

General Recursion

Yu Zhang

Course web site: <http://staff.ustc.edu.cn/~yuzhang/tpl>

Recap

- $\lambda^{x,+} \rightarrow$
 - **Terms**: introduction and elimination forms of a type
 - **Statics**: introduction and elimination rules
 - **Dynamics**: values, structural small-step semantics
 - **Type safety**: progress and preservation
- Type Algebra
 - **void** (0), **unit** (1), **bool** (1+1), **Maybe a** (a+1),
Either a b (a+b), **(a,b)** (a**x**b), **a->b** (b^a)
- Useful sum types: enumerate, option _{τ}
 - Why using option _{τ} ?

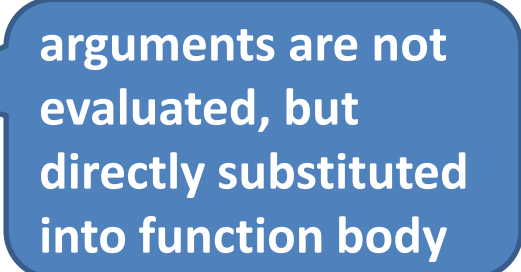


Recap

- Reduction strategies $(\lambda u.\lambda v.v)((\lambda x.x\ x)(\lambda x.x\ x))$
 - Normal-order reduction: **left-most, outer-most** redex first
 - Applicative-order reduction: **left-most, inner-most** redex first

Recap

- Reduction strategies $(\lambda u.\lambda v.v)((\lambda x.x\ x)(\lambda x.x\ x))$
 - **Normal-order** reduction: **left-most, outer-most** redex first
 $(\lambda u.\lambda v.v)((\lambda x.x\ x)(\lambda x.x\ x))$
 $\rightarrow \lambda v.v$
 - **Applicative-order** reduction: **left-most, inner-most** redex first
 $(\lambda u.\lambda v.v)((\lambda x.x\ x)(\lambda x.x\ x))$
 $\rightarrow (\lambda u.\lambda v.v)((\lambda x.x\ x)(\lambda x.x\ x))$
 $\rightarrow \dots$

Recap

- Reduction strategies similar to (but subtly different from) **evaluation strategies** in language theories
 - **Call-by-name** (like normal-order)
 - ALGOL 60
 - **Call-by-need** (“**memorized** version” of call-by-name)
 - Haskell, R, ...
 - **Call-by-value** (like applicative-order)
 - C, ...
 - ...

References

- [PFPL](#)
 - Chapter 9 System T of Higher-Order Recursion
 - System T: well-known as *Gödel's T*
 - Chapter 19 System PCF of Recursive Functions
 - * Chapter 20 System FPC of Recursive Types
- [TAPL](#)

Outline

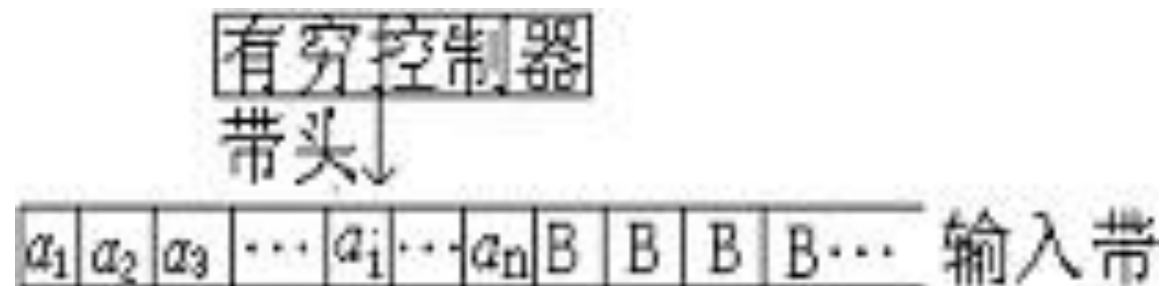
- Recursion theorem
- Recursive function
 - Example: factorial function in Lua
 - General recursor (fix_{σ} operator) and general recursion
 - (一般递归式和一般递归)
- Statics & Dynamics
- (Briefly intro.) Recursive types

Recursion Theorem

- Recursion theorem : computability theory
- Computable functions (可计算函数) f
 - f is **computable** if it can be calculated by a finite mechanical procedure
 - **1936 Church(美)**: computable functions are general recursive functions (**一般递归函数**)
(**判定性问题** **Entscheidungs problem**)
 - 和 Kleene 在 20 世纪三十年代引入 **untyped λ calculus**

