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**Verified functional  
datastructures in Agda**

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# Proforma

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## **Declaration**

I, [Name] of [College], being a candidate for Part II of the Computer Science Tripos [or the Diploma in Computer Science], hereby declare that this dissertation and the work described in it are my own work, unaided except as may be specified below, and that the dissertation does not contain material that has already been used to any substantial extent for a comparable purpose.

Signed [signature]

Date [date]

# Contents

|          |  |           |
|----------|--|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Introduction</b>                        | <b>1</b>  |
| 1.1      | Functional Datastructures . . . . .        | 1         |
| 1.2      | Dependent Typing . . . . .                 | 1         |
| 1.3      | Nested Types . . . . .                     | 2         |
| 1.4      | Introduction to Agda . . . . .             | 3         |
| 1.4.1    | Types as Values . . . . .                  | 4         |
| 1.4.2    | Declaring Data Structures . . . . .        | 4         |
| 1.4.3    | Agda's interactive help . . . . .          | 5         |
| 1.4.4    | Arguments . . . . .                        | 6         |
| 1.4.5    | Instance Arguments . . . . .               | 6         |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Preparation</b>                         | <b>7</b>  |
| 2.1      | Programs as proofs . . . . .               | 7         |
| 2.1.1    | Some Agda Examples . . . . .               | 7         |
| 2.1.2    | Curry-Howard Isomorphism . . . . .         | 9         |
| 2.1.3    | with, rewrite . . . . .                    | 9         |
| 2.1.4    | Equivalence-Reasoning, , inspect . . . . . | 10        |
| 2.1.5    | instance arguments . . . . .               | 12        |
| 2.2      | Views . . . . .                            | 12        |
| 2.2.1    | Example - Natural Numberss . . . . .       | 12        |
| 2.2.2    | Induction with views . . . . .             | 13        |
| 2.3      | Termination checking . . . . .             | 14        |
| 2.3.1    | Example - Regular Data Type . . . . .      | 14        |
| 2.3.2    | Example - Nested Data Type . . . . .       | 15        |
| 2.4      | Well-foundedness . . . . .                 | 17        |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Implementation</b>                      | <b>18</b> |
| 3.1      | Numerical Representations . . . . .        | 18        |
| 3.2      | Random Access Sequences . . . . .          | 19        |
| 3.2.1    | Example Method . . . . .                   | 20        |

|          |   |           |
|----------|---|-----------|
| 3.2.2    | Defining a view . . . . .   | 20        |
| 3.2.3    | Example termination failure . . . . .                                     | 21        |
| 3.2.4    | Using sized types . . . . .   | 21        |
| 3.3      | FingerTrees in general . . . . .  | 23        |
| 3.4      | FingerTrees in Agda . . . . .   | 23        |
| 3.5      | Random Access Sequences as an easier example . . . . .                    | 23        |
| 3.6      | Dependently typed FingerTrees . . . . .                                   | 23        |
| 3.7      | Random Access Sequences with dependently typed Fin-<br>gerTrees . . . . . | 24        |
| 3.8      | Verbatim text . . . . .   | 24        |
| 3.9      | Tables . . . . .  | 25        |
| 3.10     | Simple diagrams . . . . .   | 25        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Evaluation</b>   | <b>27</b> |
| 4.1      | Printing and binding . . . . .  | 27        |
| 4.1.1    | Things to note . . . . .  | 27        |
| 4.2      | Further information . . . . .   | 28        |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Conclusion</b>   | <b>29</b> |

# List of Figures

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Functional Datastructures

There has always been an imbalance between the use of functional programming versus imperative programming both in industry, as well as in terms of available resource. Functional programming has often been ruled out in the past because of it running slow, or simply because it was stigmatised as belonging into academia, regardless of its properties [?]. However, this paradigm is being introduced now at the forefront of business development. This is because of the persistency<sup>0</sup> of data-structures, useful for the ever-present multicore environment. The reliability aspect, formal verification and keeping runtime errors to a minimum have also been relevant. The issue of the runtime speed has been addressed gracefully by Okasaki [?], which, introduced a reusable concept that can help designers build efficient data structures: the implicit recursive slowdown.

### 1.2 Dependent Typing

An important breakthrough in writing verifiably correct code is the introduction of dependent types.[?] In this setting the distinction between types and values becomes blurry, allowing us to define types that depend on values.

An immediate practical motivation is performing the sum of two vectors. The usual programming paradigm would be (in pseudocode):

```
def sum (l1, l2):
  if (l1.length != l2.length)
    raise ListsNotEqualException;
  ...
```

This can cause a runtime error and arguably disrupts the logical flow of the program. In a program that supports dependent types, we can construct lists that are both parametrized by a variable (as in the usual polymorphic programming), but also ‘indexed’.

