

Programming Language Concepts: Lecture 16

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Encoding primitive recursion

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- $[f][n][n_1] \dots [n_k] \xrightarrow{\beta^*} [f(n, \vec{n})]$
- The expression $[PR]$ encodes the schema of primitive recursion

$$\begin{aligned}
 [PR] = \lambda h g x x_1 \dots x_k. [snd](x (\lambda y. [pair] \quad & ([succ]([fst]y)) \\
 & (h([fst]y)([snd]y)x_1 \dots x_k))) \\
 & ([pair][0](g x_1 \dots x_k)))
 \end{aligned}$$

Encoding μ -recursion

- $f(\vec{n}) = \mu n. (g(n, \vec{n}) = 0)$ can be expressed as the following (potentially unbounded) `while` loop:

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n = 0;  
while (g(n, n1, ..., nk) > 0) {n = n + 1;}  
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- Implement the `while` loop using recursion:

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f(n1, n2, ..., nk) = check(0, n1, n2, ..., nk)
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where

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- Need ways to encode booleans, if-then-else, test for zero and recursive definitions in λ -calculus

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- $[false] = \lambda xy.y$
- $[if-then-else] = \lambda bxy.bxy$
- Syntactic sugar: $[if-then-else] b f g$ is written as $if\ b\ then\ f\ else\ g$

$$\begin{aligned} if[true] then f else g &= \\ (\lambda bxy.bxy)(\lambda xy.x) f g &\longrightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda xy.(\lambda xy.x)xy) f g \\ &\longrightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda y.(\lambda xy.x) f y) g \\ &\longrightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda xy.x) f g \\ &\longrightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda y.f) g \\ &\longrightarrow_{\beta} f \end{aligned}$$

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- $f(\vec{n}) = \mu n. (g(n, \vec{n}) = 0)$ is expressed as follows:

$f(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) = \text{check}(0, n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k)$

where

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check(n, n1, n2, ..., nk) {  
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 - $W' = W[x_1 := [n_1], \dots, x_k := [n_k]]$

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- Suppose $g(i, \vec{n}) = 0$

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- Define

$W = \lambda y. \text{if}([iszero]([g]y x_1 \cdots x_k)) \text{ then } (\lambda \tau w. y) \text{ else } (\lambda \tau w. \tau w([succ]y)\tau w)$

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- So

$$W' [i] W' \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} \begin{aligned} &(\text{if}([iszero]([g][i][n_1] \cdots [n_k])) \\ &\text{ then } (\lambda \tau w. [i]) \\ &\text{ else } (\lambda \tau w. \tau w([succ][i])\tau w)) \\ &W' \end{aligned}$$

$$\xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} (\text{if}[true] \text{ then } (\lambda \tau w. [i]) \text{ else } (\lambda \tau w. \tau w([succ][i])\tau w)) W'$$

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$$W'[i] W' \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} \begin{aligned} & (if([iszero]([g][i][n_1] \cdots [n_k])) \\ & \quad then (\lambda w. [i]) \\ & \quad else (\lambda w. w([succ][i])w)) \\ & W' \end{aligned}$$

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- If $g(i, \vec{n}) = 0$ then $W'[i] W' \xrightarrow{\beta^*} [i]$
- If $g(i, \vec{n}) > 0$ then $W'[i] W' \xrightarrow{\beta^*} W'[i+1] W'$

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- Suppose now that $g(n, \vec{n}) = 0$ and $g(m, \vec{n}) > 0$ for all $m < n$

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- Suppose now that $g(n, \vec{n}) = 0$ and $g(m, \vec{n}) > 0$ for all $m < n$
- $W'[0] W' \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} W'[1] W' \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} W'[2] W' \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} \dots \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} W'[n] W' \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} [n]$

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- Thus $[f][n_1] \dots [n_k] \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} W'[n] W' \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} [n] = [\mu n. g(n, \vec{n}) = 0]$

Recursive definitions

- The function $f(\vec{n}) = \mu n. (g(n, \vec{n}) = 0)$ is expressed as follows:

$f(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) = \text{check}(0, n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k)$