Recursion Theorem

- Recursion theorem : computability theory
- Computable functions (可计算函数) f
 - 1936, Turing(英): 提出Turing机, any computable function is Turing computable — Church-Turing Thesis (论点)
 - 1936, Kleene(美): 证明一般递归函数就是Turing机所计算的函数。



Recursion

- Example: factorial function in Lua

```
local function fact(n)
  if n == 0 then return 1
  else return n * fact(n - 1) end
end
```

Can we represent the recursion as any other kind of term?

```
local x = 0
local y = x + y
```



- A new kind of function where f is a **variable**: $\text{fn } f(x : \tau).t$

$\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$

Self-reference

Recursion: self-reference

- Dynamics

$$\frac{t_2 \text{ val}}{(\text{fn } f(x : \tau).t_1) t_2 \mapsto [t_2 / x, (\text{fn } f(x : \tau).t_1) / f] t_1} \text{ (D-recapp)}$$

$(\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)) 2$

$\mapsto [2 / x, (\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)) / f]$

$\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$

$\equiv \text{if } 2 = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } 2 *$

$(\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1))(2 - 1)$

$\mapsto \text{if false then } 1 \text{ else } 2 *$

$(\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1))(2 - 1)$

$\mapsto 2 * (\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1))(2 - 1)$

Need generalize the mechanism to work for any term!

General Recursion: *fixpoint* operator

- General recursion(一般递归式): $\text{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t)$

- Read this as “a term t where $x = t$ ”

- Example $\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$

Use fixpoint operator fix :

$\text{fix}(\lambda(f : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}).\lambda(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1))$

$F \triangleq \lambda(f : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}).\lambda(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$

- What is the type of fix ?

General Recursion: *fixpoint* operator

- General recursion(一般递归式): $\text{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t)$

- Read this as “a term t where $x = t$ ”

- Example $\text{fn } f(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$

Use fixpoint operator fix :

$\text{fix}(\lambda(f : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}).\lambda(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1))$

$F \triangleq \lambda(f : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}).\lambda(x : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$

- What is the type of fix_σ ?

$\text{fix}_\sigma : (\sigma \rightarrow \sigma) \rightarrow \sigma$

e.g. σ is $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}$ for the above factorial function example

Fixpoint

- **Fixpoint:** If $F : \sigma \rightarrow \sigma$ is a high order function, then the fixpoint of F is $x : \sigma$ where $F(x) = x$
- Fixpoint operator fix_σ
 - Equality Axiom: $\text{fix}_\sigma = \lambda f : \sigma \rightarrow \sigma. f(\text{fix}_\sigma f)$
 - $\text{fix}_\sigma F = F(\text{fix}_\sigma F)$ generates a fixpoint of F
 - Reduction Rule: $\text{fix}_\sigma \mapsto \lambda f : \sigma \rightarrow \sigma. f(\text{fix}_\sigma f)$
- Example: $\text{fact} \triangleq \text{fix}_{\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}} F$, fact is a fixpoint of F

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fact } n &\equiv (\text{fix } F) n \Rightarrow F(\text{fix } F) n \\ &\equiv (\lambda f : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}. \lambda x : \text{int}. \text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)) \\ &\quad (\text{fix } F) n \\ &\Rightarrow \text{if } n = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } n * (\text{fix } F)(n - 1) \end{aligned}$$

Some Examples of Fixpoints

- 自然数上的平方函数的不动点
- 恒等函数的不动点
- 后继函数的不动点
- $F \triangleq \lambda(f : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}).\lambda(n : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$
的不动点

Some Examples of Fixpoints

- 自然数上的平方函数的不动点
 - 0 and 1
- 恒等函数的不动点
 - 无数个
- 后继函数的不动点
 - 无
- $F \triangleq \lambda(f : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}).\lambda(n : \text{int}).\text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$
的不动点
 - 阶乘函数

General Recursion: Semantics

- General recursion: $\text{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t)$
 - Fixpoint of F : $\text{fix}(F) = F(\text{fix}(F))$

- Statics

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \sigma \rightarrow \sigma}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fix}(t) : \sigma} \text{ (T-fix)}$$

- Dynamics

$$\frac{t \mapsto t'}{\text{fix}(t) \mapsto \text{fix}(t')} \text{ (D-fix}_1\text{)}$$

Which reduction strategy?

