

# Parametricity properties of purely functional code

“Theorems for free” demystified. A tutorial, with code examples in Scala

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# Refactoring code by permuting the order of operations

- Expected properties of refactored code:

First extract user information, then convert stream to list; or first convert to list, then extract user information:

`db.getRows.toList.map(getUserInfo)` gives the same result as  
`db.getRows.map(getUserInfo).toList`

First extract user information, then exclude invalid rows; or first exclude invalid rows, then extract user information:

`db.getRows.map(getUserInfo).filter(isValid)` gives the same result as  
`db.getRows.filter(getUserInfo andThen isValid).map(getUserInfo)`

- These refactorings are guaranteed to be correct

# Refactored code: further examples

Writing the previous examples as equations:

`def toList[A]: Stream[A] => List[A]` written as  $\text{toList}^A : \text{Str}^A \rightarrow \text{List}^A$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Str}^A & \xrightarrow{\text{toList}^A} & \text{List}^A \\ \downarrow f^{\uparrow \text{Str}} & & \downarrow f^{\uparrow \text{List}} \\ \text{Str}^B & \xrightarrow{\text{toList}^B} & \text{List}^B \end{array}$$

$$\_.\text{toList}.\text{map}(f) == \_.\text{map}(f).\text{toList}$$

$$(f:A \rightarrow B)^{\uparrow \text{Str}} \circ \text{toList}^B = \text{toList}^A \circ f^{\uparrow \text{List}}$$

`def filt[A]: (A => Boolean) => Stream[A] => Stream[A]`

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Str}^A & \xrightarrow{\text{filt}^A(f \circ p)} & \text{Str}^A \\ \downarrow f^{\uparrow \text{Str}} & & \downarrow f^{\uparrow \text{Str}} \\ \text{Str}^B & \xrightarrow{\text{filt}^B(p)} & \text{Str}^B \end{array}$$

$$\text{filt}^A : (A \rightarrow \mathbb{2}) \rightarrow \text{Str}^A \rightarrow \text{Str}^A$$

$$(f:A \rightarrow B)^{\uparrow \text{Str}} \circ \text{filt}^B(p:B \rightarrow \mathbb{2}) = \text{filt}^A(f \circ p) \circ f^{\uparrow \text{Str}}$$

- A transformation before `map` equals a transformation after `map`
- This is called a **naturality law**
- We expect it to hold if the code works the same way for all types

# Naturality laws: equations

**Naturality law** for a function  $t$  is an equation involving an arbitrary function  $f$  that permutes the order of application of  $t$  and of a lifted  $f$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{List}^A & \xrightarrow{\text{headOpt}^A} & \text{Opt}^A \\ \downarrow f^{\uparrow \text{List}} & & f^{\uparrow \text{Opt}} \downarrow \\ \text{List}^B & \xrightarrow{\text{headOpt}^B} & \text{Opt}^B \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{list.map}(f).\text{headOption} == \text{list.headOption.map}(f) \\ (f:A \rightarrow B)^{\uparrow \text{List}} \circ \text{headOpt} = \text{headOpt} \circ (f:A \rightarrow B)^{\uparrow \text{Opt}} \end{array}$$

- Lifting  $f$  before  $t$  equals to lifting  $f$  after  $t$
- Intuition:  $t$  rearranges data in a collection, not looking at values

Further examples:

- Reversing a list;  $\text{reverse}^A : \text{List}^A \rightarrow \text{List}^A$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{list.map}(f).\text{reverse} == \text{list.reverse.map}(f) \\ (f:A \rightarrow B)^{\uparrow \text{List}} \circ \text{reverse}^B = \text{reverse}^A \circ (f:A \rightarrow B)^{\uparrow \text{List}} \end{array}$$

- The pure method,  $\text{pure}[A] : A \Rightarrow L[A]$ . Notation:  $\text{pu}_L : A \rightarrow L^A$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{pure}(x).\text{map}(f) == \text{pure}(f(x)) \\ \text{pu}^A \circ (f:A \rightarrow B)^{\uparrow L} = f \circ \text{pu}^B \end{array}$$

