



Design Principles of Programming Languages

编程语言的设计原理

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Recursive Types

递归类型



Review: Lists Defined in Chapter 11

List T describes finite-length lists whose elements are of type T.

Syntactic Forms

$$\begin{aligned}t &::= \dots \mid \text{nil}[T] \mid \text{cons}[T] \ t \ t \mid \text{isnil}[T] \ t \mid \text{head}[T] \ t \mid \text{tail}[T] \ t \\v &::= \dots \mid \text{nil}[T] \mid \text{cons}[T] \ v \ v \\T &::= \dots \mid \text{List } T\end{aligned}$$

Typing Rules

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{nil}[T_1] : \text{List } T_1} \text{T-Nil} \\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : \text{List } T_1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{cons}[T_1] \ t_1 \ t_2 : \text{List } T_1} \text{T-Cons} \\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{List } T_{11}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{isnil}[T_{11}] \ t_1 : \text{Bool}} \text{T-IsNil} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{List } T_{11}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{head}[T_{11}] \ t_1 : T_{11}} \text{T-Head} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{List } T_{11}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{tail}[T_{11}] \ t_1 : \text{List } T_{11}} \text{T-Tail} \end{array}$$



BoolList: A Specialized Version

BoolList describes finite-length lists whose elements are of Booleans.

Syntactic Forms

$t ::= \dots \mid \text{nil} \mid \text{cons } t \ t \mid \text{isnil } t \mid \text{head } t \mid \text{tail } t$

$v ::= \dots \mid \text{nil} \mid \text{cons } v \ v$

$T ::= \dots \mid \text{BoolList}$

Typing Rules

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{nil} : \text{BoolList}} \text{T-Nil}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : \text{BoolList}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{cons } t_1 \ t_2 : \text{BoolList}} \text{T-Cons}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{BoolList}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{isnil } t_1 : \text{Bool}} \text{T-IsNil}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{BoolList}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{head } t_1 : \text{Bool}} \text{T-Head}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{BoolList}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{tail } t_1 : \text{BoolList}} \text{T-Tail}$$

Review: Natural Numbers Defined in Chapter 8



Nat describes natural numbers.

Syntactic Forms

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

Typing Rules

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash 0 : \text{Nat}} \text{T-Zero}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{succ } t_1 : \text{Nat}} \text{T-Succ}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{iszero } t_1 : \text{Bool}} \text{T-IsZero}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{pred } t_1 : \text{Nat}} \text{T-Pred}$$



Similarity between Lists and Natural Numbers

Question

Do you notice that the **structures** and **rules** for lists and natural numbers are very similar?

Introduction Forms

Terms that **introduce** (or **construct**) values of a certain type.

- Boolean lists: `nil` and `cons t t`
- Natural numbers: `0` and `succ t`

Elimination Forms

Terms that **eliminate** (or **destruct**) values of a certain type.

They tell us how to **use** those values.

- Boolean lists: `isnil t`, `head t`, and `tail t`
- Natural numbers: `iszero t` and `pred t`



Unifying Introduction Forms for A Type

It would be useful to unify multiple introduction forms into a single one.

Boolean Lists

A Boolean list is either (i) an empty list `nil`, or (ii) a `cons` list of a Boolean and a Boolean list.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times \text{BoolList}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [\text{BoolList}] t_1 : \text{BoolList}} \text{ T-Fold-BoolList}$$

We use **sum types** to unify multiple possibilities.

That is, `Unit` stands for case i and `Bool × BoolList` stands for case ii.

Remark (Sum Types)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl } t_1 : T_1 + T_2} \text{ T-Inl}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr } t_1 : T_1 + T_2} \text{ T-Inr}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 : T_1 + T_2 \quad \Gamma, x_1 : T_1 \vdash t_1 : T \quad \Gamma, x_2 : T_2 \vdash t_2 : T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{case } t_0 \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow t_1 \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow t_2 : T} \text{ T-Case}$$



Unifying Introduction Forms for A Type

Natural Numbers

A natural number is either (i) zero 0 , or (ii) a `succ` of a natural number.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Unit} + \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold} [\text{Nat}] t_1 : \text{Nat}} \text{ T-Fold-Nat}$$

Similarly, `Unit` stands for case i and `Nat` stands for case ii.

