Introduction to Categorical Logic

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Chapter 3

Cartesian Closed Categories and the λ -Calculus

3.1 Categorification and the Curry-Howard correspondence

Consider the following natural deduction proof in propositional calculus.

$$\frac{[(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{\underbrace{A \land B}_{A}} \qquad \underbrace{\frac{[(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{A \Rightarrow B}}_{(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B}$$

This deduction shows that

$$\vdash (A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B.$$

But so does the following:

$$\frac{[(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{A \Rightarrow B} \frac{\frac{[(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{A \land B}}{\frac{B}{(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B}}$$
(1)

As does:

$$\frac{[(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{\frac{A \land B}{B}}$$

$$\frac{(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B}{(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B}$$
(1)

There is a sense in which the first two proofs are "equivalent", but not the first and the third. The relation (or property) of provability in propositional calculus $\vdash \phi$ discards such differences in the proofs that witness it. According to the "proof-relevant" point of view, sometimes called propositions as types, one retains as relevant some information about the way in which a proposition is proved. This is effected by annotating the proofs with proof-terms as they are constructed, as follows:

$$\frac{[x:(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{\frac{\pi_{2}(x):A \Rightarrow B}{\pi_{2}(x)(\pi_{1}(\pi_{1}(x))):B}} \frac{\frac{[x:(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{\pi_{1}(x):A \land B}}{\frac{\pi_{2}(x)(\pi_{1}(\pi_{1}(x))):B}{\lambda x.\pi_{2}(x)(\pi_{1}(\pi_{1}(x))):(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B}}$$
(1)

$$\frac{[x:(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{\frac{\pi_{1}(x):A \land B}{\pi_{1}(\pi_{1}(x)):A}} \frac{[x:(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{\pi_{2}(x):A \Rightarrow B} \frac{\pi_{2}(x)(\pi_{1}(\pi_{1}(x))):B}{\lambda x.\pi_{2}(x)(\pi_{1}(\pi_{1}(x))):(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B}^{(1)}$$

$$\frac{[x:(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B)]^{1}}{\frac{\pi_{1}(x):A \land B}{\pi_{2}(\pi_{1}(x)):B}}$$

$$\frac{\lambda x.\pi_{2}(\pi_{1}(x)):(A \land B) \land (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B}{}^{(1)}$$

The proof terms for the first two proofs are the same, namely $\lambda x.\pi_2(x)(\pi_1(\pi_1(x)))$, but the term for the third one is $\lambda x.\pi_2(\pi_1(x))$, reflecting the difference in the proofs. The assignment works by labelling assumptions as variables, and then associating term-constructors to the different rules of inference: pairing and projection to conjunction introduction and elimination, function application and λ -abstraction to implication elimination (modus ponens) and introduction. The use of variable binding to represent cancellation of premisses is a particularly effective device.

From the categorical point of view, the relation of deducibility $\phi \vdash \psi$ is a mere preorder. The addition of proof terms $x : \phi \vdash t : \psi$ results in a *categorification* of this preorder, in the sense that it is a "proper" category, the preordered reflection of which is the deducibility preorder. And now the following remarkable fact emerges: it is hardly surprising that the deducibility preorder has, say, finite products $\phi \land \psi$ or even exponentials $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$; but it is *amazing* that the category with proof terms $x : \phi \vdash t : \psi$ as arrows, also turns out to be a cartesian closed category, and indeed a proper one, with distinct parallel arrows, such as

$$\pi_2(x)(\pi_1(\pi_1(x))): (A \wedge B) \wedge (A \Rightarrow B) \longrightarrow B,$$

 $\pi_2(\pi_1(x)): (A \wedge B) \wedge (A \Rightarrow B) \longrightarrow B.$

This category of proofs contains information about the "proof theory" of the propositional calculus, as opposed to its mere relation of deducibility. The calculus of proof terms can be presented formally in a system of simple type theory, with an alternate interpretation as a formal system of function application and abstraction. This dual interpretation—as the proof theory of propositional logic, and as a system of type theory for the specification of functions—is called the Curry-Howard correspondence []. From the categorical point of view, it expresses the structural equivalence between the cartesian closed categories of proofs in propositional logic and terms in simple type theory. Both of these can be seen as categorifications of their preorder reflection, the deducibility preorder of propositional logic.

In the following sections, we shall consider this remarkable correspondence in detail, as well as some extensions of the basic case represented by cartesian closed categories: categories with coproducts, cocomplete categories, and categories equipped with modal operators. In the next chapter, it will be seen that this correspondence even extends to proofs in quantified predicate logic and terms in dependent type theory, and beyond.

3.2 Cartesian closed categories

Exponentials

We begin with the notion of an exponential B^A of two objects A, B in a category, motivated by a couple of important examples. Consider first the category Pos of posets and monotone functions. For posets P and Q the set $\mathsf{Hom}(P,Q)$ of all monotone functions between them is again a poset, with the pointwise order:

$$f \leq g \iff fx \leq gx \text{ for all } x \in P$$
 . $(f, g : P \to Q)$

Thus Hom(P,Q) is again an object of Pos, when equipped with a suitable order.

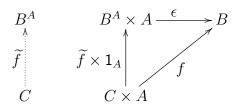
Similarly, given monoids $K, M \in \mathsf{Mon}$, there is a natural monoid structure on the set $\mathsf{Hom}(K, M)$, defined pointwise by

$$(f \cdot g)x = fx \cdot gx . \qquad (f, g : K \to M, x \in K)$$

Thus the category Mon also admits such "internal Hom"s. The same thing works in the category Group of groups and group homomorphisms, where the set Hom(G, H) of all homomorphisms between groups G and H can be given a pointwise group structure.

