Coinduction, Corecursion, Copatterns

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Initial Algebras in Functional Programming

Coalgebras and Copatterns

Codata Types

Conclusion

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Algebraic Data Types

In most functional programming languages we have the notion of an algebraic data type, e.g.

data \mathbb{N} : Set where $0 : \mathbb{N}$ $S : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$

data NatList : Set where nil : NatList cons : $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{NatList} \rightarrow \text{NatList}$

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Initial Algebras in Functional Programming

Algebraic Data Types as F-Algebras

data \mathbb{N} : Set where $0 : \mathbb{N}$ $S : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$

can be rewritten as

data \mathbb{N} : Set where intro : $(1 + \mathbb{N}) \to \mathbb{N}$

or with F(X) := 1 + X

data \mathbb{N} : Set where intro : $F(\mathbb{N}) \to \mathbb{N}$

So 0 = intro inl and S n = intro (inr n).

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Algebraic Data Types as F-Algebras

data NatList : Set where nil : NatList cons : $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{NatList} \rightarrow \text{NatList}$

can we written as

data NatList : Set where nil : $1 \rightarrow \text{NatList}$ cons : $(\mathbb{N} \times \text{NatList}) \rightarrow \text{NatList}$

and with $F(X) := 1 + (\mathbb{N} \times X)$ becomes

data NatList : Set where intro : $F(NatList) \rightarrow NatList$

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Initial F-Algebras

Initial F-Algebras F^{\ast} are minimal F-Algebras:



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Iteration

Existence of g corresponds to iteration (example \mathbb{N}):



$$g \ 0 = f \ \text{inl}$$

$$g \ (S \ n) = f \ (\text{inr} \ (g \ n))$$
So with $a_0 := f \ \text{inl} : A \ \text{and} \ f_0 := f \ \circ \text{inr} : A \rightarrow A$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}g \ 0 & = & a_0 \\ g \ (\mathrm{S} \ n) & = & f_0 \ (g \ n) \end{array}$$

and therefore

$$g n = f_0^n a_0$$

On the other hand for every

$$a_0: A \qquad f_0: A \to A$$

we can define f and therefore g s.t. this equation holds. So initial F-algebra means just **unique iteration**.

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Recursion

The principle of recursion can be derived using uniqueness (I learned this from Thorsten Altenkirch): Assume

$$egin{array}{rcl} \mathsf{a}_0 & \colon & \mathcal{A} \ \mathsf{f}_0 & \colon & \mathbb{N} o \mathcal{A} o \mathcal{A} \end{array}$$

We derive $g : \mathbb{N} \to A$ s.t.

$$g \ 0 = a_0$$

 $g \ (S \ n) = f_0 \ n \ (g \ n)$

This allows to define efficiently the inverse of S:

pred :
$$\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$

pred 0 = 0
pred (S n) = n

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Recursion

We have

$$egin{array}{rcl} a_0 & : & A \ f_0 & : & \mathbb{N} o A o A \end{array}$$

We need to have an F-algebra, we take as carrier

 $\mathbb{N} \times A$

Define

$$\begin{array}{ll} f: (1 + (\mathbb{N} \times A)) \to (\mathbb{N} \times A) \\ f \mbox{ inl } &= \langle 0, a_0 \rangle \\ f \mbox{ (inr } \langle n, a \rangle) &= \langle \mathrm{S} \ n, f_0 \ n \ a \rangle \end{array}$$

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 $\begin{array}{lll} f \ \mathrm{inl} & = & \langle 0, a \rangle \\ f \ (\mathrm{inr} \ \langle n, a \rangle) & = & \langle n+1, f_0 \ n \ a \rangle \end{array}$



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Both $\pi_0 \circ g$ and id make the outermost diagram commute. By uniqueness follows $\pi_0 \circ g = id$, therefore $g \ n = \langle n, g_0 \ n \rangle$ for some $g_0 : \mathbb{N} \to A$.





Therefore

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Induction

Induction can be regarded as dependent elimination: Assume

$$\begin{array}{rcl} A & : & \mathbb{N} \to \operatorname{Set} \\ a_0 & : & A \ 0 \\ f_0 & : & (n : \mathbb{N}) \to A \ n \to A \ (\mathrm{S} \ n) \end{array}$$

We derive $g: (n:\mathbb{N}) \to A n$ s.t.

$$g 0 = a_0$$

 $g (S n) = f_0 n (g n)$

Can be derived in the same way as recursion.

