Advanced Topics in Theoretical Computer Science

Part 3: Recursive functions (3)

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- Register machines (LOOP, WHILE, GOTO)
- Recursive functions
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3. Recursive functions

- Introduction/Motivation
- Primitive recursive functions

$$\mapsto \mathcal{P}$$

- $\mathcal{P} = \mathsf{LOOP}$
- μ -recursive functions

$$\mapsto F_{\mu}$$

- $F_{\mu} = \mathsf{WHILE}$
- Summary

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Until now

Primitive recursive functions

Primitive recursion. If the functions $g: \mathbb{N}^k \to \mathbb{N}$ and $h: \mathbb{N}^{k+2} \to \mathbb{N}(k \ge 0)$ are primitive recursive, then the following function is also primitive recursive:

$$f: \mathbb{N}^{k+1} o \mathbb{N}$$
 with $f(\mathbf{n}, 0) = g(\mathbf{n})$ $f(\mathbf{n}, m+1) = h(\mathbf{n}, m, f(\mathbf{n}, m))$

Notation without arguments: $f = \mathcal{PR}[g, h]$

Definition (Primitive recursive functions)

- Atomic functions: The functions null (0), successor (+1) and projection $(\pi_i^k \ (1 \le i \le k))$ are primitive recursive.
- Composition: The functions obtained by composition from primitive recursive functions are primitive recursive.
- **Primitive recursion:** The functions obtained by primitive recursion from primitive recursive functions are primitive recursive.

Examples of primitive recursive functions

$$f(n) = n + c,$$
 for $c \in \mathbb{N}, c \ge 0$ $+(n, m) = n + m$ $-(n, m) = n - m$ $*(n, m) = n * m$

Lemma The set of primitive recursive functions is closed under re-ordering, omitting and repeating of arguments when composing functions.

Lemma. Assume $f: \mathbb{N}^k \to \mathbb{N}$ is primitive recursive.

Then, for every $l \in \mathbb{N}$, the function $f' : \mathbb{N}^k \times \mathbb{N}^l \to \mathbb{N}$ defined for every $\mathbf{n} \in \mathbb{N}^k$ and every $\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{N}^l$ by:

$$f'(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{m}) = f(\mathbf{n})$$

is primitive recursive.

Primitive recursive functions

Lemma (Case distinction). If g_i , h_i $(1 \le i \le r)$ are primitive recursive functions, and for every n there exists a unique i with $h_i(n) = 0$, then the function f defined by:

$$f(n) = \left\{ egin{array}{ll} g_1(n) & ext{if } h_1(n) = 0 \\ & \dots & \\ g_r(n) & ext{if } h_r(n) = 0 \end{array}
ight.$$

is primitive recursive.

Theorem (Sums and products)

If $g: \mathbb{N}^k \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ is a primitive recursive function then the following functions $f_1, f_2: \mathbb{N}^k \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ are also primitive recursive:

$$f_1(\mathbf{n}, m) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m = 0 \\ \sum_{i < m} g(\mathbf{n}, i) & \text{if } m > 0 \end{cases}$$
 $f_2(\mathbf{n}, m) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m = 0 \\ \prod_{i < m} g(\mathbf{n}, i) & \text{if } m > 0 \end{cases}$

Bounded μ **operator**

Definition. Let $g: \mathbb{N}^{k+1} \to \mathbb{N}$ be a function. The bounded μ operator is defined by:

$$\mu_{i < m} \ i \ (g(\mathbf{n}, i) = 0) := \begin{cases} i_0 & \text{if } g(\mathbf{n}, i_0) = 0 \text{ and for all } j < i_0 \ g(\mathbf{n}, j) \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } g(\mathbf{n}, j) \neq 0 \text{ for all } 0 \leq j < m \text{ or } m = 0 \end{cases}$$

 $\mu_{i < m} \ i \ (g(\mathbf{n},i) = 0)$ is the smallest i < m such that $g(\mathbf{n},i) = 0$

Theorem. If $g: \mathbb{N}^{k+1} \to \mathbb{N}$ is a primitive recursive function then the function $f: \mathbb{N}^{k+1} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by:

$$f(\mathbf{n}, m) = \mu_{i < m} \ i \ (g(\mathbf{n}, i) = 0)$$

is also primitive recursive

Prime number functions

Theorem: The following functions are primitive recursive:

(1) The Boolean function $|: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \{0, 1\}$ defined by:

$$|(n, m) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ divides } m \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(2) The Boolean function prime : $\mathbb{N} \to \{0,1\}$ defined by:

$$prime(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ prime} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (3) The function $p:\mathbb{N}\to\mathbb{N}$ defined by: $p(n)=p_n$, the *n*-th prime number.
- (4) The function $D: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by: D(n, i) = k iff k is the power of the i-th prime number in the prime number decomposition of n.

$$D(n, i) = \max(\{j \mid n \mod p(i)^j = 0\})$$

Prime number functions

Proof:

(4) $D: \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ defined by: D(n, i) = k iff k is the power of the i-th prime number in the prime number decomposition of n.

$$D(n, i) = \max(\{j \mid n \bmod p(i)^j = 0\})$$

$$D(0, i) := 0;$$

$$D(n, i) = \min(\{j \le n \mid |(p(i)^{j+1}, n) = 0\})$$

$$D(n, i) = \mu_{j < n} j (|(p(i)^{j+1}, n) = 0)$$

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Goal

Show that $\mathcal{P} = \mathsf{LOOP}$

Idea:

To show that $\mathcal{P} \supseteq \mathsf{LOOP}$ we have to show that every LOOP computable function can be expressed as a primitive recursive function.

For this, we will encode the contents of arbitrarily many registers in one natural number (used as input for this primitive recursive function).

For this encoding we will use Gödelisation. We will need to show that Gödelisation is primitive recursive.

To show that $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathsf{LOOP}$ we have to show that:

- all atomic primitive recursive functions are LOOP computable, and
- LOOP is closed under composition of functions and primitive recursion.

To show: Gödelisation is primitive recursive

Informally:

- Coding number sequences as a number
- Corresponding decoding function (projection)

are primitive recursive

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- Coding number sequences as a number
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More precise formulation:

There exist primitive recursive functions

$$K^r: \mathbb{N}^r \to \mathbb{N}$$
 $(r \ge 1)$

$$D_i: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$
 $(1 \leq i \leq r)$

with:

$$D_i(K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r))=n_i$$

To show: Gödelisation is primitive recursive

Informally:

- Coding number sequences as a number
- Corresponding decoding function (projection)

are primitive recursive

Recall:

Gödelisation: Coding number sequences as a number

Bijection between \mathbb{N}^r and \mathbb{N} : $K^r : \mathbb{N}^r \to \mathbb{N}$, defined by:

$$K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r)=\prod_{i=1}^r p(i)^{n_i}.$$

Decoding: The inverses $D_i: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ of K^r defined by $D_i(n) = D(n, i)$

Bijection between \mathbb{N}^r and \mathbb{N} : $K^r : \mathbb{N}^r \to \mathbb{N}$, defined by:

$$K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r)=\prod_{i=1}^r p(i)^{n_i}.$$

 $D_i: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}, \ 1 \leq i \leq r, \ \text{defined by} \ D_i(n) = D(n, i)$

Theorem. K^r and D_1, \ldots, D_r are primitive recursive.

Bijection between \mathbb{N}^r and \mathbb{N} : $K^r : \mathbb{N}^r \to \mathbb{N}$, defined by:

$$K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r)=\prod_{i=1}^r p(i)^{n_i}.$$

 $D_i: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}, \ 1 \leq i \leq r, \ \text{defined by} \ D_i(n) = D(n, i)$

Theorem. K^r and D_1, \ldots, D_r are primitive recursive.

Lemma.

- (1) $D_i(K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r)) = n_i$ for all $1 \le i \le r$. (2) $K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r) = K^{r+1}(n_1,\ldots,n_r,0)$

In general, $D_i(K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r))=0$ if i>r.