These examples suggest a general notion of "internal Hom" in a category: an "object of morphisms $A \to B$ " which corresponds to the hom-set $\mathsf{Hom}(A,B)$. The other ingredient needed is an "evaluation" operation $\epsilon: B^A \times A \to B$ which evaluates a morphism $f \in B^A$ at an argument $x \in A$ to give a value $\epsilon \circ \langle f, x \rangle \in B$. This is always going to be present for the underlying functions if we're starting from a set of functions $\mathsf{Hom}(A,B)$, but it needs to be an actual morphism in the category. Finally, we need an operation of "transposition", taking a morphism $f: C \times A \to B$ to one $\widetilde{f}: C \to A^B$. We shall see that this in fact separates the previous two examples.

Definition 3.2.1. In a category C with binary products, an exponential (B^A, ϵ) of objects A and B is an object B^A together with a morphism $\epsilon: B^A \times A \to B$, called the evaluation morphism, such that for every $f: C \times A \to B$ there exists a unique morphism $\widetilde{f}: C \to B^A$, called the $transpose^1$ of f, for which the following diagram commutes.



Commutativity of the diagram of course means that $f = \epsilon \circ (\widetilde{f} \times 1_A)$.

Definition 3.2.1 is called the universal property of the exponential. It is just the category-theoretic way of saying that a function $f: C \times A \to B$ of two variables can be viewed as a function $\widetilde{f}: C \to B^A$ of one variable that maps $z \in C$ to a function $\widetilde{f}z = f\langle z, - \rangle : A \to B$ that maps $x \in A$ to $f\langle z, x \rangle$. The relationship between f and \widetilde{f} is then

$$f\langle z, x \rangle = (\widetilde{f}z)x .$$

That is all there is to it, really, except that variables and elements never need to be mentioned. The benefit of this is that the definition is applicable also in categories whose objects are not *sets* and whose morphisms are not *functions*—even though some of the basic examples are of that sort.

In Poset the exponential Q^P of posets P and Q is the set of all monotone maps $P \to Q$, ordered pointwise, as above. The evaluation map $\epsilon: Q^P \times P \to Q$ is just the usual evaluation of a function at an argument. The transpose of a monotone map $f: R \times P \to Q$ is the map $\widetilde{f}: R \to Q^P$, defined by, $(\widetilde{f}z)x = f\langle z, x \rangle$, i.e. the transposed function. We say that the category Pos has all exponentials.

Definition 3.2.2. Suppose \mathcal{C} has all finite products. An object $A \in \mathcal{C}$ is exponentiable when the exponential B^A exists for every $B \in \mathcal{C}$. We say that \mathcal{C} has exponentials if every object is exponentiable. A cartesian closed category (ccc) is a category that has all finite products and exponentials.

Example 3.2.3. Consider again the example of the set $\mathsf{Hom}(M,N)$ of homomorphisms between two monoids M,N, equipped with the pointwise monoid structure. To be a monoid homomorphism. the transpose $\tilde{h}:1\to \mathsf{Hom}(M,N)$ of a homomorphism $h:1\times M\to N$ would have to take the unit element $u\in 1$ to the unit homomorphism $u:M\to N$, which is the constant function at the unit $u\in N$. Since $1\times M\cong M$, that would mean that all homomorphisms $h:M\to N$ would have the same transpose $\tilde{h}=u:1\to \mathsf{Hom}(M,N)$. So Mon cannot be cartesian closed. The same argument works in the category Group, and in many related ones. (But see ?? below on one way of embedding Group into a CCC.)

Exercise 3.2.4. Is the evaluation function eval: $\mathsf{Hom}(M,N) \times M \to N$ a homomorphism of monoids?

Also, f is called the transpose of \widetilde{f} , so that f and \widetilde{f} are each other's transpose.

Two characterizations of CCCs

Proposition 3.2.5. In a category C with binary products an object A is exponentiable if, and only if, the functor

$$-\times A:\mathcal{C}\to\mathcal{C}$$

has a right adjoint

$$-^A:\mathcal{C}\to\mathcal{C}$$
.

Proof. If such a right adjoint exists then the exponential of A and B is (B^A, ϵ_B) , where $\epsilon : -^A \times A \Longrightarrow 1_{\mathcal{C}}$ is the counit of the adjunction. The universal property of the exponential is precisely the universal property of the counit ϵ .

Conversely, suppose for every B there is an exponential (B^A, ϵ_B) . As the object part of the right adjoint we then take B^A . For the morphism part, given $g: B \to C$, we can define $g^A: B^A \to C^A$ to be the transpose of $g \circ \epsilon_B$,

$$g^A = (g \circ \epsilon_B)^{\sim}$$

as indicated below.

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
B^A \times A & \xrightarrow{\epsilon_B} & B \\
g^A \times 1_A & & \downarrow g \\
C^A \times A & \xrightarrow{\epsilon_C} & C
\end{array} (3.1)$$

The counit $\epsilon: -^A \times A \Longrightarrow 1_{\mathcal{C}}$ at B is then ϵ_B itself, and the naturality square for ϵ is then exactly (3.1), i.e. the defining property of $(f \circ \epsilon_B)^{\sim}$:

$$\epsilon_C \circ (g^A \times 1_A) = \epsilon_C \circ ((g \circ \epsilon_B)^{\sim} \times 1_A) = g \circ \epsilon_B$$
.

