

From De Bruijn to co-De Bruijn using Category Theory

Everybody's Got To Be Somewhere^[2]

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The Category of Scopes: Δ_+^X

Definition

Let Δ_+^X be the category of scopes with

- Objects: $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{s} \in |\Delta_+^X| = X^*$ and
- Morphisms: $f, g \in \Delta_+^X(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ for $\bar{x}, \bar{y} \in X^*$ are inductively defined by inference rules

$$\frac{}{\varepsilon \sqsubseteq \varepsilon} \cdot \qquad \frac{\bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{y}}{\bar{x}x \sqsubseteq \bar{y}x} 1 \qquad \frac{\bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{y}}{\bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{y}y} 0$$

Remark

Morphisms in Δ_+^X can be represented by *bit vectors* $\bar{b} \in \{0, 1\}^*$ with one bit per variable of the target scope telling whether it has been mapped to or skipped by the source scope.

Objects & Morphisms in Δ_+^\top

Example

Let $X = \top$, where \top is the set with exactly one element $\langle \rangle$.

Then, objects in Δ_+^\top represent numbers.

$$3 \xrightarrow{10101} 5$$

• ————— •

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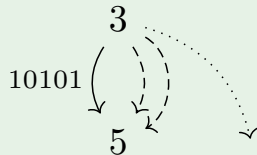
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Identity and Composition in Δ_+^\top

Example

$$5 \xrightarrow{id} 5$$

• ————— •

• ————— •

• ————— •

• ————— •

• ————— •

Example

$$2 \xrightarrow{101} 3$$

• ————— •

◦ ;

• ————— •

$$3 \xrightarrow{10101} 5$$

• ————— •

◦

• ————— •

◦

• ————— •

$$2 \xrightarrow{10001} 5$$

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Δ_+^X is in Fact a Category

Lemma

In Δ_+^X every object $\bar{x} \in X^$ has an identity morphism, i.e. we can construct an identity morphism for every object \bar{x} using the inference rules.*

Proof.

id : $\bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{x}$
 $id \varepsilon = \cdot$
 $id \bar{x}x = id1$ □

Corollary

$id - l$: $id; f = f$
 $id - r$: $f; id = f$

Lemma

In Δ_+^X two morphisms $f : \bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{y}$ and $g : \bar{y} \sqsubseteq \bar{z}$ compose to a morphism $f; g : \bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{z}$, i.e. we can construct a morphism $f; g$ from f and g using the inference rules.

Proof.

$_ ; _$: $\bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{y} \rightarrow \bar{y} \sqsubseteq \bar{z} \rightarrow \bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{z}$
 $\cdot ; \cdot = \cdot$
 $f1 ; g1 = (f; g)1$
 $f0 ; g1 = (f; g)0$
 $f ; g0 = (f; g)0$ □

Corollary

$assoc$: $f; (g; h) = (f; g); h$
 $antisym$: $(f : \bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{y}) \rightarrow (g : \bar{y} \sqsubseteq \bar{z}) \rightarrow \bar{x} = \bar{y} \wedge f = g = id \bar{x}$

Intrinsically Scoped De Bruijn Syntax via Δ_+^\top

Definition

Let $Tm : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow Set$ be the set of lambda calculus terms inductively defined by

$$\frac{1 \sqsubseteq n}{Tm\ n} \#$$

$$\frac{Tm\ n \quad Tm\ n}{Tm\ n} \$$$

$$\frac{Tm\ (n + 1)}{Tm\ n} \lambda$$

Example

$$\mathbb{K} = \lambda x. \lambda y. x \quad = \lambda \lambda \#1$$

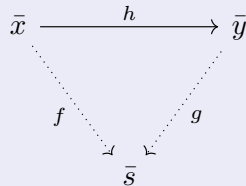
$$\mathbb{S} = \lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. x\ z\ (y\ z) = \lambda \lambda \lambda \#2 \#0 (\#1 \#0)$$

The Slice Category of Subscopes: $\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}$

Definition

Let $\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}$ be the category of subsopes for a given $\bar{s} \in X^*$ with

- Objects: $\bar{b}, (\bar{x}, f) \in |\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}| = (\bar{x} : X^* \times \Delta_+^X(\bar{x}, \bar{s}))$ and
- Morphisms: $h \in [\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}]((\bar{x}, f), (\bar{y}, g))$ such that $f = h; g$

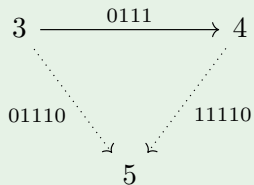


Remark

Objects in $\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}$ can be represented by *bit vectors* $\bar{b} \in \{0, 1\}^*$ with one bit per variable of scope \bar{s} , telling whether it has been selected.

