Arrows for Parallel Computations

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Abstract

Arrows form**OL:** are? a general interface for computation and pose therefore as an alternative to monads for API design. We express parallelism using this concept. This is a new way to represent parallel computation. We define an Arrows-based interface for parallelism and implement it using multiple parallel Haskells. **OL:** Benefits: In this manner we are able to bridge across various parallel Haskells with a common interface.

This new way of writing parallel programs has a benefit of being portable across flavours of parallel Haskells. OL: Wdh? Each parallel computation is an arrow, they can be composed and transformed as such. We thus introduce some syntactic sugar to provide parallelism-aware arrow combinators.

We also define several parallel skeletons with our framework. Benchmarks shows that our framework does not induce too much overhead performance-wise.

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Contents

1 Introduction

OL: todo, reuse 5.5, "Impact" at the end and more

blablabla arrows, parallel, haskell.

Contribution HIT HERE REALLY STRONG

Structure The remaining text is structures as follows. Section 2 briefly introduces known parallel Haskell flavours and gives an overview of Arrows to the reader (Sec. 2.2). Section 3 discusses related work. Section 4 defines Parallel Arrows and presents a basic interface. Section 5 defines Futures for Parallel Arrows, this concept enables better communication. Section 6 presents some basic algorithmic skeletons (parallel map with and without load balancing, map-reduce) in our newly defined dialect. More advanced ones are showcased in Section 7 (pipe, ring, torus). Section 8 shows the benchmark results. Section 9 discusses future work and concludes.

2 Background

2.1 Short introduction to parallel Haskells

There are already several ways to write parallel programs in Haskell. As we will base our parallel arrows on existing parallel Haskells, we will now give a short introduction to the ones we use as backends in this paper.

In its purest form, parallel computation (on functions) can be looked at as the execution of some functions a -> b in parallel:

OL: make them to real figures? with environment, reference and such? Before we go into detail on how we can use this idea of parallelism for parallel Arrows, as a short introduction to parallelism in Haskell we will now implement parEvalN with several different parallel Haskells.

$$parEvalN :: [a \rightarrow b] \rightarrow [a] \rightarrow [b]$$

Figure 1: parEvalN's type signature

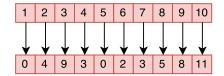


Figure 2: Schematic illustration of parEvalN

2.1.1 Multicore Haskell

Multicore Haskell (Marlow *et al.*, 2009; Trinder *et al.*, 1999) is way to do parallel processing found in standard GHC. It ships with parallel evaluation strategies (Trinder *et al.*, 1998; Marlow *et al.*, 2010) for several types which can be applied with using :: a -> Strategy a -> a. For parEvalN this means that we can just apply the list of functions [a -> b] to the list of inputs [a] by zipping them with the application operator \$. We then evaluate this lazy list [b] according to a Strategy [b] with the using :: a -> Strategy a -> a operator. We construct this strategy with parList :: Strategy a -> Strategy [a] and rdeepseq :: NFData a => Strategy a where the latter is a strategy which evaluates to normal form. To ensure that programs that use parEvalN have the correct evaluation order, we annotate the computation with pseq :: a -> b -> b which forces the compiler to not reorder multiple parEvalN computations. This is particularly necessary in circular communication topologies like in the torus or ring skeleton that we will see in chapter 7 which resulted in deadlock scenarios when executed without pseq during testing for this paper.

```
parEvalN :: (NFData b) => [a -> b] -> [a] -> [b]
parEvalN fs as = let bs = zipWith ($) fs as in
(bs 'using' parList rdeepseq) 'pseq' bs
```

2.1.2 ParMonad

The Par monad² introduced by Marlow *et al.* (2011a), is a monad designed for composition of parallel programs.

Our parallel evaluation function parEvalN can be defined by zipping the list of [a -> b] with the list of inputs [a] with the application operator \$ just like with Multicore Haskell. Then, we map over this not yet evaluated lazy list of results [b] with spawnP :: NFData a => a -> Par (IVar a) to transform them to a list of not yet evaluated forked away

Multicore Haskell on Hackage is available under https://hackage.haskell.org/package/parallel-3.2.1.0, compiler support is integrated in the stock GHC.

It can be found in the monad-par package on hackage under https://hackage.haskell.org/package/monad-par-0.3.4.8/.

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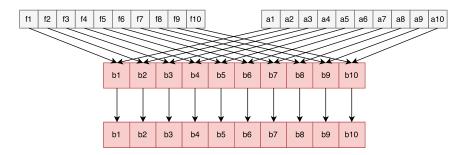


Figure 3: Dataflow of the Multicore Haskell parEvalN version

computations [Par (IVar b)], which we convert to Par [IVar b] with sequenceA. We wait for the computations to finish by mapping over the IVar b's inside the Par monad with get. This results in Par [b]. We finally execute this process with runPar to finally get [b] again.

explain problems with laziness here. Problems with torus

```
parEvalN :: (NFData b) => [a -> b] -> [a] -> [b]
parEvalN fs as = runPar $
    (sequenceA $ map (spawnP) $ zipWith ($) fs as) >>= mapM get
```

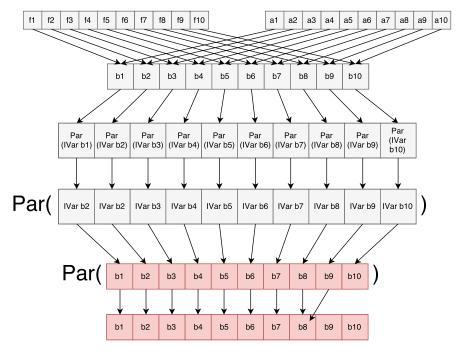


Figure 4: Dataflow of the Par Monad parEvalN version

2.1.3 Eden

Eden (Loogen *et al.*, 2005; Loogen, 2012) is a parallel Haskell for distributed memory and comes with a MPI and a PVM backends.³ This means that it works on clusters as well so it makes sense to have a Eden-based backend for our new parallel Haskell flavour.

Eden was designed to work on clusters, but with a further simple backend it operates on multicores. However, in contrast to many other parallel Haskells, in Eden each process has its own heap. This seems to be a waste of memory, but with distributed programming paradigm and individual GC per process, Eden yields good performance results also on multicores (Berthold *et al.*, 2009a; Aswad *et al.*, 2009).