The usual definition of lists would be (in Agda - but easily any functional language)

```
data List (A : Set) : Set where
  nil : List A
  _::_ : A → List A → List A
```

Compare this with the dependent definition:

```
data Vec (A : Set) : ℕ → Set where
  nil : Vec A 0
  _::_ : ∀ {n : ℕ} → A → Vec A n → Vec A (n + 1)
```

This allows us to write functions that require a ‘proof’ that the two arguments are of equal length.

```
sum : ∀ {n : ℕ} → Vec ℕ n → Vec ℕ n → Vec ℕ n
sum xs ys = ?
```

If this is not obvious from the context, the program will not type check. The developer is forced to only write correct programs.

Further details about agda syntax will be provided in section (Introduction to Agda)

## 1.3 Nested Types

Another way of maintaining invariants throughout the program is the trick or ‘irregular’ or ‘nested’ datatypes. They allow forcing strong structural invariants on the datastructure and have gained interest because of their practical implications, allowing definitions of circular

datastructures [?] or de bruijn indexes [?]. Some difficulties come up in recursive calls or inductive proofs, fact which will be covered and discussed in section (TODO implementation/section\_nest\_example). For example, consider the next data structure, introduced by Bird and Meertens [?], with a slight modification that makes future examples easier to understand.

```
data Nest {a : Level} (A : Set a) : Set a where
  nilN : Nest A
  consN : (A × A) → Nest (A × A) → Nest A
```

This can be thought of as the levels of a full binary tree (with the exception of the binary tree with only one element, which I am ruling out for simplicity)

Another example, with a more interesting application is:

```
data BinTree (A : Set) : Set where
  empty : BinTree A
  single : A → BinTree A
  deep : BinTree (Node A) → BinTree A
```

Where Node is simply:

```
data Node (A : Set) : Set where
  node : A → A → Node A
```

It can be seen from the declaration that the structure will be forced to be a sequence of deep constructors, followed by either a single (Node<sup>n</sup> A) or an empty constructor. The number of elements stored in it has to be a power of two (2<sup>n</sup>) making it equivalent to the leaves of a full binary tree.

This dissertation is mostly concerned with 2-3 trees, the basis for the FingerTrees, which will be studied in detail in the Implementation section. They are an example to show arising problems when proving properties of nested and dependent typed structures, what limits are imposed and how some of them can be overcome.

## 1.4 Introduction to Agda

Agda is a dependently typed programming language, developed in the spirit of Haskell, kept as simple as possible [?]. All the previous examples are written in Agda, and their syntax and the newly

introduced syntax will be described as we go on. Along other programming languages like Coq [?] or Isabelle [?], Agda is used as an interactive (or automatic) theorem prover. What makes it different from the two previously mentioned system is the ability to write the code and the proofs in the same environment. Its relative simplicity also motivated its use in this project.

### 1.4.1 Types as Values

As said before, a dependently typed environment allows types to be not only arguments to functions, as it is the case in generic data structures, but also returned values.

In Agda, the base for all types is called `Set`, which can be simplistically thought of as the type of types.

I will use, as a running example throughout this section, the construction of natural numbers and lists. They should be sufficient for introducing most of the concepts that will be needed throughout this dissertation.

### 1.4.2 Declaring Data Structures

Data structures in agda follow the ADT (Algebraic Data Types) paradigm. They group together constructors that can introduce the given structure. Each constructor should be thought of as a function which returns an instance of the data structure.

```
data ℕ : Set where  
  zero : ℕ  
  suc  : ℕ → ℕ
```

We declare the type of natural numbers, which is of type `Set`. It has only two constructors; `zero`, which takes no argument, and `suc` (successor) which, provided a natural number, can construct the next natural number.

As you probably noticed, Agda has full unicode support. This makes writing proofs about mathematical objects nice and readable since you can use the conventional symbols.

Another piece of elegant syntax is the presence of mixfix operators. Most unicode characters can be used in the name of the operator, and by `_` you tell agda that's where you want to put an argument

(Example: `_+_`, `if_then_else_`, `[_]`)

### 1.4.3 Agda's interactive help

Before writing the implementation of a function, as you stumble upon the equals(=) sign, you can tell agda to place a hole (! !) instead of an implementation. Here, you can perform a number of operations:

- See the types and values of variables in the scope
- Case-split  
For example, consider the addition of natural numbers.

$$\begin{aligned} & \_ + \_ : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ & n + m = \{!!\} \end{aligned}$$

Performing a case-split on the variable `n` shows me all the possible ways in which a natural number can be constructed.

$$\begin{aligned} & \_ + \_ : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ & zero + m = \{!!\} \\ & suc\ n + m = \{!!\} \end{aligned}$$

A consequence of this is that all functions in Agda must be total. If a possible constructor is not present in the definition, it will not type-check.

- Refine and Auto  
These provide the automated and interactive ways of theorem-proving. Essentially, Agda looks throughout the environment to find an inhabitant (a variable) that has the type of the hole. They are definitely not as powerfull as any functionality given by Coq of Isabelle, but it can save some typing.

### 1.4.4 Arguments

Agda introduces some syntax for various types of arguments you can provide to functions. As you probably saw, there is a difference in handling the polymorphic types (in the case of `List`) and the values given as arguments to type constructors (in the case of `Vec`).