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Coalgebras

Final coalgebras F^∞ are obtained by reversing the arrows in the diagram for F-algebras:



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Coalgebras

Consider Streams = F^{∞} where $F(X) = \mathbb{N} \times X$:



Guarded Recursion



Resulting equations:

head
$$(g a) = f_0 a$$

tail $(g a) = g(f_1 a)$

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Example of Guarded Recursion

head
$$(g a) = f_0 a$$

tail $(g a) = g (f_1 a)$

describes a schema of guarded recursion (or better coiteration) As an example, with $A = \mathbb{N}$, $f_0 \ n = n$, $f_1 \ n = n + 1$ we obtain:

inc :
$$\mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$$

head (inc n) = n
tail (inc n) = inc ($n + 1$)

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Corecursion

In coiteration we need to make in $\ensuremath{\operatorname{tail}}$ always a recursive call:

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tail (g a) = g (f_1 a)
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Corecursion allows for $\ensuremath{\mathrm{tail}}$ to escape into a previously defined stream. Assume

$$\begin{array}{rcl} A & : & \operatorname{Set} \\ f_0 & : & A \to \mathbb{N} \\ f_1 & : & A \to (\operatorname{Stream} + A) \end{array}$$

we get $g : A \rightarrow \text{Stream s.t.}$

head
$$(g a) = f_0 a$$

tail $(g a) = s$ if $f_1 a = \operatorname{inl} s$
tail $(g a) = g a'$ if $f_1 a = \operatorname{inr} a'$

Iteration and Recursion

(I learned this symmetry from Peter Hancock)

Iteration: For $a_0 : A, f_0 : A \rightarrow A$ we get

$$\begin{array}{rcl} f:\mathbb{N}\to A\\ f\;0&=&a_0\\ f\;(\mathrm{S}\;n)&=&f_0\;(f\;n) \end{array}$$

Recursion: For $a_0 : A$, $f_0 : (\mathbb{N} \times A) \to A$ we get

$$\begin{array}{rcl} f:\mathbb{N}\to A\\ f\;0&=&a_0\\ f\;(\mathrm{S}\;n)&=&f_0\;\langle n,f\;n\rangle \end{array}$$

Coiteration and Corecursion

Iteration: For $f_0 : A \to \mathbb{N}$, $f_1 : A \to A$ we get

$$\begin{array}{ll} f:A \rightarrow {\rm Stream} \\ {\rm head}\; (f\;a) \;\; = \;\; f_0\;a \\ {\rm tail}\; (f\;a) \;\; = \;\; f\;(f_1\;a) \end{array}$$

Corecursion: For $f_0 : A \to \mathbb{N}$, $f_1 : A \to (\text{Stream} + A)$ we get

Recursion, Corecursion

Recursion allows to define the inverse of the constructor $\ensuremath{\mathrm{S}}$

pred : $\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ pred 0 = 0pred (S n) = n

Corecursion allows to define the inverse of the destrutors head, tail:

$$cons : \mathbb{N} \to Stream \to Stream$$

head $(cons \ n \ s) = n$
tail $(cons \ n \ s) = s$

Nested Corecursion

stutter : $\mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$ head (stutter n) = nhead (tail (stutter n)) = ntail (tail (stutter n)) = stutter (n + 1)

Even more general schemata can be defined.

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Weakly Final Coalgebra

 Equality for final coalgebras is undecidable: Two streams

$$s = (a_0 , a_1 , a_2 , ... t = (b_0 , b_1 , b_2 , ...$$

are equal iff $a_i = b_i$ for all *i*.

Even the weak assumption

$$\forall s. \exists n, s'. s = \text{cons } n s'$$

results in an undecidable equality.

- Weakly final coalgebras obtained by omitting uniqueness of g in diagram for coalgebras.
- However, one can extend schema of coiteration as above, and still preserve decidability of equality.
 - ► Those schemata are usually not derivable in weakly final coalgebras.

- ▶ We can define now functions by patterns and copatterns.
- Example define stream:
 f n =
 n, n, n-1, n-1, ...0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, ...0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,

 $f n = n, n, n-1, n-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,$

$$\begin{array}{l} f:\mathbb{N}\to \text{Stream} \\ f &= ? \end{array}$$

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 $f n = n, n, n-1, n-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,$

 $\begin{array}{l} f:\mathbb{N}\to \text{Stream} \\ f &= ? \end{array}$

Pattern match on $f : \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$:

 $\begin{array}{l} f:\mathbb{N}\to \text{Stream}\\ f\ n\ =\ ? \end{array}$

 $f n = n, n, n-1, n-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,$

$$f: \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$$
$$f \ n = ?$$

Copattern matching on *f n* : Stream:

 $f: \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$ head (f n) = ?tail (f n) = ?

