

Compiling an Interpreter

or

Fun with Algebra

the specification, use, and implementation of
functional languages

CS6940, Fall 2000

Outline

- ➔ • Programming with Functions
- Defining a Functional Language
- Type-Checking a Functional Program
- Implementing a Functional Language

Programming with Functions

- A program comprises function definitions and applications

$$f(x) \equiv (x \bullet x) + 10$$

$$f(2) = 14$$

Programming with Functions

- A program comprises function definitions and applications

$$f(x) \equiv (x \bullet x) + 10$$

$$g(y) \equiv 3 \bullet y$$

$$g(f(2)) = 42$$

Programming with Functions

- Functions consume and produce more than numbers

$\text{mkpair}(x, y) \equiv \langle x, y \rangle$

 $\text{mkpair}(1, 2) = \langle 1, 2 \rangle$

Programming with Functions

- Functions consume and produce more than numbers

$\text{mkpair}(x, y) \equiv \langle x, y \rangle$

$\text{mklist}(x, y) \equiv \text{mkpair}(x, \text{mkpair}(y, \text{empty}))$

 $\text{mklist}(1, 2) = \langle 1, \langle 2, \text{empty} \rangle \rangle$

Programming with Functions

- Functions consume and produce more than numbers

$\text{mkpair}(x, y) \equiv \langle x, y \rangle$

$\text{mklist}(x, y) \equiv \text{mkpair}(x, \text{mkpair}(y, \text{empty}))$

$\text{fst}(\langle x, y \rangle) \equiv x$

 $\text{fst}(\text{mklist}(1, 2)) = 1$

Programming with Functions

- Use functions to build complex data from simple constructs
- Implement branches with conditional functions

$\text{add}(n, N, \text{pb}) \equiv \langle \langle n, N \rangle, \text{pb} \rangle$

$\text{lookup}(n, \langle \langle n2, N \rangle, \text{pb} \rangle) \equiv \begin{cases} n = n2 & N \\ n \neq n2 & \text{lookup}(n, \text{pb}) \end{cases}$

 $\text{lookup}(\text{"Jack"}, \text{add}(\text{"Jack"}, \text{"x1212"}, \text{empty})) = \text{"x1212"}$

Computation as Algebra

- Compute using algebraic equivalences

$$f(x) \equiv (x \bullet x) + 10$$

$$f(2) =$$

Computation as Algebra

- Compute using algebraic equivalences

$$f(x) \equiv (x \bullet x) + 10$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(2) &= (2 \bullet 2) + 10 \\ &= 4 + 10 \\ &= 14 \end{aligned}$$

Computation as Algebra

- Equivalence is pattern matching...

$$\text{mkpair}(x, y) \equiv \langle x, y \rangle$$

$$\text{mklist}(x, y) \equiv \text{mkpair}(x, \text{mkpair}(y, \text{empty}))$$

$$\text{mklist}(1, 2) =$$

Computation as Algebra

- Equivalence is pattern matching...

$$\text{mkpair}(x, y) \equiv \langle x, y \rangle$$

$$\text{mklist}(x, y) \equiv \text{mkpair}(x, \text{mkpair}(y, \text{empty}))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{mklist}(1, 2) &= \text{mkpair}(1, \text{mkpair}(2, \text{empty})) \\ &= \langle 1, \text{mkpair}(2, \text{empty}) \rangle \\ &= \langle 1, \langle 2, \text{empty} \rangle \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{or } &= \text{mkpair}(1, \text{mkpair}(2, \text{empty})) \\ &= \text{mkpair}(1, \langle 2, \text{empty} \rangle) \\ &= \langle 1, \langle 2, \text{empty} \rangle \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Computation as Algebra

- ... and matching with conditionals

$$\text{add}(n, N, pb) \equiv \langle \langle n, N \rangle, pb \rangle$$

$$\text{lookup}(n, \langle \langle n2, N \rangle, pb \rangle) \equiv \begin{cases} n = n2 & N \\ n \neq n2 & \text{lookup}(n, pb) \end{cases}$$

lookup("Jack", **add**("Jack", "x1212", empty))

= **lookup**("Jack", $\langle \langle$ "Jack", "x1212" \rangle , empty)
= "x1212"

