

Aczel-Mendler Bisimulations in a Regular Category

CALCO'23, Indiana University Bloomington

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June 20th



Let's Start Easy:

LTSs, Strong Bisimulations, and Composition

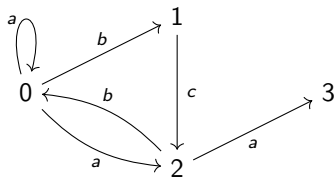
Transition Systems

Labelled Transition System:

A **TS** $T = (Q, \Delta)$ on the alphabet Σ is the following data:

- a set Q (of **states**) and
- a set of **transitions** $\Delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times Q$.

- $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$,
- $Q = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$,
- $\Delta = \{(0, a, 0), (0, b, 1), (0, a, 2), (1, c, 2), (2, b, 0), (2, a, 3)\}$.

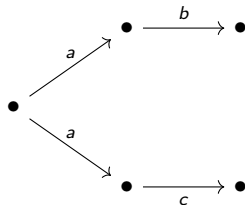
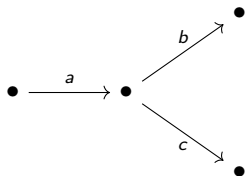


Strong Bisimulations of Transition Systems

Strong Bisimulations [Park81]:

A **strong bisimulation** between $T_1 = (Q_1, \Delta_1)$ and $T_2 = (Q_2, \Delta_2)$ is a relation $R \subseteq Q_1 \times Q_2$ such that:

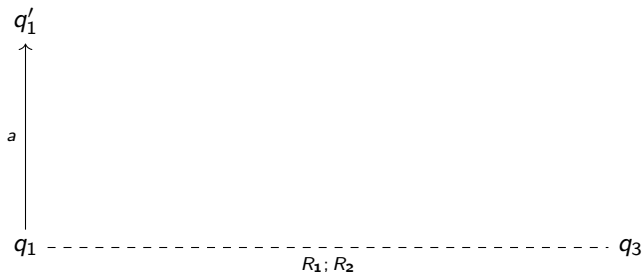
- (i) if $(q_1, q_2) \in R$ and $(q_1, a, q'_1) \in \Delta_1$ then there is $q'_2 \in Q_2$ such that $(q_2, a, q'_2) \in \Delta_2$ and $(q'_1, q'_2) \in R$ and
- (ii) if $(q_1, q_2) \in R$ and $(q_2, a, q'_2) \in \Delta_2$ then there is $q'_1 \in Q_1$ such that $(q_1, a, q'_1) \in \Delta_1$ and $(q'_1, q'_2) \in R$.



Strong Bisimulations are Closed under Composition

R_1 strong bisimulation between T_1, T_2 and R_2 strong bisimulation between T_2, T_3

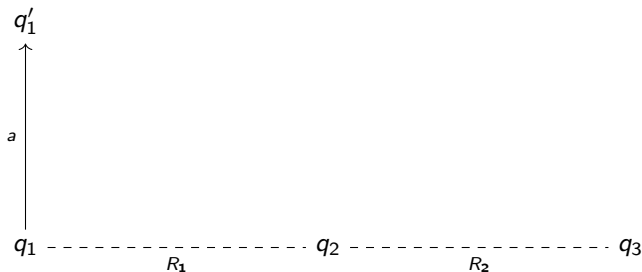
$R_1; R_2 = \{(q_1, q_3) \mid \exists q_2. (q_1, q_2) \in R_1 \wedge (q_2, q_3) \in R_2\}$ strong bisimulation between T_1, T_3 :



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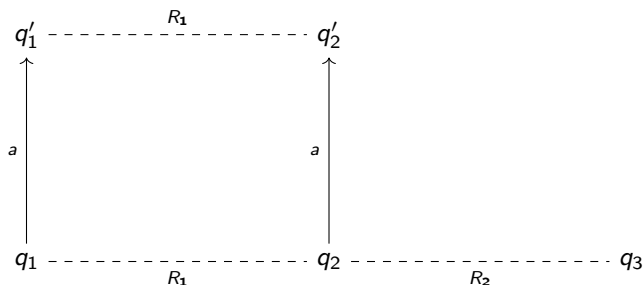
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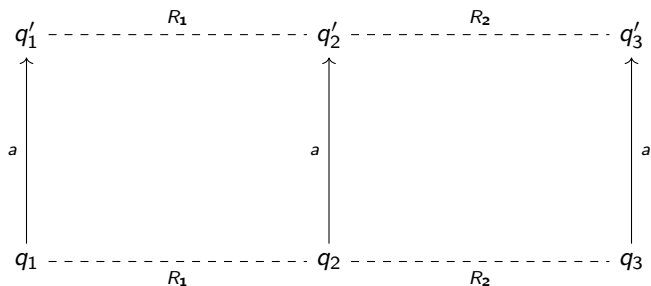
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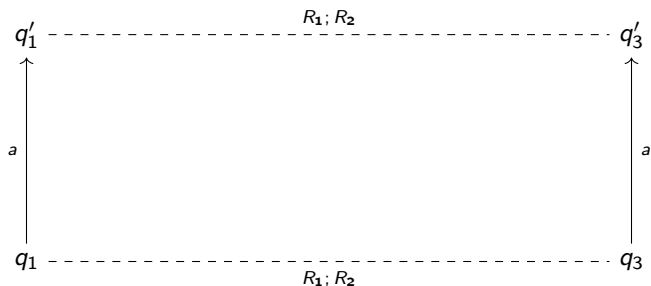
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Aczel-Mendler Bisimulations of Coalgebras

Transition systems, as coalgebras

Set of transitions, as functions:

There is a bijection between sets of transitions $\Delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times Q$ and functions of type:

$$\delta : Q \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times Q)$$

where $\mathcal{P}(X)$ is the powerset $\{U \mid U \subseteq X\}$.

Coalgebras:

Given an endofunctor $G : \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$, a **coalgebra** is the following data:

- an object $Q \in \mathcal{C}$ and
- a morphism $\delta : Q \longrightarrow G(Q)$ of \mathcal{C} .

For LTS: $\mathcal{C} = \mathbf{Set}$, $G = X \mapsto \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times X)$

Relations in a Category

Subobjects:

There is a preorder on monos with codomain X given by:

$$(u : U \twoheadrightarrow X) \sqsubseteq (v : V \twoheadrightarrow X) \iff \exists w : U \twoheadrightarrow V. u = v \cdot w.$$

A subobject of X is an equivalence class of monos $u : U \twoheadrightarrow X$ modulo $\sqsubseteq \cap \supseteq$.

