

Everybody's Got To Be Somewhere

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This literate Agda paper gives a nameless *co*-de-Bruijn representation of generic (meta)syntax with binding. It owes much to the work of Sato et al. [6] on representation of variable binding by mapping variable use sites. The key to any nameless representation of syntax is how it indicates the variables we choose to use and thus, implicitly those we neglect. The business of *selecting* is what we shall revisit with care in the sequel. The definition leads to a new construction of hereditary substitution.

1 Basic Equipment

We shall need finite types `Zero`, `One`, and `Two`, named for their cardinality, and the reflection of `Two` as a set of evidence for ‘being `tt`’. Dependent pairing is by means of the Σ type, abbreviated by \times when non-dependent. The *pattern synonym* `!_` allows the first component to be determined by the second: making it a right-associative prefix operator lets us write `!! expression` rather than `!(!(expression))`.

```
data Zero : Set where
record One : Set where constructor ⟨⟩
data Two : Set where tt ff : Two
Tt : Two → Set
Tt tt = One
Tt ff = Zero

record Σ (S : Set) (T : S → Set) : Set where
  constructor _,_
  field fst : S; snd : T fst
_×_ : Set → Set → Set
S × T = Σ S λ _ → T
pattern !_ t = _, t
```

We shall also need to reason equationally. For all its imperfections in matters of *extensionality*, it will be convenient to define equality inductively, enabling the `rewrite` construct in equational proofs.

```
data _==_ {X : Set} (x : X) : X → Set where refl : x == x
```

2 OPE_K : The Category of Order-Preserving Embeddings

No category theorist would mistake me for one of their own. However, the key technology in this paper can be helpfully conceptualised categorically. Category theory is the study of compositionality for anything, not just sets-and-functions: here, we have an opportunity to develop categorical structure with an example apart from the usual functional programming apparatus, as emphasized particularly in the Haskell community. This strikes me as a good opportunity to revisit the basics.

Category (I): Objects and Morphisms. A *category* is given by a class of *objects* and a family of *morphisms* (or *arrows*) indexed by two objects: *source* and *target*. Abstractly, we may write \mathbb{C} for a given category, $|\mathbb{C}|$ for its objects, and $\mathbb{C}(S, T)$ for its morphisms with given source and target, $S, T \in |\mathbb{C}|$.

Category (III): Laws. to complete the definition of a category, we must say which laws are satisfied by identity and composition. Composition *absorbs* identity on the left and on the right. Moreover, composition is *associative*, meaning that any sequence of morphisms which fit together target-to-source can be composed without the specific pairwise grouping choices making a difference. That is, we have three laws which are presented as *equations*, at which point any type theorist will want to know what is meant by ‘equal’: I shall always be careful to say. Our thinnings are first-order, so $=$ will serve. With this definition in place, we may then state the laws. I omit the proofs, which go by functional induction.

$$\text{law-oi} : \text{oi} \circ \theta = \theta \quad \text{law-oi} : \theta \circ \text{oi} = \theta \quad \text{law-} : \theta \circ (\phi \circ \psi) = (\theta \circ \phi) \circ \psi$$

As one might expect, order-preserving embeddings have a strong antisymmetry property that one cannot expect of categories in general. The *only* invertible arrows are the identities. Note that we must match on the proof of $iz = jz$ even to claim that θ and ϕ are the identity.

$$\text{antisym} : (\theta : iz \leq jz) (\phi : jz \leq iz) \rightarrow \Sigma (iz = jz) \lambda \{ \text{refl} \rightarrow \theta = \text{oi} \times \phi = \text{oi} \}$$

3 De Bruijn Syntax via OPE

We often see numbers as de Bruijn indices for variables [4], perhaps with some bound enforced by typing, as shown in principle by Bellegarde and Hook [2], and in practice by Bird and Paterson [3], and (for simple types) by Altenkirch and Reus [1]. To grow the set of free variables under a binder, use option types or some ‘finite set’ construction, often called ‘Fin’. We can use singleton embedding,

$$k \leftarrow kz = \boxed{\neg, k \leq kz}$$

and then give the well scoped but untyped de Bruijn λ -terms, readily seen to admit thinning:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{data Lam } (iz : \text{Bwd One}) : \text{Set where} & \neg : \text{Lam } iz \rightarrow iz \leq jz \rightarrow \text{Lam } jz \\ \# i : (x : \langle \rangle \leftarrow iz) \rightarrow \text{Lam } iz & \# i \uparrow \theta = \# (i \circ \theta) \\ _ \$ _ : (f s : \text{Lam } iz) \rightarrow \text{Lam } iz & (f \$ s) \uparrow \theta = (f \uparrow \theta) \$ (s \uparrow \theta) \\ \lambda : (t : \text{Lam } (iz \neg, \langle \rangle)) \rightarrow \text{Lam } iz & \lambda t \uparrow \theta = \lambda (t \uparrow \theta \text{ os}) \end{array}$$

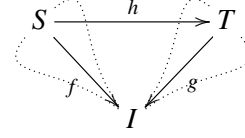
Variables are represented by pointing, eliminating redundant choice of names, but it is only when we point to one variable that we exclude the others. Thus de Bruijn indexing effectively uses thinnings to discard unwanted variables as *late* as possible, in the *leaves* of syntax trees.

Note how the scope index iz is the target of a thinning in $\#$ and weakened in λ . Hence, thinnings act on terms ultimately by postcomposition, but because terms keep their thinnings at their leaves, we must hunt the entire tree to find them. Now consider the other canonical placement of thinnings, nearest the *root*, discarding unused variables as *early* as possible.