Computation as Algebra

- ... and matching with conditionals

$$\text{add}(n, N, pb) \equiv \langle \langle n, N \rangle, pb \rangle$$

$$\text{lookup}(n, \langle \langle n2, N \rangle, pb \rangle) \equiv \begin{cases} n = n2 & N \\ n \neq n2 & \text{lookup}(n, pb) \end{cases}$$

lookup("Jill", **add**("Jack", "x1212", empty))

= **lookup**("Jill", $\langle \langle$ "Jack", "x1212" \rangle , empty)
= **lookup**("Jill", empty)

stuck implies an error

Higher-Order Functions

- A *higher-order function* is one that consumes or produces functions

$$f(x) \equiv x \bullet x$$

$$\text{twice}(g, x) \equiv g(g(x))$$

twice(f, 2) = f(f(2))
= f(2 • 2)
= f(4)
= 4 • 4
= 16

Higher-Order Functions

- A *higher-order function* is one that consumes or produces functions

$$\text{fst}(\langle x, y \rangle) \equiv x$$

$$\text{twice}(g, x) \equiv g(g(x))$$

twice(fst, $\langle \langle$ 1, 2 \rangle , 3 \rangle) = **fst**(fst($\langle \langle$ 1, 2 \rangle , 3 \rangle))
= **fst**(\langle 1, 2 \rangle)
= 1

The Direction of Evaluation

$$3 + 4 = ?$$

The Direction of Evaluation

$$3 + 4 = 3 + (2 + 2)$$

The Direction of Evaluation

$$\begin{aligned} f(2) &= -1 + f(2) + 1 \\ &= -1 + f(\text{sqrt}(4)) + 1 \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

- For programming, we want an evaluation direction that produces *values*

Expressions and Values

- Many possible *expressions*

8

$2 + 7 + \text{sqrt}(9)$

fst

$\langle 1, \text{fst}(\langle \text{empty}, \text{empty} \rangle) \rangle$

- Certain expressions are designated as *values*

8

fst

$\langle 1, \text{empty} \rangle$

Evaluation

- Define evaluation to **reduce** expressions to values

$$\begin{aligned}(2 + 7) + 8 &\rightarrow 9 + 8 \\ &\rightarrow 17\end{aligned}$$

Evaluation with Higher-Order Functions

- Problem: creating new function values

$$\mathbf{f(x) \equiv x + 1}$$

$$\mathbf{g(y) \equiv y + 2}$$

$$\mathbf{compose(a, b) \equiv \dots}$$

can't put $\mathbf{a(b(\dots))}$ in place of \dots

Evaluation with Higher-Order Functions

- Problem: creating new function values

$$\mathbf{f(x) \equiv x + 1}$$

$$\mathbf{g(y) \equiv y + 2}$$

$$\mathbf{compose(a, b) \equiv \dots}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{compose(f, g)} &\rightarrow \dots \\ &\rightarrow \mathbf{h}\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbf{h(z) = f(g(z))}$$

Evaluation with Higher-Order Functions

- Redundant-friendly function notation:

Replace

$$\mathbf{f(x) \equiv x + 1}$$

with

$$\mathbf{f \equiv (\lambda x . x + 1)}$$

Evaluation with Higher-Order Functions

- Definition with \equiv merely creates a shorthand

$$\mathbf{f} \equiv (\lambda \mathbf{x} . \mathbf{x} + 1)$$

- Apply functions through λ -application reduction

$$(\lambda \mathbf{x} . \mathbf{E})(\mathbf{v}) \rightarrow \mathbf{E} \text{ with } \mathbf{x} \text{ replaced by } \mathbf{v}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}(10) &= (\lambda \mathbf{x} . \mathbf{x} + 1)(10) \\ &\rightarrow 10 + 1 \\ &\rightarrow 11 \end{aligned}$$

Evaluation with Higher-Order Functions

- Simple functions as values

$$\mathbf{mkadder} \equiv (\lambda \mathbf{m} . (\lambda \mathbf{n} . \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{n}))$$

$$\mathbf{add1} \equiv \mathbf{mkadder}(1)$$

$$\mathbf{add5} \equiv \mathbf{mkadder}(5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{add5} &= (\lambda \mathbf{m} . (\lambda \mathbf{n} . \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{n}))(5) \\ &\rightarrow (\lambda \mathbf{n} . 5 + \mathbf{n}) \end{aligned}$$