Objects & Morphisms in $\Delta_+^T \setminus 5$

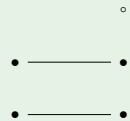
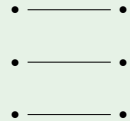
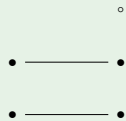
Example



$$2 \xrightarrow{011} 3$$

$$3 \xrightarrow{1110} 4$$

$$2 \xrightarrow{0110} 4$$



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Alternatively:

- $(3, 01110) \xrightarrow{0111} (4, 11110)$

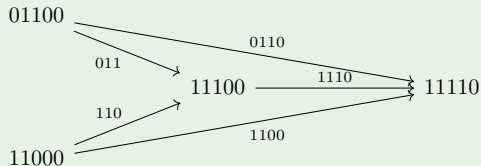
- $01110 \xrightarrow{0111} 11110$

The Curious Case of Coproducts in $\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}$

Theorem

Objects in the slice category $\bar{b}_1, \bar{b}_2 \in |\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}|$ have a coproduct object $\bar{b}_1 + \bar{b}_2$, i.e. there exist morphisms $l \in [\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}](\bar{b}_1, \bar{b}_1 + \bar{b}_2)$ and $r \in [\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}](\bar{b}_2, \bar{b}_1 + \bar{b}_2)$ such that every pair $f \in [\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}](\bar{b}_1, \bar{b}_3)$ and $g \in [\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}](\bar{b}_2, \bar{b}_3)$ factor through a unique $h \in [\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{s}](\bar{b}_1 + \bar{b}_2, \bar{b}_3)$ such that $f = l; h$ and $g = r; h$.

Example



Remark

The coproduct $\bar{b}_1 + \bar{b}_2$ of two subsopes \bar{b}_1, \bar{b}_2 corresponds to the minimal subscope covering both \bar{b}_1 and \bar{b}_2 . The coproduct $\bar{b}_1 + \bar{b}_2$ can be computed by pointwise disjunction of \bar{b}_1 and \bar{b}_2 .

The Category Set_X of Sets Indexed by Scope

Definition

Let Set_X be the category of sets indexed by scopes $\bar{x} \in X^*$ with

- Objects: $T, S \in |Set_X| = X^* \rightarrow Set = \bar{X}$ and
- Morphisms: $f. \in Set_X(T, S) = (\bar{x} \in X^*) \rightarrow T(\bar{x}) \rightarrow S(\bar{x}) = T \dot{\rightarrow} S$

Definition

Let $_ \uparrow _ : \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{X} = (T, \bar{x}) \mapsto (T(\bar{s}) \times \bar{s} \sqsubseteq \bar{x})$. We write $t \uparrow h$ for elements of $T \uparrow \bar{x}$.

We define $Ref : Set_X \dot{\rightarrow} Set_X$ to be the endofunctor induced by the mapping

- $Ref(T) = (\bar{x} \mapsto T \uparrow \bar{x}) \in \bar{X}$ for objects and
- $Ref(f.) = (t \uparrow h) \mapsto (f.(t) \uparrow h) \in T \dot{\rightarrow} S$ for morphisms

Remark

The set $T \uparrow \bar{x}$ packs an set $T \in \bar{X}$ indexed by $\bar{x} \in X^*$ applied to a subscope \bar{s} of \bar{x} , together with a selection $h \in |\Delta_+^X \setminus \bar{x}|$ of the variables of T .

Δ_+^X makes Ref a Monad!