# Reasoning with naturality: Simplifying the pure method

The naturality law of `pure` for a functor  $L$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\text{pu}_L} & L^A \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow f^{\uparrow L} \\ B & \xrightarrow{\text{pu}_L} & L^B \end{array}$$

$$\text{pure}(a).\text{map}(f) == \text{pure}(f(a))$$

$$\text{pu}_L \circ f^{\uparrow L} = f \circ \text{pu}_L$$

Fix a value  $b:B$  and set  $A = \mathbb{1}$  and  $f \triangleq 1 \rightarrow b$  in the naturality law:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{1} & \xrightarrow{\text{pu}_L} & L^{\mathbb{1}} \\ \downarrow 1 \rightarrow b & & \downarrow (1 \rightarrow b)^{\uparrow L} \\ B & \xrightarrow{\text{pu}_L} & L^B \end{array}$$

$$\text{pure}(()).\text{map}(\_ \Rightarrow b) == \text{pure}(b)$$

$$\text{pu}_L \circ (1 \rightarrow b)^{\uparrow L} = (1 \rightarrow b) \circ \text{pu}_L$$

We have expressed `pure(b)` via a constant value `pure(())` of type `L[Unit]`

The naturality law of `pure` makes it equivalent to a “wrapped unit” value

This simplifies the definition of a `Pointed` typeclass:

```
abstract class Pointed[L[_]: Functor] { def wu: L[Unit] }
```

Examples: for `Option`, `wu = Some(())`. For `List`, `wu = List()`

# Summary of the type notation

The short type notation helps in symbolic reasoning about types

Description	Scala examples	Notation
Typed value	<code>x: Int</code>	$x^{Int}$ or $x : Int$
Unit type	<code>Unit, Nil, None</code>	$1$
Type parameter	<code>A</code>	$A$
Product type	<code>(A, B)</code> or <code>case class P(x: A, y: B)</code>	$A \times B$
Co-product type	<code>Either[A, B]</code>	$A + B$
Function type	<code>A =&gt; B</code>	$A \rightarrow B$
Type constructor	<code>List[A]</code>	$List^A$
Universal quantifier	<code>trait P { def f[A]: Q[A] }</code>	$P \triangleq \forall A. Q^A$
Existential quantifier	<code>sealed trait P[A]</code> <code>case class Q[A, B]() extends P[A]</code>	$P^A \triangleq \exists B. Q^{A,B}$

Example: Scala code `def flm(f: A => Option[B]): Option[A] => Option[B]`  
is denoted by  $flm : (A \rightarrow 1 + B) \rightarrow 1 + A \rightarrow 1 + B$

# Naturality laws in typeclasses

Another use of naturality laws is when implementing typeclasses

- Typeclasses require type constructors with methods `map`, `filter`, `fold`, `flatMap`, `pure`, and others

To be useful for programming, the methods must satisfy certain laws

- `map`: identity, composition
- `filter`: identity, composition, partial function, naturality
- `fold` (traverse): identity, composition, naturality
- `flatMap`: identity, associativity, naturality
- `pure`: naturality

We need to check the laws when implementing new typeclass instances  
Usually, typeclass instances are written in fully parametric code

# Fully parametric code: example

**Fully parametric** code: “works in the same way for all types”

- Example of a fully parametric function:

```
def headOpt[A]: List[A] => Option[A] = {  
  case Nil => None  
  case head :: tail => Some(head)  
}
```

- The code does not use explicit types
- The same code in the matrix notation:

$$\text{headOpt}^{\text{List}^A \rightarrow \mathbb{1} + A} \triangleq \left| \begin{array}{c|cc} & \mathbb{1} & A \\ \hline \mathbb{1} & \text{id} & \mathbb{0} \\ A \times \text{List}^A & \mathbb{0} & h \times t \rightarrow h \end{array} \right|$$

where  $\text{List}^A \triangleq \mathbb{1} + A \times \text{List}^A$  is a recursively defined type constructor:

```
final case class List[A](x: Option[(A, List[A])])
```

Naturality laws express the programmer’s intuition about the properties of fully parametric code



Example of code that is *not* fully parametric:

- An implementation of `headOpt` that has special code for `Int` type

```
def headOptBad[A]: List[A] => Option[A] = {  
  case Nil                => None  
  case (head: Int) :: tail => Some((head + 100).asInstanceOf[A])  
  case head :: tail       => Some(head)  
}
```

- The code uses explicit run-time type detection

The function `headOptBad` fails the naturality law:

```
scala> headOptBad(List(1, 2, 3).map(x => s"value = $x"))  
res0: Option[String] = Some(value = 1)
```

```
scala> headOptBad(List(1, 2, 3)).map(x => s"value = $x")  
res1: Option[String] = Some(value = 101)
```