4 Slices of Thinnings

If we fix the target of thinnings, $(\neg \leq kz)$, we obtain the notion of *subscopes* of a given kz . Fixing a target is a standard way to construct a new category whose objects are given by morphisms of the original.

Slice Category. If \mathbb{C} is a category and I one of its objects, the *slice category* \mathbb{C}/I has as its objects pairs (S, f) , where S is an object of \mathbb{C} and $f : S \rightarrow I$ is a morphism in \mathbb{C} . A morphism in $(S, f) \rightarrow (T, g)$ is some $h : S \rightarrow T$ such that $f = h; g$. (The dotted regions in the diagram show the objects in the slice.)



That is, the morphisms are *triangles*. A seasoned dependently typed programmer will be nervous at a definition like the following (where the $_$ after Σ asks Agda to compute the type $iz \leq jz$ of θ):

$$\psi \rightarrow_{/} \phi = \Sigma _ \lambda \theta \rightarrow (\theta \circ \phi) = \psi \quad \text{-- beware of } \circ!$$

because the equation restricts us when it comes to manipulating triangles. Dependent pattern matching relies on *unification* of indices, but defined function symbols like \circ make unification difficult, obliging us to reason about the *edges* of the triangles. It helps at this point to define the *graph* of \circ inductively.

```
data Tri : iz ≤ jz → jz ≤ kz → iz ≤ kz → Set where
  _t-'' : Tri θ φ ψ → Tri θ (φ o') (ψ o')
  _t's' : Tri θ φ ψ → Tri (θ o') (φ os) (ψ o')
  _tsss : Tri θ φ ψ → Tri (θ os) (φ os) (ψ os)
  tzzz : Tri oz oz oz
  tri   : (θ : iz ≤ jz) (φ : jz ≤ kz) →
           Tri θ φ (θ ∘ φ)
  comp  : Tri θ φ ψ → ψ == (θ ∘ φ)
```

The indexing is entirely in constructor form, which will allow easy unification. Moreover, all the *data* in a **Tri** structure comes from its *indices*. Easy inductions show that **Tri** is precisely the graph of \circ .

The example composition given above can be rendered a triangle, as follows:

```
egTri : Tri {kz = [] -, k0 -, k1 -, k2 -, k3 -, k4} (oz os o' os) (oz os o' os o' os) (oz os o' o' o' os)
egTri = tzzz tsss t-'' t's' t-'' tsss
```

We obtain a definition of morphisms in the slice as triangles.

$$\psi \rightarrow_{/} \phi = \Sigma _ \lambda \theta \rightarrow \text{Tri } \theta \phi \psi$$

A useful property specific to thinnings is that morphisms in the slice category are *unique*. It is straightforward to formulate this property in terms of triangles with edges in common, and then to work by induction on the triangles rather than their edges. As a result, it will be cheap to establish *universal properties* in the slices of **OPE**, asserting the existence of unique morphisms: uniqueness comes for free!

$$\text{triU} : \text{Tri } \theta \phi \psi \rightarrow \text{Tri } \theta' \phi \psi \rightarrow \theta = \theta'$$

5 Functors, a densely prevalent notion

Haskell makes considerable use of the type class `Functor` and its many subclasses, but this is only to scratch the surface: Haskell's functors are *endofunctors*, mapping the 'category' of types-and-functions into itself. Once we adopt the appropriate level of generality, functoriality sprouts everywhere, and the same structures can be usefully functorial in many ways.

Functor. A *functor* is a mapping from a source category \mathbb{C} to a target category \mathbb{D} which preserves categorical structure. To specify a structure, we must give a function $F_o : |\mathbb{C}| \rightarrow |\mathbb{D}|$ from source objects to target objects, together with a family of functions $F_m : \mathbb{C}(S, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{D}(F_o(S), F_o(T))$. The preserved structure amounts to identity and composition: we must have that $F_m(\iota_X) = \iota_{F_o(X)}$ and that $F_m(f; g) = F_m(f); F_m(g)$. Note that there is an identity functor **I** (whose actions on objects and morphisms are the identity) from \mathbb{C} to itself and that functors compose (componentwise).

E.g., every $k : K$ induces a functor (*weakening*) from **OPE** to itself by scope extension, $(- \neg, k)$ on objects and **os** on morphisms. The very definitions of **oi** and **;** show that **os** preserves **oi** and **;**.

Before we can have more examples, we shall need some more categories. Let **Set** be the category whose objects are Agda types in the **Set** universe and whose morphisms in $\mathbf{Set}(S, T)$ are functions of type $S \rightarrow T$, with the usual identity and composition. Consider morphisms equal if they agree *pointwise*. As an exercise, find the action on morphisms of show the **Set** to **Set** functor which is **Bwd** on objects, and check that (\mathbf{Lam}, \uparrow) gives a functor from **OPE** to **Set**.

Our work takes us in a different direction, profiting from the richness of dependent types: let us construct new categories by *indexing*. If $I : \mathbf{Set}$, we may then take $I \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ to be the category whose objects are *families* of objects in **Set**, $S, T : I \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ with morphisms being the corresponding (implicitly indexed) families of functions:

$$S \dot{\rightarrow} T = \forall \{i\} \rightarrow S\ i \rightarrow T\ i$$

Consider morphisms equal if they map each index to pointwise equal functions. We may define a functor from $K \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ to **Bwd** $K \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{data All } (P : K \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}) : \mathbf{Bwd } K \rightarrow \mathbf{Set} \text{ where} & \text{all} : (P \dot{\rightarrow} Q) \rightarrow (\text{All } P \dot{\rightarrow} \text{All } Q) \\ \square : \text{All } P \square & \text{all } f \square = \square \\ \neg, - : \text{All } P\ k z \rightarrow P\ k \rightarrow \text{All } P\ (k z \neg, k) & \text{all } f\ (p z \neg, p) = \text{all } f\ p z \neg, f\ p \end{array}$$

For a given K , **All** acts on objects, giving for each k in a scope, some value in $P\ k$, thus giving us a notion of *environment*. The action on morphisms, **all**, lifts *kind-respecting* operations on values to *scope-respecting* operations on environments. Identity and composition are readily preserved. In the sequel, it will be convenient to abbreviate **Bwd** $K \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ as \bar{K} , for types indexed over scopes.