Ex: in **Set**, subobjects are subsets, and \sqsubseteq is the inclusion

Relations:

A relation R from X to Y is a subobject of $X \times Y$.

Categories with Nice Relations: Regular Categories

Regular Categories:

A regular category is a finitely-complete category with a pullback-stable image factorization. In particular, it means it has a functorial pullback-stable (regular epi, mono)-factorization.

Ex: **Set**, any (quasi)topos, any abelian category, **Stone**, ...

Allegories of Relations:

Given a regular category \mathcal{C} , then objects of \mathcal{C} and relations between them form an allegory $\mathbf{Rel}(\mathcal{C})$, i.e.:

- it is a locally ordered 2-category,
- it has an anti-involution $(_)\dagger : \mathbf{Rel}(\mathcal{C})^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Rel}(\mathcal{C})$,
- local posets are meet-semilattices,
- it satisfies the modular law $(R; S) \cap T \sqsubseteq (R \cap (T; S^\dagger)); S$.

Composition of Relations

Take two relations $m_r : R \multimap X \times Y$ and $m_s : S \multimap Y \times Z$, the composition $m_{r;s} : R; S \multimap X \times Z$ is given by:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R \star S & \xrightarrow{\mu_2} & S \\ \mu_1 \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \pi_1 \cdot m_s \\ R & \xrightarrow{\pi_2 \cdot m_r} & Y \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R \star S & \xrightarrow{\langle \pi_1 \cdot m_r \cdot \mu_1, \pi_2 \cdot m_s \cdot \mu_2 \rangle} & X \times Z \\ & \searrow e_{r;s} & \nearrow m_{r;s} \\ & R; S & \end{array}$$

In Set:

- $R \star S = \{(x, y, z) \mid (x, y) \in R \wedge (y, z) \in S\}$,
- $R \star S \rightarrow X \times Z$ is given by $(x, y, z) \mapsto (x, z)$, and
- the image $R; S$ is $\{(x, z) \mid \exists y \in Y. (x, y) \in R \wedge (y, z) \in S\}$.

Aczel-Mendler Bisimulations

Aczel-Mendler Bisimulations:

A relation $r : R \rightrightarrows X \times Y$ is an AM-bisimulation from $\alpha : X \rightarrow FX$ to $\beta : Y \rightarrow FY$ if there is a morphism $W : R \rightarrow FR$ (witness) such that:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X \times Y & \xrightarrow{\alpha \times \beta} & F(X) \times F(Y) \\ & \nearrow r & & & \uparrow \langle F\pi_1, F\pi_2 \rangle \\ R & & & & \\ & \searrow W & FR & \xrightarrow{Fr} & F(X \times Y) \end{array}$$

In **Set**, for $F : X \mapsto \mathcal{P}(\Sigma \times X)$, AM-bisimulations are strong bisimulations:

- Fix $(x, y) \in R$, and $(a, x') \in \alpha(x)$.
- Commutativity means $(a, x') \in F(\pi_1 \cdot r) \cdot W(x, y)$, that is, there is y' such that $(a, (x', y')) \in W(x, y) \subseteq \Sigma \times R$, and $(x', y') \in R$.
- Commutativity means $(a, y') \in F(\pi_2 \cdot r) \cdot W(x, y) = \beta(y)$.

AM-Bisimulations are Closed under Composition?

Closure under composition:

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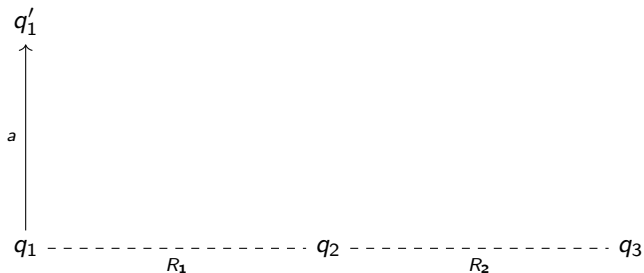
- F preserves weak pullbacks and
- \mathcal{C} has the regular axiom of choice, i.e., every regular epis are split.

AM-Bisimulations are Closed under Composition?

Closure under composition:

AM-bisimulations are closed under composition if:

- F preserves weak pullbacks and
- \mathcal{C} has the regular axiom of choice, i.e., every regular epis are split.



That was a choice of an intermediate state!

Proof

Starting with

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_1 & \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{r_1} X \times Y \\ \xrightarrow{W_1} FR_1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\alpha \times \beta} F(X) \times F(Y) \\ \xrightarrow{Fr_1} F(X \times Y) \end{array} \\ & & \uparrow \langle F\pi_1, F\pi_2 \rangle \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} R_2 & \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{r_2} Y \times Z \\ \xrightarrow{W_2} FR_2 \end{array} & \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\beta \times \gamma} F(Y) \times F(Z) \\ \xrightarrow{Fr_2} F(Y \times Z) \end{array} \\ & & \uparrow \langle F\pi_1, F\pi_2 \rangle \end{array}$$

we want W such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_1; R_2 & \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{r_1; r_2} X \times Z \\ \xrightarrow{W} F(R_1; R_2) \end{array} & \begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\alpha \times \gamma} F(X) \times F(Z) \\ \xrightarrow{F(r_1; r_2)} F(X \times Z) \end{array} \\ & & \uparrow \langle F\pi_1, F\pi_2 \rangle \end{array}$$

Proof

By definition of the composition

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_1 \star R_2 & \xrightarrow{\langle \pi_1 \cdot r_1 \cdot \mu_1, \pi_2 \cdot r_2 \cdot \mu_2 \rangle} & X \times Z \\ & \searrow e_{r_1; r_2} & \nearrow r_1; r_2 \\ & R_1; R_2 & \end{array}$$

Proof

By definition of the composition and the regular axiom of choice

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_1 \star R_2 & \xrightarrow{\langle \pi_1 \cdot r_1 \cdot \mu_1, \pi_2 \cdot r_2 \cdot \mu_2 \rangle} & X \times Z \\ & \searrow e_{r_1; r_2} & \nearrow r_1; r_2 \\ & & R_1; R_2 \end{array}$$

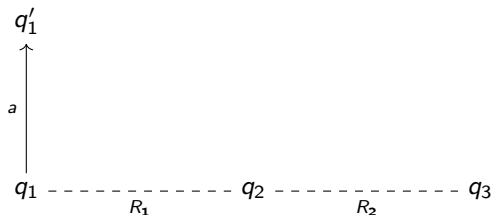
A red curved arrow labeled s points from $R_1; R_2$ back to $R_1 \star R_2$.