# Full parametricity: The price we pay for “free theorems”

Free theorems only apply to **fully parametric** code:

- All argument types are combinations of type parameters
- All type parameters are treated as unknown, arbitrary types
- No hard-coded values of specific types (`123: Int` or `"abc": String`)
- No side effects (printing, `var x`, mutating values, writing files, networking, starting or stopping new threads, GUI events, etc.)
- No `null`, no throwing of exceptions, no run-time type comparison
- No run-time code loading, no external libraries with unknown code

“Fully parametric” is a stronger restriction than “purely functional” (referentially transparent)

Purely functional code is fully parametric if restricted to using only `Unit` type or type parameters

- No hard-coded values of specific types, and no run-time type detection

Fully parametric programs are written using the 9 code constructions:

```
def fmap[A, B](f: A => B): List[(A, A)] => List[(B, B)] = { // 3
  case Nil => Nil
// 8 1 1,7
  case head :: tail => (f (head._1), f (head._2)) :: fmap(f)(tail)
// 8 6 2 4 6 5 2 4 6 7 9
} // This code has used each of the nine allowed constructions.
```

- 1 Use `Unit` value (or a “named `Unit`”), e.g. `()`, `Nil`, or `None`. Notation:  $1$
- 2 Use bound variable (a given argument of the function). Notation:  $x$
- 3 Create function: `{ x => expr(x) }`. Notation:  $x \rightarrow \text{expr}(x)$
- 4 Use function: `f(x)`. Notation:  $f(x)$  or  $x \triangleright f$
- 5 Create tuple: `(a, b)`. Notation:  $a \times b$
- 6 Use tuple: `p._1`. Notation:  $\nabla_1 p$  or  $p \triangleright \nabla_1$
- 7 Create disjunctive value: `Left[A, B](x)`. Notation:  $x^{:A} + 0^{:B}$
- 8 Use disjunctive value: `{ case ... }` (pattern-matching); matrix code
- 9 Use recursive call: `fmap(f)(tail)`. Notation:  $\overline{\text{fmap}}_{\text{List}}(f)(t)$

# Naturality laws and parametricity

- The **parametricity theorem** guarantees that all naturality laws hold as long as the method's code is fully parametric
- This saves us time: *no need* to check the naturality laws

Using the parametricity theorem is difficult

- The “theorems for free” ([Reynolds](#); [Wadler](#)) approach needs to replace functions (one-to-one or many-to-one) by “relations” (many-to-many)
  - ▶ Derive a law with relation variables, then replace them by functions
- Alternative approach: analysis of dinatural transformations derives the naturality laws directly ([Bainbridge et al.](#); [Backhouse](#); [de Lataillade](#))
  - ▶ See also a [2019 paper](#) by Voigtländer
- Plan:
  - ▶ Start with natural transformations
  - ▶ Introduce profunctors and dinatural transformations
  - ▶ Commutativity laws for bifunctors and profunctors
  - ▶ Derive the naturality laws for dinatural transformations
  - ▶ Uniqueness of functor typeclass instances

# Natural transformations and their laws

A **natural transformation** is a function  $t$  with type signature  $F^A \rightarrow G^A$  that satisfies the naturality law  $f^{\uparrow F} \circ t = t \circ f^{\uparrow G}$ . Notation  $t : F \rightsquigarrow G$

- Many standard methods have the form of a natural transformation
  - ▶ Examples: `headOption`, `lastOption`, `reverse`, `swap`, `map`, `flatMap`, `pure`
- If there are several type parameters, use one at a time:
  - ▶ For `flatMap`, denote  $\text{flm} : (A \rightarrow M^B) \rightarrow M^A \rightarrow M^B$ , fix  $A$ 
    - ★  $\text{flm} : F^B \rightarrow G^B$  where  $F^B \triangleq A \rightarrow M^B$  and  $G^B \triangleq M^A \rightarrow M^B$
  - ▶ The naturality law  $f^{\uparrow F} \circ \text{flm} = \text{flm} \circ f^{\uparrow G}$  then gives the equation

$$\text{flm}(p^{A \rightarrow M^B} \circ f^{\uparrow M}) = \text{flm}(p^{A \rightarrow M^B}) \circ f^{\uparrow M}$$

