

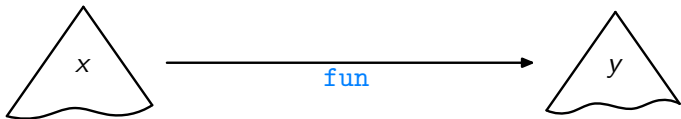
Lightweight Program Inversion

Janis Voigtländer

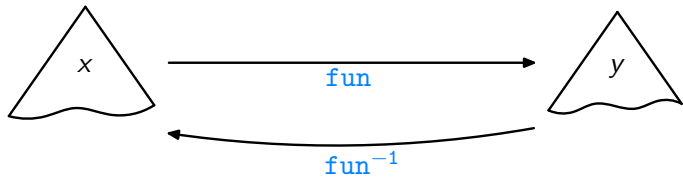
University of Bonn

Dutch HUG Day 2010

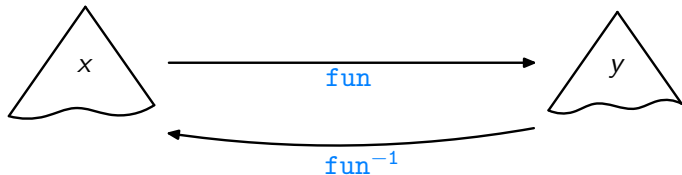
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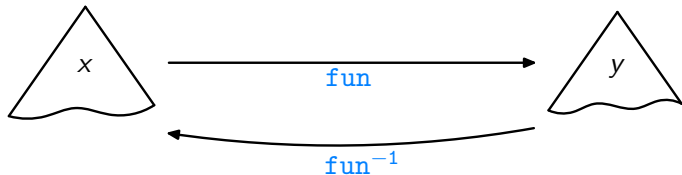


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- ▶ for every x , $\text{fun}^{-1}(\text{fun } x) = x$

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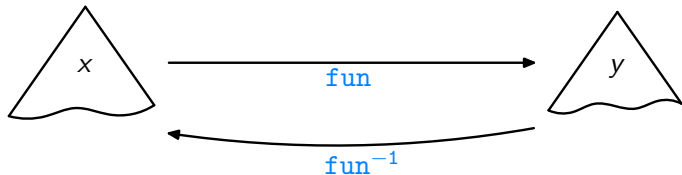


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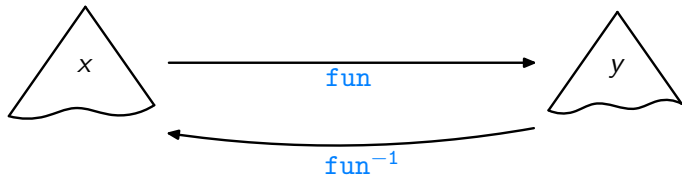
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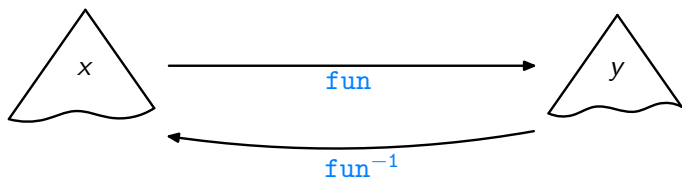
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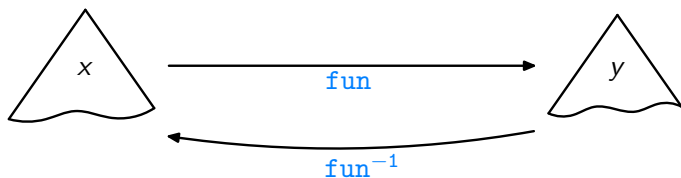
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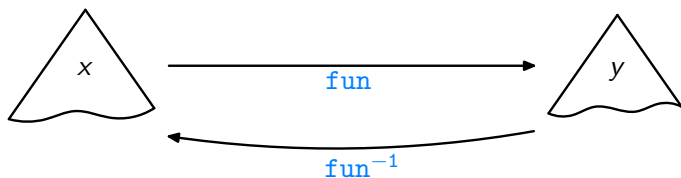
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- ▶ (1) not possible if fun is not injective
- ▶ (2) not possible if fun is not surjective
- ▶ even with appropriate side conditions, and/or requiring only one of (1) and (2), in general fun^{-1} not effectively computable from fun

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Making the problem simpler:

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Of course, *some* access to fun must be possible:

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Rules:

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Who will win?