While Eden also comes with a monad PA for parallel evaluation, it also ships with a completely functional interface that includes a spawnF function that allows us to define parEvalN directly:

```
parEvalN :: (Trans a, Trans b) => [a -> b] -> [a] -> [b]

parEvalN = spawnF
```

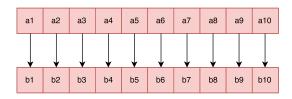


Figure 5: Dataflow of the Eden parEvalN version

Eden TraceViewer. To comprehend the efficiency and the lack thereof in a parallel program, an inspection of its execution is extremely helpful. While some large-scale solutions exist (Geimer *et al.*, 2010), the parallel Haskell community mainly utilises the tools Threadscope (Wheeler & Thain, 2009) and Eden TraceViewer⁴ (Berthold & Loogen, 2007). In the next sections we will present some *traces*, the post-mortem process diagrams of Eden processes and their activity.

In a trace, the *x* axis shows the time, the *y* axis enumerates the machines and processes. A trace shows a running process in green, a blocked process is red. If the process is 'runnable', i.e. it may run, but does not, it is yellow. The typical reason for then is GC. An inactive machine where no processes are started yet, or all are already terminated, is shows as a blue bar. A comminication from one process to another is represented with a black arrow. A stream of communications, e. g. a transmitted list is shows as a dark shading between sender and receiver processes.

OL: show example trace or refer to a trace in later figures

³ See also http://www.mathematik.uni-marburg.de/~eden/ and https://hackage.haskell.org/package/edenmodules-1.2.0.0/.

⁴ See on hackage for the last available version of Eden TraceViewer. There was an effort to implement the TraceViewer using modern web technologies (?).

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2.2 Arrows

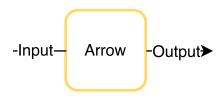


Figure 6: Schematic depiction of an arrow

Arrows were introduced by Hughes (2000) as a general interface for computation. An arrow arr a b represents a computation that converts an input a to an output b. This is defined in the arrow typeclass:

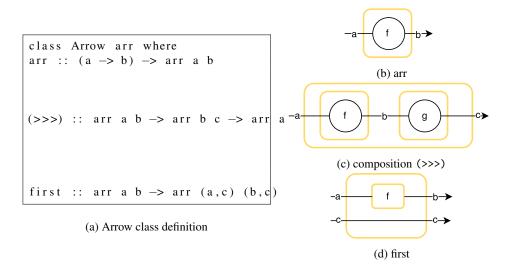


Figure 7: The arrow type class definition on the left with schematic depiction of its combinators on the right

arr is used to lift an ordinary function to an arrow type, similarly to the monadic return. The >>> operator is analogous to the monadic composition >>= and combines two arrows arr a b and arr b c by "wiring" the outputs of the first to the inputs to the second to get a new arrow arr a c. Lastly, the first operator takes the input arrow from b to c and converts it into an arrow on pairs with the second argument untouched. It allows us to to save input across arrows.

The most prominent instances of this interface are regular functions (->) (Fig. 8), and the Kleisli type (Fig. 9). With this typeclass in place, Hughes also defined some syntactic sugar: The mirrored version of first, called second (Fig. 10b, 11), the *** combinator which combines first and second to handle two inputs in one arrow, (Fig. 10c, 12) and the &&& combinator that constructs an arrow which outputs two different values like ***, but takes

10:48

```
instance Arrow (->) where
         arr f = f
        f \gg g = g. f
         first f = (a, c) \rightarrow (f a, c)
```

Figure 8: Arrow instance for regular functions

```
data Kleisli m a b = Kleisli { run :: a -> m b }
instance Monad m => Arrow (Kleisli m) where
        arr f = Kleisli (return . f)
        f >>> g = Kleisli (\a -> f a >>= g)
         first f = Kleisli ((a,c) \rightarrow f a >>= b \rightarrow return (b,c))
```

Figure 9: Definition of the Kleisli type and the corresponding arrow instance

only one input (Fig. 10d, 13). A short example given by Hughes on how to use this is add over arrows, which can be seen in Fig. 14.

The more restrictive interface of arrows (a monad can be *anything*, an arrow is a process of doing something, a computation) allows for more elaborate composition and transformation combinators. One of the major problems in parallel computing is composition of parallel processes.

3 Related Work

OL: arrows or Arrows?

3.1 Parallel Haskells

Of course, the three parallel Haskell flavours we have presented above: the GpH (Trinder et al., 1998, 1999) parallel Haskell dialect and its multicore version (Marlow et al., 2009), the Par monad (Marlow et al., 2011b; Foltzer et al., 2012), and Eden (Loogen et al., 2005; Loogen, 2012) are related to this work. We use these languages as backends: our library can switch from one to other at user's command.

HdpH (Maier et al., 2014; Stewart et al., 2016) is an extension of Par monad to heterogeneous clusters. LVish (Kuper et al., 2014) is a communication-centred extension of Par monad. Further parallel Haskell approaches include pH (Nikhil & Arvind, 2001), research work done on distributed variants of GpH (Trinder et al., 1996; Aljabri et al., 2014, 2015) and low-level Eden implementation (Berthold, 2008; Berthold et al., 2016). Skeleton composition (Dieterle et al., 2016), communication (Dieterle et al., 2010a), and generation of process networks (Horstmeyer & Loogen, 2013) are recent in-focus research topics in Eden. This also includes the definitions of new skeletons (Hammond et al., 2003; Berthold & Loogen, 2006; Berthold et al., 2009b,c; Brown & Hammond, 2010; Dieterle et al., 2010b; de la Encina et al., 2011; Dieterle et al., 2013).

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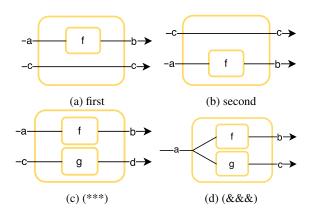


Figure 10: Syntactic sugar for arrows

```
second :: Arrow arr => arr a b -> arr (c, a) (c, b)
second f = arr swap >>> first f >>> arr swap
where swap (x, y) = (y, x)
```

Figure 11: The second combinator

More different approaches include data parallelism (Chakravarty *et al.*, 2007; Keller *et al.*, 2010; , n.d.), GPU-based approaches (Mainland & Morrisett, 2010; Svensson, 2011), software transactional memory (Harris *et al.*, 2005; Perfumo *et al.*, 2008). The Haskell–GPU bridge Accelerate (Chakravarty *et al.*, 2011; Clifton-Everest *et al.*, 2014; McDonell *et al.*, 2015) deserves a special mention. Accelerate is completely orthogonal to our approach. Marlow authored a recent book 2013 on parallel Haskells.