 $f n = n, n, n-1, n-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,$

 $f : \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$ head (f n) = ?tail (f n) = ?

Pattern matching on the first $n : \mathbb{N}$:

 $f: \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$ head $(f \ 0) = ?$ head $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$ tail $(f \ n) = ?$

 $f n = n, n, n-1, n-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,$

 $f: \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$ head $(f \ 0) = ?$ head $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$ tail $(f \ n) = ?$

Pattern matching on second $n : \mathbb{N}$:

 $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Stream}$ head $(f \ 0) = ?$ head $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$ tail $(f \ 0) = ?$ tail $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$

 $f n = n, n, n-1, n-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,$

 $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Stream}$ head $(f \ 0) = ?$ head $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$ tail $(f \ 0) = ?$ tail $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$

Copattern matching on tail $(f \ 0)$: Stream

 $\begin{array}{l} f: \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream} \\ \text{head} & (f \ 0 \) = \ ? \\ \text{head} & (f \ (\text{S} \ n)) = \ ? \\ \text{head} & (\text{tail} (f \ 0 \)) = \ ? \\ \text{tail} & (\text{tail} (f \ 0 \)) = \ ? \\ \text{tail} & (f \ (\text{S} \ n \)) = \ ? \end{array}$

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 $f n = n, n, n-1, n-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1, \dots, 0, 0, N, N, N-1, N-1,$

$$f: \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$$

head $(f \ 0 \) = ?$
head $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$
head $(\text{tail} (f \ 0 \)) = ?$
tail $(\text{tail} (f \ 0 \)) = ?$
tail $(f \ (S \ n \)) = ?$

Copattern matching on tail (f (S n)) : Stream:

$$f: \mathbb{N} \to \text{Stream}$$
head $(f \ 0 \) = ?$
head $(f \ (S \ n)) = ?$
head $(\text{tail} (f \ 0 \)) = ?$
tail $(\text{tail} (f \ 0 \)) = ?$
head $(\text{tail} (f \ (S \ n))) = ?$
tail $(\text{tail} (f \ (S \ n))) = ?$
tail $(\text{tail} (f \ (S \ n))) = ?$

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We resolve the goals:

 $\begin{array}{rcl} f:\mathbb{N} \to \operatorname{Stream} \\ \operatorname{head} & (f \ 0 &) = & 0 \\ \operatorname{head} & (\operatorname{tail} (f \ 0 &)) = & 0 \\ \operatorname{tail} & (\operatorname{tail} (f \ 0 &)) = & f \ N \\ \operatorname{head} & (f \ (\operatorname{S} \ n)) = & \operatorname{S} \ n \\ \operatorname{head} & (\operatorname{tail} (f \ (\operatorname{S} \ n))) = & \operatorname{S} \ n \\ \operatorname{tail} & (\operatorname{tail} (f \ (\operatorname{S} \ n))) = & f \ n \end{array}$

Results of paper in POPL

- Development of a recursive simply typed calculus (no termination check).
- ► Allows to derive schemata for pattern/copattern matching.
- Proof that subject reduction holds.

$$t: A, t \longrightarrow t' \text{ implies } t': A$$

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Codata Type

Idea of Codata Types:

 $\begin{array}{rcl} {\rm codata\ Stream: Setwhere} \\ {\rm cons\ :\ } \mathbb{N} \to {\rm Stream} \to {\rm Stream} \end{array}$

 Theoretical problem: Underlying assumption is

 $\forall s : \text{Stream}. \exists n, s'. s = \text{cons } n s'$

which results in undecidable equality.

- ► Results in Coq in a long known problem of subject reduction.
- In Agda severe restriction of elimination for coalgebras, which makes proving formulae involving coalgebras very difficult.

