries
 - **♦** Cliff's Non-Blocking Hash Tables.

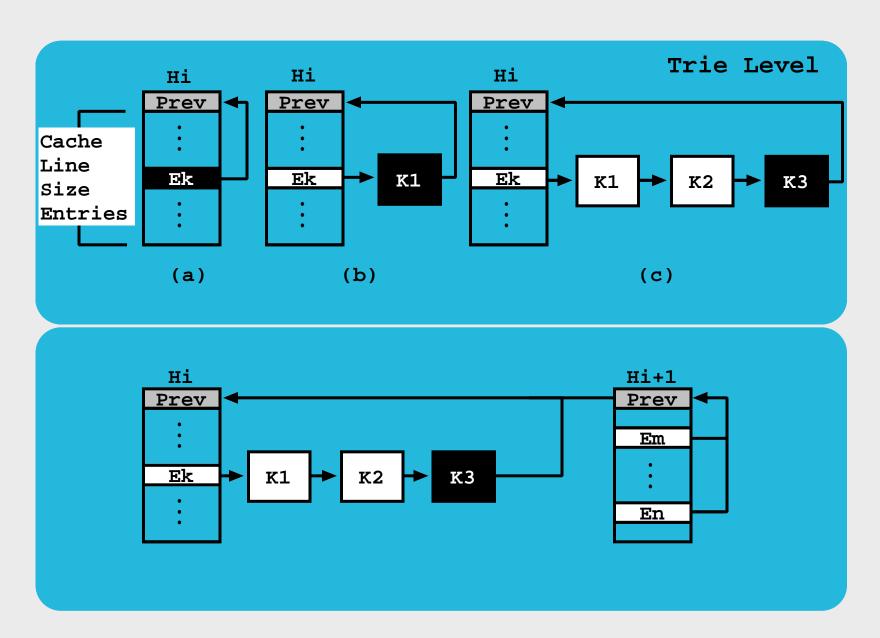
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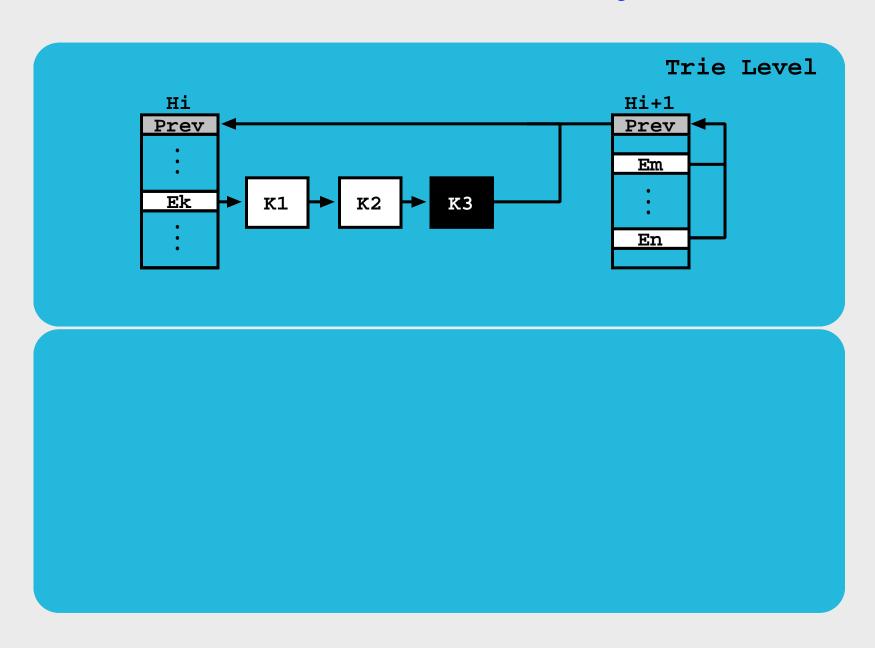
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- But ... none of the designs is specifically aimed for an environment with the characteristics of our tabling framework.
 - Support for concurrent deletion of nodes increases the complexity of the designs.
- ➤ Create a new design (LFHT Lock-Free Hash Tries) that:
 - is as efficient as possible in lookup and insert operations
 - minimizes the problems associated with our previous approaches.