In the declaration of `Vec`:

```
data Vec (A : Set) : ℕ → Set where
  nil : Vec A zero
  _::_ : ∀ {n : ℕ} → A → Vec A n → Vec A (suc n)
```

The first `(A : Set)` is the type argument for instantiating a polymorphic type, before the `:`, while the `ℕ` is the type of the value argument for the dependently typed instantiation.

Another thing to notice here is the curly brackets `{n : ℕ}` in the declaration of the `_::_` constructor. This is called an implicit argument. Agda will bind `n` to a value it sees fit in the scope. If there are more possibilities, it will take a guess.

### 1.4.5 Instance Arguments

Throughout this dissertation, we will be using some properties of certain types, for example of having a monoid operation associated with them. In Haskell, you would accomplish that with the use of type classes [?]

In order to mimic this behaviour we will use instance arguments. They are declared by using double square brackets, `{{ }}` or the unicode equivalent.

What Agda does in this case, it looks for a possible instantiation of that type in the current scope, following some predefined rules. [?] It is important there is only one available possibility, otherwise it will fail to type check.

The use will become obvious in the Implementation section.

# Chapter 2

## Preparation

### 2.1 Programs as proofs

Agda is a dependently typed programming language, based on the intuitionistic type theory developed by Per Martin Lof [?]. The power of the typing system is sufficient to express propositions as types. Finding an inhabitant of each type becomes equivalent to constructing a proof of the embedded proposition.

#### 2.1.1 Some Agda Examples

Consider for example the proposition describing equality (taken from the standard library)

```
open import Level  
data _  $\equiv$  _ { a : Level } { A : Set a } (x : A) : A  $\rightarrow$  Set a where  
  refl : x  $\equiv$  x
```

(An explanation of the Level and universe polymorphism will be found at the end of the section – TODO Footnote)

The first thing to notice is that this is a declaration of a dependent data type. It can only be constructed by calling *refl*, which tells us that all elements are equal to themselves (reflexivity).

Therefore, constructing an elements of type (*a*  $\equiv$  *b*) for some *a* and *b* becomes a proof that *a* and *b* are equal. This, of course, relates elements by their structural equality and is the version most used in the standard library. This doesn't stop the developer from defining their own form of equality.

For example, this equality over integers (which is in this case equivalent to  $\equiv$ )

```
infix 4 _ == _
data _ == _ :  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  where
  z : zero  $\equiv$  zero
  s :  $\forall \{n\ m\} \rightarrow n \equiv m \rightarrow (\text{suc } n) \equiv (\text{suc } m)$ 
```

We can already start building up proofs, for example, of the property of zero to be the neutre element to addition:

```
0 - left :  $\forall (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow (\text{zero} + n \equiv n)$ 
0 - left zero = z
0 - left (suc n) = s (0 - left n)
```

We can see that the term zero-left is a proof of the proposition embedded in the type, since it shows us how the proposition was constructed (by using z or s constructors respectively)

Consider, for example, defining a less then equal operator and the proof of the antisymmetry property

```
infix 4 _ ≤ _
data _ ≤ _ :  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  where
  leq - zero :  $\forall \{n : \mathbb{N}\} \rightarrow \text{zero} \leq n$ 
  leq - suc :  $\forall \{n : \mathbb{N}\} \{m : \mathbb{N}\} \rightarrow m \leq n \rightarrow \text{suc } m \leq \text{suc } n$ 
  leq - antisym :  $\forall (n : \mathbb{N}) (m : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow (n \leq m) \rightarrow (m \leq n) \rightarrow (n \equiv m)$ 
  leq - antisym zero zero leq - zero leq - zero = z
  leq - antisym zero (suc m) leq - zero ()
  leq - antisym (suc n) (suc m) (leq - suc p1) (leq - suc p2) = s (leq - antisym n m p)
```

This example is important because it shows two important points.

Defining relations properly can allow meaningful case split on the proof object. In the first line, we can see how, if  $n = 0$  and  $m = 0$ , then both  $(n \leq m)$  and  $(m \leq n)$  can only be constructed by leq-zero. Although this case is trivial, one can imagine a case where knowing exactly what constructor was used provides extra information about the inputs.

Another import point is the absurd pattern (). Agda doesn't allow the definition of partial functions, therefore all the cases of the input must be analyzed. However, if  $n = 0$  and  $m > 0$ , one cannot possibly



construct the fourth argument to the function (of type  $m \leq n$ ). This case, therefore cannot be reached in the program.

During most of the project we will use the structural equality. Agda standard library provides a nice, readable way of constructing such proofs (further down)

### 2.1.2 Curry-Howard Isomorphism

Although the definitions above seem intuitive, they have strong theoretical underpinnings in Martin Lof's theory [?], as well as Curry-Howard isomorphism. The original result by Howard [?] gives the link between natural deduction in the intuitionistic logic theory and the simply typed lambda calculus.

