# Introduction to the Curry-Howard correspondence The logic of types in functional programming languages

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#### Type constructions in functional programming

The common ground between OCaml, Haskell, Scala, Rust, and other languages

Five type constructions are common in FP languages:

- Tuple ("product") type: Int × String
- Function type: Int ⇒ String
- Disjunction ("sum") type: Int + String
- Unit type ("empty tuple"): 1
- $\bullet$  Type parameters: List  $^T$

Up to differences in syntax, the FP languages share all these features

#### Type constructions: Scala syntax

```
• Tuple type: (Int, String)
     Create: val pair: (Int, String) = (123, "abc")
     ▶ Use: val y: String = pair._2

    Function type: Int ⇒ String

     ▶ Create: val f: (Int \Rightarrow String) = x \Rightarrow "Value is " + x.toString
     ► Use: val v: String = f(123)

    Disjunction type: Either[Int, String] defined in standard library

     Create:
        val x: Either[Int, String] = Left(123)
        val y: Either[Int, String] = Right("abc")
     ▶ Use: val z: Boolean = x match {
        case Left(i) \Rightarrow i > 0
        case Right(_) ⇒ false

    Unit type: Unit

     Create: val x: Unit = ()
```

## Type constructions: OCaml syntax

```
Tuple type: int * string
    ► Create: let pair: int * string = (123, "abc")
    ▶ Use: let y: string = snd pair
• Function type: Int ⇒ String
    Create: let f: int -> string =
        fun x -> Printf.sprintf "Value is %d" x
    ▶ Use: let y: string = f 123

    Disjunction type: type e = Left of int | Right of string

    Create.
        let x: e = Left 123
        let v: e = Right "abc"
    ▶ Use: let z: bool = match x with
        Left i \rightarrow i > 0
        Right _ -> false
Unit type: unit
```

Create: let x: unit = ()

#### Type constructions: Haskell syntax

• Tuple type: (Int, String) Create: pair = (123, "abc") ▶ Use: (\_, y) = pair Function type: Int ⇒ String ▶ Create:  $f = \x ->$  "Value is " ++ show x ► Use: v = f 123 Disjunction type: data E = Left Int | Right String Create. x = Left 123y = Right "abc"  $\blacktriangleright$  Use: z = case x ofLeft  $i \rightarrow i > 0$ Right \_ -> false Unit type: Unit ightharpoonup Create: x = ()

#### From types to propositions

The code val x: T = ... shows that we can compute a value of type T as part of our program expression

- Let's denote this *proposition* by  $\mathcal{CH}(T)$  "Code  $\mathcal{H}$ as a value of type T"
- Correspondence between types and propositions, for a given program:

Туре	Proposition	Short notation
Т	$\mathcal{CH}(T)$	T
(A, B)	CH(A) and $CH(B)$	$A \wedge B$ ; $A \times B$
Either[A, B]	CH(A) or $CH(B)$	$A \vee B$ ; $A + B$
$A \Rightarrow B$	CH(A) implies $CH(B)$	$A \Rightarrow B$
Unit	True	1

- Type parameter [T] in a function type means  $\forall T$
- Example: def dupl[A]: A  $\Rightarrow$  (A, A). The type of this function,  $A \Rightarrow A \times A$ , corresponds to the (valid) theorem  $\forall A : A \Rightarrow A \wedge A$

#### Translating language constructions into the logic I

What are the derivation rules for the logic of types?

