

# Lesson 1

## Untyped Arithmetic Expressions

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### Topics

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- abstract syntax
- inductive definitions and proofs
- evaluation
- modeling runtime errors

## An abstract syntax

```
t ::=  
  true  
  false  
  if t then t else t  
  0  
  succ t  
  pred t  
  iszero t
```

Terms defined by a BNF style grammar.

Not worried about ambiguity.

*t* is a syntactic metavariable

## example terms

```
true  
0  
succ 0  
if false then 0  
  else pred(if true then succ 0 else 0)  
iszero true  
if 0 then true else pred 0
```

## Inductive defn of terms

Defn: The set of terms is the smallest set  $\mathcal{T}$  such that

1.  $\{\text{true}, \text{false}, 0\} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$
2. if  $t_1 \in \mathcal{T}$ , then  $\{\text{succ } t, \text{pred } t, \text{iszero } t\} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$
3. if  $t_1, t_2, t_3 \in \mathcal{T}$ , then  $\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \in \mathcal{T}$

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## Terms defined using inference rules

Defn: The set of terms is defined by the following rules:

$$\text{true} \in \mathcal{T} \quad \text{false} \in \mathcal{T} \quad 0 \in \mathcal{T}$$

$$\frac{t \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{succ } t \in \mathcal{T}} \quad \frac{t \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{pred } t \in \mathcal{T}} \quad \frac{t \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{iszero } t \in \mathcal{T}}$$

$$\frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T} \quad t_2 \in \mathcal{T} \quad t_3 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \in \mathcal{T}}$$

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## Definition by induction, concretely

Defn: For each  $i$ , define  $S_i$  as follows

$$S(0) = \emptyset$$

$$S(i+1) = \{\text{true}, \text{false}, 0\}$$

$$\sqcup \{\text{succ } t, \text{pred } t, \text{iszero } t \mid t \in S(i)\}$$

$$\sqcup \{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \mid t_1, t_2, t_3 \in S(i)\}$$

Then let

$$S = \sqcup \{S(i) \mid i \in \text{Nat}\}$$

Proposition:  $S = \mathcal{T}$

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## Defining functions inductively

Constants appearing in a term

```
consts(true) = {true}
consts(false) = {false}
consts(0) = {0}
consts(succ t) = consts(t)
consts(pred t) = consts(t)
consts(iszero t) = consts(t)
consts(if t1 then t2 else t3) =
  consts(t1)  $\sqcup$  consts(t1)  $\sqcup$  consts(t1)
```

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## Defining functions inductively

Size of a term:

```
size(true) = 1
size(false) = 1
size(0) = 1
size(succ t) = size(t) + 1
size(pred t) = size(t) + 1
size(iszero t) = size(t) + 1
size(if t1 then t2 else t3) =
    size(t1) + size(t2) + size(t3) + 1
```

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## Defining functions inductively

Depth of a term

```
depth(true) = 1
depth(false) = 1
depth(0) = 1
depth(succ t) = depth(t) + 1
depth(pred t) = depth(t) + 1
depth(iszero t) = depth(t) + 1
depth(if t1 then t2 else t3) =
    max(depth(t1), depth(t2), depth(t3)) + 1
```

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### Proof by induction (on depth)

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If, for each term  $s$ ,  
given  $P(r)$  for all terms with  
 $\text{depth}(r) < \text{depth}(s)$ ,  
we can show  $P(s)$   
then  $P(s)$  holds for all terms.

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### Proof by induction (on size)

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If, for each term  $s$ ,  
given  $P(r)$  for all terms with  
 $\text{size}(r) < \text{size}(s)$ ,  
we can show  $P(s)$   
then  $P(s)$  holds for all terms.

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## Proof by induction (on depth)

If, for each term  $s$ ,  
given  $P(r)$  for all immediate  
**subterms** of  $S$ ,  
we can show  $P(s)$   
then  $P(s)$  holds for all terms.

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## Operational semantics

An abstract machine for with instructions  
on how to evaluate terms of the language.

In simple cases, the terms of the language can  
be interpreted as the instructions.

The values (results) can also be taken to  
be (simple) terms in the language.