However, **All** gives more functorial structure. Fixing kz , we obtain $\lambda P \rightarrow \text{All } P\ kz$, a functor from $K \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ to **Set**, again with the instantiated **all** acting on morphisms. And still, there is more.

Opposite Category. For a given category \mathbb{C} , its *opposite* category is denoted \mathbb{C}^{op} and defined thus:

$$|\mathbb{C}^{\text{op}}| = |\mathbb{C}| \quad \mathbb{C}^{\text{op}}(S, T) = \mathbb{C}(T, S) \quad \iota_X^{\text{op}} = \iota_X \quad f;^{\text{op}} g = g; f$$

Note that a functor from \mathbb{C}^{op} to \mathbb{D} is sometimes called a *contravariant functor* from \mathbb{C} to \mathbb{D} .

For example, $\mathbf{OPE}^{\text{op}}(jz, iz) = iz \leq jz$ allows us to see the category of thinnings as the category of *selections*, where we choose just iz from the available jz . If we have an environment for all of the jz , we should be able to whittle it down to an environment for just the iz by throwing away the values we no longer need. That is to say, **All** P is a *functor* from \mathbf{OPE}^{op} to **Set**, whose action on morphisms is

$$\begin{array}{ll} \leq^? : iz \leq jz \rightarrow \text{All } P\ jz \rightarrow \text{All } P\ iz & \\ \text{oz } \leq^? \square = \square & \\ (\theta \text{ os}) \leq^? (p z \neg, p) = (\theta \leq^? p z) \neg, p & \\ (\theta \text{ o}') \leq^? (p z \neg, p) = \theta \leq^? p z & \end{array}$$

Natural Transformation. Given functors F and G from \mathbb{C} to \mathbb{D} , a *natural transformation* is a family of \mathbb{D} -morphisms $k_X \in \mathbb{D}(F_o(X), G_o(X))$ indexed by \mathbb{C} -objects, $X \in |\mathbb{C}|$, satisfying the *naturality* condition, which is that for any $h \in \mathbb{C}(S, T)$, we have $k_S; G_m(h) = F_m(h); k_T$, amounting to a kind of *uniformity*. It tells us that k_X does not care what X is, but only about the additional structure imposed by F and G .

Parametric polymorphism famously induces naturality [7], in that ignorance of a parameter imposes uniformity, and the same is true in our more nuanced setting. We noted that $\lambda P \rightarrow \text{All } P \text{ kz}$ is a functor (with action `all`) from $K \rightarrow \text{Set}$ to Set . Accordingly, if $\theta : iz \leq jz$ then $(\theta \leq? _)$ is a natural transformation from $\lambda P \rightarrow \text{All } P \text{ jz}$ to $\lambda P \rightarrow \text{All } P \text{ iz}$, which is as much as to say that the definition of $\leq?$ is uniform in P , and hence that if $f : \{k : K\} \rightarrow Pk \rightarrow Qk$, then $\text{all } f (\theta \leq? pz) = \theta \leq? \text{all } f pz$.

Dependently typed programming thus offers us a much richer seam of categorical structure than the basic types-and-functions familiar from Haskell (which demands some negotiation of totality even to achieve that much). For me, at any rate, this represents an opportunity to make sense of the categorical taxonomy by relating it to concrete programming examples, and at the same time, organising those programs and giving healthy indications for *what to prove*.

6 Things-with-Thinnings (a Monad)

Let us develop the habit of packing terms with an object in the slice category of thinnings, selecting the `support` of the term and discarding unused variables at the root. Note that $/$ is a functor from \bar{K} to itself.

```
record _/_ {K} (T :  $\bar{K}$ ) (scope : Bwd K) : Set where -- (T /_) :  $\bar{K}$ 
  constructor  $\uparrow$ 
  field {support} : Bwd K; thing : T support; thinning : support  $\leq$  scope
map/ :  $\forall \{K\} \{ST : \bar{K}\} \rightarrow (S \rightarrow T) \rightarrow ((S /_) \rightarrow (T /_))$ 
map/ f (s  $\uparrow$   $\theta$ ) = f s  $\uparrow$   $\theta$ 
```

In fact, the categorical structure of **OPE** makes $/$ a *monad*. Let us recall the definition.