-insert some table here

### 2.1.3 with, rewrite

Agda provides some in-built syntax for making writing proofs more intuitive. The first such keyword is `with`. It allows, inspired by the work of McBride and McKinna [?], to pattern match on an intermediate computation. This is more or less equivalent to adding an extra argument to the left of the function, although, that would make the code objectively more unreadable by the never ending chain of arguments in the type declaration.

We will see how this become particularly nice with Views [?].

Another piece of usefull syntax is `rewrite`. This is meant to be read as 'rewrite the left hand side by using the equation on the right hand side'. This makes necessarily use of the builtin equality.

Consider the task of proving the associativity property of natural numbers:

```
open import Relation.Binary.PropositionalEquality
+ assoc :  $\forall (x\ y\ z : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow (x + (y + z)) \equiv ((x + y) + z)$ 
+ assoc zero y z = refl
+ assoc (suc x) y z = {!!}
```

The hole here has the type:  $\text{suc } (x + (y + z)) \equiv \text{suc } ((x + y) + z)$ . It is therefore sufficient to rewrite  $\text{suc } (x + (y + z))$  by using the associativity property of  $x$   $y$  and  $z$  in order to obtain *refl*.

```

open import Relation.Binary.PropositionalEquality
+ assoc :  $\forall (x\ y\ z : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow (x + (y + z)) \equiv ((x + y) + z)$ 
+ assoc zero y z = refl
+ assoc (suc x) y z rewrite + assoc x y z = refl

```

In fact, `rewrite` is just syntactic sugar for two nested `with` statements, as described in the official documentation [?]:

If `eqn : a ≡ b`, where `_≡_` is the builtin equality you can write

```

f ps rewrite eqn = rhs

```

instead of

```

f ps with a | eqn
... | . _ | refl = rhs

```

-syntax

-unimplemented feature of `with` – will fit better at difficulties

-`rewrite` explained as a sequence of `with` statements

-`rewrite` example with `+com`

### 2.1.4 Equivalence-Reasoning, `inspect`

In order to obtain a proof of a more complex nature, you need to chain quite a few `rewrite` statements, and checking goal types in their presence is not always as illuminating as one would imagine, because it is quite hard to keep track of how the previous rewrites affect the current goal.

This is why the standard library provides a way of chaining such rewriting in a more mathematically friendly manner. The documentation is freely available online [?]. To show how it will be used in this project, I will give an example of a proof done in both ways. The proof is the commutativity property of natural numbers.

```

open import Data.Nat

```

This imports the standard library version of natural numbers, which is declared in the exactly same way. It allows us to use actual digits for their representations, which can enhance readability.

Further down are some further proofs we need in order to show natural numbers are commutative.

```

+ 0 : (m : ℕ) → (m + 0) ≡ m
+ 0 zero = refl
+ 0 (suc m) rewrite + 0 m = refl
+ suc : ∀(x y : ℕ) → (x + (suc y)) ≡ (suc (x + y))
+ suc zero y = refl
+ suc (suc x) y rewrite + suc x y = refl

```

Finally, the main proof:

```

+ comm : ∀(x y : ℕ) → (x + y) ≡ (y + x)
+ comm zero y rewrite + 0 y = refl
+ comm (suc x) y rewrite + suc x y |
  + suc y x |
  + comm x y = refl

```

*open ≡ – Reasoning*

This is the module where all the equivalence reasoning primitives are declared. Now, the proof which uses this module.

```

+ comm2 : ∀(x y : ℕ) → (x + y) ≡ (y + x)
+ comm2 zero y =
  begin
    zero + y
    ≡{ sym (+0 y) }
    y + zero
    ■
+ comm2 (suc x) y =
  begin
    suc (x + y)
    ≡{ cong suc (+comm2 x y) }
    suc (y + x)
    ≡{ sym (+suc y x) }
    y + suc x
    ■

```

Although it is longer, due to the extra syntax, it allows reading off intermediate results, so that proofs become more readable. It can also aid the proving process. There are cases when you know it's possible to prove an equivalence from A to B inside of a bigger

proof, but you want to leave that out for the moment and come back to it later. In this case, you can just introduce a hole in the  $\equiv$  (!!) operator, and continue the main proof, filling in side lemmas at the end.

- show the syntax mostly
- reason behind inspect

### 2.1.5 instance arguments

- type classes in haskell
- the monoid record
- how we use it

## 2.2 Views

The idea of a view was first introduced by Phil Wadler [?]  
<http://www.cs.tufts.edu/~nr/cs257/archive/phil-wadler/views.pdf> .  
 Originally it is meant as a way of reconciling the conflict between data abstraction and pattern matching. The essence of views is representing an arbitrary data type as a newly defined and computationally meaningful algebraic data type.

The canonical example is 'viewing' a natural number in terms of it's peano representation.

- Example in haskell maybe?

