

# Bottom-Up Computation Using Trees of Sublists: Proofs

Shin-Cheng Mu

Institute of Information Science, Academia Sinica

## Abstract

Proofs accompanying the paper Bottom-up computation using trees of sublists, *Journal of Functional Programming Special Issue on Program Calculation*, 2025.

## 1 DEFINITIONS

Non-dependently typed version of the binomial tree:

**data**  $B\ a = T\ a \mid N\ (B\ a)\ (B\ a)$  ,

equipped with its *map* and *zip*:

$B \quad :: (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow B\ a \rightarrow B\ b$  ,  
 $zipBW :: (a \rightarrow b \rightarrow c) \rightarrow B\ a \rightarrow B\ b \rightarrow B\ c$  .

And we have  $unT\ (T\ x) = x$ .

In fact, we do not generate all trees. The shapes of trees we generate correspond to the function *ch*, a tree version of the function that chooses a given number of elements from a list: The shape

$ch :: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow L\ a \rightarrow B\ (L\ a)$   
 $ch\ 0 \quad \_ = T\ []$   
 $ch\ k \quad xs \quad | \quad k \leq length\ xs = T\ xs$   
 $ch\ (1 + k)\ (x : xs) = N\ (B\ (x:) (ch\ k\ xs))\ (ch\ (1 + k)\ xs)$  .

We may also constraint the shape of the trees by dependent type:

**data**  $B\ (a : Set) : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow Set$  **where**  
 $T_0 : a \rightarrow B\ a\ 0\ n$   
 $T_n : a \rightarrow B\ a\ (suc\ n)\ (suc\ n)$   
 $N : B\ a\ k\ n \rightarrow B\ a\ (suc\ k)\ n \rightarrow B\ a\ (suc\ k)\ (suc\ n)$  .

For this note we will stay in the non-dependently typed world.

## 2 UPGRADE

The paper derived the following function *up*:

$up :: B\ a \rightarrow B\ (L\ a)$   
 $up\ (N\ (T\ p)\ (T\ q)) = T\ [p, q]$   
 $up\ (N\ t\ \_ (T\ q)) = T\ (unT\ (up\ t) ++ [q])$   
 $up\ (N\ (T\ p)\ u\ \_) = N\ (B\ (\lambda q \rightarrow [p, q])\ u)\ (up\ u)$   
 $up\ (N\ t\ \_ u\ \_) = N\ (zipBW\ snoc\ (up\ t)\ u)\ (up\ u)$  .

With dependent type,  $up$  could be typed

$$up : \forall \{a\ k\ n\} \rightarrow (0 < k) \rightarrow (k < n) \rightarrow B\ a\ k\ n \rightarrow B\ (Vec\ a\ (1 + k))\ (1 + k)\ n ,$$

but again, we stay in the non-dependent realm in this note.

The derivation of  $up$  was driven by trying to prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 1.**

$$\begin{aligned} & (\forall xs, k : 2 \leq 1 + k \leq \text{length } xs : \\ & \quad up\ (ch\ k\ xs) = B\ subs\ (ch\ (1 + k)\ xs)) . \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

And here is the constructed proof.

*Proof.* The proof is an induction on  $xs$ . The case analysis follows the shape of  $ch\ (1 + k)\ xs$  (on the RHS of (1)). Therefore, there is a base case, a case when  $xs$  is non-empty and  $1 + k = \text{length } xs$ , and a case when  $1 + k < \text{length } xs$ . However, since the constraints demand that  $xs$  has at least two elements, the base case will be lists of length 2, and in the inductive cases the length of the list will be at least 3.

**CASE 1.**  $xs := [y, z]$ .

The constraints force  $k$  to be 1. We reason:

$$\begin{aligned} & B\ subs\ (ch\ 2\ [y, z]) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } ch \} \\ & B\ subs\ (\top\ [y, z]) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } B \text{ and } subs \} \\ & \top\ [[y], [z]] \\ &= \{ \text{definition of } up \} \\ & up\ (N\ (\top\ [y])\ (\top\ [z])) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } ch \} \\ & up\ (ch\ 1\ [y, z]) . \end{aligned}$$

**case 2.**  $xs := x : xs$ ,  $k := 1 + k$ , where  $\text{length } xs \geq 2$ , and  $1 + (1 + k) = \text{length } (x : xs)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & up\ (ch\ (1 + k)\ (x : xs)) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } ch, \text{ since } 1 + k < \text{length } (x : xs) \} \\ & up\ (N\ (B\ (x :))\ (ch\ k\ xs))\ (ch\ (1 + k)\ xs)) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } ch, \text{ since } 1 + k = \text{length } xs \} \\ & up\ (N\ (B\ (x :))\ (ch\ k\ xs))\ (\top\ xs)) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } up \} \\ & \top\ (unT\ (up\ (B\ (x :))\ (ch\ k\ xs)))\ ++\ [xs]) \\ &= \{ up\ \text{natural} \} \\ & \top\ (unT\ (B\ (L\ (x :))\ (up\ (ch\ k\ xs)))\ ++\ [xs]) \\ &= \{ \text{induction} \} \\ & \top\ (unT\ (B\ (L\ (x :))\ (B\ subs\ (ch\ (1 + k)\ xs)))\ ++\ [xs]) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } ch, \text{ since } 1 + k = \text{length } xs \} \\ & \top\ (unT\ (B\ (L\ (x :))\ (B\ subs\ (\top\ xs)))\ ++\ [xs]) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } B \text{ and } L \} \\ & \top\ (L\ (x :)\ (subs\ xs)\ ++\ [xs]) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } subs \} \\ & \top\ (subs\ (x : xs)) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } B \} \\ & B\ subs\ (\top\ (x : xs)) \\ &= \{ \text{def. of } ch, \text{ since } 2 + k = \text{length } (x : xs) \} \\ & B\ subs\ (ch\ (2 + k)\ (x : xs)) . \end{aligned}$$