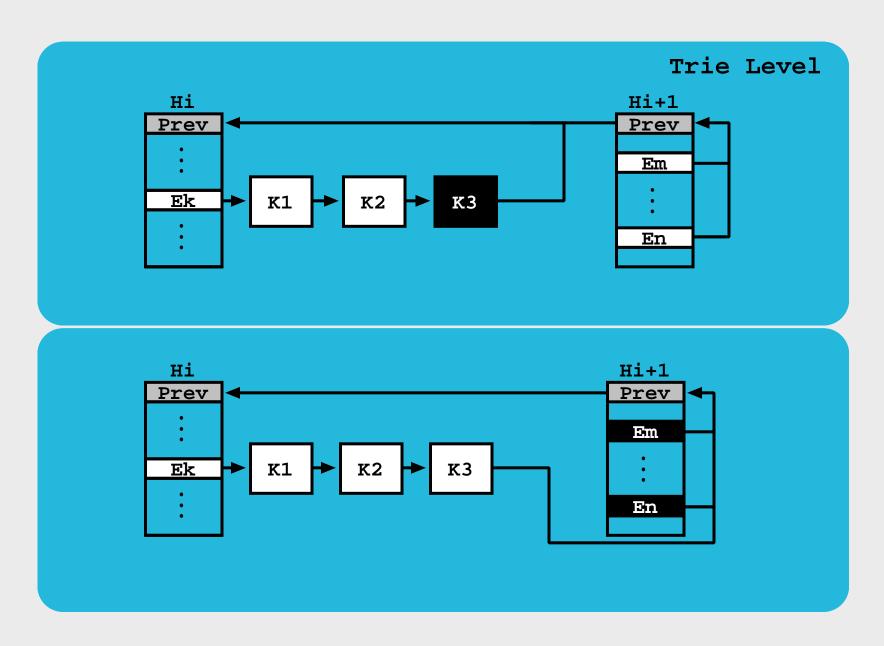


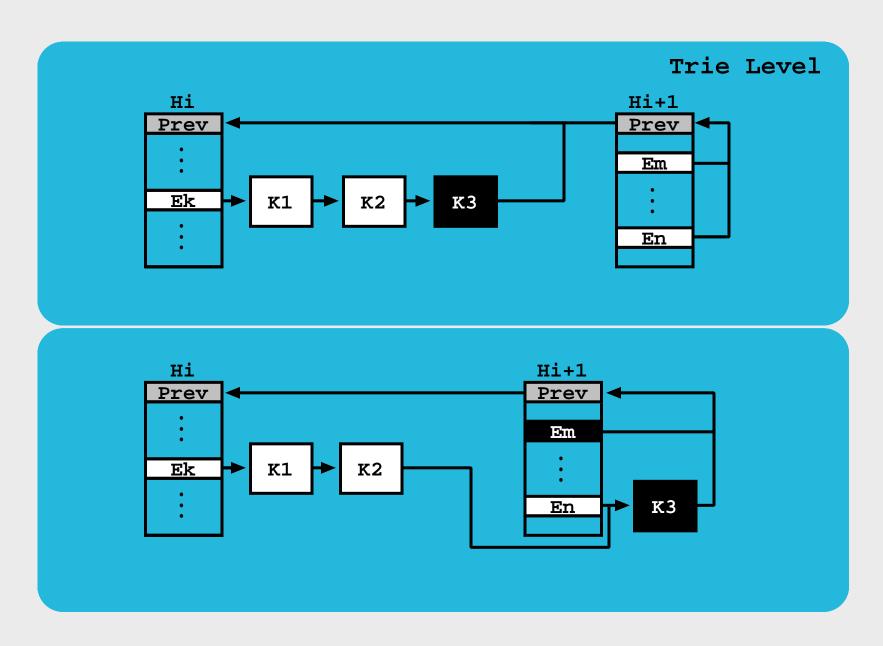


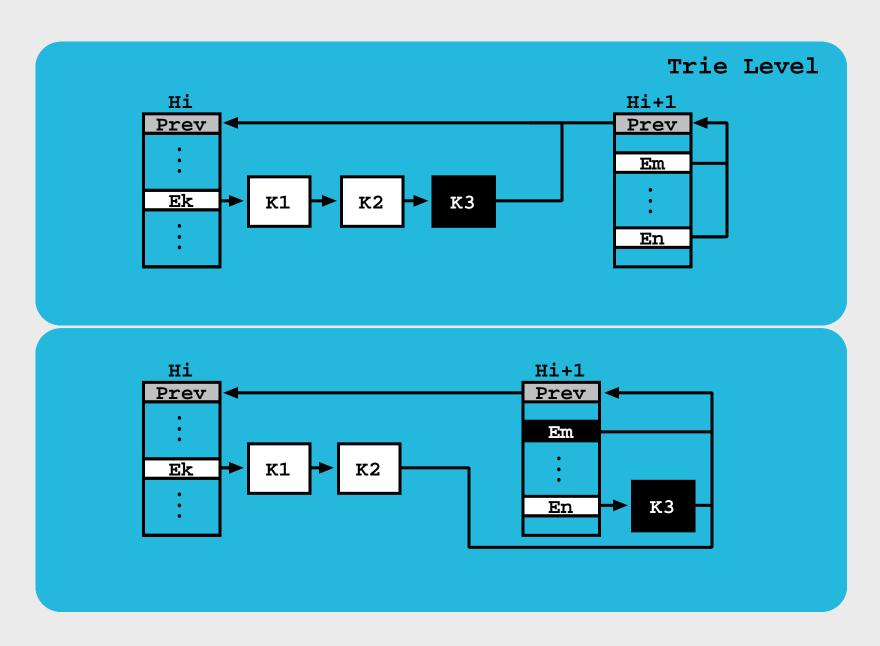


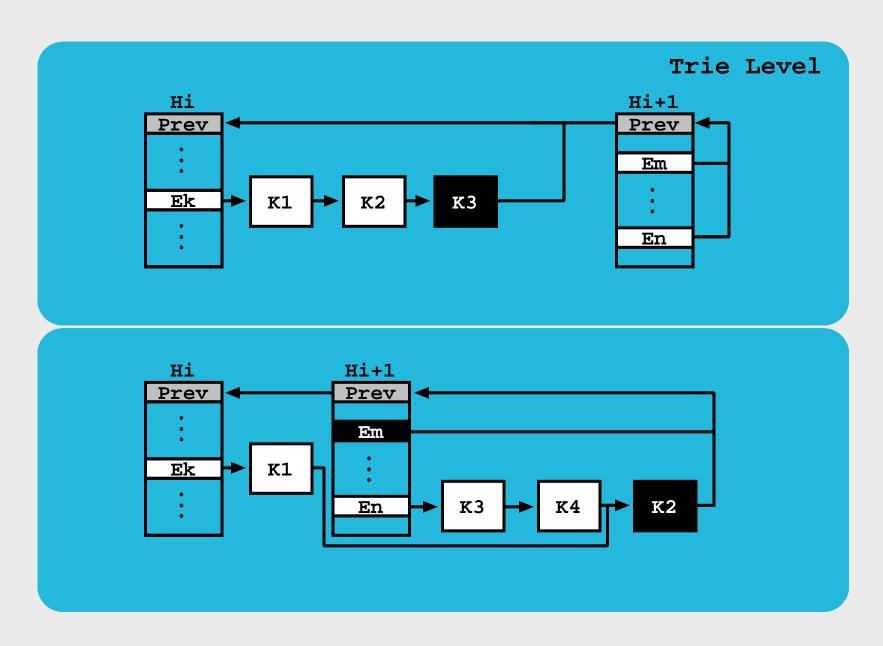