Evaluation with Higher-Order Functions

- Simple functions as values

$$\mathbf{mkadder} \equiv (\lambda \mathbf{m} . (\lambda \mathbf{n} . \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{n}))$$

$$\mathbf{add1} \equiv \mathbf{mkadder}(1)$$

$$\mathbf{add5} \equiv \mathbf{mkadder}(5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{add5}(1) &= (\lambda \mathbf{m} . (\lambda \mathbf{n} . \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{n}))(5)(1) \\ &\rightarrow (\lambda \mathbf{n} . 5 + \mathbf{n})(1) \\ &\rightarrow 5 + 1 \\ &\rightarrow 6 \end{aligned}$$

Evaluation with Higher-Order Functions

- Returning to the definition of **compose**

$$\mathbf{f} \equiv (\lambda \mathbf{x} . \mathbf{x} + 1)$$

$$\mathbf{g} \equiv (\lambda \mathbf{y} . \mathbf{y} + 2)$$

$$\mathbf{compose} \equiv (\lambda (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) . (\lambda \mathbf{z} . \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{z}))))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{compose}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{g}) &= (\lambda (\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) . (\lambda \mathbf{z} . \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{z}))))(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{g}) \\ &\rightarrow (\lambda \mathbf{z} . \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{z}))) \end{aligned}$$

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- Programming with Functions
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Defining a Functional Language

Steps to defining a language:

- Define the syntax for expressions
- Designate certain expressions as values
- Define the reduction rules on expressions

Syntax: Expressions

$M =$ $[n]$
| $M - M$
| $M \bullet M$
| $\text{if } 0 \ M \ \text{then } M \ \text{else } M$
| $\lambda x. M$
| $M M$
 $n =$ an integer
 $x =$ a variable

$[5]$ represents 5

Syntax: Expressions

$M =$ $[n]$
| $M - M$
| $M \bullet M$
| $\text{if } 0 \ M \ \text{then } M \ \text{else } M$
| $\lambda x. M$
| $M M$
 $n =$ an integer
 $x =$ a variable

$[5] - [3]$ represents the subtraction of 3 from 5

Syntax: Expressions

$M = [n]$
| $M - M$
| $M \bullet M$
| $\text{if } 0 M \text{ then } M \text{ else } M$
| $\lambda x. M$
| $M M$
 $n =$ an integer
 $x =$ a variable

$\lambda x. x$ represents the identity function

Syntax: Expressions

$M = [n]$
| $M - M$
| $M \bullet M$
| $\text{if } 0 M \text{ then } M \text{ else } M$
| $\lambda x. M$
| $M M$
 $n =$ an integer
 $x =$ a variable

$(\lambda x. x)([5])$ represents applying the identity function to 5

Syntax: Values

$V = [n]$
| $\lambda x. M$

$[5]$ a value

$\lambda x. x$ a value

$[5] - [3]$ not a value

$(\lambda x. x)([5])$ not a value

$\lambda y. ((\lambda x. x)(y))$ a value

Reductions

$[n_1] - [n_2] \rightarrow [n_1 - n_2]$
 $[n_1] \bullet [n_2] \rightarrow [n_1 \bullet n_2]$

$\text{if } 0 [0] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 \rightarrow M_1$
 $\text{if } 0 [n] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 \rightarrow M_2$
if $n \neq 0$

$(\lambda x. M)(V) \rightarrow M$
with V in place of x

$[5] - [3] \rightarrow [2]$

Reductions

$$\begin{aligned} [n_1] - [n_2] &\rightarrow [n_1 - n_2] \\ [n_1] \bullet [n_2] &\rightarrow [n_1 \bullet n_2] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{if0 } [0] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 &\rightarrow M_1 \\ \text{if0 } [n] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 &\rightarrow M_2 \\ &\text{if } n \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda x. M)(V) &\rightarrow M \\ &\text{with } V \text{ in place of } x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{if0 } [0] \text{ then } [5] \text{ else } (\lambda x. x) \rightarrow [5]$$

Reductions

$$\begin{aligned} [n_1] - [n_2] &\rightarrow [n_1 - n_2] \\ [n_1] \bullet [n_2] &\rightarrow [n_1 \bullet n_2] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{if0 } [0] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 &\rightarrow M_1 \\ \text{if0 } [n] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 &\rightarrow M_2 \\ &\text{if } n \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda x. M)(V) &\rightarrow M \\ &\text{with } V \text{ in place of } x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{if0 } [1] \text{ then } [5] \text{ else } (\lambda x. x) \rightarrow (\lambda x. x)$$