Proof

By definition of the composition and the regular axiom of choice

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_1 \star R_2 & \xrightarrow{\langle \pi_1 \cdot r_1 \cdot \mu_1, \pi_2 \cdot r_2 \cdot \mu_2 \rangle} & X \times Z \\ & \searrow e_{r_1; r_2} & \nearrow r_1; r_2 \\ & & R_1; R_2 \end{array}$$

s (red curved arrow from $R_1 \star R_2$ to $R_1; R_2$)



That was a choice of an intermediate state!

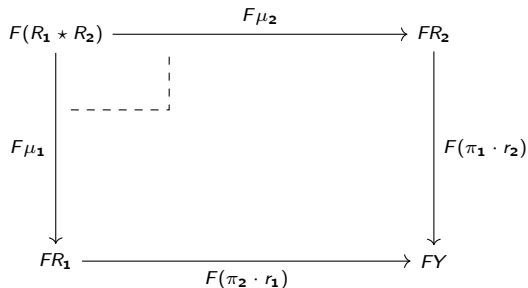
Proof

By definition of the composition, this is a (weak) pullback

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_1 \star R_2 & \xrightarrow{\mu_2} & R_2 \\ \downarrow \mu_1 & \dashv & \downarrow \pi_1 \cdot r_2 \\ R_1 & \xrightarrow{\pi_2 \cdot r_1} & Y \end{array}$$

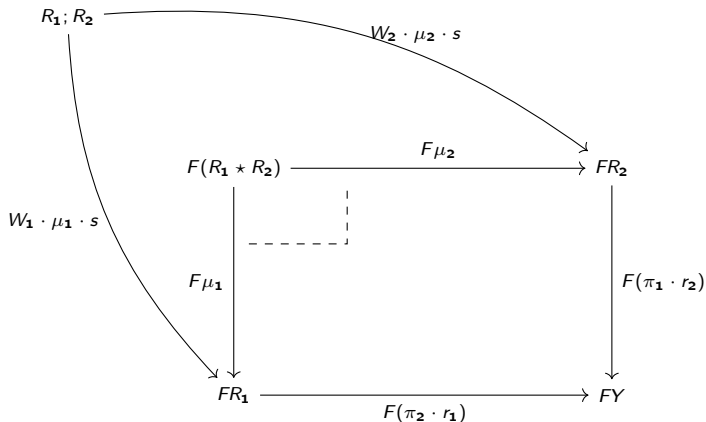
Proof

By preservation of weak pullback, this is a weak pullback



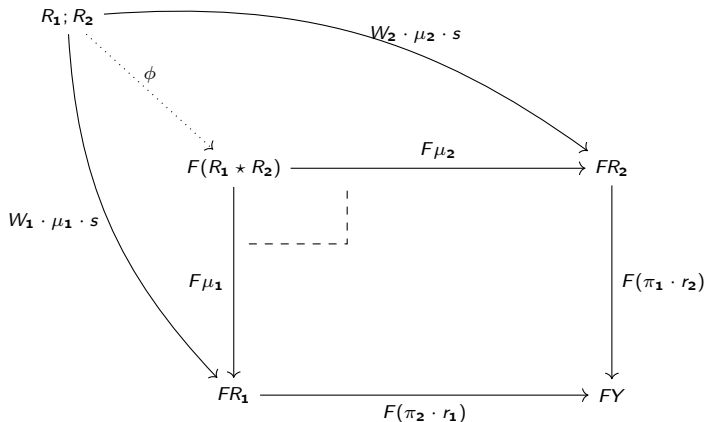
Proof

Putting everything together, the following commutes



Proof

Then there is ϕ making the triangles commute



Proof

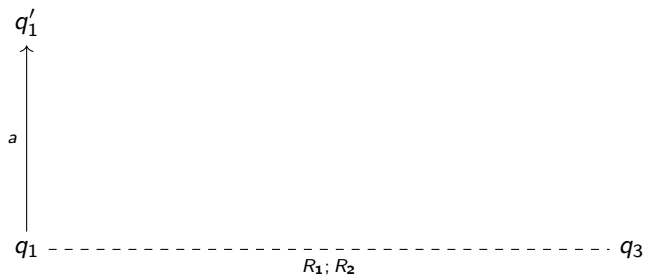
Choosing $W = F(e_{r_1; r_2}) \cdot \phi$ gives what we want:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X \times Z & \xrightarrow{\alpha \times \gamma} & F(X) \times F(Z) \\ & \nearrow^{r_1; r_2} & & & \uparrow \langle F\pi_1, F\pi_2 \rangle \\ R_1; R_2 & & & & \\ & \searrow_W & F(R_1; R_2) & \xrightarrow{F(r_1; r_2)} & F(X \times Z) \end{array}$$

