

Unique Universal Binary Relations

by Sven Nilsen, 2020

In this paper I introduce unique universal binary relations, which simplifies abstract generalizations.

A binary relation is an ordered pair:

$$(a, b)$$

This can also be modeled as a predicate p :

$$p(a, b) : \text{bool}$$

A *universal* binary relation can infer p from b :

$$\text{role_of}(b) = p$$

One says that b is assigned the “role” p . For any $q \neq p$, $q(a, b) = \text{false}$.

A *unique* binary relation has the property that b can be inferred from $\text{p}(a)$:

$$p(a) = b$$

Unique universal binary relations also permits multiple predicates, e.g. $p(a) = b$ and $q(a) = c$.

Members of types are unique universal binary relations:

false : bool	$\text{type_of}(\text{false}, \text{bool})$	$\text{type_of}(\text{false}) = \text{bool}$
true : bool	$\text{type_of}(\text{true}, \text{bool})$	$\text{type_of}(\text{true}) = \text{bool}$

The role of bool is type_of . Every relation to bool is a type judgement.

The values false and true can also be assigned a role value_of to perform computations:

not(false) = true	$\text{value_of}(\text{not}(\text{false}), \text{true})$	$\text{value_of}(\text{not}(\text{false})) = \text{true}$
not(true) = false	$\text{value_of}(\text{not}(\text{true}), \text{false})$	$\text{value_of}(\text{not}(\text{true})) = \text{false}$

Now, look at the following law in Type Theory for Cartesian products:

$$\forall x : X, y : Y \{ (x, y) : (X, Y) \}$$

This law can be generalized over all Cartesian products, without quantification over all predicates:

$\forall X, Y \{ \text{role_of}(X) == \text{role_of}(Y) \Rightarrow \text{role_of}((X, Y)) == \text{role_of}(X) \}$	lift role
$\forall x, y, X, Y \{ (x, X) \wedge (y, Y) \Rightarrow ((x, y), (X, Y)) \}$	lift relation

$$\begin{aligned} \text{value_of}(\text{not}(\text{false}), \text{not}(\text{true})) &= (\text{true}, \text{false}) \\ \text{type_of}(\text{not}(\text{false}), \text{not}(\text{true})) &= (\text{type_of}(\text{not}(\text{false})), \text{type_of}(\text{not}(\text{true}))) \end{aligned}$$