Notation:

$$K^r(n_1,\ldots,n_r) = \langle n_1,\ldots,n_r \rangle$$

 $D_i(n) = (n)_i$

For r = 0:

$$\langle
angle = 1$$

$$(\langle \rangle)_i = 0$$

Gödelisation: Applications

```
Theorem (Simultaneous Recursion)
lf
                     f_1(\mathbf{n},0) = g_1(\mathbf{n})
                     f_r(\mathbf{n},0) = g_r(\mathbf{n})
              f_1(\mathbf{n}, m+1) = h_1(\mathbf{n}, m, f_1(\mathbf{n}, m), \dots, f_r(\mathbf{n}, m))
               f_r(\mathbf{n}, m+1) = h_r(\mathbf{n}, m, f_1(\mathbf{n}, m), \dots, f_r(\mathbf{n}, m))
and if g_1, \ldots, g_r, h_1, \ldots, h_r are primitive recursive
then f_1, \ldots, f_r are primitive recursive.
```

Example

Let f_1 and f_2 be defined by simultaneous recursion as follows:

$$f_1(0) = 0$$
 $f_2(0) = 1$
 $f_1(n+1) = f_2(n)$
 $f_2(n+1) = f_1(n) + f_2(n)$

Example

Let f_1 and f_2 be defined by simultaneous recursion as follows:

$$f_1(0) = 0$$
 $g_1 = 0$
 $f_2(0) = 1$ $g_2 = 1$
 $f_1(n+1) = f_2(n)$ $h_1(n, f_1(n), f_2(n)) = f_2(n)$ $h_1 = \pi_3^3$
 $f_2(n+1) = f_1(n) + f_2(n)$ $h_2(n, f_1(n), f_2(n)) = f_1(n) + f_2(n)$ $h_2 = + \circ (\pi_2^3, \pi_3^3)$

Gödelisation: Applications

```
Theorem (Simultaneous Recursion)
lf
                     f_1(\mathbf{n},0) = g_1(\mathbf{n})
                     f_r(\mathbf{n},0) = g_r(\mathbf{n})
              f_1(\mathbf{n}, m+1) = h_1(\mathbf{n}, m, f_1(\mathbf{n}, m), \dots, f_r(\mathbf{n}, m))
               f_r(\mathbf{n}, m+1) = h_r(\mathbf{n}, m, f_1(\mathbf{n}, m), \dots, f_r(\mathbf{n}, m))
and if g_1, \ldots, g_r, h_1, \ldots, h_r are primitive recursive
then f_1, \ldots, f_r are primitive recursive.
```

Gödelisation: Applications

Proof: We define a new function f by:

$$f(\mathbf{n}, m) = \langle f_1(\mathbf{n}, m), \ldots, f_r(\mathbf{n}, m) \rangle$$

f can be computed by primitive recursion as follows:

$$f(\mathbf{n},0) = \langle g_1(\mathbf{n}), \dots, g_r(\mathbf{n}) \rangle$$

$$f(\mathbf{n}, m+1) = \langle h_1(\mathbf{n}, m, (f(\mathbf{n}, m))_1, \dots, (f(\mathbf{n}, m))_r), \dots, h_r(\mathbf{n}, m, (f(\mathbf{n}, m))_1, \dots, (f(\mathbf{n}, m))_r) \rangle$$

 $K^r \circ (g_1, \ldots, g_r)$ and $K^r \circ (h_1, \ldots, h_r)$ are primitive recursive.

For all $1 \leq i \leq r$, $f_i(\mathbf{n}, m) = D_i(f(\mathbf{n}, m))$.

Since $f_i = D_i \circ f$ is primitive recursive, it follows that f_i is primitive recursive for all $1 \le i \le r$.

Theorem ($\mathcal{P} = \text{LOOP}$). The set of all LOOP computable functions is equal to the set of all primitive recursive functions

Proof (Idea)

1. $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathsf{LOOP}$

Theorem ($\mathcal{P} = \mathsf{LOOP}$). The set of all LOOP computable functions is equal to the set of all primitive recursive functions

Proof (Idea)

1. $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathsf{LOOP}$

1a: We show that all atomic primitive recursive functions are LOOP computable

1b: We show that LOOP is closed under composition of functions

1c: We show that LOOP is closed under primitive recursion

$$\mathcal{P} = \mathsf{LOOP}$$

Theorem ($\mathcal{P} = \mathsf{LOOP}$). The set of all LOOP computable functions is equal to the set of all primitive recursive functions

Proof (Idea)

1.
$$\mathcal{P} \subseteq LOOP$$

1a: All atomic primitive recursive functions are LOOP computable

Proof (ctd) 1b: LOOP is closed under composition of functions

Let
$$f: \mathbb{N}^k \to \mathbb{N}$$
 with $f(\mathbf{n}) = h(g_1(\mathbf{n}), \dots, g_r(\mathbf{n}))$

Assume that:

- P_h computes h
- P_{g_j} computes g_j $(1 \le j \le r)$

Idea: f is computed by the program P_f :

$$P'_{g_1}; \ldots; P'_{g_r}; P'_h$$

where P'_{g_i} differs from P_{g_i} (and P'_h from P_h) only up to the fact that registers have been renamed/the contents stored in them copied.

