On Spector's bar-recursion.

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Informally, bar-recursion is recursion over well-founded trees and can be considered the computational equivalent to Brouwer's bar-induction.

Spector introduces bar-recursion to extend Gödel's consistency proof (via functional interpretation) for (classical) arithmetic to full classical analysis.

Interpretation of Peano arithmetic + countable/dependent choice allows program extraction from proofs in classical analysis.

Spector uses bar-recursion (BR) to give a functional interpretation of the negative translation of countable choice (CC^N) (extended by Howard to dependent choice (DC^N)).

First, it is shown that CC^N (resp. DC^N) is intuitionistically derivable from the double-negation shift, DNS:

$$\forall x^0 \neg \neg P(x) \rightarrow \neg \neg \forall x^0 P(x)$$
, where P is arbitrary.

Then BR is used to give a functional interpretation of DNS.

Aim of this talk: Present investigations of finite cases of the double-negation shift and their functional interpretation in order to gain better understanding of Spector's bar-recursive solution of the functional interpretation of the full double-negation shift.

What is the intuition behind Spector's solution?

Also, (this is very much work in progress!) compare functional interpretation and modified realizability interpretation of finite cases in order to shed light on differences between

- ullet Spector's bar-recursion, used for functional interpretation of DNS, and
- ullet modified bar-recursion, which is used for modified realizabilty interpretation of DNS.

On Spector's bar-recursion

Overview

- Introduction
- Spector's solution
- Finite cases of the double-negation shift
- Modified realizability and double-negation shift

For the functional interpretation of the double-negation shift we have to consider:

$$\forall x^0 \neg \neg \exists a \forall b P(x, a, b) \rightarrow \neg \neg \forall y^0 \exists c \forall d P(y, c, d).$$

which using Gödel's $()_D$ -translation is transformed further to

$$\exists x, B, C \ \forall Y, A, D$$

$$(P(x, A(x, B), B(A(x, B))) \to P(Y(C), C(Y(C)), D(C))).$$

This gives rise to the following functional equations:

$$x = Y(C), A(x,B) = C(Y(C)), B(A(x,b)) = D(C),$$

where x is of type 0, C is of type $0 \to \rho$ and Y is of type $(0 \to \rho) \to 0$ for some type ρ .

To solve the functional interpretation, we have to define x, B and C (most importantly the sequence C) in terms of Y, A and D.

Spector uses the following special form of bar-recursion

$$\varphi(x,C,n) = \begin{cases} &Cn & \text{if } n < x,\\ &\mathbf{0} & \text{if } n > x \wedge Y(\langle C0, \dots C(x-1) \rangle) < x,\\ &\varphi(x+1,\langle C0, \dots C(x-1), a_0 \rangle) & \text{otherwise} \ . \end{cases}$$

where $a_0 = G_0(x, \lambda a. \varphi(x+1, \langle C0, \dots C(x-1), a \rangle))$ and $\varphi(x, C) = \lambda n. \varphi(x, C, n)$.

This form of bar-recursion is then used to define the following functionals:

- $G_0 = \lambda m, E.A(m, \lambda a.D(E(a)),$
- $C_0 = \varphi(0, \mathcal{O})$, where \mathcal{O} denotes the empty sequence,
- $E_m = \lambda a.\varphi(m+1,\langle C0,\ldots C(x-1),a\rangle),$
- $B_m = \lambda a.D(E_m(a))$,

yielding the final solutions $C = C_0$, x = Y(C) and $B = B_x$ for the functional interpretation of DNS.

It is easy to verify that the given solution satisfies the functional equations for the double-negation shift.

Question: How did Spector think of this solution? What is the intuition behind the solution, especially behind the bar-recursive definition of the sequence C?

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Spector remarks that if the range of the functional Y is finite, i.e. if $\forall C(Y(C) < n)$ for some n, then computing C is easy:

One computes C(n) in terms of $C(0), \ldots, C(n-1)$, then C(n-1) in terms of $C(0), \ldots, C(n-2)$, etc.

Intuition: if the range of the functional Y is finite one can unfold the bar-recursive definition of C to yield a primitive recursive one.

While the full double-negation shift does not have a functional interpretation by primitive recursive functionals, the following restricted form (k-DNS) does:

$$\forall k^0 (\forall x^0 \le k \neg \neg \exists a \forall b P(x, a, b) \rightarrow \neg \neg \forall y \le k \exists c \forall d P(y, c, d)).$$

For bar-recursion this corresponds to the case, where one is given a bound k on the range of Y independent of its argument C.

We give an informal intuitionistic proof of k-DNS by induction on k. The base case k=0 this is trivial. For k+1 we argue:

$$\forall x \le k + 1 \neg \neg P(x) \qquad \Rightarrow$$

$$\forall x \le k \neg \neg P(x) \land \neg \neg P(k+1) \Rightarrow (IH)$$

$$\neg \neg \forall x \le k P(x) \land \neg \neg P(k+1) \Rightarrow (*)$$

$$\neg \neg (\forall x \le k P(x) \land P(k+1)) \Rightarrow$$

$$\neg \neg (\forall x \le k P(x) \land P(k+1)) \Rightarrow$$

where (*) uses that $\neg \neg A \land \neg \neg B \to \neg \neg (A \land B)$ is provable in intuitionistic logic.

