

Implicit automata in typed λ -calculi: regular functions

Cécilia PRADIC (Swansea University)

j.w.w. Lê Thành Dũng (a.k.a. Tito) NGUYỄN (ÉNS Lyon)

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The untyped λ -calculus

Syntax

Defined inductively, with x ranging over variables

$$t, u ::= x \mid \lambda x.t \mid t u$$

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- An algebra for anonymous *functions*
- The core functional programming language

$$\lambda x.t \simeq x \mapsto t$$

Real-world examples of extensions: Scheme, ML, Haskell...

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- Introduced by Alonzo Church in the 30s
- An algebra for anonymous *functions*
- The core functional programming language
- Turing-complete

$$\lambda x.t \simeq x \mapsto t$$

Real-world examples of extensions: Scheme, ML, Haskell...

Some λ -terms

Examples

- The identity function $\lambda x. x$
- Composition $\lambda f g x. f (g x)$
- Church numeral $\underline{2} = \lambda s z. s (s z)$
- Stranger things... $\lambda x. x x$

Some technical details:

- Equality up to renaming of bound variables α -conversion
- Notations: $\lambda x y. t = \lambda x. \lambda y. t$ and $t u v = (t u) v$
- Capture-avoiding substitution $t[u/x]$
 $x[t/x] = t$ $(t u)[v/x] = t[v/x] u[v/x]$ $(\lambda y. t)[u/x] = \lambda y. t[u/x]$ ($x \neq y, y \notin FV(u)$)

Computing with the pure λ -calculus

One-step β -reduction

\rightarrow_β is the closure under congruence of

$$(\lambda x.t) u \rightarrow_\beta t[u/x]$$

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- Call a λ -term t **normal** if $t \not\rightarrow_\beta$

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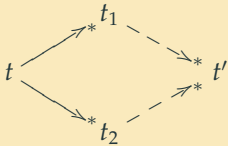
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Theorem

\rightarrow^* is confluent



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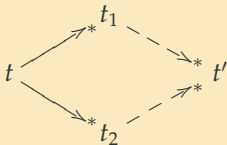
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Theorem

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\rightsquigarrow Well-behaved notion of computation

- Each term reduce to ≤ 1 normal form
- Independent of the evaluation strategy
- Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda s. \underline{1} s (\underline{1} s) &\rightarrow_\beta \lambda s. (\lambda z. s z) (\underline{1} s) \\ &\rightarrow_\beta \lambda s. (\lambda z. s z) (\underline{1} s) \\ &\rightarrow_\beta \lambda s. (\lambda z. s z) (\lambda z. s z) \\ &\rightarrow_\beta \lambda s. s (s z) \end{aligned}$$

Rationale

Classify well-behaved sets of programs

- Practical motivations
- Proof-theoretical motivations

Crash-free programs

Curry-Howard correspondence

Type systems

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All type systems for λ -calculus **hereafter** will satisfy the following

Subject reduction (SR)

If $t \rightarrow_{\beta} u$ and t has type A ($t : A$), then so does u

“Types are invariant under computation”

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“Types are invariant under computation”

Strong normalization (SN)

If $t : A$, then t will always reduce to a normal form.

“All typed programs terminate (no matter what is the evaluation strategy)”

Simply-typed λ -calculus

Simple types

$$A, B ::= o \mid A \rightarrow B$$

o is a fixed ground type

Typing rules

- Variable

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, x : A, \Gamma' \vdash x : A}$$

- λ -abstraction

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash t : B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. t : A}$$

- Application

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash u : A}{\Gamma \vdash t u : A}$$

Simple types

$$A, B ::= X \mid \forall X. A \mid A \rightarrow B$$

X is a type variable

Typing rules

STLC rules with

- \forall -intro (X free in Γ)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A}{\Gamma \vdash t : \forall X. A}$$

- \forall -elim

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \forall X. A}{\Gamma \vdash t : A[B/X]}$$

- SN much harder to prove
- Convenient for programming

Requires impredicativity

Church encoding of strings

Impredicative encodings

- The type of booleans Bool

$$\forall X. X \rightarrow X \rightarrow X$$
$$\underline{\text{true}} = \lambda x y. x \quad \underline{\text{false}} = \lambda x y. y$$

- The type of natural numbers \mathbb{N}

$$\forall X. (X \rightarrow X) \rightarrow X \rightarrow X$$

- The type of binary strings Str

$$\forall X. (X \rightarrow X) \rightarrow (X \rightarrow X) \rightarrow X \rightarrow X$$

Church encoding $w \mapsto \underline{w}$ of strings $\{a, b\}^*$ into Str

$$abba \quad \mapsto \quad \lambda a b e. a (b (b (a e)))$$

Church encoding of strings

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Consequence of SN

For every $t : \text{Str}$, there is $w \in \{a, b\}^*$ s.t. $t \rightarrow^* \underline{w}$

Affine/Linear λ -calculus

Resource-aware decomposition of STLC/System F.

