A FUNCTIONAL COMPUTER ALGEBRA SYSTEM FOR POLYNOMIALS

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Abstract

The polynomial-algorithms package is a computer algebra system written in Haskell. This package implements a Polynomial type for use in several algorithms including a recursive version of Buchberger's algorithm for finding the reduced Gröbner basis of a polynomial ideal. As it is written in Haskell, the polynomial-algorithms package naturally uses a purely functional design philosophy. We will contrast this with imperative approaches using more traditional languages.

Chapter 1: Introduction

The theory of polynomials is a well-studied field of mathematics, rich with results which provide tools for mathematicians in various areas. Polynomial functions are among the simplest continuous functions to work with analytically or algebraically. Computationally, they are unquestionably the most important class of functions. It is then imperative to have a robust collection of software that can assist the mathematicians who study them. Many tools currently exist for this purpose, from dedicated high-level languages like Macaulay2 and Singular to libraries for general purpose languages like SageMath and SimPy. These software collections are referred to as computer algebra systems or CAS's and while most have capabilities beyond polynomial manipulation, it is this feature that is the focus here.

The implementation of these tools varies greatly. The Macaulay2 engine is written in C++ [10] while SageMath is built with Python [20], which in turn often calls C. Their respective interfaces often use a mixture of procedural, object-oriented, functional, and declarative design. This certainly makes sense in the case of SageMath as Python itself hybridizes these approaches. If a CAS is a package for a general purpose language like Python, it should obey the design principles of that language. For dedicated CAS's like Macaulay2 though, this design choice bears consideration. There is a tendency in modern languages to incorporate features which favor a variety of paradigms. The popularity of hybrid languages like Python and JavaScript has encouraged most newer languages like Rust and Go to follow in their footsteps. There are good reasons for this, however there are also benefits to sticking to a single paradigm.

It is true that these paradigms are more a philosophical way of approaching soft-

ware design than a well-defined feature of a language and given that, no language can be said to be strictly single-paradigm. It is clear however that certain languages lend themselves to being more compatible with one paradigm than others. For example, Java is generally seen as a paragon of object-oriented programming. Every module contains exactly one class (with potentially many subclasses). Even the drivers are classes and must be instantiated before any program can be executed. One can use Java in a functional way, but doing so defeats the purpose of using Java. This is in contrast to a language like Python where it is difficult to escape the use of objects and classes, but higher order functions like folds and maps are used frequently, as are list comprehensions and other hallmarks of functional programming. At the same time, most programmers' first experience with Python is in writing plain procedural scripts. The freedom offered by such a language enables one to choose the most appropriate approach to the current task, but in doing so, it takes away the cohesiveness and predictability of a more pure language like Java.

Similarly to the way Java is considered a paragon of the object-oriented school, Haskell is often one of the first two languages people think of when one mentions functional programming, with the other of course being Lisp. The functional style offers many advantages over a procedural or object-oriented approach as evidenced in how much modern languages have borrowed from Haskell. Rust's type system strongly resembles that of Haskell [16] and modern JavaScript libraries like React leverage functional programming more than any other paradigm.

Haskell and the functional programming style are particularly well-suited to mathematics. The notion of a 'function' in procedural programming is a bit of a misnomer. Mathematically, a function f is a domain X, a codomain Y, and some subset of $X \times Y$ called the graph of f. What is the domain of the print() function in Python? What is its codomain? What is its graph? These inconsistencies vanish in Haskell. A

Haskell function is a mathematical function. For this reason, mathematicians often regard the functional paradigm as the natural choice for mathematical software. What better way to determine the injectivity of a function than with a function whose injectivity can be determined?!

It is in this spirit that the polynomial-algorithms package was written. Taking advantage of the benefits offered by Haskell (as well as a few language extensions), this package offers a Polynomial type that is itself built on Monomial and Coefficient types. Several algorithms, most notably a modified version of Buchberger's algorithm to find a reduced Gröbner basis for a list of polynomials, are featured in this software. In addition, its scalability and modularity should provide mathematicians with an invaluable tool when analyzing polynomials.

Chapter 2: Mathematical Background

One thing that sets functional programming apart from imperative paradigms is its reliance on mathematics. Writing algorithms or any sufficiently complex code will always require some familiarity with mathematics, and the best and most efficient code is often written by programmers competent in mathematical reasoning. However, this quality is even more important when working in a language like Haskell. This fact may be seen just by reading documentation. A good technical writer will always write to their audience. If one is writing a UDP server in Java, it may be assumed that anyone maintaining that server will be familiar with terms like port, buffer, or packet, so they may appear frequently in documentation. If one is writing an operating system in C, terms like fork and process ID are ubiquitous enough to appear in documentation without explanation. However, one is unlikely to encounter mentions of algebraic ring theory in the documentation for such projects. When using Haskell, this is quite common [1].

It is therefore imperative (pun intended) for a prospective Haskeller¹ to have a working knowledge of several areas of mathematics not usually necessary for writing programs in a procedural or object-oriented style. This is doubly important when using Haskell to write a CAS. The fact that the recommended backgrounds for the problem domain and the solution domain coincide is further evidence that Haskell is indeed a good fit for such a task.

As any software engineer will tell you, having a firm understanding of mathematical logic can be helpful in writing and debugging code. Boolean algebra is essential for the standard control flow mechanisms used in all languages. De Morgan's laws

¹The term *Haskeller* refers to a regular user of Haskell.

and other properties of first order logic can assist in cleaning up messy functions. It is well-known that a familiarity with combinatorics and graph theory can be helpful for those writing abstract data types or analyzing networks, and linear algebra and multivariate calculus are essential for working with 3D graphics. However, abstract algebra and category theory are rarely covered in the standard curriculum for a computer science degree.

When using Haskell, a working knowledge of algebraic group theory and ring theory, while not strictly necessary, can provide useful insight into why certain typeclasses and functions behave the way they do. When writing a CAS, this recommendation is upgraded to a strict requirement. Even more central in the design of Haskell and other functionally-minded languages is the presence of the ever-intimidating category theory. Even by theoretical mathematicians, this subject is often referred to as abstract nonsense [13]. Having a reputation as being among the most abstruse of mathematical topics, the mere fact that something as concrete and useful as writing software could employ such a concept is itself remarkable.

Using such a mathematically inclined language to implement a CAS is clearly an endeavour that requires a thorough understanding of the mathematics at play. Of particular importance is the theory of polynomials.

2.1 Polynomials

Polynomials in a single variable with real coefficients are a familiar object of study, not only to professional mathematicians, but to anyone who has taken a high school math class. They are easy to understand and work with. Finding their roots, taking their derivatives, and analyzing their graphs are among the easier tasks a mathematician will attempt. We even estimate arbitrary analytic functions as polynomials via Taylor's theorem. Many of the algorithms that form the backbone of low-level

software are based on this idea. It should come as no surprise then that generalizing these familiar objects is a popular practice. Using fields other than \mathbb{R} is a natural first step. In fact, when using an algebraically closed field like \mathbb{C} , polynomials behave even more nicely than they did over \mathbb{R} as we don't have to wonder how many roots a degree n polynomial may have; the answer is always n (up to multiplicity).

The next natural generalization is to allow for multiple (though still finitely many) variables. This generalization does introduce some complexity. For one thing, the idea of ordering the terms, which was taken for granted in the single variable case, now becomes a nontrivial discussion. The tools from multivariate calculus can be helpful in understanding the analytic nature of multivariate polynomials, while an introductory course in abstract algebra or algebraic geometry often addresses the more algebraic concerns by introducing term orders, algorithms, and the relationship between the ideals containing these objects and the affine varieties they generate.

2.1.1 Monomials

There are two competing ways to view a polynomial. The first is as a function from some ring into itself. It is this view that is usually encountered first, and for most analytic purposes, this is sufficient. The other way is as a formal linear combination of indeterminates. This is the view that we prefer in this discussion. These indeterminates comprise a free monoid², and (at least for now) we may assume the monoidal operation to be commutative. We use the term *monomial* when referring to elements of a free monoid in the context of polynomials.

In this view, the phrase polynomial in n variables really means a linear combination of monomials drawn from a free monoid with n distinct generators. Each generator is called a variable. When dealing with polynomials in a single variable, we

²Recall that a monoid is a set with an associative binary operation and an identity element. Being free means there are no unforced relationships between elements. For example, $x \neq y^n$ for any n.

usually use the symbol x to refer to the generator of this monoid. So the polynomial f defined as

$$f(x) = x^2 - 8x + 15$$

is a formal linear combination of the monomials x^2 , x, and 1 taken from the free monoid $\langle x \rangle$ with weights 1,—8, and 15. In the case of a three variable polynomial, the monoid used is generated by three elements. Here, there are two competing notational conventions. The first is to denote the generators as x, y, and z. The second is to denote the generators as x_1 , x_2 , and x_3 . The former is often more readable, but the latter more easily generalizes to n variables.

This viewpoint of polynomials as a formal combination of monomials rather than a function may be summed up in the following few definitions. Note that these and the rest of the definitions in this section are courtesy of Cox, Little and O'Shea [8]:

Definition 1. A monomial in x_1, \ldots, x_n is a product of the form

$$x_1^{\alpha_1} \cdot x_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots x_n^{\alpha_n},$$

where all of the exponents $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$ are nonnegative integers. The **multidegree** of this monomial is the *n*-tuple $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$. The **total degree** of this monomial is the sum $\alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n$.

