First-order guarded coinduction in Coq

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September 2019

Coinduction

A method to define and reason about potentially infinite objects.

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```
CoInductive Stream (A : Type) : Type :=
| cons : A -> Stream A -> Stream A.

CoInductive EqSt {A : Type} : Stream A -> Stream A -> Prop :=
| eqst : forall x s1 s2, EqSt s1 s2 ->
                           EqSt (cons x s1) (cons x s2).

Notation "A ≈ B" := (EqSt A B) (at level 70).
```

Coinduction in Coq

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Lemma lem_refl : forall {A : Type} (s : Stream A), s ≈ s.
Proof.
  cofix CH.
  eauto.
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No more subgoals.
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Error:
Recursive definition of CH is ill-formed.
In environment
CH : forall (A : Type) (s : Stream A), s == s
Unguarded recursive call in "CH".
Recursive definition is: "CH".
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Qed.
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Qed.
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Recursive definition of CH is ill-formed.
In environment
CH : forall (A : Type) (s : Stream A), s == s
A : Type
s : Stream A
a : A
s0 : Stream A
Unguarded recursive call in "CH A (cons a s0)".
Recursive definition is:
"fun (A : Type) (s : Stream A) => match s as s0 return (s0 == s0
                                  | cons a s0 => CH A (cons a s0
                                  end".
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Finally works!

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Finally works!

But this is just a very simple example…

Coinduction in Coq

```
CoInduction lem_refl :
   forall {A : Type} (s : Stream A), s ≈ s.
Proof.
  ccrush.
Qed.
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A coinduction principle for Coq

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- Corresponds closely to informal "pen-and-paper" proofs by coinduction.
  - Silva, Kozen, "Practical coinduction", MSCS 2017

Lemma

$\approx$ *is reflexive.*

Proof.

Let s be a stream. We have $s = \texttt{cons}\, x\, s'$. By the coinductive hypothesis $s' \approx s'$. Hence $\texttt{cons}\, x\, s' \approx \texttt{cons}\, x\, s'$ by the definition of $\approx$. $\square$

An informal coinductive proof

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$\approx$ *is reflexive.*

Proof.

Let s be a stream. We have $s = \texttt{cons}\, x\, s'$. By the coinductive hypothesis $s' \approx^{r} s'$. Hence $\texttt{cons}\, x\, s' \approx^{g} \texttt{cons}\, x\, s'$ by the definition of $\approx^{g}$. $\square$

An informal coinductive proof

Lemma

If $\approx^r$ is reflexive then $\approx^g$ is reflexive.

Proof.

Let s be a stream. We have $s = \texttt{cons}\, x\, s'$. By the coinductive hypothesis $s' \approx^r s'$. Hence $\texttt{cons}\, x\, s' \approx^g \texttt{cons}\, x\, s'$ by the definition of $\approx^g$. $\square$

Red and green types

For each coinductive type $I : \Pi x_1 : \sigma_1 \ldots \Pi x_k : \sigma_k.*$ we need to define two associated types: the red type $I^r : \Pi x_1 : \sigma_1 \ldots \Pi x_k : \sigma_k.*$ and the green type $I^g : \Pi x_1 : \sigma_1 \ldots \Pi x_k : \sigma_k.*$.

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- I^r is the type of red values (proofs) obtained from the coinductive hypothesis.
  - Ensures guarded use of the coinductive hypothesis: prohibits case analysis on red values or using red values with functions/lemmas expecting values of type I.
- I^g is the type of green values (proofs) that need to be produced in the conclusion.
  - Ensures productivity: to obtain a green value from a red value a constructor must be applied.

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  - But it cannot be converted back!
  - It can be converted to a "larger" green value by applying a constructor.