Reductions

$$\begin{aligned} [n_1] - [n_2] &\rightarrow [n_1 - n_2] \\ [n_1] \bullet [n_2] &\rightarrow [n_1 \bullet n_2] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{if0 } [0] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 &\rightarrow M_1 \\ \text{if0 } [n] \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 &\rightarrow M_2 \\ &\text{if } n \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda x. M)(V) &\rightarrow M \\ &\text{with } V \text{ in place of } x \end{aligned}$$

$$(\lambda x. x \bullet [10])([8]) \rightarrow [8] \bullet [10]$$

Reductions in Context

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 - M_2 &\rightarrow M'_1 - M_2 \\ &\text{where } M_1 \rightarrow M'_1 \\ V - M_2 &\rightarrow V - M'_2 \\ &\text{where } M_2 \rightarrow M'_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$M_1 \bullet M_2 \rightarrow M'_1 \bullet M_2$$

...

$$([5] \bullet [2]) - ([3] \bullet [4]) \rightarrow [10] - ([3] \bullet [4])$$

Reductions in Context

$$\mathbf{M}_1 - \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_1 - \mathbf{M}_2$$

where $\mathbf{M}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_1$

$$\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{V} - \mathbf{M}'_2$$

where $\mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_2$

$$\mathbf{M}_1 \bullet \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_1 \bullet \mathbf{M}_2$$

...

$$[10] - ([3] \bullet [4]) \rightarrow [10] - [12]$$

Reductions in Context

$$\mathbf{if0} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{then} \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{else} \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{if0} \mathbf{M}' \mathbf{then} \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{else} \mathbf{M}_2$$

where $\mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'$

$$\mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_1 \mathbf{M}_2$$

where $\mathbf{M}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_1$

$$\mathbf{V} \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{V} \mathbf{M}'_2$$

where $\mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_2$

$$(\lambda x . x)([2] \bullet [2]) \rightarrow (\lambda x . x)([4])$$

Reductions in Context

$$\mathbf{if0} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{then} \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{else} \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{if0} \mathbf{M}' \mathbf{then} \mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{else} \mathbf{M}_2$$

where $\mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'$

$$\mathbf{M}_1 \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_1 \mathbf{M}_2$$

where $\mathbf{M}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_1$

$$\mathbf{V} \mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{V} \mathbf{M}'_2$$

where $\mathbf{M}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{M}'_2$

$$((\lambda x . x)(\lambda y . y))([2] \bullet [2]) \rightarrow (\lambda y . y)([2] \bullet [2])$$

