

ISR 2019

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λ -calculus

lecture 2

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overview

- definability
- confluence
- simply typed lambda calculus
- strategies

overview

- definability
 - natural numbers
 - pairs
 - lists
 - recursive functions
- confluence
- simply typed lambda calculus
- strategies

expressive power

the λ -calculus is Turing-complete

Church's thesis: everything that is computable
is definable in the pure untyped lambda calculus

we illustrate the expressive power

by considering the encoding of several data-types

natural numbers as lambda terms

we try to find:

infinitely many

different

closed

normal forms

permitting to calculate

Church numerals

numerals

$$c_0 = \lambda s. \lambda z. z$$

$$c_1 = \lambda s. \lambda z. s z$$

$$c_2 = \lambda s. \lambda z. s (s z)$$

$$c_3 = \lambda s. \lambda z. s (s (s z))$$

$$c_4 = \lambda s. \lambda z. s (s (s (s z)))$$

⋮

$$c_n = \lambda s. \lambda z. s^n(z)$$

successor

$$S = \lambda x. \lambda s z. s (x s z)$$

indeed

$$S c_0 = (\lambda x. \lambda s. \lambda z. s (x s z)) c_0 =_{\beta} \lambda s z. (\lambda s'. \lambda z'. z') s (s z) =_{\beta} \lambda s z. s z$$

define other operations

$$\begin{aligned}c_0 &= \lambda s. \lambda z. z \\c_1 &= \lambda s. \lambda z. s z \\c_2 &= \lambda s. \lambda z. s (s z) \\c_3 &= \lambda s. \lambda z. s (s (s z)) \\c_4 &= \lambda s. \lambda z. s (s (s (s z))) \\&\vdots \\c_n &= \lambda s. \lambda z. s^n(z) \\S &= \lambda x. \lambda s. \lambda z. s (x s z)\end{aligned}$$

$$iszero = \lambda n. n (\lambda y. false) true$$

$$S' = \lambda x. \lambda s z. x s (s z)$$

arithmetic

addition:

plus := $\lambda mn. \lambda sz. m s (n s z)$

multiplication:

mul := $\lambda mn. \lambda sz. m (n s) z$

exponentiation:

exp := $\lambda mn. n m$

definability

assume a natural number n is encoded in the λ -calculus by $[n]$

a function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is **definable in the λ -calculus by a term F** if

$$F [n] =_{\beta} [f(n)] \text{ for every } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

if we restrict attention to Church Numerals:

$$F c_n =_{\beta} c_{f(n)}$$

we have seen some definable functions, we even have:

$f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is computable iff f is λ -definable

pair: idea

we try to find:

a method to combine two terms in a pair

in such a way that a component can be extracted from the pair

pairs: definition

definition of pairing operator:

$$\pi := \lambda l r z. z \ l \ r$$

then:

$$\pi \ P \ Q =_{\beta} \lambda z. z \ P \ Q$$

projections::

$$\pi_1 := \lambda u. u \ (\lambda l r. l) = \lambda u. u \ \text{true}$$

$$\pi_2 := \lambda u. u \ (\lambda l r. r) = \lambda u. u \ \text{false}$$

then:

$$\pi_1 \ (\pi \ P \ Q) =_{\beta} \ P$$

$$\pi_2 \ (\pi \ P \ Q) =_{\beta} \ Q$$

predecessor



auxiliary definition:

$$\text{prefn} := \lambda fp. \pi \text{ false } (\text{ite } (\pi_1 p) (\pi_2 p) (f (\pi_2 p)))$$

then:

$$\text{prefn } f (\pi \text{ true } x) =_{\beta} \pi \text{ false } x$$

$$\text{prefn } f (\pi \text{ false } x) =_{\beta} \pi \text{ false } (f x)$$

definition predecessor:

$$\text{pred} := \lambda x. \lambda sz. \pi_2 (x (\text{prefn } s) (\pi \text{ true } z))$$

lists: idea

a list is obtained by repeatedly forming a pair

for example: `[1, 2, 3]` is `(1, (2, (3, nil)))`

lists: definition

constructors:

$$\text{nil} := \lambda xy. y$$

$$\text{cons} := \lambda ht. \lambda z. z h t = \pi$$

definition:

$$\text{head} := \lambda l. l (\lambda ht. h) = \pi_1$$

$$\text{tail} := \lambda l. l (\lambda ht. t) = \pi_2$$

then:

$$\text{head} (\text{cons } H T) =_{\beta} H$$

$$\text{tail} (\text{cons } H T) =_{\beta} T$$

empty

how do we define a predicate `empty` on lists?

