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# On Cartesian Monoids

by

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## Introduction

We first learned about Cartesian monoids from Dana Scott and Peter Freyd. Their connection to the simply typed lambda calculus with surjective pairing and the domain equation  $D = D \times D$  is rather transparent and forms the basis for [7]. In addition, since these monoids always contain a copy of the Freyd-Heller group (see below) there is a further connection to lambda calculus ([6],[10]). Finally, such monoids come up in the study of type algebras especially concerning Curry's subject reduction theorem ([8],[9]). In short, Cartesian monoids are important for typed lambda calculus.

It is the purpose of this note to collect in one place our observations on Cartesian monoids especially on the free Cartesian monoid. In particular, we shall solve the unification and matching problems negatively for this structure below. Our approach to treat the free Cartesian monoid as an algebraic structure of the sort we learned about in school. This is not to say that we have anything against the Category Theory approach; it is only to say that we are not competent to carry out such an approach.

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## 0.Contents

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1. Definition of Cartesian monoids
2. Normal forms
3. Simplicity of the free Cartesian monoid  $F$
4. Finite generation of  $F$
5. The group of  $F$
6. The wreath product of  $F$
7. Representation of  $F$  as piecewise shift operators
8. Separability of the polynomial monoid  $F[x]$
9. The integers of  $F$
10. Finitely generated submonoids of  $F$
11. Godel numbering  $F$
12. References

## 1. Cartesian Monoids

A Cartesian monoid is a structure  $C = (M, *, I, L, R, \langle \rangle)$  where  $(M, *, I)$  is a monoid with  $L \in M$  and  $R \in M$ ,

$\langle \rangle : M^2 \rightarrow M$ , and

$$L * \langle x, y \rangle = x$$

$$R * \langle x, y \rangle = y$$

$$\langle x, y \rangle * z = \langle x * z, y * z \rangle$$

$$\langle L, R \rangle = I.$$

Cartesian monoids were first introduced by Dana Scott in [5], and independently by J. Lambek in [3]. The free Cartesian monoid on zero generators is here denoted  $F$ . The members of  $F$  are denoted by expressions built up from  $I, L$ , and  $R$  by  $*$  and  $\langle \rangle$ .

## 2. Normal Forms

Each expression can be re-written uniquely in a normal form consisting of a binary

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tree, whose nodes correspond to applications of  $\langle \rangle$ , with strings of L's and R's, joined by  $*$ , at its leaves (here I counts as the empty string) and with no subexpression of the form  $\langle L^*x, R^*x \rangle$ . This is accomplished by considering the equivalent rewrite system

$$L^*\langle x, y \rangle \rightarrow x$$

$$R^*\langle x, y \rangle \rightarrow y$$

$$\langle x, y \rangle^*z \rightarrow \langle x^*z, y^*z \rangle$$

$$\langle L^*x, R^*x \rangle \rightarrow x$$

$$\langle L, R \rangle \rightarrow I$$

$$I^*x \rightarrow x$$

$$x^*I \rightarrow x$$

modulo the associativity axioms.

This rewrite system is terminating because we can interpret it in the integers with rewrites decreasing as follows

$$L=R=I=2$$

$$x*y = x \text{ multiplied by } y$$

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x+y+1.$$

The rewrite system is obviously weakly

Church-Rosser therefore it is Church-Rosser.

The binary tree of a given expression is called its  $\Delta$ .

### 3. Homomorphisms

For any two members of  $F$ ,  $f$  and  $g$ , define  $f^g: M \rightarrow M$  by  $f^g(x) = f*x*g$  (i.e. conjugation).