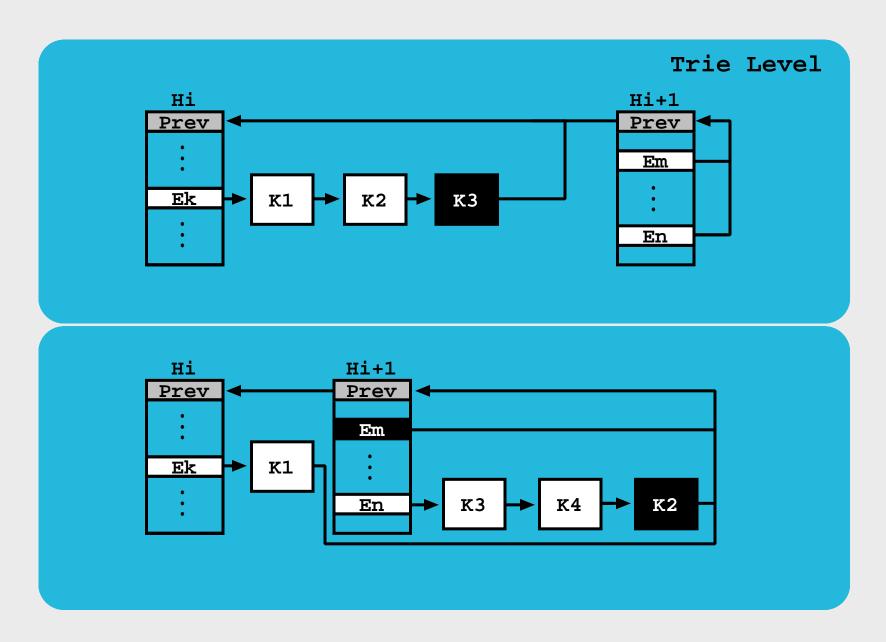


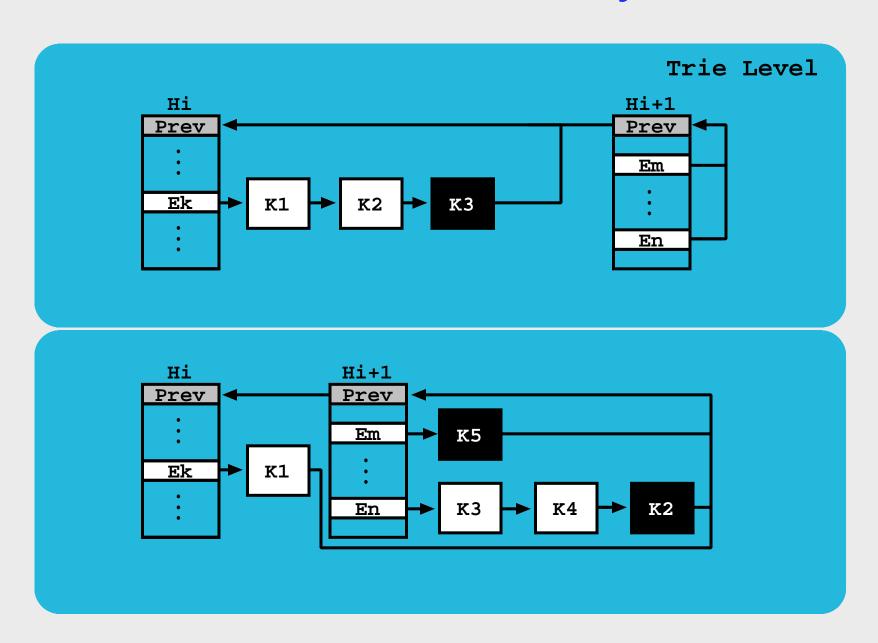


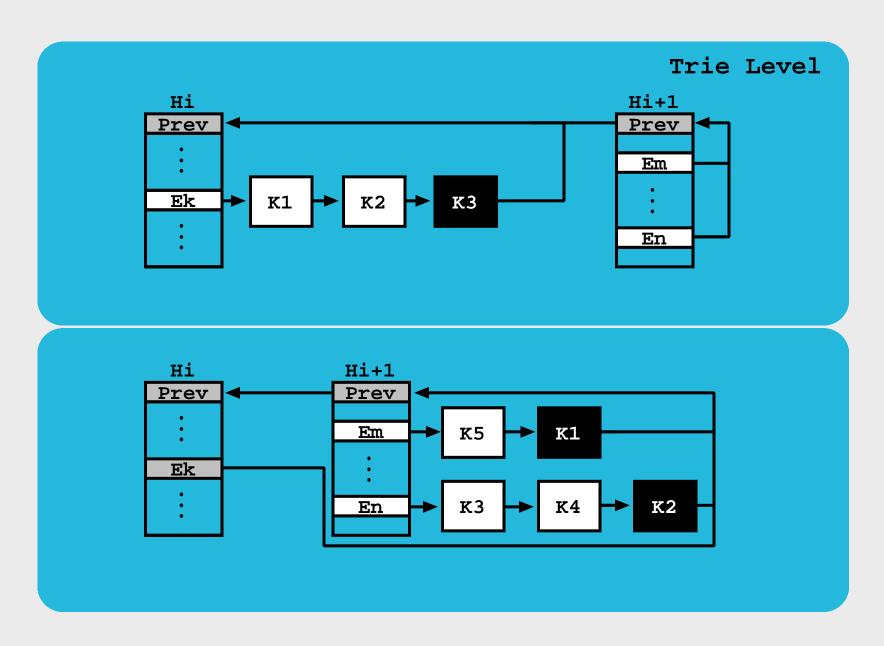


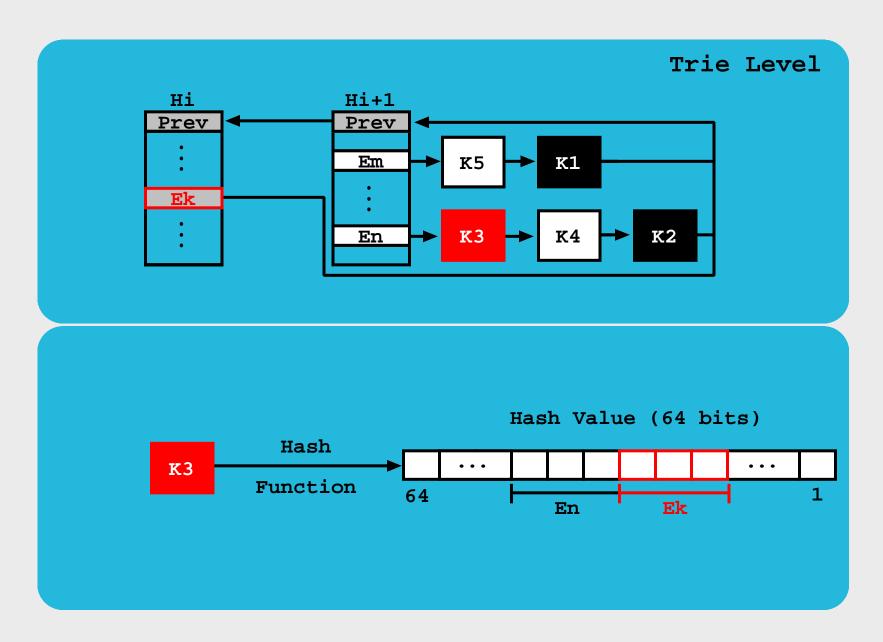