Monad. A functor M from \mathbb{C} to \mathbb{C} gives rise to a *monad* (M, η, μ) if we can find a pair of natural transformations, respectively ‘unit’ (‘add an M layer’) and ‘multiplication’ (‘merge M layers’).

$$\eta_X : \mathbf{I}(X) \rightarrow M(X) \qquad \mu_X : M(M(X)) \rightarrow M(X)$$

subject to the conditions that merging an added layer yields the identity (whether the layer added is ‘outer’ or ‘inner’), and that adjacent M layers may be merged pairwise in any order.

$$\eta_{M(X)}; \mu_X = \iota_{M(X)} \qquad M(\eta_X); \mu_X = \iota_{M(X)} \qquad \mu_{M(X)}; \mu_X = M(\mu_X); \mu_X$$

The categorical structure of thinnings makes $/$ a monad. Here, ‘adding a layer’ amounts to ‘wrapping with a thinning’. The proof obligations to make $(/, \text{unit}/, \text{mult}/)$ a monad are exactly those required to make **OPE** a category in the first place. In particular, things-with-thinnings are easy to thin further, indeed, parametrically so. In other words, $(T /)$ is uniformly a functor from **OPE** to **Set**.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{unit}/ : T \rightarrow (T /_) & \text{mult}/ : ((T /_) /_) \rightarrow (T /_) & \text{thin}/ : iz \leq jz \rightarrow T / iz \rightarrow T / jz \\ \text{unit}/ t = t \uparrow \text{oi} & \text{mult}/ ((t \uparrow \theta) \uparrow \phi) = t \uparrow (\theta \circ \phi) & \text{thin}/ \theta t = \text{mult}/ (t \uparrow \theta) \end{array}$$

Shortly, we shall give an operation to discover the variables in scope on which a term syntactically depends. However, merely *allowing* a thinning at the root, Lam / iz , yields a poor representation of terms over iz , as we may choose whether to discard unwanted variables either at root or at leaves. To eliminate redundancy, we must *insist* that a term's **support** is *relevant*: if a variable is not discarded by the **thinning**, it *must* be used in the **thing**. Or as Spike Milligan put it, 'Everybody's got to be somewhere.'

7 The Curious Case of the Coproduct in Slices of OPE

The $/$ construction makes crucial use of objects in the slice category $\mathbf{OPE}/\text{scope}$, which exhibit useful additional structure: they are *bit vectors*, with one bit per variable telling whether it has been selected. Bit vectors inherit Boolean structure, via the 'Naperian' array structure of vectors [5].

Initial object. A category \mathbb{C} has initial object 0, if there is a unique morphism in $\mathbb{C}(0, X)$ for every X .

We are used to the *empty type* playing this rôle for types-and-functions: empty case analysis gives the vacuously unique morphism. In \mathbf{OPE} , the empty *scope* plays the same rôle, with the 'constant 0' bit vector as unique morphism. By return of post, we obtain that (\square, oe) is the initial object in the slice category $_ \leq kz$.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 oe : \forall \{K\} \{kz : \text{Bwd } K\} \rightarrow \square \leq kz & oe/ : (\theta : iz \leq kz) \rightarrow oe \rightarrow_ / \theta \\
 oe \{kz = iz \neg, k\} = oe \circ' & oe/ \theta \text{ with tri } oe \theta \\
 oe \{kz = \square\} = oz & \dots \mid t \text{ rewrite law-oe } (oe \circ \theta) = oe, t \\
 \text{law-oe} : (\theta : \square \leq kz) \rightarrow \theta = oe &
 \end{array}$$

We can now make *constants* with empty support, i.e., noting that no variable is (\cdot_R for) *relevant*.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{data One}_R \{K\} : \bar{K} \text{ where } \langle \rangle : \text{One}_R \square & \langle \rangle_R : \text{One}_R / kz \\
 & \langle \rangle_R = \langle \rangle \uparrow oe
 \end{array}$$

We should expect the constant to be the trivial case of some notion of *relevant pairing*, induced by *coproducts* in the slice category. If we have two objects in $(_ \leq kz)$ representing two subsopes, there should be a smallest subscope which includes both: pairwise disjunction of bit vectors.

Coproduct. Objects S and T of category \mathbb{C} have a coproduct object $S + T$ if there are morphisms $l \in \mathbb{C}(S, S + T)$ and $r \in \mathbb{C}(T, S + T)$ such that every pair $f \in \mathbb{C}(S, U)$ and $g \in \mathbb{C}(T, U)$ factors through a unique $h \in \mathbb{C}(S + T, U)$ so that $f = l; h$ and $g = r; h$. In **Set**, we may take $S + T$ to be the *disjoint union* of S and T , with l and r its injections and h the *case analysis* whose branches are f and g .

However, we are not working in **Set**, but in a slice category. Any category theorist will tell you that slice categories \mathbb{C}/I inherit *colimit* structure (characterized by universal out-arrows) from \mathbb{C} , as indeed we just saw with the initial object. If \mathbf{OPE} has coproducts, too, we are done!

Curiously, though, \mathbf{OPE} does *not* have coproducts. Taking $K = \text{One}$, let us seek the coproduct of two singletons, $S = T = \square \neg, \langle \rangle$. Construct one diagram by taking $U = \square \neg, \langle \rangle$ and $f = g = oi$, ensuring that our only candidate for $S + T$ is again the singleton $\square \neg, \langle \rangle$, with $l = r = oi$, making $h = oi$. Nothing else can sit between S, T and U . Now begin a different diagram, with $U' = \square \neg, \langle \rangle \neg, \langle \rangle$, allowing $f' = oz \circ s \circ'$ and $g' = oz \circ' \circ s$. No h' post-composes l and r (both oi , making h' itself) to yield f' and g' respectively.