Code expressions create *logical relationships* between propositions  $\mathcal{CH}(...)$ 

- Expressions (program code) are represented by sequents
  - ▶  $A, B \vdash C$  represents an expression of type C that uses x: A and y: B
    - ★ Sequents only describe the *types* of expressions and their parts
  - ▶ In  $A, B, ... \vdash C$  the **premises** are A, B, ... and the **goal** is C
- Some sequents are immediate, others follow from previous ones
  - ► Tuple type: *A* × *B* 
    - ★ Create:  $A, B \vdash A \times B$
    - ★ Use:  $A \times B \vdash A$  and also  $A \times B \vdash B$
  - ▶ Function type:  $A \Rightarrow B$ 
    - **★** Create: if we have  $A \vdash B$  then we will have  $\emptyset \vdash A \Rightarrow B$
    - ★ Use:  $A \Rightarrow B, A \vdash B$
  - ▶ Disjunction type: A + B
    - ★ Create:  $A \vdash A + B$  and also  $B \vdash A + B$
    - **★** Use: A + B,  $A \Rightarrow C$ ,  $B \Rightarrow C \vdash C$
  - ▶ Unit type: 1
    - ★ Create: ∅ ⊢ 1

## Translating language constructions into the logic II

Additional rules for the logic of types

In addition to constructions that use types, we have "trivial" constructions:

- a single, unmodified value of type A is a valid expression of type A
  - For any A we have the sequent  $A \vdash A$
- if a value can be computed using some given data, it can also be computed if given additional data
  - ▶ If we have  $A, ..., C \vdash G$  then also  $A, ..., C, D \vdash G$  for any D
  - ightharpoonup For brevity, we denote by  $\Gamma$  a sequence of arbitrary premises
- the order in which data is given does not matter, we can still compute all the same things given the same premises in different order
  - ▶ If we have  $\Gamma$ , A,  $B \vdash G$  then we also have  $\Gamma$ , B,  $A \vdash G$

#### Syntax conventions:

- the implication operation associates to the right
  - $ightharpoonup A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow C \text{ means } A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow C)$
- precedence order: implication, disjunction, conjunction
  - ▶  $A + B \times C \Rightarrow D$  means  $(A + (B \times C)) \Rightarrow D$

Quantifiers: implicitly, all our type variables are universally quantified

• When we write  $A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow A$ , we mean  $\forall A : \forall B : A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow A$ 

#### The logic of types I

Now we have all the axioms and the derivation rules of the logic of types.

- What theorems can we derive in this logic?
- Example:  $A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow A$ 
  - ▶ Start with an axiom  $A \vdash A$ ; add an unused extra premise  $B: A, B \vdash A$
  - ▶ Use the "create function" rule with B and A, get  $A \vdash B \Rightarrow A$
  - ▶ Use the "create function" rule with A and  $B \Rightarrow A$ , get the final sequent  $\emptyset \vdash A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow A)$  showing that  $A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow A$  is a **theorem** since it is derived from no premises
- What code does this describe?
  - ▶ The axiom  $A \vdash A$  represents the expression x where x is of type A
  - ▶ The unused premise *B* corresponds to unused variable *y* of type *B*
  - ▶ The "create function" rule gives the function  $y \Rightarrow x$
  - ▶ The second "create function" rule gives  $x \Rightarrow (y \Rightarrow x)$
  - ▶ Scala code: def f[A, B]: A  $\Rightarrow$  B  $\Rightarrow$  A = (x: A)  $\Rightarrow$  (y: B)  $\Rightarrow$  x
- Any code expression's type can be translated into a sequent
- A proof of a theorem directly guides us in writing code for that type

#### Correspondence between programs and proofs

By construction, any theorem can be implemented in code

Proposition	Code
$\forall A: A \Rightarrow A$	def identity[A](x: A): A = x
$\forall A: A \Rightarrow 1$	<pre>def toUnit[A](x: A): Unit = ()</pre>
$\forall A \forall B : A \Rightarrow A + B$	<pre>def inLeft[A,B](x:A): Either[A,B] = Left(x)</pre>
$\forall A \forall B : A \times B \Rightarrow A$	def first[A,B](p: (A,B)): A = p1
$\forall A \forall B : A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow A)$	$def const[A,B](x: A): B \Rightarrow A = (y:B) \Rightarrow x$

- Also, non-theorems cannot be implemented in code
  - Examples of non-theorems:  $\forall A: 1 \Rightarrow A; \quad \forall A \forall B: A + B \Rightarrow A; \\ \forall A \forall B: A \Rightarrow A \times B; \quad \forall A \forall B: (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow A$
- Given a type's formula, can we implement it in code? Not obvious.
  - ► Example:  $\forall A \forall B : ((((A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow A) \Rightarrow A) \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B$ 
    - ★ Can we write a function with this type?