We can simplify the notation for monomials as follows: let $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ be an n-tuple of nonnegative integers. Then we set

$$x^{\alpha} = x_1^{\alpha_1} \cdot x_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots x_n^{\alpha_n}.$$

When $\alpha = (0, ..., 0)$, note that $x^{\alpha} = 1$. We also let $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n$ denote the total degree of the monomial x^{α} .

Definition 2. A polynomial f in x_1, \ldots, x_n with coefficients in a field k is a finite linear combination (with coefficients in k) of monomials. We will write a polynomial

f in the form

$$f = \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} x^{\alpha}, \quad a_{\alpha} \in k,$$

where the sum is over a finite number of n-tuples $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n)$. The set of all polynomials in x_1, \ldots, x_n with coefficients in k is denoted $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$.

Definition 3. Let $f = \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} x^{\alpha}$ be a polynomial in $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

- (i) We call a_{α} the **coefficient** of the monomial x^{α} .
- (ii) If $a_{\alpha} \neq 0$, then we call $a_{\alpha}x^{\alpha}$ a **term** of f.
- (iii) The **total degree** of $f \neq 0$, denoted $\deg(f)$, is the maximum $|\alpha|$ such that the coefficient a_{α} is nonzero. The total degree of the zero polynomial is undefined.

One observation is that the set $k[x_1, ..., x_n]$ forms a ring under the standard polynomial addition and multiplication operations. In the case where n = 1, the ring k[x] contains the familiar polynomials in a single variable. An important question that often arises when working with polynomials in more than one variable is how to define the leading term. Given a nonzero polynomial $f \in k[x]$, let

$$f = c_0 x^m + c_1 x^{m-1} + \dots + c_m,$$

where $c_i \in k$ and $c_0 \neq 0$ (thus $\deg(f) = m$). Then we say that $c_0 x^m$ is the **leading** term of f and write $\mathrm{LT}(f) = c_0 x^m$. The leading term of a polynomial is a surprisingly essential characteristic. For example, when executing single variable polynomial long division, the first step is to make sure the polynomial is expressed with its leading term first, and at each subsequent step, that must remain the case; but what about when there are multiple variables? Given the polynomial $g \in k[x, y, z]$ defined as

$$g = xy^2z^3 + x^5 + x^3y^2z,$$

what is the leading term of g? We will have to be careful about how we define the leading term in this case, as there is not just one obvious way.

This leads us to a discussion of *monomial orderings*. There are uncountably many ways to order the monomials in a free monoid, but the majority of them will not be compatible with polynomial multiplication in the way we would like. The orderings that we may use must satisfy a few special properties, espoused in the following definition [8]:

Definition 4. A monomial ordering on $k[x_1, ..., x_n]$ is a relation > on the set of monomials x^{α} , $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$ satisfying:

- (i) > is a total ordering³.
- (ii) If $x^{\alpha} > x^{\beta}$ and $\gamma \in \mathbb{Z}^n_{\geq 0}$, then $x^{\alpha}x^{\gamma} > x^{\beta}x^{\gamma}$.
- (iii) > is a well-ordering.

It turns out that the third condition above is equivalent to two other statements that are easier to work with.

Theorem 5. Let X be a commutative free monoid and suppose the first two conditions in the definition above are satisfied. Then the following are equivalent:

- 1. > is a well-ordering on X.
- 2. Every strictly decreasing sequence in X eventually terminates.
- 3. $x^{\alpha} \geq 1$ for all $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$.

For a proof of this theorem, see Cox, Little and O'Shea [8]. This allows us to show that certain algorithms terminate by showing that some term strictly decreases at each step of the algorithm.

³Recall > is a total ordering if for all α, β exactly one of $x^{\alpha} > x^{\beta}, x^{\alpha} = x^{\beta}$, or $x^{\beta} > x^{\alpha}$ is true.

Now that we have a well-defined way to order monomials, we are ready to define a few more terms.

Definition 6. Let $f = \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} x^{\alpha}$ be a nonzero polynomial in $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ and let > be a monomial order.

(i) The **multidegree** of f is

$$\operatorname{multideg}(f) = \max(\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n \mid a_\alpha \neq 0)$$

(the maximum is taken with respect to >).

(ii) The **leading coefficient** of f is

$$LC(f) = a_{\text{multideg}(f)} \in k.$$

(iii) The **leading monomial** of f is

$$LM(f) = x^{\text{multideg}(f)}$$
.

(iv) The **leading term** of f is

$$LT(f) = LC(f) \cdot LM(f).$$

There are many monomial orderings that are used frequently in research, however we will limit our attention to three specific examples. The first such example is perhaps the most intuitive.

Definition 7 (Lexicographic Order). Let $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ and $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)$ be in $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$. We say $x^{\alpha} >_{Lex} x^{\beta}$ if the leftmost nonzero entry of the vector difference $\alpha - \beta \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ is positive.

The Lexicographic order is the order used in most dictionaries. We begin with an ordering of the variables. The greater monomial is the one with the larger exponent in the first variable. If those exponents are the same, we instead calculate the Lexicographic order without the highest variable. In our previous example, $g = xy^2z^3 + x^5 + x^3y^2z$, we see that the lead term under the Lexicographic order where x > y > z is $LT(g) = x^5$. By convention, when denoting variables with subscripts, we take $x_1 > x_2 > x_3 > \dots$

Our next monomial ordering is built out of the Lexicographic order.

Definition 8 (Graded Lex Order). Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$. We say $x^{\alpha} >_{GLex} x^{\beta}$ if $|\alpha| > |\beta|$ or $|\alpha| = |\beta|$ and $x^{\alpha} >_{Lex} x^{\beta}$.

This means that the Graded Lex order first orders by total degree, but breaks ties with the Lexicographic order. In our running example using the Graded Lex order, we see that $LT(g) = x^3y^2z$.

Our third and final monomial ordering is less intuitive than the previous two.

Definition 9 (Graded Reverse Lex Order). Let $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n$. We say $x^{\alpha} >_{GRevLex} x^{\beta}$ if $|\alpha| > |\beta|$ or $|\alpha| = |\beta|$ and the rightmost nonzero entry of $\alpha - \beta \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ is negative.

Here, we are still ordering first by total degree, but we break ties in a manner that is in a way the double reversal of Lexicographic order. Using the Graded Reverse Lex order, the lead term of g is xy^2z^3 . As unintuitive as the Graded Reverse Lex order may seem, it turns out that this ordering is often the most efficient in many algorithms, including some we will explore here.

2.1.2 Ideals

In general, when R is a commutative ring, a subring I (not necessarily with identity) is an ideal if $ra \in I$ for all $r \in R$ and $a \in I$. For the polynomial ring $k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$

this means that an ideal is a nonempty subset closed under subtraction which absorbs polynomials by multiplication. For example, let $S \subseteq k[x]$ be the set of polynomials with no constant or linear terms, so that $0 \in S$ and for any nonzero $f \in S$, the lowest degree term of f has degree at least two. Then S is easily seen to be an ideal of k[x]. In fact, S is what is known as a principal ideal because S is generated by a single polynomial, namely the polynomial x^2 . This means that any polynomial in S may be formed by multiplying x^2 by some polynomial in k[x]. More generally, an ideal $I \in k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ is said to be generated by a set B of polynomials if every $f \in I$ may be expressed as $f = b_1 f_1 + \cdots + b_t f_t$ for some $b_1, \ldots, b_t \in B$ and some $f_1, \ldots, f_t \in k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$. In this case, we write $I = \langle B \rangle$. In our example above, we would write $S = \langle x^2 \rangle$. It turns out that every ideal in k[x] is generated by a single polynomial, making this ring quite important in algebra and number theory. When dealing with multiple variables, we have no such luck. There is no single polynomial that generates the ideal $\langle x, y \rangle \in k[x, y, z]$. However, it is true that every polynomial ideal is generated by some set since an ideal will generate itself. What is more impressive and not quite as obvious is the fact that every polynomial ideal is generated by some *finite* set. This result was first proved by David Hilbert in 1890 and is known as Hilbert's Basis Theorem [11].

Combining our notion of the leading term of a polynomial with ideals in a polynomial ring leads us to the following definition.

Definition 10. Let $I \subseteq k[x_1, ..., x_n]$ be an ideal other than $\{0\}$, and fix a monomial ordering on $k[x_1, ..., x_n]$. Then:

- (i) We denote by LT(I) the set of leading terms of nonzero elements of I. Thus, $LT(I) = \{cx^{\alpha} \mid \text{ there exists } f \in I \setminus \{0\} \text{ with } LT(f) = cx^{\alpha}\}.$
- (ii) We denote by $\langle LT(I) \rangle$ the ideal generated by the elements of LT(I).

If $I \subseteq k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ is an ideal then by Hilbert's Basis Theorem, there is some finite set of polynomials $\{b_1, \ldots, b_t\} \subseteq k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ such that $I = \langle b_1, \ldots, b_t \rangle$. Since $b_1, \ldots, b_t \in I$, it is clear that $\langle \operatorname{LT}(b_1), \ldots, \operatorname{LT}(b_t) \rangle \subseteq \langle \operatorname{LT}(I) \rangle$. However, this containment may be proper. Only in a very special case do we achieve equality of these two sets.