$\text{cons } H T =_{\beta} \lambda z. z H T$

$\text{nil} := \lambda xy. y$

$\text{isempty} := \lambda l. l (\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. \text{false}) \text{true}$

alternative:

$\text{nil} = \lambda z. \text{true}$

$\text{isempty} = \lambda l. l (\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. \text{false})$

recursive functions: examples in Haskell

```
factorial n = if (n==0)
  then 1
  else (n * factorial (n-1))
```

```
som [] = 0
som (h:t) = h + (som t)
```

```
length [] = 0
length (h:t) = (length t) + 1
```


how do we define length in lambda-calculus?

first idea:

length = λl . if l is empty then zero, else length of tail of l plus 1

lists represented as $\text{nil} := \lambda xy. y$ and $\text{cons} := \lambda ht. \lambda z. z h t$

conditional represented as $\text{ite} = \lambda b. \lambda x. \lambda y. b x y$

check on empty represented as $\text{isempty} := \lambda l. l (\lambda xyz. \text{false}) \text{true}$

Church numerals with 0 represented as $c_0 = \lambda s. \lambda z. z$

tail represented as $\text{tail} = \lambda l. l (\lambda h. \lambda t. t)$

plus one represented as $S = \lambda x. \lambda sz. s (x s z)$

use fixed point combinator

So far we have:

$$\text{length} := \lambda l. \text{ite} (\text{isempty } l) c_0 (\text{S} (\text{length} (\text{tail } l)))$$

which still contains length. Now using

$$M := \lambda a. \lambda l. \text{ite} (\text{isempty } l) c_0 (\text{S} (a (\text{tail } l)))$$

we have

$$\text{length} =_{\beta} M \text{ length}$$

So we actually look for a fixed point of M ! So we take:

$$\text{length} := Y M$$

with M defined as above, and Y Curry's fixed point combinator

recursive functions: method

we try to define:

$$G \text{ with } G = \dots G \dots$$

hence we look for:

$$G \text{ with } G = (\lambda g. \dots g \dots) G$$

hence we take:

a fixed point of $\lambda g. \dots g \dots$

that is, using a fixed point combinator Y we define:

$$G = Y(\lambda g. \dots g \dots)$$

from Haskell to lambda

Haskell is translated to core Haskell which can be seen as $\lambda+$

```
length [] = 0
```

```
length (h:t) = (length t) + 1
```

becomes

```
length l = case l of
```

```
    [] -> 0
```

```
    (h:t) -> 1 + length t
```

becomes (...) becomes roughly

$$\Upsilon (\lambda a. \lambda l. \text{if } (l == []) \text{ then } 0 \text{ else } (\lambda (h : t). (1 + (a t)))) l)$$

remark: lambda calculi with patterns

computation by reduction and pattern matching:

first projection:

$$(\lambda(x, y). x) \langle 3, 5 \rangle \rightarrow x[x, y := 3, 5] = 3$$

length of a non-empty list:

$$(\lambda(h : t). 1 + (\text{length } t)) (1 : \text{nil}) \rightarrow (1 + (\text{length } t))[t := \text{nil}] = 1 + \text{length nil}$$

further reading



linear numeral systems

Ian Mackie

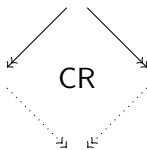
JAR 2018

overview

- definability
- **confluence**
- simply typed lambda calculus
- strategies

confluence: definition

every two coinitial rewrite sequences can be joined



confluence yields uniqueness of normal forms and consistency

how to prove confluence?

using Newman's Lemma:

SN and weak confluence \Rightarrow confluence

but λ -calculus is not SN; see Ω

using a method due to Tait and Martin-Löf:

show the diamond property for a relation \mapsto with $\rightarrow_{\beta} \subseteq \mapsto \subseteq \rightarrow_{\beta}^*$

what can we use for \mapsto ?