Given any two distinct normal forms  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  there exist  $f$  and  $g$  such that  $f^g(h_1) =$

$L$  and  $f^g(h_2)=R$ . This can be seen as follows. We can first assume that  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  have the same  $\Delta$  by expansions of the form  $x \leftarrow \langle L^*x, R^*x \rangle$  or  $I \leftarrow \langle L, R \rangle$ . Indeed in this way normal expressions can be transformed into various shapes such as one where the binary tree is complete or all strings have the same length. Thus there is an  $f$  such that  $f^*h_1 \neq f^*h_2$ , and, both of these reduce to  $\langle \rangle$ -free strings of  $L$ 's and  $R$ 's. We can also assume that neither of these strings is a suffix of the other since  $f$  could be replaced by either  $L^*f$  or  $R^*f$  without loss. Thus there are  $\langle \rangle$ -free  $h_3$  and  $h_4$  and integers  $k$  and  $l$  such that

$$f^*h_1^*\langle I, I \rangle^k \langle R, L \rangle^l = h_3^*L \text{ and}$$

$$f^*h_2^*\langle I, I \rangle^k \langle R, L \rangle^l = h_4^*R \text{ and}$$

there exist integers  $n$  and  $m$  such that

$$h_3^*L^*\langle \langle I, I \rangle^n L, \langle I, I \rangle^m R \rangle = L \text{ and}$$

$$h_4^*R^*\langle \langle I, I \rangle^n L, \langle I, I \rangle^m R \rangle = R. \text{ Thus we can set}$$

$$g = \langle I, I \rangle^k \langle R, L \rangle^l \langle \langle I, I \rangle^n L, \langle I, I \rangle^m R \rangle.$$

We conclude that there are no non-trivial homomorphisms of  $F$ .

#### 4. Finite Generation of $F$

The monoid  $F$  is finitely generated. We see this as follows. Let  $\Sigma = \{ \langle X^*L, \langle Y^*L^*R, Z^*R^*R \rangle \rangle : X, Y, Z \in \{L, R, I\} \} \cup \{ \langle I, \langle I, I \rangle \rangle \}$ . Now for any  $f, g, h$   $\langle \rangle$ -free strings of  $L$ 's and  $R$ 's the element  $\langle f, \langle g, h \rangle \rangle$  can be generated from  $\Sigma$  by a simple recursive procedure. Now say that

$f$  is a derivation if it has the form  $\langle\langle\dots\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle\dots\rangle, f_n\rangle$   
for  $n > 2$  such that

$f_1 = L$

$f_2 = R$

$f_3 = I$  and for  $j > 3$

$f_j = \langle f_k, f_l \rangle$  for some  $k, l < j$  or

$= L * f_k$  for some  $k < j$  or

$= R * f_k$  for some  $k < j$ .

It is easy to see that every derivation can be generated from  $\Sigma$  using the previous observation.

It follows that all of  $F$  is generated from  $\Sigma$ .

Any Cartesian monoid which is finitely generated by  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  is generated by two elements  $e_0 = \langle R, \langle f_1, \langle \dots \langle f_n, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  and  $e_1 = L$ .

For  $F$  we denote  $e_0$  by  $E$ .

## 5. The Group

Let  $H$  be the submonoid of right invertible elements and let  $G$  be the group of (doubly) invertible elements of  $F$ . Clearly  $L$  and  $R$  belong to  $H$ . If we begin with  $f$  in normal form then it is easy to see that

$f \in H \iff f$  can be expanded so that all of its strings at the leaves have the same length and none occurs more than once

$f$  has left inverse  $\iff f$  can be expanded so that all of its strings have the same length  $n$  and each of

$2^n$  strings of this length  
actually occur

$f \in G \iff f$  can be expanded so that all of its strings have the same length  $n$  and each of the  $2^n$  strings of this length occurs exactly once.

It follows that  $H = L * G = R * G$ . Let

$$B_n = \langle L, \langle \dots \langle L * R^{n-1}, \langle L * L * R^n, \langle R * L * R^n, R^{n+1} \rangle \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$$

$$C_0 = \langle R, L \rangle$$

$$C_{n+1} = \langle L, \langle \dots \langle L * R^{n-1} \langle L * R^{n+1}, \langle L * R^n, R^{n+2} \rangle \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$$

Clearly, both  $B_n$  and  $C_n$  are invertible and the set of all of them generate  $G$ . Indeed observe that if  $n < m$  then

$$B_n * B_m = B_{m+1} * B_n.$$

The group generated by the  $B_n$  alone is

(anti)isomorphic to the Freyd-Heller group [1].