Theorem

The endofunctor $Ref : Set_X \rightarrow Set_X$ gives rise to a monad with the two natural transformations

- $unit : Id(T) \rightarrow Ref(T) = t \mapsto (t \uparrow id)$ and
- $mult : Ref(Ref(T)) \rightarrow Ref(T) = ((t \uparrow h_1)h_2) \mapsto (t \uparrow h_1; h_2)$

Example

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Tm & \xrightarrow{\quad unit \quad} & \bar{x} \mapsto (Tm \ \bar{x} \uparrow \bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{x}) \\ & \nwarrow \scriptstyle Ref & \\ \bar{y} \mapsto ([\bar{x} \mapsto (Tm \ \bar{x} \uparrow \bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{x})] \bar{s} \uparrow \bar{s} \sqsubseteq \bar{y}) & \xrightarrow{\quad mult \quad} & \bar{y} \mapsto (Tm \ \bar{s} \uparrow \bar{s} \sqsubseteq \bar{y}) \end{array}$$

The Notion of Relevant Pairs

Definition

Let $Cov : \bar{x} \sqsubseteq \bar{s} \rightarrow \bar{y} \sqsubseteq \bar{s} \rightarrow Set$ be the set of *coverings* indexed by morphisms \bar{b}_1 and \bar{b}_2

$$\frac{}{Cov \cdot \cdot} \cdot \quad \frac{Cov \bar{b}_1 \bar{b}_2}{Cov \bar{b}_1 1 \bar{b}_2} L \quad \frac{Cov \bar{b}_1 \bar{b}_2}{Cov \bar{b}_1 \bar{b}_2 1} R \quad \frac{Cov \bar{b}_1 \bar{b}_2}{Cov \bar{b}_1 1 \bar{b}_2 1} B$$

Definition

Let the set of relevant pairs be defined as

- $_ \times_R _ : \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{X} \rightarrow \bar{X} = (T, S, \bar{x}) \mapsto ((_ \uparrow \bar{b}_1 : T \uparrow \bar{x}) \times (_ \uparrow \bar{b}_2 : S \uparrow \bar{x}) \times Cov \bar{b}_1 \bar{b}_2)$
- $_,R_ : T \uparrow \bar{x} \rightarrow S \uparrow \bar{x} \rightarrow (T \times_R S) \uparrow \bar{x}$
 $= ((t_1 \uparrow \bar{b}_1), (t_2 \uparrow \bar{b}_2)) \mapsto ((t_1 \uparrow \bar{b}'_1), (t_2 \uparrow \bar{b}'_2), \bar{b}_1 \oplus \bar{b}_2) \uparrow \bar{b}'$

Exploring Relevant Pairs

Remark

Coverings $Cov \bar{b}_1 \bar{b}_2$ hold data about the coproduct of \bar{b}_1 and \bar{b}_2 as well as information about the original appearance of \bar{b}_1 and \bar{b}_2 .

Example

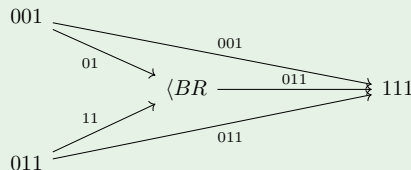
Look at $\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. z \ y = \lambda \lambda \lambda (\#0 \ \#1)$.

The variable terms could also be represented as

- $z' : Tm \uparrow 3 = \#0 \uparrow 001$
- $y' : Tm \uparrow 3 = \#1 \uparrow 011$

And the application term could be a *relevant pair*

- $z',_R y' : (Tm \times_R Tm) \uparrow 3 = (\#0 \uparrow 01, \#1 \uparrow 11, BR) \uparrow 011$



Intrinsically Scoped co-De Bruijn Syntax

Definition

Let $Tm : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow Set$ be inductively defined:

$$\frac{}{Tm\ 1\ \#} \quad \frac{(Tm \times_R Tm)\ n}{Tm\ n}\ \$ \quad \frac{Tm\ (n+1)}{Tm\ n}\ \lambda$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{K} &= \lambda x. \lambda y. x &&= \not\downarrow \\ \mathbb{S} &= \lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. x\ z\ (y\ z) = \lambda\ \lambda\ \lambda\ (\\ &\quad (((\# \uparrow 10),_{[LR]} (\# \uparrow 01)) \uparrow 101) ,_{[LRB]} \\ &\quad (((\# \uparrow 10),_{[LR]} (\# \uparrow 01)) \uparrow 011) \\ &\quad) \end{aligned}$$