### 2.2.1 Example - Natural Numbers

A more meaningful example is seeing a natural number as an even or odd number in terms of it's representation. That is, a natural number is even if it can be represented as  $n = 2 * k$  for some natural  $k$  and it is odd if it can be represented as  $n = 2 * k + 1$ . I will present some agda code that does exactly this, providing a functional way of checking if a number is even or odd and also performe floored division.

```
data Repr :  $\mathbb{N}$   $\rightarrow$  Set where
  z : Repr 0
```

$$\begin{aligned}
2 * \_ : \forall \{n : \mathbb{N}\} \rightarrow \text{Repr } n \rightarrow \text{Repr } (n * 2) \\
2 * \_ + 1 : \forall \{n : \mathbb{N}\} \rightarrow \text{Repr } n \rightarrow \text{Repr } (\text{suc } (n * 2))
\end{aligned}$$

A few helper functions could help one realise how convenient this representation is in case recursive calls over the binary structure of natural number are needed (e.g. when searching in functional array).

$$\begin{aligned}
\_ + 1 : \forall \{n : \mathbb{N}\} \rightarrow \text{Repr } n \rightarrow \text{Repr } (\text{suc } n) \\
z + 1 &= 2 * z + 1 \\
(2 * m) + 1 &= 2 * m + 1 \\
2 * m + 1 + 1 &= 2 * (m + 1) \\
\text{repr} : (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Repr } n \\
\text{repr zero} &= z \\
\text{repr } (\text{suc } n) &= (\text{repr } n) + 1
\end{aligned}$$

### 2.2.2 Induction with views

An important point made [?] is that the design of such views should allow inductive programs to be written on them.

Views become especially usefull when the data type is very hard itself to reason about, such as the case of nested data-type or irregular datatypes.

A simple example of such a view is an implementation of the cyclic list [?].

This is a canonical example of a great structural need satisfied through typing only.

```

data Clist (A : Set) : Set where
  Var : A → Clist A
  Nil : Clist A
  RCons : ℕ → Clist (Maybe A) → Clist A

```

This is a nested datatype, because each recursive invocation of the Rcons constructor will have type  $CList(Maybe^n A)$  where  $n$  is the recursion depth. The implementations of the functions that operate on such datatype are presented in the Appendix. One would understand the need to view this data structure as a  $A \times CList A$  rather than  $A \times CList(Maybe A)$ , as unfolding in the latter way would cause unenecessary nestings of the *Maybe* constructor.

**data** *View* (*A* : *Set*) : *Set* **where**

*NilV* : *View* *A*

*ConsV* :  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Clist } A \rightarrow \text{View } A$

This is an implementation of a function that iterates through the cyclic list for a given depth which could possibly be used in a simulation. As said before, it is a lot more straight-forward to see the data structure in a flattened way, while keeping strong invariants underneath by the nested type.

*unwind* :  $\{A : \text{Set}\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Clist } A \rightarrow \text{List } \mathbb{N}$

*unwind*  $\mathbb{N}.\text{zero } c = []$

*unwind* ( $\mathbb{N}.\text{suc } n$ ) *c* *with view* *c*

*unwind* ( $\mathbb{N}.\text{suc } n$ ) *c* | *NilV* = []

*unwind* ( $\mathbb{N}.\text{suc } n$ ) *c* | *ConsV* *x* *x*<sub>1</sub> = *x* :: *unwind* *n* *x*<sub>1</sub>

## 2.3 Termination checking

Checking whether a program terminates is, by a well-known result, undecidable. Hence, Agda and other theorem provers must rely on heuristics that can rule out all the programs that do not terminate. Due to the undecidability of the halting problem, all such heuristics will also reject programs that are correct. This dissertation was inspired by noticing how certain constructions in Agda, although usefull from an implementation point of view, do not pass this termination check. We will be exploring ways to get around it.

Since we are interested not only in computing things, but also in checking that they are correct, termination is a mandatory aspect. One can imagine very easily (false) proofs in terms of their type, but with no meaning.

```
--
bad-proof : forall a b -> P a b
bad-proof a b = bad-proof a b
--
```

The heuristic used in Agda revolves around the concept of a structurally smaller argument. That is, every recursive call must have a structurally smaller argument (has less layers of constructors wrapped around eachother) in order to pass the termination check.

### 2.3.1 Example - Regular Data Type

Consider, for example, this simple pathological case:

```
append : ∀{a} {A : Set a} → A → List A → List A
append x xs with xs
append x xs | [] = Data.List ◦ [x]
append x xs | y :: ys = y :: append x ys
```

One could argue that this fails because 'with' forgets where *ys* originally came from, as we have seen before. However, this is not the case:

```
open import Relation.Binary.PropositionalEquality
append2 : ∀{a} {A : Set a} → A → List A → List A
append2 x xs with xs | inspect (λ x → x) xs
append2 x xs | [] | [eq] = Data.List ◦ [x]
append2 x xs | y :: ys | Reveal_·_is_◦[refl] = y :: (append2 x ys)
```

This is a proof that the 'with' construct in agda doesn't interact well with Agda's termination checker. However, Having a structurally recursive dependent typing scheme actually works for this instance - in this case we will use Nat indexing, but this scheme will become more general in the implementation phase. We can extend the List data type and index it on the length, as seen before when we introduced dependent types:

```
open import Data.Vec
append3 : ∀{a} {A : Set a} {n : ℕ} → A → Vec A n → Vec A (suc n)
append3 x xs with xs
append3 x xs | [] = x :: []
append3 x xs | y :: ys = y :: (append3 x ys)
```

### 2.3.2 Example - Nested Data Type

As stated by Adam Chipala [?], there is no deep theoretical reason for which the termination checking should fail in the presence of such nested datatype, other than the termination checker is incomplete (referring to Coq, but is applicable in this context as well). As seen above, a simple solution to it is simply transfiguring the typing to a dependent one.