The crucial step is the application of $\neg \neg A \land \neg \neg B \to \neg \neg (A \land B)$.

As this is provable in intuitionistic logic, this has a functional interpretation in primitive recursive functionals.

Question: What is the relationship between (the functional interpretations of) k-DNS and full DNS?

As a first step, we compare the two approaches of obtaining a functional interpretation of k-DNS, via

- Spector bar-recursion, using $Y(C) \leq k$ for all C,
- induction on k and $\neg \neg A \land \neg \neg B \rightarrow \neg \neg (A \land B)$.

We carry out the comparison for the most simple, non-trivial case k=1, focusing on the construction of the sequence C.

For bar-recursion, we must evaluate $\varphi(0,\mathcal{O})$ using the definition of the bar-recursor φ and the fact that $Y(C) \leq 1$ for all C.

Carrying out the evaluation step-by-step one arrives at the following sequence ${\cal C}$

$$\langle A(0, \lambda a.D(\langle a, A(1, \lambda b.D(\langle a, b \rangle)) \rangle)),$$

 $A(1, \lambda c.D(\langle [C(0)], c \rangle)) \rangle.$

Next, consider the functional interpretation of

$$(\neg \neg \exists a_0 \forall b_0 P_0(a_0, b_0) \land \neg \neg \exists a_1 \forall b_1 P_1(a_1, b_1))$$

$$\rightarrow \neg \neg (\exists c_0 \forall d_0 P_0(c_0, d_0) \land \exists c_1 \forall d_1 P_1(c_1, d_1)).$$

where realizers for c_0, c_1 will depend on functionals A_0, A_1, D_0, D_1 . Using functional interpretation one obtains the following functional realizers:

$$C_0 := A_0(\lambda a. D_0(a, A_1(\lambda b. D_1(a, b))))$$

$$C_1 := A_1(\lambda c. D_1([C_0], c))$$

Observation: The solutions are exactly the same!

First tentative conclusion: The functional interpretation of the full double-negation shift is actually the extension of the functional interpretation of $\neg \neg A \land \neg \neg B \to \neg \neg (A \land B)$ to the infinitary (but still well-founded) case.

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Berardi, Bezem and Coquand(1998) and, inspired by that, Berger and Oliva(2002) give a modified realizability interpretation of the double-negation shift using so-called modified bar-recursion.

Whereas Spector's solution only requires Y to be well-founded, i.e.

$$\forall Y \ \forall C^{0 \to \rho} \ \exists n^0 \ \forall m \ge n(Y(\overline{C, m}) < m),$$

verifying the mr-interpretation of DNS by modified bar-recursion requires Y to be continuous.

Hence, the mr-interpretation of DNS does not hold in the type structure of majorizable functionals (used for bound extraction).

For the mr-interpretation of DNS we need to realize

$$\forall x^0 (P(n) \to \bot) \to \bot) \to (\forall x^0 P(x) \to \bot) \to \bot.$$

There is no realizers for \bot , so we need the additional step of A-translation. Let * be the type of a realizer for the chosen A, then from realizers

$$Y^{(0 \to \rho) \to *}$$
 $\operatorname{mr} (\forall x^0 P(x) \to \bot)$ $G^{0 \to ((\rho \to *) \to *)}$ $\operatorname{mr} \forall x^0 ((P(n) \to \bot) \to \bot)$

we must produce a suitable realizer of type *.

Let us again look at the finite case, k-DNS, starting with the mr-interpretation of $\neg \neg P_0 \wedge \neg \neg P_1 \rightarrow \neg \neg (P_0 \wedge P_1)$.

Assume we are given the following realizers:

$$Y(x_0,x_1)$$
 mr \bot $\lambda x_1.Y(x_0,x_1)$ mr $P_1 \to \bot$ $G_1(\lambda x_1.Y(x_0,x_1))$ mr \bot $G_0(\lambda x_0.G_1(\lambda x_1.Y(x_0,x_1)))$ mr \bot

So in conclusion, $\lambda G_0, G_1, Y.G_0(\lambda x_0.G_1(\lambda x_1.Y(x_0, x_1)))$ mr $\neg \neg P_0 \wedge \neg \neg P_1 \rightarrow \neg \neg (P_0 \wedge P_1).$

However, attacking the same problem via modified bar-recursion – the restricted problem here corresponds to Y being uniformly continuous, sdepending only on the first two elements of the sequence – we get a very different solution:

$$Y(\langle \lambda n. H(G_0(\lambda x_0. Y(\langle x_0 \rangle @ \lambda n. H(G_1(\lambda x_1. Y(\langle x_0, x_1 \rangle))))))\rangle)$$

where $H^{*\to \rho}$ is an auxilliary function satisfying $\forall n(H \text{ mr } B(n))$ and H is independent of n.

Questions: Why? What is the difference between extending the functional interpretation and the modified realizability interpretation to the infinitary case?

Is there a different way of treating the mr-interpretation of DNS?

Answers: I do not have the answers ... yet!

Future work(in progress): Continue the investigations begun and discussed in this presentation.

References:

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