Green types

The green type I^g is an inductive type such that for every constructor

$$c : \forall x_1 : \tau_1 \ldots \forall x_n : \tau_n . I s_1 \ldots s_k$$

of I there is a corresponding green constructor

$$c^g : \forall x_1 : \tau_1[I^r/I] \ldots \forall x_n : \tau_n[I^r/I] . I^g s_1 \ldots s_k .$$

Green types

- For the type of streams `Stream` the green type $\texttt{Stream}^g$ is:

$$\texttt{Stream}^g (A : *) : * := \texttt{cons}^g : A \to \texttt{Stream}^r\, A \to \texttt{Stream}^g\, A$$

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- For the bisimilarity `EqSt` on streams the green type $\texttt{EqSt}^g$ is:

$$\begin{aligned}&\texttt{EqSt}^g(A:*):\texttt{Stream}\,A \to \texttt{Stream}\,A \to * :=\\ &\quad \texttt{eqst}^g : \forall x : A. \forall s_1, s_2 : \texttt{Stream}\,A.\\ &\qquad\qquad \texttt{EqSt}^r\, A\, s_1\, s_2 \to \texttt{EqSt}^g\, A\, (\texttt{cons}\, x\, s_1)\, (\texttt{cons}\, x\, s_2)\end{aligned}$$

First coinduction principle

For $\varphi = \forall x_1 : \tau_1 \ldots \forall x_n : \tau_n . I s_1 \ldots s_k$ we write
$\varphi(I') = \forall x_1 : \tau_1 \ldots \forall x_n : \tau_n . I' s_1 \ldots s_k$.

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Principle (First coinduction principle – informal)

Let I be a coinductive type and $\varphi(I)$ a first-order statement. If $\varphi(I^r)$ implies $\varphi(I^g)$ then $\varphi(I)$ holds.

First coinduction principle

- Let
$$I(\vec{p} : \vec{\rho}) : \forall \vec{a} : \vec{\alpha}.* :=$$
$$c_1 : \forall \vec{x_1} : \vec{\tau_1}.I\vec{p}\vec{u_1} \mid \ldots \mid c_k : \forall \vec{x_k} : \vec{\tau_k}.I\vec{p}\vec{u_k}$$
be a coinductive declaration.

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  be a coinductive declaration.

- The <u>red type declaration</u> $\mathrm{Decl}^r(I)$ for I is

$$\begin{aligned} I^r &: \forall \vec{p} : \vec{\rho}.\forall \vec{a} : \vec{\alpha}.*, \\ \iota_I &: \forall \vec{p} : \vec{\rho}.\forall \vec{a} : \vec{\alpha}.I\vec{p}\vec{a} \to I^r\vec{p}\vec{a}, \\ \iota_I^g &: \forall \vec{p} : \vec{\rho}.\forall \vec{a} : \vec{\alpha}.I^g\vec{p}\vec{a} \to I^r\vec{p}\vec{a}. \end{aligned}$$

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- The <u>green type declaration</u> $\mathrm{Decl}^g(I)$ for I is
$$\begin{aligned} I^g(I^r : \tau_{I^r})(\vec{p}:\vec{\rho}) : \forall\vec{a}:\vec{\alpha}.* :=& \\ & c_1^g : \forall\vec{x_1}:\vec{\tau_1}[I^r/I].I^g I^r\vec{p}\vec{u_1} \mid \ldots \mid c_k^g : \forall\vec{x_k}:\vec{\tau_k}[I^r/I].I^g I^r\vec{p}\vec{u_k} \end{aligned}$$
where $\tau_{I^r} = \forall\vec{p}:\vec{\rho}.\forall\vec{a}:\vec{\alpha}.*$ is the arity of the red type I^r.
- For readability, we omit the I^r parameter to I^g.

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- Let t' be the normal form of t.
- Assume t' satisfies the weak case restriction.
- Then

$$E; \Gamma \vdash \mathtt{cofix}(t'') : \varphi(I)$$

where

$$t'' = t'[I/I^r, \mathtt{id}/\iota_I, \mathtt{id}/\iota_I^g, I/I^g, c_1/c_1^g, \ldots, c_k/c_k^g]$$

and $\mathtt{id} = \lambda \vec{p}. \lambda \vec{a}. \lambda x : I \vec{p} \vec{a}. x$ and $c_1, \ldots, c_k$ are the only constructors of I.

