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Enhanced Coinduction

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Curriculum vitae

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Samenvatting

Coïnductie, de duale van inductie, is een fundamenteel principe voor het definiëren van oneindige objecten, en het bewijzen van eigenschappen van zulke objecten. Het belangrijkste voorbeeld van coïnductie in de informatica is *bisimulatie*, een algemene karakterisatie van equivalentie tussen systemen met oneindig of circulair gedrag, met een concrete bewijsmethode. Coïnductieve technieken verschaffen nuttige bewijsprincipes voor verschillende onderzoeksgebieden zoals de theorie van concurrency, de studie van oneindige datastructuren en de automatentheorie.

De brede toepasbaarheid en toenemende interesse in coïnductieve technieken zijn gebaseerd op de theorie van *coalgebra's*. Dit is een wiskunde theorie waarin we eigenschappen van toestandsgebaseerde modellen van berekening kunnen begrijpen en bewijzen op een hoog abstractieniveau, en deze eigenschappen vervolgens toepassen op concrete systemen. De theorie van coalgebra's geeft een structureel en algemeen perspectief op bisimulatie en coïnductie, met een canonieke karakterisatie van equivalentie en bijbehorende bewijsprincipes.

In dit proefschrift ontwikkelen we technieken die coïnductief redeneren vereenvoudigen en verbeteren. We gebruiken hiervoor de theorie van coalgebra's, om algemeen toepasbare methoden te verkrijgen. In het eerste deel van het proefschrift introduceren we verbeteringen van coïnductieve bewijsprincipes, en in het tweede gedeelte van coïnductieve definitieprincipes.

We introduceren een coalgebraïsche theorie van verbeterde bewijstechnieken voor bisimilariteit, in Hoofdstuk 4. Onze theorie generaliseert de zogeheten *up-to-technieken*, die geïntroduceerd zijn door Milner en Sangorgi om het redeneren over processen te vereenvoudigen, van processen naar een breed scala aan toestandsgebaseerde systemen, zoals (niet)deterministische automaten, systemen die oneindige rijtjes representeren en transitie-systemen met kwantitatieve informatie. In Hoofdstuk 2 passen we deze technieken toe om te redeneren over formele talen. In Hoofdstuk 5 worden onze bewijsprincipes verder gegeneraliseerd, op basis van een algemeen perspectief op coïnductieve predicaten, zoals geïntroduceerd door Hermida en Jacobs. Met deze generalisatie verkrijgen we verbeterde bewijsprincipes voor willekeurige coïnductieve predicaten, wat we toepassen om nieuwe methoden te verkrijgen voor het redeneren over simulatie van transitie-systemen, taalinclusie van automaten met kwantitatieve informatie, en divergentie van processen.

Coïnductieve definitietechnieken zijn geschikt voor het definiëren en bestuderen van de semantiek van talen. Turi en Plotkin hebben getoond dat men een

compositionele semantiek kan verkrijgen door de interactie tussen syntax (gemodelleerd door algebra's) en observaties (gemodelleerd door coalgebra's) te specificeren door middel van een zogeheten distributieve wet. In Hoofdstuk 6 laten we zien hoe zulke distributieve wetten geïntegreerd kunnen worden met recursieve vergelijkingen, om zo het specificeren van talen te vereenvoudigen. Het belangrijkste resultaat uit dit hoofdstuk is dat de interpretatie van een specificatie, die recursieve gelijkheden van een bepaalde vorm kan bevatten, compositioneel is, en dat de bewijsprincipes uit eerdere hoofdstukken gebruikt kunnen worden.

Distributieve wetten kunnen nuttig zijn om coïnductief gedefinieerde talen te bestuderen, maar ze zijn soms moeilijk te beschrijven. In Hoofdstuk 7 laten we zien hoe distributieve wetten gepresenteerd kunnen worden als quotient van andere distributieve wetten, die op hun beurt makkelijk te presenteren zijn met gebruik van bestaande technieken. We passen onze techniek toe om eenvoudig distributieve wetten af te leiden voor de semantiek van operaties op oneindige rijtjes en contextvrije grammatica's.

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