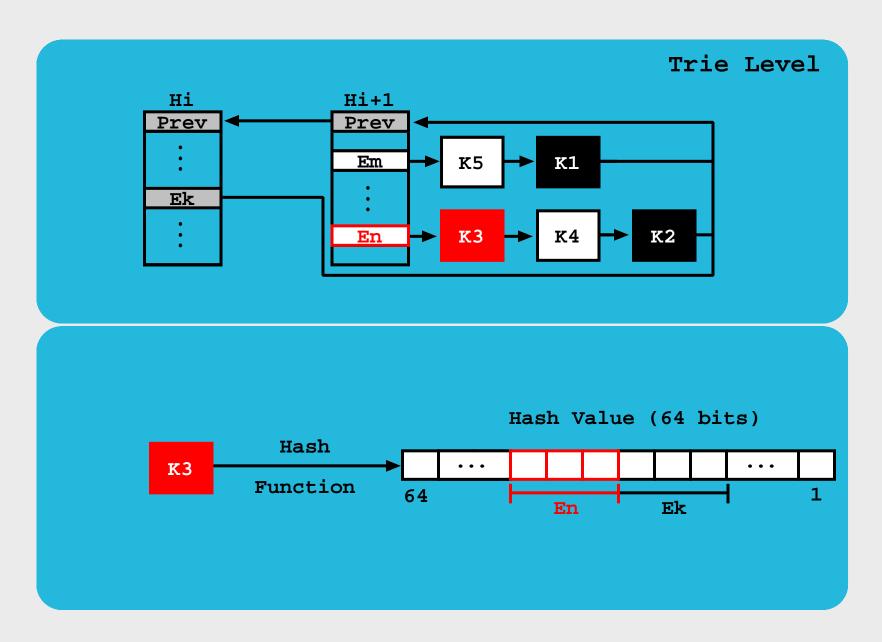






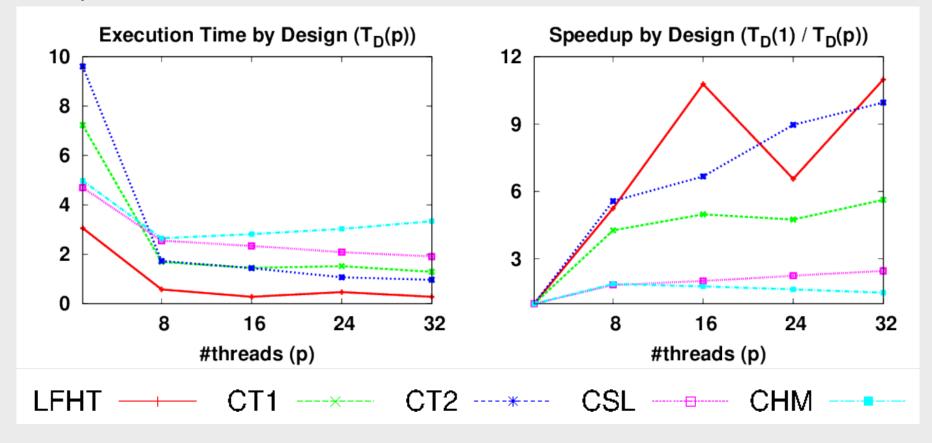






Experimental Results - External Framework

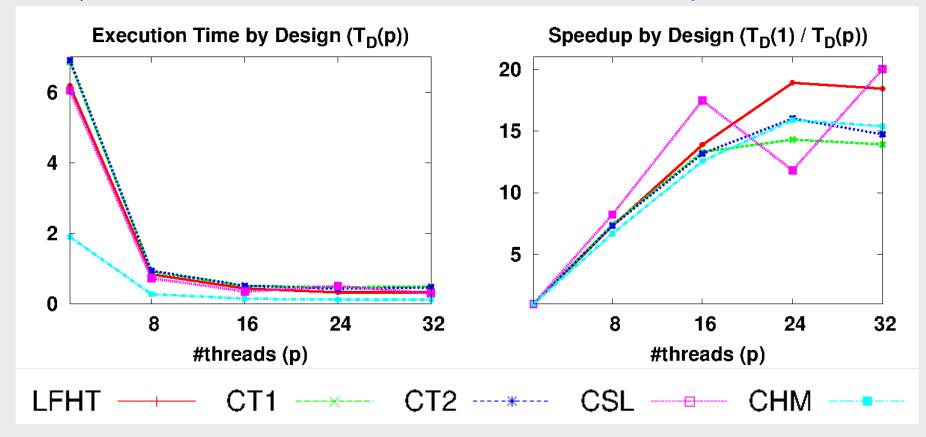