Extended Example: Factorial

$$\mathbf{fac} \equiv \lambda n . \mathbf{if0} \mathbf{n}$$

then $[1]$
else $\mathbf{n} \bullet \mathbf{fac}(\mathbf{n} - [1])$

Illegal: **fac** isn't merely a shorthand
because it mentions itself

$$\mathbf{mkfac} \equiv \lambda f . \lambda n . \mathbf{if0} \mathbf{n}$$

then $[1]$
else $\mathbf{n} \bullet (\mathbf{f})(\mathbf{n} - [1])$

$$\mathbf{fac} \equiv \mathbf{mkfac}(\mathbf{mkfac})$$

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
fac([0])
=
(mkfac(mkfac))([0])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
(mkfac(mkfac))([0])
→
(λ n . if0 n
  then [1]
  else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([0])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
(λ n . if0 n
  then [1]
  else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([0])
→
if0 [0]
  then [1]
  else [0] • (mkfac(mkfac))([0] - [1])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
if0 [0]
  then [1]
  else [0] • (mkfac(mkfac))([0] - [1])
→
[1]
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
fac([2])
=
(mkfac(mkfac))([2])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
(mkfac(mkfac))([2])
→
(λ n . if0 n
  then [1]
  else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([2])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
(λ n . if0 n
  then [1]
  else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([2])
→
if0 [2]
  then [1]
  else [2] • (mkfac(mkfac))([2] - [1])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
if0 [2]
  then [1]
  else [2] • (mkfac(mkfac))([2] - [1])
→
[2] • (mkfac(mkfac))([2] - [1])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • (mkfac(mkfac))([2] - [1])
→
[2] • (λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([2] - [1])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • (λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([2] - [1])
→
[2] • (λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([1])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • (λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (mkfac(mkfac))(n - [1]))([1])
→
[2] • if0 [1]
      then [1]
      else [1] • (mkfac(mkfac))([1] - [1])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • if0 [1]
      then [1]
      else [1] • (mkfac(mkfac))([1] - [1])
→
[2] • ([1] • (mkfac(mkfac))([1] - [1]))
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • ([1] • (mkfac(mkfac))([1] - [1]))
→
[2] • ([1] • (λ n . if0 n
             then [1]
             else ... )([1] - [1]))
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • ([1] • (λ n . if0 n
             then [1]
             else ... )([1] - [1]))
→
[2] • ([1] • (λ n . if0 n
             then [1]
             else ... )([0]))
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • ([1] • (λ n . if0 n
             then [1]
             else ... )([0]))
→
[2] • ([1] • if0 [0]
      then [1]
      else ... )
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

```
[2] • ([1] • if0 [0]
      then [1]
      else ... )
→
[2] • ([1] • [1])
```

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

$$[2] \bullet ([1] \bullet [1])$$
$$\rightarrow$$
$$[2] \bullet [1]$$

Extended Example: Factorial

```
mkfac ≡ λ f . λ n . if0 n
      then [1]
      else n • (f(f))(n - [1])
fac ≡ mkfac(mkfac)
```

$$[2] \bullet [1]$$
$$\rightarrow$$
$$[2]$$

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Well-Formedness

Quiz: What is the value of the following expression?

$$\lambda [10]$$

Answer: Trick question. It's not an expression.

Safety and Types

- The following is a syntactically well-formed expression

$(\lambda x . x) - [10]$

- It is not a value...
- ... but no reduction rule applies; the expression is **stuck**
- The language is **unsafe**

Safety and Types

One way to safety:

$(\lambda x . x) - [10] \rightarrow \text{error}_{\text{minus}}$

Safety

- For any expression, a **safe language** produces a well-defined result (possibly an error) or reduces forever

Safety and Types

Another way to safety:

Reject $(\lambda x . x) - [10]$ as an expression

Types

- A **type system** defines a restriction on well-formedness, in addition the syntax rules
- A typed, well-formed expression never gets stuck, and *never signals certain errors*, such as $\text{error}_{\text{minus}}$

Type Rules

$[5] : \text{int}$

$[6] - [1] : \text{int}$

$(\lambda x . x)([8]) : \text{int}$

$(\lambda x . x) - [10] : \text{no type}$

$\text{if } 0 [0] \text{ then } [1] \text{ else } (\lambda x . x) : \text{no type}$

Type Rules

- arithmetic expressions produce integers

$$\frac{}{\lceil n \rceil : \text{int}}$$

$$\frac{M_1 : \text{int} \quad M_2 : \text{int}}{M_1 - M_2 : \text{int}}$$

$$\frac{\lceil 5 \rceil : \text{int} \quad \frac{\lceil 3 \rceil : \text{int} \quad \lceil 1 \rceil : \text{int}}{\lceil 3 \rceil - \lceil 1 \rceil : \text{int}}}{\lceil 5 \rceil - (\lceil 3 \rceil - \lceil 1 \rceil) : \text{int}}$$

Type Rules

- if0: assume both branches have the same type

$$\frac{M : \text{int} \quad M_1 : T \quad M_2 : T}{\text{if0 } M \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 : T}$$

$$\frac{\lceil 0 \rceil : \text{int} \quad \frac{\lceil 2 \rceil : \text{int} \quad \lceil 3 \rceil : \text{int}}{\lceil 2 \rceil + \lceil 3 \rceil : \text{int}} \quad \lceil 1 \rceil : \text{int}}{\text{if0 } \lceil 0 \rceil \text{ then } (\lceil 2 \rceil + \lceil 3 \rceil) \text{ else } \lceil 1 \rceil : \text{int}}$$

Type Rules

- What about variables?

