

**Relational Parametricity**  
*for*  
**Higher Kinds**

Robert Atkey  
robert.atkey@strath.ac.uk

*University of Strathclyde*  
*Glasgow, UK*

5th September 2012

# Higher Kinds

# Higher Kinded Polymorphism

*System F*: Quantification over *types*:

$$\forall \alpha. \text{List } \alpha \rightarrow \text{List } \alpha$$

*System F $\omega$* : Quantification over *type operators*:

$$\forall_{* \rightarrow *} f. \forall_* \alpha. f \alpha \rightarrow f \alpha$$

and type-level  $\lambda$ -abstraction:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{List} &= \lambda \alpha : * \rightarrow *. \forall_* \beta. \beta \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta \\ \text{Monad} &= \lambda m : * \rightarrow *. (\forall_* \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow m \alpha) \times \\ &\quad (\forall_* \alpha \beta. m \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow m \beta) \rightarrow m \beta) \end{aligned}$$

Present in Haskell, Scala, and ML (via the module system)

# Church Encodings

## *Booleans*

$$Bool = \forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$$

## *Naturals*

$$Nat = \forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$$

## *Lists*

$$List\ \alpha = \forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta$$

*and* initial algebras, (co)products, final coalgebras, existentials.

*but* only *weakly* initial or final :  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{no uniqueness} \\ \text{no reasoning principle} \end{array} \right.$

# Church Encodings with Higher Kinds

## *Lists*

$$List = \lambda \alpha : *. \forall_* \beta. \beta \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta$$

## *Vectors*

$$Vec = \lambda \alpha n : *. \forall_{* \rightarrow *} \beta. \beta Z \rightarrow \\ (\forall_* n. \alpha \rightarrow \beta n \rightarrow \beta (S n)) \rightarrow \beta n$$

## *Equality*

$$Eq_{\kappa} = \lambda \alpha \beta : \kappa. \forall_{\kappa \rightarrow \kappa \rightarrow *} f. (\forall_{\kappa} \gamma. f \gamma \gamma) \rightarrow f \alpha \beta$$

but only *weakly* initial (or final) :  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{no uniqueness} \\ \text{no reasoning principle} \end{array} \right.$

# Relational Parametricity

(Reynolds, 1983)

## Relational Parametricity

*For example,*

$$e : \forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$$

let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets, and let  $R \subseteq X \times Y$

if we have  $z_1 \in X, z_2 \in Y$  such that:

$$(z_1, z_2) \in R$$

and  $s_1 : X \rightarrow X, s_2 : Y \rightarrow Y$  such that:

$$\forall (a, b) \in R. (s_1 a, s_2 b) \in R$$

then

$$(e [X] z_1 s_1, e [Y] z_2 s_2) \in R$$

*Preservation of Relations*

*implies* initiality, and  $(\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha) \cong \mathbb{N}$

# Relational Parametricity

## *Relational interpretations of types*

$$\mathcal{R}[\Theta \vdash A] \theta \theta' \rho \subseteq \mathcal{T}[\Theta \vdash A] \theta \times \mathcal{T}[\Theta \vdash A] \theta'$$

$$\mathcal{R}[\alpha] \rho = \rho(\alpha)$$

$$\mathcal{R}[A \rightarrow B] \rho = \{(f_1, f_2) \mid \forall (a_1, a_2) \in \mathcal{R}[A] \rho. (f_1 a_1, f_2 a_2) \in \mathcal{R}[B] \rho\}$$

$$\mathcal{R}[\forall \alpha. A] \rho = \{(x_1, x_2) \mid \forall X, Y, R \subseteq X \times Y.$$

$$(x_1 [X], x_2 [Y]) \in \mathcal{R}[A](\rho[\alpha \mapsto R])\}$$

## *Relational Parametricity*

*Identity Extension:*

$$\forall x, y \in \mathcal{T}[\Theta \vdash A] \theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad ((x, y) \in \mathcal{R}[\Theta \vdash A](\llbracket \Theta \rrbracket^\Delta \theta) \Leftrightarrow x = y)$$

*and Abstraction:*

$$\Theta \mid - \vdash e : A \quad \Rightarrow \quad \llbracket e \rrbracket \in \mathcal{T}[\Theta \vdash A] \theta$$



# Manufacturing Relationally Parametric Models

*Option I: find them*

Operational Models (Pitts, 2000)