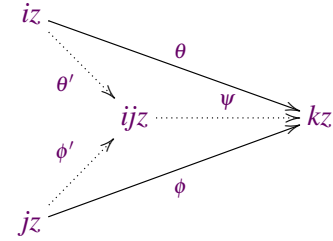
Fortunately, we shall get what we need. \mathbf{OPE} may not have coproducts, but its *slices* do. Examine the data. We have two subsopes of some kz , $\theta : iz \leq kz$ and $\phi : jz \leq kz$. Their coproduct must be some

$\psi : ijz \leq kz$, where our l and r must be triangles $\text{Tri } \theta' \psi \theta$ and $\text{Tri } \phi' \psi \phi$, giving us morphisms in $\theta \rightarrow_{\psi} \psi$ and $\phi \rightarrow_{\psi} \psi$, respectively. Intuitively, we should choose ψ to be the pointwise disjunction of θ and ϕ , so that ijz is as small as possible: θ' and ϕ' will then *cover* ijz . The flag, ov , determines whether *overlap* is permitted: this should be tt for coproducts, but $ov = \text{ff}$ allows the notion of *partition*, too.

```
data Cover {K} (ov : Two) : {iz,jz : Bwd K} → iz ≤ ijz → jz ≤ ijz → Set where
  _c's : Cover ov θ φ → Cover ov (θ o') (φ os)
  _cs' : Cover ov θ φ → Cover ov (θ os) (φ o')
  _css : Cover ov θ φ → Cover ov (θ os) (φ os)
  czz : Cover ov oz oz
```

Note that we have no constructor which allows both θ and ϕ to omit a target variable: everybody's got to be somewhere. Let us compute the coproduct, then check its universal property.

```
cop : ∀ {K} {kz iz,jz : Bwd K}
      (θ : iz ≤ kz) (φ : jz ≤ kz) →
      Σ _ λ ijz → Σ (ijz ≤ kz) λ ψ →
      Σ (iz ≤ ijz) λ θ' → Σ (jz ≤ ijz) λ φ' →
      Tri θ' ψ θ × Cover tt θ' φ' × Tri φ' ψ φ
```



```
cop (θ o') (φ o') = let !!!!tl, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!tl t'' , c , tr t''
cop (θ o') (φ os) = let !!!!tl, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!tl t's' , c c's , tr tsss
cop (θ os) (φ o') = let !!!!tl, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!tl tsss , c cs' , tr t's'
cop (θ os) (φ os) = let !!!!tl, c, tr = cop θ φ in !!!!tl tsss , c css , tr tsss
cop   oz   oz   =                !!!! tzzz , czz , tzzz
```

To show that we have really computed a coproduct, we must show that any other pair of triangles from θ and ϕ to some ψ' must induce a (unique) morphism from ψ to ψ' .

```
copU : Tri θ' ψ θ → Cover tt θ' φ' → Tri φ' ψ φ →
      ∀ {ijz'} {ψ' : ijz' ≤ kz} → θ →_{ψ'} ψ' → φ →_{ψ'} ψ' → ψ →_{ψ'} ψ'
```

The construction goes by induction on the triangles which share ψ' and inversion of the coproduct. The payoff from the coproduct construction is the type of *relevant pairs* — the co-de-Bruijn touchstone:

```
record _×_R_ (S T : K) (ijz : Bwd K) : Set where
  constructor pair
  field outl : S / ijz
        outr : T / ijz
        cover : Cover tt (thinning outl) (thinning outr)
  _→_R_ : S / kz → T / kz → (S ×_R T) / kz
  (s ↑ θ) ,_R_ (t ↑ φ) =
    let ! ψ, θ', φ', -, c, - = cop θ φ
    in pair (s ↑ θ') (t ↑ φ') c ↑ ψ
```

8 Monoidal Structure of Order-Preserving Embeddings

To talk about binding, we need scope extension. We have seen single ‘snoc’, but binding is simultaneous in general. Concatenation induces monoidal structure on objects of **OPE**, extending to morphisms.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
-++- : (iz, jz : \text{Bwd } K) \rightarrow \text{Bwd } K & -++\leq- : iz \leq jz \rightarrow iz' \leq jz' \rightarrow (iz ++ iz') \leq (jz ++ jz') \\
kz ++ [] = kz & \theta ++\leq \text{oz} = \theta \\
kz ++ (iz \neg j) = (kz ++ iz) \neg j & \theta ++\leq (\phi \text{ os}) = (\theta ++\leq \phi) \text{ os} \\
& \theta ++\leq (\phi \text{ o}') = (\theta ++\leq \phi) \text{ o}'
\end{array}$$

Moreover, given an embedding into a concatenation, we can split it into local and global parts.

$$\begin{array}{l}
-|- : (jz : \text{Bwd } K) (\psi : iz \leq (kz ++ jz)) \rightarrow \Sigma (\text{Bwd } K) \lambda kz' \rightarrow \Sigma (\text{Bwd } K) \lambda jz' \rightarrow \\
\Sigma (kz' \leq kz) \lambda \theta \rightarrow \Sigma (jz' \leq jz) \lambda \phi \rightarrow \Sigma (iz = (kz' ++ jz')) \lambda \{ \text{refl} \rightarrow \psi = (\theta ++\leq \phi) \} \\
[] \vdash \psi = !! \psi, \text{oz}, \text{refl}, \text{refl} \\
(kz \neg k) \vdash (\psi \text{ os}) \quad \text{with } kz \vdash \psi \\
(kz \neg k) \vdash ((\theta ++\leq \phi) \text{ os}) \mid !! \theta, \phi, \text{refl}, \text{refl} = !! \theta, \phi \text{ os}, \text{refl}, \text{refl} \\
(kz \neg k) \vdash (\psi \text{ o}') \quad \text{with } kz \vdash \psi \\
(kz \neg k) \vdash ((\theta ++\leq \phi) \text{ o}') \mid !! \theta, \phi, \text{refl}, \text{refl} = !! \theta, \phi \text{ o}', \text{refl}, \text{refl}
\end{array}$$

Thus equipped, we can say how to bind some variables. The key is to say at the binding site which of the bound variables will actually be used: if they are not used, we should not even bring them into scope.