The naturality law for  $t^A : F^A \rightarrow G^A$  when  $F^A, G^A$  are contrafunctors:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F^A & \xrightarrow{t^A} & G^A \\ \downarrow (f^{B \rightarrow A})^{\downarrow F} & & \downarrow f^{\downarrow G} \\ F^B & \xrightarrow{t^B} & G^B \end{array} \qquad f^{\downarrow F} \circ t = t \circ f^{\downarrow G}$$

Mnemonic rule: if  $t : F \rightsquigarrow G$  then the lifting to  $F$  is on the left, the lifting to  $G$  is on the right

# Dinatural transformations and profunctors

Some methods do *not* have the type signature of the form  $F^A \rightarrow G^A$

- `find[A]: (A => Boolean) => List[A] => Option[A]`
- `fold[A, B]: List[A] => B => (A => B => B) => B` with respect to B
  - ▶ The type parameter is in contravariant and covariant positions at once
  - ▶ This gives us neither a functor nor a contrafunctor
- Solution: use a profunctor  $P^{X,Y}$  (contravariant in  $X$ , covariant in  $Y$ ) with equal type parameters:  $P^{A,A}$

A **dinatural transformation** is a function  $t$  with type signature  $P^{A,A} \rightarrow Q^{A,A}$  that satisfies the naturality law  $f \downarrow^P ; t ; f \uparrow^Q = f \uparrow^P ; t ; f \downarrow^Q$  where  $P^{X,Y}$  and  $Q^{X,Y}$  are suitable profunctors

- All pure functions have the type signature of a dinatural transformation
- All naturality laws (also for `find`, `fold`) are derived in this way
- The corresponding naturality law is guaranteed by parametricity
- Proof of parametricity theorem is a direct proof that any pure function  $t$  satisfies its law, by induction on the code structure of  $t$
- The proof depends on the profunctor commutativity law and on the “standard” lifting codes for  $f \uparrow^P$  and  $f \downarrow^P$

# Type constructors with two type parameters

In particular: bifunctors and profunctors

- In Scala syntax: `L[A, B]`. Example: `type L[A, B] = Either[(A, B), B]`
- In the type notation:  $L^{A,B}$ . Example:  $L^{A,B} \triangleq A \times B + B$
- If a type constructor is fully parametric, its type parameters will be either in covariant or in contravariant positions
- **Bifunctors**: both type parameters are always in covariant positions
  - ▶ Example: `type L[A, B] = Either[(A, B), B]` is a bifunctor
  - ▶ Method `bimap[A, B, C, D](f: A => C)(g: B => D): L[A, B] => L[C, D]`
  - ▶ Laws: identity and composition for `bimap`
- **Profunctors**: one type parameter contravariant, the other covariant
  - ▶ Example: `type P[X, Y] = Option[X] => (Y, Y)` or  $P^{X,Y} \triangleq 1 + X \rightarrow Y \times Y$
  - ▶ Method `xmap[A, B, C, D](f: C => A)(g: B => D): P[A, B] => P[C, D]`
  - ▶ Laws: identity and composition for `xmap`
- If `L[A, B]` is a functor separately in `A` and `B`, is it a bifunctor?
- If `P[A, B]` is contravariant in `A` and covariant in `B`, is it a profunctor?
- They are — as long as all liftings in `A` commute with liftings in `B`
  - ▶ These are the “commutativity laws” of bifunctors and profunctors

