

Function Currying Notation

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In functional programming, it is common to write the following:

$$\therefore f(a) : B \rightarrow C$$

$$\therefore f : A \times B \rightarrow C$$

$$\therefore a : A$$

This is called “function currying”^[1] and can be thought of as auto-constructing a function `f'`

$$\therefore f' := \lambda(a : A) = \lambda(b : B) = f(a, b)$$

$$\therefore f(a) \iff f'(a)$$

Path semantics uses functional currying a lot, because of sub-types^[2]:

$$\therefore x : [f(a)] c$$

$$\therefore x : B$$

In addition to left-argument currying, it is common in path semantics to use a right-argument version:

$$\therefore x : [f b] c$$

$$\therefore x : A$$

When a right-argument version returns `bool`, one can use parentheses like this:

$$\therefore x : [g b] \text{ true} \iff x : (g b)$$

$$\therefore g : A \times B \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

For example:

$$\begin{aligned} x : (> 2) \\ x : (= 10) \end{aligned}$$

A more complex example:

$$\therefore (x, y) : (f g) \implies (x, y) : A \times A$$

$$\therefore f : A \times A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

$$\therefore g : A \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

References:

- [1] “Currying”
Wikipedia
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Currying>

- [2] “Sub-Types as Contextual Notation”
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https://github.com/advancedresearch/path_semantics/blob/master/papers-wip/sub-types-as-contextual-notation.pdf