Comparison in a 32 Core AMD machine. Threads insert different items.



- ➤ LFHT Lock-Free Hash Tries CT1 /CT2 C-Tries Versions (1/2)
- ➤ CSL Concurrent Skip Lists CHM Concurrent Hash Maps

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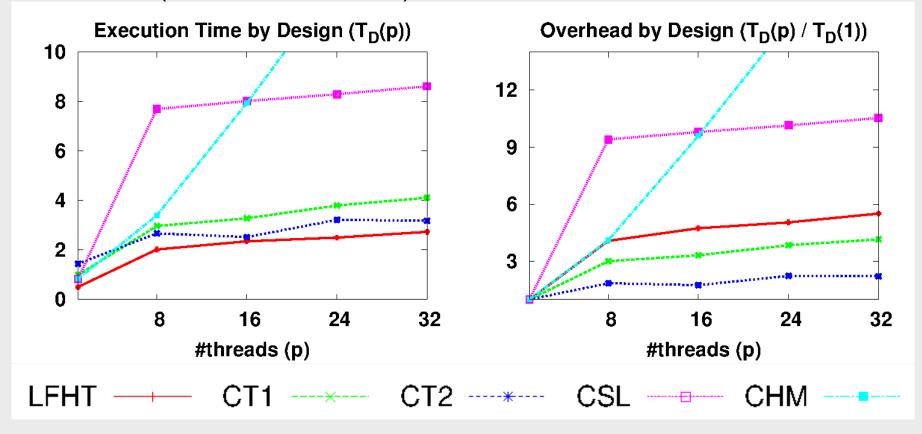
Comparison in a 32 Core AMD machine. Threads lookup for different items.



