

# Recursive Coalgebras

J. Adámek & S. Milius

Result:

Induction  $\implies$  Recursion

$\nleftarrow$  .....

$\leftarrow$  .....

in general  
under mild assumptions

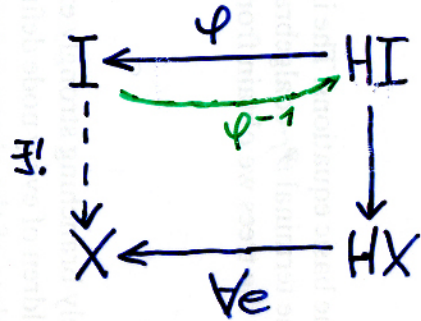
Assumption:

$H: \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ , (H preserves monos)

# Recursion

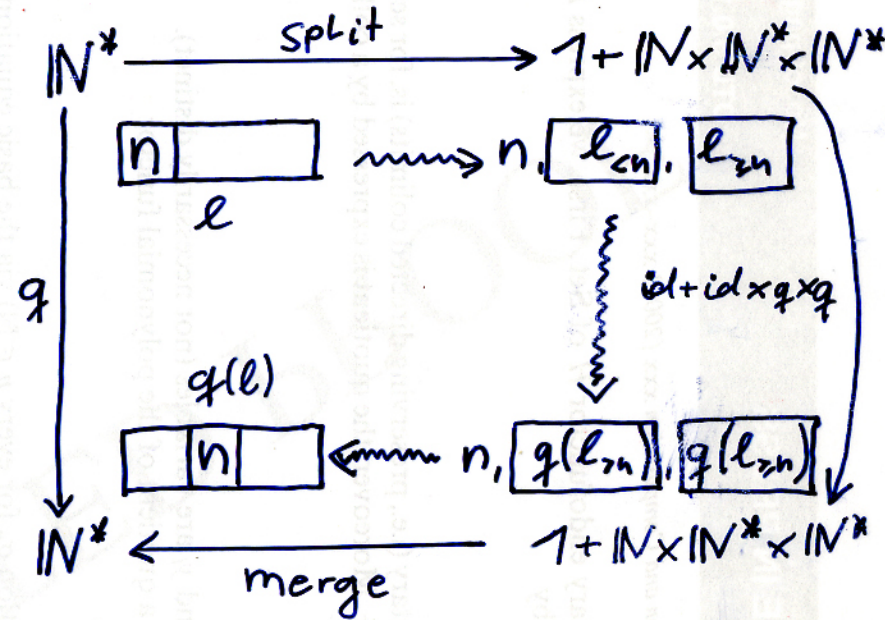
## Examples:

(i) Initial Algebras



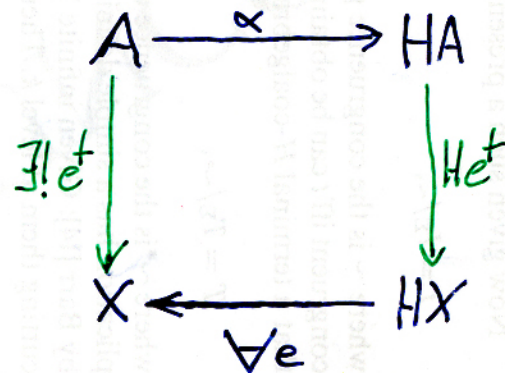
- natural numbers:  $HX = 1 + X$
  - lists over  $D$ :  $HX = 1 + D \times X$
  - trees over  $D$ :  $HX = 1 + D \times X \times X$
- etc.

(ii) Quicksort



## Definition:

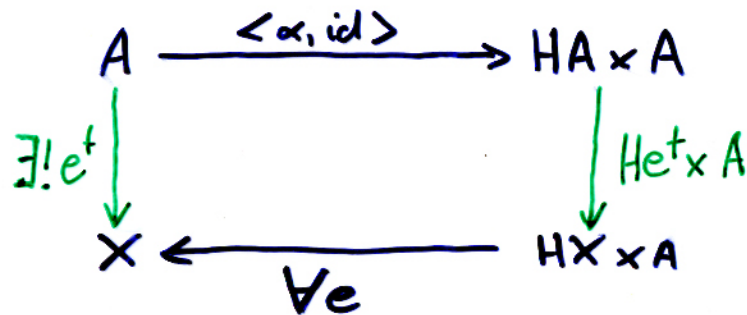
$\alpha: A \rightarrow HA$  recursive coalgebra  $:\Leftrightarrow$