Example 11. Let $I = \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle \subseteq \mathbb{Q}[x, y]$, where $f_1 = x^3 - 2xy$ and $f_2 = x^2y - 2y^2 + x$, and use the Graded Reverse Lex order on monomials in $\mathbb{Q}[x, y]$. Then

$$x \cdot f_2 - y \cdot f_1 = x^2,$$

so that $x^2 \in I$. Thus $x^2 = LT(x^2) \in \langle LT(I) \rangle$. However x^2 is not divisible by $LT(f_1)$ or $LT(f_2)$ so $x^2 \notin \langle LT(f_1), LT(f_2) \rangle$.

2.1.3 Gröbner bases

We mentioned polynomial long division before when making the case for why a monomial ordering is necessary. Another challenge when working with multiple variables is that, even when we have the requisite ordering to preform long division, the quotient and remainder may depend on the order of the dividends. When dividing f by the ordered list (g_1, g_2, g_3) , we may get a different result from when dividing f by the ordered list (g_2, g_3, g_1) . While the quotient is unfortunately doomed to this fate, there is a way we may guarantee the uniqueness of at least the remainder. It turns out this uniqueness is crucial for many of the theorems and algorithms that mathematicians rely on.

Definition 12. Fix a monomial order on the polynomial ring $k[x_1, ..., x_n]$. A finite subset $G = \{g_1, ..., g_t\}$ of an ideal $I \subseteq k[x_1, ..., x_n]$ different from $\{0\}$ is said to be a **Gröbner basis** if

$$\langle \operatorname{LT}(g_1), \dots, \operatorname{LT}(g_t) \rangle = \langle \operatorname{LT}(I) \rangle.$$

Using the convention that $\langle \emptyset \rangle = 0$, we define the empty set \emptyset to be the Gröbner basis of the zero ideal $\{0\}$.

Another way to state this definition is that the set $G = \{g_1, \ldots, g_t\}$ is a Gröbner basis for I if the leading term of any element of I is divisible by one of the $LT(g_i)$. As one would expect from the terminology, a Gröbner basis is a generating set for the ideal I in the definition above and it can be shown that every ideal has a Gröbner basis. This is lucky because much of modern polynomial theory and algebraic geometry depends on the existence of such a basis. This is partly because the Gröbner basis is the set we needed to guarantee uniqueness of the remainder in the division algorithm.

Another feature of Gröbner bases is a solution to the so called *ideal membership* problem. For a proof of the following theorem, see [8].

Theorem 13. Let $G = \{g_1, \ldots, g_t\}$ be a Gröbner basis for an ideal $I \subseteq k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ and let $f \in k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$. Then $f \in I$ if and only if the remainder on division of f by G is zero.

The remainder is sometimes called the **normal form** of f. We will use the following notation for the remainder.

Definition 14. We will write \overline{f}^F for the remainder on division of f by the ordered s-tuple $F = (f_1, \ldots, f_s)$. If F is a Gröbner basis for $\langle f_1, \ldots, f_s \rangle$, then we can regard F as a set (without any particular order).

One application of the division algorithm is Buchberger's algorithm for finding a Gröbner basis for the ideal $\langle f_1, \ldots, f_t \rangle$. The idea behind this algorithm is to start with a list (f_1, \ldots, f_t) , determine all polynomials in $\langle f_1, \ldots, f_t \rangle$ that may have a lead term that isn't divisible by any of the $LT(f_i)$, and add to the list the ones that aren't. To find a polynomial with lead term that isn't divisible by any of the $LT(f_i)$, we need

to construct a polynomial in our ideal that has a potentially different lead term from the generators. We do this by calculating S-polynomials. The way we check if our set can generate this S-polynomial is via the division algorithm.

Definition 15. Let $f, g \in k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ be nonzero polynomials.

- If $\operatorname{multideg}(f) = \alpha$ and $\operatorname{multideg}(g) = \beta$, then let $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n)$, where $\gamma_i = \max(\alpha_i, \beta_i)$ for each i. We call x^{γ} the **least common multiple** of $\operatorname{LM}(f)$ and $\operatorname{LM}(g)$, written $x^{\gamma} = \operatorname{lcm}(\operatorname{LM}(f), \operatorname{LM}(g))$.
- The **S-polynomial** of f and g is the combination

$$S(f,g) = \frac{x^{\gamma}}{\operatorname{LT}(f)} \cdot f - \frac{x^{\gamma}}{\operatorname{LT}(g)} \cdot g.$$

(Note that we are inverting the leading coefficients here as well.)

This definition leads to a crucial result in the theory of Gröbner bases.

Theorem 16 (Buchberger's Criterion). Let I be a polynomial ideal. Then a basis $G = \{g_1, \ldots, g_t\}$ of I is a Gröbner basis of I if and only if for all pairs $i \neq j$, the remainder on division of $S(g_i, g_j)$ by G (listed in some order) is zero.

Gröbner bases for ideals in polynomial rings were introduced by Bruno Buchberger in his PhD thesis [5] and named by him in honor of Wolfgang Gröbner, Buchberger's thesis adviser. This construction sharply influenced the direction of computational algebra for the next half century. It is then no surprise that finding a Gröbner basis for a polynomial ideal in the most efficient way is a task of central importance in the field. Bruno Buchberger also developed the eponymous Buchberger's algorithm and since then, many tweaks and improvements have been made, but the basic logic of the algorithm remains largely unchanged.

2.2 Categories

Over the last seventy-five years, the landscape of mathematics research has shifted in many ways. One of these ways is the ubiquity of categories in many mathematical fields. Modern mathematicians dealing with sheaves or tensors are more likely to use their categorical definitions than classical constructions. There are increasingly many attempts to introduce category theory to undergraduate mathematics students [3]. Still, category theory has not shed its reputation for being overly abstract and useless outside of the purest of mathematical endeavors. To be fair, the first criticism is justified. Category theory is indeed abstract. Perhaps this is why the aforementioned attempts to introduce this theory to a less experienced audience have not yet become standard practice. The second criticism however is simply unfounded.

Apart from providing more elegant solutions to mathematical problems found in other fields, and providing a unified framework with which to explore the relationships between otherwise unrelated disciplines, category theory does have actual applications outside of pure mathematics. For an example, one need look no further than the Haskell language. One of the most commonly used typeclasses is the Functor typeclass, which specifies a mechanism for mapping over some structure. The idea of a functor is taken from category theory and is essential for writing high-quality software in the Haskell language. The remaining definitions in this chapter are largely taken from Emily Riehl's Category Theory in Context [17].

Definition 17. A category C is a collection of objects and morphisms such that:

• Each morphism has specified **domain** and **codomain** objects. We denote the collection of morphisms with domain a and codomain b as Hom(a, b). If this collection is a set⁴, we call Hom(a, b) the **hom set** of (a, b).

⁴The axioms of set theory may prevent this.

- Each object x has a designated **identity morphism** $1_x \in \text{Hom}(x, x)$.
- If $f \in \text{Hom}(a, b)$ and $g \in \text{Hom}(b, c)$, then there is a morphism $gf \in \text{Hom}(a, c)$. In this case, we say f and g are **composable** and gf is their **composite**.

This data is subject to the following two axioms:

- For any $f \in \text{Hom}(a, b)$, the composites $1_b f$ and $f 1_a$ are both equal to f.
- For any composable triple of morphisms f, g, h, the composites h(gf) and (hg)f are equal.

The prototypical example of a category is **Set** whose objects are sets and whose morphisms are the functions between those sets. In many categories, the morphisms are set-functions of some kind, but that is not always the case.

Example 18. Recall that a poset is a set along with a relation that is reflexive, transitive, and antisymmetric. Let (S, \leq) be a poset. Then we may define a category S that has the elements of S as its objects. If $a \leq b$ then let Hom(a, b) be the singleton consisting of the element $(a, b) \in S \times S$. Otherwise, let $Hom(a, b) = \emptyset$. Define the composition law as (a, b)(b, c) = (a, c). As each hom set has at most a single element, there is only one choice for the identity morphism.

If (a, b) and (b, c) both exist, then we must have that $a \leq b \leq c$, so since \leq is transitive, (a, c) exists and so composition is well defined. Since \leq is reflexive, $(a, a) \in \text{Hom}(a, a)$ and

$$(a,a)(a,b) = (a,b) = (a,b)(b,b),$$

so (a, a) does serve as the identity on a. Also observe that

$$((a,b)(b,c))(c,d) = (a,c)(c,d) = (a,d) = (a,b)(b,d) = (a,b)((b,c)(c,d)),$$

so composition is associative. This shows that S satisfies the axioms for a category.

It is common in mathematics to introduce some kind of object that is only important because of the functions between objects of that kind. Linear algebra may be the study of vector spaces, but the important part is the linear maps. Topology may be concerned with open sets, but it is the continuous maps that topologists really care about. Group homomorphisms are in a sense are much more important than groups themselves. It is no different with categories. The interesting part is the maps between categories. The even more interesting part is the maps between those maps.