3.2 Algorithmic skeletons

Algorithmic skeletons were introduced by Cole (1989). Early efforts include (Darlington *et al.*, 1993; Botorog & Kuchen, 1996; Danelutto *et al.*, 1997; Gorlatch, 1998; Lengauer *et al.*, 1997). Rabhi & Gorlatch (2003) consolidated early reports on high-level programming approaches. The effort is ongoing, including topological skeletons (Berthold & Loogen, 2006), special-purpose skeletons for computer algebra (Berthold *et al.*, 2009c; Brown & Hammond, 2010; Lobachev, 2011, 2012), iteration skeletons (Dieterle *et al.*, 2013). The idea of Linton *et al.* (2010) is to use a parallel Haskell to orchestrate further software systems to run in parallel. Dieterle *et al.* (2016) compare the composition of skeleton to stable process networks.

3.3 Arrows

Arrows were introduced by Hughes (2000), basically they are a generalised function arrow ->. Hughes (2005a) is a tutorial on arrows. Some theoretical details on arrows (Jacobs *et al.*, 2009; Lindley *et al.*, 2011; Atkey, 2011) are viable. Paterson (2001) introduced a new notation for arrows. Arrows have applications in information flow research (Li &

Figure 12: The (***) combinator

```
(\&\&\&) :: Arrow arr => arr a b -> arr a c -> a a (b, c) f &&& g = arr (\a -> (a, a)) >>> (f *** g)
```

Figure 13: The (&&&) combinator

Zdancewic, 2006, 2010; Russo *et al.*, 2008), invertible programming (Alimarine *et al.*, 2005), and quantum computer simulation (Vizzotto *et al.*, 2006). But perhaps most prominent application of arrows is functional reactive programming (Hudak *et al.*, 2003).**OL: cite more!**

Liu et al. (2009) formally define a more special kind of arrows that capsule the computation more than regular arrows do and thus enable optimizations. Their approach would allow parallel composition, as their special arrows would not interfere with each other in concurrent execution. In a contrast, we capture a whole parallel computation as a single entity: our main instantiation function parEvalN makes a single (parallel) arrow out of list of arrows. OL: ugh, take care! Huang et al. (2007) utilise arrows for parallelism, but strikingly different from our approach. They basically use arrows to orchestrate several tasks in robotics. We propose a general interface for parallel programming, remaining completely in Haskell.

3.4 Other languages

Although this work is centred on Haskell implementation of arrows, it is applicable to any functional programming language where parallel evaluation and arrows can be defined. Our experiments with our approach in Frege language (which is basically Haskell on the JVM) were quite successful, we were able to use typical Java libraries for parallelism. However, it is beyond the scope of this work.

Achten *et al.* (2004, 2007) use an arrow implementation in Clean for better handling of typical GUI tasks. Dagand *et al.* (2009) used arrows in OCaml in the implementation of a distributed system.

4 Parallel Arrows

We have seen what Arrows are and how they can be used as a general interface to computation. In the following section we will discuss how Arrows constitute a general interface not only to computation, but to **parallel computation** as well. We start by introducing the interface and explaining the reasonings behind it. Then, we discuss some implementations using exisiting parallel Haskells. Finally, we explain why using Arrows for expressing parallelism is beneficial.

```
add :: Arrow arr => arr a Int \rightarrow arr a Int \rightarrow arr a Int add f g = (f &&& g) >>> arr (\(\(\mu\)(u, \(\nu\)) \(-> u + \(\nu\))
```

Figure 14: Add over arrows

4.1 The ArrowParallel typeclass

As we have seen earlier, in its purest form, parallel computation (on functions) can be seen as the execution of some functions a -> b in parallel, parEvalN (Fig. 1, 2). Translating this into arrow terms gives us a new operator parEvalN that lifts a list of arrows [arr a b] to a parallel arrow arr [a] [b] (Fig. 15) (This combinator is similar to our utility function listApp from Appendix A, but does parallel instead of serial evaluation). With this definition

```
parEvalN :: (Arrow arr) => [arr a b] -> arr [a] [b]
```

Figure 15: parEvalN Arrow combinator as a function

of parEvalN, parallel execution is yet another arrow combinator. But as the implementation may differ depending on the actual type of the arrow arr and we want this to be an interface for different backends, we introduce a new typeclass ArrowParallel arr a b to host this combinator (Fig. 16). Sometimes parallel Haskells require or allow for additional

```
class Arrow arr => ArrowParallel arr a b where parEvalN :: [arr a b] -> arr [a] [b]
```

Figure 16: parEvalN Arrow combinator in a first version of the ArrowParallel typeclass

configuration parameters, e.g. an information about the execution environment or the level of evaluation (weak-head normalform vs. normalform). For this reason we also introduce an additional conf parameter to the function. We also do not want conf to be a fixed type, as the configuration parameters can differ for different instances of ArrowParallel. So we add it to the type signature of the typeclass as well and get ArrowParallel arr a b conf (Fig. 17). Note that we don't require the conf parameter in every implementation. If it is not needed, we usually just default the conf type parameter to () and even blank it out in the parameter list of the implemented parEvalN, as we will see in the implementation of the Multicore and the ParMonad backend.

4.2 ArrowParallel instances

4.2.1 Multicore Haskell

The Multicore Haskell implementation of this class is implemented in a straightforward manner by using listApp from appendix A combined with the withStrategy :: Strategy $a \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$ and pseq :: $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow b$ combinators from Multicore Haskell, where

```
class Arrow arr => ArrowParallel arr a b conf where
parEvalN :: conf -> [arr a b] -> arr [a] [b]
```

Figure 17: parEvalN Arrow combinator in the final version of the ArrowParallel typeclass

withStrategy is the same as using :: a -> Strategy a -> a but with flipped parameters. For most cases a fully evaluating version like in Fig. 18 would probably suffice,

```
instance (NFData b, ArrowApply arr, ArrowChoice arr) =>
    ArrowParallel arr a b () where
    parEvalN _ fs =
        listApp fs >>>
        arr (withStrategy (parList rdeepseq)) &&& arr id >>>
        arr (uncurry pseq)
```

Figure 18: Fully evaluating ArrowParallel instance for the Multicore Haskell backend

but as the Multicore Haskell interface allows the user to specify the level of evaluation to be done via the Strategy interface, we want to the user not to lose this ability because of using our API. We therefore introduce the Conf a data-type that simply wraps a Strategy a (Fig. 19). We can't directly use the Strategy a type here as GHC (at least in the versions used for development in this paper) does not allow type synonyms in type class instances. To get our configurable ArrowParallel instance, we simply unwrap the strategy and pass

```
data Conf a = Conf (Strategy a)
```

Figure 19: Definition of Conf a

it to parList like in the fully evaluating version (Fig. 20).