From Picking to Collecting

Regular AM-Bisimulations

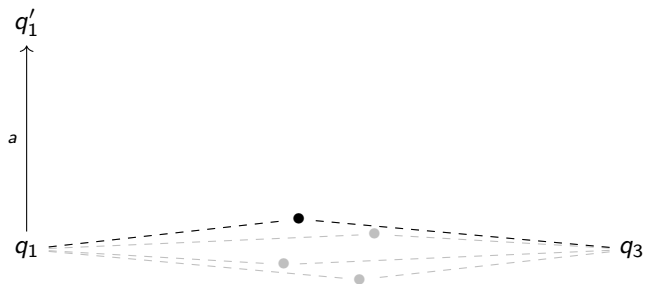
Picking vs Collecting



Picking vs Collecting



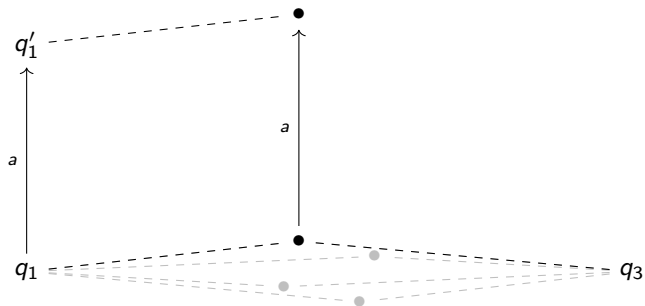
Picking vs Collecting



Pick one

Picking vs Collecting

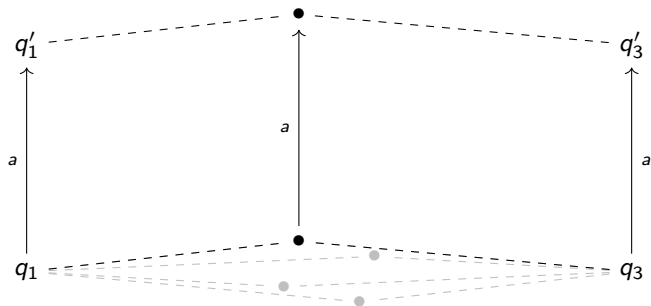
Make the proof for this one



Pick one

Picking vs Collecting

Make the proof for this one

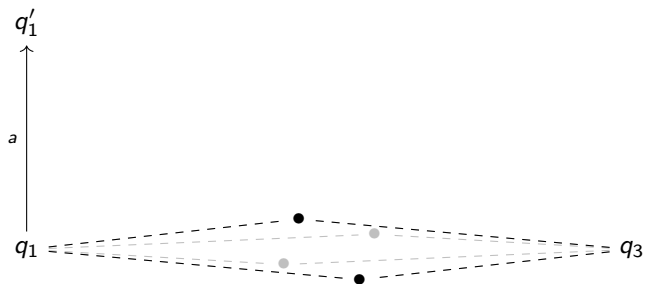


Pick one

Picking vs Collecting

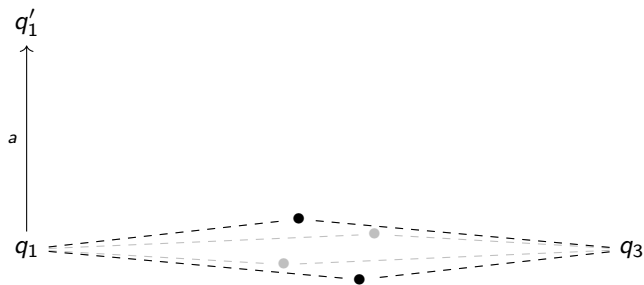


Picking vs Collecting



Collect many

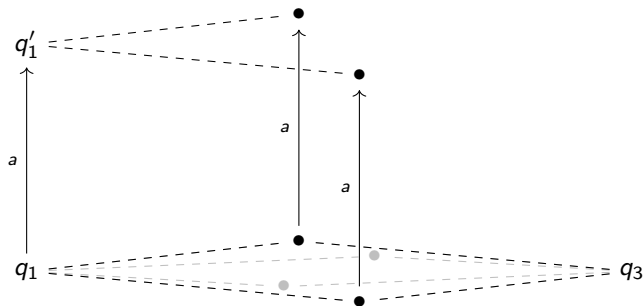
Picking vs Collecting



Collect many
(Make sure there is at least one)

Picking vs Collecting

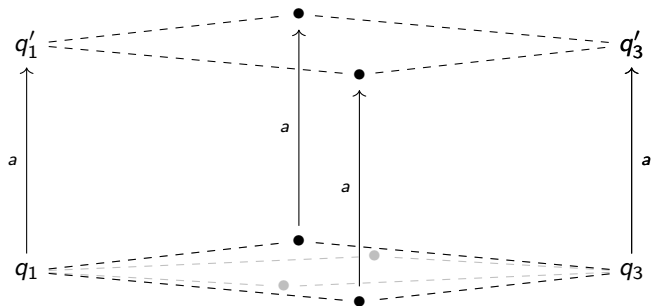
Make the proof for all of them



Collect many
(Make sure there is at least one)

Picking vs Collecting

Make the proof for all of them



Collect many
(Make sure there is at least one)

How to do that, abstractly?

Instead of building a *witness function*:

$$W : R \longrightarrow FR$$

build a *witness relation*:

$$w : W \multimap R \times FR$$

Regular AM-Bisimulations

Regular Aczel-Mendler Bisimulations:

A relation $r : R \rightrightarrows X \times Y$ is a **regular** AM-bisimulation from $\alpha : X \rightarrow FX$ to $\beta : Y \rightarrow FY$ if there is a **relation** $w : W \rightrightarrows FR \times R$ (witness) such that $\pi_2 \cdot w$ is a **regular epi** and :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & R & \xrightarrow{r} & X \times Y & & \xrightarrow{\alpha \times \beta} & F(X) \times F(Y) \\ & \nearrow^{\pi_2 \circ w} & & & & & & \\ W & & & & & & & \\ & \searrow_{\pi_1 \circ w} & & & & & & \\ & & FR & \xrightarrow{Fr} & F(X \times Y) & & \xrightarrow{\langle F\pi_1, F\pi_2 \rangle} & \end{array}$$

Basic Properties

Regular AM-Bisimulations Form a Dagger 2-Poset:

- Diagonals are regular AM-bisimulations.
- Regular AM-bisimulations are closed under inverse.
- When F covers pullbacks, regular AM-bisimulations are closed under composition.

Coincidence under the Axiom of Choice:

When \mathcal{C} has the regular axiom of choice, then regular AM-bisimulations coincide with AM-bisimulations.

Relationship with Other Coalgebraic Bisimulations:

- Regular AM-bisimulations coincide with Hermida-Jacobs bisimulations.
- When F covers pullbacks, then behavioral equivalences are AM-bisimulations.
- When \mathcal{C} has pushouts, every regular AM-bisimulation is included in a behavioral equivalence.

Example: Vietoris Bisimulations in Stone

Objects: Stone spaces, i.e., compact totally disconnected spaces

Morphisms: continuous functions

This is a regular category with pushouts

Subobjects: **closed** subsets

Vietoris functor $\mathcal{V}: X \mapsto$ set of closed subsets of X with a suitable topology

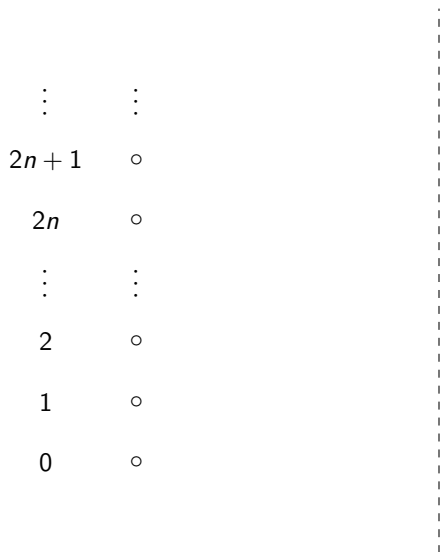
This endofunctor covers pullbacks (but do not preserve weak-pullbacks!)