x
shouldn't have a type

$\lambda x. x$
x needs a type, used towards the expression type

- Accumulate variable context in an environment, Γ

$$\Gamma \vdash x : T \quad \text{if } \Gamma(x) = T$$

$$\{x = \text{int}\} \vdash x : \text{int}$$

Type Rules

- Fix up old rules

$$\Gamma \vdash \lceil n \rceil : \text{int}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M_1 : \text{int} \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : \text{int}}{\Gamma \vdash M_1 - M_2 : \text{int}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \text{int} \quad \Gamma \vdash M_1 : T \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if0 } M \text{ then } M_1 \text{ else } M_2 : T}$$

$$\frac{\{x = \text{int}\} \vdash \lceil 9 \rceil : \text{int} \quad \{x = \text{int}\} \vdash x : \text{int}}{\{x = \text{int}\} \vdash \lceil 9 \rceil - x : \text{int}}$$

Type Rules

- Function type: $T_1 \rightarrow T_2$

$$\frac{\Gamma\{x=T'\} \vdash M : T}{\Gamma \vdash (\lambda x. M) : T' \rightarrow T}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M_1 : T' \rightarrow T \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : T'}{\Gamma \vdash (M_1 M_2) : T}$$

$$\frac{\frac{\{x=int\} \vdash x : int}{\{\} \vdash (\lambda x. x) : int \rightarrow int} \quad [5] : int}{\{\} \vdash (\lambda x. x)(5) : int}$$

Type Rules

- One more example (abbreviate `int` with `i`)

$$\frac{\frac{\{f=i \rightarrow i\} \vdash f : i \rightarrow i \quad \{f=i \rightarrow i\} \vdash 5 : i}{\{f=i \rightarrow i\} \vdash f[5] : i} \quad \frac{\{y=i\} \vdash y : i \quad \{y=i\} \vdash [1] : i}{\{y=i\} \vdash y - [1] : i}}{\{\} \vdash (\lambda f. f[5]) : (i \rightarrow i) \rightarrow i \quad \{\} \vdash (\lambda y. y - [1]) : i \rightarrow i} \quad \{\} \vdash (\lambda f. f[5])(\lambda y. y - [1]) : i$$

Outline

- Programming with Functions
- Defining a Functional Language
- Type-Checking a Functional Program
- ➡ Implementing a Functional Language

Implementing a Functional Language

- So far, the language is defined in terms of rewriting rules
- But real machines do not provide a "rewrite" opcode
- Implement an interpreter to run on a realistic machine
 - Use ML notation to describe the interpreter
 - Start with a *meta-circular* interpreter, then convert to machine code — in 10 easy steps!

Abstract Syntax

- Ignore parsing

```
type xpr = Value of xval
         | Minus of xpr * xpr
         | Times of xpr * xpr
         | Lam of xvar * xpr
         | Var of xvar
         | App of xpr * xpr
         | IfZero of xpr * xpr * xpr
type xval = Num of int
         | Fun of (xval → xval)
```

$\lambda x. (x - [5])$ $\xRightarrow{\text{parse}}$ `Lam("x", Minus(Var("x"), Value(Num(5))))`

Step 1

- Instead of rewriting the source syntax step-by-step, use ML's recursion to evaluate sub-expressions.

$eval [2] - [1] = eval [2] - eval [1]$

Step 1

```
let rec eval = function
  Value(v) → v
| Minus(m1, m2) → let Num(n1) = eval(m1)
                  and Num(n2) = eval(m2)
                  in Num(n1 - n2)
| Times(m1, m2) → let Num(n1) = eval(m1)
                  and Num(n2) = eval(m2)
                  in Num(n1 * n2)
| Lam(var, m) → Fun(fun v → eval(replace (var, v) m))
| App(m1, m2) → let Fun(f) = eval(m1)
                in f(eval(m2))
| IfZero(m1, m2, m3) → let Num(n) = eval(m1)
                      in eval(if (n=0)
                              then m2
                              else m3)
```

Step 2

- Use an environment for function bodies instead of replacement

Old way:

$(\lambda x. x - [1])([10]) \rightarrow [10] - [1]$

New way:

$\{y=7\} (\lambda x. x - [1])([10]) \rightarrow \{y=7, x=10\} x - [1]$

Step 4

- Stop relying on ML functions to implement our functions
- Instead, define a function as an expression-environment pair:

```
type xval = Num of int
          | Fun of cpr * xenv
```