- All categorical concepts formalized in Agda
- Categorical concepts applied to formally reason over programming languages using theorem provers
- Suitable representations of objects and morphisms required
- Comes with a *universe of metasyntaxes with binding*

```

cop (θ o') (φ o') = let !!!!!l, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!!l to', co', tr to'
cop (θ o') (φ os) = let !!!!!l, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!!l to', co's, tr to'ss
cop (θ os) (φ o') = let !!!!!l, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!!l tosss, coss, tr tosss
cop (θ os) (φ os) = let !!!!!l, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!!l tosss, cosss, tr tosss
cop oz oz = !!!!!tzzz, czz, tzzz

```

The `copU` proof goes by induction on the triangles which share ψ' and inversion of the coproduct.

A further useful property of coproduct diagrams is that we can selectively refine them by a thinning into the covered scope.

```

subCop : (ψ : kz ⊆ kz') → Cover ov θ' φ' →
  Σ λ iz → Σ λ jz → Σ (iz ⊆ kz) λ θ → Σ (jz ⊆ kz) λ φ →
  Σ (iz ⊆ iz') λ ψ0 → Σ (jz ⊆ jz') λ ψ1 → Cover ov θ φ

```



The implementation is a straightforward induction on the diagram.

The payoff from coproducts is the type of *relevant pairs* — the co-de-Brujin touchstone:

```

record _×R_ (S T : K) (ijz : Bwd K) : Set where
  constructor pair
  field outl : S ⤴ ijz; outr : T ⤴ ijz
  cover : Cover tt (thinning outl) (thinning outr)
  in pair (s ⤴ θ') (t ⤴ φ') c ⤴ ψ

```

The corresponding projections are readily definable.

```

outlR : (S ×R T) ⤴ kz → S ⤴ kz
outlR (pair s _ ⤴ ψ) = thin ⤴ ψ s

outrR : (S ×R T) ⤴ kz → T ⤴ kz
outrR (pair _ t ⤴ ψ) = thin ⤴ ψ t

```

7 Monoidal Structure of Order-Preserving Embeddings

Variable bindings extend scopes. The λ construct does just one 'snoc', but binding can be simultaneous, so the monoidal structure on Δ_k induced by concatenation is what we need.

```

_++_ : Bwd K → Bwd K → Bwd K
kz ++ [] = kz
kz ++ (iz ∷ j) = (kz ++ iz) ∷ j

_++_ : iz ⊆ jz → iz' ⊆ jz' → (iz ++ iz') ⊆ (jz ++ jz')
θ ++_ oz = θ
θ ++_ (φ os) = (θ ++_ φ) os
θ ++_ (φ o') = (θ ++_ φ) o'

```

Concatenation further extends to `Coverings`, allowing us to build them in chunks.

```

_++C_ : Cover ov θ φ → Cover ov θ' φ' → Cover ov (θ ++_ θ') (φ ++_ φ')
c ++C (d c's) = (c ++C d) c's
c ++C (d c's') = (c ++C d) c's'
c ++C (css {both = b} d) = css {both = b} (c ++C d)
c ++C czz = c

```

One way to build such a chunk is to observe that two scopes cover their concatenation.

Using co-De Bruijn is not hard, category theory is!

```
data Cov : (k l m : ℕ) → Set where
  · : Cov 0 0 0
  L : Cov k l m → Cov (suc k) l (suc m)
  R : Cov k l m → Cov k (suc l) (suc m)
  B : Cov k l m → Cov (suc k) (suc l) (suc m)
```

```
data Term : ℕ → Set where
  # : Term 1
  λ : Term (suc n) → Term n
  _$[_]_ : Term k → Cov k l m → Term l → Term m
```

```
_ = λ (λ (λ ((# $[ L (R ·) ] #) $[ L (R (B ·)) ] (# $[ L (R ·) ] #))))
```

References

- [1] Conor McBride. *Cats and types: Best friends?* Aug. 2021. URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05IJ3YL8p0s>.
- [2] Conor McBride. “Everybody’s Got To Be Somewhere”. In: *Electronic Proceedings in Theoretical Computer Science* 275 (July 2018), pp. 53–69. ISSN: 2075-2180. DOI: 10.4204/eptcs.275.6. URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4204/EPTCS.275.6>.