## The logic of types II

What kind of logic is this?

This is called "intuitionistic propositional logic", IPL (also "constructive")

- Disjunction works very differently from classical (Boolean) logic
  - ▶ Example:  $A \Rightarrow B + C \vdash (A \Rightarrow B) + (A \Rightarrow C)$  does not hold in IPL
  - ▶ This is counter-intuitive!
  - ▶ We cannot implement a function with this type:

def q[A,B,C](f: A 
$$\Rightarrow$$
 Either[B, C]): Either[A  $\Rightarrow$  B, A  $\Rightarrow$  C]

- ▶ Disjunction is "constructive": need to supply one of the parts
  - \* But Either [A  $\Rightarrow$  B, A  $\Rightarrow$  C] is not a function of A
- Implication works somewhat differently
  - ▶ Example:  $((A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow A) \Rightarrow A$  holds in Boolean logic but not in IPL
  - ► Cannot compute an x: A because of insufficient data
- Conjunction works the same as in Boolean logic
  - Example:

$$A \Rightarrow B \times C \vdash (A \Rightarrow B) \times (A \Rightarrow C)$$

#### The logic of types III

How to determine whether a given IPL formula is a theorem?

- The IPL cannot have a truth table with a fixed number of truth values
  - ► This was shown by Gödel in 1932 (see Wikipedia page)
- The IPL has a decision procedure (algorithm) that either finds a proof for a given IPL formula, or determines that there is no proof
- There may be several inequivalent proofs of an IPL theorem
- Each proof can be automatically translated into code
  - ► The curryhoward library implements an IPL prover as a Scala macro, and generates Scala code from types
  - ► The djinn-ghc compiler plugin and the JustDolt plugin implement an IPL prover in Haskell, and generate Haskell code from types
- All these IPL provers use the same basic algorithm called LJT
  - and all cite the same paper [Dyckhoff 1992]
  - because most other papers on this subject are incomprehensible to engineers or describe algorithms that are too complicated

## Proof search I: looking for an algorithm

Why our initial presentation of IPL does not give a proof search algorithm

The FP type constructions give nine axioms and three derivation rules:

• 
$$\Gamma$$
,  $A$ ,  $B \vdash A \times B$ 

• 
$$\Gamma$$
,  $A \times B \vdash A$ 

• 
$$\Gamma$$
,  $A \times B \vdash B$ 

• 
$$\Gamma, A \Rightarrow B, A \vdash B$$

• 
$$\Gamma, A \vdash A + B$$

• 
$$\Gamma$$
,  $B \vdash A + B$ 

• 
$$\Gamma$$
,  $A + B$ ,  $A \Rightarrow C$ ,  $B \Rightarrow C \vdash C$ 

- Try proving  $A, B + C \vdash A \times B + C$ : cannot find matching rules
- Need a better formulation of the logic

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash G}{\Gamma, D \vdash G}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A, B \vdash G}{\Gamma, B, A \vdash G}$$

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## Proof search II: Gentzen's calculus LJ (1935)

 A "complete and sound calculus" is a set of axioms and derivation rules that will yield all (and only!) theorems of the logic

$$\begin{array}{cccc} (X \text{ is atomic}) & \overline{\Gamma, X \vdash X} & Id & \overline{\Gamma \vdash \top} & \top \\ \hline \frac{\Gamma, A \Rightarrow B \vdash A & \Gamma, B \vdash C}{\Gamma, A \Rightarrow B \vdash C} & L \Rightarrow & \frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B} & R \Rightarrow \\ \hline \frac{\Gamma, A \vdash C & \Gamma, B \vdash C}{\Gamma, A + B \vdash C} & L + & \frac{\Gamma \vdash A_i}{\Gamma \vdash A_1 + A_2} & R +_i \\ \hline \frac{\Gamma, A_i \vdash C}{\Gamma, A_1 \times A_2 \vdash C} & L \times_i & \frac{\Gamma \vdash A & \Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \times B} & R \times \end{array}$$