- G. Osius (1974)
- P. Taylor (1999)
- A. Eppendahl (1999)
- V. Capretta, T. Uustalu, V. Vene (2003)

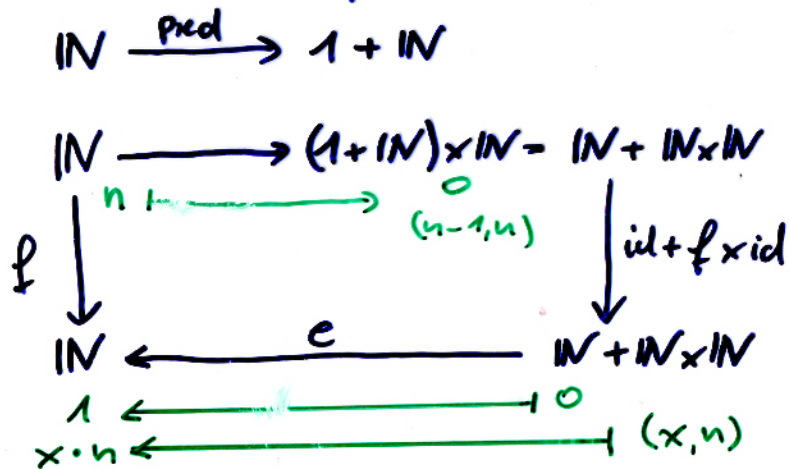
# Parametric Recursion

Definition:  $\alpha: A \rightarrow HA$  parametrically recursive:  $\Leftrightarrow$

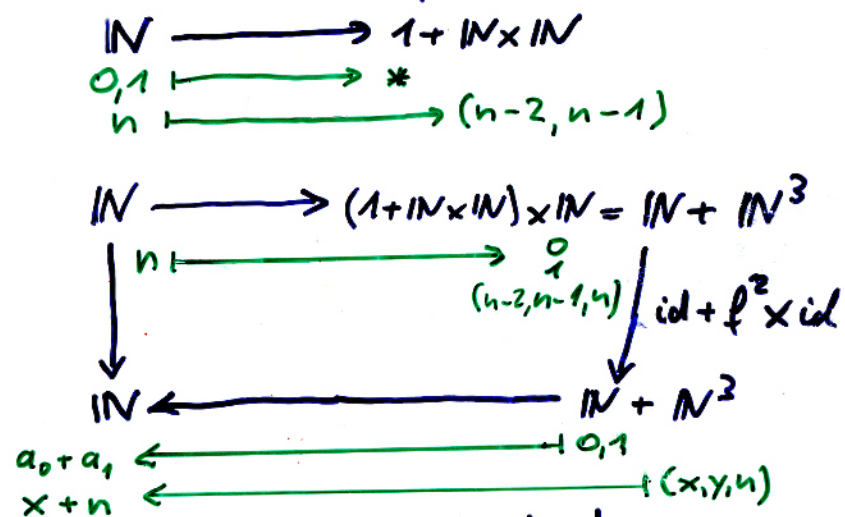


## Examples:

(i) Factorial function:  $HX = 1 + X$



(ii) Fibonacci sequence;  $HX = 1 + X^2$

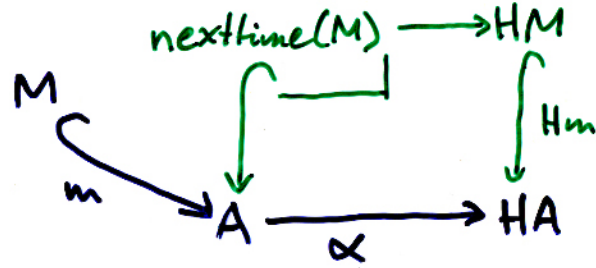


Theorem: initial Algebra  $\equiv$  terminal parametrically recursive coalgebra

# Induction (Well-founded Coalgebras)

Definition: (B. Jacobs 2002)

Given  $\alpha: A \rightarrow HA$  define  $\text{nexttime}: \text{Sub}(A) \rightarrow \text{Sub}(A)$



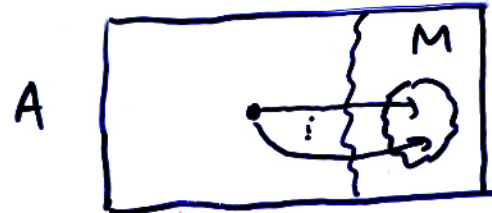
Examples:

(i)  $HX = 1 + \mathbb{N} \times X \times X$   
 $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} 1 + \mathbb{N} \times A \times A$



$\text{nexttime}(M) = \{a \mid a \text{ halting or } \alpha(a) \in \mathbb{N} \times M^2\}$

(ii)  $H = P$   
 $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} PA$



$\text{nexttime}(M) = \{a \mid \alpha(a) \in M\}$

Definition: (P. Taylor)  $A \xrightarrow{\alpha} HA$  well-founded  $\iff \frac{\text{nexttime}(M) \subseteq M}{M = A} (M \subseteq A)$

# Well-founded Coalgebras

## Definition:

Well-founded core of any  $\alpha: A \longrightarrow HA$ :

$$A^* = \mu M. \text{nexttime}(M)$$

## Facts:

- $A$  well-founded  $\iff A = A^*$
- $A^*$  is a well-founded coreflection of the coalgebra  $A$

## Examples:

(i)  $HX = 1 + \mathbb{N} \times X \times X$

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} 1 + \mathbb{N} \times A \times A$$

automaton with binary input  
and output from  $\mathbb{N}$

⋮

$A^*$  = all states always reaching a  
halting state in finitely many steps

⋮

$(A, \alpha)$  well-founded iff all states  
have this "halting property"

(ii)  $H = P$

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} PA$$

a graph

⋮

$A^*$  = all nodes not on an  
infinite path

⋮

$(A, \alpha)$  well-founded iff  
no node lies on an infinite  
path

# General Categories

Example: Discrete-time dynamical systems given by  $HX = 1 + X$  on  $\mathbf{Top}$ :

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} 1 + A$$



A well-founded

iff every state has the "halting property"

BUT: nexttime:  $\mathbf{Sub}(A)$

has proper subobjects as fixed points

e.g.  $\text{id} : A_0 \longrightarrow A$   
 $\quad \quad \quad |$   
 $\quad \quad \quad \text{discrete space}$

$\hookrightarrow$  monos  $\rightsquigarrow$  strong monos

Assumptions:

- $\mathcal{C}$  well-powered, complete, cocomplete and has universally chain-complete strong monos
- $H: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  preserving strong monos and inverse images of strong subobjects

Theorem:

If  $\mathcal{C}$  also satisfies:

- every object is generated
- every non-empty mono splits

then for every  $\alpha: A \rightarrow HA$  t.f.a.e

(i) A well-founded

(ii) A parametrically recursive

(iii) A recursive

(iv) A has a homomorphism into  $I$

Theorem: (P. Johnstone)

If  $\mathcal{C}$  has a strong-subobject classifier, then for every

$$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} HA \text{ properties}$$

(i) - (iii)

are equivalent.

## Induction $\Rightarrow$ Recursion

Theorem: For a coalgebra  $\alpha: A \rightarrow HA$  we have

well-founded  $\Rightarrow$  parametrically recursive  $\Rightarrow$  recursive  $\Rightarrow$  a homomorphism into  $I$

$\stackrel{?}{\Leftarrow}$

$\Leftarrow$

$\Leftarrow$

Open Problems:

- Are parametrically recursive coalgebras well-founded?
- Does every coalgebra have a recursive coreflection?

Theorem: For an endofunctor  $H: \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  preserving inverse images the 4 properties above are equivalent.

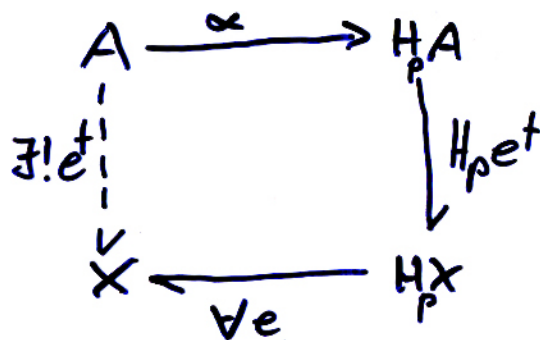
## Application: Recursion $\equiv$ Partial Recursion

$H: \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set}$  preserving inverse images      .....       $H_p: \text{Set}_p \rightarrow \text{Set}_p$  lifting of  $H$

$A \xrightarrow{\alpha} HA$  recursive for  $H \Rightarrow A$  well-founded for  $H$

$\Rightarrow A$  well-founded for  $H_p$

$\Rightarrow A$  recursive for  $H_p$



Open Problem:

How about relations in lieu of partial maps?