**case 3.**  $xs := x : xs, k := 1 + k$ , where  $\text{length } xs \geq 2$ , and  $1 + (1 + k) < \text{length } (x : xs)$ .  
The constraints become  $2 \leq 2 + k < \text{length } (x : xs)$ . The property to prove is:

$$\text{up } (ch \ (1 + k) \ (x : xs)) = B \ \text{subs } (ch \ (2 + k) \ (x : xs)) \ .$$

We split this into two sub-cases:

**case 3.1**  $k := 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{up } (ch \ 1 \ (x : xs)) \\ = & \{ \text{def. of } ch, \text{ since } 1 < \text{length } (x : xs) \} \\ & \text{up } (N \ (B \ (x:) \ (ch \ 0 \ xs)) \ (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \\ = & \{ \text{def. of } ch \} \\ & \text{up } (N \ (T \ [x]) \ (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \\ = & \{ \text{def. of } up \} \\ & N \ (B \ (\lambda q \rightarrow [[x], q]) \ (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \ (\text{up } (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \\ = & \{ (*) \text{ see below } \} \\ & N \ (B \ (\text{subs} \circ (x:)) \ (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \ (\text{up } (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \\ = & \{ \text{induction } \} \\ & N \ (B \ (\text{subs} \circ (x:)) \ (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \ (B \ \text{subs} \ (ch \ 2 \ xs)) \\ = & \{ \text{def. of } B \} \\ & B \ \text{subs} \ (N \ (B \ (x:) \ (ch \ 1 \ xs)) \ (ch \ 2 \ xs)) \\ = & \{ \text{def. of } ch, \text{ since } 2 < \text{length } (x : xs) \} \\ & B \ \text{subs} \ (ch \ 2 \ (x : xs)) \ . \end{aligned}$$

The step (\*) holds because every tip in  $ch \ 1 \ xs$  is a singleton list, and for a singleton list  $[z]$ , we have  $\text{subs } (x : [z]) = [[x], [z]]$ .

**case 3.2**  $0 < k$  (and  $k < \text{length } xs - 1$ ). For this case we need the following auxiliary properties. Recall that

- by definition,  $\text{sub } (x : xs) = L \ (x:) \ (\text{sub } xs) \ ++ \ [xs]$ .
- Given a tree  $u$  and functions  $f, g$ , and  $h$ , by naturality of  $\text{zipBW}$  we have:

$$B \ (\lambda z \rightarrow f \ (g \ z) \ (h \ z)) \ u = \text{zipBW } f \ (B \ g \ u) \ (B \ h \ u) \ . \quad (2)$$

- Therefore, letting  $g = L \ (x:) \circ \text{subs}$ ,  $h = id$ , and  $f = \text{snoc}$  in (2), where  $\text{snoc } ys \ z = ys \ ++ \ [z]$ , we have:

$$B \ (\text{subs} \circ (x:)) \ u = \text{zipBW } \text{snoc} \ (B \ (L \ (x:) \circ \text{subs}) \ u) \ u \ . \quad (3)$$

We reason:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{up } (ch \ (1 + k) \ (x : xs)) \\ = & \{ \text{def. of } ch, \text{ since } 1 + k < \text{length } (x : xs) \} \\ & \text{up } (N \ (B \ (x:) \ (ch \ k \ xs)) \ (ch \ (1 + k) \ xs)) \ . \\ = & \{ \text{def. of } up, \text{ since } k \neq 0 \text{ and } 1 + k < \text{length } xs \} \\ & N \ (\text{zipBW } \text{snoc} \ (\text{up} \circ B \ (x:) \circ ch \ k \ \$ \ xs) \ (ch \ (1 + k) \ xs)) \\ & \ (\text{up } (ch \ (1 + k) \ xs)) \end{aligned}$$

Let us focus on the first argument to  $N$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{zipBW } \text{snoc} \ (\text{up} \circ B \ (x:) \circ ch \ k \ \$ \ xs) \ (ch \ (1 + k) \ xs) \\ = & \{ up \text{ natural } \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{zipBW snoc } (B (L (x:)) \circ \text{up} \circ \text{ch } k \$ xs) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs) \\
&= \{ \text{induction} \} \\
& \text{zipBW snoc } (B (L (x:) \circ \text{subs}) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs)) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs) \\
&= \{ \text{by (3)} \} \\
& B (\text{subs} \circ (x:)) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs) .
\end{aligned}$$