Definition 19. A functor $\mathcal{F}: C \to D$ between categories C and D consists of the following data:

- An object $\mathcal{F}x \in \mathsf{D}$ for each object $x \in \mathsf{C}$.
- A morphism $\mathcal{F}f \in \text{Hom}(\mathcal{F}a, \mathcal{F}b)$ for each morphism $f \in \text{Hom}(a, b)$.

These assignments are required to satisfy the following axioms:

- For any composable pair of morphisms $f, g \in C$, $(\mathcal{F}f)(\mathcal{F}g) = \mathcal{F}(gf)$.
- For each object $x \in C$, $\mathcal{F}(1_x) = 1_{\mathcal{F}x}$.

Given functors $\mathcal{F}:C\to D$ and $\mathcal{G}:D\to E$ it is easy to show that the composite \mathcal{GF} is a functor.

Given categories C and D, we define D^C to be the **functor category** from C to D. The objects in D^C are functors and the morphisms in D^C are called *natural transformations*. We call a functor between a category and itself an **endofunctor**. That is, an endofunctor on C is an object in C^C .

Definition 20. Given functors $\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{G} : C \to D$, a **natural transformation** $\tau : \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ is a map from objects in C to morphisms in D that satisfies the following:

• If x is an object in C, then τ_x is a morphism in $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{F}x,\mathcal{G}x)$.

• The following diagram commutes for all $a, b \in C$ and all $f \in \text{Hom}(a, b)$.

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
\mathcal{F}a & \xrightarrow{\tau_a} & \mathcal{G}a \\
\downarrow^{\mathcal{F}f} & & \downarrow^{\mathcal{G}f} \\
\mathcal{F}b & \xrightarrow{\tau_b} & \mathcal{G}b
\end{array}$$

The idea of commuting diagrams is central to the study of category theory. It is a concise way of saying that any allowed composition of maps in the diagram will be equivalent if they share a domain and a codomain. A common categorical technique to prove theorems is called *diagram chasing*. Diagram chasing involves finding equivalent map compositions.

Definition 21. Given a natural transformation $\beta : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{K}$ and functors \mathcal{F} and \mathcal{L} as displayed in

$$C \xrightarrow{\mathcal{F}} D \xrightarrow{\mathcal{H}} E \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}} F$$

define a transformation $\mathcal{L}\beta\mathcal{F}: \mathcal{LHF} \Rightarrow \mathcal{LKF}$ by $(\mathcal{L}\beta\mathcal{F})_x = \mathcal{L}\beta_{\mathcal{F}_x}$. This is the whiskered composite of β with \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{F} . It can be shown that $\mathcal{L}\beta\mathcal{F}$ is natural. If \mathcal{L} is the identity functor, then $\mathcal{L}\beta\mathcal{F} = \beta\mathcal{F}$. If \mathcal{F} is the identity functor, then $\mathcal{L}\beta\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{L}\beta$.

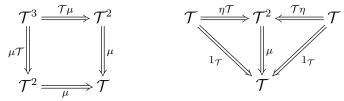
We won't spend much time discussing the finer points of category theory. If teaching the fundamentals to a class of advanced undergraduate mathematics students over the course of a semester in their senior year is a bold undertaking, then explaining it in a single section of this document is a Kobayashi Maru⁵. We do however need to address one more categorical construction before proceeding.

⁵See Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan (1982).

Definition 22. A monad on a category C consists of

- an endofunctor $\mathcal{T}: C \to C$,
- a unit natural transformation $\eta: 1_{\mathsf{C}} \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$, and
- a multiplication natural transformation $\mu: \mathcal{T}^2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$,

so that the following diagrams commute in C^{C} :



In these diagrams, $\mathcal{T}\eta, \eta\mathcal{T}: T \Rightarrow T^2$ are defined as

$$(\mathcal{T}\eta)_x = \mathcal{T}(\eta_x)$$
 and $(\eta \mathcal{T})_x = \eta_{\mathcal{T}x}$,

and $\mathcal{T}\mu, \mu\mathcal{T}: T^3 \Rightarrow T^2$ are defined as

$$(\mathcal{T}\mu)_x = \mathcal{T}(\mu_x)$$
 and $(\mu \mathcal{T})_x = \mu_{\mathcal{T}x}$.

The reason for this definition will become apparent in Chapter 3.

Chapter 3: Functional Programming

Among the key features of a language like Haskell is the guarantee of functional purity. A function in Haskell does exactly one thing. It returns a value. That's it. It cannot alter the state of the program. It cannot react to external state. It cannot cause anything to happen other than returning that value. This makes a Haskell program far more predictable than any program written outside of a purely functional paradigm. This is particularly useful when writing multithreaded code. The inability for a thread to alter any resource that another thread is using simplifies the task tremendously.

In this way, software written in Haskell, or indeed any purely functional language, resembles mathematics quite closely. As we have previously mentioned, a mathematical function is merely a domain set, a codomain set, and a graph. When thinking of a function as doing something, the only thing it does is transform a domain element into its associated codomain element. However, the very notion of a function doing anything is a bit of an abuse of language. Given sets X and Y, the existence of a function $f: X \to Y$ gives us a way to refer to certain elements of Y as f(x) for some $x \in X$. It doesn't really preform an action. This is in contrast to a function in the computer programming sense. A function foo in the Python language certainly does something. When foo is called, it preforms its task and then it returns if and when it finishes. This is really the most fundamental difference in functional programming and imperative programming.

Recall the difference between a declarative sentence and an imperative sentence. The sentence "Steve has twelve eggs." is a declarative sentence while the sentence "Give Steve twelve eggs." is an imperative sentence. The foundations of mathemat-

ics are built on the use of statements. A statement is a declarative sentence with a well-defined (or unambiguous) truth value [4]. Theorems are statements. Definitions are statements. A proof is a collection of statements. Mathematicians deal predominantly with statements. If we encounter a question, we first rephrase it as a statement before we attempt to verify its veracity. However, imperative programmers are more accustomed to dealing with imperative sentences (indeed, it is easy to forget that this is where the term *imperative programming* comes from.) An instruction is an imperative sentence. A traditional algorithm is a sequence of imperative sentences. print("Hello world") is an imperative sentence. It could be said that imperative programming is as much founded on the unambiguous imperative sentence as mathematics is founded on the unambiguous declarative sentence.

The procedural and object oriented design philosophies are both considered imperative styles. Functional programming is often considered a declarative style. What this means is that a line of Java or C code is usually meant to be read as an imperative sentence, while a line of Haskell code is meant to be read as a declarative sentence. This allows Haskell syntax to resemble the syntax of mathematics much more closely than other languages. For example, say we want to construct a list containing the first ten perfect squares. In C, this task amounts to a series of instructions:

```
int squares[10];
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)
    squares[i] = i*i;</pre>
```

In Haskell on the other hand, instead of specifying instructions, we merely declare the existence of such a list, much like we would in mathematics:

```
squares = [x^2 | x < [0..9]]
```

In this way, the discussion of functions having side effects becomes most as functions don't do anything. They are merely maps identifying domain elements with codomain elements, just as they are in mathematics.

Because of this, the explicit temporal constraints usually present in other languages simply aren't there in Haskell. In the C version of the squares function above, the square of 2 is clearly evaluated before the square of 3. Whereas in the Haskell version, that may or may not be the case. Expressions are only evaluated when they are needed and not before. This is known as *lazy evaluation*. This leads to some interesting features in Haskell. One is infinite lists. When mathematicians see the expression, "Consider the set \mathbb{Z} ", they don't run through every integer in their head and allocate infinitely many brain cells to holding the values for each integer. They just know that \mathbb{Z} is a set and know its properties. Then, once a specific integer is mentioned, they can allocate the necessary brain power to think of that specific one they need. This is how lazy evaluation works. In the following line of code, [3..] is the infinite list consisting of every integer greater than or equal to 3.

take 5 [3..]

The take n function takes the first n elements from the list it is given. In this case, we get the list [3,4,5,6,7]. There was no need to evaluate the 6th entry of the list, so Haskell never did.

When thinking about functions in a declarative manner, it becomes apparent that the only real difference between functions and non-functions is that a function needs an additional element to be fully evaluated. If fn is a Haskell function that maps something of type X to something of type Y and X is a term of type X, then fn has type Y and fn X has type Y. In Haskell, we write

This syntax should be quite familiar to mathematicians. Indeed, it is the traditional syntax of mathematics that inspired the design of Haskell syntax.

Hidden in this syntax is one of Haskell's principal features: Currying. Say we want a function that takes two integers as input and returns their sum. In C, this

would look something like the following.

```
int add(int x, int y) {
   return x + y;
}
```

In Haskell however, there is no such thing as a function that takes two inputs. Just like mathematics, a function has a single domain, so every function only has one input variable. Now of course, we may define a function out of a product set like $f: \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$. In Haskell this is accomplished with tuples.

```
add :: (Int,Int) -> Int
add (x,y) = x + y
```

However, there is another, more natural way to accomplish this in mathematics. Instead of using products, simply define a function from \mathbb{Z} into the set of functions $\mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$. This is the more common way to implement such a function in Haskell.

```
add :: Int -> Int -> Int
add x y = x + y
```

The strength of this approach is the ability to partially evaluate functions. If we want a function $\mathbb{Z} \to \mathbb{Z}$ that returns the sum of a number and five, we write add 5. So add is a function that takes an integer and returns a function and add 5 is a function that takes an integer and returns an integer. We say that add 5 is a partially evaluated function. We say that an expression like add 5 8 is fully evaluated because it is not expecting any more parameters.