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{data } _ \vdash _ \{ K \} (jz : \text{Bwd } K) (T : \overline{K}) (kz : \text{Bwd } K) : \text{Set where} \quad _ \vdash jz \vdash T : \overline{K} \\
_ _ \vdash : \forall \{ iz \} \rightarrow iz \leq jz \rightarrow T (kz ++ iz) \rightarrow (jz \vdash T) kz \\
_ _ \vdash_R : \forall \{ K T \} \{ kz \} (jz : \text{Bwd } K) \rightarrow T / (kz ++ jz) \rightarrow (jz \vdash T) / kz \\
jz _ \vdash_R (t \uparrow \psi) \text{ with } jz \vdash \psi \\
jz _ \vdash_R (t \uparrow . (\theta ++\leq \phi)) \mid !! \theta, \phi, \text{refl}, \text{refl} = (\phi _ \vdash_R t) \uparrow \theta
\end{array}$$

The monoid of scopes is generated from its singletons. By the time we *use* a variable, it should be the only thing in scope. The associated smart constructor computes the thinned representation of variables.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\text{data } \text{Va}_R (k : K) : \overline{K} \text{ where} & \text{va}_R : k \leftarrow kz \rightarrow \text{Va}_R k / kz \\
\text{only} : \text{Va}_R k ([] \neg k) & \text{va}_R x = \text{only} \uparrow x
\end{array}$$

Untyped λ -calculus. We can now give the λ -terms for which all *free* variables are relevant as follows. Converting de Bruijn to co-de-Bruijn representation is easy with smart constructors. E.g., compare de Bruijn terms for the \mathbb{K} and \mathbb{S} combinators with their co-de-Bruijn form.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\text{data } \text{Lam}_R : \overline{\text{One}} \text{ where} & \text{lam}_R : \text{Lam} \rightarrow (\text{Lam}_R / _) \\
\# : \text{Va}_R \langle \rangle \rightarrow \text{Lam}_R & \text{lam}_R (\# x) = \text{map} / \# (\text{va}_R x) \\
\text{app} : (\text{Lam}_R \times_R \text{Lam}_R) \rightarrow \text{Lam}_R & \text{lam}_R (f \$ s) = \text{map} / \text{app} (\text{lam}_R f, \text{lam}_R s) \\
\lambda : ([\neg, \langle \rangle \vdash \text{Lam}_R) \rightarrow \text{Lam}_R & \text{lam}_R (\lambda t) = \text{map} / \lambda (_ _ \vdash_R \text{lam}_R t) \\
\\
\mathbb{K} = \lambda (\lambda (\# (\text{oe os o'}))) & \\
\text{lam}_R \mathbb{K} = \lambda (\text{oz os} _ \lambda (\text{oz o'} _ \# \text{only})) \uparrow \text{oz} & \\
\mathbb{S} = \lambda (\lambda (\lambda (\# (\text{oe os o'} \text{ o'}) \$ \# (\text{oe os}) \$ (\# (\text{oe os o'}) \$ \# (\text{oe os})))) & \\
\text{lam}_R \mathbb{S} = \lambda (\text{oz os} _ \lambda (\text{oz os} _ \lambda (\text{oz os} _ & \\
\text{app (pair (app (pair (\# only} \uparrow \text{oz os o'})) (\# only} \uparrow \text{oz o'} \text{ os}) (czz cs' c's))} \uparrow \text{oz os o'} \text{ os}) & \\
(\text{app (pair (\# only} \uparrow \text{oz os o'})) (\# only} \uparrow \text{oz o'} \text{ os}) (czz cs' c's))} \uparrow \text{oz o'} \text{ os os}) & \\
(\text{czz cs' c's css})))) \uparrow \text{oz} &
\end{array}$$

Staring bravely, we see that \mathbb{K} uses its first argument to deliver a plainly constant function: the second λ discards its argument. Meanwhile, \mathbb{S} clearly uses all three inputs ('function', 'argument', 'environment'): in the application, the function goes left, the argument goes right, and the environment is shared.

9 A Universe of Metasyntaxes-with-Binding

There is nothing specific to the λ -calculus about de Bruijn representation or its co-de-Brujin counterpart. We may develop the notions generically for multisorted syntaxes. If the sorts of our syntax are drawn from set I , then we may characterize terms-with-binding as inhabiting $\text{Kinds } kz \Rightarrow i$, which specify an extension of the scope with new bindings kz and the sort i for the body of the binder.

record Kind ($I : \text{Set}$) : **Set** **where** **inductive**; **constructor** $_ \Rightarrow _$
field scope : **Bwd** (Kind I); **sort** : I

Kinds offer higher-order abstraction: a bound variable itself has a Kind , being an object sort parametrized by a scope, where the latter is, as in previous sections, a Bwd list, with K now fixed as $\text{Kind } I$. Object variables have sorts; *meta*-variables have Kinds . E.g., in the β -rule, t and s are not object variables like x

$$(\lambda x. t[x]) s \rightsquigarrow t[s]$$

but placeholders, s for some term and $t[x]$ for some term with a parameter which can be and is instantiated, by x on the left and s on the right. The kind of t is $\square \neg, (\square \Rightarrow \langle \rangle) \Rightarrow \langle \rangle$.

