

Data-directed Design

Corky Cartwright

Department of Computer Science

Rice University

Important Extension of Data Definition

Parametric Type Definition (akin to Java Generics)
A (list-of alpha) is either:

- empty, or
- (cons a lon)
- where alpha is any type, a is element of alpha, and lon is a (list-of alpha).

As we stated before, the domain of list values is built-in to Racket, as well as many functions like cons, cons?, empty?, list?, length, reverse, append, first, rest that work for all list values. Racket only supports struct definitions which do not include any type restrictions on operands when building new values. Recall that our type definitions are simply comments providing documentation.



```
;; (define (f ... a-list ...)
;; (cond
;; [(empty? a-list) ...]
;; [(cons? a-list) ... (first a-list) ...
;; ... (f ... (rest a-list) ...) ...]))
```

Note that the template does not depend on the element type alpha. It applies to (list-of alpha) where alpha is any type.



Plan for Today

- List abbreviations
- More discussion of the list template
- Data-directed design with numbers
- Strong structural recursion
- Another ubiquitous self-referential data type: trees

List Abbreviations

- Let c1, c2, ..., cn be constants (including quoted symbols).
 (list c1 c2 ... cn) abbreviates
 (cons c1 (cons c2 ... (cons cn empty))...)
- Let s1, s2, ..., sn be symbols, constants (excluding symbols) or lists constructed of such atoms.
- · '(s1 ... sn) abbreviates (list 's1 ... 'sn)
- Examples (all equal)

```
'((1 2) (3 four))
(list (list 1 2) (list 3 'four))
(cons (cons 1 (cons 2 empty)) (cons (cons 3 (cons 'four empty)) empty))
```

- Do not nest quoted notation; it won't work.
- Do not use true, false, empty inside quotation; there are symbols
 'true, 'false, 'empty that are distinct from true, false, empty.

A simple list function that takes 2 list arguments

 The append function that concatenates lists is built-in to Racket. We will define this function



Would recurring on the second argument work?



- append is included in the Racket library
- akin to concatenation, which is the common string (a form of list of char) "construction" operation
- Problem: cost of operation is not constant; it is proportional to size of first argument (or, in case of strings, size of constructed list)
- Example of function that when simply coded uses append to construct its result: flatten

Defining Deep Lists and flatten

```
;; A deep-list is either:
;; * empty, or
  * (cons s adl) where a is a symbol or a deep-list and adl is a deep-list
;; Examples
(define dl1 '((())))
(define dl2 '((a) ((b))))
(define dl3 '((a b c d (e)) ((f) ((g)))))
;;
;; Template for deep-list
#1
(define (f ... dl ... )
  (cond [(empty? dl) ... ]
        [(cons? d1)
         (cond [(symbol? (first dl)) ... (first dl) ... (flatten (rest dl)) ...)]
               [(empty? (first dl)) ... (flatten (rest dl)) ... ]
               [(cons? (first dl)) ... (flatten (first dl)) ... (flatten (rest dl)) ... ])]))
1#
;; flatten: deep-list -> (list-of symbol)
;; Contract: (flatten dl) consumes a deep-list dl and concatenates all of
;; the symbols embedded in dl into a symbol-list where the symbols appear
;; in the same order as when dl is printed as string.
;; input to form a list of elements
                                                                                         9
```



```
;; Examples:
(check-expect (flatten dl1) empty)
(check-expect (flatten dl2) '(a b))
(check-expect (flatten dl3) '(a b c d e f g))
;; Template Instantiation for flatten:
#1
(define (flatten dl)
  (cond [(empty? dl) ...]
        [(cons? d1)
         (cond [(symbol? (first dl)) ... (first dl) ... (flatten (rest dl)))]
               [(empty? (first dl)) ... (flatten (rest dl)) ... ]
               [(cons? (first dl)) ... (flatten (first dl)) ... (flatten (rest dl)) ... ])]))
1#
;; Code:
(define (flatten dl)
  (cond [(empty? dl) empty ]
        [(cons? d1)
         (cond [(symbol? (first dl)) (cons (first dl) (flatten (rest dl)))]
               [(empty? (first dl)) (flatten (rest dl))]
               [(cons? (first dl)) (append (flatten (first dl)) (flatten (rest dl)))])))
```

Defining flatten

:: Tests Done!

Improving flatten?

Need a help function with an accumulator; next lecture. We can avoid using append.

Algebraic Data I

Given a set of constructor symbols \mathbb{C} (with associated arities > 0) and a set of primitive data values \mathbb{P} , the domain of *values generated by* \mathbb{C} and \mathbb{P} is inductively defined as follows:

- 1. Every primitive value $p \in \mathbb{P}$ is a *value*; and
- 2. For every constructor $c \in \mathbb{C}$ of arity n, and values v_1, \ldots, v_n , $c(v_1, \ldots, v_n)$ is a *value*.