Since a function can be the output of another function, it should come as no surprise that a function can also be the input to another function. Because of this, functions in Haskell are sometimes called *first class citizens*. Some functions specifically call for unevaluated functions as input. These are known as *higher order functions*. Higher order functions like map and fold are ubiquitous in languages like Haskell and are one of the nicest things about such languages. Since functions and regular values are treated much the same way, we use the word *term* to mean any expression that

may be used as the input or output of a function.

Functional programming is not without its challenges. Since every expression is a declarative statement, the concept of iterative control must be handled differently. In C, if we wish to perform a task until a certain condition is met, it is common to use a loop to achieve this.

However, "While some condition holds, perform some action" is an imperative sentence, not a declarative one, so it is not allowed in Haskell. How then do we handle iteration? The answer is with recursion¹.

In many cases, a recursive solution is cleaner and more readable than a loop, but even the most ardent Haskeller will admit that at times, this *feature* is a limitation. One challenge that arises is translating existing algorithms, which often use loops and other imperative mechanisms, into functional ones. For an example of this, see Chapter 4 of this document.

The Haskell language is named in honor of mathematician Haskell Curry. Curry played a pivotal role in the foundations of modern computational theory and mathematical logic. The idea of function currying is named after him. It is a bit ironic then, that the mathematical foundations of the Haskell language are rooted in a paper

¹Recursion. Definition: See recursion¹.

published in 1936 that stifled arguably the most ambitious goal of Haskell Curry's PhD advisor David Hilbert [2].

There are two competing models for computation commonly used today. One is the Turing machine, first described by Alan Turing [21]. The other is λ -calculus, first described by Turing's PhD advisor, Alonzo Church [6]. Within the publications that contained the initial descriptions of these models, Church and Turing proved using their respective machinery that Hilbert's entscheidungsproblem has no solution. According to the Church-Turing thesis, these models are mathematically equivalent [12]. The fundamental difference between these two models is that Turing machines carry state and perform sequential actions, while λ -calculus consists of expressions that may be composed and evaluated, but carry no state. In short, Turing machines form the basis for imperative programming and λ -calculus forms the basis for functional programming. However, λ -calculus does not offer a full description of the Haskell language. The most important feature of Haskell not present in the (standard) λ -calculus is Haskell's type system.

3.1 Types and Kinds

A type system is a way of classifying terms. The term 5 has type Int. The term "Hello" has type String. The term squares from above has type [Int] (a list of Ints). The term addTwo from above has type Int -> Int -> Int. The way one explicitly annotates the type of a term is with the :: symbol.

squares :: [Int]

It is common practice to annotate top-level functions for the sake of readability, but Haskell can infer most types without explicit annotation.

The types listed above, Int, [Int], String, etc., are built in to the Haskell language. It is also possible for a user to define their own types. The way one does this

is via the data keyword.

data Color = Red | Blue | Green

In the example above, we have defined a type Color and three terms, Red, Blue, and Green, each of which is of type Color. If we wish to create a term of the type Color, we therefore have three different way of doing this. Red, Blue, and Green are known as *value constructors* because they construct values of type Color. One can also define types which depend on other types. These are called *parametric types*.

Maybe a = Nothing | Just a

The above example is slightly more complicated than the first one. On the left of the = sign, the variable a is called a type variable and Maybe a is the type we are defining. This is a polymorphic type, so a may be any of the types we have seen before. Maybe Int is a type, Maybe Color is a type, etc. Maybe by itself is known as a type constructor. On the right of the = sign, we have two value constructors, Nothing and Just. The Just constructor takes a parameter a, while the Nothing constructor does not. Value constructors are terms, just like functions, so we may think of Just a as being a fully evaluated function of type Maybe a. In this case, the a on the right must be a term whose type is the a on the left. For example, Just 5 is a term of type Maybe Int. Nothing could also have type Maybe Int, but it may have type Maybe String so we need more context to be sure. Maybe is built in to the Haskell language, so we needn't define it ourselves. In fact, Maybe a is quite an important type, as we will soon see.

Type systems in programming languages are useful for ensuring that software makes sense. Suppose a function mult multiplies two numbers and returns their product, and say a user passes in a string and a boolean. One of three things can happen. Either the program will crash without explanation, the program will return a nonsensical answer, or the program will output a useful error message saying you can't

pass strings or booleans to mult. Clearly, the third option is the desired behavior. The only way that can happen is with a sufficiently robust type system.

One of the earliest examples of a type system was when Alonzo Church modified his λ -calculus to include a rudimentary type system [7]. This became known as the simply typed λ -calculus which is the simplest example of a typed λ -calculus. There have since been many extensions to the simply typed λ -calculus. One such extension, known as System FC, is the type system upon which Haskell is based [9]. An analysis of the features of System FC and why it is used instead of Hindley-Milner or some other type system is beyond the scope of this discussion. Suffice it to say, it is quite a powerful type system and is often cited as one of Haskell's strongest features. However, even with such a robust type system, some tasks are still impossible by default. For these scenarios, we may turn to language extensions. Language extensions are a way to extend the capabilities of Haskell, its type system, and its compiler. Sometimes these are for mere convenience or readability; enabling certain syntactic sugars that help to keep code clean and maintainable. Other times, these extensions can do much more. One such extension is DataKinds.

We have mentioned that types are a way of classifying terms, but is there a way to classify types? A kind is just that. A kind may be thought of as the type of a type. Most of the types we have encountered so far have the * kind. Int, String, [Int], and Int -> String are all examples of this. The * kind consists of so called concrete types. That is, the types of terms. If we are to pass an expression to a function, it must be of some type whose kind is *. There is one type we have mentioned that is not of the * kind though. The Maybe type constructor has kind * -> *. So types only have kind * if they are fully evaluated. With the DataKinds extension, users are able to engage in what is known as type-level programming. This means manipulating types as though they were terms. Instead of writing functions that map terms of a

given type to terms of another type, we may write functions that map types of a given kind to types of another kind. One of the features of DataKinds is that whenever you define a new type, you also get a new kind. Consider our Color example from before. data Color = Red | Blue | Green

This data declaration defines a new type, Color of kind *, as well as three new value constructors of type Color. With the DataKinds extension enabled, this same line of code also defines a new kind, also called Color, and three new types, Red, Blue, and Green, each of kind Color. This is how we define custom kinds.

Another language extension worth noting is the GADTs or Generalized Algebraic Data Types extension. When used in conjunction with DataKinds, this allows (among other things) the use of a more explicit syntax for defining types.

```
Maybe :: * -> * where
Nothing :: Maybe a
Just :: a -> Maybe a
```

As we can see, this syntax makes explicit our notion that value constructors are functions. It also makes it easy to see that type constructors are type-level functions. With GADTs syntax, we may annotate the value constructors with their type, and we may annotate the type constructors with their kind. In the case of Maybe, it is probably cleaner to use the standard syntax for defining types, but in more complicated examples with more esoteric kinds, the GADTs syntax can make code much more readable.

Another feature of the DataKinds extension is type-level natural numbers. Using the TypeLits module, we gain access to a new kind called Nat. Types of the Nat kind are type-level natural numbers. These types can be quite useful when creating terms whose type is indexed numerically.

```
Vector :: Nat -> * where
   MakeVector :: [Int] -> Vector n
```

In the above definition, Vector is a type constructor, MakeVector is a value constructor, and n is a type of the Nat kind which should represent the length of the vector. If we were to define a function VecAdd:: $Vector n \rightarrow Vector n \rightarrow Vector n$ that adds two vectors, we wouldn't want a user to be able to add two vectors of different length. The benefit of using Nat in this construction is that this is already guaranteed by the type system as Vector 3 and Vector 5 are different types.

One more feature of Haskell's type system worth mentioning is *typeclasses*. Typeclasses are like templates for a type, specifying some functions that terms of that class are compatible with. An example is the Show typeclass which is for types that can easily be converted to strings. The Show typeclass is defined like this:

```
class Show a where show :: a -> String
```

The keyword class means that we're about to define a new typeclass. After the where keyword, we list all the functions that are specified by the typeclass. To make some type an instance of Show, we need to define the show function, which takes a term of that type and outputs a string. If we wanted to make Color an instance of the Show typeclass, we could implement it like this:

```
instance Show Color where
   show Red = "Red"
   show Blue = "Blue"
   show Green = "Green"
```

We could also let Haskell implement Show for us by altering our data declaration.

```
data Color = Red | Blue | Green deriving Show
```

In this case, Haskell derives Show just like we did manually above. Note that a type may only be an instance of a given typeclass if it is of the appropriate kind. The Show typeclass is meant for types of kind * so Color, Int, and Maybe String may be instances of Show, but Maybe by itself cannot be.

When writing a function, we may specify that one of the parameters must be an

instance of some typeclass.

```
showMany :: Show a => Int -> a -> [String]
  showMany n a = replicate n (show a)
```

The above function takes an Int and some other term. Its output is a list of string representations of that second term. So showMany 3 False would return ["False", "False", "False"]. The Show => a expression is called a *constraint*. It means that the second parameter must be an instance of the Show typeclass. Without that, we couldn't guarantee that show a made sense.