We may give the syntax of each sort as a function mapping sorts to $\text{Descriptions } D : I \rightarrow \text{Desc } I$.

data Desc ($I : \text{Set}$) : **Set**₁ **where**
Rec _{D} : Kind $I \rightarrow$ Desc I
One _{D} : Desc I
 $_ \times_{D-}$: Desc $I \rightarrow$ Desc $I \rightarrow$ Desc I
 Σ_D : ($S : \text{Datoid}$) \rightarrow (**Data** $S \rightarrow$ Desc I) \rightarrow Desc I

We may ask for a subterm with a given Kind , so it can bind variables by listing their Kinds left of \Rightarrow . Descriptions are closed under unit and pairing. We may also ask for terms to be tagged by some sort of 'constructor' inhabiting some Datoid , i.e., a set with a decidable equality, given as follows:

data Decide ($X : \text{Set}$) : **Set** **where** **record** Datoid : **Set**₁ **where**
yes : $X \rightarrow$ Decide X **field** **Data** : **Set**
no : ($X \rightarrow$ Zero) \rightarrow Decide X **decide** : ($x y : \text{Data}$) \rightarrow Decide ($x = y$)

Describing untyped λ -calculus. Define a tag enumeration, then a description.

data LamTag : **Set** **where** **app** $\lambda : \text{LamTag}$ **decide** LAMTAG **app app** = **yes refl**
LAMTAG : **Datoid** **decide** LAMTAG **app λ** = **no λ ()**
Data LAMTAG = **LamTag** **decide** LAMTAG **λ app** = **no λ ()**
decide LAMTAG **λ λ** = **yes refl**
Lam _{D} : **One** \rightarrow **Desc One**
Lam _{D} $\langle \rangle$ = Σ_D LAMTAG λ { **app** \rightarrow **Rec** _{D} ($\square \Rightarrow \langle \rangle$) \times_D **Rec** _{D} ($\square \Rightarrow \langle \rangle$)
; λ \rightarrow **Rec** _{D} ($\square \neg, (\square \Rightarrow \langle \rangle) \Rightarrow \langle \rangle$) }

Note that we do not and cannot include a tag or description for the use sites of variables in terms: use of variables in scope pertains not to the specific syntax, but to the general notion of what it is to be a syntax.

Interpreting Desc as de Bruijn Syntax. Let us give the de Bruijn interpretation of our syntax descriptions. We give meaning to **Desc** in the traditional manner, interpreting them as strictly positive operators in some **R** which gives the semantics to **Rec_D**. In recursive positions, the scope grows by the bindings demanded by the given **Kind**. At use sites, higher-kinded variables must be instantiated, just like $t[x]$ in the β -rule example: **Sp_D** computes the **Description** of the spine of actual parameters required.

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket - \mid - \rrbracket : \forall \{I\} \rightarrow \text{Desc } I \rightarrow (I \rightarrow \overline{\text{Kind } I}) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Kind } I} & \quad \text{Sp}_D : \text{Bwd } (\text{Kind } I) \rightarrow \text{Desc } I \\
\llbracket \text{Rec}_D k \mid R \rrbracket kz = R (\text{sort } k) (kz ++ \text{scope } k) & \quad \text{Sp}_D \quad [] = \text{One}_D \\
\llbracket \Sigma_D S T \mid R \rrbracket kz = \Sigma (\text{Data } S) \lambda s \rightarrow \llbracket T s \mid R \rrbracket kz & \quad \text{Sp}_D (kz -, k) = \text{Sp}_D kz \times_D \text{Rec}_D k \\
\llbracket \text{One}_D \mid R \rrbracket kz = \text{One} & \\
\llbracket S \times_D T \mid R \rrbracket kz = \llbracket S \mid R \rrbracket kz \times \llbracket T \mid R \rrbracket kz &
\end{aligned}$$

Tying the knot, we find that a term is either a variable instantiated with its spine of actual parameters, or it is a construct of the syntax for the demanded sort, with subterms in recursive positions.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{data Tm } \{I\} (D : I \rightarrow \text{Desc } I) (i : I) kz : \text{Set where} \quad & \text{-- Tm } D i : \overline{\text{Kind } I} \\
\text{_}\$ _ : \forall \{jz\} \rightarrow (jz \Rightarrow i) \leftarrow kz \rightarrow \llbracket \text{Sp}_D jz \mid \text{Tm } D \rrbracket kz \rightarrow \text{Tm } D i kz & \\
[-] : \quad \llbracket D i \mid \text{Tm } D \rrbracket kz \rightarrow \text{Tm } D i kz &
\end{aligned}$$

Interpreting Desc as co-de-Bruijn Syntax. Now let us interpret **Descriptions** in co-de-Bruijn style, enforcing that all variables in scope are relevant, and that binding sites expose vacuity. We can compute co-de-Bruijn terms from de Bruijn terms, generically.