If $\mathbb P$ is the set of primitive values of basic Racket (which excludes strings, functions, vectors [arrays], and other more complex built-in forms of data) and $\mathbb C$ is the set of primitive constructors (only cons) plus the constructors defined in a Racket program $\mathbb P$, the domain of value available in $\mathbb P$ is simply the set of values generated by $\mathbb C$ and $\mathbb P$. In this domain, every data value has the form $p \in \mathbb P$ or $c(e_1, e_2, \ldots e_n)$ where $c \in \mathbb C$ with arity n and $e_1, e_2, \ldots e_n$ are data values.

Observation From this perspective, every value in a Racket program is a tree. Recall that we are not yet including functions as data values.



Algebraic Data II

- Note that we have explicitly excluded functions from \mathbb{P} . Why?
- In a typical functional program, the domain V includes an enormous amount of "junk" because no restrictions are placed on the value arguments v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n in a construction $c(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$.
- The ML family of languages, which we will see in Haskell, follows a different conceptual path and imposes type restrictions on the operands of constructions and functions
 - Every (mono)type is disjoint from every other (mono)type.
 - Every value belongs to a unique monotype.

Haskell has added some interesting workarounds to support a form of subtyping.



Algebraic Data Types I

In the documentation framework that we use for Racket, we introduce type definitions for the purpose of precise program documentation. Note that our types are subsets of the program domain of values V that can overlap (as in Java). The framework is not designed to support static type checking.

A type definition in a program P has the form

$$T := S_1 | S_2 | ... | S_n$$

where

- T is a new name (identifier);
- each S_i is either
 - a recursive subset of \mathbb{P} .
 - a type T defined elsewhere in the program
 - an expression $c(T_1, ..., T_k)$ denoting the set $\{c(v_1, ..., v_k) \mid v_i \in T_i\}$ where c is a defined constructor (possibly primitive) and T_i is defined elsewhere in the program.

The sets S_i must be disjoint.

We often write these definitions out in prose rather than using the := notation.

There is an obvious structural induction scheme for reasoning about an algebraic type.

Algebraic Data Types II

Our data definition framework is very expressive. Essentially any data domain consisting of freely constructed finite trees can be formulated as algebraic data. Some examples include:

- Files on your computer (at least in Linux)
 - Simple File (an array of characters), or
 - Folder, which contains a list of pairs (string, file)
- XML
 - Baroque format for representing algebraic data as ASCII text
- Internet domain names
- Structurally well-formed programs (abstract syntax)

In some cases, the domain of interest must be embedded in a larger "freely constructed domain". For the domain of ascending integer-lists must be embedded in a larger domain such as all integer-lists. The former is not an algebraic type but the latter is.

On the other hand, some forms of data are best characterized as quotients of algebraic types. I am not aware of a mainstream functional language that directly supports data definitions that construct quotients of algebraic types. In contrast, this form of data definition is easily done in many class-based OO languages.

Inductive Structure of N

Standard definition from mathematics

```
;; A natural-number (natural for short) is either
;; 0, or
;; (add1 n)
;; where n is a natural-number (natural)
```

- We often use the symbol $\mathbb N$ to denote this domain.
- In mathematics, add1 is usually called succ, suc, or S, for successor.
 The deduction rules for mathematical induction on the natural numbers embodies the preceding definition:

$$\frac{P(0), \ \forall x [P(x) \rightarrow P(add1(x))]}{\forall x P(x)}$$

 Is there an analogous induction principle for other forms of inductively defined data? Yes! For all inductively defined domains, there are analogous natural deduction proof rules

Basic Operations on Naturals

- Examples (using constructors)
 - . Zero: 0
 - One: (add1 0)
 - Four: (add1 (add1 (add1 0))))
- Accessors:
 - sub1 : N -> N
 Note: sub1 is typically called pred or P in mathematical logic; in Racket (sub1 0) is not an error (for reasons explained later).
- Recognizers:
 - zero? : Any -> bool
 - positive? : Any -> bool ;; not called add1?

Basic Laws (Reductions) for Natural Numbers

- The rules for primitive or auto-generated (for define-struct) operation for a (typically infinite) table
- Recall the ones for lists:
 - For all values v, and list values 1, we have

- Basic laws:
 - For all natural numbers n, we have

- Similar rules exist for all inductively-defined data types
- What about laws for (equal? ...)



Natural Numbers: Template

Template for **natural** is very similar to lists:

Example

Write a function that repeats a symbol s several (n) times



Generalization: Full Structural Recursion

Corresponds to "strong induction" on natural numbers
 P(0), ∀n [∀n'<n P(n)] → P(S(x))]

∀n P(n)

 Template instantiation includes recursive calls on deeper "predecessors" than the immediate ones; the instantiation must anticipate what predecessors are required.