4.2.2 Par Monad

The ParMonad implementation (Fig. 21) makes use of Haskells laziness and ParMonad's spawnP:: NFData a => a -> Par (IVar a) function. The latter forks away the computation of a value and returns an IVar containing the result in the Par monad.

We therefore apply each function to its corresponding input value with listApp (Fig. A 5) and then fork the computation away with arr spawnP inside a zipWithArr call. This yields a list [Par (IVar b)], which we then convert into Par [IVar b] with arr sequenceA. In order to wait for the computation to finish, we map over the IVars inside the ParMonad with arr (>>= mapM get). The result of this operation is a Par [b] from which we can finally remove the monad again by running arr runPar to get our output of [b].

```
instance (NFData b, ArrowApply arr, ArrowChoice arr) =>
    ArrowParallel arr a b (Conf b) where
    parEvalN (Conf strat) fs =
        listApp fs >>>
        arr (withStrategy (parList strat)) && arr id >>>
        arr (uncurry pseq)
```

Figure 20: Configurable ArrowParallel instance for the Multicore Haskell backend

```
instance (NFData b, ArrowApply arr, ArrowChoice arr) =>
    ArrowParallel arr a b conf where
    parEvalN _ fs =
        (arr $ \as -> (fs, as)) >>>
        zipWithArr (app >>> arr spawnP) >>>
        arr sequenceA >>>
        arr (>>= mapM get) >>>
        arr runPar
```

Figure 21: ArrowParallel instance for the Par Monad backend

4.2.3 Eden

For the Multicore and ParMonad implementation we could use general instances of ArrowParallel that just require the ArrowApply and ArrowChoice typeclasses. With Eden this is not the case as we can only spawn a list of functions and we cannot extract simple functions out of arrows. While we could still manage to have only one class in the module by introducing a typeclass ArrowUnwrap (Fig. 22). We don't do it here for aesthetic

```
class (Arrow arr) => ArrowUnwrap arr where
arr a b -> (a -> b)
```

Figure 22: possible ArrowUnwrap typeclass

resons, though. For now, we just implement ArrowParallel for normal functions (Fig. 23) and the Kleisli type (Fig. 24).

```
instance (Trans a, Trans b) => ArrowParallel (->) a b conf where parEvalN \_ fs as = spawnF fs as
```

Figure 23: ArrowParallel instance for functions in the Eden backend

Figure 24: ArrowParallel instance for the Kleisli type in the Eden backend

4.3 Impact of parallel Arrows

OL: move this to Contributions in the front or something We have seen that we can wrap parallel Haskells inside of the ArrowParallel interface, but why do we abstract parallelism this way and what does this approach do better than the other parallel Haskells?

- Arrow API benefits: With the ArrowParallel typeclass we do not lose any benefits of using arrows as parEvalN is just yet another arrow combinator. The resulting arrow can be used in the same way a potential serial version could be used. This is a big advantage of this approach, especially compared to the monad solutions as we do not introduce any new types. We can just 'plug' in parallel parts into our sequential programs without having to change anything.
- **Abstraction**: With the ArrowParallel typeclass, we abstracted all parallel implementation logic away from the business logic. This gives us the beautiful situation of being able to write our code against the interface the typeclass gives us without being bound to any parallel Haskell. So as an example, during development, we can run the code on the simple Multicore version and afterwards deploy it on a cluster by converting it into an Eden version, by just replacing the actual ArrowParallel instance.

4.4 Extending the Interface

With the ArrowParallel typeclass in place and implemented, we can now implement some further basic parallel interface functions. These are algorithmic skeletons that, however, mostly serve as a foundation to further, more specific algorithmic skeletons.

4.4.1 Lazy parEvalN

The function parEvalN is 100% strict, which means that it fully evaluates all passed arrows. Sometimes this might not be feasible, as it will not work on infinite lists of functions like e.g. map (arr . (+)) [1..] or just because we need the arrows evaluated in chunks. parEvalNLazy (Fig. 25, 26) fixes this. It works by first chunking the input from [a] to [[a]] with the given ChunkSize in arr (chunkS0f chunkSize). These chunks are

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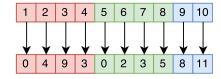


Figure 25: Schematic depiction of parEvalNLazy

then fed into a list [arr [a] [b]] of parallel arrows created by feeding chunks of the passed ChunkSize into the regular parEvalN by using listApp (Fig. A 5). The resulting [[b]] is lastly converted into [b] with arr concat.

```
parEvalNLazy :: (ArrowParallel arr a b conf, ArrowChoice arr, ArrowApply arr) =>
    conf -> ChunkSize -> [arr a b] -> (arr [a] [b])
parEvalNLazy conf chunkSize fs =
    arr (chunksOf chunkSize) >>>
    listApp fchunks >>>
    arr concat
    where fchunks = map (parEvalN conf) $ chunksOf chunkSize fs
```

Figure 26: Definition of parEvalNLazy

4.4.2 Heterogenous tasks



Figure 27: Schematic depiction of parEval2

We have only talked about the paralellization arrows of the same type until now. But sometimes we want to paralellize heterogenous types as well. However, we can implement such a parEval2 combinator (Fig. 27, 28) which combines two arrows arr a b and arr c d into a new parallel arrow arr (a, c) (b, d) quite easily with the help of the ArrowChoice typeclass. The idea is to use the +++ combinator which combines two arrows arr a b and arr c d and transforms them into arr (Either a c) (Either b d) to get a common arrow type that we can then feed into parEvalN.

We start by transforming the (a, c) input into a 2-element list [Either a c] by first tagging the two inputs with Left and Right and wrapping the right element in a singleton list with return so that we can combine them with arr (uncurry (:)). Next, we feed this list into a parallel arrow running on 2 instances of f +++ g as described above. After the calculation is finished, we convert the resulting [Either b d] into ([b], [d]) with arr

partitionEithers. The two lists in this tuple contain only 1 element each by construction, so we can finally just convert the tuple to (b, d) in the last step.

Figure 28: Definition of parEval2

4.4.3 Syntactic Sugar

For basic arrows, we have the (***) combinator (Fig. 10c, 12) which allows us to combine two arrows arr a b and arr c d into an arrow arr (a, c) (b, d) which does both computations at once. This can easily be translated into a parallel version (***) (Fig. 29) with the use of parEval2, but for this we require a backend which has an implementation that does not require any configuration (hence the () as the conf parameter in Fig. 29). We

Figure 29: Definition of (***) - the parallel version of (***)

define the parallel (&&&) (Fig. 30) in a similar manner to its sequential pendant (&&&) (Fig. 10d, 13).