The universal property of the counit ϵ is precisely the universal property of the exponential (B^A, ϵ_B)

Note that because exponentials can be expressed as right adjoints to binary products, they are determined uniquely up to isomorphism. Moreover, the definition of a cartesian closed category can then be phrased entirely in terms of adjoint functors: we just need to require the existence of the terminal object, binary products, and exponentials.

Proposition 3.2.6. A category C is cartesian closed if, and only if, the following functors have right adjoints:

$$egin{aligned} !_{\mathcal{C}}:\mathcal{C} &
ightarrow 1 \;, \\ \Delta:\mathcal{C} &
ightarrow \mathcal{C} imes \mathcal{C} \;, \\ (- imes A):\mathcal{C} &
ightarrow \mathcal{C} \;. \end{aligned} \qquad (A \in \mathcal{C})$$

Here $!_{\mathcal{C}}$ is the unique functor from \mathcal{C} to the terminal category 1 and Δ is the diagonal functor $\Delta A = \langle A, A \rangle$, and the right adjoint of $- \times A$ is exponentiation by A.

The significance of the adjoint formulation is that it implies the possibility of a purely equational specification (adjoint structure on a category is "equational" in a sense that can be made precise; see [?]). We can therefore give an explicit, equational formulation of cartesian closed categories.

Proposition 3.2.7 (Equational version of CCC). A category C is cartesian closed if, and only if, it has the following structure:

- 1. An object $1 \in \mathcal{C}$ and a morphism $!_A : A \to 1$ for every $A \in \mathcal{C}$.
- 2. An object $A \times B$ for all $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$ together with morphisms $\pi_0 : A \times B \to A$ and $\pi_1 : A \times B \to B$, and for every pair of morphisms $f : C \to A$, $g : C \to B$ a morphism $\langle f, g \rangle : C \to A \times B$.
- 3. An object B^A for all $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$ together with a morphism $\epsilon : B^A \times A \to B$, and a morphism $\widetilde{f} : C \to B^A$ for every morphism $f : C \times A \to B$.

These new objects and morphisms are required to satisfy the following equations:

1. For every $f: A \to 1$,

$$f = !_A$$
.

2. For all $f: C \to A$, $g: C \to B$, $h: C \to A \times B$, $\pi_0 \circ \langle f, g \rangle = f, \qquad \qquad \pi_1 \circ \langle f, g \rangle = g, \qquad \qquad \langle \pi_0 \circ h, \pi_1 \circ h \rangle = h.$

3. For all $f: C \times A \to B$, $g: C \to B^A$,

$$\epsilon \circ (\widetilde{f} \times \mathbf{1}_A) = f$$
, $(\epsilon \circ (g \times \mathbf{1}_A))^{\sim} = g$.

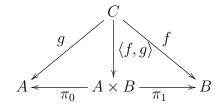
where for $e: E \to E'$ and $f: F \to F'$ we define

$$e \times f := \langle e\pi_0, f\pi_1 \rangle : E \times F \to E' \times F'.$$

These equations ensure that certain diagrams commute and that the morphisms that are required to exist are unique. For example, let us prove that $(A \times B, \pi_0, \pi_1)$ is the product of A and B. For $f: C \to A$ and $g: C \to B$ there exists a morphism $\langle f, g \rangle : C \to A \times B$. Equations

$$\pi_0 \circ \langle f, g \rangle = f$$
 and $\pi_1 \circ \langle f, g \rangle = g$

enforce the commutativity of the two triangles in the following diagram:



Suppose $h: C \to A \times B$ is another morphism such that $f = \pi_0 \circ h$ and $g = \pi_1 \circ h$. Then by the third equation for products we get

$$h = \langle \pi_0 \circ h, \pi_1 \circ h \rangle = \langle f, g \rangle$$
,

and so $\langle f, g \rangle$ is unique.

Exercise 3.2.8. Use the equational characterization of CCCs, Proposition 3.2.7, to show that the category Pos of posets and monotone functions *is* cartesian closed, as claimed. Also verify that that Mon is not. Which parts of the definition fail in Mon?

3.3 Positive propositional calculus

We begin with the example of a cartesian closed poset and a first application to propostitional logic.

Example 3.3.1. Consider the positive propositional calculus PPC with conjunction and implication, as in Subsection ??. Recall that PPC is the set of all propositional formulas ϕ constructed from propositional variables $p_1, p_2, ...,$ a constant \top for truth, and binary connectives for conjunction $\phi \wedge \psi$, and implication $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$.

As a category, PPC is a preorder under the relation $\phi \vdash \psi$ of logical entailment, determined for instance by the natural deduction system ?? of section ??. As usual, it will be convenient to pass to the poset reflection of the preorder, which we shall denote by

 $\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}$

by identifying ϕ and ψ when $\phi \dashv \vdash \psi$. (This is just the usual *Lindenbaum-Tarski* algebra of the system of propositional logic, as in ??.)

The conjunction $\phi \wedge \psi$ is a greatest lower bound of ϕ and ψ in $\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}$, because we have $\phi \wedge \psi \vdash \phi$ and $\phi \wedge \psi \vdash \psi$ and for all ϑ , if $\vartheta \vdash \phi$ and $\vartheta \vdash \psi$ then $\vartheta \vdash \phi \wedge \psi$. Since binary products in a poset are the same thing as greatest lower bounds, we see that $\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}$ has all binary products; and of course \top is a terminal object.

We have already remarked that implication is right adjoint to conjunction in propositional calculus,

$$(-) \land \phi \dashv \phi \Rightarrow (-) . \tag{3.2}$$

Therefore $\phi \Rightarrow \psi$ is an exponential in \mathcal{C}_{PPC} . The counit of the adjunction (the "evaluation" arrow) is the entailment

$$(\phi \Rightarrow \psi) \land \phi \vdash \psi ,$$

i.e. the familiar logical rule of modus ponens.