# Manufacturing Relationally Parametric Models

## Option II: force them

Mutually define base and relational interpretations of types

(Reynolds, 1983) (Bainbridge *et al.*, 1990)

$$\mathcal{T}[\alpha]\theta = \theta(\alpha)$$

$$\mathcal{T}[A \rightarrow B]\theta = \mathcal{T}[A]\theta \rightarrow \mathcal{T}[B]\theta$$

$$\mathcal{T}[\forall\alpha.A]\theta = \{ x : \forall X. \mathcal{T}[A](\theta[\alpha \mapsto X])$$

$$| \forall X, Y, R \subseteq X \times Y.$$

$$\mathcal{R}[\tau](\Delta_\theta[\alpha \mapsto R]) (x A_1) (x A_2) \}$$

$$\mathcal{R}[\alpha]\rho = \rho(\alpha)$$

$$\mathcal{R}[A \rightarrow B]\rho = \{ (f_1, f_2) \mid \forall (a_1, a_2) \in \mathcal{R}[A]\rho. (f_1 a_1, f_2 a_2) \in \mathcal{R}[B]\rho \}$$

$$\mathcal{R}[\forall\alpha.\tau]\rho x y = \{ (x_1, x_2) \mid \forall X, Y, R \subseteq X \times Y.$$

$$(x [X], y [Y]) \in \mathcal{R}[\tau](\rho[\alpha \mapsto R]) \}$$

then :  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{prove Identity Extension} \\ \text{prove Abstraction} \end{array} \right.$

**Relational Parametricity**  
*for*  
**Higher Kinds**

# Relational Parametricity *for* Higher Kinds

*How to interpret kinds?*

Implicitly:

$$\llbracket * \rrbracket = \text{Set} \quad \text{and} \quad \llbracket * \rrbracket^R = (X, Y) \mapsto \mathcal{P}(X \times Y)$$

So let us try:

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket * \rrbracket &= \text{Set} \\ \llbracket \kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2 \rrbracket &= \llbracket \kappa_1 \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \kappa_2 \rrbracket \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \kappa \rrbracket^R &: \llbracket \kappa \rrbracket \times \llbracket \kappa \rrbracket \rightarrow \text{Set} \\ \llbracket * \rrbracket^R &= (X, Y) \mapsto \mathcal{P}(X, Y) \\ \llbracket \kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2 \rrbracket^R &= (F, G) \mapsto \forall X, Y. \llbracket \kappa_1 \rrbracket^R(X, Y) \rightarrow \llbracket \kappa_2 \rrbracket^R(FX, GY) \end{aligned}$$

# Relational Parametricity *for* Higher Kinds

## *Identity extension?*

Recall identity extension:

$$\forall x, y \in \mathcal{T}[\Theta \vdash A : *]\theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad ((x, y) \in \mathcal{R}[\Theta \vdash A : *](\llbracket \Theta \rrbracket^{\Delta\theta}) \Leftrightarrow x = y)$$

What is  $\llbracket * \rightarrow * \rrbracket^{\Delta}(F)$ ?

No good answer in general.

## *Solution*

build-in an “identity” for every semantic type operator  
require every semantic type operator to preserve identities

# Kinds as Reflexive Graphs

## *Reflexive Graph Categories*

(Hasegawa, 1994)

(Robinson and Rosolini, 1994)

(Dunphy and Reddy, 2004)

Let  $RG = \bullet \begin{matrix} \xleftarrow{\delta_0} \\ \xrightarrow{i} \\ \xrightarrow{\delta_1} \end{matrix} \bullet$  such that  $\delta_0 \circ i = id$  and  $\delta_1 \circ i = id$ .

Interpret kinds as elements of  $\text{Set}_1^{RG}$ .

## *Kinds as “Categories without Composition”*

A kind is interpreted as a pair of (large) sets  $O$  and  $R$ , with maps:

$$id : O \rightarrow R$$

$$src : R \rightarrow O$$

$$tgt : R \rightarrow O$$

Higher kinds are interpreted using the cartesian-closed structure.

# Interpretation of System $F\omega$

## *Interpretation of Kinds*

Kinds interpreted as “categories without composition”

$$\llbracket * \rrbracket = (\text{Set}, \{(A, B, R \subseteq A \times B) \mid A, B \in \text{Set}\})$$

## *Interpretation of Types*    $\Theta \vdash A : \kappa$

- interpreted as a functor “without composition”
  - actually, natural transformations in  $\text{Set}_1^{RG}$
- recreates the mutual induction used for System F

## *Interpretation of Terms*    $\Theta \mid \Gamma \vdash e : A$

- interpreted as a natural transformations “without composition”
- yields the standard abstraction theorem

**Applications**  
*of*  
**Relational Parametricity**  
*for*  
**Higher Kinds**



# Equality Types

## Specification

$\text{Eq}_\kappa : \kappa \rightarrow \kappa \rightarrow *$ , with

$$\text{refl}_\kappa : \forall_\kappa \alpha. \text{Eq}_\kappa \alpha \alpha$$

$$\text{elimEq}_\kappa : \forall_\kappa \alpha \beta. \text{Eq}_\kappa \alpha \beta \rightarrow \forall_{\kappa \rightarrow \kappa \rightarrow *} \rho. (\forall_\kappa \gamma. \rho \gamma \gamma) \rightarrow \rho \alpha \beta$$

with  $\beta$ - and  $\eta$ -laws.