It is generated by  $B_0$  and  $B_1$  as a group. Thus it is easy to see that  $G$  is generated by  $B_0, B_1, C_0$ , and  $C_1$  as a group.

## 6.A Wreath Product

Let  $J$  be the monoid of all number theoretic functions of finite support so that  $s: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

belongs to  $J$  if there exists  $n$  such that for  $m > n$

$s(m) = m$ . Suppose that  $t: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow F$  so that for  $m > k$

$t(m) = I$  and  $s$  and  $n$  are as above; let  $l = \max\{n, k\}$ ,

then the pair  $(t, s)$  can be represented by

$$\langle t(0) * L * R^{s(0)}, \langle \dots \langle t(l) * L * R^{s(l)}, R^{l+1} \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle.$$

This representation gives an embedding of the

wreath product of  $F$  with  $J$  into  $F$  (this should be compared to [1]T6).

### 7. Representation

In [1] the authors give a faithful representation of the Freyd-Heller group in the continuous order preserving permutations of the real numbers. Here we will generalize a modified such representation to  $F$ . Let  $CS$  be Cantor space, here construed as the product of  $\{0,1\}$ , endowed with the discrete topology, along  $N$ . The properties of  $CS$  are very well known; in particular,  $CS$  is a totally disconnected compact Hausdorff space. Among the continuous open mappings  $A : CS \rightarrow CS$  are the shift operators  $Z$  and  $O$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} Z(f)(0) &= 0 & O(f)(0) &= 1 \\ Z(f)(n+1) &= f(n) & O(f)(n+1) &= f(n) \end{aligned}$$

We simply write  $0f$  for  $Z(f)$  and  $1f$  for  $O(f)$ . If  $C$  is a collection of mappings  $A : CS \rightarrow CS$  we let  $\text{piecewise } C$  be the closure of  $C$  under the following kind of definition of  $A$  by cases from  $A'$  and  $A''$

$$\begin{aligned} A(0f) &= A'(f) \\ A(1f) &= A''(f). \end{aligned}$$

Indeed if all  $C$  mappings are continuous and open then so are all  $\text{piecewise } C$  mappings. The  $\text{piecewise } C$  shift operators  $A$  can be explicitly characterized by the following condition: Whenever  $A(f) = g$  there exists basic open

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neighborhoods  $(f(0), \dots, f(r))$  and  $(g(0), \dots, g(s))$  containing resp  $f$  and  $g$  such that for any  $t > s$   $g(t) = f(t-s+r)$ . We define a Cartesian monoid structure on the piecewise shift operators as follows;

$$I = I$$

$$L = Z$$

$$R = O$$

$$x * y = \text{the composition } z \mapsto \begin{cases} y(x(z)) \\ x(f) \text{ if } f(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\langle x, y \rangle(f) = \begin{cases} y(f) \text{ if } f(0) = 1. \end{cases}$$

It is not difficult to see that this Cartesian monoid is isomorphic to  $F$ . Now let us order the members of  $CS$  lexicographically and let  $G_+$  be the order preserving members of  $G$  (under this isomorphism). The  $G_+$  is precisely the Freyd-Heller group.

### 8. The Polynomial Monoid $F[x]$

All of the principal results mentioned above for  $F$  hold as well for  $F[x]$ . More generally, if  $f(x)$  &  $g(x)$  are distinct normal expressions then there exists an  $h \in F$  such that  $f(h) \neq g(h)$ .