# Applying map to bifunctors and profunctors

The `map` method can be applied with respect to only one type parameter

- In a bifunctor  $L[A, B]$ , fix  $B$ . Denote the resulting functor by  $L^{\bullet, B}$ 
  - ▶ In the Scala syntax with “kind projector”:  $L[?, B]$
  - ▶ Lifting a function  $f: U \rightarrow V$  is denoted by  $f^{\uparrow L^{\bullet, B}}: L^{U, B} \rightarrow L^{V, B}$
  - ▶ If fixing  $A$  instead, a lifting is denoted by  $f^{\uparrow L^{A, \bullet}}: L^{A, U} \rightarrow L^{A, V}$
  - ▶ **Commutativity law** for bifunctors:  $f^{\uparrow L^{\bullet, B}} \circ (g: B \rightarrow C)^{\uparrow L^{V, \bullet}} = g^{\uparrow L^{U, \bullet}} \circ f^{\uparrow L^{\bullet, C}}$
- In a profunctor  $P[A, B]$ , fix  $B$ . The resulting *contrafunctor* is  $P^{\bullet, B}$ 
  - ▶ Lifting a function  $f: U \rightarrow V$  is denoted by  $f^{\downarrow P^{\bullet, B}}: P^{V, B} \rightarrow P^{U, B}$
  - ▶ If fixing  $A$  instead, a lifting is denoted by  $f^{\uparrow P^{A, \bullet}}: P^{A, U} \rightarrow P^{A, V}$ 
    - ★ For brevity, we may denote these liftings by  $f^{\downarrow P}$  and  $f^{\uparrow P}$  unambiguously
  - ▶ **Commutativity law** for profunctors:  $f^{\downarrow P} \circ g^{\uparrow P} = g^{\uparrow P} \circ f^{\downarrow P}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P^{A, B} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P^{C, B} \\ (g: B \rightarrow D)^{\uparrow P} \downarrow & \xrightarrow{(f: C \rightarrow A)^{\downarrow P}} & \downarrow (g: B \rightarrow D)^{\uparrow P} \\ P^{A, D} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P^{C, D} \end{array}$$

- Commutativity laws hold for *all* fully parametric type constructors
  - ▶ It is not necessary to verify the bifunctor and profunctor laws!
- Proof is by induction on the type structure of  $P^{X, Y}$



# Proof of the composition law of $\text{xmap}$

If  $P^{A,B}$  is a functor in  $A$  and a contrafunctor in  $B$ , define  $\text{xmap}$  by:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 P^{A,B} & \xrightarrow{(f:C \rightarrow A) \downarrow^P} & P^{C,B} \\
 & \searrow \text{xmap}(f)(g) \triangleq & \downarrow g \uparrow^P \\
 & & P^{C,D}
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{xmap}(f:C \rightarrow A)(g:B \rightarrow D) \triangleq f \downarrow^P \circ g \uparrow^P$$

The  $\text{xmap}$  composition law:

$$\text{xmap}(f_1)(g_1) \circ \text{xmap}(f_2)(g_2) = \text{xmap}(f_2 \circ f_1)(g_1 \circ g_2)$$

Proof uses the commutativity law,  $f \downarrow^P \circ g \uparrow^P = g \uparrow^P \circ f \downarrow^P$ , for  $f_2$  and  $g_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{xmap}(f_1)(g_1) \circ \text{xmap}(f_2)(g_2) &= f_1 \downarrow^P \circ \underline{g_1 \uparrow^P \circ f_2 \downarrow^P} \circ g_2 \uparrow^P \\
 &= \underline{f_1 \downarrow^P \circ f_2 \downarrow^P} \circ \underline{g_1 \uparrow^P \circ g_2 \uparrow^P} = (f_2 \circ f_1) \downarrow^P \circ (g_1 \circ g_2) \uparrow^P \\
 &= \text{xmap}(f_2 \circ f_1)(g_1 \circ g_2)
 \end{aligned}$$

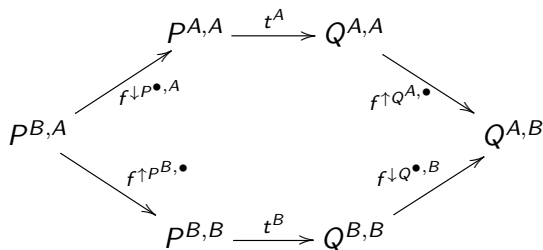
# The naturality law for dinatural transformations

Given two profunctors  $P^{X,Y}$  and  $Q^{X,Y}$  and a function  $t^A : P^{A,A} \rightarrow Q^{A,A}$

The naturality law is an equation for functions  $P^{B,A} \rightarrow Q^{A,B}$ :

$$f \downarrow^{P^\bullet, A} \circ t^A \circ f \uparrow^{Q^A, \bullet} \stackrel{!}{=} f \uparrow^{P^B, \bullet} \circ t^B \circ f \downarrow^{Q^\bullet, B}$$

Both sides must give the same result when applied to arbitrary  $p : P^{B,A}$



This law reduces to natural transformation laws when  $P$  and  $Q$  are functors or contrafunctors

## Example: writing the naturality law for `filter`

`def filter[A]: (A => Boolean) => F[A] => F[A]` for a filterable functor  $F$

Notation:  $\text{filt}^A : (A \rightarrow \mathbb{2}) \rightarrow F^A \rightarrow F^A$  (the type `Boolean` is  $\mathbb{2} = \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1}$ )