This is the declaration of *Nest*, as seen before.

```
data Nest {a : Level} (A : Set a) : Set a where
  nilN : Nest A
  consN : (A × A) → Nest (A × A) → Nest A
```

In this case, I am artificially creating a function with the sole purpose of creating a smaller datatype. It essentially reduces the tree by performing a given operation which takes as argument the pairs present in the leaves of the tree.

```
compact : ∀{a : Level} {A : Set a} → Nest (A × A) → (A × A → A) → Nest A
compact nilN op = nilN
compact (consN p ns) op = consN (lift - op op p) (compact ns (lift - op op))
```

The lift operation is just a map operation on the Product type:

```
lift - op : ∀{a : Level} {A : Set a} → (A × A → A) → ((A × A) × (A × A)) → (A × A)
lift - op op (proj1, proj2) = (op proj1, op proj2)
```

We introduce, as we did in the case of *CList*, a flattened view, together with a function that can convert between the two:

```
data View {a : Level} (A : Set a) : Set a where
  nilL : View A
  consL : A → Nest A → View A

view : {A : Set} → Clist A → View A
view (Var x) = NilV
view Nil = NilV
view (RCons x cl) = ConsV x (csnoc x cl)
```

It is not hard to infer, given the previous examples, that such a declaration would fail to pass the termination checker in case there is a recursive call. Therefore, we are modifying the code the same way we did with *List*, by declaring an index

```
data dNest {a : Level} (A : Set a) : ℕ → Set a where
  dnilN : dNest A zero
  dconsN : ∀{n : ℕ} → (A × A) → dNest (A × A) n → dNest A (suc n)

data dView {a : Level} (A : Set a) : ℕ → Set a where
  dnilV : dView A zero
  dconsV : ∀{n : ℕ} → A → dNest A n → dView A (suc n)
```

However, in the presence of a nested type, the structural recursive indexing fails to satisfy the type-checker.



## 2.4 Well-foundedness

A well-founded relation is a relation  $R$ , ( $R \subset X \times X$ ) such that there is no infinite sequence  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  of elements of  $X$  such that  $x_{n+1} R x_n$ . A less than relation with this property can be used to implement a terminating induction definition, since we know that we cannot ever have an infinite sequence of decreasing argument sizes in the call stack. Tools for proving that a relation is Well-Founded and helper functions for defining recursive definitions are present in the standard library.

# Chapter 3

## Implementation

Data structure design in functional programming has been greatly improved by the publications of Okasaki [?] and those of Ross Patterson and Ralph Hinze. These papers introduce a number of concepts which has made possible a great efficiency speed-up in functional algorithms. The observation that the construction of numbers is equivalent to the construction of containers that hold that number of elements [?] [?] has also provided developers with a general way of designing such constructors.

Most data structures presented in these papers are nested data types. What this section is trying to achieve is to find a way to represent such data structure and their views in a way that would make recursive definition pass the termination checker.

Failure to use certain techniques will be illustrated on relatively simple data structures, whereas an implementation of Finger Trees [?] will be given to incorporate these ideas.

### 3.1 Numerical Representations

The treatment of containers as natural numbers has been studied in depth[?]. The basic idea is that simple numerical operations correspond naturally to operations on containers. For example:

|                     |                |                       |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| increasing a number | corresponds to | adding an element     |
| decreasing a number | corresponds to | removing an element   |
| adding two numbers  | corresponds to | merging to containers |

This treatment of numbers, represented in various numerical basis, allows the constructions to obey the implicit recursive slowdown, presented by Okasaki. This allows in lazy languages like Haskell, implementation of operations such as insertion and deletion in amortised  $O(1)$  cost – which represented a breakthrough in functional programming languages.

## 3.2 Random Access Sequences

In this section, I will present a data structure as implemented by Ralph Hinze[?] and show the issues that could arise because of the termination checker in more detail.