Proof (ctd) 1b: LOOP is closed under composition of functions

Let
$$f: \mathbb{N}^k \to \mathbb{N}$$
 with $f(\mathbf{n}) = h(g_1(\mathbf{n}), \dots, g_r(\mathbf{n}))$

Assume that:

- P_h computes h
- P_{g_i} computes g_j $(1 \le j \le r)$

More precisely: P'_{g_i} : obtained from P_{g_i} by renaming register x_{k+i} to x_{k+r+i} . \mapsto keep free registers x_{k+1}, \ldots, x_{k+r} for writing result of P_{g_1}, \ldots, P_{g_r} . P'_h : obtained from P_h by renaming x_j to x_{k+j} .

$$P_{f}: P'_{g_{1}}; x_{k+1} := x_{k+r+1}; x_{k+r+1} := 0; \dots$$

$$P'_{g_{r}}; x_{k+r} := x_{k+r+1}; x_{k+r+1} := 0;$$

$$P'_{h}; x_{k+1} := x_{k+r+1}; x_{k+2} := 0; \dots; x_{k+r+1} := 0$$

Proof (ctd) 1c: LOOP is closed under primitive recursion

Assume that $f: \mathbb{N}^{k+1} \to \mathbb{N}$ is such that:

$$f(\mathbf{n},0) = g(\mathbf{n})$$

$$f(\mathbf{n}, m+1) = h(\mathbf{n}, m, f(\mathbf{n}, m))$$

Then *f* is computed by the following LOOP Program:

```
x_{\mathsf{store}_{\mathsf{m}}} := x_{k+1}; // Number of loops (m) x_{k+1} := 0; //Actual value of m (at the beginning 0) // Computes f(n,0); result in x_{k+2} loop x_{\mathsf{store}_{\mathsf{m}}} do P_h; // Computes f(n,x_{k+1}+1) = h(n,m,f(n,m)) x_{k+2} := x_{k+2+1}; x_{k+2+1} := 0; x_{k+1} := x_{k+1} + 1 end; x_{\mathsf{store}_{\mathsf{m}}} := 0
```

Proof (ctd) 1c: LOOP is closed under primitive recursion

Assume that $f: \mathbb{N}^{k+1} \to \mathbb{N}$ is such that:

$$f(\mathbf{n},0)=g(\mathbf{n})$$

$$f(n, m + 1) = h(n, m, f(n, m))$$

Then f is computed by the following LOOP Program:

```
x_{store_m} := x_{k+1};
x_{k+1} := 0;
P'_g;
loop x_{store_m} do
P_h;
x_{k+2} := x_{k+2+1};
x_{k+2+1} := 0;
x_{k+1} := x_{k+1} + 1
end;
x_{store_m} := 0
```

```
// Number of loops (m)

//Actual value of m (at the beginning 0)

// Computes f(n, 0); result in x_{k+2}
```

where P'_g differs from P_g only in the fact that some registers have been renamed (e.g. output in x_{k+2} , not in x_{k+1})

Theorem ($\mathcal{P} = \mathsf{LOOP}$). The set of all LOOP computable functions is equal to the set of all primitive recursive functions

Proof (Idea)

2. LOOP $\subset \mathcal{P}$

Let *P* be a LOOP program which:

- uses registers x_1, \ldots, x_l
- has m loop instructions

We construct a primitive recursive function f_P which "simulates" P

$$f(\langle n_1,\ldots,n_l,h_1,\ldots,h_m\rangle)=\langle n_1',\ldots,n_l',h_1,\ldots,h_m\rangle$$

if and only if:

P started with n_i in register x_i terminates with n'_i in x_i $(1 \le i \le l)$.

In h_i it is "recorded" how long loop j should still run.