[Bezhanishvili et al.'10]

Fix a Stone space A . Descriptive models coincide with $\mathcal{V}(_) \times A$ -coalgebras. Vietoris bisimulations coincide with HJ-bisimulations (so with regular AM too), but not with plain AM-bisimulations.

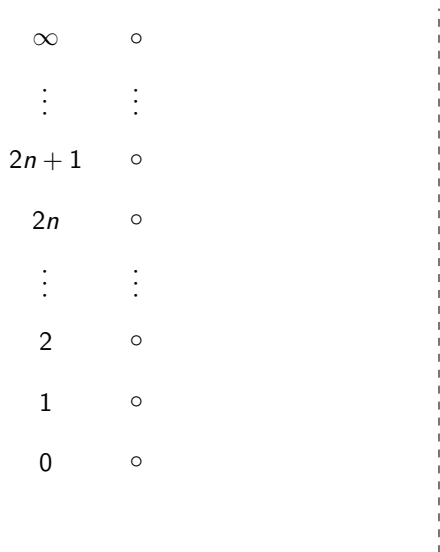
Counter-example from [Bezhanishvili et al.'10]

We want to construct two coalgebras $X \mapsto \mathcal{V}(X) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N} \times \{+, -\})$ in **Stone**



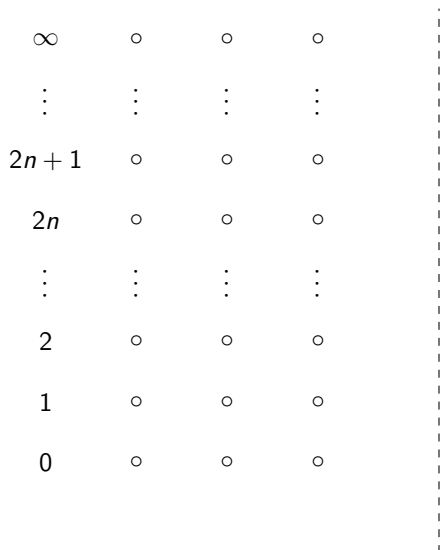
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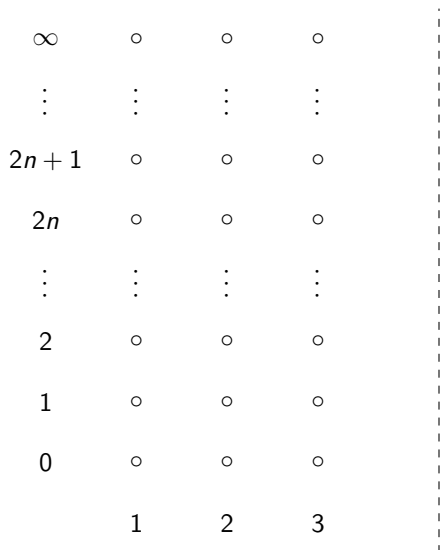