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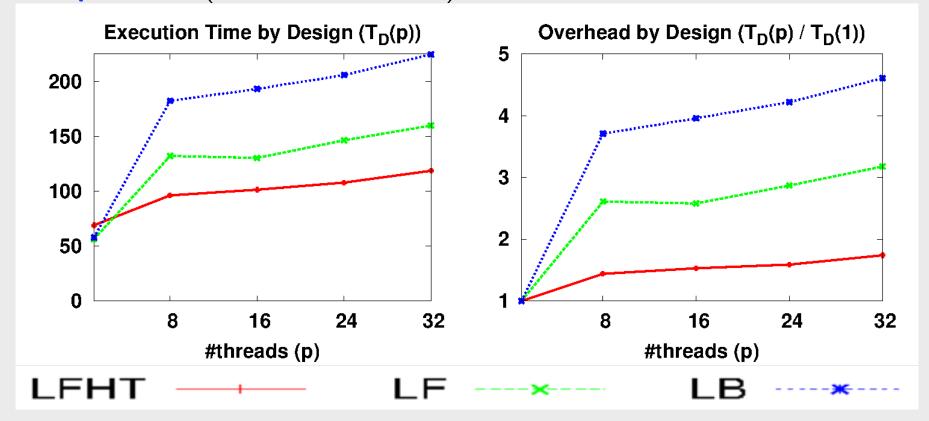
Comparison in a 32 Core AMD machine. All threads lookup and insert the same items (worst case scenario).



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Experimental Results - Tabling Framework

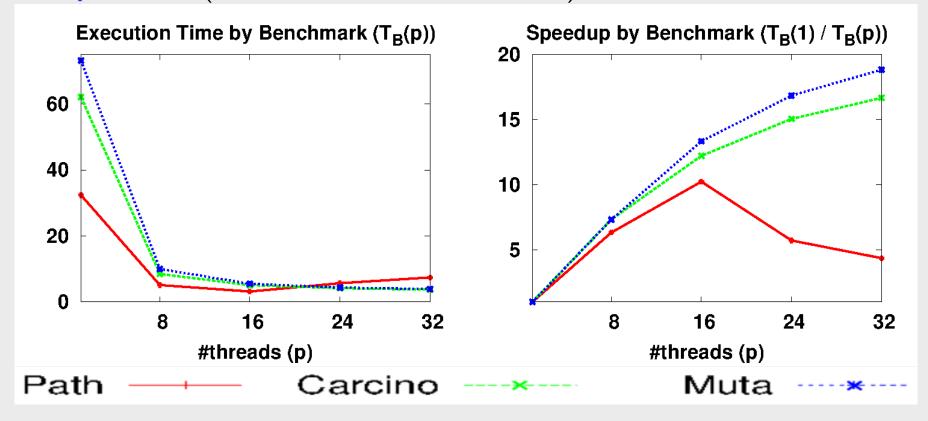
Comparison in a 32 Core AMD machine. All threads execute the same subcomputations (worst case scenario).



- ➤ LFHT Lock-Free Hash Tries LF Lock-Free (old approach)
- **▶ LB Lock-Based (old approach)**

Experimental Results - Tabling Framework

Comparison in a 32 Core AMD machine. All threads execute different subcomputations (LFHT Lock-Free Hash Tries).



- > Path Path problem using a graph with a grid configuration
- ➤ Carcino / Muta (genesis) Inductive Logic Programing Benchmarks

Conclusions and Further Work

- ➤ We have presented a **novel**, **efficient** and **lock-free** design for a trie hash data structure applied to the multithreaded tabled evaluation of logic programs:
 - ♦ Improves the efficiency of the concurrent lookup and insert operations even in worst case scenarios.
 - ♦ The paper discusses the most relevant implementation details and proves the correctness of the design.
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- **Further work** will include:
 - Support the concurrent deletion of trie nodes
 - Extend the usage of the design to other parts of the Yap Prolog system.

Thank You !!!

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Yap Prolog: $http://www.dcc.fc.up.pt/\sim vsc/Yap$

Projects SIBILA and PEst: http://cracs.fc.up.pt/

FCT Grant: SFRH/BD/69673/2010