Indeed, if  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  are distinct normal expressions in  $F[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  then we shall find  $h_1, \dots, h_n$  such that  $f(h_1, \dots, h_n) \neq g(h_1, \dots, h_n)$ . The construction takes two steps. In the first step  $n$  may be increased. We

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remove subexpressions of the form  $L^*xi^*h$  and  $R^*xi^*h$  (for  $h$  possibly empty) by making substitutions  $xi \leftarrow \langle y,z \rangle$  and re-normalizing. It is easy to see that this process terminates and that the original  $f$  and  $g$  are recoverable by the substitutions  $y \leftarrow L^*xi$  and  $z \leftarrow R^*xi$ . Thus we can assume that the first step is completed and  $f$  and  $g$  are normal, distinct, and have no subexpressions of the above forms. Indeed expressions like this can be recursively generated as a string of  $xi$ 's followed by a string of  $L$ 's and  $R$ 's or a string of  $xi$ 's followed by a single  $\langle \rangle$  of expressions of the same form. Given such an expression  $e$ , if we evaluate each  $xi, L$ , and  $R$  as 1,  $\langle \rangle$  as  $\max$ , and  $*$  as  $+$ , then the result is a positive integer  $\#e$  (the "length of the longest path in  $e$ "). Let  $m = \max\{\#f, \#g\} + 1$ , and  $k = m(m+n+1)$ . For each positive integer  $i$  set  $hi =$

$$\langle \langle R^k, \langle \dots \langle R^k, I \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle, R^k \rangle$$

$$\quad \backslash \text{-----} /$$

$$\quad m+i$$

We shall show that both  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  are reconstructible from the normal forms of  $f(h_1, \dots, h_n)$  and  $g(h_1, \dots, h_n)$  resp. and thus  $f(h_1, \dots, h_n) \neq g(h_1, \dots, h_n)$ . Toward this end note that if  $t$  is a normal expression for a member of  $F$  and  $\#t < k$  then  $hi^*t = e =$

$$\langle \langle t', \langle \dots \langle t', t \rangle \dots \rangle t' \rangle$$

df

$$\begin{array}{c} \backslash\text{-----}/ \\ m+i \end{array}$$

where  $t'$  is  $\langle \rangle$ -free and  $\#e \leq \#t + m + n + 2$ . Now consider either  $f(h_1, \dots, h_n)$  or  $g(h_1, \dots, h_n)$ . The normal form of this expression can be computed recursively bottom-up as in the computation of  $e$  from  $h_i * t$  above. Observe that no subexpression of the form  $\langle L * h, R * h \rangle$  is introduced since each  $t'$  begins with  $R$ . In order to reconstruct, say,  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  proceed top-down to find subterms  $e$  as above with  $t'$   $\langle \rangle$ -free. By choice of  $m$  such a subterm is not the "trace" ([2]pg 18) of a subterm of  $f(h_1, \dots, h_n)$  disjoint from the  $h_i$ . Such subterms cannot overlap because their left components have  $\langle \rangle$ . Finally, consider any of the pairs  $\langle \rangle$  in  $e$ . Such a pair cannot be the trace of a pair in  $f(h_1, \dots, h_n)$  disjoint from the  $h_i$  since the left component of  $h_i$  contains  $\langle \rangle$ . Thus  $e = h_i * t$  as above.

### 9. Integers in $F$

Let  $\text{Int} = \{ R^n : n=0,1,\dots \}$  with  $n = R^n$ .

(i)  $f \in \text{Int} \iff f * R = R * f$

Indeed if  $f * R = R * f$  then, taking  $f$  in normal form,  $f$  cannot have a non trivial  $\Delta$ . Thus  $f$  is a string of  $L$ 's and  $R$ 's.

(ii)  $f \in F * L \iff f * \langle L, L \rangle = f$

$f \in F * R \iff f * \langle R, R \rangle = f$

These can be proved by induction on normal

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forms.

(iii) We say that  $f$  is an  $n$ -sequence if  $f$  has the form  $\langle f_0^*L, \langle f_1^*L, \langle \dots \langle f_{n-1}^*L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$ . For  $f \in H$  we have  $f$  is an  $n$ -sequence  $\Leftrightarrow R^n * f = f$ . This can be easily seen from paragraph (5).