Exercise 3.3.2. What is the unit of adjunction (3.2), in logical terms?

We have now shown:

Proposition 3.3.3. The poset C_{PPC} of positive propositional calculus is cartesian closed.

Let us now use this fact to show that the positive propositional calculus is deductively complete with respect to the following notion of Kripke semantics [].

Definition 3.3.4 (Kripke model). Let K be a poset. Suppose we have a relation

$$k \Vdash p$$

between elements $k \in K$ and propositional variables p, such that

$$j \le k, \ k \Vdash p \quad \text{implies} \quad j \Vdash p.$$
 (3.3)

Extend \Vdash to all formulas ϕ in PPC by defining

$$k \Vdash \top$$
 always,
 $k \Vdash \phi \land \psi$ iff $k \Vdash \phi \text{ and } k \Vdash \psi$, (3.4)
 $k \Vdash \phi \Rightarrow \psi$ iff for all $j \leq k$, if $j \Vdash \phi$, then $j \Vdash \psi$.

Finally, say that ϕ holds on K, written

$$K \Vdash \phi$$

if $k \Vdash \phi$ for all $k \in K$ (for all such relations \Vdash).

Theorem 3.3.5 (Kripke completeness for PPC). A propositional formulas ϕ is provable from the rules of deduction for PPC if, and only if, $K \Vdash \phi$ for all posets K. Briefly:

$$\mathsf{PPC} \vdash \phi \quad \textit{iff} \quad K \Vdash \phi \ \textit{for all } K.$$

We require the following.

Lemma 3.3.6. For any poset P, the poset $\downarrow P$ of all downsets in P, ordered by inclusion, is cartesian closed. Moreover, the downset embedding,

$$\downarrow$$
 $(-): P \rightarrow \downarrow P$

preserves any CCC structure that exists in P.

Proof. The total downset P is obviously terminal, and for any downsets $S, T \in \mathcal{P}$, the intersection $S \cap T$ is also closed down, so we have the products $S \wedge T = S \cap T$. For the exponential, set

$$S\Rightarrow T=\{p\in P\ |\ \downarrow(p)\cap S\subseteq T\}.$$

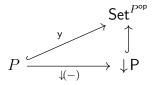
Then for any downset Q we have

$$Q \subseteq S \Rightarrow T \quad \text{iff} \quad \downarrow(q) \cap S \subseteq T, \text{ for all } q \in Q.$$
 (3.5)

But that means that

$$\bigcup_{q \in O} (\downarrow (q) \cap S) \subseteq T,$$

which is equivalent to $Q \cap S \subseteq T$, since $\bigcup_{q \in Q} (\downarrow(q) \cap S) = (\bigcup_{q \in Q} \downarrow(q)) \cap S = Q \cap S$. The preservation of CCC structure by $\downarrow(-): P \to \downarrow P$ follows from its preservation by the Yoneda embedding, of which \downarrow (-) is a factor,



But it is also easy enough to check directly: preservation of any limits 1, $p \land q$ that exist in P are clear. Suppose $p \Rightarrow q$ is an exponential; then for any downset D we have:

$$D \subseteq \downarrow(p \Rightarrow q) \quad \text{iff} \qquad \qquad \downarrow(d) \subseteq \downarrow(p \Rightarrow q) \text{ , for all } d \in D$$

$$\text{iff} \qquad \qquad d \leq p \Rightarrow q \text{ , for all } d \in D$$

$$\text{iff} \qquad \qquad d \wedge p \leq q \text{ , for all } d \in D$$

$$\text{iff} \qquad \qquad \downarrow(d \wedge p) \subseteq \downarrow(q) \text{ , for all } d \in D$$

$$\text{iff} \qquad \qquad \downarrow(d) \cap \downarrow(p) \subseteq \downarrow(q) \text{ , for all } d \in D$$

$$\text{iff} \qquad \qquad D \subseteq \downarrow(p) \Rightarrow \downarrow(q)$$

where the last line is by (3.5).

Proof. (of Theorem 3.3.5) The proof follows a now-familiar pattern, which we only sketch:

- 1. The syntactic category \mathcal{C}_{PPC} is a CCC, with $\top = 1$, $\phi \times \psi = \phi \wedge \psi$, and $\psi^{\phi} = \phi \Rightarrow \psi$. In fact, it is the free cartesian closed poset on the generating set $Var = \{p_1, p_2, \dots\}$ of propositional variables.
- 2. A (Kripke) model (K, \Vdash) is the same thing as a CCC functor $\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}} \to \downarrow \mathsf{K}$, which by Step 1 is an arbitrary map $Var \rightarrow \downarrow K$, as in (3.3). Indeed, we have a bijective correspondence between CCC functors $[\![-]\!]$ and Kripke relations \Vdash , as in:

$$\frac{\llbracket - \rrbracket : \mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}} \longrightarrow \downarrow \mathsf{K} \cong 2^{K^{\mathsf{op}}}}{\Vdash : K^{\mathsf{op}} \times \mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}} \longrightarrow 2}$$

where we use the poset 2 to classify downsets in a poset P (via upsets in P^{op}),

$$\downarrow \mathsf{P} \cong 2^{P^{\mathsf{op}}} \cong \mathsf{Pos}(P^{\mathsf{op}}, 2) \,,$$

by taking the 1-kernel $f^{-1}(1) \subseteq P$ of a monotone map $f: P^{\mathsf{op}} \to 2$. (The contravariance will be convenient in Step 3). Note that the monotonicity of \Vdash yields the conditions

$$p \leq q \,, \ q \Vdash \phi \implies p \Vdash \phi$$

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and

$$p \Vdash \phi, \ \phi \vdash \psi \implies p \Vdash \psi.$$

and the CCC preservation of the transpose [-] yields the Kripke forcing conditions (3.4) (exercise!).