Figure 30: Definition of (&&&) - the parallel version of (&&&)

5 Futures

Consider the parallel arrow combinator in Fig. 31 In a distributed environment, the resulting arrow of this combinator first evaluates all [arr a b] in parallel, sends the results back to the master node, rotates the input once and then evaluates the [arr b c] in parallel to

someCombinator fs1 fs2 = parEvalN () fs1 >>> rightRotate >>> parEvalN () fs2

Figure 31: An example parallel Arrow combinator without Futures

then gather the input once again on the master node. Such situations arise, e.g. in scientific computations when the data distributed across the nodes needs to be transposed. A concrete example is 2D FFT computation (Gorlatch & Bischof, 1998; Berthold *et al.*, 2009c).

While the example in Fig. 31 could be rewritten into only one parEvalN call by directly wiring the arrows properly together, this example illustrates an important problem: When using a ArrowParallel backend that resides on multiple computers, all communication between the nodes is done via the master node, as shown in the Eden trace in Figure 32. This can become a serious bottleneck for larger amount of data and number of processes (showcases Berthold *et al.*, 2009c, as, e.g.).

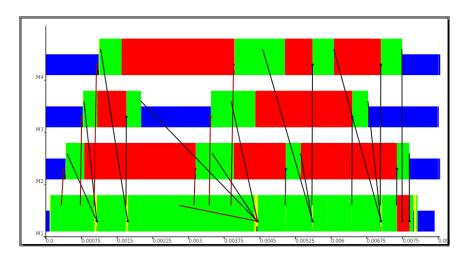


Figure 32: Communication between 4 threads without Futures. All communication goes through the master node. Each bar represents one process. Black lines between processes represent communication. Colors: blue $\hat{=}$ idle, green $\hat{=}$ running, red $\hat{=}$ blocked, yellow $\hat{=}$ suspended.

This motivates for an approach that allows the nodes to communicate directly with each other. Thankfully, Eden, the distributed parallel Haskell we have used in this paper so far, already ships with the concept of RD (remote data) that enables this behaviour (Alt & Gorlatch, 2003; Dieterle *et al.*, 2010a).

But as we want code written against our API to be implementation agnostic, we have to wrap this context. We do this with the Future typeclass (Fig. 33). Since RD is only a type synonym for communication type that Eden uses internally, we have to use some wrapper classes to fit that definition, though, as seen in Fig. 34 (this is due to the same reason we had to introduce a wrapper for Strategy a in the Multicore Haskell implementation of ArrowParallel in chapter 4.2.1).

```
class Future fut a \text{\tt \char124{}} a -> fut where
put :: (Arrow arr) => arr a (fut a)
get :: (Arrow arr) => arr (fut a) a
```

Figure 33: Definition of the Future typeclass

```
data RemoteData a = RD { rd :: RD a }
instance (Trans a) => Future RemoteData a where
  put = arr (\a -> RD { rd = release a })
  get = arr rd >>> arr fetch
```

Figure 34: RD based RemoteData version of Future for the Eden backend

For our Par Monad and Multicore Haskell backends, we can simply use MVars (Jones *et al.*, 1996) (Fig. 35), because we have shared memory in a single node and don't require Eden's sophisticated communication channels. **MB: explain MVars**

```
{-# NOINLINE putUnsafe #-}
putUnsafe :: a -> MVar a
putUnsafe a = unsafePerformIO $ do
    mVar <- newEmptyMVar
    putMVar mVar a
    return mVar

instance (NFData a) => Future MVar a where
    put = arr putUnsafe
    get = arr takeMVar >>> arr unsafePerformIO
```

Figure 35: MVar instance of the Future typeclass for the Par Monad and Multicore Haskell backends

Furthermore, in order for these Future types to fit with the ArrowParallel instances we gave earlier, we have to give the necessary NFData and Trans instances - the latter only being needed in Eden. Because MVar already ships with a NFData instance, we only have to supply two simple instances for our RemoteData type.

Going back to our communication example we can use this Future concept in order to enable direct communications between the nodes in the following way: In a distributed environment, this gives us a communication scheme with messages going through the master node only if it is needed - similar to what is shown in the trace in Fig. 38.OL: Fig. 3 is not really clear. Do Figs 2-3 with a lot of load?

instance Trans (RemoteData a)

```
instance NFData (RemoteData a) where
rnf = rnf . rd
```

Figure 36: NFData and Trans instances for the RemoteData type. The Trans instance does not have any functions declared as the default implementation suffices here. See https://hackage.haskell.org/package/edenmodules-1.2.0.0/docs/Control-Parallel-Eden.html#g:5 for more information.

```
someCombinator :: (Arrow arr) => [arr a b] -> [arr b c] -> arr [a] [c] someCombinator fs1 fs2 = parEvalN () (map (>>> put) fs1) >>> rightRotate >>> parEvalN () (map (get >>>) fs2)
```

Figure 37: The combinator from Fig. 31 in parallel

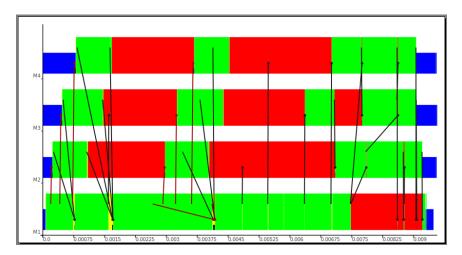


Figure 38: Communication between 4 threads with Futures. Other than in Fig. 32, threads communicate directly (black lines between the bars) instead of always going through the master node (bottom bar).

6 Map-based Skeletons

Now we have developed Parallel Arrows far enough to define some algorithmic skeletons useful to an application programmer.

6.1 Parallel map

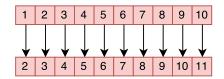


Figure 39: Schematic depiction of parMap

parMap (Fig. 39, 40) is probably the most common skeleton for parallel programs. We can implement it with ArrowParallel by repeating an arrow arr a b and then passing it into parEvalN to get an arrow arr [a] [b]. Just like parEvalN, parMap is 100 % strict.

```
parMap :: (ArrowParallel arr a b conf) =>
conf -> (arr a b) -> (arr [a] [b])
parMap conf f = parEvalN conf (repeat f)
```

Figure 40: Definition of parMap

6.2 Lazy parallel map

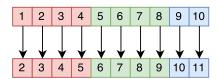


Figure 41: Schematic depiction of parMapStream

As parMap (Fig. 39, 40) is 100% strict it has the same restrictions as parEvalN compared to parEvalNLazy. So it makes sense to also have a parMapStream (Fig. 41, 42) which behaves like parMap, but uses parEvalNLazy instead of parEvalN.