Haskell is a statically-typed language. This means that type safety is checked at compile time, not run time. Any type-level code is evaluated at compile time, as opposed to term-level code which is evaluated at run time. This not only adds extra clarity by removing manual compatibility checks, it also increases efficiency by offloading those checks to the compiler. Even better, this can turn run time errors into compile time errors. From a debugging standpoint, this is a huge advantage. This is why our implementation of the Vector n type is so powerful. Since the type system is doing the work of ensuring type safety, our code can be cleaner, safer, and more efficient.

3.2 Functors and Monads

We said before that only types of kind * may be instances of the Show typeclass. Some typeclasses are meant for other kinds though. One such typeclass is Functor. To be an instance of Functor, a type must have the * -> * kind. This means that Maybe can be a Functor but Maybe Int cannot. The Show typeclass specified that the show function can work for a given type. The Functor typeclass specifies the fmap function.

```
class Functor f where
  fmap :: (a -> b) -> f a -> f b
```

Because of currying, we can rewrite the signature of fmap as

```
fmap :: (a -> b) -> (f a -> f b)
```

Let's see how Maybe is a functor.

```
instance Functor Maybe where
  fmap f Nothing = Nothing
  fmap f (Just a) = Just (f a)
```

Mapping any function over Nothing results in Nothing, while mapping a function over Just something applies that function to the contents of the Just.

It is not uncommon in Haskell for typeclasses to come equipped with recommended rules for how they should work. These rules are not enforced by the compiler, but should be followed whenever possible. If a type is an instance of a typeclass with these rules but does not follow them, it should be clearly documented with the reason why. In the case of Functor, there are two of these rules known as the *functor laws* that every Functor instance should obey.

```
fmap id == id
fmap (f . g) == fmap f . fmap g
```

The first law states that if we map the id function over a functor, the functor that we get back should be the same as the original functor. The second law says that composing two functions and then mapping the resulting function over a functor should be the same as first mapping one function over the functor and then mapping the other one [14]. It is easily verified that the implementation of Maybe obeys the functor laws.

So an instance of Functor consists of two things:

- a type constructor that maps a type a to another type f a, and
- a way to map functions of type a -> b to functions of type f a -> f b,

and to be a true functor, the data above must preserve the identity and preserve function composition. If this does not sound familiar to the reader, then perhaps

they should review the last section of Chapter 2. The Functor typeclass seems to be specifying that the type constructor and fmap functions of a type form a functor between some categories. Indeed, this is where Functor gets its name. But what categories are we dealing with? The type constructor is a map from a Haskell type to another Haskell type and fmap is a map from Haskell functions to other Haskell functions. Do these form a category though? Could we build a category where the objects are Haskell types and the morphisms are the functions between those types? It turns out that we cannot. Not completely anyway. The majority of the problems come from undefined values and functions that do not terminate. These are certainly a part of Haskell and must be accounted for. However, if we ignore these complications as well as a few other problems, then we may proceed with defining a category.

Definition 23. The category Hask has the types of Haskell as its objects. For types t and s, the set Hom(t,s) consists of the functions from t to s.

As previously mentioned, the above definition is not entirely accurate. For the purposes of this discussion however, we may assume that this definition holds. For a more thorough treatment of the subject including a list of problems with this definition and ways to get around them, see [15]. Using this definition, an instance of Functor is an endofunctor on the category Hask.

A special type of functor in this category is an *applicative functor*. We will not go into any detail regarding the implementation or theory of applicative functors except for the following brief definition and description.

```
class Functor f => Applicative f where
  pure :: a -> f a
  (<*>) :: f (a -> b) -> f a -> f b
```

The pure function is a special way to map a regular term to a functorial term without doing anything else. The <*> operator is a way to map a functorial function to a function of functorial terms. Note that in Haskell syntax, when defining a function

with non-alphanumeric characters surrounded by parentheses, that function is used infix and we call it an operator. Sticking with our running example, lets see how the Maybe functor is applicative.

There are several *applicative laws* that should be satisfied in addition to the functor laws.

```
pure id <*> v = v
pure (.) <*> u <*> v <*> w = u <*> (v <*> w)
pure f <*> pure x = pure (f x)
u <*> pure y = pure ($ y) <*> u
```

In the above, (.) is function composition and (\$) is function application. For an explanation of these laws, see the documentation [1]. The reason for defining applicative functors here is so that we may discuss a very special applicative functor with a familiar name.

We ended Chapter 2 by introducing an odd categorical construction: an endofunctor $\mathcal{T}: \mathsf{C} \to \mathsf{C}$ equipped with two natural transformations $\eta: 1_{\mathsf{C}} \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ and $\mu: \mathcal{T}^2 \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ that satisfied a pair of commutative diagrams. We called this structure a *monad*. Monads are important enough in their native domain of category theory, but where they really shine is in the realm of functional programming. In Haskell, Monad is a typeclass that may be implemented on an applicative functor. Instances of Monad are monads on the category Hask.

The Monad typeclass specifies three functions, >>=, >>, and return. Note that two of these functions are defined in the class definition. Those are default implementations.

They may be overridden, but in the case of Monad, they rarely are. The return function is equivalent to pure. The >> function is rarely used, so we will not discuss it here. The important one of this bunch is the one that does not have a default implementation, >>=. This is called the *bind* operator.

In a less abstract sense, a monad, and to a lesser extent, any functor, may be thought of as a computational context. The bind operator takes a value of type a that is already in some context m and a function of type a -> m b that maps standard values to contextualized values. Its output is the image of the decontextualized value under that function. The context here could be almost anything. Lists are monads whose computational context is that there are more than one terms of a given type. The Maybe functor is a monad where the computational context is that any term may or may not exist. When Haskellers are writing software, it is usually more insightful to think of monads this way than as endofunctors and natural transformations on the category Hask.

Since all monads are applicative functors and all applicative functors are functors, monads should obey the functor laws and the applicative laws. In addition, there are three more laws a monad should obey. These are the *monad laws*.

```
return x >>= f = f x
m >>= return = m
m >>= (\x -> f x >>= g) = (m >>= f) >>= g
```

The first monad law states that if we take a value, put it in a default context with return and then feed it to a function by using bind, it's the same as just taking the value and applying the function to it. The second law states that if we have a monadic value and we use bind to feed it to return, the result is our original monadic value. The final monad law says that when we have a chain of monadic function applications with bind, it shouldn't matter how they're nested [14].

We mentioned that Maybe is a monad. Let's take a look at its implementation.

```
instance Monad Maybe where
  (Just x) >>= f = f x
Nothing >>= f = Nothing
```

In the above, f is a function of type $a \rightarrow Maybe b$. We can see that binding f to Just x is simply f x where x has type a and f x has type Maybe b. Binding f to Nothing is unsurprisingly Nothing.

So mathematically, a monad is an endofunctor on Hask along with two natural transformations making the diagrams we saw at the end of Chater 2 commute. Programatically, a monad is an applicative functor with a return function and a bind function that satisfy the monadic laws in addition the functor and applicative laws, but are these two notions the same? To justify naming this typeclass Monad, there must be some relationship.

The return function is just the unit natural transformation η , but what about bind? Is bind the multiplication natural transformation μ that we saw before? Perhaps surprisingly, it is not. There is another function that instances of the Monad typeclass have access to: the join function.

```
join :: (Monad m) => m (m a) -> m a
join x = x >>= id
```

It turns out one could define a monad using join instead of bind and then define bind using join. This method is equivalent to the standard approach. In fact, the developers of Haskell tried fairly recently to include join in the definition for Monad and allow developers the option of defining either join or bind when creating a Monad instance. Unfortunately, due to some technical limitations, this is not currently possible, though there have been more recent attempts to fix this problem [18]. If this technical problem were overcome, we could redefine the Monad typeclass as

```
class Applicative m => Monad m where
   (>>=)     :: m a -> (a -> m b) -> m b
   join     :: (Monad m) => m (m a) -> m a
   (>>)     :: m a -> m b -> m b
   return     :: a -> m a
```

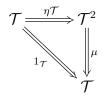
```
x >>= f = join (fmap f x)
join x = x >>= id
m >> k = m >>= \x -> k
return = pure
```

In this definition, since bind and join are each defined in terms of the other, a user need only define one of them and they get the other for free.

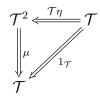
We can also reformulate our monad laws using join and fmap instead of bind.

```
join . return = id
join . fmap return = id
join . fmap join = join . join
```

In categorical terms, join is the μ transformation we wanted. For a functor \mathcal{T} and a type \mathbf{a} , μ gives us a function from the type \mathcal{T}^2a to the type $\mathcal{T}a$. The first monad law expressed with join says that the following diagram commutes:



The second monad law says that this diagram commutes:



The third monad law says that this final diagram commutes:

$$\mathcal{T}^{3} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{T}\mu} \mathcal{T}^{2} \\
\downarrow^{\mu} \\
\mathcal{T}^{2} \xrightarrow{\mu} \mathcal{T}$$

So using join to define a monad instead of bind makes the parallels to category theory much more explicit. To complete our running example, let's see how Maybe would be defined with join instead of bind.

```
instance Monad Maybe where
  join (Just (Just x)) = Just x
  join _ = Nothing
```

The _ is a place holder. It means that any expression that doesn't look like the first one will evaluate to Nothing.