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- The λ -expression C encoding to `check` satisfies the following property:

$$C[n][n_1] \cdots [n_k] \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} \begin{array}{l} \text{if}([iszero]([g][n][n_1] \cdots [n_k])) \\ \text{then } [n] \\ \text{else } (C([succ][n])[n_1] \cdots [n_k]) \end{array}$$

Recursive definitions

- Suppose C satisfies the following property:

$$C \xrightarrow[\beta]{*} (\lambda c y x_1 \cdots x_k. \text{if}([iszero]([g]yx_1 \cdots x_k)) \\ \text{then } y \text{ else } (c([succ]y)x_1 \cdots x_k))$$

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- So letting F be

$$\lambda c y x_1 \cdots x_k. \text{if}([iszero]([g]yx_1 \cdots x_k)) \\ \text{then } y \text{ else } (c([succ]y)x_1 \cdots x_k)$$

we want

$$C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} FC$$

Recursive definitions and the **Y** combinator

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- $F(Y F) \xrightarrow{\beta} F(\lambda x.F(xx))(\lambda x.F(xx))$

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- Define $Y = \lambda f. (\lambda x. f(xx))(\lambda x. f(xx))$
- $Y F \xrightarrow{\beta} (\lambda x. F(xx))(\lambda x. F(xx)) \xrightarrow{\beta} F(\lambda x. F(xx))(\lambda x. F(xx))$
- $F(Y F) \xrightarrow{\beta} F(\lambda x. F(xx))(\lambda x. F(xx))$
- So there is a G such that $Y F \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} G$ and $F(Y F) \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} G$

Recursive definitions and the **Y** combinator

- Given a λ -expression F , find an expression C such that

$$C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$$

- Define $Y = \lambda f.(\lambda x.f(xx))(\lambda x.f(xx))$
- $Y F \xrightarrow{\beta} (\lambda x.F(xx))(\lambda x.F(xx)) \xrightarrow{\beta} F(\lambda x.F(xx))(\lambda x.F(xx))$
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- So there is a G such that $Y F \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} G$ and $F(Y F) \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} G$
- We say that $Y F =_{\beta} F(Y F)$

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- So there is a G such that $Y F \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} G$ and $F(Y F) \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} G$
- We say that $Y F =_{\beta} F(Y F)$
- For any F , $Y F$ is a C such that $C =_{\beta} F C$

Recursive definitions and the Θ combinator

- Given a λ -expression F , find an expression C such that

$$C \xrightarrow{\beta}^* F C$$

Recursive definitions and the Θ combinator

- Given a λ -expression F , find an expression C such that

$$C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$$

- Define $\Theta = (\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y))$

Recursive definitions and the Θ combinator

- Given a λ -expression F , find an expression C such that

$$C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$$

- Define $\Theta = (\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y))$
- $\Theta F = (\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $(\lambda y. y((\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) y)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $F((\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) F) = F(\Theta F)$

Recursive definitions and the Θ combinator

- Given a λ -expression F , find an expression C such that

$$C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$$

- Define $\Theta = (\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y))$
- $\Theta F = (\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $(\lambda y. y((\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) y)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $F((\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) F) = F(\Theta F)$
- Thus $\Theta F \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F(\Theta F)$

Recursive definitions and the Θ combinator

- Given a λ -expression F , find an expression C such that

$$C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$$

- Define $\Theta = (\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y))$
- $\Theta F = (\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $(\lambda y. y((\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) y)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $F((\lambda x y. y(x x y))(\lambda x y. y(x x y)) F) = F(\Theta F)$
- Thus $\Theta F \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F(\Theta F)$
- For any F , ΘF is a C such that $C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$

Recursive definitions and the Θ combinator

- Given a λ -expression F , find an expression C such that

$$C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$$

- Define $\Theta = (\lambda x y. y(xxy))(\lambda x y. y(xxy))$
- $\Theta F = (\lambda x y. y(xxy))(\lambda x y. y(xxy)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $(\lambda y. y((\lambda x y. y(xxy))(\lambda x y. y(xxy)) y)) F \xrightarrow{\beta}$
 $F((\lambda x y. y(xxy))(\lambda x y. y(xxy)) F) = F(\Theta F)$
- Thus $\Theta F \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F(\Theta F)$
- For any F , ΘF is a C such that $C \xrightarrow{*}_{\beta} F C$
- Y and Θ are fixed-point combinators