

# General Recursion

Yu Zhang

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

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

1

## References

- [PFPL](#)
  - Chapters
    - 19 System PCF of Recursive Functions
    - \* 20 System FPC of Recursive Types
- [TAPL](#)

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

2

## Outline

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

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

3

## Recursion Theorem

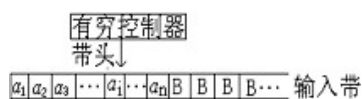
- Recursion theorem: computability theory
- Computable functions (可计算函数)  $f$ 
  - $f$  is computable if it can be calculated by a finite mechanical procedure
  - 1936 Church(美): computable functions are general recursive functions (一般递归函数)
    - (判定性问题 Entscheidungs problem)
    - 和 Kleene在 20 世纪三十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

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

4

## 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。



Yu Zhang: General Recursion

5

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

Self-reference

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

6

## Recursion: self-reference

- Dynamics

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

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

Need generalize the mechanism to work for any term!

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

7

## General Recursion: *fixpoint* operator

- General recursion(一般递归式):  $\text{fix}(F)$

- $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $f = F(f)$
- $f$  is defined to be  $\text{fix}(F)$
- $\text{fix}$ : higher-order operator on functionals  $F$

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

Use fixpoint operator  $\text{fix}$ :

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

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

- What is the type of  $\text{fix}$  ?

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

8

## General Recursion: *fixpoint* operator

- General recursion(一般递归式):  $\text{fix}(F)$

- $f$  is defined to be  $\text{fix}(F)$

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

Use fixpoint operator  $\text{fix}$ :

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

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

- What is the type of  $\text{fix}$  ?

- $\text{fix}_\sigma : (\sigma \rightarrow \sigma) \rightarrow \sigma$
- e.g.  $\sigma$  is  $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}$  for the above factorial function example

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

9

## 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  $\text{fix}_\sigma$

- 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:  $\text{fact} \equiv \text{fix}_{\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}} F$ ,  $\text{fact}$  is a fixpoint of  $F$

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

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

10

## 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
- $F \equiv \lambda(f: \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}). \lambda(x: \text{int}). \text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$  的不动点

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

11

## 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
- $F \equiv \lambda(f: \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}). \lambda(x: \text{int}). \text{if } x = 0 \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1)$  的不动点
  - 阶乘函数

Yu Zhang: General Recursion

12

### System PCF of Recursive Functions

- Syntax
 

Typ $\tau ::= \text{nat}$	nat	naturals
Exp $e ::= x$	$\text{parr}(\tau_1; \tau_2)$	$\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$
$z$	$x$	variable
$s(e)$	$z$	zero
$\text{ifz}\{e_0; x.e_1\}(e)$	$s(e)$	successor
$\text{lam}\{\tau\}(x.e)$	$\text{ifz}\{e_0; x.e_1\}(e)$	$\text{ifz}\{z \mapsto e_0 \mid s(x) \mapsto e_1\}$
$\text{ap}(e_1; e_2)$	$\lambda(x : \tau). e$	zero test
$\text{fix}\{\tau\}(x.e)$	$e_1(e_2)$	abstraction
	$\text{fix}\{x : \tau\} e$	application
		recursion
- $\text{fix}\{\tau\}(x.e)$  is general recursion (一般递归)
- $\text{ifz}\{e_0; x.e_1\}(e)$ : branches according to whether  $e$  evaluates to  $z$ , binding the predecessor to  $x$

Yu Zhang: General Recursion 13

### PCF: Statics

- Statics
 
$$\frac{}{\Gamma, x : \tau \vdash x : \tau} \quad (19.1a)$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash z : \text{nat}} \quad (19.1b)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \text{nat}}{\Gamma \vdash s(e) : \text{nat}} \quad (19.1c)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \text{nat} \quad \Gamma \vdash e_0 : \tau \quad \Gamma, x : \text{nat} \vdash e_1 : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \text{ifz}\{e_0; x.e_1\}(e) : \tau} \quad (19.1d)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{lam}\{\tau_1\}(x.e) : \text{parr}(\tau_1; \tau_2)} \quad (19.1e)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \text{parr}(\tau_2; \tau) \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \text{ap}(e_1; e_2) : \tau} \quad (19.1f)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \tau \vdash e : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fix}\{\tau\}(x.e) : \tau} \quad (19.1g)$$

Yu Zhang: General Recursion 14

### PCF: Dynamics

- Values
 
$$\frac{}{z \text{ val}} \quad (19.3a)$$

$$\frac{[e \text{ val}]}{s(e) \text{ val}} \quad (19.3b)$$

$$\frac{[e \mapsto e']}{[s(e) \mapsto s(e')]} \quad (19.3a)$$

$$\frac{e \mapsto e'}{\text{ifz}\{e_0; x.e_1\}(z) \mapsto e_0} \quad (19.3c)$$

$$\frac{s(e) \text{ val}}{\text{ifz}\{e_0; x.e_1\}(s(e)) \mapsto [e/x]e_1} \quad (19.3d)$$

$$\frac{e_1 \mapsto e'_1}{\text{ap}(e_1; e_2) \mapsto \text{ap}(e'_1; e_2)} \quad (19.3e)$$

$$\frac{[e_1 \text{ val} \quad e_2 \mapsto e'_2]}{[\text{ap}(e_1; e_2) \mapsto \text{ap}(e_1; e'_2)]} \quad (19.3f)$$

$$\frac{[e_2 \text{ val}]}{\text{ap}(\text{lam}\{\tau\}(x.e); e_2) \mapsto [e_2/x]e} \quad (19.3g)$$

$$\frac{}{\text{fix}\{\tau\}(x.e) \mapsto [\text{fix}\{\tau\}(x.e)/x]e} \quad (19.3h)$$
- Transitions

**Normal-order Reduction**

**Unwinding the recursion**

Yu Zhang: General Recursion 15

### Recursive Types

- Examples: list
  - $\text{natlist} = \text{null} + \text{cons} : \text{nat} \times \text{natlist}$ 
    - 该等式蕴含递归定义
  - Recursive types: introduce a recursive operator  $\mu$
  - $\text{natlist} = \mu t. \text{null} + \text{cons} : \text{nat} \times t$
  - 将  $\text{natlist}$  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

Yu Zhang: General Recursion 16

### Iso-Recursive Types

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

Yu Zhang: General Recursion 17

### Iso-Recursive Types

- Statics
  - 范型判断:  $\Delta \mid \tau \text{ type}$ 
    - $\Delta$  是一组有限的形如  $t_i \text{ type}$  的假设集合
    - $t_i$  为类型变量
  - 定型判断:  $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ 

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

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

Yu Zhang: General Recursion 18

## Iso-Recursive Types

- Dynamics

$$\frac{\{e \text{ val}\}}{\text{fold}[f, \tau](e) \text{ val}}$$

eager语义下, e是值, 则其fold形式是值

$$\left\{ \frac{e \mapsto e'}{\text{fold}[f, \tau](e) \mapsto \text{fold}[f, \tau](e')} \right\}$$

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

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

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)