

# How to Represent It in Agda

## On Proof-Relevant Relations and Evidence-Aware Programming

Andreas Abel<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
Chalmers and Gothenburg University, Sweden

29th Agda Implementors' Meeting  
Ochanomizu University, Tokyo, Japan  
13 March 2019

# Proof-relevance and evidence manipulation

- Curry-Howard-Isomorphism (CHI):
  - propositions-as-types
  - proofs-as-programs
- Dependently-typed programming languages implement the CHI: e.g. Agda, Coq, Idris, Lean
- Allows maintenance and processing of evidence.
- For practical impact, we need a also programming culture; c.f. GoF, *Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software*.

# List membership

- Membership  $a \in as$  inductively definable:

$$\text{zero} \frac{}{a \in (a :: as)} \quad \text{suc} \frac{a \in as}{a \in (b :: as)}$$

- Proofs of  $a \in as$  are indices of  $a$  in  $as$  (unary natural numbers).
- Two different derivations of  $3 \in (3 :: 7 :: 3 :: [])$ , correspond to the occurrences of 3:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{zero} & : 3 \in (3 :: 7 :: 3 :: []) \\ \text{suc}(\text{suc zero}) & : 3 \in (3 :: 7 :: 3 :: []) \end{aligned}$$

# Sublists

- Inductive sublist relation  $as \subseteq bs$ :

$$\text{skip } \frac{as \subseteq bs}{as \subseteq (b :: bs)} \quad \text{keep } \frac{as \subseteq bs}{(a :: as) \subseteq (a :: bs)} \quad \text{done } \frac{}{\square \subseteq \square}$$

- A proof of  $as \subseteq bs$  describes which elements of  $bs$  should be dropped (`skip`) to arrive at  $as$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{skip (keep done)} & : (a :: \square) \subseteq (a :: a :: \square) \\ \text{keep (skip done)} & : (a :: \square) \subseteq (a :: a :: \square) \end{aligned}$$

- $\subseteq$  is a category.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{id} & : as \subseteq as && \text{reflexivity} \\ \_ \circ \_ & : (as \subseteq bs) \rightarrow (bs \subseteq cs) \rightarrow (as \subseteq cs) && \text{transitivity} \end{aligned}$$

- Single extension

$$\text{sgw} : as \subseteq (a :: as)$$

## Membership in sublists

- Membership is inherited from sublists:

$$\text{reindex} : (as \subseteq bs) \rightarrow (a \in as) \rightarrow (a \in bs)$$

adjusts the index of  $a$  in  $as$  to point to the corresponding  $a$  in  $bs$ .

- Trivium: `reindex` is a functor from  $\_ \subseteq \_$  to  $(a \in \_) \rightarrow (a \in \_)$ .
- In category speak: `reindex` is a presheaf on  $\subseteq^{\text{op}}$ .

# Types, sets, propositions, singletons

- Our meta-language is (Martin-Löf) type theory:  $a \in as$  and  $as \subseteq bs$  are *types*, their proofs are *inhabitants*.
- Following Vladimir Voevodsky†, types are stratified by their *h-level* into singletons (0), propositions (1), sets (2), groupoids (3), . . . .
  - ① A type with a unique inhabitant is a *singleton* (“contractible”).
  - ② A type with at most one inhabitant is a *proposition*. In other words, a type with contractible equality is a proposition.
  - ③ A type with propositional equality is a *set*.
  - ④ A type with a set equality is a *groupoid*.

A type is of h-level  $n + 1$  if its equality is of h-level  $n$ .

- $as \subseteq as$  is a singleton; so is  $a \in (a :: [])$ .
- $as \subseteq []$  is a proposition; so is  $a \in (b :: [])$ .
- In general  $a \in as$  and  $as \subseteq bs$  are sets.

# Natural deduction

- Inference rules of intuitionistic implicative logic  $\Gamma \vdash A$ :

$$\text{var } \frac{A \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash A} \quad \text{app } \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash B} \quad \text{abs } \frac{(A :: \Gamma) \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B}$$

- Derivations of  $\Gamma \vdash A$  are simply-typed lambda-terms with variables represented by de Bruijn indices  $x : (A \in \Gamma)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} t &:= \text{app} (\text{var zero}) (\text{var} (\text{suc zero})) & : & (A \Rightarrow B :: A :: [] \vdash B) \\ \text{abs} (\text{abs } t) & & : & ([] \vdash A \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow B) \\ \text{abs} (\text{abs} (\text{var} (\text{suc zero}))) & & : & A \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow A) \\ \text{abs} (\text{abs} (\text{var zero})) & & : & A \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow A) \end{aligned}$$

# Weakening

- Inferences stay valid under additional hypotheses (monotonicity):

$$\text{weak} : (\Gamma \subseteq \Delta) \rightarrow (\Gamma \vdash A) \rightarrow (\Delta \vdash A)$$

adjust indices of hypotheses (`var`)

- `weak` is a functor from  $\_ \subseteq \_$  to  $(\_ \vdash A) \rightarrow (\_ \vdash A)$ .

## List.All: true on every element

- All  $P$   $as$ : Predicate  $P$  holds on all elements of list  $as$ .

$$[] \frac{}{\text{All } P []} \quad (- :: -) \frac{P a \quad \text{All } P as}{\text{All } P (a :: as)}$$

- Proofs of  $\text{All } P as$  are decorations of each list element  $a$  with further data of type  $P a$ .
- Soundness is retrieval of this data, completeness tabulation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{lookup} & : \text{All } P as \rightarrow a \in as \rightarrow P a \\ \text{tabulate} & : (\forall a. a \in as \rightarrow P a) \rightarrow \text{All } P as \end{aligned}$$

- Universal truth is passed down to sublists:

$$\text{select} : as \subseteq bs \rightarrow \text{All } P bs \rightarrow \text{All } P as$$

# Substitution

- Inhabitants of  $\text{All}(\Gamma \vdash \_) \Delta$  are
  - proofs that all formulas in  $\Delta$  are derivable from hypotheses  $\Gamma$
  - substitutions from  $\Delta$  to  $\Gamma$
- Parallel substitution

$$\text{subst} : \text{All}(\Gamma \vdash \_) \Delta \rightarrow \Delta \vdash A \rightarrow \Gamma \vdash A$$

replaces hypotheses  $A \in \Delta$  by derivations of  $\Gamma \vdash A$ .