Example

$$0 \equiv \text{fold} [\text{Nat}] (\text{inl unit})$$
$$\text{succ } t \equiv \text{fold} [\text{Nat}] (\text{inr } t)$$
$$\text{nil} \equiv \text{fold} [\text{BoolList}] (\text{inl unit})$$
$$\text{cons } t_1 t_2 \equiv \text{fold} [\text{BoolList}] (\text{inr } \{t_1, t_2\})$$



Generalizing the fold Operator

Question

Can we **inline** the meaning of `BoolList` into `fold`?

Recursion Operator μ

We can think of `BoolList` as a type satisfying the equation `BoolList = Unit + Bool × BoolList`. Abstractly, it is a solution to the equation $X = \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X$. Let us denote it by $\mu X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X$.

Principle

Let us write `fold [X. Unit + Bool × X]` for `fold [BoolList]`.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times (\mu X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X)}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] \ t_1 : \mu X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X} \text{T-Fold-BoolList}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [X. T] \ t_1 : \mu X. T} \text{T-Fold}$$



Generalizing the fold Operator

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [X. T] t_1 : \mu X. T} \text{ T-Fold}$$

Example (Boolean Lists)

$\text{BoolList} \equiv \mu X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X$

$\text{nil} \equiv \text{fold } [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] (\text{inl } \text{unit})$

$\text{cons } t_1 t_2 \equiv \text{fold } [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] (\text{inr } \{t_1, t_2\})$

Example (Natural Numbers)

$\text{Nat} \equiv \mu X. \text{Unit} + X$

$0 \equiv \text{fold } [X. \text{Unit} + X] (\text{inl } \text{unit})$

$\text{succ } t \equiv \text{fold } [X. \text{Unit} + X] (\text{inr } t)$



Recursive Types

The types we worked on so far (e.g., `BoolList` and `Nat`) are **recursive** types.

Observation

Every value of a recursive type is the **folding** of a value of the **unfolding** of the recursive type.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [X. T] t_1 : \mu X. T} \text{ T-Fold}$$

Solving the Type Equation

Let $\llbracket T \rrbracket$ be the set of values of type T , e.g., $\llbracket \text{Unit} \rrbracket = \{\text{unit}\}$, $\llbracket \text{Bool} \rrbracket = \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$.
Consider `BoolList`. The solution $\llbracket X \rrbracket$ to the equation $X = \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X$ should satisfy:

$$\llbracket X \rrbracket \cong \{\text{inl unit}\} \cup \{\text{inr } \{v_1, v_2\} \mid v_1 \in \llbracket \text{Bool} \rrbracket, v_2 \in \llbracket X \rrbracket\}$$

Principle

Recursive types denote the solutions to type equations.



Unifying Elimination Forms for A Type

Remark

Recall that elimination forms **destruct** values of a certain type.

Observation

For the type $\mu X. T$, the operator `fold` $[X. T]$ can be thought of as a function with type $[X \mapsto \mu X. T]T \rightarrow \mu X. T$.

- Boolean lists: `fold` $[X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times \text{BoolList} \rightarrow \text{BoolList}$
- Natural numbers: `fold` $[X. \text{Unit} + X] : \text{Unit} + \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Nat}$

Principle

Elimination forms are the **inverse** of introduction forms.

- Boolean lists: the elimination form has type $\text{BoolList} \rightarrow \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times \text{BoolList}$.
- Natural numbers: the elimination form has type $\text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Unit} + \text{Nat}$

In general, the elimination forms have type $\mu X. T \rightarrow [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T$.



Unifying Elimination Forms for A Type

Principle

For the type $\mu X. T$, its elimination form has type $\mu X. T \rightarrow [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T$.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [X. T] t_1 : \mu X. T} \text{ T-Fold}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \mu X. T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unfold } [X. T] t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T} \text{ T-Unfold}$$

Example (Boolean Lists)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{BoolList}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unfold } [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] t_1 : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times \text{BoolList}} \text{ T-Unfold-BoolList}$$

$\text{isnil } t \equiv \text{case unfold } [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] t \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{true} \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{false}$
 $\text{head } t \equiv \text{case unfold } [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] t \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{error} \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow x_2.1$
 $\text{tail } t \equiv \text{case unfold } [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] t \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{error} \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow x_2.2$



Unifying Elimination Forms for A Type

Principle

For the type $\mu X. T$, its elimination form has type $\mu X. T \rightarrow [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T$.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [X. T] t_1 : \mu X. T} \text{ T-Fold}$$