Affine/Linear types

$$A, B ::= !A \mid A \otimes B \mid A \multimap B \mid \dots$$

- Terms of type $A \multimap B$ use their arguments at most/exactly once

$$\frac{}{x : A \vdash x : A} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A \multimap B \quad \Delta \vdash u : A}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash t u : B}$$

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- $!$ allows duplication and discarding

$$!A \multimap !A \otimes !A$$

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\rightsquigarrow Encode $A \rightarrow B$ as $!A \multimap B$

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Example

Str is isomorphic to

$$\text{Str}^L = \forall X. !(X \multimap X) \multimap !(X \multimap X) \multimap X \multimap X$$

but certainly not to $\forall X. (X \multimap X) \multimap (X \multimap X) \multimap X \multimap X$

Implicit computational complexity

Problems

Fix a programming language and a type $\text{Str} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

\rightsquigarrow class of functions implemented by terms $t : \text{Str} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$?

- Landmark paper: safe recursion

PTIME [Bellantoni-Cook, 1992]

- A few characterizations based on linear λ -calculi

LLL/ μ ELL2 for **PTIME** for instance [Girard 1996, Baillot 2005]

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Un(i)typed λ -calculus	\simeq	recursive functions
System F	\simeq	PA2-definable recursive functions

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\rightsquigarrow What about STLC?

Impredicative encodings in STLC

A slight wrinkle: quantification unavailable

- Define $\text{Str}[A] = (A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$
 $\text{Bool}[A] = A \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$

Definition

We call a language $L \subseteq \{a, b\}^*$ definable in STLC iff there exists

- a simple type A
- a simply-typed λ -term $t : \text{Str}[A] \rightarrow \text{Bool}[A]$

such that for every $w \in \{a, b\}^*$,

$$t \underline{w} \rightarrow^* \underline{\text{true}} \quad \text{iff} \quad w \in L$$

- Note that if $t : \text{Str}[A] \rightarrow \text{Bool}[A]$, then $t : \text{Str} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$ in System F

\rightsquigarrow SN guarantees $t \underline{w} \rightarrow^* \underline{\text{true}}$ or $t \underline{w} \rightarrow^* \underline{\text{false}}$ for every $w \in \{a, b\}^*$

Hillebrand and Kanellakis' result

Theorem [Hillebrand and Kanellakis, 1996]

The STLC definable languages are the regular languages.

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- Interpret types as finite sets with $\llbracket o \rrbracket = \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$
- At the level of λ -terms, $t : A$ yields $\llbracket t \rrbracket \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$

Set inductively $\llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket = \llbracket B \rrbracket^{\llbracket A \rrbracket}$

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- Note that $w \mapsto wa$ is definable by a term $c_a : \text{Str}[A] \rightarrow \text{Str}[A]$
- Build a DFA $(Q, \llbracket \epsilon \rrbracket, \delta, F)$

$$Q = \llbracket \text{Str}[A] \rrbracket \quad \delta(q, a) = \llbracket c_a \rrbracket(q) \quad q \in F \Leftrightarrow \llbracket t \rrbracket(q) = \llbracket \text{true} \rrbracket$$

What about $\text{Str} \rightarrow \text{Str}$?

Definition

We call a function $f: \{a, b\}^* \rightarrow \{a, b\}^*$ **definable in STLC** iff there is

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- But we do not know more at the moment

Simplification: the affine case

We now turn to affine λ -calculus and set

$$\text{Str}^L[A] = !(A \multimap A) \multimap !(A \multimap A) \multimap A \multimap A$$

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- a **!**-free linear type A (i.e., $!o$ or $\text{Str}^L[o]$ unavailable)
- a simply-typed **affine** λ -term $t: \text{Str}^L[A] \rightarrow \text{Str}^L[o]$

such that for every $u, v \in \{a, b\}^*$,

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such that for every $u, v \in \{a, b\}^*$,

$$t \underline{u} \rightarrow^* \underline{v} \quad \text{iff} \quad f(u) = v$$

- Same niceness properties as for STLC-definable

Theorem [Nguyễn & P.]

f is regular a *regular function*

\iff

f is definable in the affine STLC

\iff

f is definable in the linear STLC with additives $\oplus, \&$

Regular functions: main theorem for string

Theorem [Nguyễn & P.]

$$\begin{aligned} & f \text{ is regular a } \textit{regular function} \\ & \iff \\ & f \text{ is definable in the affine STLC} \\ & \iff \\ & f \text{ is definable in the linear STLC with additives } \oplus, \& \end{aligned}$$

Regular functions are a classical topic, many equivalent definitions...