A Monad comes equipped with three functions. return puts an expression into some computational context, join reduces the nested level of context by one, and bind is a mixture of both that ends up being quite useful in practice. We mentioned before that lists as well as Maybe functors are monads, but there are many more examples, like Either, State, and IO. That's right. Any IO operation in Haskell is a monad, even printing to the screen.

Encapsulating all computational contexts in monads makes the codebase safer and cleaner and encourages composition in a way that imperative programming can't compete with. However, this method of doing things is quite unfamiliar to most programmers. That is one of the reasons it is so important to explore functional solutions to problems where currently only imperative solutions exist. In the next chapter, we will discuss one such solution.

Chapter 4: The Polynomial-Algorithms Package

In this section, we will discuss how the polynomial-algorithms package was implemented. We will take a bottom-up approach, starting with the lower-level modules that define the more basal structures and working our way up to the higher-level modules and user facing functions. The primary data structure in this package is the Polynomial type, which is built on top of a Monomial type and a Coefficient type. This implementation allows for modularity. We may change the implementation of Monomial or Coefficient without changing the Polynomial.

The primary purpose of these types is their use in the Algorithms module. This module contains functions that carry out recursive versions of several algorithms related to polynomials. Polynomial long division and Buchberger's algorithm are the primary features of this module, though it is possible to use the existing Polynomial type to implement more algorithms in the future.

4.1 The Polynomial Type

One very simple module is RingParams. It merely contains enums that specify the rings and monomial orderings that are allowed throughout the package. Its purpose is to reduce dependencies between the larger modules. The entirety of its content is the following.

```
data Ring = Q | Zero | FTwo | FThree | FFive deriving (Eq,Read,Show)

data MonOrder = Lex | GLex | GRevLex deriving (Eq,Read,Show)
```

Note that the Eq typeclass allows a type to use the == operator and the Read typeclass allows a type to be read from a string. Henceforth, the abbreviation RP stands for RingParams so if the expression RP.Q appears, it is referring to the value constructor

Q from this module. Additionally for this section, we will omit class constraints from function definitions for brevity.

The first module of real substance is Coefficient which contains the Coefficient type. This type is defined as follows.

Note that Rational is a built in type that represents rational numbers. Since we are using the DataKinds extension, Our definition of Ring in RingParams created not only the type Ring, but also the kind Ring. The top line of this definition says that Coefficient is a type of kind RP.Ring \rightarrow *. That is, it is a type constructor whose input is a type of kind RP.Ring and whose output is a type of kind *. We have defined five value constructors for this type. These value constructors are not the same as the ones we saw in the RingParams module. Those were merely enums. These are the actual types that the Polynomial type will use. The first value constructor is Q and represents the field of rational numbers. The next represents the zero ring. The other three represent finite fields with two, three, and five elements respectively. When using any of the features of this package, we may choose which of these fields we wish to use. That means we can find a Gröbner basis for a list of polynomials over the rationals and then find a Gröbner basis for the same list over \mathbb{F}_2 .

Note that we use the type synonym type Q = Coefficient RP.Q throughout this package for brevity. Type synonyms are simply aliases to keep the code more concise. The most interesting part of the Coefficient module other than the type definitions is the implementation of typeclasses. The first typeclass we will explore is Num. This typeclass specifies that a type should behave like an algebraic ring. This means that this typeclass will have functions that are allowed in a ring.

```
instance Num Q where
  (Q r) + (Q s) = Q (r + s)
  (Q r) - (Q s) = Q (r - s)
  (Q r) * (Q s) = Q (r * s)
  abs (Q r) = Q (abs r)
  signum (Q r) = Q (signum r)
  fromInteger n = Q $ n % 1
```

The abs and signum functions define the absolute value and sign of a term respecitvely. It is a bit unfortunate that these are part of the Num typeclass as they are not inherent properties of a ring, but as they are, we must define them. This implementation is actually quite straightforward because Rational is already an instance of the Num typeclass. The only reason we needed to define Q at all is so that it would fit in with the other coefficient rings. Note that % is a value constructor for the Rational type. Next, lets examine how FFive is a Num instance.

```
instance Num FFive where
  (FFive n) + (FFive m) = FFive ((n + m) 'mod' 5)
  (FFive n) - (FFive m) = FFive ((n - m) 'mod' 5)
  (FFive n) * (FFive m) = FFive ((n * m) 'mod' 5)
  abs (FFive n) = error "No absolute value in F5."
  signum (FFive n) = error "No sign in F5."
  fromInteger n = FFive $ n 'mod' 5
```

As we can see, this is once again rather straightforward except that we are performing all operations modulo 5. The rest of the rings here have similar Num instances.

The other typeclass worth mentioning in the Coefficient module is Fractional. This typeclass specifies multiplicative inverses for a type that is already an instance of Num. An instance of Fractional is usually a division ring.

```
instance Fractional Q where
  recip (Q r) = Q (denominator r % numerator r)
  fromRational = Q
```

The recip function specifies the multiplicative inverse of a term in a Fractional type. Because Rational is already Fractional, this instance of Q is simple. The numerator and denominator functions give the numerator and denominator of a Rational respectively. We must take some care in making Coefficient an instance of Fractional

using the FFive value constructor because this constructor is based on an Integer, not a Rational, and Integer is not already Fractional.

Here, we have defined each inverse explicitly. The other way to do this would be to use the Euclidean algorithm, but when the field characteristic is this low, it is clearer to do it this way.

The next type we will discuss is Monomial. There are actually two separate implementations of this type. One implementation is contained in the DenseMonom module and is based on the fixed-vector package [19]. Using this implementation, the Monomial type is defined as

```
newtype Monomial :: Nat -> RP.MonOrder -> * where
   MakeMon :: { degVec :: Vec n Int } -> Monomial n o
```

This definition uses the newtype keyword, which is the same as data but more efficient in some cases and Vec is just the type we're using from fixed-vector. It also uses record syntax which means that we automatically get an accessor function degVec that gives us the multidegree of a Monomial stored as a fixed length vector. Observe that the first parameter of Monomial is of kind Nat. This enables us to make the number of variables in our polynomial ring part of the type. For a discussion of why this is important, see the end of section 3.1.

In Haskell, Map k v is a type that represents key-value pairs. The keys are of type k and the values are of type v. An IntMap a is a Map whose keys are of type Int and whose values are of type a. The other implementation of Monomial uses an IntMap to store the exponents instead of a Vec. This implementation is in the SparseMonom

module. We call it sparse because if we are in a polynomial ring with thirty variables, then using DenseMonom, the monomial x^2 will be stored as a vector with twenty-nine 0's and a single 2, but in SparseMonom, it will be an IntMap with a single key-value pair. In this module, we define Monomial as follows.

```
newtype Monomial :: Nat -> RP.MonOrder -> * where
   MakeMon :: { degMap :: IntMap Int } -> Monomial n o
```

This definition is similar to before, but with degMap in place of degVec.

We mentioned in Chapter 2 that Haskell used more mathematical terminology than most languages. The next two typeclasses are good examples of that.

```
class Semigroup a where
   (<>) :: a -> a -> a

class Semigroup a => Monoid a where
   mempty :: a
```

As the names imply, an instance of the Semigroup typeclass should be a semigroup, and an instance of the Monoid typeclass should be a monoid. The <> operator is the semigroup operation, and the mempty function is the identity in the monoid. The Monomial type is both a semigroup and a monoid. In the dense representation, this is implemented as

```
instance Semigroup (Mon n o) where
   a <> b = MakeMon $ zipWith (+) (degVec a) (degVec b)

instance Monoid (Mon n o) where
   mempty = MakeMon $ fromList $ replicate nn 0
        where nn = (fromInteger . reflect) (Proxy :: Proxy n)
```

The interesting part of these definitions is the where nn clause. This is how the Nat kind works. If we need to access the numeric value associated with a type-level natural number, we reflect the value from a Proxy. This can be a bit difficult to understand, but just know that this is how we actually use the information that we are storing in the type of our data. In this case, the mempty function needs to know the type of Monomial it is going to output, otherwise, it won't know how big to make the vector.

The sparse version of Monomial is also an instance of Semigroup and Monoid.

```
instance Semigroup (Mon n o) where
    a <> b = MakeMon $ unionWith (+) (degMap a) (degMap b)

instance Monoid (Mon n o) where
    mempty = MakeMon $ empty
```

Notice that in this case, we didn't need the type-level information to form the monoidal identity. That's a benefit of a sparse representation. The identity is just stored as an empty map.

One other important typeclass is Ord. This specifies the ordering of a type and how they work with the > and < operators in Haskell. In the case of Monomial, this of course corresponds to the monomial orderings we discussed in Chapter 2. We want to be able to run algorithms for any of the three main orderings we discussed, so Monomial is an instance of Ord with each ordering separately. In the dense implementation, this is accomplished with the following.

Notice that we are partially evaluating the Monomial type constructor by putting in a concrete type for the o parameter but leaving the n parameter arbitrary. We use the same strategy in SparseMonom, but the implementation is a little trickier. We won't go into detail here, but the lack of zero exponents poses a challenge in determining the order efficiently.