parallel beta-reduction

definition:

$$x \Rightarrow_{\beta} x$$

$$\text{if } M \Rightarrow_{\beta} M' \text{ then } \lambda x. M \Rightarrow_{\beta} \lambda x. M'$$

$$\text{if } M \Rightarrow_{\beta} M' \text{ and } N \Rightarrow_{\beta} N' \text{ then } M N \Rightarrow_{\beta} M' N'$$

$$(\lambda x. M) N \Rightarrow_{\beta} M[x := N]$$

example: $(\text{II})(\text{II}) \Rightarrow_{\beta} \text{II}$

parallel reduction is a congruence

it is not the compatible closure of a reduction rule

parallel β -reduction does not have the diamond property

we have the divergence

$$(\lambda x. (\lambda y. x) I) (II) \Rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda y. II) I$$

and

$$(\lambda x. (\lambda y. x) I) (II) \Rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda x. x) I$$

the intended common reduct I cannot be reached with \Rightarrow from $(\lambda y. II) I$

the residual of II is nested in the residual of $(\lambda y. x) I$

similarly, parallel reduction for HRSs does not have the diamond property

multi-step beta-reduction

instead of parallel reduction we use multi-step reduction

which corresponds to a complete development

$$x \twoheadrightarrow x$$

$$\text{if } M \twoheadrightarrow M' \text{ then } \lambda x. M \twoheadrightarrow \lambda x. M'$$

$$\text{if } M \twoheadrightarrow M' \text{ and } N \twoheadrightarrow N' \text{ then } M N \twoheadrightarrow M' N'$$

$$\text{if } M \twoheadrightarrow M' \text{ and } N \twoheadrightarrow N' \text{ then } (\lambda x. M) N \twoheadrightarrow M'[x := N']$$

examples

$$\frac{\llbracket l \rrbracket \rightarrow l \quad l \rightarrow l}{(\lambda y. \llbracket l \rrbracket) l \rightarrow l}$$

$$\frac{x(\llbracket l a \rrbracket) \rightarrow x a \quad \llbracket l \rrbracket \rightarrow l}{(\lambda x. x(\llbracket l a \rrbracket))(\llbracket l \rrbracket) \rightarrow l a}$$

$$\frac{\llbracket l \rrbracket \rightarrow l \quad l a \rightarrow a}{(\llbracket l \rrbracket)(\llbracket l a \rrbracket) \rightarrow l a}$$

limitations of multi-step reduction

we have $(\lambda x. \lambda y. x y) a b \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda y. a y) b \rightarrow_{\beta} a b$

but not $(\lambda x. \lambda y. x y) a b \twoheadrightarrow a b$

we have $!(\lambda x. x) a \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda x. x) a \rightarrow_{\beta} a$

but not $!(\lambda x. x) a \twoheadrightarrow a$

we have $(\lambda x. x a) (\lambda y. x) \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda y. y) a \rightarrow_{\beta} a$

but not $(\lambda x. x a) (\lambda y. y) \twoheadrightarrow a$

multi-step reduction corresponds to complete developments
where only residuals of initially present redexes are contracted

(Jean-Jacques Lévy, 1974)

uniform common reduct (Takahashi)

corresponds to complete development of the set of **all** redexes

$$x^* = x$$

$$\lambda x. P^* = \lambda x. P^*$$

$P Q^* = P^* Q^*$ if $P Q$ not a redex

$$(\lambda x. P) Q^* = P^*[x := Q^*]$$

for example:

$$(\lambda x. x (I a)) (I b)^* = b a$$

$$(\lambda x. (\lambda y. x) I) (I I)^* = I$$

confluence and hence consistency

\Rightarrow has the **triangle property**: if $M \Rightarrow N$ then $N \Rightarrow M^*$

hence it has the diamond property

hence \rightarrow_β is confluent

hence we have consistency:

$$\lambda xy. x \not\equiv_\beta \lambda xy. y$$

adding eta yields critical pairs

$$M N \xrightarrow{\eta} (\lambda x. M x) N \xrightarrow{\beta} M N$$

$$\lambda x. M \xrightarrow{\beta} \lambda x. (\lambda u. M) x \xrightarrow{\eta} \lambda u. M$$

the critical pairs are trivial, so beta-eta is weakly orthogonal
we can adapt the proof !

Z

Z-property:

if there is a map $*$ such that if $a \rightarrow b$ then $b \rightarrow^* a^*$ and $a^* \rightarrow b^*$

if \rightarrow has the Z-property then \rightarrow is confluent

we can use the uniform common reduct by Takahashi

(van Oostrom, Dehornoy)

further reading



Parallel Reductions in λ -calculus

Masako Takahashi

IC 118(1), pp. 120-127, 1995



More Church-Rosser proofs

Tobias Nipkow

JAR 26(1), pp. 51-66, 2001



A short mechanized proof of the Church-Rosser Theorem by the Z-property for the $\lambda\beta$ -calculus in Nomina Isabelle