One of them: **copyless streaming string transducers** [Alur & Černý 2010]

↪ sounds suspiciously like affine types!

Single-state streaming string transducers

Definition

- Finite set of Σ^* -valued *registers* e.g. $R = \{X, Y\}$
- Initial values $R \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ e.g. $X_{\text{init}} = Y_{\text{init}} = \varepsilon$
- *Register update function* e.g. $a \mapsto \begin{cases} X := Xa \\ Y := aY \end{cases} \quad b \mapsto \begin{cases} X := Xb \\ Y := bY \end{cases} \quad c \mapsto \begin{cases} X := aba \\ Y := YabaX \end{cases}$
- “output function” e.g. $\text{out} = XY$

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Execution over $abaa$: **start** with

$$X = \varepsilon \quad Y = \varepsilon$$

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Execution over $abaa$:

$$X = a \quad Y = a$$

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- “output function” e.g. $\text{out} = XY$

Execution over $abaa$:

$$X = ab \quad Y = ba$$

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Execution over $abaa$:

$$X = aba \quad Y = aba$$

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- “output function” e.g. **out** = XY

Execution over $abaa$: $f(abaa) = abaaaaaba$

$$X = abaa \quad Y = aaba$$

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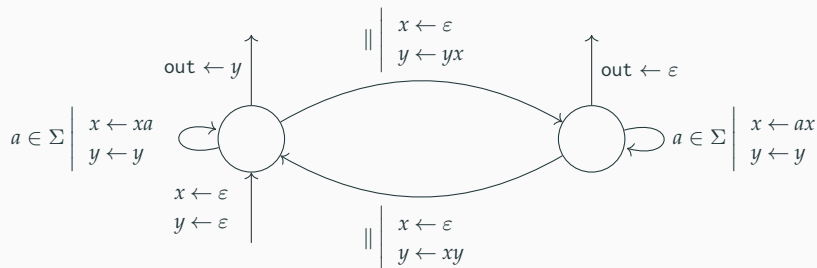
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$$X = abaa \quad Y = aaba$$

f restricted to $\{a, b\}^*$: corresponds to $w \mapsto w \cdot \text{reverse}(w)$

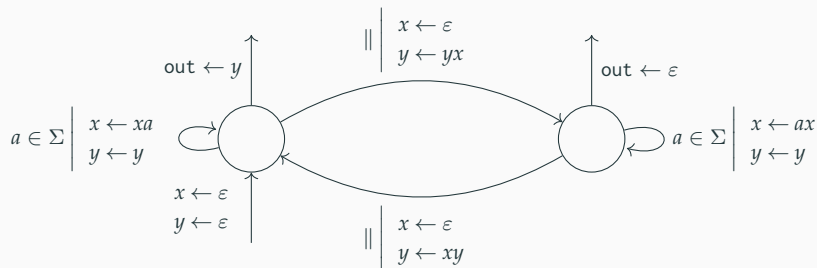
Stateful streaming string transducers

SSTs can also have *states*: their memory is $Q \times (\Sigma^*)^R$ (with $|Q| < \infty$)



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Copylessness restriction

Each register appears *at most once* on RHS of \leftarrow

(for each fixed input letter, at most once among all the associated \leftarrow)

Intuition: memory $M = Q \otimes \Sigma^* \otimes \dots \otimes \Sigma^*$, transitions $M \multimap M$

($Q \cong 1 \oplus \dots \oplus 1$, $\text{concat} : \Sigma^* \otimes \Sigma^* \multimap \Sigma^*$)

Categorical automata

A framework for “single-pass” automata [Colcombet & Petrişan 2017]

- internal memory = object of a *category* \mathcal{C}
- transitions = morphisms (and [letter \mapsto transition] = functor $\mathcal{T}_\Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$)

$$\mathcal{T}_\Sigma = \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \xrightarrow{a \in \Sigma} \bullet \longrightarrow \bullet \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$$

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Formally

A streaming setting \mathfrak{C} with output X is a tuple $(\mathcal{C}, \top, \perp, out)$ with

- \mathcal{C} a category
- \top and \perp objects of \mathcal{C}
- $out : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(\top, \perp) \rightarrow X$ a set-theoretic map

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(abusively called \mathcal{C} -automata in the sequel)

Categorical automata: simple examples

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Some examples in the wild:

- DFAs: $\mathcal{C} = \text{Finset}$, $\top = 1$, $\perp = 2$
- $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(n, k) = \mathbb{Q}[X_1, \dots, X_n]^k = \text{polynomial automata}$
- Exercise: $\mathcal{C} = \text{the Lawvere theory of the string}$, $\top = 1$, $\perp = t$