- 3. For any model (K, \Vdash) , we have $K \Vdash \phi$ iff $\llbracket \phi \rrbracket = K$, the total downset.
- 4. Because the downset/Yoneda embedding \downarrow preserves the CCC structure (by Lemma 3.3.6), $\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}$ admits a canonical model, namely $(\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}, \Vdash)$, where:

$$\frac{\llbracket - \rrbracket \ := \ \downarrow (-) \ : \ \mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}} \longrightarrow \downarrow \mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}} \cong 2^{\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}^{\mathsf{op}}} \hookrightarrow \mathsf{Set}^{\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}^{\mathsf{op}}}}{\Vdash := \ \vdash \ : \ \mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}^{\mathsf{op}} \times \mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}} \longrightarrow 2 \hookrightarrow \mathsf{Set}}$$

5. Since \downarrow is conservative (it reflects isos), the canonical model from Step 4 is logically generic, in the sense that $\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}} \Vdash \phi$ iff $\mathsf{PPC} \vdash \phi$.

Exercise 3.3.7. Verify the claim that CCC preservation of the transpose $\llbracket - \rrbracket$ of \Vdash yields the Kripke forcing conditions (3.4).

3.4 Heyting algebras

We now extend positive propositional calculus to the full intuitionistic propositional calculus. This involves adding the finite coproducts 0 and $p \lor q$ to the free cartesian closed poset $\mathcal{C}_{\mathsf{PPC}}$ to arrive at the notion of a Heyting algebra. In order to give the Kripke semantics for this extended system, we will need an alternative to Lemma 3.3.6, because the Yoneda embedding does not in general preserve coproducts.

Heyting algebras are to intuitionistic logic as Boolean algebras are to classical logic — namely, each is an algebraic description of the corresponding logical calculus. As we shall see, only some aspects of the theory of Boolean algebras carry over to Heyting algebras.

Recall that a (bounded) *lattice* is a poset that has finite limits and colimits. In other words, a lattice $(L, \leq, \land, \lor, 1, 0)$ is a poset (L, \leq) with distinguished elements $1, 0 \in L$, and binary operations meet \land and join \lor , satisfying for all $x, y, z \in L$,

$$0 \le x \le 1 \qquad \qquad \frac{z \le x \qquad z \le y}{z \le x \land y} \qquad \qquad \frac{x \le z \qquad x \le y}{x \lor y \le z}$$

A lattice homomorphism is a function $f: L \to K$ between lattices which preserves finite limits and colimits, i.e., f0 = 0, f1 = 1, $f(x \land y) = fx \land fy$, and $f(x \lor y) = fx \lor fy$. The category of lattices and lattice homomorphisms is denoted by Lat.

A lattice can be axiomatized equationally as a set with two distinguished elements 0 and 1 and two binary operations \land and \lor , satisfying the following equations:

$$(x \wedge y) \wedge z = x \wedge (y \wedge z) , \qquad (x \vee y) \vee z = x \vee (y \vee z) ,$$

$$x \wedge y = y \wedge x , \qquad x \vee y = y \vee x ,$$

$$x \wedge x = x , \qquad x \vee x = x ,$$

$$1 \wedge x = x , \qquad 0 \vee x = x ,$$

$$x \wedge (y \vee x) = x = (x \wedge y) \vee x .$$

$$(3.6)$$

The partial order on L is then determined by

$$x \le y \iff x \land y = x$$
.

Exercise 3.4.1. Show that in a lattice $x \leq y$ if, and only if, $x \wedge y = x$ if, and only if, $x \vee y = y$.

A lattice is *distributive* if the following distributive laws hold in it:

$$(x \lor y) \land z = (x \land z) \lor (y \land z) , (x \land y) \lor z = (x \lor z) \land (y \lor z) .$$
 (3.7)

It turns out that if one distributive law holds then so does the other [Joh82, I.1.5].

A Heyting algebra is a cartesian closed lattice H. This means that it has an operation \Rightarrow , satisfying for all $x, y, z \in H$

$$z \land x \le y$$

$$z < x \Rightarrow y$$

A Heyting algebra homomorphism is a lattice homomorphism $f: K \to H$ between Heyting algebras that preserves implication, i.e., $f(x \Rightarrow y) = (fx \Rightarrow fy)$. The category of Heyting algebras and their homomorphisms is denoted by Heyt.

A Heyting algebra can be axiomatized equationally as a set H with two distinguished elements 0 and 1 and three binary operations \land , \lor and \Rightarrow . The axioms for a Heyting algebra are the ones listed in (3.6), as well as the following ones for \Rightarrow :

$$(x \Rightarrow x) = 1 ,$$

$$x \wedge (x \Rightarrow y) = x \wedge y ,$$

$$y \wedge (x \Rightarrow y) = y ,$$

$$(x \Rightarrow (y \wedge z)) = (x \Rightarrow y) \wedge (x \Rightarrow z) .$$

$$(3.8)$$

For a proof, see [Joh82, I.1], where one can also find a proof that every Heyting algebra is distributive (exercise!).