Since we have two different implementation of this type, we are able to compare their efficiency. In all of our testing, we have found that the sparse implementation is significantly faster than the dense. In the case of a polynomial ring with many variables this is to be expected, but the fact that it is faster with only two or three variables is a bit surprising. It is likely due to the fact that the IntMap type is much more widely used than the Vec type, so the community effort to make it efficient has been more successful.

Now that we have a Coefficient type and a Monomial type, we can build the Polynomial type. A Polynomial is a Map from Monomial to Coefficient.

```
newtype Polynomial :: RP.Ring -> Nat -> RP.MonOrder -> * where
    MakePoly :: { monMap :: Map (Mon n o) (Coef r) } -> Polynomial r n o
```

Throughout this module, Mon is a type synonym for Monomial, Coeff is a type synonym for Coefficient, and Poly is a type synonym for Polynomial. Since polynomials form a ring, it makes sense to make Polynomial an instance of the Num typeclass.

Polynomial addition is just unioning all the terms together and if any have the same monomial, we add their coefficients. The makePoly function uses the MakePoly value constructor but it filters out terms whose coefficients are 0. The functions abs and signum once again don't really make sense for a polynomial ring, but we must define them anyway. An integer n may be represented as a polynomial with the map from the identity monomial to n. The negative of a polynomial is given by negating each of the coefficients. The only difficult definition here is multiplication. What we have is only a call to a helper function. Lets take a look at polyMult.

```
f 'polyMult' g = if numTerms f < numTerms g</pre>
```

```
then f 'leftPolyMult' g
else g 'leftPolyMult' f where
f 'leftPolyMult' g = foldlWithKey (distrOver g) 0 (monMap f)
distrOver g p m c = p + (leftMultWithCoef m c g)
```

The leftMultWithCoef function multiplies a single term by a polynomial. The reason for the if statement is efficiency. It is more efficient to multiply polynomials in this manner when the one with fewer terms is on the left. This is because of the way our foldl works.

The last function we will examine in the Polynomial module is sPoly. Given two polynomials f and g, sPoly computes S(f,g) as defined in Chapter 2. One difficulty with this is that S(f,0) is undefined, so how should this function behave if the zero polynomial is one of its inputs? One way to handle potential failure in Haskell is with the Maybe monad. So instead of sPoly having an output of type Poly r n o, its output will be of type Maybe (Poly r n o).

```
sPoly :: Poly r n o -> Poly r n o -> Maybe (Poly r n o)
sPoly f g = (-) <$> redf <*> redg where
    lcm = lcmMon <$> leadMonom f <*> leadMonom g
    fNorm = divideByLeadTerm <$> fmap asPoly lcm <*> leadTerm f >>= id
    gNorm = divideByLeadTerm <$> fmap asPoly lcm <*> leadTerm g >>= id
    redf = (*) <$> fNorm <*> Just f
    redg = (*) <$> gNorm <*> Just g
```

Recall that the S-polynomial of f and g is defined as

$$S(f,g) = \frac{x^{\gamma}}{\operatorname{LT}(f)} \cdot f - \frac{x^{\gamma}}{\operatorname{LT}(g)} \cdot g$$

where x^{γ} is the least common multiple of $\operatorname{LT}(f)$ and $\operatorname{LT}(g)$. In the sPoly code above, lcm is x^{γ} , fNorm is $\frac{f}{\operatorname{LT}(f)}$, gNorm is $\frac{g}{\operatorname{LT}(g)}$, redf is $\frac{x^{\gamma}}{\operatorname{LT}(f)} \cdot f$, and redg is $\frac{x^{\gamma}}{\operatorname{LT}(g)} \cdot g$. The problem is that leadMonom and leadTerm both return Maybe values, because the zero polynomial has no lead term. The pattern of using <\$> and <*> as above is a common idiom in Haskell for dealing with monads, especially the Maybe monad. If I write a function that takes input of type Mon n o and I give it a Maybe (Mon n o), then it

won't work. So I could either make sure that all of my terms are Maybe values all the time or I could write two versions of every function, one for regular terms and one for monadic terms. Neither of these options are acceptable, so instead we use this pattern. Doing this makes it so that if a Nothing value is encountered, it is passed along until it is dealt with. If all of the values are Just values, then it evaluates the function as normal. It may look confusing if you're not used to the syntax, but it is a great way to handle potential failure in functional programming.

Now that we have a type that represents polynomials, how do we use it? How do we create a polynomial of in a polynomial ring over \mathbb{Q} with thee variables using the lexicographical monomial order for example? Since these parameters are type-level information, we cannot pass term-level parameters to our constructor functions. The answer is quite elegant. We simply use a type annotation.

```
type R = Polynomial RP.Q 3 RP.Lex
f = (fromString "x<sup>5</sup> + y<sup>4</sup> + z<sup>3</sup> - 1") :: R
```

Here, we have a polynomial f that is a member of the polynomial ring $\mathbb{Q}[x,y,z]$ whose monomials use the lexicographical ordering. Now we can analyze f with the tools in the Algorithms module.

4.2 The Division Algorithm

A few notational conventions that we will use for this section:

- Given a set T, denote¹ the set of finite ordered lists of elements of T as [T]. Let $\emptyset \in [T]$ denote the empty list.
- For a list $X \in [T]$, denote the *n*th entry in X as x_n and let $X \setminus x_n$ refer to the list obtained by removing x_n from X and maintaining the relative order of the rest of X.

¹This notation is meant to resemble the syntax for a list in Haskell.

• Suppose n is fixed throughout and let $\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] = \mathbb{F}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

Let $\varphi : [\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]] \times (\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] \times \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]) \to \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] \times \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ be the function defined as

$$\varphi(G,(p,r)) = \begin{cases} (p - \operatorname{LT}(p), r + \operatorname{LT}(p)) & \text{if } G = \emptyset, \\ (p - \frac{\operatorname{LT}(p)}{\operatorname{LT}(g_1)}g_1, r) & \text{if } G \neq \emptyset \text{ and } \operatorname{LT}(g_1) \mid \operatorname{LT}(p), \\ \varphi(G \setminus g_1, (p, r)) & \text{if } G \neq \emptyset \text{ and } \operatorname{LT}(g_1) \nmid \operatorname{LT}(p). \end{cases}$$

Let $\psi : [\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]] \times (\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] \times \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]) \to \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$ be the function defined as

$$\psi(G,(p,r)) = \begin{cases} r & \text{if } p = 0, \\ \psi(G,\varphi(G,(p,r))) & \text{if } p \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\overline{f}^G = \psi(G, (f, 0)).$$

4.3 Buchberger's Algorithm

Continuing with our list of notational conventions from the previous section, we add a few more:

- If $X \in [T]$ and $t \in T$, then X + t is the list X with t concatenated onto the end.
- If $X \in [T]$ and $Y \in [T]$, then X+Y is the list with all elements of Y concatenated onto the end of X maintaining the order of each.
- For $y \in T$ and $X \in [T]$, the product $y \times X \in [T \times T]$ is the list of tuples given by $((y, x) \mid x \in X)$ where we maintain the order in X.
- For $X,Y \in [T]$, the product $X \times Y \in [T \times T]$ is the list of tuples given by $((x,y) \mid x \in X, y \in Y)$ in some order.
- For a tuple $x = (f, g) \in \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] \times \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]$, we denote the S-polynomial S(f, g) as Sx.

Let $\varphi: [\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}] \times \mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]] \times [\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]] \to [\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]]$ be the function defined as

$$\varphi(X,G) = \begin{cases} G & \text{if } X = \emptyset, \\ \varphi(X \setminus x_1, G) & \text{if } X \neq \emptyset \text{ and } \overline{Sx_1}^G = 0, \\ \varphi\left(X \setminus x_1 + (\overline{Sx_1}^G \times G), G + \overline{Sx_1}^G\right) & \text{if } X \neq \emptyset \text{ and } \overline{Sx_1}^G \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

Then the function gb : $[\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]] \to [\mathbb{F}[\mathbf{x}]]$ defined as

$$gb(F) = \varphi(F \times F, F)$$

maps a list of polynomials f_1, \ldots, f_t to a Gröbner basis for $\langle f_1, \ldots, f_t \rangle$.

4.4 Efficiency

Chapter 5: Conclusion

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TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- "Algebraic Properties of a Hypergraph Lifting Map"
 Published in *Integers* Volume 21 (2021)
- "Avoiding Monochromatic Sub-paths in Uniform Hypergraph Paths and Cycles" Available at https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.00035

PRESENTATIONS

UNCG Regional Mathematics and Statistics Conference (Virtual)

Avoiding Blue Edges in 3-uniform Hyperpaths
University of North Carolina Greensboro | Greensboro, NC | November 14, 2020

WCU SURP Symposium (Virtual)

Algebraic Properties of a Hypergraph Lifting Map
Western Carolina University | Cullowhee, NC | October 16, 2020

SCC Lunch and Learn

Canceled due to COVID-19

Undergraduate Research at Western Carolina University
Southwestern Community College | Sylva, NC | March 20, 2020

Mathematical Association of America Southeastern Section Meeting $Canceled\ due\ to\ COVID-19$

Avoiding Blue Edges in 3-uniform Hyperpaths
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- \bullet 2020 SURP research grant \$5,300.00
- \bullet 2019-2020 CURM research grant \$3,000.00