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket - \mid - \rrbracket_R : \forall \{I\} \rightarrow \text{Desc } I \rightarrow (I \rightarrow \overline{\text{Kind } I}) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Kind } I} & \\
\llbracket \text{Rec}_D k \mid R \rrbracket_R = \text{scope } k \vdash R (\text{sort } k) & \\
\llbracket \Sigma_D S T \mid R \rrbracket_R = \lambda kz \rightarrow \Sigma (\text{Data } S) \lambda s \rightarrow \llbracket T s \mid R \rrbracket_R kz & \\
\llbracket \text{One}_D \mid R \rrbracket_R = \text{One}_R & \\
\llbracket S \times_D T \mid R \rrbracket_R = \llbracket S \mid R \rrbracket_R \times_R \llbracket T \mid R \rrbracket_R & \\
\text{data Tm}_R \{I\} (D : I \rightarrow \text{Desc } I) (i : I) : \overline{\text{Kind } I} \text{ where} & \\
\# : \forall \{jz\} \rightarrow (\text{Va}_R (jz \Rightarrow i) \times_R \llbracket \text{Sp}_D jz \mid \text{Tm}_R D \rrbracket_R) \rightarrow \text{Tm}_R D i & \\
[-] : \quad \llbracket D i \mid \text{Tm}_R D \rrbracket_R \rightarrow \text{Tm}_R D i & \\
\text{code} : \forall \{I\} \{D : I \rightarrow \text{Desc } I\} \{i\} \rightarrow \text{Tm } D i \quad \rightarrow (\text{Tm}_R D i / -) & \\
\text{codes} : \forall \{I\} \{D : I \rightarrow \text{Desc } I\} S \rightarrow \llbracket S \mid \text{Tm } D \rrbracket \rightarrow (\llbracket S \mid \text{Tm}_R D \rrbracket_R / -) & \\
\text{code } (_)\$ _ \{jz\} x ts = \text{map} / \# (\text{va}_R x, _R \text{codes } (\text{Sp}_D jz) ts) & \\
\text{code } \{D = D\} \{i = i\} [ts] = \text{map} / [-] (\text{codes } (D i) ts) & \\
\text{codes } (\text{Rec}_D k) \quad t = \text{scope } k \setminus_R \text{code } t & \\
\text{codes } (\Sigma_D S T) \quad (s, ts) = \text{map} / (s, -) (\text{codes } (T s) ts) & \\
\text{codes } \text{One}_D \quad \langle \rangle = \langle \rangle_R & \\
\text{codes } (S \times_D T) \quad (ss, ts) = \text{codes } S \text{ ss } _R \text{codes } T ts &
\end{aligned}$$

10 Hereditary Substitution for Co-de-Bruijn Metasyntax

Let us develop the appropriate notion of substitution for our metasyntax, *hereditary* in the sense of Watkins et al. [8]. Substituting a higher-kinded variable requires us further to substitute its parameters.

There is some subtlety to the construction of the record type **HSub** of hereditary substitutions. We may partition the source scope into **passive** variables, which embed into the target, and **active** variables

for which we have an environment `images` appropriate to their kinds. The `HSub` type is indexed by a third scope which bounds the active kinds, by way of ensuring *termination*.

```
record HSub {I} D (src trg bnd : Bwd (Kind I)) : Set where
  field pass act : Bwd (Kind I); passive : pass ≤ src; active : act ≤ src
  parti : Cover ff passive active; passTrg : pass ≤ trg; actBnd : act ≤ bnd
  images : All (λ k → (scope k ⊢ TmR D (sort k)) / trg) act
```

Before we see how to perform a substitution, let us consider how to *weaken* one, as we shall certainly need to push under binders, where we have some $\phi : iz \leq jz$ telling us which iz of the jz bound variables are used in the source term. Either way, bound variables are not substituted, so we add them to the passive side, at the same time keeping the active side below its bound.

```
wkHSub : HSub D src trg bnd → iz ≤ jz → HSub D (src ++ iz) (trg ++ jz) bnd
wkHSub {iz = iz} {jz = jz} h ϕ = record
  {parti = bindPassive iz; actBnd = actBnd h; passTrg = passTrg h ++ ≤ ϕ
  ; images = all (thin / (oi ++ ≤ oe {kz = jz})) (images h)} where
  bindPassive : ∀ iz → Cover ff (passive h ++ ≤ oi {kz = iz}) (active h ++ ≤ oe {kz = iz})
```

As in a de Bruijn substitution, we must thin all the images, but the co-de-Bruijn representation avoids any need to traverse them — just compose thinnings at the root.

A second ancillary operation on `HSub` is to cut them down to just what is needed as variables are expelled from the source context by the thinnings stored in relevant pairs. We may select from an environment, but we must also refine the partition to cover just those source variables which remain, hence the `selPart` operation, which is a straightforward induction.

```
selHSub : src ≤ src' → HSub D src' trg bnd → HSub D src trg bnd
selHSub ψ (record {parti = c'; actBnd = θ'; images = tz'; passTrg = ϕ'}) =
  let !!!!! ϕ, θ, c = selPart ψ c' in record
    {parti = c; actBnd = θ ; θ'; images = θ ≤? tz'; passTrg = ϕ ; ϕ'}
selPart : (ψ : kz ≤ kz') → Cover ff θ' ϕ' → Σ _ λ iz → Σ _ λ jz →
  Σ (iz ≤ kz) λ θ → Σ (jz ≤ kz) λ ϕ → Σ (iz ≤ iz') λ ψ0 → Σ (jz ≤ jz') λ ψ1 → Cover ff θ ϕ
```

The definition of hereditary substitution is a mutual recursion, terminating because the active scope is always decreasing: `hSub` is the main operation on terms; `hSubs` and `hSubs/` proceed structurally, in accordance with a syntax description; `hered` invokes `hSub` hereditarily.

```
hSub : HSub D src trg bnd → TmR D i src → TmR D i / trg
hSubs : (S : Desc I) → HSub D src trg bnd → [S | TmR D]_R src → [S | TmR D]_R / trg
hSubs/ : (S : Desc I) → HSub D src trg bnd → [S | TmR D]_R / src → [S | TmR D]_R / trg
hered : (jz ⊢ TmR D i) / trg → [ ] -, (jz ⇒ i) ≤ bnd → [SpD jz | TmR D]_R / trg → TmR D i / trg
```

When `hSub` finds a variable, `selHSub` will reduce the `parti` to a single choice: if the variable is passive, embed it in target scope and reattach its substituted spine; if active, proceed *hereditarily*.

```
hSub {D = D} {i = i} h [ts] = map/ [ ] (hSubs (D i) h ts)
hSub h (# {jz} (pair (only ↑ θ) ts _)) with selHSub θ h | hSubs/ (SpD jz) h ts
... | record {parti = _css {both = ()} _} | ts'
```