The translation – example

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of $(\forall x : I.R^r x) \to \forall x : I.R^g x$ gets translated to a syntactically guarded proof

$$\texttt{cofix}(\lambda f : (\forall x : I.Rx).\lambda x : I.\texttt{case}(x, \lambda x.Rx, \lambda x'.rx'(fx'))).$$

of $\forall x : I.Rx$.

Correctness of the translation

- Let φ, Γ, E be first-order.
- Assume $E, \mathrm{Decl}^g(I); \Gamma, \mathrm{Decl}^r(I) \vdash t : \varphi(I^r) \to \varphi(I^g)$.
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Proof.

- By induction on t'.
- The weak case restriction allows us to partially recover the subformula property for normal proofs of first-order statements.
- Tedious to carry out this proof in detail, but not mathematically difficult.

$\square$

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    $$\mathtt{cofix}(\lambda f : \forall y.Ry.\lambda y.\mathtt{case}(y, \lambda y.Ry, \lambda x.rx(F(Rx)(fx))))$$

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    may be obtained using the first coinduction principle.
- The weak case restriction: satisfied by most practically occurring proofs.
  - Important exception: many proofs using the setoid library for rewriting.

The second coinduction principle

If

$$\varphi = \forall x_1 : \tau_1 \dots \forall x_m : \tau_m . \exists y : I t_1 \dots t_p . I_1 s^1_1 \dots s^1_{k_1} y \wedge \dots \wedge I_n s^n_1 \dots s^n_{k_n} y$$

where y does not occur in s^j_i, then by $\varphi(I'; I'_1, \dots, I'_n)$ we denote φ with $I, I_1, \dots, I_n$ in the target replaced by $I', I'_1, \dots, I'_n$ respectively (other occurrences of $I, I'_1, \dots, I'_n$ in $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_m$ are not affected).

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where y does not occur in s_i^j, then by $\varphi(I'; I_1', \ldots, I_n')$ we denote φ with $I, I_1, \ldots, I_n$ in the target replaced by $I', I_1', \ldots, I_n'$ respectively (other occurrences of $I, I_1', \ldots, I_n'$ in $\tau_1, \ldots, \tau_m$ are not affected).

Principle (Second coinduction principle – informal)

Let $I, I_1, \ldots, I_n$ be coinductive types and $\varphi(I; I_1, \ldots, I_n)$ a first-order statement. If $\varphi(I^r; I_1^r, \ldots, I_n^r)$ implies $\varphi(I^g; I_1^g, \ldots, I_n^g)$ then $\varphi(I; I_1, \ldots, I_n)$ holds.

Coq plugin

```
CoInduction lem_refl :
   forall {A : Type} (s : Stream A), s ≈ s.
Proof. ccrush. Qed.

CoInduction lem_sym :
   forall {A : Type} (s1 s2 : Stream A), s1 ≈ s2 -> s2 ≈ s1.
Proof. ccrush. Qed.

CoInduction lem_trans :
   forall {A : Type} (s1 s2 s3 : Stream A),
      s1 ≈ s2 -> s2 ≈ s3 -> s1 ≈ s3.
Proof. destruct 1; ccrush. Qed.
```

Coq plugin

```
CoInductive Lex (R : relation nat) :
   Stream nat -> Stream nat -> Prop :=
| lex_1 : forall x y s1 s2,
            R x y -> Lex R (cons x s1) (cons y s2)
| lex_2 : forall x s1 s2, Lex R s1 s2 ->
            Lex R (cons x s1) (cons x s2).

CoFixpoint plus s1 s2 := match s1, s2 with
  | cons x1 t1, cons x2 t2 => cons (x1 + x2) (plus t1 t2) end.

Lemma lem_plus : forall x y s1 s2,
  plus (cons x s1) (cons y s2) = cons (x + y) (plus s1 s2).
Proof. peek_eq. Qed.

CoInduction lem_monotone :
  forall (s1 s2 t1 t2 : Stream nat),
    Lex lt s1 t1 -> Lex lt s2 t2 ->
      Lex lt (plus s1 s2) (plus t1 t2).
Proof. destruct 1, 1; do 2 rewrite lem_plus; ccrush. Qed.
```

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- Coq plugin available: `https://github.com/lukaszcz/coinduction`.