- Two axioms and eight derivation rules
- Each rule says: The sequent at bottom will be proved if proofs are given for sequent(s) at top
- Use these rules "bottom-up" to perform a proof search
  - Sequents are nodes and proofs are edges in the proof search tree

#### Proof search example I

Example: to prove 
$$\emptyset \vdash ((R \Rightarrow R) \Rightarrow Q) \Rightarrow Q$$

- Root sequent  $S_0:\emptyset \vdash ((R\Rightarrow R)\Rightarrow Q)\Rightarrow Q$
- $S_0$  with rule  $R \Rightarrow$  yields  $S_1 : (R \Rightarrow R) \Rightarrow Q \vdash Q$
- $S_1$  with rule  $L \Rightarrow$  yields  $S_2 : (R \Rightarrow R) \Rightarrow Q \vdash R \Rightarrow R$  and  $S_3 : Q \vdash Q$
- Sequent  $S_3$  follows from the Id axiom; it remains to prove  $S_2$
- $S_2$  with rule  $L \Rightarrow$  yields  $S_4 : (R \Rightarrow R) \Rightarrow Q \vdash R \Rightarrow R$  and  $S_5 : Q \vdash R \Rightarrow R$ 
  - We are stuck here because  $S_4 = S_2$  (we are in a loop)
  - We can prove  $S_5$ , but that will not help
  - ▶ So we backtrack (erase  $S_4$ ,  $S_5$ ) and apply another rule to  $S_2$
- $S_2$  with rule  $R \Rightarrow$  yields  $S_6 : (R \Rightarrow R) \Rightarrow Q; R \vdash R$
- Sequent  $S_6$  follows from the Id axiom

Therefore we have proved  $S_0$ . Q.E.D.

#### Proof search III: The calculus LJT

Vorobieff-Hudelmaier-Dyckhoff, 1950-1990

- The Gentzen calculus LS will loop if rule  $L \Rightarrow$  is applied  $\geq 2$  times
- The calculus LJT keeps all rules of LJ except rule  $L \Rightarrow$
- Replace rule  $L \Rightarrow$  by pattern-matching on A in the premise  $A \Rightarrow B$ :

$$(X \text{ is atomic}) \frac{\Gamma, X, B \vdash D}{\Gamma, X, X \Rightarrow B \vdash D} L \Rightarrow_{1}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow C) \vdash D}{\Gamma, (A \times B) \Rightarrow C \vdash D} L \Rightarrow_{2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \Rightarrow C, B \Rightarrow C \vdash D}{\Gamma, (A + B) \Rightarrow C \vdash D} L \Rightarrow_{3}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, B \Rightarrow C \vdash A \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma, (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow C \vdash D} L \Rightarrow_{4}$$

- When using LJT rules, the proof tree has no loops and terminates
  - ▶ See this paper for an explicit decreasing measure on the proof tree

#### Proof search IV: The calculus LJT

"It is obvious that it is obvious" - a mathematician after thinking for a half-hour

• Rule  $L \Rightarrow_4$  is based on the key theorem:

$$((A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow C) \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow B) \iff (B \Rightarrow C) \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow B)$$

• The key theorem for rule  $L \Rightarrow_4$  is attributed to Vorobieff (1958):

be extracted from Lemma 7 in [22]. One could also go further and make subproofs sensible.

LEMMA 2. 
$$\vdash_{LJ} \Gamma, (C \supset D) \supset B \Rightarrow C \supset D \text{ iff } \vdash_{LJ} \Gamma, D \supset B \Rightarrow C \supset D.$$
  
PROOF. Trivial [34].

THEOREM 1. The systems LJ and LJT are equivalent.