SSTs as categorical automata

The register category with output alphabet Σ

- **Objects:** finite sets R, S think register variables
- **Morphisms:** $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{R}}(R, S) = \text{maps } S \rightarrow (R + \Sigma)^*$ corresponding to copyless register affectations

$$\sum_{s \in S} |f(s)|_r \leq 1$$

- Monoidal with $\otimes = +$
- Free affine monoidal category over an object $\Sigma^* = \{\bullet\}$, morphisms $\varepsilon, a : \mathbf{I} \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ for $a \in \Sigma$ and $cat : \Sigma^* \otimes \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$
- For the streaming setting, take $\top = \mathbf{I} = 0$ and $\perp = \Sigma^* = \{\bullet\}$

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Definition of the free finite coproduct completion \mathcal{C}_{\oplus}

- **Objects:** formal finite sums $\bigoplus_{u \in U} C_u$ of objects of \mathcal{C}
- **Morphisms:** $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}_{\oplus}}(\bigoplus_u C_u, \bigoplus_v D_v) = \prod_u \sum_v \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}}(C_u, D_v)$

- Morphisms $\bigoplus_{q \in Q} R \rightarrow \bigoplus_{q \in Q} R$ correspond to transitions in a SST
- Canonical embedding $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\oplus}$ allows to lift streaming settings

Compiling into higher-order transducers

Transductions definable in linear λ -calculus can be turned into automata over a category \mathcal{L} of purely linear λ -terms (w/ const $f_c : o \multimap o$ for $c \in \Sigma$)

Claim

\mathcal{L} -automata compute the same string functions as λ -terms.

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Proof strategy for linear λ -definable \implies regular function

Define a *functor* $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_\oplus$ preserving enough structure

Useful fact: there is a canonical functor from \mathcal{L} to any *symmetric monoidal closed category* with (co)products

Unfortunately \mathcal{R}_\oplus is **not** monoidal closed...

Toward a monoidal closed category

So far, we encountered:

- \mathcal{L} : category of purely linear λ -terms (w/ $\text{const } f_c : o \multimap o$ for $c \in \Sigma$)
- \mathcal{R} : category of finite sets of registers and copyless assignments
- \mathcal{R}_\oplus : free finite coproduct completion of the latter (add states)

Now consider:

- the free finite *product* completion: $\mathcal{C} \mapsto \mathcal{C}_\& = ((\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}})_\oplus)^{\text{op}}$

Objects: formal products $\&_x C_x$

- the composite completion $\mathcal{C} \mapsto \mathcal{C}_\& \mapsto (\mathcal{C}_\&)_\oplus$

Objects: formal sums of products $\bigoplus_u \&_x C_{u,x}$

similar to de Paiva's *Dialectica* categories **DC**, think $\exists u. \forall x. \varphi(u, x)$

Goals toward our main theorem

- Structure: $(\mathcal{R}_\&)_\oplus$ has finite products and is monoidal closed
- Conservativity: $(\mathcal{R}_\&)_\oplus$ -automata and \mathcal{R}_\oplus -automata are equivalent

Structure (1): generic remarks $(\mathcal{C}_{\&})_{\oplus}$

Tensorial products can be lifted to the completions

- The new tensorial products satisfy the additional laws

$$A \otimes (B \& C) \equiv (A \otimes B) \& (A \otimes C) \quad A \otimes (B \oplus C) \equiv (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C)$$

- In particular, $(\mathcal{C}_{\&})_{\oplus}$ has distributive cartesian products

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Lemma

If \mathcal{C} is symmetric monoidal and \mathcal{C}_{\oplus} has the internal homs $A \multimap B$ for all $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$, then $(\mathcal{C}_{\&})_{\oplus}$ is symmetric monoidal closed.

$$\left(\bigoplus_{u \in U} \bigwedge_{x \in X_u} A_x \right) \multimap \left(\bigoplus_{v \in V} \bigwedge_{y \in Y_v} B_y \right) = \bigwedge_{u \in U} \bigoplus_{v \in V} \bigwedge_{y \in Y_v} \bigoplus_{x \in X_u} A_x \multimap B_y$$

Structure (2): combinatorics on strings

Lemma

\mathcal{R}_\oplus has the internal homs $A \multimap B$ for all $A, B \in \mathcal{R}$.

The construction appears in the original SST paper [Alur & Černý 2010] without the categorical vocabulary.

$$\begin{cases} X := abXcY \\ Y := ba \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow \text{shape} \begin{cases} X := Z_1XZ_2Y \\ Y := Z_3 \end{cases} + \text{parameters } Z_1 = ab, \dots$$

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Conclusion

$(\mathcal{R}_\&)_\oplus$ is symmetric monoidal closed (and almost affine).

Conservativity

Lemma

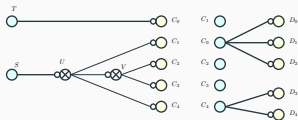
$(\mathcal{C}_{\&})_{\oplus}$ automata are equivalent to non-deterministic \mathcal{C}_{\oplus} automata.

