

Closure of System T under the Bar Recursion Rule

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Outline

- 1 Spector's bar recursion
- 2 Schwichtenberg's proof
- 3 A new (more direct) proof

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Spector's Bar Recursion

- (1958) Gödel's Dialectica interpretation of *arithmetic* (system T)
- (1962) Spector extends interpretation to *analysis* (T + BR)
- (1968) Howard interpretation of bar induction (T + BR)
- (1971) Scarpellini shows \mathcal{C} is a model of BR
- (1979) Schwichtenberg closure theorem (*low types*)
- (1981) Howard's ordinal analysis of BR (*low types*)
- (1985) Bezem shows \mathcal{M} is a model of BR

Spector's Bar Recursion (Rule)

Given $s : \tau^*$ let $\hat{s} : \tau^{\mathbb{N}}$ be the extension of s with 0's

For each pair of types τ, σ , and given G, H and Y

$$\text{BR}^{\tau, \sigma}(s) \stackrel{\sigma}{=} \begin{cases} G(s) & \text{if } Y(\hat{s}) < |s| \\ H(s)(\lambda x^{\tau} . \text{BR}(s * x)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where

$$G : \tau^* \rightarrow \sigma$$

$$Y : \tau^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$H : \tau^* \rightarrow (\tau \rightarrow \sigma) \rightarrow \sigma$$

Schwichtenberg's Closure Theorem

Theorem

System T is closed under the bar recursion rule when τ 's type level is either 0 or 1

That is, given G, H and Y terms in T, the functional

$$\text{BR}^{\tau, \sigma}(s) \stackrel{\sigma}{=} \begin{cases} G(s) & \text{if } Y(\hat{s}) < |s| \\ H(s)(\lambda x^{\tau}.\text{BR}(s * x)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is also T definable

Counter-example for $\tau > 1$

Howard (1968) showed that bar recursion of type ρ can be defined using the bar recursion rule of type $(\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \rho) \rightarrow \rho$

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it follows that T is not closed under the bar recursion rule for $\tau = (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

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Schwichtenberg's Proof

Published in The Journal of Symbolic Logic (1971)

"On bar recursion of type 0 and 1"

5 pages long (actual proof only two pages long)

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6. Hence, BR can be mimicked by ε_0 -ordinal recursion

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4. See BR as a recursion on this tree
5. Define order-preserving embedding of tree into ε_0 -ordinals
6. Hence, BR can be mimicked by ε_0 -ordinal recursion
7. By Tait, we can find equivalent T definition of $BR(s)$

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Base case: $Y(\alpha)$ is constant

When $Y(\alpha)$ is constant n , BR becomes

$$\text{BR}^{\tau, \sigma}(s) \stackrel{\sigma}{=} \begin{cases} G(s) & \text{if } |s| > n \\ H(s)(\lambda x^{\tau} . \text{BR}(s * x)) & \text{if } |s| \leq n \end{cases}$$

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Let us refer to this T term as cBR

Proof Idea

Part 1: Show that BR is definable in “general BR”

Part 2: Show that T is closed under “general BR”

(first part works for any type, second part requires the type restriction)

General BR

For any *bar* S consider the defining equation

$$\mathbf{gBR}^S(s) \stackrel{\sigma}{=} \begin{cases} G(s) & \text{if } S(s) \\ H(s)(\lambda x^\tau. \mathbf{gBR}^S(s * x)) & \text{if } \neg S(s) \end{cases}$$

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Definition

We say that a bar S *secures* $Y : \tau^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ if for all s^{τ^*}

$$S(s) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda \beta. Y(s * \beta) \text{ is constant}$$

Part 1: BR definable in general BR

Theorem

Fix $Y : \tau^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. The functional

$$\lambda G, H, s. \text{BR}^{\tau, \sigma}(G, H, Y)(s)$$

is T -definable in gBR^S , for any bar S securing Y

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Proof.

Use the bar S to spot when Y becomes constant, then apply the T construction for the case when Y is constant. \square

Part 2: Closure of T under gBR rule

Theorem

Fix a T-term $Y : \tau^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. For some S securing Y the functional gBR^S is T definable.

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Fix a T-term $Y : \tau^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. For some S securing Y the functional gBR^S is T definable.

Proof.

(Construction) By induction on Y .

(Correctness proof) Use a logical relation to show that the constructed term is indeed equivalent to gBR^S . □

The Construction (case $\tau = \mathbb{N}$)

Let $\mathbb{N}^\circ \equiv$ the type of gBR. We will map \mathbb{N} to \mathbb{N}° .

Let α be a special variable of type $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ (generic)

$$0^\circ = \lambda G.G$$

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(H can be fixed at outset, but extra work to remember Y)

The Construction: Recursor

Suppose $Y(\alpha) = \text{Rec}(n_\alpha, x_\alpha, f_\alpha)$

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can be done by induction hypothesis + primitive recursion

The Correctness Proof

Recall $\mathbb{N}^\circ \equiv$ the type of gBR

Fix H . Define logical relation between T terms

Base case:

$$f^{\mathbb{N}^\circ} \sim_{\mathbb{N}} g^{\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}} \equiv \exists S \text{ securing } g \text{ such that } f = gBR^S$$

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and, as usual:

$$\begin{aligned} f^{\rho_0^\circ \rightarrow \rho_1^\circ} \sim_{\rho_0 \rightarrow \rho_1} g^{\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow (\rho_0 \rightarrow \rho_1)} \\ \equiv \forall x^{\rho_0^\circ} \forall y^{\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \rho_0} (x \sim_{\rho_0} y \rightarrow f(x) \sim_{\rho_1} \lambda \alpha. g(\alpha)(y\alpha)) \end{aligned}$$

Main Result

Theorem

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Corollary

Fix $Y : \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ in T. Then $\lambda G, H, s. \text{BR}(G, H, Y)(s)$ is T definable

Conclusion

Stronger result:

- Only Y needs to be T definable

More explicit construction:

- Given concrete Y , reasonably easy to find T definition of $\lambda G, H, s. \text{BR}(G, H, Y)(s)$

Easy to calibrate T fragments:

- If Y is T_i then $\lambda G, H, s. \text{BR}(G, H, Y)(s)$ is in T_j , where $j = 1 + \max\{1, \text{level}(\sigma)\} + i$.