

Catuškoṭi Existential Lift

by Sven Nilsen, 2021

In this paper I introduce a proof technique that exploits conditional branches of functions depending on some sub-type of the input resulting in indeterminate results encoded in many-value logic.

The result of this paper is the following:

$$f[g](x) = \text{both} \quad \Rightarrow \quad g . f\{ (= x) . g \} \Rightarrow \text{both} \quad \text{Catuškoṭi Existential Lift}$$

The Collatz function^[1] is defined as following:

$$\text{collatz}(x : \text{nat} \wedge (> 0)) = \text{if } x \% 2 = 0 \{ x / 2 \} \text{ else } \{ 3 * x + 1 \}$$

It is known that for odd numbers, the result is even (in Path Semantical notation^[2]):

$$\text{collatz}[\text{even}](\text{false}) = \text{true}$$

However, for even numbers, the result is indeterminate:

$$\exists \text{collatz}[\text{even}]\{ (= \text{true}) \} \leq \text{true}$$

Using an existential path equation, this can be simplified.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{collatz}[\text{even}]\{ (= \text{true}) \} &\Rightarrow \backslash \text{true} \\ \text{collatz}[\text{even}]\{ (= \text{true}) \} &\Rightarrow \text{both} \end{aligned}$$

For more information, see the paper “Catuškoṭi Existential Path Equations”^[3].

Since the domain constraint `(= true)` is concrete, one can write this as:

$$\text{collatz}[\text{even}](\text{true}) = \text{both}$$

In general:

$$\begin{aligned} f[g](x) = \text{both} &\quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f[g]\{ (= x) \} \Rightarrow \text{both} \\ f[g](x) = \text{neither} &\quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f[g]\{ (= x) \} \Rightarrow \text{neither} \end{aligned}$$

However, since there is a symmetric path `f[g]` and the existential path equation is indeterminate with respect to the function identity `f[g]{ (= x) }` under `both`, one can do the following trick:

$$f[g](x) = \text{both} \quad \Rightarrow \quad g . f\{ (= x) . g \} \Rightarrow \text{both}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \quad f[g]\{ (= x) \} &\Rightarrow \text{both} \\ \therefore \quad g . f[g \rightarrow \text{id}]\{ (= x) \} &\Rightarrow \text{both} \\ \therefore \quad g . f[\text{id} \rightarrow \text{id}]\{ (= x) . g \} &\Rightarrow \text{both} \\ \therefore \quad g . f\{ (= x) . g \} &\Rightarrow \text{both} \end{aligned}$$

References:

- [1] “Collatz conjecture”
Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collatz_conjecture
- [2] “Path Semantics”
AdvancedResearch
https://github.com/advancedresearch/path_semantics
- [3] “Catuskoṭi Existential Path Equations”
Sven Nilsen, 2021
https://github.com/advancedresearch/path_semantics/blob/master/papers-wip2/catuskoti-existential-path-equations.pdf