Proof. As noted earlier, it is routine to show that any sequent provable

[R. Dyckhoff, Contraction-Free Sequent Calculi for Intuitionistic Logic, 1992]

• A stepping stone to this theorem:

$$((A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow C) \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow C$$

Proof (obviously trivial):  $f^{(A\Rightarrow B)\Rightarrow C} \Rightarrow b^B \Rightarrow f(x^A \Rightarrow b)$ 

Details are left as exercise for the reader

#### Proof search V: From deduction rules to code

- The new rules are equivalent to the old rules, therefore...
  - ▶ Proof of a sequent  $A, B, C \vdash G \Leftrightarrow \text{code/expression } t(a, b, c) : G$
  - ▶ Also can be seen as a function t from A, B, C to G
- Sequent in a proof follow from an axiom or from a transforming rule
  - ▶ The two axioms are fixed expressions,  $x^A \Rightarrow x$  and 1
  - ▶ Each rule has a *proof transformer* function:  $PT_{R\Rightarrow}$  ,  $PT_{L+}$  , etc.
- Examples of proof transformer functions:

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash C \qquad \Gamma, B \vdash C}{\Gamma, A + B \vdash C} L +$$

$$PT_{L+}(t_1^{A \Rightarrow C}, t_2^{B \Rightarrow C})(x^{A+B}) = x \text{ match } \begin{cases} a \Rightarrow t_1(a) \\ b \Rightarrow t_2(b) \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow C) \vdash D}{\Gamma, (A \times B) \Rightarrow C \vdash D} L \Rightarrow_2$$

$$PT_{L \Rightarrow_2}(f^{(A \Rightarrow B \Rightarrow C) \Rightarrow D})(g^{A \times B \Rightarrow C}) = f(x^A \Rightarrow y^B \Rightarrow g(x, y))$$

Verify that we can indeed produce PTs for every rule of LJT

#### Proof search VI: Example deduction

Once a proof tree is found, start from leaves and apply PTs

• Example: to prove  $S_0$ , start from  $S_6$  backwards:

$$\begin{split} S_6:(R\Rightarrow R)\Rightarrow Q; R\vdash R &\quad (\text{axiom }Id) \quad t_6(rrq,r): R=r \\ S_2:(R\Rightarrow R)\Rightarrow Q\vdash (R\Rightarrow R) \quad \mathsf{PT}_{R\Rightarrow}(t_6) \quad t_2(rrq): (R\Rightarrow R)=(r\Rightarrow t_6(rrq,r)) \\ S_3:Q\vdash Q &\quad (\text{axiom }Id) \quad t_3(q): Q=q \\ S_1:(R\Rightarrow R)\Rightarrow Q\vdash Q \quad \mathsf{PT}_{L\Rightarrow}(t_2,t_3) \quad t_1(rrq): Q=t_3(rrq(t_2(rrq))) \\ S_0:\emptyset\vdash ((R\Rightarrow R)\Rightarrow Q)\Rightarrow Q \quad \mathsf{PT}_{R\Rightarrow}(t_1) \quad t_0=(rrq\Rightarrow t_1(rrq)) \end{split}$$

• The expression for the proof of  $S_0$  is

$$t_0 = rrq \Rightarrow t_3 (rrq (t_2 (rrq))) = rrq \Rightarrow rrq (r \Rightarrow t_6 (rrq, r))$$
  
=  $rrq \Rightarrow rrq (r \Rightarrow r)$ 

Simplified final code (proof term) having the required type:

$$t_0: ((R \Rightarrow R) \Rightarrow Q) \Rightarrow Q = (rrq \Rightarrow rrq(r \Rightarrow r))$$

#### Type isomorphisms I: identities

Using known properties of propositional logic and arithmetic

Are A + B,  $A \times B$  more like logic  $(A \vee B, A \wedge B)$  or like arithmetic?