A uniformization (\sim determinization) theorem is enough to conclude

Conservativity

$(\mathcal{R}_{\&})_{\oplus}$ -automata are equivalent to standard SSTs.

- Uniformization already known [Alur & Deshmuk 2011]
- Argument implicitly based on monoidal closure!



Theorem

For any monoidal category \mathcal{C} , if \mathcal{C}_{\oplus} has all the internal homsets $A \multimap B$ for $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$, then $(\mathcal{C}_{\&})_{\oplus}$ -automata and \mathcal{C}_{\oplus} -automata are equivalent.

equivalently: ND \mathcal{C}_{\oplus} -automata can be uniformized

Characterization of string-to-string regular functions

Just discussed:

Today's main theorem [Nguyễn & P.]

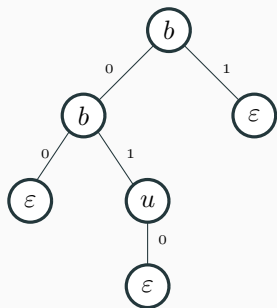
regular string function \iff definable by some $t : \text{Str}_\Gamma[A] \multimap \text{Str}_\Sigma$
in ILL with A purely linear

Some thoughts:

- Non-trivial technical arguments, for good reasons λ -terms compose easily
- More conceptual POV on the uniformization argument? Is \multimap overkill?
- The category of register: an **affine clone** of the PROP of the string
 \rightarrow linear clone + $\oplus \& \Rightarrow$ smcc

Regular tree-to-tree functions

Over ranked alphabets such as e.g. $\Sigma = \{b : 2, u : 1, \varepsilon : 0\}$



$$b(b(\varepsilon, u(\varepsilon)), \varepsilon)$$

$$\lambda b u \varepsilon. b (b \varepsilon (u \varepsilon)) \varepsilon : \text{Tree}_\Sigma$$

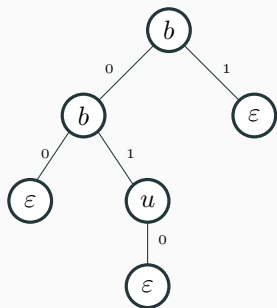
$$\text{Tree}_\Sigma = (o \multimap o \multimap o) \rightarrow (o \multimap o) \rightarrow o \rightarrow o$$

Main theorem for trees [Nguyễn & P.]

regular *tree* function \iff definable by some $t : \text{Tree}_\Gamma[A] \multimap \text{Tree}_\Sigma$
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Important: additive connectives need to be included!

Why are we including additive connectives?

Additives are required for trees

Copyless streaming tree transducers \subset regular *tree* functions; conjectured to be *strict*.
To recover an equality: ad-hoc relaxation called “single use restriction”.

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Principled explanation via linear logic:

just allow the *additive conjunction* in the internal memory!

$$\text{e.g.} \quad M = Q \otimes \Sigma^* \otimes (\Sigma^* \& \Sigma^*) = \bigoplus_{q \in Q} \Sigma^* \otimes (\Sigma^* \& \Sigma^*)$$

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Categorical tree transducers

- Streaming settings: now **symmetric monoidal** categories, no \top , bottom-up processing
- \mathcal{R} is built using the same conceptual recipe as for strings:

Affine clone of the free PROP generated by the output alphabet

The register category with output alphabet Σ : details

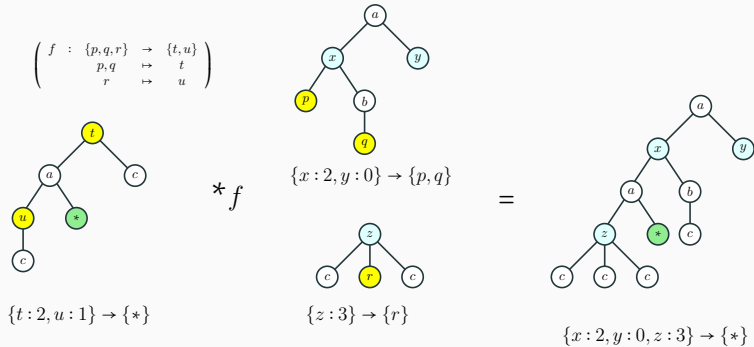
- **Objects:** finite ranked alphabet R, S
- **Morphisms:** $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{R}}(R, S) =$ copyless transitions, registers contain trees with leaf holes, constructors of Σ usable

Example: a morphism $\{r : 0, s : 2\}$ to $\{r' : 1\}$ with $\Sigma = \{b : 2, \varepsilon : 0\}$

- a λ -term of type $\underbrace{(o \multimap o \multimap o)}_b \rightarrow \underbrace{o}_\varepsilon \rightarrow \underbrace{o}_r \multimap \underbrace{(o \multimap o \multimap o)}_s \multimap \underbrace{o \multimap o}_{r'}$
- A tree with order 2 holes over the ranked alphabet r, s, r', b, ε subject to affinity constraints on r, s and the input of r' .