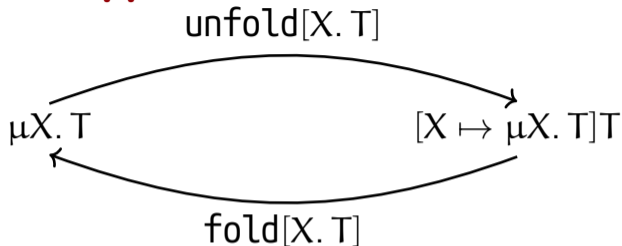
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \mu X. T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unfold } [X. T] t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T} \text{ T-Unfold}$$

Example (Natural Numbers)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unfold } [X. \text{Unit} + X] t_1 : \text{Unit} + \text{Nat}} \text{ T-Unfold-Nat}$$

$\text{iszero } t \equiv \text{case unfold } [X. \text{Unit} + X] t \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{true} \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{false}$
 $\text{pred } t \equiv \text{case unfold } [X. \text{Unit} + X] t \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow 0 \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow x_2$

The Iso-Recursive Approach



- $[X \mapsto \mu X. T] T$ is the one-step unfolding of $\mu X. T$.
- The pair of functions $\text{unfold}[X. T]$ and $\text{fold}[X. T]$ are witness functions for isomorphism.

Question

Use the iso-recursive approach to formulate a type for binary trees containing a Boolean in each internal node.

Question

OCaml/MoonBit uses iso-recursive types (by default). Where are the fold 's and unfold 's?



Examples of Recursive Types

Remark

We have studied **tuples** and **variants**.

- Tuples: $\{T_i^{i \in 1 \dots n}\}$
- Variants: $\langle l_i : T_i^{i \in 1 \dots n} \rangle$

Example

Let us revisit Boolean lists and natural numbers.

$$\text{BoolList} \equiv \mu X. \langle \text{nil} : \text{Unit}, \text{cons} : \{\text{Bool}, X\} \rangle$$
$$\text{Nat} \equiv \mu X. \langle \text{zero} : \text{Unit}, \text{succ} : X \rangle$$



Lists with Natural-Number Elements

```
NatList =  $\mu X$ . <nil:Unit, cons:{Nat,X}>;
```

```
nil = fold [NatList] <nil=unit>;
```

```
▶ nil : NatList
```

```
cons =  $\lambda n$ :Nat.  $\lambda l$ :NatList. fold [NatList] <cons={n,l}>;
```

```
▶ cons : Nat  $\rightarrow$  NatList  $\rightarrow$  NatList
```

```
isnil =  $\lambda l$ :NatList. case unfold [NatList] l of <nil=u>  $\Rightarrow$  true | <cons=p>  $\Rightarrow$  false;
```

```
▶ isnil : NatList  $\rightarrow$  Bool
```

```
head =  $\lambda l$ :NatList. case unfold [NatList] l of <nil=u>  $\Rightarrow$  error | <cons=p>  $\Rightarrow$  p.1;
```

```
▶ head : NatList  $\rightarrow$  Nat
```

```
tail =  $\lambda l$ :NatList. case unfold [NatList] l of <nil=u>  $\Rightarrow$  error | <cons=p>  $\Rightarrow$  p.2;
```

```
▶ tail : NatList  $\rightarrow$  NatList
```

```
sumlist = fix ( $\lambda s$ :NatList $\rightarrow$ Nat.  $\lambda l$ :NatList.
```

```
    if isnil l then 0 else plus (head l) (s (tail l)));
```

```
▶ sumlist : NatList  $\rightarrow$  Nat
```

Hungry Functions



Hungry Functions

A hungry function accepts any number of arguments and always return a new function that is hungry for more.

```
Hungry =  $\mu A$ . Nat  $\rightarrow$  A;
```

```
f = fix ( $\lambda f$ :Nat  $\rightarrow$  Hungry.  $\lambda n$ :Nat. fold [Hungry] f);
```

```
▶ f : Nat  $\rightarrow$  Hungry
```

```
f 0;
```

```
▶ fold [Hungry] <fun> : Hungry
```

```
unfold [Hungry] (f 0);
```

```
▶ <fun> : Nat  $\rightarrow$  Hungry
```

```
unfold [Hungry] (unfold [Hungry] (f 0) 1) 2;
```

```
▶ fold [Hungry] <fun> : Hungry
```

Streams

A stream consumes an arbitrary number of unit values, each time returning a pair of a value and a new stream.