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## Evaluation: booleans

### Terms

```

t ::= true
    | false
    | if t then t else t
    
```

### Values

```

v ::= true
    | false
    
```

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## Evaluation (reduction) relation

An **evaluation relation** is a binary relation

$$t \rightarrow t'$$

on terms representing *one step* of evaluation.

This is known as a **small-step** or **one-step** evaluation relation.

A **normal form** is a term which is fully evaluated, i.e. for which no further evaluation is possible.

Thus,  $t$  is a normal form term if there is no term  $t'$  such that  $t \rightarrow t'$ .

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## Evaluation rules for boolean terms

The evaluation relation  $\vdash \rightarrow$  is the least relation satisfying the following rules.

`if true then t2 else t3  $\rightarrow$  t2`

`if false then t2 else t3  $\rightarrow$  t3`

$$\frac{t1 \rightarrow t1'}{\text{if } t1 \text{ then } t2 \text{ else } t3 \rightarrow \text{if } t1' \text{ then } t2 \text{ else } t3}$$

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## Evaluation strategy

Evaluation rules can determine an evaluation strategy that limits where evaluation takes place.

Example:

`if true then (if false then false else true) else true`  
 $\rightarrow$  `if false then false else true`

But not

`if true then (if false then false else true) else true`  
 $\rightarrow$  `if true then true else true`

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## Determinacy

Evaluation of boolean terms is **deterministic**. That is if  $t \Downarrow t'$  and  $t \Downarrow t''$ , then  $t' = t''$ .

Proof by induction on **derivations** of  $t \Downarrow t'$ .

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## Values and normal forms

Every value is a normal form (is *in* normal form).

For booleans, every normal form is a value.

But generally, not all normal forms are values.

E.g. `pred(true)`

Such non-value normal forms are called **stuck**.

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## Multistep evaluation

Defn: Let  $\rightarrow^*$  be the reflexive, transitive closure of  $\rightarrow$ . I.e  $\rightarrow^*$  is the least reln such that

- (1) if  $t \rightarrow t'$  then  $t \rightarrow^* t'$
- (2)  $t \rightarrow^* t$
- (3) if  $t \rightarrow^* t'$  and  $t' \rightarrow^* t''$  then  $t \rightarrow^* t''$

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## Boolean normal forms

### Uniqueness of normal forms

Theorem: If  $t \rightarrow^* u$  and  $t \rightarrow^* u'$  where  $u$  and  $u'$  are normal forms, then  $u = u'$ .

Proof: determinacy of  $\rightarrow$

### Existence of normal forms

Theorem: For any term  $t$ , there is a normal form  $u$  such that  $t \rightarrow^* u$ .

Proof: If  $t \rightarrow t'$ , then  $t'$  is smaller than  $t$ , i.e.  $\text{size}(t') < \text{size}(t)$ .

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## Evaluation for arithmetic

### Terms

$t ::= \dots \mid 0 \mid \text{succ } t \mid \text{pred } t \mid \text{iszero } t$

### Values

$v ::= \dots \mid nv$   
 $nv ::= 0 \mid \text{succ } nv$

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## Base computation rules

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| $\text{pred } 0 \sqsupset 0$                              | E-PredZero   |
| $\text{pred } (\text{succ } nv) \sqsupset nv$             | E-PredSucc   |
| $\text{iszero } 0 \sqsupset \text{true}$                  | E-IszeroZero |
| $\text{iszero } (\text{succ } nv) \sqsupset \text{false}$ | E-IszeroSucc |

Note that the E-PredSucc and E-IsZeroSucc rules are restricted to the case where the argument is a value (call-by-value).

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## Congruence rules

$$\frac{t \sqcap t'}{\text{succ } t \sqcap \text{succ } t'}$$

E-Succ

$$\frac{t \sqcap t'}{\text{pred } t \sqcap \text{pred } t'}$$

E-Pred

$$\frac{t \sqcap t'}{\text{iszero } t \sqcap \text{iszero } t'}$$

E-Iszero

## Homework 1

- Do exercises 3.5.13 and 3.5.14.

## Stuck terms and runtime errors

### Stuck terms

Defn: a closed term is **stuck** if it is a normal form but is not a value.

Examples:

`pred true`

`if succ(0) then true else false`

We can take stuck terms as representing **runtime errors**.