Composition of the corresponding multicategory in action

- Easier to describe as a multicategory, i.e. a variant of categories with multiple inputs and a single output



- Moving to a category \mathcal{R} = freely complete by saying that each morphisms partition the output according to the output

To bottom-up ranked tree transducers

Easy observation

$\mathcal{R}_{\oplus\&} \simeq$ macro tree transducers \Rightarrow characterizes regular functions

Mostly bureaucratic details: multi-hole registers vs single-hole, single-use restriction vs $\&$.

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What's left: how to interpret \multimap ? \rightsquigarrow same reasoning as for strings:

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\mathcal{R}_{\oplus} has the internal homs $A \multimap B$ for all $A, B \in \mathcal{R}$.

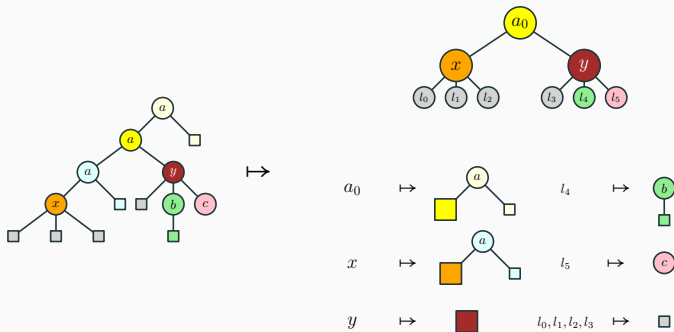
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Internal homs in \mathcal{R}_\oplus in pictures

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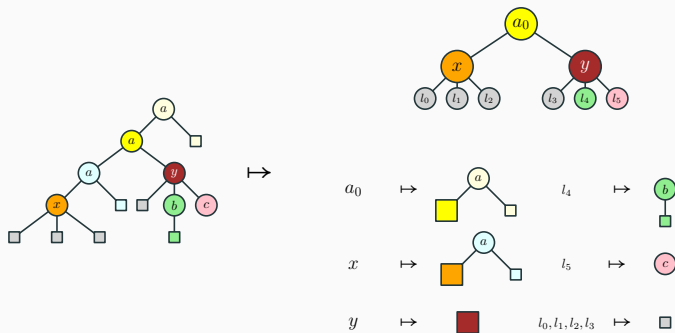
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Curiosity question: does it appear already in the literature on operads as a special case of something?

Conclusion

What happened here:

- Connections between Church encodings and automata
- Application of categorical semantics (Dialectica, geometry of interaction (GoI))
- A generic uniformization-like construction $(\mathcal{C}_{\&})_{\oplus} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\oplus}$ for monoidal \mathcal{C} with certain homsets

Some take-aways:

- Important ingredient in uniformization: monoidal closure
- Additive connectives are important for trees
- Links between planar GoI, two-way transducers and first-order fragments

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- Links between planar GoI, two-way transducers and first-order fragments
 - Further links with tree-walking automata?

Conclusion

Broader picture

$\text{Str}_\Sigma[A] \multimap \text{Bool}$ with A linear (adapted as needed):

λ -calculus	languages	status
simply typed	regular	✓ [Hillebrand & Kanellakis 1996]
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non-commutative linear or affine	star-free	✓

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non-commutative affine	first-order regular fn.	✓?
linear/affine with additives	regular functions	✓
parsimonious	polyregular	??
simply typed	variant of CPDA???	???

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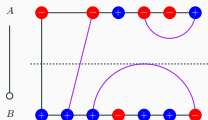
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Thanks for listening! Questions? 34/34

Dropping the additives for string-to-string functions

String functions without additive

- Still an equivalence, but non-trivial (solution via Krohn–Rhodes)
 - Allows GoI-style interpretation in categories of diagrams
- ↔ Interpretation as bidirectional automata (w/o registers)



Planar diagrams

↔

FO fragments

Dropping the additives

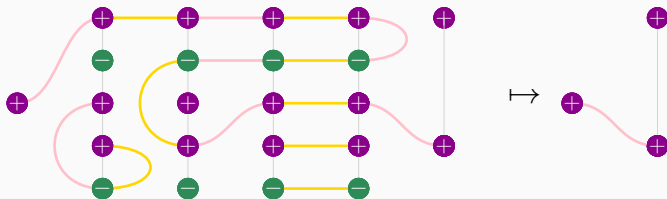
- Allows GoI-style interpretation in categories of diagrams

($\cong \mathbf{Int}(\mathbf{FinPartInj})$)

\rightsquigarrow Interpretation as two-way automata

[Hines 2003]

Define regular languages



Consequence (not interesting)

Every linear term $t : \mathbf{Str}_\Sigma[A] \multimap \mathbf{Bool}$ with $A \rightarrow$ -free defines a regular language.