6.3 Statically load-balancing parallel map

A parMap (Fig. 39, 40) spawns every single computation in a new thread (at least for the instances of ArrowParallel we gave in this paper). This can be quite wasteful and a farm

```
parMapStream :: (ArrowParallel arr a b conf, ArrowChoice arr, ArrowApply arr) => conf -> ChunkSize -> arr a b -> arr [a] [b] parMapStream conf chunkSize f = parEvalNLazy conf chunkSize (repeat f)
```

Figure 42: Definition of parMapStream

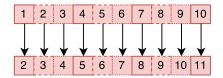


Figure 43: Schematic depiction of farm

(Fig. 43, 44) that equally distributes the workload over numCores workers (if numCores is greater than the actual processor count, the fastest processor(s) to finish will get more tasks) seems useful.

Figure 44: Definition of farm. unshuffle, takeEach, shuffle were taken from Eden's source code (ede, n.d.a)

6.4 farmChunk

Since a farm (Fig. 43, 44) is basically just parMap with a different work distribution, it is, again, 100% strict. So we define farmChunk (Fig. 45, 46) which uses parEvalNLazy instead of parEvalN.

Arrows for Parallel Computations

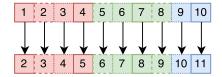


Figure 45: Schematic depiction of farmChunk

```
farmChunk :: (ArrowParallel arr a b conf, ArrowParallel arr [a] [b] conf,
ArrowChoice arr, ArrowApply arr) =>
conf -> ChunkSize -> NumCores -> arr a b -> arr [a] [b]
farmChunk conf chunkSize numCores f =
unshuffle numCores >>>
parEvalNLazy conf chunkSize (repeat (mapArr f)) >>>
shuffle
```

Figure 46: Definition of farmChunk

6.5 parMapReduce

OL: it appears STRANGE. are the data really left alone and noded after map and taken from there by reduce? It makes sense only is no communication through master takes place. ELSE: CUT!

MB: this requires some work. Either change this to use futures or cut, yes. – this does not completely adhere to Google's definition of Map Reduce as it – the mapping function does not allow for "reordering" of the output – The original Google version can be found at https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/MapReduce

Figure 47: Definition of parMapReduceDirect

7 Topological Skeletons

Even though many algorithms can be expressed by parallel maps, some problems require more sophisticated skeletons. The Eden library leverages this problem and already comes with more predefined skeletons, among them a pipe, a ring and a torus implementation (Loogen, 2012; ede, n.d.b). These seem like reasonable candidates to be ported to our arrow based parallel Haskell to showcase that we can express more sophisticated skeletons with Parallel Arrows as well.

7.1 Parallel pipe

The parallel pipe skeleton is semantically equivalent to folding over a list [arr a a] of arrows with >>>, but does this in parallel, meaning that the arrows do not have to reside on the same thread/machine. We implement this skeleton using the ArrowLoop typeclass which gives us the loop :: arr (a, b) (c, b) -> arr a c combinator which allows us to express recursive fix-point computations in which output values are fed back as input. For example MB: das kann man hier so lassen, oder?

```
loop (arr (\(a, b) \rightarrow (b, a:b)))
```

, which is the same as

```
loop (arr snd &&& arr (uncurry (:)))
```

defines an arrow that takes its input a and converts it into an infinite stream [a] of it. Using this to our advantage gives us a first draft of a pipe implementation (Fig. 48) by plugging in the parallel evaluation call parEvalN conf fs inside the second argument of (&&&) and then only picking the first element of the resulting list with arr last.

```
pipeSimple :: (ArrowLoop arr, ArrowParallel arr a a conf) =>
        conf -> [arr a a] -> arr a a
pipeSimple conf fs =
        loop (arr snd &&&
                 (arr (uncurry (:) >>> lazy) >>> parEvalN conf fs)) >>>
        arr last
lazy :: (Arrow arr) => arr [a] [a]
lazy = arr (\ \sim(x:xs) \rightarrow x : lazy xs)
```

Figure 48: A first draft of the pipe skeleton expressed with parallel arrows. Note that the use of lazy is essential as without it programs using this definition would never halt. We need to enforce that the evaluation of the input [a] terminates before passing it into parEvalN.

However, using this definition directly will make the master node a potential bottleneck in distributed environments as described in Section 5. Therefore, we introduce a more sophisticated version that internally uses Futures and get the final definition of pipe 49.

```
pipe :: (ArrowLoop arr, ArrowParallel arr (fut a) (fut a) conf,
        Future fut a) =>
        conf -> [arr a a] -> arr a a
pipe conf fs = unliftFut (pipeSimple conf (map liftFut fs))
```

Figure 49: Final definition of the pipe skeleton which uses Futures

Sometimes, this pipe definition can be a bit inconvenient, especially if we want to pipe arrows of mixed types together, i.e. arr a b and arr b c. By wrapping these two arrows inside a common type we obtain pipe2 (Fig. 50).

10:48

```
pipe2 :: (ArrowLoop arr, ArrowChoice arr,
         ArrowParallel arr (fut (([a], [b]), [c])) (fut (([a], [b]), [c])) conf,
        Future fut (([a], [b]), [c])) \Rightarrow
        conf -> arr a b -> arr b c -> arr a c
pipe2 conf f g =
        (arr return &&& arr (const [])) &&& arr (const []) >>>
        pipe conf (replicate 2 (unify f g)) >>>
         arr snd >>>
         arr head
                 where
                          unify :: (ArrowChoice arr) =>
                                   arr a b \rightarrow arr b c \rightarrow arr (([a], [b]), [c]) (([a], [b]),
                          unify f g =
                                   (mapArr f *** mapArr g) *** arr (\_ -> []) >>>
                                   arr (((a, b), c) \rightarrow ((c, a), b))
```

Figure 50: Definition of pipe2

Note that extensive use of this combinator over pipe with a hand-written combination data type will probably result in worse performance because of more communication overhead from the many calls to parEvalN. Nonetheless, we can define a parallel piping operator (>>>) (Fig. 51, which is semantically equivalent to (>>>) in a similar manner to the other parallel syntactic sugar from section 4.4.3.

```
(\ensuremath {\mathbin {>>>}}) :: (ArrowLoop arr, ArrowChoice arr,
        ArrowParallel arr (fut (([a], [b]), [c])) (fut (([a], [b]), [c])) (),
        Future fut (([a], [b]), [c])) =>
        arr a b -> arr b c -> arr a c
(\ensuremath {\mathbin} {>>>}) = pipe2 ()
```

Figure 51: Definition of (>>>)

7.2 Ring skeleton

Eden comes with a ring skeleton (Fig. 52) implementation that allows the computation of a function [i] -> [o] with a ring of nodes that communicate in a ring topology with each other. Its input is a node function i -> r -> (o, r) in which r serves as the intermediary output that gets send to the neighbour of each node. This data is sent over direct communication channels (remote data) (Fig. 53).