Observation: If Bob has a winning strategy, he must be able to do without asking Alice for specific inputs up front, instead only provide a single definition of fun^{-1} that works for all fun .

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- ▶ Then, an appropriate xs could be identified via:

```
 $\text{fun}^{-1} :: [a] \rightarrow [a]$   
 $\text{fun}^{-1} ys = \text{let } n = \text{lengthInv } ys$   
              $t = [1..n]$   
              $h = \text{zip } (\text{fun } t) ys$   
             in  $\text{map } (\text{fromJust} \circ \text{flip lookup } h) t$ 
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Decomposing the Problem Further

How to implement `lengthInv`:

- ▶ If Bob had a function

`checkLength` :: `Int` → `[a]` → `Bool`

such that `checkLength n ys` checks whether there is an `xs` of length `n` with `fun xs = ys`, then he could write:

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`fun` $xs = xs \ ++ \ xs$

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Intuition: In `checkLength`, should check that not only has `fun [1..n]` the same length as `ys`, but also if two elements at positions i and j in `fun [1..n]` are equal, then for the corresponding positions in `ys`, $y_i = y_j$.

Some (Necessary) Restrictions

- ▶ Need to assume that elements in ys can be compared. Then:

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checkLength :: Eq a => Int -> [a] -> Bool
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```
checkLength n ys =
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```
  let t' = fun [1..n]
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- ▶ Need to assume that instances of Eq used are reflexive, transitive, and symmetric.

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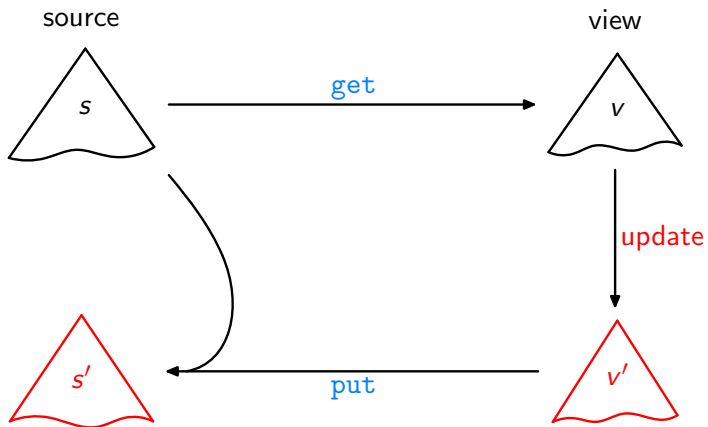
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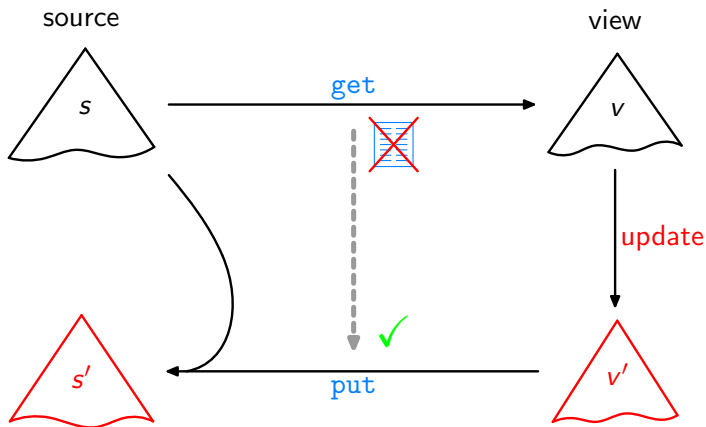
Exercises

1. Give an example of `fun` and `ys` where `fun-1 ys` is defined, but `fun (fun-1 ys) ≠ ys`.
2. Give an example of `fun` and `xs` where for `ys = fun xs`, `fun (fun-1 ys) ≠ ys`.
3. Give an example of `fun` and `xs` where `fun-1 (fun xs) ≠ xs`.
4. Actually prove that for every `xs`, `fun-1 (fun xs)` is defined, and that whenever `fun-1 ys` is defined, `fun (fun-1 ys) == ys`.
5. Generalize from lists to other data types.

Bidirectional Transformation



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Bidirectionalization for Free!

[V., POPL'09]

Don't forget to submit entries about your projects to the upcoming Haskell Communities and Activities Report!