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Problem of Subject reduction:

data
$$_==_ \{A : Set\} (a : A) : A \rightarrow Set where refl : a == a$$

codata Stream : Set where $cons : \mathbb{N} \to Stream \to Stream$

zeros : Stream zeros = cons 0 zeros

force : Stream \rightarrow Stream force s = case s of $(\text{cons } x \ y) \rightarrow \text{cons } x \ y$

 $lem1 : (s : Stream) \rightarrow s == force(s))$ $lem1 s = case s of (cons x y) \rightarrow refl$

lem2 : zeros == cons 0 zeroslem2 = lem1 zeros $lem2 \longrightarrow refl but \neg (refl : zeros == cons 0 zeros)$

Multiple Constructors in Algebras and Coalgebras

Having more than one constructor in algebras correspond to disjoint union:

> data \mathbb{N} : Set where $0 : \mathbb{N}$ $S : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$

corresponds to

data \mathbb{N} : Set where intro : $(1 + \mathbb{N}) \to \mathbb{N}$

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Multiple Constructors in Algebras and Coalgebras

Dual of disjoint union is products, and therefore multiple destructors correspond to product:

> coalg Stream : Set where head : Stream $\rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ tail : Stream \rightarrow Stream

corresponds to

coalg Stream : Set where case : Stream \rightarrow ($\mathbb{N} \times$ Stream)

Codata Types

Codata Types Correspond to Disjoint Union

Consider

Cannot be simulated by a coalgebra with several destructors.

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Codata Types

Simulating Codata Types by Simultaneous Algebras/Coalgebras

Represent Codata as follows

mutual coalg coList : Set where unfold : coList \rightarrow coListShape

data coListShape : Set where

- nil : coListShape
- $\operatorname{cons} \ : \ \mathbb{N} \to \operatorname{coList} \to \operatorname{coListShape}$

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Codata Types

Definition of Append

append : coList \rightarrow coList \rightarrow coList append / / =?

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Definition of Append

append : coList
$$\rightarrow$$
 coList \rightarrow coList append / / =?

We copattern match on append I I' : coList:

append : $coList \rightarrow coList \rightarrow coList$ unfold (append / /') =?

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Definition of Append

```
append : coList \rightarrow coList \rightarrow coList
unfold (append / /') =?
```

We cannot pattern match on *I*. But we can do so on (unfold *I*):

$$\begin{array}{ll} \operatorname{append}:\operatorname{coList}\to\operatorname{coList}\to\operatorname{coList}\\ \operatorname{unfold}(\operatorname{append} \mid l')=\\ \operatorname{case}(\operatorname{unfold} l)\operatorname{of}\\ \operatorname{nil} &\to ?\\ (\operatorname{cons} n \mid) \to ? \end{array}$$

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Definition of Append

append : coList
$$\rightarrow$$
 coList \rightarrow coList
unfold (append $l l'$) =
case (unfold l) of
nil \rightarrow ?
(cons $n l$) \rightarrow ?

We resolve the goals:

append : coList
$$\rightarrow$$
 coList \rightarrow coList
unfold (append $l l'$) =
case (unfold l) of
nil \rightarrow unfold l'
(cons $n l$) \rightarrow cons n (append $l l'$)

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Fibonacci Numbers

Efficient Haskell version adapted to our codata notation:

codata Stream : Set where $cons : \mathbb{N} \to Stream \to Stream$

```
tail : Stream \rightarrow Stream tail (cons n l) = l
```

addStream : Stream \rightarrow Stream \rightarrow Stream addStream (cons n l) (cons n' l') = cons (n + n') (addStream l l')

fib : Stream fib = cons 1 (cons 1 (addStream fib (tail fib)))

```
Requires lazy evaluation.
```

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Fibonacci Numbers using Coalgebras

```
coalg Stream : Set where
head : Stream \rightarrow \mathbb{N}
tail : Stream \rightarrow Stream
```

```
fib : Stream
head fib = 1
head (tail fib) = 1
tail (tail fib) = addStream fib (tail fib)
```

No laziness required. Requires full corecursion (but terminates).

Initial Algebras in Functional Programming

Coalgebras and Copatterns

Codata Types

Conclusion

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Conclusion

Conclusion

- Symmetry between
 - algebras and coalgebras,
 - iteration and coiteration,
 - recursion and corecursion,
 - patterns and copatterns.
- Unknown: dual of induction (requires codependent types?)
- Codata construct assumes every element is introduced by a constructor, which results in
 - either undecidable equality
 - or requires sophisticated restrictions on reduction rule which are difficult to get right.
 - Problem of subreduction in Coq.
 - Overly restriction on elimination in Agda.
- Weakly final coalgebras solve this problem, but add small overhead when programming.

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