We continue:

$$\begin{aligned}
& N (\text{zipBW snoc } (\text{up} \circ B (x:) \circ \text{ch } k \$ xs) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs)) \\
& \quad (\text{up } (\text{ch } (1+k) xs)) \\
&= \{ \text{calculation above} \} \\
& N (B (\text{subs} \circ (x:)) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs)) (\text{up } (\text{ch } (1+k) xs)) \\
&= \{ \text{induction} \} \\
& N (B (\text{subs} \circ (x:)) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs)) (B \text{subs } (\text{ch } (2+k) xs)) \\
&= \{ \text{def. of } B \} \\
& B \text{subs } (N (B (x:) (\text{ch } (1+k) xs)) (\text{ch } (2+k) xs)) \\
&= \{ \text{def. of } \text{ch} \} \\
& B \text{subs } (\text{ch } (2+k) (x : xs)) .
\end{aligned}$$

□

### 3 TOP-DOWN AND BOTTOM-UP ALGORITHMS

The generic top-down algorithm is defined by:

$$\begin{aligned}
td &:: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow L X \rightarrow Y \\
td \ 0 &= f \circ ex \\
td \ (1+n) &= g \circ L (td \ n) \circ \text{subs} .
\end{aligned}$$

The intention is that  $td \ n$  is a function defined for inputs of length exactly  $1+n$ .

It helps to define a variation:

$$\begin{aligned}
td' &:: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow L Y \rightarrow Y \\
td' \ 0 &= ex \\
td' \ (1+n) &= g \circ L (td' \ n) \circ \text{subs} .
\end{aligned}$$

The difference is that  $td'$  calls only  $ex$  in the base case. It is a routine induction showing that

$$td \ n = td' \ n \circ L f . \quad (4)$$

All the calls to  $f$  are thus factored to the beginning of the algorithm. We may then focus on transforming  $td'$ .

Note that for  $\text{ch } n \ xs$  where  $n = \text{length } xs$  always results in  $T \ xs$ . That is, we have

$$\text{unT } (\text{ch } n \ xs) = xs , \text{ where } n = \text{length } xs. \quad (5)$$

Our main theorem is that

**Theorem 2.** For all  $n :: \mathbb{N}$  we have  $td \ n = bu \ n$ , where

$$bu \ n = \text{unT} \circ (B \ g \circ \text{up})^n \circ B \ ex \circ \text{ch } 1 \circ L f .$$

That is, the top-down algorithm  $td \ n$  is equivalent to a bottom-up algorithm  $bu \ n$ , where the input is preprocessed by  $B \ ex \circ \text{ch } 1 \circ L f$ , followed by  $n$  steps of  $B \ g \circ \text{up}$ . By then we will get a singleton tree, whose content can be extracted by  $\text{unT}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\text{length } xs = 1 + n$ . We reason:

$$\begin{aligned}
& td\ n\ xs \\
&= \{ \text{by (4)} \} \\
&\quad (td'\ n \circ L\ f)\ xs \\
&= \{ \text{by (5)} \} \\
&\quad (td'\ n \circ unT \circ ch\ (1 + n) \circ L\ f)\ xs \\
&= \{ \text{naturality of } unT \} \\
&\quad (unT \circ B\ (td'\ n) \circ ch\ (1 + n) \circ L\ f)\ xs \\
&= \{ \text{Lemma 1} \} \\
&\quad (unT \circ (B\ g \circ up)^n \circ B\ ex \circ ch\ 1 \circ L\ f)\ xs \\
&= \{ \text{definition of } bu \} \\
&\quad bu\ n\ xs\ .
\end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 1, showing that  $B\ (td'\ n) \circ ch\ (1 + n)$  can be performed by  $n$  steps of  $B\ g \circ up$ , after some preprocessing, is where the main proof is done. This is the key lemma that relates (1) to the main algorithm.

**Lemma 1.**  $B\ (td'\ n) \circ ch\ (1 + n) = (B\ g \circ up)^n \circ B\ ex \circ ch\ 1$ .

*Proof.* For  $n := 0$  both sides simplify to  $B\ ex \circ ch\ 1$ . For  $n := 1 + n$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
& B\ (td'\ (1 + n)) \circ ch\ (2 + n) \\
&= \{ \text{def. of } td' \} \\
&\quad B\ (g \circ L\ (td'\ n) \circ subs) \circ ch\ (2 + n) \\
&= \{ \text{by (1)} \} \\
&\quad B\ (g \circ L\ (td'\ n)) \circ up \circ ch\ (1 + n) \\
&= \{ \text{up natural} \} \\
&\quad B\ g \circ up \circ B\ (td'\ n) \circ ch\ (1 + n) \\
&= \{ \text{induction} \} \\
&\quad B\ g \circ up \circ (B\ g \circ up)^n \circ B\ ex \circ ch\ 1 \\
&= \{ (\circ) \text{ associative, def. of } f^n \} \\
&\quad (B\ g \circ up)^{1+n} \circ B\ ex \circ ch\ 1\ .
\end{aligned}$$

□