The subobject classifier of the category of functional bisimulations

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Abstract. We show the existence of subobject classifier in the category of nondeterministic dynamical systems and functional bisimulations.

Key words: nondeterministic dynamical system, functional bisimulation, coalgebra, subobject classifier, dense.

1. Introduction

In [8], we studied the category \mathcal{NDyn} of nondeterministic dynamical systems whose morphisms are functional bisimulations.

A nondeterministic dynamical system is a labelled transition system whose label set has only one element. A functional bisimulation is a map between transition systems. The main results of [8] are the following.

- The category \mathcal{NDyn} is an autonomous category, i.e., monoidal closed.
- There exists a subobject classifier.

The monoidal closedness was shown by constructing \mathcal{NDyn} objects via the presheaves over the category $\mathcal{T}ree$, where the $\mathcal{T}ree$ is a small, dense subcategory of \mathcal{NDyn} . On the other hand the existence of the subobject classifier was proved by using the theory of hypersets.

In this paper, we prove the existence of subobject classifier in \mathcal{NDyn} by using the construction via presheaves over $\mathcal{T}ree$ in the same way as the proof of monoidal closedness in [8]. The proof uses a general lemma about presheaf categories, which is given in [10].

As we remark later, \mathcal{NDyn} is a category of coalgebras for finite powerset functor without empty set. We can brush up the technique which is used in this paper, to an existence theorem [7] of subobject classifiers in categories of coalgebras by using accessible category theory, which led to another existential proof [3] in the context of topos theory.

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