Julian Nagele, Vincent van Oostrom, Christian Sternagel

5th IWC, pp. 55-59, 2016

further reading



Higher-order rewrite systems and their confluence

Richard Mayr and Tobias Nipkow

TCS 192, -. 3–29, 1998



Developing developments

Vincent van Oostrom

TCS 175, pp. 159–181, 1997



Modularity of Confluence – Constructed

Vincent van Oostrom

Proc. 4th IJCAR, LNAI 5195, pp. 348 – 363, 2008



Higher-Order (Non-)Modularity

Claus Appel, Vincent van Oostrom, Jakob Grue Simonsen

Proc. 21th RTA, LIPIcs 284, pp. 17 – 32, 2010



CoCo 2015 participant: CSI-ho 0.1

Julian Nagele

Proceedings of IWC 2015, p. 41

overview

- definability
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- simply typed lambda calculus
- strategies

simple types: definition

we assume a base type \circ

- a base type is a simple type
- if A and B are simple types then $A \rightarrow B$ is a simple type

\rightarrow is assumed to be right-associative

outermost parentheses are omitted

every simple type is of the form $A_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow A_n \rightarrow \circ$

simply typed lambda-terms: definition

we assume a priori typed variables x, y, z, \dots

- $x : A$ is a simply typed λ -term of type A
- $\lambda x. M : B \rightarrow C$ is a simply typed λ -term of type $B \rightarrow C$
if $M : C$ and $x : B$
- $M N : A$ is a simply typed λ -term of type A
if $M : B \rightarrow A$ and $N : B$

examples

$\lambda x. x : A \rightarrow A$ if $x : A$

$\lambda x. \lambda y. x : A \rightarrow B \rightarrow A$ if $x : A$ and $y : B$

$\lambda s. \lambda z. s z : (A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$ if $s : A \rightarrow A$ and $z : A$

$\Omega = (\lambda x. x x) (\lambda x. x x)$ is not typable

$Y = \lambda f. (\lambda x. f (x x)) (\lambda x. f (x x))$ is not typable

$T = (\lambda x. \lambda y. y (x x y)) (\lambda x. \lambda y. y (x x y))$ is not typable

termination of beta-reduction

unlike untyped λ -calculus,

simply typed λ -calculus is terminating

termination follows using the **computability proof method**

proof method is crucial for HO-termination proofs

method due to Tait and Girard



computability: definition

Definition

- $M : \circ$ is computable
if M is terminating
- $M : A \rightarrow B$ is computable
if $M N : B$ is computable for every computable $N : A$

Example

- $x : \circ$ is computable
- $(\lambda x. x) y : \circ$ is computable
- $x : A \rightarrow B$ computable?

first attempt of the termination proof

- **step 1 A: computability implies termination**
(for type 0 this holds by definition)
try induction on the definition of computability
for $M : A \rightarrow B$ we need to take a computable term of type A
do we have such a term?
- **step 1B: show that variables are computable**
try induction on the definition of computability
for $x : A \rightarrow B$ we need to show that $x P$ is computable
- **prove 1A and 1B simultaneously**
- **step 2: all simply typed terms are computable**

Lemma (gives steps 1A and 1B)

- 1 if $M : C$ computable then $M : C$ terminating
- 2 for all $n \geq 0$:
if $x P_1 \dots P_n : C$ terminating then $x P_1 \dots P_n : C$ computable

simultaneous induction on the definition of types.

- for type \circ : both follow by definition of computability
- for type $A \rightarrow B$:
 - 1: take $M : A \rightarrow B$ computable
take $x : A$; it is computable by IH2
by definition, $M x : B$ is computable, and hence by IH1 terminating
hence $M : A \rightarrow B$ is terminating
 - 2: take $x P_1 \dots P_n : A \rightarrow B$ terminating
take $Q : A$ computable (exists by IH2); it is terminating by IH1
hence $x P_1 P_n Q : B$ is terminating; it is computable by IH2
so $x P_1 \dots P_n : A \rightarrow B$ computable

all terms are computable: proof attempt

induction on the definition of terms

1 $M = x$

2 $M = P Q$

3 $M = \lambda x. P$ here it does not work immediately

we need to show: $(\lambda x. P) Q$ is computable for computable Q

we will use:

$P[x := Q]$ computable implies $(\lambda x. P) Q$ computable

and strengthening of the current statement

all terms are computable (gives step 2)

Theorem

σ computable $\Rightarrow M^\sigma$ computable

Proof.

Induction on the definition of terms.

1 $M = x$

variables are computable and σ is computable



all terms are computable (gives step 2)

Theorem

σ computable $\Rightarrow M^\sigma$ computable

Proof.

Induction on the definition of terms.