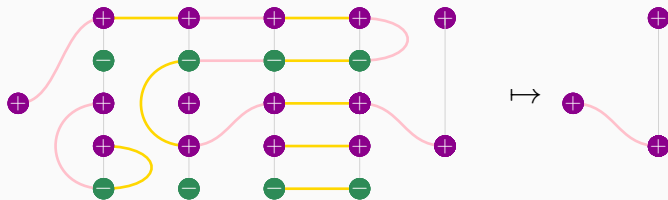
Dropping the additives and commutativity

- Allows GoI-style interpretation in categories of **planar** diagrams

↔ Interpretation as two-way **planar** automata

[Hines 2003,2006]

Define **star-free** languages

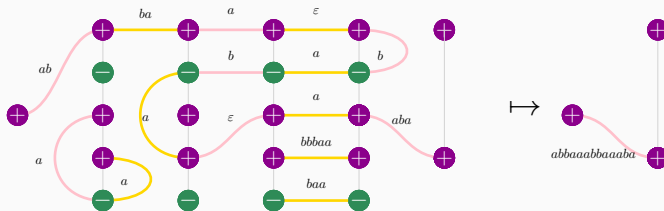


Consequence [Nguyễn, P. 2020]

Every **planar** linear term $t : \text{Str}_\Sigma[A] \multimap \text{Str}$ with $A \rightarrow$ -free defines a star-free language.

Dropping the additives and commutativity

- Allows GoI-style interpretation in categories of planar **labelled** diagrams
- ↪ Interpretation as two-way planar **transducers** (2DFTs; w/o registers) [Hines 2003,2006]
Define **first-order** regular functions



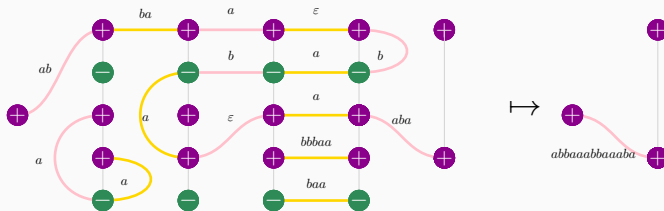
Consequence

Every **planar** linear term $t : \text{Str}_\Sigma[A] \multimap \text{Str}$ with $A \rightarrow$ -free defines a FO-transduction.

Alas, planar linear terms are much weaker than FO-transductions (preserve Parikh images)

Dropping the additives and commutativity

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Conjecture

Every planar **affine** term $t : \text{Str}_\Sigma[A] \multimap \text{Str}$ with $A \rightarrow$ -free defines a FO-transduction.

The converse holds (main ingredient for the proof: the Krohn-Rhodes theorem)

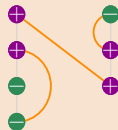
A category of planar diagrams

- Interpret purely linear non-commutative λ -terms in a monoidal closed category
- We consider a non-commutative refinement of Geometry of Interaction

(well-known model of linear logic)

A compact closed category of planar diagrams

- **Objects:** words in $\{+, -\}^*$
- **Morphisms** $u \rightarrow v$: graphs over $|u| + |v|$ with
 - degree ≤ 1 for every node
 - polarity restrictions
 - planarity restriction



To compute the composition of two morphisms, follow the paths (and forget the middle component)

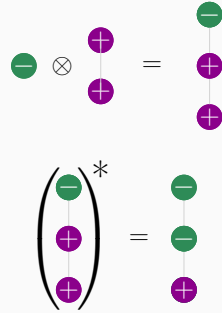


Compact-closure and interpretation of the λ -calculus

Structure to interpret the linear λ -calculus

- Monoidal product $A \otimes B$ given by concatenation
- Duals A^* : reverse and flip polarities
- Monoidal closure by setting $A \multimap B = A^* \otimes B$
- Interpretation of types $\llbracket A \rrbracket$ by induction with $\llbracket o \rrbracket = +$

(injective interpretation of booleans)