- $\text{Subst } \Gamma \Delta := \text{All}(\Gamma \vdash \_) \Delta$  is a category:

$$\text{id} : \text{Subst } \Gamma \Gamma$$

$$\text{comp} : \text{Subst } \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow \text{Subst } \Delta \Phi \rightarrow \text{Subst } \Gamma \Phi$$

- Singleton substitution

$$\text{sg} : \Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow \text{Subst } \Gamma (A :: \Gamma)$$

# Term equality and normal forms

- For  $t, t' : (\Gamma \vdash A)$  define  $\beta\eta$ -equality  $t =_{\beta\eta} t'$  as the least congruence over

$$\beta \frac{t : (A :: \Gamma \vdash B) \quad u : \Gamma \vdash A}{\text{app}(\text{abs } t) u =_{\beta\eta} \text{subst}(\text{sg } u) t}$$

$$\eta \frac{t : (\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B)}{t =_{\beta\eta} \text{abs}(\text{app}(\text{weak sgw } t) (\text{var zero}))}$$

- $\beta\eta$ -normality  $\text{Nf } t$  and neutrality  $\text{Ne } t$  (where  $o$  base formula):

$$\text{var} \frac{x : A \in \Gamma}{\text{Ne}(\text{var } x)} \quad \text{app} \frac{\text{Ne } t \quad \text{Nf } u}{\text{Ne}(\text{app } t u)}$$

$$\text{ne} \frac{\text{Ne } t}{\text{Nf } t} \quad t : (\Gamma \vdash o) \quad \text{abs} \frac{\text{Nf } t}{\text{Nf}(\text{abs } t)}$$

# Normalization

- Having a normal/neutral form:

$$\text{NF } t = \exists t' =_{\beta\eta} t. \text{Nf } t'$$

$$\text{NE } t = \exists t' =_{\beta\eta} t. \text{Ne } t'$$

- Interpretation of formulas as types:

$$\llbracket A \rrbracket_{\Gamma} : \Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow \text{Type}$$

$$\llbracket o \rrbracket_{\Gamma} t = \text{NE } t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket A \Rightarrow B \rrbracket_{\Gamma} t &= \forall \Delta (w : \Gamma \subseteq \Delta)(u : \Delta \vdash A) \\ &\rightarrow \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\Delta} u \\ &\rightarrow \llbracket B \rrbracket_{\Delta} (\text{app (weak } w \text{ } t) u) \end{aligned}$$

- Soundness and completeness (combine to normalization):

$$\text{sound} : (t : \Gamma \vdash A)(\sigma : \text{Subst } \Delta \Gamma) \rightarrow \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket_{\Delta} \sigma \rightarrow \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\Delta} (\text{subst } \sigma \text{ } t)$$

$$\text{complete} : \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\Gamma} t \rightarrow \text{NF } t$$

# Formal languages

- A context-free grammar (CFG) be given by
  - terminals  $a, b, c, \dots$  (words  $u, v, w, \dots$ )
  - non-terminals  $X, Y, Z, \dots$
  - sentential forms  $\alpha, \beta$ , e.g.  $XabY$
  - rules  $r$  given by a type family  $\_ ::= \_$ . We write  $r : (X ::= \alpha)$  if  $X \rightarrow \alpha$  is a rule of the CFG.
- Word membership  $w \in \alpha$ :

$$\text{red} \frac{X ::= \alpha \quad w \in \alpha}{w \in X}$$

$$\varepsilon \frac{}{\varepsilon \in \varepsilon}$$

$$\text{tm} \frac{w \in \beta}{aw \in a\beta}$$

$$\text{nt} \frac{u \in X \quad v \in \beta}{uv \in X\beta}$$

- Proofs of  $w \in \alpha$  are parse trees.

# Earley parser

- Judgement  $u.X \rightsquigarrow v.\beta$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{init} \frac{}{\varepsilon.S \rightsquigarrow \varepsilon.S} \\ \text{scan} \frac{u.X \rightsquigarrow v.a\beta}{u.X \rightsquigarrow va.\beta} \\ \text{predict} \frac{u.X \rightsquigarrow v.Y\beta \quad Y ::= \alpha}{uv.Y \rightsquigarrow \varepsilon.\alpha} \\ \text{combine} \frac{u.X \rightsquigarrow v.Y\beta \quad uv.Y \rightsquigarrow w.\varepsilon}{u.X \rightsquigarrow vw.\beta} \end{array}$$

- To parse  $w \in S$  derive  $\varepsilon.S \rightsquigarrow w.\varepsilon$ .
- Soundness: If  $u.X \rightsquigarrow v.\beta$  and  $w \in \beta$  then  $vw \in X$ .
- Completeness: If  $u.X \rightsquigarrow v.\alpha\beta$  and  $w \in \alpha$  then  $u.X \rightsquigarrow vw.\beta$ .

## Conclusion

- Many CHI design patterns to discover!
- Current trend: revisit parsing theory from a type-theoretic perspective.
- Edwin Brady: bootstrapping Blodwen in Idris.
- Large project: bootstrap Agda.