$$\frac{}{\text{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t) \mapsto [\text{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t) / x]t} \text{ (D-fix}_2\text{)}$$

Unwinding the recursion

General Recursion: Semantics

- General recursion: $\mathbf{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t)$
 - Fixpoint of F : $\mathbf{fix}(F) = F(\mathbf{fix}(F))$

- Statics

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \tau \rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fix}(t) : \tau} \text{ (T-fix)}$$

- Dynamics

$$\frac{t \mapsto t'}{\mathbf{fix}(t) \mapsto \mathbf{fix}(t')} \text{ (D-fix}_1\text{)}$$

Normal-order
Reduction

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t) \mapsto [\mathbf{fix}(\lambda(x : \sigma).t) / x]t} \text{ (D-fix}_2\text{)}$$

Recursive Types

- Examples: list

- **natlist** = **null**: unit + **cons**: nat x **natlist**

- 该等式蕴含递归定义

- **Recursive types**: introduce a recursive operator μ

- natlist** = $\mu t.$ **null**: unit + **cons**: nat x t

将natlist 定义为满足 $t = \text{unit} + \text{cons}: \text{nat} \times t$ 的无穷的类型

- What's relationship between $\mu t. \tau$ and $[\mu t. \tau / t] \tau$

- **Equiv-recursive(相等递归)** : $\mu t. \tau = [\mu t. \tau / t] \tau$

- 问题 : 类型表达式会有无穷个

- **Iso-recursive(同构递归)** : $\mu t. \tau$ 与 $[\mu t. \tau / t] \tau$ 同构但不等

Iso-Recursive Types

- Examples

- Recursive type: $\text{natlist} = \mu t. \text{null:unit} + \text{cons: nat} \times t$
- Expansion (or unrolling)
 - $\text{null:unit} + \text{cons: nat} \times \mu t. (\text{null:unit} + \text{cons: nat} \times t)$

- Syntax

Types $\tau ::= t \mid \text{rec}(t. \tau)$ t 是关于类型名的元变量

Expr's $e ::= \text{fold}[t. \tau](e) \mid \text{unfold}(e)$

抽象语法

具体语法

$\text{rec}(t. \tau)$

$\mu t. \tau$

递归类型，其展开式为 $[\text{rec}(t. \tau) / t] \tau$

$\text{fold}[t. \tau](e)$

$\text{fold}(e)$

引入形式：折叠， $e : [\text{rec}(t. \tau) / t] \tau$

$\text{unfold}(e)$

$\text{unfold}(e)$

消去形式：展开， $e : \text{rec}(t. \tau)$

Iso-Recursive Types

- Statics

- 一般断言 : $\Delta \mid \tau \text{ type}$

- Δ 是一组有限的形如 $t_i \text{ type}$ 的假设集合
- t_i 为类型变量

$$\frac{\Delta, t \text{ type} \mid t \text{ type}}{\Delta \mid \tau_1 \text{ type} \quad \Delta \mid \tau_2 \text{ type}} \quad \frac{\Delta, t \text{ type} \mid \tau \text{ type}}{\Delta \mid \text{arr}(\tau_1; \tau_2) \text{ type}} \quad \frac{\Delta, t \text{ type} \mid \tau \text{ type}}{\Delta \mid \text{rec}(t. \tau) \text{ type}}$$

- 定型断言 : $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : [\text{rec}(t. \tau) / t] \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold}[t. \tau](e) : \text{rec}(t. \tau)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \text{rec}(t. \tau)}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unfold}(e) : [\text{rec}(t. \tau) / t] \tau}$$

Iso-Recursive Types

- Dynamics

$$\frac{\{e \text{ val}\}}{\text{fold}[t.\tau](e) \text{ val}}$$

eager语义下, e是值, 则其fold形式是值

$$\left\{ \frac{e \mapsto e'}{\text{fold}[t.\tau](e) \mapsto \text{fold}[t.\tau](e')} \right\}$$

eager语义下, e未完成求值, 则允许在fold下归约

$$\frac{e \mapsto e'}{\text{unfold}(e) \mapsto \text{unfold}(e')}$$

e未完成求值, 则允许在unfold下归约

$$\frac{\{e \text{ val}\}}{\text{unfold}(\text{fold}[t.\tau](e)) \mapsto e}$$

eager语义下, 对值e执行fold再unfold, 所得为e

- 惰性(lazy)语义 省去{}中的规则或前提
- 急切(eager)语义 包含{}中的规则或前提

- Safety(略)