Consider the trivial implementation of a binary tree in a functional programming language:

```
module bush where
  data Bush (A : Set) : Set where
    Leaf : A → Bush A
    Fork : Bush A → Bush A → Bush A
```

In order to stay consistent with the original implementation, the data structure above will be split in two different types that represent the constructors [?].

```
module ral where
  data Leaf (A : Set) : Set where
    LEAF : A → Leaf A

  data Fork (B : Set → Set) (A : Set) : Set where
    FORK : (B A) → (B A) → Fork B A
```

We can now refer to the Random Access Sequence implementation. They are a numerical representation based on base two of natural numbers, however, rather than the 0-1 system, the author prefers to use the 1-2 system for a number of efficiency reasons.

$$\begin{aligned} inc(\epsilon) &= 1 \\ inc(1a) &= 2a \\ inc(2a) &= 1inc(a) \end{aligned}$$

This *inc* operator should correspond analogously to the 'Cons' operators in the data structure:

```
data RandomAccessList (B : Set → Set) (A : Set) : Set where
  Nil : RandomAccessList B A
  One : (B A) → (RandomAccessList (Fork B) A)
        → RandomAccessList B A
  Two : (Fork B A) → (RandomAccessList (Fork B) A)
        → RandomAccessList B A
```

Now, by implementing the function *incr*, we can see the similarity between the adding an element to the left and the number representation

```
incr : {B : Set → Set} {A : Set} → (B A) → RandomAccessList B A
      → RandomAccessList B A
incr b Nil = One b Nil
incr b (One b2 ds) = Two (FORK b b2) ds
incr b (Two b2 ds) = One b (incr b2 ds)
```

We can finally declare a sequence, by using the definition of Leaf as a layer of abstraction.

```
cons : {A : Set} → A → lXSequence A → lXSequence A
cons a s = incr (LEAF a) s
```

### 3.2.1 Example Method

Here is the implementations of a method that illustrates the sequences' use.

```
open import Data.List
fromList : {A : Set} → List A → lXSequence A
fromList [] = Nil
fromList (x :: xs) = cons x (fromList xs)
```

### 3.2.2 Defining a view

We can then implement the *front* method, which returns a view of the list in terms of the first element and a continuation. Our goal

is to abstract away the intricacy of the type declaration, so we can implement methods easily. First, we need to declare the return type, wrapped in a view data structure.

```

open import Data.Product
data View (A : Set) : Set where
  Vnil : View A
  VCns : A × IxSequence A → View A
front : {A : Set} → IxSequence A → View A
front Nil = Vnil
front (One (LEAF x) ds) = VCns (x, zero ds)
front (Two (FORK (LEAF a) b) ds) = VCns (a, One b ds)

```

The zero method is a restructuring method, as we will find in the Finger Tree implementation.

```

zero : {B : Set → Set} {A : Set} →
  RandomAccessList (Fork B) A →
  RandomAccessList B A
zero Nil = Nil
zero (One b ds) = Two b (zero ds)
zero (Two (FORK b1 b2) ds) = Two b1 (One b2 ds)

```

### 3.2.3 Example termination failure

Here, Agda termination checker will fail. We will try to implement an append function, which is a straightforward process given the methods previously declared:

```

append : {A : Set} → A → IxSequence A → IxSequence A
append x seq with front seq
append x seq | Vnil = cons x Nil
append x seq | VCns (head, tail) = cons head (append x tail)

```

### 3.2.4 Using sized types

Sized types are agda's response to fixing such issues. However, trying to come up with an implementation that type checks, even in this

relatively simple case seems to be very difficult. The intuition in this case is that we need to convince agda that  $\text{FORK } a \ b$  is bigger than any individual  $a \ b$  in the context of the RAL constructors. However, sized types are only relative, not on an absolute scale.

**module** *ral* – sized **where**

*open import* Size

**data** *Leaf* ( $A : \text{Set}$ ) : *Set* **where**

*LEAF* :  $A \rightarrow \text{Leaf } A$

**data** *Fork* ( $B : \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ ) ( $A : \text{Set}$ ) : *Set* **where**

*FORK* :  $(B \ A) \rightarrow (B \ A) \rightarrow \text{Fork } B \ A$

**data** *RandomAccessList* ( $B : \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ ) ( $A : \text{Set}$ ) :  $\{i : \text{Size}\} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  **where**

*Nil* :  $\forall \{i\} \rightarrow \text{RandomAccessList } B \ A \ \{i\}$

*One* :  $\forall \{i\} \rightarrow (B \ A) \rightarrow (\text{RandomAccessList } (\text{Fork } B) \ A \ \{i\})$   
 $\rightarrow \text{RandomAccessList } B \ A \ \{\uparrow i\}$

*Two* :  $\forall \{i\} \rightarrow (\text{Fork } B \ A) \rightarrow (\text{RandomAccessList } (\text{Fork } B) \ A \ \{i\})$   
 $\rightarrow \text{RandomAccessList } B \ A \ \{\uparrow \uparrow i\}$

*lxSequence* :  $\text{Set} \rightarrow \{i : \text{Size}\} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

*lxSequence* = *RandomAccessList Leaf*

*incr* :  $\{B : \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set}\} \ \{A : \text{Set}\} \ \{i : \text{Size}\} \rightarrow (B \ A)$

$\rightarrow \text{RandomAccessList } B \ A \ \{i\} \rightarrow \text{RandomAccessList } B \ A \ \{\uparrow i\}$

*incr*  $b \ \text{Nil}$  = *One*  $b \ \text{Nil}$

*incr*  $b \ (\text{One } b_2 \ ds)$  = *Two* (*FORK*  $b \ b_2$ )  $ds$

*incr*  $b \ (\text{Two } b_2 \ ds)$  =  $\{!!\}$  -- *One*  $b \ (\text{incr } b_2 \ ds)$