• Some standard identities in logic ( $\forall A \forall B \forall C$  is assumed):

$$A \times 1 = A; \quad A \times B = B \times A$$

$$A \vee 1 = 1; \quad A \vee B = B \vee A$$

$$(A \times B) \times C = A \times (B \times C); \quad A \vee (B \times C) = (A \vee B) \times (A \vee C)$$

$$(A \vee B) \vee C = A \vee (B \vee C); \quad A \times (B \vee C) = (A \times B) \vee (A \times C)$$

$$(A \times B) \Rightarrow C = A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow C)$$

$$A \Rightarrow (B \times C) = (A \Rightarrow B) \times (A \Rightarrow C)$$

$$(A \vee B) \Rightarrow C = (A \Rightarrow C) \times (B \Rightarrow C)$$

- Each identity means 2 function types: X = Y is  $X \Rightarrow Y$  and  $Y \Rightarrow X$ 
  - ▶ Do these functions convert values between the types *X* and *Y*?

#### Type isomorphisms II

- Types A and B are isomorphic,  $A \equiv B$ , if there is a 1-to-1 correspondence between the sets of values of these types
  - ▶ Need to find two functions  $f: A \Rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \Rightarrow A$  such that  $f \circ g = id$  and  $g \circ f = id$

Example 1: Is  $\forall A: A \times 1 \equiv A$ ? Types in Scala: (A, Unit) and A

• Two functions with types  $\forall A : A \times 1 \Rightarrow A \text{ and } \forall A : A \Rightarrow A \times 1$ :

```
def f1[A]: ((A, Unit)) \Rightarrow A = { case (a, ()) \Rightarrow a } def f2[A]: A \Rightarrow (A, Unit) = a \Rightarrow (a, ())
```

Verify that their compositions equal identity

Example 2: Is  $\forall A: 1+A \equiv 1$ ? (The formula  $\forall A: A \lor 1=1$  is a theorem!)

- Types in Scala: Option[A] and Unit
  - These types are obviously not equivalent

Some logic identities yield isomorphisms of types

• Which ones do not yield isomorphisms, and why?

#### Type isomorphisms III

Verifying type equivalence by implementing isomorphisms

• Need to verify that  $f_1 \circ f_2 = id$  and  $f_2 \circ f_1 = id$ 

Example 3: 
$$\forall A \forall B \forall C : (A \times B) \times C \equiv A \times (B \times C)$$

def f1[A,B,C]: (((A, B), C)) 
$$\Rightarrow$$
 (A, (B, C)) = ???  
def f2[A,B,C]: ((A, (B, C)))  $\Rightarrow$  ((A, B), C) = ???

Example 4: 
$$\forall A \forall B \forall C : (A + B) \times C \equiv A \times C + B \times C$$

def f1[A,B,C]: ((Either[A,B], C)) 
$$\Rightarrow$$
 Either[(A,C), (B,C)] = ??? def f2[A,B,C]: Either[(A,C), (B,C)]  $\Rightarrow$  (Either[A, B], C) = ???

Example 5: 
$$\forall A \forall B \forall C : (A + B) \Rightarrow C \equiv (A \Rightarrow C) \times (B \Rightarrow C)$$

def f1[A,B,C]: (Either[A, B] 
$$\Rightarrow$$
 C)  $\Rightarrow$  (A  $\Rightarrow$  C, B  $\Rightarrow$  C) = ???? def f2[A,B,C]: ((A  $\Rightarrow$  C, B  $\Rightarrow$  C))  $\Rightarrow$  Either[A, B]  $\Rightarrow$  C = ???

Example 6: 
$$\forall A \forall B \forall C : A + B \times C \not\equiv (A + B) \times (A + C)$$
 – "information loss"

def f1[A,B,C]: Either[A,(B,C)] 
$$\Rightarrow$$
 (Either[A,B],Either[A,C]) = ???? def f2[A,B,C]: ((Either[A,B],Either[A,C]))  $\Rightarrow$  Either[A,(B,C)] = ???