1

Defining Add

```
(define (add m n)
  (cond
  [(zero? m) n]
  [(positive? m) (add1 (add (sub1 m) n))]))
(define (right-add m n)
  (cond
  [(zero? n) m]
  [(positive? n) (add1 (right-add m (sub1 n)))]))
```

Defining Integers

- An integer is either:
 - 0; or
 - (add1 n) where n has the form 0 or (add1 ...) [non-negative]; or
 - (sub1 n) where n has the form 0 or (sub1 ...) [non-positive].
- Recognizers:

```
zero?: any -> bool
positive?: any -> bool
negative?: any -> bool
```

In Racket, add1 and sub1 have been extended to all integers by defining for all integers n:

```
(add1 (sub1 n)) = n(sub1 (add1 n)) = n
```

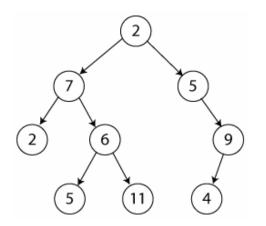
Hence, (add1 -1) and (sub1 0) are not errors.

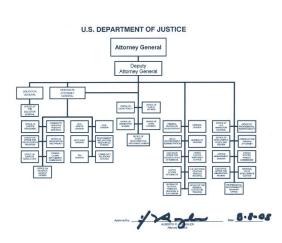


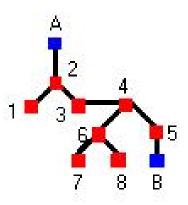
Another Inductive Type: Trees

- Labeled trees
- Organizational charts
- Decision trees
- Search trees

and many more!







From Lists to Trees

Example of a List Data Definition (very familiar)

```
;; Given the built-in two argument constructor cons with
;; fields first and rest:
;; An (list-of alpha) is
;; * empty, or
;; * (cons s los)
;; where s is an alpha and los is a alpha-list
```

Example of a Tree Data Definition

Examples of ancestryTree



 In non-empty trees, we anticipate accessing each child of the tree:

```
; f : ancestryTree -> ...
; (define (f ... at ...)
; (cond
;     [(empty? at) ...]
;     [else ... (person-name at) ...
;          ... (person-mother c) ...
;          ... (person-father c) ...)
```

Template for ancestryTree

Recursion in type → recursion in template



Example: Tree Depth

- Consider the following problem
 - Given an ancestry tree, compute the maximum number of generations for which we know something about this person.
- Type (contract): person -> natural
- Contract: ...
- Examples (next slide)
- Template?

Tree Depth Examples

```
(define cat (make-person 'Cat empty empty))
(define tom (make-person 'Tom cat empty))
(define jane (make-person empty tom))
(define johnny (make-person 'Johnny empty empty))
(define ray (make-person 'Ray empty johnny))
(define sue (make-person 'Sue empty ray))
(define rob (make-person 'Rob empty sue))
(define bob (make-person 'Bob jane rob))
(check-expect (max-depth cat) 1)
(check-expect (max-depth tom) 2)
(check-expect (max-depth jane) 3)
(check-expect (max-depth johnny) 1)
(check-expect (max-depth ray) 2)
(check-expect (max-depth sue) 3)
(check-expect (max-depth rob) 4)
(check-expect (max-depth bob) 5)
```



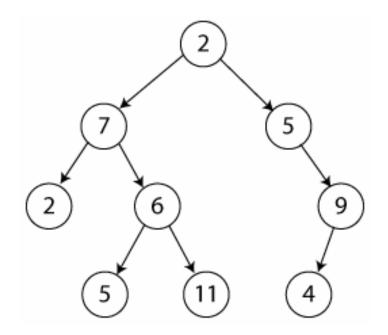
```
;; max-depth : ancestryTree -> natural
;; (define (max-depth c)
;; (cond
;; [(empty? c) ...]
;; [else ...
;; ... (max-depth (person-mother c)) ...
;; ... (max-depth (person-father c)) ...]))
```

Tree Depth

Examples (tests) can help in writing code.



Binary Search Trees



Binary Search Trees

```
(define-struct BTNode (num left right))
   A binary-tree (BT) is either
   * false, or
  * (make-BTNode n l r)
   where n is a number, l and r are BTs.
   A binary-tree bt is is ordered iff either
   * bt is empty, or
; ;
   * bt has the form (make-BTNode n l r) where
;; Invariants:
   1. Numbers in 1 are less than or equal to n
   2. Numbers in r are greater than n
;; A binary-search-tree (BST) is a binary-tree abt that is ordered.
;; Hence BST is equivalent to (ordered) binary-tree
```