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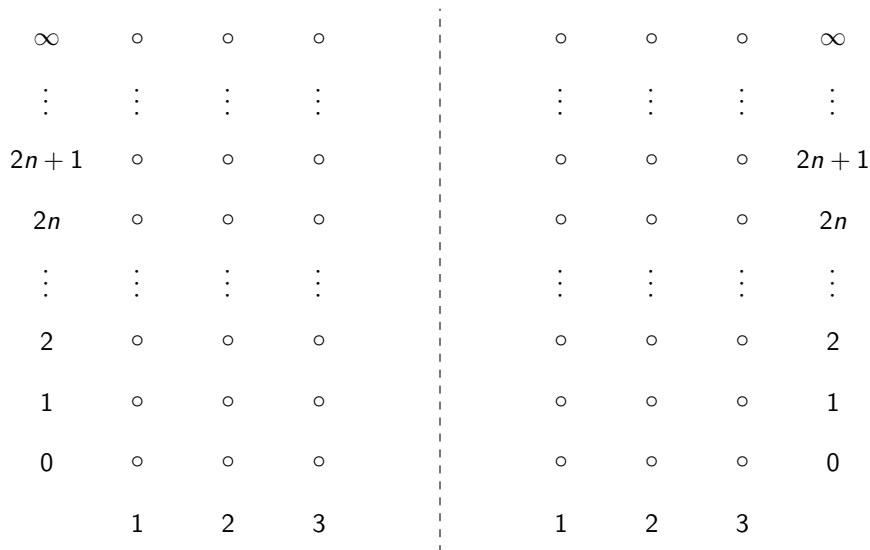
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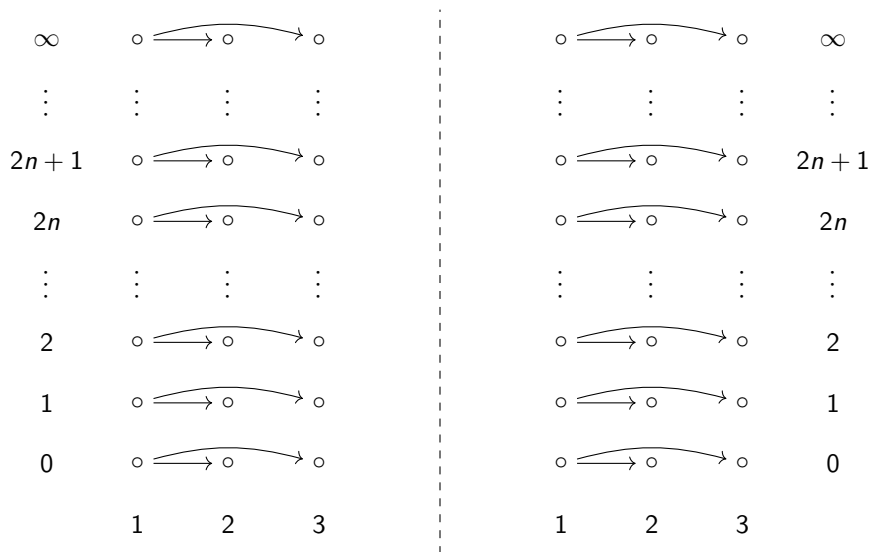
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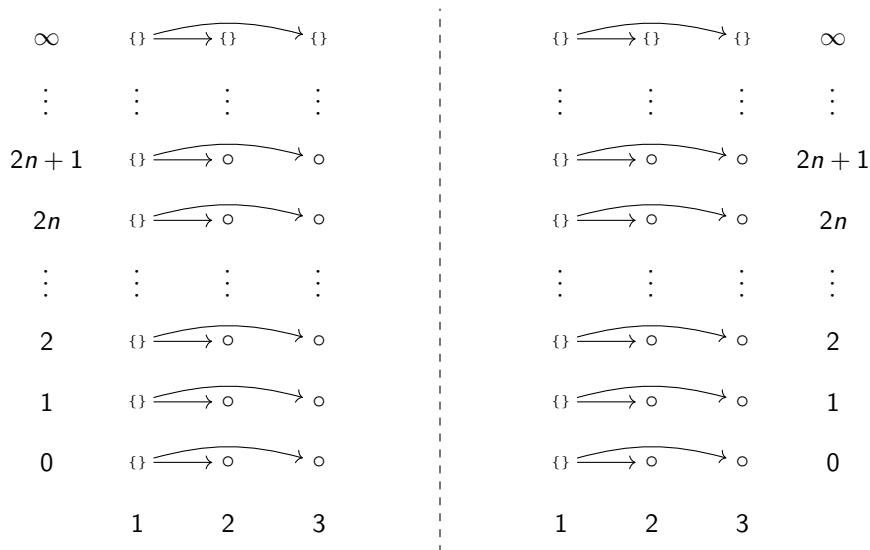
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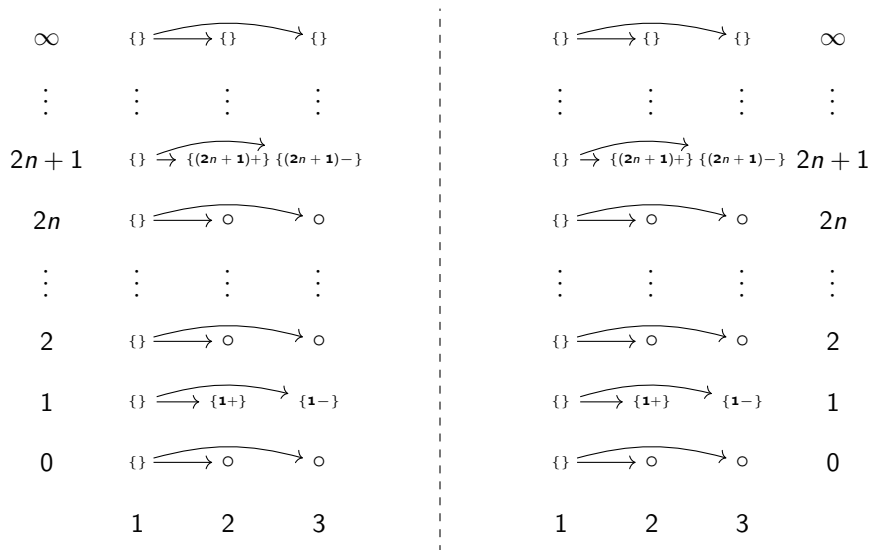
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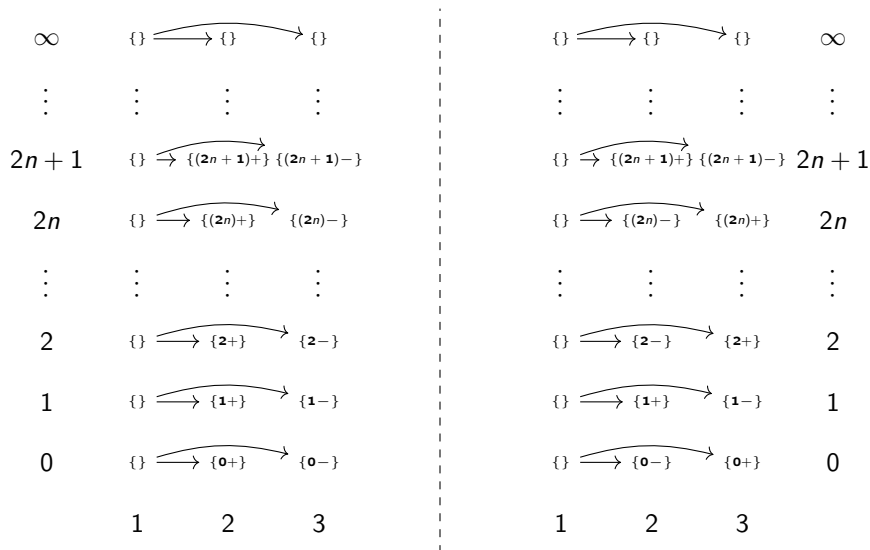
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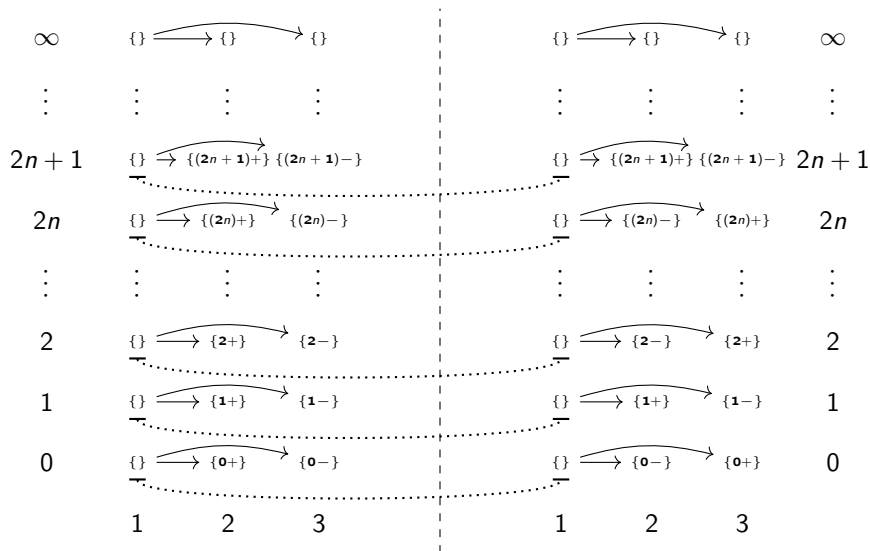