## Implementation

$$\text{Eq}_\kappa = \lambda \alpha \beta : \kappa. \forall_{\kappa \rightarrow \kappa \rightarrow *} f. (\forall_\kappa \gamma. f \gamma \gamma) \rightarrow f \alpha \beta$$

$$\text{refl}_\kappa = \Lambda \alpha. \Lambda \rho. \lambda f. f [\alpha]$$

$$\text{elimEq}_\kappa = \Lambda \alpha \beta. \lambda e. \Lambda \rho. \lambda f. e [\rho] f$$

use relational parametricity to prove the  $\eta$ -law

# Existential Types

## Specification

For  $F : \kappa \rightarrow *$ ,  $\exists_{\kappa}\alpha. F\alpha$ , with

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pack}_{\kappa} &: \forall_{\kappa \rightarrow *} \rho. \forall_{\kappa} \alpha. \rho \alpha \rightarrow (\exists_{\kappa} \alpha. \rho \alpha) \\ \text{elimEx}_{\kappa} &: \forall_{\kappa \rightarrow *} \rho. \forall_{*} \beta. (\forall_{\kappa} \alpha. \rho \alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow (\exists_{\kappa} \alpha. \rho \alpha) \rightarrow \beta \end{aligned}$$

with  $\beta$ - and  $\eta$ -laws

## Implementation

$$\begin{aligned} \exists_{\kappa} \alpha. F\alpha &= \forall_{*} \beta. (\forall_{\kappa} \alpha. F\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta \\ \text{pack}_{\kappa} &= \Lambda \rho \alpha. \lambda x. \Lambda \beta. \lambda f. f [\alpha] x \\ \text{elimEx}_{\kappa} &= \Lambda \rho \beta. \lambda f e. e [\beta] f \end{aligned}$$

use relational parametricity to prove the  $\eta$ -law

# Higher-Kinded Initial Algebras

## Specification

For functors  $(F : (\kappa \rightarrow *) \rightarrow (\kappa \rightarrow *), fmap_F)$ ,  $\mu F : \kappa \rightarrow *$ , with

$$in_F : \forall \kappa \alpha. F(\mu F)\alpha \rightarrow (\mu F)\alpha$$

$$fold_F : \forall \kappa \rightarrow * \rho. (\forall \kappa \alpha. F\rho\alpha \rightarrow \rho\alpha) \rightarrow (\forall \kappa \alpha. (\mu F)\alpha \rightarrow \rho\alpha)$$

with  $\beta$ - and  $\eta$ -laws

## Implementation

$$\mu F = \lambda \alpha. \forall \kappa \rightarrow * \rho. (\forall \kappa \beta. F\rho\beta \rightarrow \rho\beta) \rightarrow \rho\alpha$$

$$fold_F = \Lambda \rho. \lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. \lambda x. x [\rho] f$$

$$in_F = \Lambda \gamma. \lambda x. \Lambda \rho. \lambda f. f [\gamma] (fmap_F [\mu F] [\rho] (fold_F [\rho] f) [\gamma] x)$$

use relational parametricity to prove the  $\eta$ -law

# GADTs

## *Generalised Algebraic Datatypes*

Example from Haskell:

```
data Z
data S a
data Vec :: * -> * -> * where
  VNil   :: Vec a Z
  VCons  :: a -> Vec a n -> Vec a (S n)
```

## *Encoding using Initial Algebras and Equality Types*

(Johann and Ghani, 2008)

$$\text{Vec} = \lambda\alpha. \mu(F\alpha) \quad \text{where}$$

$$F\alpha\rho n = \text{Eq}_* n Z + (\exists_* n'. \alpha \times \rho n' \times \text{Eq}_* n (S n'))$$

## Summary

# Summary

## *Relationally parametric model of System $F\omega$*

- { Kinds as reflexive graphs
- { Types as functors without composition
- { Constructed within impredicative CIC
- { Equality in parametric model implies observational equiv  
(in the paper)

## *Applications of Higher-kinded Parametricity*

- { Equality types
- { Existentials
- { Initial Algebras
- { Generalised Algebraic Datatypes
- { Natural number indexed types (in the paper)

## *Future work*

- { Extension to dependent types
- { Final coalgebras