Step 4

```
let rec eval = function
  (CConst(v), e) → Num(v)
| (CMinus(m1,m2), e) → let Num(n1) = eval(m1, e)
                        and Num(n2) = eval(m2, e)
                        in Num(n1 - n2)
| (CTimes(m1,m2), e) → let Num(n1) = eval(m1, e)
                        and Num(n2) = eval(m2, e)
                        in Num(n1 * n2)
| (CLam(m), e) → Fun(m, e)
| (CApp(m1,m2), e) → let Fun(fm, fe) = eval(m1, e)
                      in eval(fm, Extend(eval(m2, e), fe))
| (CIfZero(m1,m2,m3), e) → let Num(n) = eval(m1, e)
                             in eval((if (n=0)
                                       then m2
                                       else m3),
                                       e)
| (CVar(n), e) → lookup(n, e)
```

Step 5

- Stop relying on ML recursion
- Instead, package work-to-do in a **continuation**

```
eval [3] - [2] then kont
→
eval [3] then ? - [2] then kont
→
eval [2] then 3 - ? then kont
→
kont with 1
```

Step 5

```
type kont = Done
          | KSubArg of cpr * xenv * kont
          | KMultArg of cpr * xenv * kont
          | KSub of xval * kont
          | KMult of xval * kont
          | KAppArg of cpr * xenv * kont
          | KApp of xval * kont
          | KIfZero of cpr * cpr * xenv * kont
```

Step 5

```
let rec eval = function
  (CConst(v), e, k) → continue(Num(v), k)
| (CMinus(m1,m2), e, k) → eval(m1, e, KSubArg(m2,e,k))
| (CTimes(m1,m2), e, k) → eval(m1, e, KMultArg(m2,e,k))
| (CLam(m), e, k) → continue(Fun(m,e), k)
| (CApp(m1,m2), e, k) → eval(m1, e, KAppArg(m2,e,k))
| (CIfZero(m1,m2,m3), e, k) →
    eval(m1, e, KIfZero(m2,m3,e,k))
| (CVar(n), e, k) → continue(lookup(n, e), k)
```

Step 5

```
let rec continue = function
  (v, KSubArg(m,e,k)) → eval(m, e, KSub(v,k))
| (v, KMultArg(m,e,k)) → eval(m, e, KMult(v,k))
| (Num(n2), KSub(Num(n1),k)) → continue(Num(n1-n2), k)
| (Num(n2), KMult(Num(n1),k)) → continue(Num(n1*n2), k)
| (v, KAppArg(m,e,k)) → eval(m, e, KApp(v,k))
| (v, KApp(Fun(m,e),k)) → eval(m, Extend(v,e), k)
| (Num(n), KIfZero(m2,m3,e,k)) → eval((if (n=0)
    then m2
    else m3),
    e, k)
| (v, Done) → v
```

Step 6

- Stop relying on ML's argument passing
- Instead, use a fixed set of registers for arguments

Step 6

```
let rec eval = function unit →
  match (!mReg, !eReg, !kReg) with
  (CConst(v), e, k) → vReg := Num(v); continue()
| (CMinus(m1,m2), e, k) → mReg := m1;
    kReg := KSubArg(m2,e,k); eval()
| (CTimes(m1,m2), e, k) → mReg := m1;
    kReg := KMultArg(m2,e,k); eval()
| (CLam(m), e, k) → vReg := Fun(m,e); continue()
| (CApp(m1,m2), e, k) → mReg := m1;
    kReg := KAppArg(m2,e,k); eval()
| (CIfZero(m1,m2,m3), e, k) → mReg := m1;
    kReg := KIfZero(m2,m3,e,k); eval()
| (CVar(n), e, k) → vReg := lookup(n, e); continue()
```

Step 6

```
let rec kontinue = function unit →
  match (!vReg, !kReg) with
  | (v, KSubArg(m,e,k)) → mReg := m; eReg := e;
    kReg := KSub(v, k); eval()
  | (v, KMultArg(m,e,k)) → mReg := m;
    eReg := e; kReg := KMult(v,k); eval()
  | (Num(n2), KSub(Num(n1),k)) → vReg := Num(n1 - n2);
    kReg := k; kontinue()
  | (Num(n2), KMult(Num(n1),k)) → vReg := Num(n1 * n2);
    kReg := k; kontinue()
  | (v, KAppArg(m,e,k)) → mReg := m; eReg := e;
    kReg := KApp(v,k); eval()
  | (v, KApp(Fun(m,e),k)) → mReg := m;
    eReg := Extend(v,e); kReg := k; eval()
  | (Num(n), KIfZero(m2,m3,e,k)) →
    mReg := (if (n=0) then m2 else m3);
    eReg := e; kReg := k; eval()
  | (v, Done) → v
```