Intuitionistic propositional calculus

There is a forgetful functor $U: \mathsf{Heyt} \to \mathsf{Set}$ which maps a Heyting algebra to its underlying set, and a homomorphism of Heyting algebras to the underlying function. Because Heyting algebras are an equational theory, there is a left adjoint $H \dashv U$, which is the usual "free" construction mapping a set S to the free Heyting algebra HS generated by it. As for all algebraic strictures, the construction of HS can be performed in two steps: first we define a set HS of formal expressions, and then we quotient it by an equivalence relation generated by the axioms for Heyting algebras.

So let HS by the set of formal expressions generated inductively by the following rules:

- 1. Constants: $\bot, \top \in HS$.
- 2. Generators: if $x \in S$ then $x \in HS$.
- 3. Connectives: if $\phi, \psi \in HS$ then $\phi \land \psi, \phi \lor \psi, \phi \Rightarrow \psi \in HS$.

We impose an equivalence relation on HS, which we write as equality = and think of as such; it is defined to be the smallest equivalence relation satisfying axioms (3.6) and (3.8). This forces HS to be a Heyting algebra. We still need to define the action of H on morphisms: a function $f: S \to T$ is mapped to the Heyting algebra morphism $Hf: HS \to HT$ defined by

$$(Hf)\perp = \perp$$
, $(Hf)\perp = \perp$, $(Hf)x = fx$,
 $(Hf)(\phi \star \psi) = ((Hf)\phi) \star ((Hf)\psi)$,

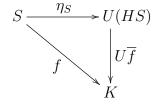
where \star stands for \wedge , \vee or \Rightarrow .

The inclusion $\eta_S: S \to U(HS)$ of generators into the underlying set of the free Heyting algebra HS is the component at S of a natural transformation $\eta: 1_{\mathsf{Set}} \Longrightarrow U \circ H$, which is of course the unit of the adjunction $H \dashv U$. To see this, consider a Heyting algebra K and an arbitrary function $f: S \to UK$. Then the Heyting algebra homomorphism $\overline{f}: HS \to K$ defined by

$$\overline{f} \perp = \perp , \qquad \overline{f} \perp = \perp , \qquad \overline{f} x = f x ,$$

$$\overline{f} (\phi \star \psi) = (\overline{f} \phi) \star (\overline{f} \psi) ,$$

where \star stands for \wedge , \vee or \Rightarrow , makes the following triangle commute:



It is the unique such morphism because any two homomorphisms from HS which agree on generators must be equal. This is proved by induction on the structure of the formal expressions in HS.

We may now define the *intuitionistic propositional calculus* IPC to be the free Heyting algebra IPC on countably many generators p_0, p_1, \ldots , called *atomic propositions* or *propositional variables*. This is a somewhat unorthodox definition from a logical point of view—normally we would start from a *calculus* consists of a formal language, judgements, and rules of inference—but of course, by now, we realize that the two approaches are essentially equivalent.

Having said that, let us also describe IPC in the conventional way. The formulas of IPC are built inductively from propositional variables p_0, p_1, \ldots , constants falsehood \bot and truth \top , and binary operations conjunction \land , disjunction \lor and implication \Rightarrow . The basic judgment of IPC is *logical entailment*

$$u_1: A_1, \ldots, u_k: A_k \vdash B$$

which means "hypotheses A_1, \ldots, A_k entail proposition B". The hypotheses are labeled with distinct labels u_1, \ldots, u_k so that we can distinguish them, which is important when the same hypothesis appears more than once. Because the hypotheses are labeled it is irrelevant in what order they are listed, as long as the labels are not getting mixed up. Thus, the hypotheses $u_1: A \vee B, u_2: B$ are the same as the hypotheses $u_2: B, u_1: A \vee B$, but different from the hypotheses $u_1: B, u_2: A \vee B$. Sometimes we do not bother to label the hypotheses.

The left-hand side of a logical entailment is called the *context* and the right-hand side is the *conclusion*. Thus logical entailment is a relation between contexts and conclusions. The context may be empty. If Γ is a context, u is a label which does not occur in Γ , and A is a formula, then we write Γ , u: A for the context Γ extended by the hypothesis u: A. Logical entailment is the smallest relation satisfying the following rules:

1. Conclusion from a hypothesis:

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash A} \ \text{ if } u : A \text{ occurs in } \Gamma$$

2. Truth:

$$\overline{\Gamma \vdash \top}$$

3. Falsehood:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \bot}{\Gamma \vdash A}$$

4. Conjunction:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \qquad \Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \land B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \land B}{\Gamma \vdash A} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \land B}{\Gamma \vdash B}$$

5. Disjunction:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash A \lor B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \lor B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \lor B}{\Gamma \vdash C} \qquad \frac{\Gamma, u : A \vdash C}{\Gamma \vdash C}$$

6. Implication:

$$\frac{\Gamma, u : A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash B}$$

A proof of $\Gamma \vdash A$ is a finite tree built from the above inference rules whose root is $\Gamma \vdash A$. For example, here is a proof of $A \lor B \vdash B \lor A$: We did not bother to label the hypotheses. A judgment $\Gamma \vdash A$ is provable if there exists a proof of it. Observe that every proof has at its leaves either the rule for \top or a conclusion from a hypothesis.

You may wonder what happened to negation. In intuitionistic propositional calculus, negation is defined in terms of implication and falsehood as

$$\neg A \equiv A \Rightarrow \bot$$
.

Properties of negation are then derived from the rules for implication and falsehood, see Exercise 3.4.5

Let P be the set of all formulas of IPC, preordered by the relation

$$A \vdash B$$
, $(A, B \in P)$

where we did not bother to label the hypothesis A. Clearly, it is the case that $A \vdash A$. To see that \vdash is transitive, suppose Π_1 is a proof of $A \vdash B$ and Π_2 is a proof of $B \vdash C$. Then we can obtain a proof of $A \vdash C$ from a proof Π_2 of $B \vdash C$ by replacing in it each use of the hypothesis B by the proof Π_1 of $A \vdash B$. This is worked out in detail in the next two exercises.