1 $M = x$

2 $M = \lambda x. P$

$\sigma[x := N]$ is a computable substitution for N computable
by IH $P^\sigma[x := N] = P^\sigma[x := N]$ is computable
by (exercise) lemma below, $(\lambda x. P^\sigma) N$ is computable

Lemma

for all $n \geq 0$: if $M[x := N] P_1 \dots P_n$ computable and N computable
then $(\lambda x. M) N P_1 \dots P_n$ computable

all terms are computable (gives step 2)

Theorem

σ computable $\Rightarrow M^\sigma$ computable

Proof.

Induction on the definition of terms.

1 $M = x$

2 $M = \lambda x. P$

3 $M = P Q$

by IH P^σ and Q^σ are computable

by definition of computability, $P^\sigma Q^\sigma$ is computable



finally, the result

we have: computability implies termination

we have: M^σ computable for every M and for every computable σ

we have: identity substitution is computable

Corollary

simply typed λ -calculus with β -reduction is terminating

Curry-Howard-De Bruijn isomorphism

the **formulas** and **proofs** of first-order propositional logic

correspond to

the **types** and **terms** of simply typed λ -calculus

$$\frac{\frac{[A^x]}{B \rightarrow A} \quad I[y] \rightarrow}{A \rightarrow B \rightarrow A} \quad I[x] \rightarrow \quad : \quad A \rightarrow B \rightarrow A$$

\sim

$$\lambda x : A. \lambda y : B. x \quad : \quad A \rightarrow B \rightarrow A$$

overview

- definability
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- strategies

strategy: informally

there may be different ways to reduce a term

a **strategy** tells us how to reduce a term

a term may be weakly normalizing (WN) but not terminating (SN)

a **normalizing strategy** yields a reduction to normal form if possible

a **perpetual strategy** yields an infinite reduction if possible

in general: a strategy gives us a reduction with a desired property

reduction graph of a λ -term

terms are the vertices and the reduction steps are the edges

a reduction graph may be finite and cycle-free; example: $I x$

a reduction graph may be finite with cycles; example: Ω

a reduction graph may be infinite; example: $(\lambda x. x x x) (\lambda x. x x x)$

a reduction graph is not necessarily simple; example: $I (II)$

a reduction graph may be nice to draw; example: $(\lambda x. I x x) (\lambda x. I x x)$

the leftmost-innermost reduction strategy

is not normalizing:

$$(\lambda x. y) \Omega \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda x. y) \Omega \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda x. y) \Omega \rightarrow_{\beta} \dots$$

does not copy redexes (example):

$$(\lambda x. f x x) (((\lambda x. x) a)) \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda x. f x x) a \rightarrow_{\beta} f a a$$

may contract redexes that are not needed:

$$(\lambda x. y) (I z) \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda x. y) z \rightarrow_{\beta} y$$

innermost reduction

for first-order orthogonal TRSs, any innermost strategy is perpetual

for λ -calculus this is not true:

the term $(\lambda x. (\lambda y. z) (x x)) (\lambda x. x x)$ is WIN:

$$(\lambda x. (\lambda y. z) (x x)) (\lambda x. x x) \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda x. z) (\lambda x. x x) \rightarrow_{\beta} z$$

but not SN:

$$(\lambda x. (\lambda y. z) (x x)) (\lambda x. x x) \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda y. z) \Omega \rightarrow_{\beta} (\lambda y. z) \Omega \rightarrow_{\beta} \dots$$

so innermost reduction is not perpetual for λ -calculus

we do not have: strongly innermost normalizing implies strongly normalizing

the leftmost-outermost strategy

is normalizing for left-normal TRSs

λ -calculus is left-normal (but not a TRS)

leftmost-outermost strategy is normalizing

first proof by Curry 1958,

recent proofa by Hirokawa, Middeldorp, and Moser,

and by Toyama and Van Oostrom

example: $(\lambda x. y) \Omega \rightarrow_{\beta} y$

the rightmost-outermost strategy

is not normalizing:

$$((\lambda x. \lambda y. x) I) \Omega \rightarrow ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x) I) \Omega \rightarrow \dots$$

λ -calculus is not right-normal

further reading



[Leftmost outermost revisited](#)

Nao Hirokawa, Aart Middeldorp and Georg Moser
LIPIcs 36 (2015)



[Normalisation by Random Descent](#)

Vincent van Oostrom and Yoshihito Toyama
LIPIcs 52 (2016)

conclusion

for λ -calculus and for higher-order rewriting

we often need **multi-step** reduction instead of parallel reduction

for λ -calculus and for higher-order rewriting

we often need a variation of the **computability** proof method

more importantly

MANY THANKS TO THE ORGANIZERS

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