Rewrite in the form of a dinatural transformation:

$$\text{filt}^A : P^{A,A} \rightarrow Q^{A,A} \quad , \quad P^{X,Y} \triangleq X \rightarrow \mathbb{2} \quad , \quad Q^{X,Y} \triangleq F^X \rightarrow F^Y$$

Write the code for the liftings using the specific types of  $P$  and  $Q$ :

$$\begin{aligned} (f:A \rightarrow B) \downarrow^{P^\bullet, A} &= p^{B \rightarrow \mathbb{2}} \rightarrow f \circ p \quad , \quad f \uparrow^{P^B, \bullet} = \text{id} \quad , \\ (f:A \rightarrow B) \downarrow^{Q^\bullet, B} &= q^{F^B \rightarrow F^B} \rightarrow f \uparrow^F \circ q \quad , \quad f \uparrow^{Q^A, \bullet} = q^{F^A \rightarrow F^A} \rightarrow q \circ f \uparrow^F \quad . \end{aligned}$$

Rewrite the naturality law  $f \downarrow^{P^\bullet, A} \circ \text{filt}^A \circ f \uparrow^{Q^A, \bullet} \stackrel{!}{=} f \uparrow^{P^B, \bullet} \circ \text{filt}^B \circ f \downarrow^{Q^\bullet, B}$  as

$$(p \rightarrow f \circ p) \circ \text{filt} \circ (q \rightarrow q \circ f \uparrow^F) \stackrel{!}{=} \text{id} \circ \text{filt} \circ (q \rightarrow f \uparrow^F \circ q) \quad .$$

To simplify this equation, apply both sides to an arbitrary value  $p^{P^B, A}$   
Evaluate the results and obtain the naturality law of `filter`,

$$\text{filt}(f \circ p) \circ f \uparrow^F \stackrel{!}{=} f \uparrow^F \circ \text{filt}(p)$$

# Uniqueness of functor implementations

Consequences of the parametricity theorem:

**Statement 1:** For any fully parametric type constructor  $F^A$  covariant in  $A$ , there is a unique lawful and fully parametric implementation of `fmap` with type signature `fmap[A, B]: (A => B) => F[A] => F[B]`

**Statement 2:** For any fully parametric type constructor  $F^A$  contravariant in  $A$ , there is a unique lawful and fully parametric implementation of `cmap` with type signature `cmap[A, B]: (B => A) => F[A] => F[B]`

- Note: many typeclasses may admit several lawful, fully parametric, but non-equivalent implementations of a typeclass instance for the same type constructor `F[A]`. For example, `Filterable`, `Monad`, `Applicative` instances are not always unique. But instances are unique for the functor and contrafunctor type classes.

# Proof of Statement 1 (uniqueness of functor instances)

For a given functor  $F$ , we can construct the “standard”  $\text{fmap}$  (denoted by  $\dots^{\uparrow F}$ ) that is involved in the naturality laws

Suppose that there exists *another* lawful and fully parametric implementation  $\text{fmap}'(f)$ :

$$\text{fmap}' : (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow F^A \rightarrow F^B \quad , \quad \text{fmap}'(f^{A \rightarrow B}) = ???^{F^A \rightarrow F^B}$$

We need to show that  $\text{fmap}' = \text{fmap}$

By parametricity,  $\text{fmap}'$  has a naturality law with respect to  $B$ :

$$\text{fmap}'(f^{A \rightarrow B} \circ g^{B \rightarrow C}) \stackrel{!}{=} \text{fmap}'(f) \circ g^{\uparrow F} = \text{fmap}'(f) \circ \text{fmap}(g)$$

This suggests using the composition law for  $\text{fmap}'$ :

$$\text{fmap}'(f \circ g) = \text{fmap}'(f) \circ \text{fmap}'(g) \stackrel{!}{=} \text{fmap}'(f) \circ \text{fmap}(g)$$

Since  $f^{A \rightarrow B}$  is arbitrary, we may choose  $A = B$  and  $f = \text{id}^{B \rightarrow B}$  to obtain

$$\underline{\text{fmap}'(\text{id})} \circ \text{fmap}'(g) = \text{fmap}'(g) \stackrel{!}{=} \underline{\text{fmap}'(\text{id})} \circ \text{fmap}(g) = \text{fmap}(g)$$