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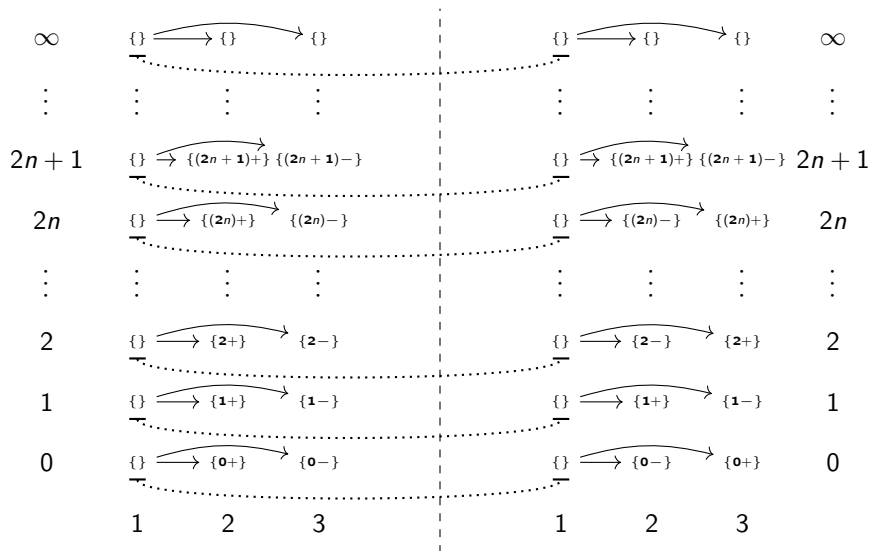
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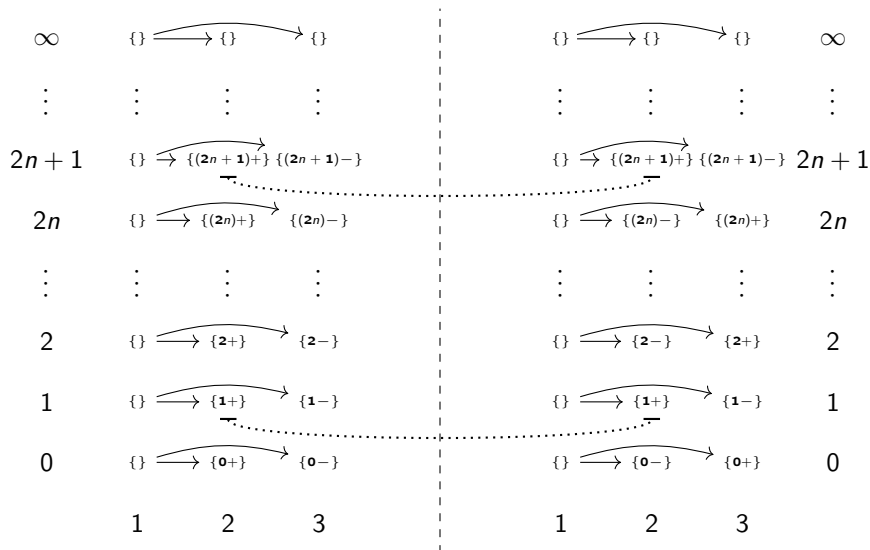
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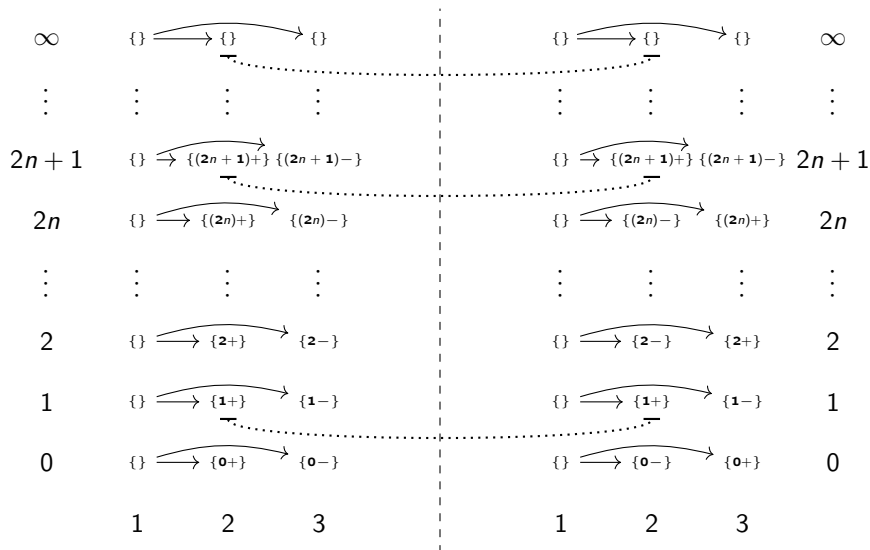
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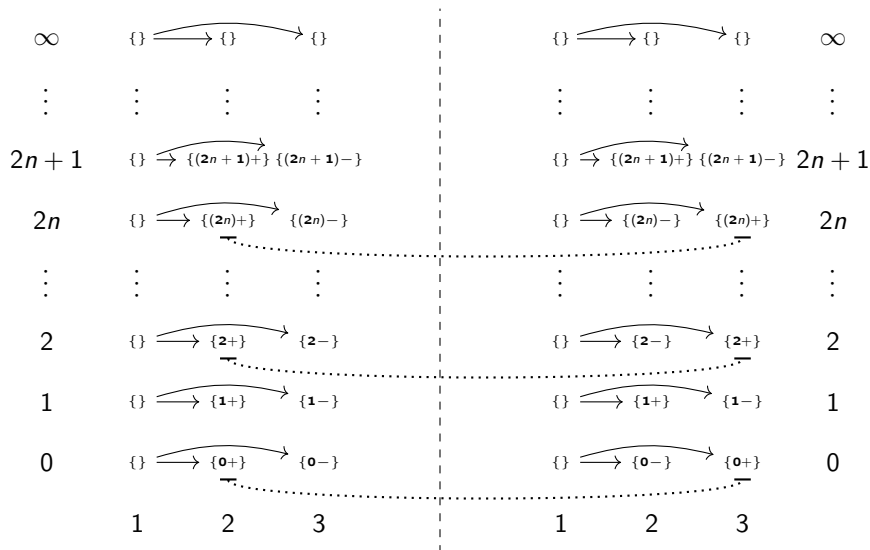
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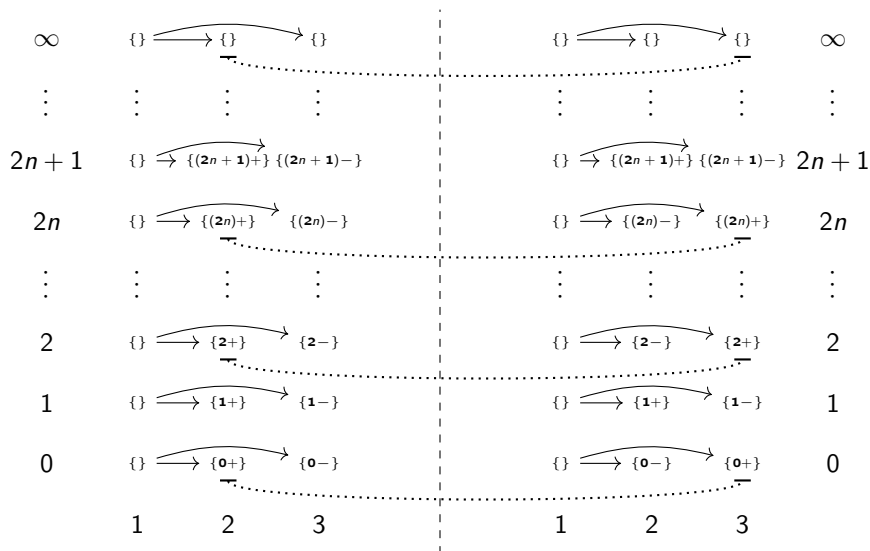
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Counter-example from [Bezhanishvili et al.'10]