We can rewrite its functionality easily with the use of loop as the definition of the node function, arr (i, r) (o, r), after being transformed into an arrow, already fits quite neatly into the loop's arr (a, b) (c, b) -> arr a c. In each iteration we start by rotating the intermediary input from the nodes [fut r] with second (rightRotate >>> lazy). Similarly to the pipe (Fig. 48, 49), we have to feed the intermediary input into our lazy arrow here, or the evaluation would hang. OL: meh, wording The reasoning is

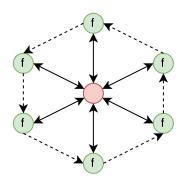


Figure 52: Schematic depiction of the ring skeleton

```
ringSimple :: (Trans i, Trans o, Trans r) =>
   (i \rightarrow r \rightarrow (o, r))
   -> [i] -> [o]
ringSimple f is = os
  where (os, ringOuts) = unzip (parMap (toRD $ uncurry f)
                                        (zip is $ lazy ringIns))
         ringIns = rightRotate ringOuts
toRD :: (Trans i, Trans o, Trans r) =>
         ((i,r) \rightarrow (o,r))
         \rightarrow ((i, RD r) \rightarrow (o, RD r))
toRD f (i, ringIn) = (o, release ringOut)
  where (o, ringOut) = f (i, fetch ringIn)
rightRotate
                 :: [a] \rightarrow [a]
rightRotate [] =
                    []
rightRotate xs =
                   last xs : init xs
lazy :: [a] \rightarrow [a]
lazy \sim (x:xs) = x : lazy xs
```

Figure 53: Eden's definition of the ring skeleton (ede, n.d.b)

explained by Loogen (2012): 'Note that the list of ring inputs ringIns is the same as the list of ring outputs ringOuts rotated by one element to the right using the auxiliary function rightRotate. Thus, the program would get stuck without the lazy pattern, because the ring input will only be produced after process creation and process creation will not occur without the first input.' Next, we zip the resulting ([i], [fut r]) to [(i, fut r)] with arr (uncurry zip) so we can feed that into a our input arrow arr (i, r) (o, r), which we transform into arr (i, fut r) (o, fut r) before lifting it to arr [(i, fut r)] [(o, fut r)] to get a list [(o, fut r)]. Finally we unzip this list into ([o], [fut r]). Plugging this arrow arr ([i], [fut r]) ([o], fut r) into the definition of loop from earlier gives us arr [i] [o], our ring arrow (Fig. 54). This combinator can, for example, be used to calculate the shortest paths in a graph using Warshall's algorithm. OL: let's do it?

```
ring :: (ArrowLoop arr, Future fut r,
        ArrowParallel arr (i, fut r) (o, fut r) conf) =>
    conf ->
    arr (i, r) (o, r) ->
    arr [i] [o]
ring conf f =
        loop (second (rightRotate >>> lazy) >>>
    arr (uncurry zip) >>>
    parMap conf (second get >>> f >>> second put) >>>
    arr unzip)
rightRotate :: (Arrow arr) => arr [a] [a]
rightRotate = arr $ \list -> case list of
  [] -> []
  xs -> last xs : init xs
lazy :: (Arrow arr) => arr [a] [a]
lazy = arr (\ \sim (x:xs) \rightarrow x : lazy xs)
```

Figure 54: Final Definition of the ring Skeleton

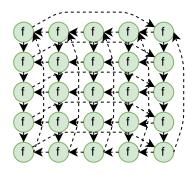


Figure 55: Schematic depiction of the torus skeleton

7.3 Torus skeleton

If we take the concept of a ring from 7.2 one dimension further, we get a torus (Fig. 55, 56). Every node sends ands receives data from horizontal and vertical neighbours in each communication round.

With our parallel Arrows we re-implement the torus combinator from Eden (ede, n.d.b) - yet again with the help of the ArrowLoop typeclass.

Similar to the ring, we once again start by rotating the input, but this time not only in one direction, but in two. This means that the intermediary input from the neighbour nodes has to be stored in a tuple ([[fut a]], [[fut b]]) in the second argument (loop only allows for 2 arguments) of our looped arrow arr ([[c]], ([[fut a]], [[fut b]])) ([[dl]], ([[fut a]], [[fut b]])) and our rotation arrow becomes second

((mapArr rightRotate >>> lazy) *** (arr rightRotate >>> lazy)) instead of the singular rotation in the ring as we rotate [[fut a]] horizontally and [[fut b]] vertically. Then, we once again zip the inputs for the input arrow with arr (uncurry3 zipWith3 lazyzip3) from ([[c]], ([[fut a]], [[fut b]])) to [[(c, fut a, fut b)]], which we then feed into our parallel execution.

This, however, is more complicated than in the ring case as we have one more dimension of inputs to be transformed. We first have to shuffle all the inputs to then pass it into parMap conf (ptorus f) which yields us [(d, fut a, fut b)]. We can then unpack this shuffled list back to its original ordering by feeding it into the specific unshuffle arrow we created one step earlier with arr length >>> arr unshuffle with the use of app :: arr (arr a b, a) c from the ArrowApply typeclass. Finally, we unpack this matrix [[[(d, fut a, fut b)]] with arr (map unzip3) >>> arr unzip3 >>> threetotwo to get ([[d]], ([[fut a]], [[fut b]])).