Proof (ctd) At the beginning and at the end of the simulation of P we have

$$h_1 = 0, \ldots, h_m = 0.$$

Let $g: \mathbb{N}^k \to \mathbb{N}$ be the function computed by the LOOP program P.

- At the beginning the registers x_1, \ldots, x_k contain the input n_1, \ldots, n_k and all the other registers contain the value 0.
- At the end of the execution of P the registers x_1, \ldots, x_k contain the input n_1, \ldots, n_k , register x_{k+1} contains the value $n_{k+1} = g(n_1, \ldots, n_k)$ and all the other registers contain the value 0;

The function g is then primitive recursive, since:

$$g(n_1, \ldots, n_k) = n_{k+1} = (\langle \underbrace{n_1, \ldots, n_k, n_{k+1}, 0, \ldots, 0}_{\text{contents of registers } x_1, \ldots, x_l}, \underbrace{0, \ldots, 0}_{h_1, \ldots, h_m} \rangle)_{k+1}$$

$$= (f_P(\langle n_1, \ldots, n_k, 0, 0, \ldots \rangle))_{k+1}$$

 $f_P(n) = \langle (n)_1, \ldots, (n)_{i-1}, (n)_i - 1, (n)_{i+1}, \ldots \rangle$

Proof (ctd) Construction of f_P :

2a:
$$P$$
 is $x_i := x_i + 1$
$$f_P(n) = \langle (n)_1, \dots, (n)_{i-1}, (n)_i + 1, (n)_{i+1}, \dots \rangle$$
 P is $x_i := x_i - 1$

Proof (ctd) Construction of f_P :

2a: *P* is
$$x_i := x_i + 1$$

$$f_P(n) = \langle (n)_1, \ldots, (n)_{i-1}, (n)_i + 1, (n)_{i+1}, \ldots \rangle$$

$$P \text{ is } x_i := x_i - 1$$

$$f_P(n) = \langle (n)_1, \ldots, (n)_{i-1}, (n)_i - 1, (n)_{i+1}, \ldots \rangle$$

2b:
$$P$$
 is P_1 ; P_2

$$f_P = f_{P_2} \circ f_{P_1}$$
 i.e. $f_P(n) = f_{P_2}(f_{P_1}(n))$

Proof (ctd) Construction of f_P :

2c: P is loop x_i do P_1 end

Let f_{P_1} be the p.r. function which computes what P_1 computes.

Initialize the *j*-th loop:

$$f_1(n) = \langle (n)_1, \ldots, (n)_l, (n)_{l+1}, \ldots (n)_{l+j-1}, (n)_i, (n)_{l+j+1}, \ldots \rangle$$

$$f_1 = n * p(I+j)^{(n)_i}.$$

Let the *j*-th loop run:

$$f_2(n) = \left\{ egin{array}{ll} n & ext{if } (n)_{l+j} = 0 \\ f_{P_1}(f_2(\langle \ldots, \binom{n}{l+j} - 1, \ldots \rangle)) & ext{otherwise} \end{array}
ight.$$

Then:

$$f_P = f_2 \circ f_1$$

Proof (ctd) Construction of f_P :

2c: P is loop x_i do P_1 end

Let f_{P_1} be the p.r. function which computes what P_1 computes.

Initialize the *j*-th loop:

$$f_1(n) = \langle (n)_1, \ldots, (n)_l, (n)_{l+1}, \ldots (n)_{l+j-1}, (n)_i, (n)_{l+j+1}, \ldots \rangle$$

$$f_1 = n * p(I+j)^{(n)_i}.$$

Let the *j*-th loop run:

$$f_2(n) = \left\{ egin{array}{ll} n & ext{if } (n)_{l+j} = 0 \\ f_{P_1}(f_2(n \ DIV \ p(l+j))) & ext{otherwise} \end{array}
ight.$$

Then:

$$f_P = f_2 \circ f_1$$

Proof (ctd) We show that f_2 is primitive recursive.

Let $F : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ be defined by:

$$F(n,0)=n$$

$$F(n, m + 1) = f_{P_1}(F(n, m) DIV p(l + j))$$

Then $F \in \mathcal{P}$.

$$f_2 = F(n, D(n, l+j)).$$

Since f_1 , f_2 are primitive recursive, so is $f_P = f_2 \circ f_1$.

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