Step 7

- Stop using ML's fancy datatypes
- Instead, assume only number and cons cells

Step 7

```
let rec comp = function
  (Const(v), e) → Cons(Int(1), Int(v))
  | (Minus(m1,m2), e) → Cons(Int(2),
    Cons(comp(m1, e), comp(m2, e)))
  | (Times(m1,m2), e) → Cons(Int(3),
    Cons(comp(m1, e), comp(m2, e)))
  | (Lam(var,m), e) → Cons(Int(4),
    comp(m, CExtend(var, e)))
  | (App(m1,m2), e) → Cons(Int(5),
    Cons(comp(m1, e), comp(m2, e)))
  | (IfZero(m1,m2,m3), e) →
    Cons(Int(6), Cons(comp(m1, e), Cons(comp(m2, e),
    comp(m3, e))))
  | (Var(var), e) → Cons(Int(7), Int(offset(var, e)))
```

Step 7

```
let rec eval = function unit →
  let e = !eReg and k = !kReg
  in match (!mReg) with
  | Cons(Int(1), v) → vReg := v;
    kontinue()
  | Cons(Int(2), Cons(m1, m2)) → mReg := m1;
    kReg := Cons(Int(1), Cons(m2, Cons(e, k)));
    eval()
  | Cons(Int(3), Cons(m1, m2)) → mReg := m1;
    kReg := Cons(Int(2), Cons(m2, Cons(e, k)));
    eval()
  | ...
```


Step 7

```
let rec kontinue = function unit →
  match (!vReg, !kReg) with
  | (v, Cons(Int(1), Cons(m, Cons(e, k)))) →
    mReg := m;
    eReg := e;
    kReg := Cons(Int(3), Cons(v, k));
    eval()
  | (v, Cons(Int(2), Cons(m, Cons(e, k)))) →
    mReg := m;
    eReg := e;
    kReg := Cons(Int(4), Cons(v, k));
    eval()
  | ...
```

Step 8

- Stop using cons cells
- Instead, we have a flat, numerically addressed memory containing only numbers

Step 8

```
let rec
  comp = function
    | (Const(v), e) → malloc(1, v)
    | (Minus(m1, m2), e) →
      malloc(2, malloc(comp(m1, e), comp(m2, e)))
    | (Times(m1, m2), e) →
      malloc(3, malloc(comp(m1, e), comp(m2, e)))
    | (Lam(var, m), e) →
      malloc(4, comp(m, CExtend(var, e)))
    | ...
```

Step 8

```
let rec eval = function unit →
  let e = !eReg and k = !kReg and p = !mReg
  in match (read p) with
  | 1 → vReg := read(p+1);
      kontinue()
  | 2 → mReg := read(read(p+1));
      kReg := malloc(1,
                    malloc(read(read(p+1)+1),
                          malloc(e, k)));
      eval()
  | 3 → ...
  | 4 → vReg := malloc(read(p+1), e);
      kontinue()
  | ...
```

Step 8

```
let rec kontinue = function unit →
  let p = !kReg and v = !vReg
  in match (read p) with
    1 → mReg := read(read(p+1));
        eReg := read(read(read(p+1)+1));
        kReg := malloc(3, malloc(v,
                               read(read(read(p+1)+1)+1)));
        eval()
    | 2 → mReg := read(read(p+1));
        eReg := read(read(read(p+1)+1));
        kReg := malloc(4, malloc(v,
                               read(read(read(p+1)+1)+1)));
        eval()
    | ...
```

Step 9

- Implement a garbage collector

(code provided on the course page)

Step 10

- Convert *eval* and *kontinue* to assembly

(not provided)

Conclusion

- Functional programming is programming with algebra
- A language definition comprises
 - a grammar
 - a set of reduction rules
 - an optional set of typing rules
- Implementation can be described as a transformation from meta-circular (obvious) to machine code (complex)