Exercise 3.4.2. Prove the following statement by induction on the structure of the proof Π : if Π is a proof of Γ , $u:A,v:A\vdash B$ then there is a proof of Γ , $u:A\vdash B$.

Exercise 3.4.3. Prove the following statement by induction on the structure of the proof Π_2 : if Π_1 is a proof of $\Gamma \vdash A$ and Π_2 is a proof of $\Gamma, u : A \vdash B$, then there is a proof of $\Gamma \vdash B$.

Let IPC be the poset reflection of the preorder (P, \vdash) . The elements of IPC are equivalence classes [A] of formulas, where two formulas A and B are equivalent if both $A \vdash B$ and $B \vdash A$ are provable. The poset IPC is just the free Heyting algebra on countably many generators p_0, p_1, \ldots

Classical propositional calculus

Another look:

An element $x \in L$ of a lattice L is said to be *complemented* when there exists $y \in L$ such that

$$x \lor y = 1$$
, $x \land y = 0$.

We say that y is the *complement* of x.

In a distributive lattice, the complement of x is unique if it exists. Indeed, if both y and z are complements of x then

$$y \wedge z = (y \wedge z) \vee 0 = (y \wedge z) \vee (y \wedge x) = y \wedge (z \vee x) = y \wedge 1 = y,$$

hence $y \leq z$. A symmetric argument shows that $z \leq y$, therefore y = z. The complement of x, if it exists, is denoted by $\neg x$.

A Boolean algebra is a distributive lattice in which every element is complemented. In other words, a Boolean algebra B has the complementation operation \neg which satisfies, for all $x \in B$,

$$x \wedge \neg x = 0 , \qquad x \vee \neg x = 1 . \tag{3.9}$$

The full subcategory of Lat consisting of Boolean algebras is denoted by Bool.

Exercise 3.4.4. Prove that every Boolean algebra is a Heyting algebra. Hint: how is implication encoded in terms of negation and disjunction in classical logic?

In a Heyting algebra not every element is complemented. However, we can still define a pseudo complement or negation operation \neg by

$$\neg x = (x \Rightarrow 0)$$
,

Then $\neg x$ is the largest element for which $x \wedge \neg x = 0$. While in a Boolean algebra $\neg \neg x = x$, in a Heyting algebra we only have $\neg \neg x \leq x$ in general. An element x of a Heyting algebra for which $\neg \neg x = x$ is called a *regular* element.

Exercise 3.4.5. Derive the following properties of negation in a *Heyting* algebra:

$$x \leq \neg \neg x ,$$

$$\neg x = \neg \neg \neg x ,$$

$$x \leq y \Rightarrow \neg y \leq \neg x ,$$

$$\neg \neg (x \land y) = \neg \neg x \land \neg \neg y .$$

Exercise 3.4.6. The topology $\mathcal{O}X$ of a topological space X is a frame, therefore a Heyting algebra. Describe in topological language negation on $\mathcal{O}X$ and regular elements in $\mathcal{O}X$.

Exercise 3.4.7. Show that for a Heyting algebra H, the regular elements of H form a Boolean algebra $H_{\neg \neg} = \{x \in H \mid x = \neg \neg x\}$. Here $H_{\neg \neg}$ is viewed as a subposet of H. Hint: negation \neg' , conjunction \wedge' , and disjunction \vee' in $H_{\neg \neg}$ are expressed as follows in terms of negation, conjunction and disjunction in H, for $x, y \in H_{\neg \neg}$:

$$\neg' x = \neg x \;, \qquad x \wedge' y = \neg \neg (x \wedge y) \;, \qquad x \vee' y = \neg \neg (x \vee y) \;.$$

The classical propositional calculus (CPC) is obtained from the intuitionistic propositional calculus by the addition of the logical rule known as tertium non datur, or the law of excluded middle:

$$\overline{\Gamma \vdash A \lor \neg A}$$

Alternatively, we could add the law known as reductio ad absurdum, or proof by contradiction:

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash \neg \neg A}{\Gamma \vdash A} .$

If we identify logically equivalent formulas of CPC we obtain a poset CPC ordered by logical entailment. This poset can be described by a universal property: it is the free Boolean algebra on countably many generators. The construction of a free Boolean algebra is performed just like the construction of a free Heyting algebra. The equational axioms for a Boolean algebra are the axioms for a lattice (3.6), the distributive laws (3.7), and the complement laws (3.9).

Exercise* **3.4.8.** Is CPC isomorphic to the Boolean algebra IPC $\neg \neg$ of the regular elements of IPC?

Exercise 3.4.9. Show that in a Heyting algebra H, $\neg \neg x = x$ for all $x \in H$ if, and only if, $y \lor \neg y = 1$ for all $y \in H$. Hint: half of the equivalence is easy. For the other half, observe that the assumption $\forall x : H . \neg \neg x = x$ means that double negation is an order-reversing bijection $H \to H$. Therefore it transforms joins into meets and vice versa, and so De $Morgan\ laws\ hold$:

$$\neg(x \land y) = \neg x \lor \neg y \;, \qquad \qquad \neg(x \lor y) = \neg x \land \neg y \;.$$

De Morgan laws together with $y \wedge \neg y = 0$ easily imply $y \vee \neg y = 1$. See [Joh82, I.1.11].