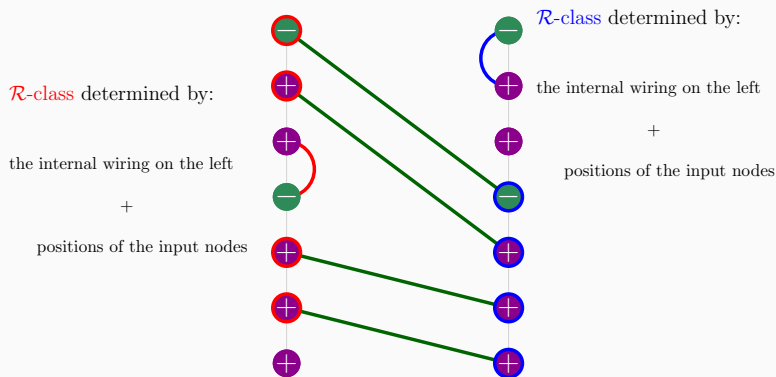
Examples

$$\llbracket ((o \multimap o) \multimap o \multimap o) \multimap ((o \multimap o) \multimap o) \multimap o \rrbracket = - + + - - - + +$$

$$\llbracket \lambda f. \lambda g. f(\lambda x. x)(g(\lambda x. x)) \rrbracket =$$

Aperiodicity

To conclude, we need to show that every $(\text{Hom}(A, A), \circ)$ is finite and aperiodic for every A

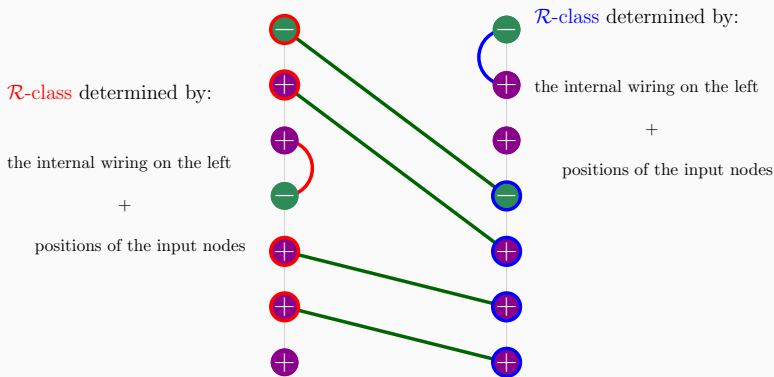


Therefore: planar $\implies \mathcal{H}$ -trivial

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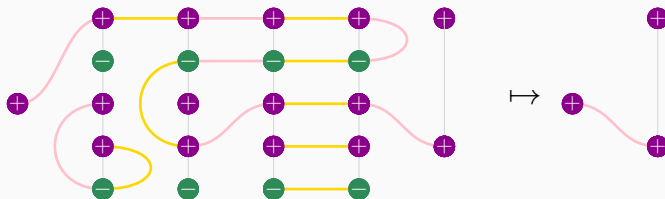


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- More elementary proofs w/o Green relations possible (e.g. order+Kleene's theorem)
- Planarity restriction is essential (consider )

Diagrams and two-way automata

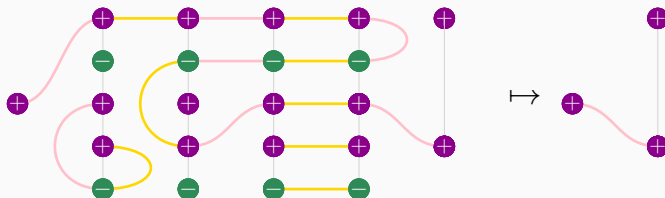
Non-planar diagrams (with crossings): reminiscent of runs in 2DFAs!



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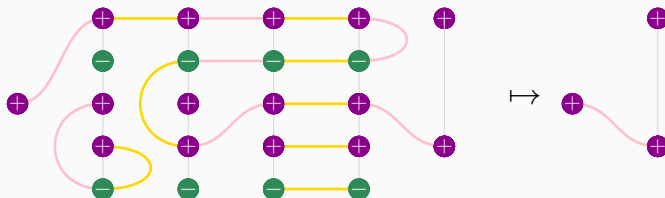
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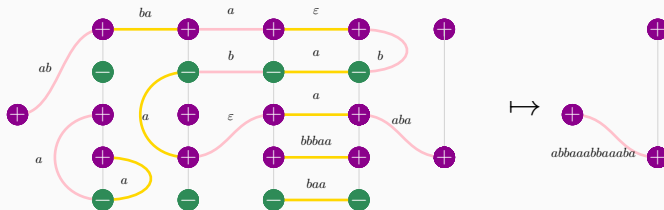
Theorem

Star-free languages are exactly those recognized by planar 2DFAs.

More generally: first-order transductions

Consider a richer category of diagrams where edges are labelled by output words

(labels of compositions given by concatenation)



Much like before, corresponding notion of (planar) 2DFTs.

Theorem

First-order transduction (FO regular functions) = reversible planar 2DFTs.

- aperiodic 2DFTs = FO regular functions [Carton&Dartois 2015]

(hence reversible planar 2DFTs \subseteq FO-transductions)

- FO transduction \subseteq reversible planar 2DFTs: compose + Krohn—Rhodes