(iv) Define

$$\text{Copy}(f, n) = \langle f^*L, \langle f^*R^*L, \langle \dots \langle f^*R^{n-1}^*L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$$

$$\text{Iterate}(f, n) = \langle f^n^*L, \langle f^{n-1}^*L^*R, \langle \dots \langle f^*L^*R^{n-1}, R^n \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle.$$

These are related in the following way.

$g = \text{Copy}(f, n) \Leftrightarrow g$  is an  $n$ -sequence &

$$g = R^*g^* \langle \langle L, L \rangle, f^*R^{n-1}^*L, R \rangle$$

$$g = \text{Iterate}(f, n) \Leftrightarrow g = \text{Copy}(f^*L)^* \langle I, R^n \rangle^* R^*g^* \langle I, \langle f^*L^*R^{n-1}, R^n \rangle \rangle.$$

Moreover, if  $f \in \text{Int}$  then  $\text{Copy}(f^*L, n) \in H$  and

$\text{Iterate}(f, n) \in H$ . Finally,

$$g = f^n \Leftrightarrow g = L^* \text{Iterate}(f, n)^* \langle I, I \rangle.$$

Now it follows from paragraph (5) and (i), (ii), and (iii) above that for any Diophantine set  $S$  of integers there exists an  $F$  polynomial  $f(x, y)$  and  $g \in F$  such that

$n \in S \Leftrightarrow$  there exists  $h \in F$  such that  $f(n, h) = g$ .

Briefly, this is because for  $f, g \in H$

$f = g \Leftrightarrow$  there exists  $h, t$  such that

$$\langle f, h \rangle^* t = I \ \& \ t^* \langle f, h \rangle = I \ \&$$

$$\langle g, h \rangle^* t = I \ \& \ t^* \langle g, h \rangle = I.$$

Thus by the famous theorem of Matiyasevich

([4]) the matching problem for  $F$  is unsolvable. With a bit more work it can be shown that every RE subset of  $H$  is the set of projections of such a matching problem. We do not believe that this extends to the whole of  $F$ . In particular, we conjecture that the set of simplicies  $\{ \langle I, I \rangle^n \mid n \text{ a natural no.} \}$  is not the projection of a matching problem. It is not hard to see that if this set is such a projection then every RE subset of  $F$  is as well.

### 10. Finitely Generated Submonoids

We shall next show that any finitely generated submonoid of  $F$  is the set of projections of an  $F$  unification problem. This requires some definitions.

First we want to characterize  $n$ -sequences for  $f$  not in  $H$ . Let  $\text{Copy}(n) = \text{Copy}(L, n)$ ,

then

$$f = \text{Copy}(n) \iff R^n * f = R \ \& \ f = R * f * \langle \langle L, L \rangle, \langle L * R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \rangle$$

and

$$f \text{ is an } n\text{-sequence} \iff R^n * f = R \ \&$$

$$\text{Copy}(n) * \langle I, L * R^{n-1} \rangle * f = \text{Copy}(n) * \langle I, L * R^{n-1} \rangle * f * \langle L, L \rangle$$

Consider the first biconditional.

The direction  $\Leftarrow$  can be seen as follows. If  $R^n * f = R$  we can write  $f = \langle f_1, \langle f_2, \langle \dots \langle f_n, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$ , and we can compute

$$\begin{aligned} R * f * \langle \langle L, L \rangle, \langle L * R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \rangle = \\ \langle f_2 * \langle \langle L, L \rangle, \langle L * R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \rangle, \langle \dots \langle f_n * \langle \langle L, L \rangle, \langle L * R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \rangle \\ , \langle L * R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \end{aligned}$$