As an example of using this skeleton (Loogen, 2012) showed the matrix multiplication

```
torus :: (ArrowLoop arr, ArrowChoice arr, ArrowApply arr,
         ArrowParallel arr (c, fut a, fut b) (d, fut a, fut b) conf,
         Future fut a, Future fut b) =>
         conf \rightarrow arr (c, a, b) (d, a, b) \rightarrow arr [[c]] [[d]]
torus conf f =
         loop (second ((mapArr rightRotate >>> lazy) ***
                  (arr rightRotate >>> lazy)) >>>
         arr (uncurry3 (zipWith3 lazyzip3)) >>>
         (arr length >>> arr unshuffle) &&&
                  (shuffle >>> parMap conf (ptorus f)) >>>
         app >>>
         arr (map unzip3) >>> arr unzip3 >>> threetotwo)
ptorus :: (Arrow arr, Future fut a, Future fut b) =>
        arr (c, a, b) (d, a, b) \rightarrow
        arr (c, fut a, fut b) (d, fut a, fut b)
         arr (\ \ \sim (d, a, b) \rightarrow (d, put a, put b))
uncurry3 :: (a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c \rightarrow d) \rightarrow (a, (b, c)) \rightarrow d
uncurry3 f(a, (b, c)) = f(a, b)
lazyzip3 :: [a] \rightarrow [b] \rightarrow [c] \rightarrow [(a, b, c)]
lazyzip3 as bs cs = zip3 as (lazy bs) (lazy cs)
threetotwo :: (Arrow arr) \Rightarrow arr (a, b, c) (a, (b, c))
threetotwo = arr \ \ \ \ \ \( (a, b, c) \ \( -> (a, (b, c)) \)
```

Figure 56: Definition of the torus skeleton

using the Gentleman algorithm (Gentleman, 1978). Their nodefunction can be adapted as shown in Fig. 57. If we compare the trace from a call using our arrow definition of the torus

Figure 57: Adapted nodefunction for matrix multiplication with the torus from Fig. 56

(Fig. 58) with the Eden version (Fig. 59) we can see that the behaviour of the arrow version is comparable. OL: much more details on this!

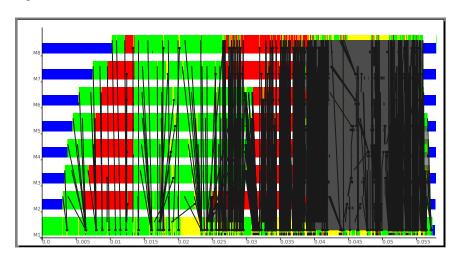


Figure 58: Matrix Multiplication with a torus (Parrows)

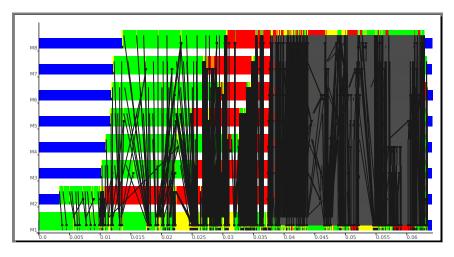
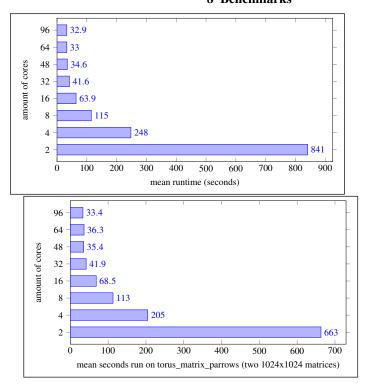


Figure 59: Matrix Multiplication with a torus (Eden)

8 Benchmarks



9 Conclusion

Arrows are a generic concept that allows for powerful composition combinators. To our knowledge we are the first ones to represent parallel computation with arrows. OL:

10:48

that strange arrows-based robot interaction paper from 1993 or so! clearly discuss in related work

Arrows turn out to be a useful tool for composing in parallel programs. We do not have to introduce new monadic types that wrap the computation. Instead use arrows just like regular sequential pure functions. This work features multiple parallel backends: the already available parallel Haskell flavours. Parallel Arrows feature an implementation of the ArrowParallel interface for Multicore Haskell, Par monad, and Eden. With our approach parallel programs can be ported across these flavours with no effort. Performancewise, Parallel Arrows are on par with existing parallel Haskells, as they do not introduce any notable overhead. OL: PROOFS. Many proofs in benchmarks!

MB: ArrowApply (or equivalent) are needed because we basically want to be able to produce intermediary results, this is by definition of the parallel evaluation combinators

OL: Remove websites from citations, put them into footnotes!

OL: Parrows + accelerate = love? Metion port to Frege. Mention the Par monad troubles. Bibliography

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A Utility Functions

To be able to go into detail on parallel arrows, we introduce some utility combinators first, that will help us later: map, foldl and zipWith on arrows.

The mapArr combinator (Fig. A 1) lifts any arrow arr a b to an arrow arr [a] [b] (Hughes, 2005b): Similarly, we can also define foldlArr (Fig. A 2) that lifts any arrow arr (b, a) b with a neutral element b to arr [a] b: MB: pipepipepipe does not work with lhs2TeX Finally, with the help of mapArr (Fig. A 1), we can define zipWithArr (Fig. A 3) that lifts any arrow arr (a, b) c to an arrow arr ([a], [b]) [c]. These combinators

```
mapArr :: ArrowChoice arr => arr a b -> arr [a] [b]
mapArr f =
    arr listcase >>>
    arr (const []) pipepipepipe (f *** mapArr f >>> arr (uncurry (:)))
    where listcase [] = Left ()
        listcase (x:xs) = Right (x,xs)
```

Figure A 1: map over arrows

```
foldlArr :: (ArrowChoice arr, ArrowApply arr) => arr (b, a) b -> b -> arr [a] b foldlArr f b =
    arr listcase >>>
    arr (const b) pipepipepipe
        (first (arr (\a -> (b, a)) >>> f >>> arr (foldlArr f)) >>> app)
    where listcase [] = Left []
    listcase (x:xs) = Right (x,xs)
```

Figure A 2: foldl over arrows

make use of the ArrowChoice type class which provides the (|||) combinator. It takes two arrows arr a c and arr b c and combines them into a new arrow arr (Either a b) c which pipes all Left a's to the first arrow and all Right b's to the second arrow.

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With the zipWithArr combinator we can also write a combinator listApp (Fig. A 5), that lifts a list of arrows [arr a b] to an arrow arr [a] [b].. Note that this additionally makes use of the ArrowApply typeclass that allows us to evaluate arrows with app :: arr (arr a b, a) c.

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```
zipWithArr :: ArrowChoice arr => arr (a, b) c -> arr ([a], [b]) [c] zipWithArr f = (arr $ \(as, bs) -> zipWith (,) as bs) >>> mapArr f
```

Figure A 3: zipWith over arrows

```
(\text{\tt pipepipepipe}) :: ArrowChoice arr a c -> arr b c -> arr (Either a b) c
```

Figure A 4: Type signature of (|||)

```
listApp :: (ArrowChoice arr, ArrowApply arr) => [arr a b] -> arr [a] [b] listApp fs = (arr $ \as -> (fs, as)) >>> zipWithArr app
```

Figure A 5: Definition of listApp

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