Frames

A poset (P, \leq) , viewed as a category, is *cocomplete* when it has suprema (least upper bounds) of arbitrary subsets. This is so because coequalizers in a poset always exist, and coproducts are precisely least upper bounds. Recall that the supremum of $S \subseteq P$ is an element $\bigvee S \in P$ such that, for all $y \in S$,

$$\bigvee S \le y \iff \forall \, x : S \, . \, x \le y \; .$$

In particular, $\bigvee \emptyset$ is the least element of P and $\bigvee P$ is the greatest element of P. Similarly, a poset is *complete* when it has infima (greatest lower bounds) of arbitrary subsets; the infimum of $S \subseteq P$ is an element $\bigwedge S \in P$ such that, for all $y \in S$,

$$y \le \bigwedge S \iff \forall x : S . y \le x$$
.

Proposition 3.4.10. A poset is complete if, and only if, it is cocomplete.

Proof. Infima and suprema are expressed in terms of each other as follows:

$$\bigwedge S = \bigvee \{ y \in P \mid \forall x : S . y \le x \} ,$$

$$\bigvee S = \bigwedge \{ y \in P \mid \forall x : S . x \le y \} .$$

Thus, we usually speak of *complete* posets only, even when we work with arbitrary suprema.

Suppose P is a complete poset. When is it cartesian closed? Being a complete poset, it has the terminal object, namely the greatest element $1 \in P$, and it has binary products which are binary infima. If P is cartesian closed then for all $x, y \in P$ there exists an exponential $(x \Rightarrow y) \in P$, which satisfies, for all $z \in P$,

$$z \land x \le y$$

$$z < x \Rightarrow y$$

With the help of this adjunction we derive the *infinite distributive law*, for an arbitrary family $\{y_i \in P \mid i \in I\}$,

$$x \wedge \bigvee_{i \in I} y_i = \bigvee_{i \in I} (x \wedge y_i) \tag{3.10}$$

as follows:

$$\frac{x \land \bigvee_{i \in I} y_i \leq z}{\bigvee_{i \in I} y_i \leq (x \Rightarrow z)}$$

$$\forall i : I . (y_i \leq (x \Rightarrow z))$$

$$\forall i : I . (x \land y_i \leq z)$$

$$\bigvee_{i \in I} (x \land y_i) \leq z$$

Now since $x \wedge \bigvee_{i \in I} y_i$ and $\bigvee_{i \in I} (x \wedge y_i)$ have the same upper bounds they must be equal. Conversely, suppose the distributive law (3.10) holds. Then we can *define* $x \Rightarrow y$ to be

$$(x \Rightarrow y) = \bigvee \left\{ z \in P \mid x \land z \le y \right\} . \tag{3.11}$$

The best way to show that $x \Rightarrow y$ is the exponential of x and y is to use the characterization of adjoints by counit, as in Proposition ??. In the case of \wedge and \Rightarrow this amounts to showing that, for all $x, y \in P$,

$$x \land (x \Rightarrow y) \le y \tag{3.12}$$

and that, for $z \in P$,

$$(x \land z \le y) \Rightarrow (z \le x \Rightarrow y)$$
.

This implication follows directly from (3.11), and (3.12) follows from the distributive law:

$$x \wedge (x \Rightarrow y) = x \wedge \bigvee \{z \in P \mid x \wedge z \leq y\} = \bigvee \{x \wedge z \mid x \wedge z \leq y\} \leq y.$$

Complete cartesian closed posets are called *frames*.

Definition 3.4.11. A *frame* is a poset that is complete and cartesian closed, thus a frame is a complete Heyting algebra. Equivalently, a frame is a complete poset satisfying the (infinite) distributive law

$$x \wedge \bigvee_{i \in I} y_i = \bigvee_{i \in I} (x \wedge y_i)$$
.

A frame morphism is a function $f:L\to M$ between frames that preserves finite infima and arbitrary suprema. The category of frames and frame morphisms is denoted by Frame.

Warning: a frame morphism need not preserve exponentials!

Example 3.4.12. The topology $\mathcal{O}X$ of a topological space X, ordered by inclusion, is a frame because finite intersections and arbitrary unions of open sets are open. The distributive law holds because intersections distribute over unions. If $f: X \to Y$ is a continuous map between topological spaces, the inverse image map $f^*: \mathcal{O}Y \to \mathcal{O}X$ is a frame homomorphism. Thus, there is a functor

$$\mathcal{O}:\mathsf{Top}\to\mathsf{Frame}^\mathsf{op}$$

which maps a space X to its topology $\mathcal{O}X$ and a continuous map $f: X \to Y$ to the inverse image map $f^*: \mathcal{O}Y \to \mathcal{O}X$.

The category Frame^{op} is called the category of *locales* and is denoted by Loc. When we think of a frame as an object of Loc we call it a locale.

Exercise* 3.4.13. This exercise is meant for students with some background in topology. For a topological space X and a point $x \in X$, let N(x) be the neighborhood filter of x,

$$N(x) = \{ U \in \mathcal{O}X \mid x \in U \} .$$

Recall that a T_0 -space is a topological space X in which points are determined by their neighborhood filters,

$$N(x) = N(y) \Rightarrow x = y$$
. $(x, y \in X)$

Let Top_0 be the full subcategory of Top on T_0 -spaces. The functor $\mathcal{O} : \mathsf{Top} \to \mathsf{Loc}$ restricts to a functor $\mathcal{O} : \mathsf{Top}_0 \to \mathsf{Loc}$. Prove that $\mathcal{O} : \mathsf{Top}_0 \to \mathsf{Loc}$ is a faithful functor. Is it full?

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