If this = f then for  $i=1, \dots, n-1$   $f_i = f_{i+1} * \langle \langle L, L \rangle, \langle L * R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \rangle$  and  $f_n = L * R^{n-1} * L$ . Thus  $f_i = L * R^{i-1} * L$  and  $f = \text{Copy}(n)$ . The direction  $\Rightarrow$  is obvious. The second biconditional is proved similarly. As above

$$g = f^n \Leftrightarrow g = L * \text{Iterate}(f, n) * \langle I, I \rangle.$$

If  $s: N \rightarrow N$  let  $\text{Copy}(f, s, n) =$

$$\langle f * R^{s(0)} * L, \langle \dots \langle f * R^{s(n-1)} * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$$

so  $\text{Copy}(f, n) = \text{Copy}(f, \text{identity}, n)$ . In addition, let

$\text{Comp}(f, s, n) =$

$$\langle L * f * R^{s(0)} * L, \langle \dots \langle L * R^{n-1} * f * R^{s(n-1)} * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle.$$

The point of these definitions is that  $\text{Comp}$  can be expressed in terms of  $\text{Copy}$  and  $\text{Comp}$  effects multi-ary compositions. Indeed for  $f = \langle f_0, \langle \dots \langle f_{n-1}, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  and  $g = \langle g_0, \langle \dots \langle g_{n-1}, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  define  $f \# g = \langle f_0 * g_0, \langle \dots \langle f_{n-1} * g_{n-1}, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$ . Then  $f \# g = \text{Comp}(f * L, \text{identity}, n) * \langle I, R^n \rangle * g$ .

(i) There exists  $s$  such that  $g = \text{Copy}(I, s, n)$  iff  $g$  is an  $n$ -sequence &  $g * \langle R, R \rangle = \text{Copy}(R * L, \text{identity}, n) * \langle I, R^n \rangle * g$

For  $\Leftarrow$ , if  $g = \langle g_0 * L, \langle \dots \langle g_{n-1} * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  we compute  $\text{Copy}(R * L, \text{identity}, n) * \langle I, R^n \rangle * g = \langle R * g_0, \langle \dots \langle R * g_{n-1}, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$

$$g * \langle R, R \rangle = \langle g_0 * R, \langle \dots \langle g_{n-1} * R, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$$

and if these are equal we have for each  $i=0, \dots, n-1$   $R * g_i = g_i * R$ . Thus by paragraph 8 (i) there is an  $s$  such that  $g_i = R^{s(i)}$ .

(ii)  $g = \text{Comp}(f, \text{identity}, n)$  iff there exist  $h_1, h_2, h_3$  such that

a)  $h_1$  is an  $n$ -sequence

b)  $h_2$  is an  $n^2$ -sequence

c) there exists an  $s$  such that  $h_3 = \text{Copy}(I, s, n)$

d)  $f = h_1 * \langle I, R^n * f \rangle$

e)  $h_2 = R^n * h_2 * \langle \langle L, L \rangle, h_1 * \langle R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \rangle$

f)  $h_3 = R * h_3 * \langle \langle I, I \rangle^{n+1} * L, \langle R^{(n^2-1)} * L, R \rangle \rangle$

g)  $g = \text{Copy}(L * L, \text{identity}, n) * \langle L, R^n \rangle * h_3 * \langle h_2, R \rangle$

For  $\Rightarrow$  suppose that  $f = \langle f_0, \langle \dots \langle f_{n-1}, f_n \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$ . Let  $h_1 = \langle f_0 * L, \langle \dots \langle f_{n-1} * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  so a) and d) are satisfied.

Let  $h_2 = \langle f_0 * L, \langle \dots \langle f_{n-1} * L, \langle f_0 * R * L, \langle \dots \langle f^{n-1} * R * L, \langle \dots \langle f_0 * R^{n-1} * L, \langle \dots \langle f_{n-1} * R^{n-1} * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$

so b) and e) are satisfied. Finally, we put  $h_3 =$

$\langle L, \langle R^{n+1} * L, \langle R^{2n+2} * L, \langle \dots \langle R^{(n^2-1)} * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \rangle \rangle$

so c) is satisfied by the function  $s$  defined by  $s(i) = i(n+1)$ , and f) and g) are satisfied as well.

For  $\Leftarrow$  it is easy to argue that  $h_1, h_2$ , and  $h_3$  satisfying a)-g) must be as above in  $\Rightarrow$ .