This must hold for arbitrary  $g^{B \rightarrow C}$ , which proves that  $\text{fmap}'_F = \text{fmap}_F$

# Plan for a proof of commutativity law for profunctors

- Main idea: induction on the type expression of a profunctor  $P^{X,Y}$
- A fully parametric  $P^{X,Y}$  must be a combination of `Unit` type ( $\mathbb{1}$ ), parameters  $X$  and  $Y$ , products  $A \times B$ , co-products  $A + B$ , exponentials  $A \rightarrow B$ , and type recursion (use of  $P$  in its definition)
- For each of these cases, we need to show that the commutativity law holds given that it holds for all sub-expressions
  - ▶ Base case: show that the law holds for  $P^{X,Y} \triangleq \mathbb{1}$  and  $P^{X,Y} \triangleq Y$
  - ▶ Induction steps: if the law holds for  $P^{X,Y}$  and  $Q^{X,Y}$ , show that it also holds for  $P^{X,Y} + Q^{X,Y}$  and  $P^{X,Y} \times Q^{X,Y}$  and  $P^{Y,X} \rightarrow Q^{X,Y}$
  - ▶ Show that the law holds for a recursively defined  $P^{X,Y} \triangleq S^{X,Y,P^{X,Y}}$  for a type constructor  $S^{X,Y,R}$  contravariant in  $X$ , covariant in  $Y$  and  $R$
  - ▶ We need to use the code of functor and contrafunctor instances for products, co-products, function types, and recursive types
- Example: For  $R^{X,Y} \triangleq P^{X,Y} \times Q^{X,Y}$ , the liftings to  $R$  are given by  $f^{\uparrow R} \triangleq p \times q \rightarrow f^{\uparrow P}(p) \times f^{\uparrow Q}(q)$  and  $f^{\downarrow R} \triangleq p \times q \rightarrow f^{\downarrow P}(p) \times f^{\downarrow Q}(q)$ 
  - ▶ Write  $f^{\downarrow R}; g^{\uparrow R}$  explicitly using  $f^{\downarrow P}$ ,  $f^{\downarrow Q}$ ,  $g^{\uparrow P}$ , and  $g^{\uparrow Q}$ , and show that  $f^{\downarrow R}; g^{\uparrow R} = g^{\uparrow R}; f^{\downarrow R}$  by assuming that the same law already holds for  $P$  and  $Q$

# Plan for a proof of parametricity theorem

- Need to prove the naturality law for  $t^A : P^{A,A} \rightarrow Q^{A,A}$  written as

$$(f:A \rightarrow B) \downarrow^{P^\bullet, A} \circ t^A \circ f \uparrow^{Q^A, \bullet} = f \uparrow^{P^B, \bullet} \circ t^B \circ f \downarrow^{Q^\bullet, B}$$

- The code of  $t$  must be of the form  $p \rightarrow \text{expr}$ , where “expr” must be built up from some of the nine constructions
- Main idea: induction on the code of “expr”, assuming that the naturality law holds for all sub-expressions
- Example: induction step for code construction 3 (“create function”)
  - ▶ The code of  $t$  is  $p \rightarrow z \rightarrow r$  and  $Q^{X,Y} \triangleq Z^{Y,X} \rightarrow R^{X,Y}$
  - ▶ Inductive assumption is that any  $x \rightarrow r$  satisfies the law; let  $x = p \times z$
  - ▶ Assume that the law holds for  $u \triangleq p \times z \rightarrow r$ ,  $u : P^{A,A} \times Z^{A,A} \rightarrow R^{A,A}$
  - ▶ Derive the law for  $t = p \rightarrow z \rightarrow u(p \times z)$  by a direct calculation
- There are some technical difficulties (dinatural transformations do not generally compose) but these difficulties can be overcome with tricks

- Fully parametric code enables powerful mathematical reasoning:
  - ▶ Naturality laws can be used for guaranteed correct refactoring
  - ▶ Naturality laws allow us to reduce the number of type parameters
  - ▶ In typeclass instances, all naturality laws hold, no need to check
  - ▶ Functor, contrafunctor, and profunctor typeclass instances are unique
  - ▶ Bifunctors and profunctors obey the commutativity law
- Full details and proofs are in the free upcoming book (Appendix D)
  - ▶ Draft of the book: <https://github.com/winitzki/sofp>