Consider the implementation of *incr*. The problem arises when we are recursively calling *incrbds*. This is where the complication of nested types arose in the first place. *incr* is a polymorphic function, so in the second iteration it would be instantiated with

$$B' = \text{FORK } B$$

$$A' = A$$

Now, it is obvious that inserting an element of type *Fork*  $B \ A$  should increase the size of the container by more than inserting an element of type  $A$  would. Under this polymorphism however, the two operations are equivalent. The solution to this problem would require a

size scaled on the type, so that  $\text{size}(\text{Fork } B \ A) > \text{size}(A)$ . However, this needs to be hardcoded for specific type, as Agda has no way of differentiating between different types of type Set, so no general method is available. We will implement a custom-made size function by enhancing the

### 3.3 FingerTrees in general

- what are they
- previous work: isabelle, coq, agda.

### 3.4 FingerTrees in Agda

- without measurement - quite boring
- with measurement
- view from the left is not working because of termination check (pointer to coq paper)
- trying to solve the issue by defining a well-founded induction
- use the measurement info, since it's already there

### 3.5 Random Access Sequences as an easier example

- size and entry
- trying to prove the well-foundedness
- boom, we fail because we didn't follow a dependently typed implementation

### 3.6 Dependently typed FingerTrees

- implementing dependently typed finger trees ensures that there cannot be malformed trees in the program. - I will use the mea-

surement  $V$  for the index, since it's mostly been implemented in the previous section.

- defining a well founded induction on  $V$  will allow ordering trees as well, and therefore ensure termination checking on this recursion.

- (all is well until node)

- A full dependent implementation seemed harder to envision. By full, I mean that I move the measure labels from the nodes to the type as well. However, I don't see how we allow trees to have differently sized nodes since their constructor only takes an instance of `Node A V size`, size which must be specified in advance.

- I am cheating this using postulates. We can guarantee no bad nodes are added in the tree since the user never actually needs to call the constructor of the node, it should be a completely hidden concept.

- The approach with the view doesn't work as expected, even when Agda can see that the types are becoming smaller. I am providing the examples in `node2.agda`

- Complain about the `with` operator

- All this to simplify recursion and inductive definitions on `FingerTrees`.

## 3.7 Random Access Sequences with dependently typed `FingerTrees`

## 3.8 Verbatim text

Verbatim text can be included using `\begin{verbatim}` and `\end{verbatim}`. I normally use a slightly smaller font and often squeeze the lines a little closer together, as in:

```
GET "libhdr"
```



```

GLOBAL { count:200; all }

LET try(ld, row, rd) BE TEST row=all
                        THEN count := count + 1
                        ELSE { LET poss = all & ~(ld | row | rd)
                              UNTIL poss=0 DO
                                { LET p = poss & -poss
                                  poss := poss - p
                                  try(ld+p << 1, row+p, rd+p >> 1)
                                }
                              }
                        }

LET start() = VALOF
{ all := 1
  FOR i = 1 TO 12 DO
  { count := 0
    try(0, 0, 0)
    writef("Number of solutions to %i2-queens is %i5*n", i, count)
    all := 2*all + 1
  }
  RESULTIS 0
}

```

## 3.9 Tables

Here is a simple example<sup>1</sup> of a table.

| Left<br>Justified | Centred | Right<br>Justified |
|-------------------|---------|--------------------|
| First             | A       | XXX                |
| Second            | AA      | XX                 |
| Last              | AAA     | X                  |

There is another example table in the proforma.

## 3.10 Simple diagrams

---

<sup>1</sup>A footnote



# **Chapter 4**

## **Evaluation**

### **4.1 Printing and binding**

If you have access to a laser printer that can print on two sides, you can use it to print two copies of your dissertation and then get them bound by the Computer Laboratory Bookshop. Otherwise, print your dissertation single sided and get the Bookshop to copy and bind it double sided.

Better printing quality can sometimes be obtained by giving the Bookshop an MSDOS 1.44 Mbyte 3.5" floppy disc containing the Postscript form of your dissertation. If the file is too large a compressed version with zip but not gnuzip nor compress is acceptable. However they prefer the uncompressed form if possible. From my experience I do not recommend this method.

#### **4.1.1 Things to note**

- Ensure that there are the correct number of blank pages inserted so that each double sided page has a front and a back. So, for example, the title page must be followed by an absolutely blank page (not even a page number).
- Submitted postscript introduces more potential problems. Therefore you must either allow two iterations of the binding process (once in a digital form, falling back to a second, paper, submission if necessary) or submit both paper and electronic versions.

- There may be unexpected problems with fonts.

## **4.2 Further information**

See the Computer Lab's world wide web pages at URL:  
<http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/TeXdoc/TeXdocs.html>

# **Chapter 5**

## **Conclusion**

I hope that this rough guide to writing a dissertation is  $\LaTeX$  has been helpful and saved you time.