(iii) There exists an  $s$  such that  $g = \text{Comp}(f, s, n)$  iff there exists  $s$  such that  $g = \text{Comp}(f, \text{identity}, n) * \langle \text{Copy}(I, s, n), R \rangle$ .

Now suppose that  $f_1, \dots, f_k$  are given. We will express membership in the submonoid generated by  $f_1, \dots, f_k$ . Let  $\text{Fit}(n) = \{ f : f = \langle f_s(1) * L, \langle \dots \langle f_s(n) * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  for some  $s: [1, n] \rightarrow [1, k] \}$ . We say that  $f$  is an  $n$ -permutation if  $f = \text{Copy}(L, s, n)$  for some permutation  $s: [0, n-1] \rightarrow [0, n-1]$ . It should be clear that

(iv)  $f$  is an  $n$ -permutation iff there exists  $s$  and  $m$  such that  $f = \text{Copy}(L, s, n)$  and  $(f * \langle I, R^n \rangle)^m = I$ .

(v)  $f \in \text{Fit}(n) \Leftrightarrow$  there exist integers  $m_1, \dots, m_k$  such that  $m_1 + \dots + m_k = n$  and there exists  $g$  such that  $g$  is an  $n$ -permutation and

$$f = g^* \langle I, R^n \rangle * \text{Copy}(f_1, \text{zero}, m_1) * \dots * \text{Copy}(f_k, \text{zero}, m_k)$$

Finally we conclude that  $f$  belongs to the submonoid generated by  $f_1, \dots, f_k$  if and only if there is an  $n$  such that there exists an  $n+1$ -sequence  $h$  and  $g \in \text{Fit}(n)$  with  $f = L * h * \langle I, R \rangle$  &  $h = ((g * \langle I, R \rangle) \# (R * h)) * \langle L, \langle I * L, R \rangle \rangle$ . In particular the members of the submonoid generated by  $f_1, \dots, f_k$  are the projections of solutions to the above unification problem. When  $f_1 = L$  and  $f_2 = R$  we write  $\text{Bit}(n)$  for  $\text{Fit}(n)$ , and " $n$ -string" for "a  $\langle \rangle$ -free string of  $L$ 's and  $R$ 's of length  $n$ ."

## 11. Godel Numbering

We define  $\text{Binary}(f, g) \Leftrightarrow$  for some  $m$ ,  $f = R^m$  and  $g$  is a  $\langle \rangle$ -free string of  $L$ 's and  $R$ 's such that if  $b_i$  is defined by

$$b_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{th element of } g \text{ is } L \\ 0 & \text{if the } i\text{th element of } g \text{ is } R \end{cases}$$

when  $g$  is read from right to left and  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$  then  $m = (b_{n-1})2^{n-1} + \dots + (b_1)2 + b_0$ .

We assign to each member of  $F$  a non-unique Godel number as follows. Let  $f = e(i_1) * \dots * e(i_k)$  as in the last sentence of paragraph 2 and let  $m$  be as above (in binary) such that  $b_j = 0 \Leftrightarrow i_j = 0$  and  $b_j = 1 \Leftrightarrow i_j = 1$ ; then  $m$  is a Godel number of  $f$  provided  $b_{n-1} = 1$ . We can do the

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same with  $F[x]$ . Every member of  $F(F[x])$  has a Godel number since  $L^* \langle I, I \rangle = I$ . The following are the key facts.

(i) Binary( $f, g$ )  $\Leftrightarrow$  there are integers  $m$  and  $n$  and  $h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4, h_5$  such that

(1)  $h_1 \in \text{Bit}(n)$

(2)  $h_2$  is an  $n+1$ -sequence

(3)  $h_3$  is an  $n$ -sequence

(4)  $h_4$  is an  $n$ -sequence

(5)  $h_5$  is an  $n+1$ -sequence

(6)  $g = L^* h_2^* \langle I, R \rangle$

(7)  $h_2 = ((h_1^* \langle I, R \rangle) \# (R^* h_2))^* \langle L, \langle I^* L, R \rangle \rangle$