## Type isomorphisms IV

Logical CH vs. arithmetical CH

- WLOG consider types A, B, ... that have *finite* sets of possible values
  - ▶ Sum type A + B (size |A| + |B|) provides a disjoint union of sets
  - ▶ Product type  $A \times B$  (size  $|A| \cdot |B|$ ) provides a Cartesian product of sets
    - \* Have identities (a + b) + c = a + (b + c),  $(a \times b) \times c = a \times (b \times c)$ ,  $1 \times a = a$ ,  $(a + b) \times c = a \times c + b \times c$ , ... as in "school-level" algebra
  - ▶ Function type  $A \Rightarrow B$  provides the set of all maps between sets
    - ★ The size of  $A \Rightarrow B$  is  $|B|^{|A|}$
    - \* Have identities  $a^c \times b^c = (a \times b)^c$ ,  $a^{b+c} = a^b \times a^c$ ,  $a^{b \times c} = (a^b)^c$
- If the set size (cardinality) differs, A and B cannot be equivalent

The meaning of the type/logic/arithmetic correspondence:

- Arithmetical identities signify type equivalence (isomorphism)
- Logic identities only signify equal implementability of types

Reasoning about types is *school-level algebra* with polynomials and powers

- Exp-polynomial expressions: constants, sums, products, exponentials
  - exp-poly types: primitive types, disjunctions, tuples, functions
  - polynomial types are commonly called "algebraic types"

## Making practical use of the CH correspondence I

Implications for actually writing code

#### What can we do now?

- Given a fully parametric type, decide whether it can be implemented in code ("type is inhabited"); if so, *generate* the code
- Let the computer fill in the code when it is "trivial" to do so
  - ▶ This is often (not always) the case for fully type-parametric functions
- Decide type isomorphisms using the "arithmetical CH"
- Isomorphically transform types using school-level algebra

#### What problems cannot be solved with these tools?

- Automatically generate code satisfying properties (e.g. isomorphism)
- Express complicated conditions via types (e.g. "array is sorted")
- Generate code using type constructors with properties (e.g. map)
  - ▶ Scala type signature:  $(x: List[A]).map[B](f: A \Rightarrow B): List[B]$
  - ▶ This formula has a quantifier *inside*: List<sup>A</sup>  $\Rightarrow$  ( $\forall B : f^{A \Rightarrow B} \Rightarrow \text{List}^B$ )
  - ► This requires **first-order logic**, which is generally *undecidable* (no algorithm can guarantee finding a proof or showing its absence)

#### Some caveats

- The CH correspondence becomes informative only with parameterized types. For concrete types, e.g. Int, we can always produce *some* value even with no previous data, so  $\mathcal{CH}(\operatorname{Int})$  is always true.
- Functions such as  $(x: Int) \Rightarrow x + 1$  have type  $Int \Rightarrow Int$ , and the type signature is insufficient to specify the code. Only for fully type-parametric functions the type signature can be, in some cases, informative enough for deriving the code automatically.
- Having an arithmetic identity does not guarantee that we have a type equivalence via CH (it is a necessary but not a sufficient condition); but it does yield a type equivalence in all cases I looked at so far.
- Scala's type Nothing and Haskell's type Void correspond to the logical constant False; but the practical uses of False are extremely limited.
- We did not talk about the logical negation because it is defined as  $\neg A \equiv A \Rightarrow False$  and its practical use is as limited as that of False.

#### Making practical use of the CH correspondence II

Implications for designing new programming languages

- The CH correspondence maps the type system of each programming language into a certain system of logical propositions
- Scala, Haskell, OCaml, F#, Swift, Rust, etc. are mapped into the full constructive logic (all logical operations are available)
  - C, C++, Java, C#, etc. are mapped to incomplete logics without "or" and without "true" / "false"
  - Python, JavaScript, Ruby, Clojure, etc. have only one type ("any value") and are mapped to logics with only one proposition
- The CH correspondence is a principle for designing type systems:
  - Choose a complete logic, free of inconsistency
    - \* Mathematicians have studied all kinds of logics and determined which ones are interesting, and found the minimal sets of axioms for them
    - ★ Modal logic, temporal logic, linear logic, etc.
  - ▶ Provide a type construction for each basic operation (e.g. "or", "and")
  - ▶ There should be a type for every logical operation and vice versa