Regular AM \neq AM

The following closed relation:

$$\begin{aligned} R = & \{(i_2, i_2), (i_3, i_3) \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \text{ odd}\} \cup \{(i_2, i_3), (i_3, i_2) \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \text{ even}\} \\ & \cup \{(i_1, i_1) \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}\} \\ & \cup \{(\infty_j, \infty_k) \mid j, k \in \{2, 3\}\} \end{aligned}$$

is a regular AM-bisimulation but not an AM-bisimulation.

Proof:

The following is a witness closed relation $W \subseteq R \times (\mathcal{V}(R) \times \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N} \times \{+, -\}))$:

$$\begin{aligned} W = & \{((i_1, i_1), \{(i_2, i_2), (i_3, i_3)\}, \{\}) \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \text{ odd}\} \\ & \cup \{((i_1, i_1), \{(i_2, i_3), (i_3, i_2)\}, \{\}) \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \text{ even}\} \\ & \cup \{((\infty_1, \infty_1), \{(\infty_2, \infty_2), (\infty_3, \infty_3)\}, \{\})\} \\ & \cup \{((\infty_1, \infty_1), \{(\infty_2, \infty_3), (\infty_3, \infty_2)\}, \{\})\} \\ & \cup \{((i_j, i_k), \emptyset, \lambda(i_j)) \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\} \wedge (i_j, i_k) \in R\} \end{aligned}$$

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(∞_1, ∞_1) has two witnesses $\{$

$$\cup \{((i_j, i_k), \emptyset, \lambda(i_j)) \mid i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\} \wedge (i_j, i_k) \in R\}$$

The Special Case of Toposes

Toposes, as Relation Classifiers

Topos:

A topos is a finitely complete category \mathcal{C} with **power objects**, that is, for every object X , there is a mono $\epsilon_X : E_X \rightarrow X \times \mathcal{P}X$ such that for every relation $r : R \rightarrow X \times Y$ there is a unique morphism $\xi_r : Y \rightarrow \mathcal{P}X$ such that there is a pullback of the form:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{\theta_r} & E_X \\ r \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \epsilon_X \\ X \times Y & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \xi_r} & X \times \mathcal{P}X \end{array}$$

In **Set**: \mathcal{P} = power set, $E_X = \{(x, U) \mid x \in U\}$

The subobject classifier is $\Omega = \mathcal{P}\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathcal{P}X = \Omega^X$

This formulation implies cartesian closure

Folklore:

\mathcal{P} is a commutative monad whose Kleisli category is isomorphic to the category of relations of \mathcal{C} .

[Goy et al'21]

- For every endofunctor F of a topos \mathcal{C} and object X of \mathcal{C} , there is a canonical morphism

$$\sigma_{F,X}: FPX \rightarrow PFX.$$

- When F preserves weak pullbacks and epis, this is a natural transformation.
- If F is additionally a monad whose multiplication is weak cartesian, σ_F is a weak distributive law.
- If additionally the unit is also weak cartesian, then σ_F is a distributive law.
- In particular, for any non-trivial topos, $\sigma_{\mathcal{P}}$ is a weak distributive law but not a strict one.

A Nicer Formulation of Regular AM-Bisimulations

Toposal Aczel-Mendler Bisimulations:

A relation $r : R \multimap X \times Y$ is a **toposal** AM-bisimulation from $\alpha : X \rightarrow FX$ to $\beta : Y \rightarrow FY$ if there is a **morphism** $W : R \rightarrow \mathcal{P}FR$ (witness) such that:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X \times Y & \xrightarrow{\alpha \times \beta} & F(X) \times F(Y) \\ & \nearrow r & & & \searrow \eta_{F(X)} \times \eta_{F(Y)} \\ R & & & & \mathcal{P}F(X) \times \mathcal{P}F(Y) \\ & \searrow W & & & \nearrow \langle \mathcal{P}F\pi_1, \mathcal{P}F\pi_2 \rangle \\ & & \mathcal{P}FR & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}Fr} & \mathcal{P}F(X \times Y) \end{array}$$

Basically, F -toposal-AM = $\mathcal{P}F$ -AM

Toposal = Regular

In a topos, toposal AM-bisimulations coincide with regular AM-bisimulations.

Conclusion

- In this talk:
 - ▶ Plain AM-bisimulations work only with the axiom of choice.
 - ▶ Replacing witness functions by relations \rightarrow regular AM-bisimulations
 - ▶ They work without axiom of choice:
 - ★ closure under composition,
 - ★ coincidence with HJ-bisimulations, behavioral equivalences.
 - ▶ They are reworded nicely in toposes.
- Not in this talk, but in the paper:
 - ▶ Allegory maps that are (toposal) AM-bisimulations are $(\mathcal{P})F$ -coalgebra homomorphisms.
 - ▶ Everything can be done for simulations too.
 - ▶ More examples (toposes for name-passing, weighted systems in categories of modules)
- Future work:
 - ▶ Relation with the $\neg\neg$ -closure.
 - ▶ Regular AM-bisimulations for continuous probabilistic systems?
 - ▶ Regular AM-bisimulations in realizability toposes?