(8)  $L^* R^{n-1} h_3 = R^* L$

(9)  $h_3 = ((R^* h_3^* \langle I, R \rangle) \# h_3)^* \langle L, \langle R^* L, R \rangle \rangle$

(10)  $h_3 = \text{Copy}(L^* L, \text{identity}, n)^* \langle I, R^n \rangle^* h_4$

(11)  $\text{Copy}(I, \text{zero}, n) =$

$\text{Copy}(R^* L, \text{identity}, n)^* \langle I, R^n \rangle^* h_4$

(12)  $h_5 =$

$(((((h_3^* \langle I, R \rangle) \# h_4)^* \langle I, R \rangle) \# (R^* h_5))^* \langle L, \langle I^* L, R \rangle \rangle$

(13)  $f = L^* h_5^* \langle I, I \rangle$

(ii)  $f$  is the Godel number of  $g \Leftrightarrow$  there are integers  $n, m$  and elements  $g_1, h_1, h_2, h_3$  such that

(1)  $f = R^m$

(2)  $g_1$  is an  $n$ -string

(3)  $h_1 \in \text{Bit}(n)$

(4)  $h_2$  is an  $n+1$ -string

(5)  $g_1 = L^* h_2^* \langle I, R \rangle$

(6)  $h_2 = ((h_1^* \langle I, R \rangle) \# (R^* h_2))^* \langle L, \langle I^* L, R \rangle \rangle$

(7)  $h_3 = ((h_1^* \langle \langle L, E \rangle, R \rangle) \# (R^* h_3))^* \langle L, \langle I^* L, R \rangle \rangle$

$$(8)g = L*h3*<I,I>$$

Let us prove fact (i) first.  $\Leftarrow$ . Suppose that  $h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4,$  and  $h_5$  are as in (1)-(13). Then  $h_1 = \langle X_{n-1} * L, \langle \dots \langle X_0 * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  for  $X_i \in \{L, R\}$ ,  $i=0 \dots n-1$  by (1) and  $h_2 = \langle X_{n-1} * \dots * X_0 * L, \langle \dots \langle X_0 * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  by (2) and (7). Thus  $g = X_{n-1} * \dots * X_0$  by (6). Now  $h_3 = \langle r_{n-1} * L, \langle \dots \langle r_1 * L, \langle R * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \rangle$  by (3) and (8). By (9)  $r_{i+1} = r_i * r_i$  for  $i=0 \dots n-2$ . Thus  $h_3 = \langle R^{(2^{(n-1)})} * L, \langle \dots \langle R^2 * L, \langle R * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \rangle$ . Hence by (4) and (10)  $h_4 =$

$$\langle \langle R^{(2^{(n-1)})}, I \rangle * L, \langle \dots \langle \langle R, I \rangle * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$$

so  $(h_3 * \langle I, R \rangle) \# h_4 = \langle s_{n-1} * L, \langle \dots \langle s_0 * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$  where

$$R^{(2^i)} \text{ if } r_i = L$$

$$s_i =$$

$$R^0 \quad \text{if } r_i = R.$$

Now by (5) and (12)  $h_5 =$

$$\langle s_{n-1} * \dots * s_0 * L, \langle \dots \langle s_0 * L, R \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle$$

Thus by (13)  $f = s_{n-1} * \dots * s_0 =$

$$(b_{n-1})2^{(n-1)} + \dots + (b_1)2 + b_0$$

R

where the  $b_i$  are as above. This completes the proof of  $\Leftarrow$ . For  $\Rightarrow$  use the  $h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4,$  and  $h_5$  as in  $\Leftarrow$ . Finally (ii) is proved like (i).

We conclude that the set of pairs  $(f, g)$  such that  $f$  is the Godel number of  $g$  is the projection of the set of solutions to a (3 variable) unification problem. A similar result holds for  $F[x]$ .

Combining this with paragraph 8 gives the following theorem:

Every RE subset of  $F$  is the projection of the set of solutions to a unification problem. A similar result holds for  $F[x]$ .

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