$\text{Stream} = \mu A. \text{Unit} \rightarrow \{\text{Nat}, A\};$

$\text{head} = \lambda s:\text{Stream}. (\text{unfold} [\text{Stream}] s \text{ unit}).1;$

▶ $\text{head} : \text{Stream} \rightarrow \text{Nat}$

$\text{tail} = \lambda s:\text{Stream}. (\text{unfold} [\text{Stream}] s \text{ unit}).2;$

▶ $\text{tail} : \text{Stream} \rightarrow \text{Stream}$

$\text{upfrom0} = \mathbf{fix} (\lambda f:\text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Stream}. \lambda n:\text{Nat}. \mathbf{fold} [\text{Stream}] (\lambda _:\text{Unit}. \{n, f (\text{succ } n)\})) 0;$

▶ $\text{upfrom0} : \text{Stream}$

Question

Define a stream that yields successive elements of the Fibonacci sequence (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ...).



Streams

```
fib = fix ( $\lambda f:\text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Stream}. \lambda a:\text{Nat}. \lambda b:\text{Nat}.$   
          fold [Stream] ( $\lambda _:\text{Unit}. \{a, f\ b\ \text{(plus a b)}\}$ )) 1 1;
```

► fib : Stream;

```
head fib;
```

► 1 : Nat

```
head (tail (tail (tail fib)));
```

► 3 : Nat

```
head (tail (tail (tail (tail (tail fib))))));
```

► 13 : Nat

Processes

A process accepts a value and returns a value and a new process.

$$\text{Process} = \mu A. \text{Nat} \rightarrow \{\text{Nat}, A\}$$

Purely Functional Objects

An object accepts a message and returns a response to that message and **a new object** if mutated.

```
Counter =  $\mu$ C. {get:Nat, inc:Unit $\rightarrow$ C, dec:Unit $\rightarrow$ C};
```

```
c1 = let create = fix ( $\lambda$  f:{x:Nat} $\rightarrow$ Counter.  $\lambda$  s:{x:Nat}.  
    fold [Counter]  
    {get = s.x,  
    inc =  $\lambda$  _:Unit. f {x=succ(s.x)},  
    dec =  $\lambda$  _:Unit. f {x=pred(s.x)} })  
    in create {x=0};
```

► c1 : Counter

```
c2 = (unfold [Counter] c1).inc unit;
```

► c2 : Counter

```
(unfold [Counter] c2).get;
```

► 1 : Nat

Divergence

Remark

Recall ω from untyped lambda-calculus:

$$\omega = (\lambda x. x x) (\lambda x. x x)$$

We have $\omega \rightarrow \omega \rightarrow \omega \rightarrow \dots$, i.e., ω diverges.

Suppose we want to type $x : T_x \vdash x x : T$ for a given T . We obtain a type equation:

$$T_x = T_x \rightarrow T$$

Thus T_x can be defined as $\mu A. A \rightarrow T$.

Well-Typed Divergence

$$\text{Div}_T = \mu A. A \rightarrow T;$$

$$\omega_{\text{Div}_T} = (\lambda x:\text{Div}_T. \mathbf{unfold} [\text{Div}_T] x x) (\mathbf{fold} [\text{Div}_T] (\lambda x:\text{Div}_T. \mathbf{unfold} [\text{Div}_T] x x));$$

$$\blacktriangleright \omega_{\text{Div}_T} : T$$

Recursive types break the **strong-normalization** property (c.f., Chapter 12) **without** using fixed points!



Recursion

Remark

Recall the Y operator from untyped lambda-calculus:

$$Y = \lambda f. (\lambda x. f (x x)) (\lambda x. f (x x))$$

For any f , the operator satisfies $Y f \longrightarrow^* f ((\lambda x. f (x x)) (\lambda x. f (x x))) =_{\beta} f (Y f)$.

Question

Can we give Y a type using recursive types?

$$Y_T = \lambda f:T \rightarrow T. \\ (\lambda x:\text{Div}_T. f (\mathbf{unfold} [\text{Div}_T] x x)) (\mathbf{fold} [\text{Div}_T] (\lambda x:\text{Div}_T. f (\mathbf{unfold} [\text{Div}_T] x x)));$$

► $Y_T : (T \rightarrow T) \rightarrow T$

Question (Homework)

Implement Y_T in OCaml/MoonBit. Does it really work as a fixed-point operator? Why? How to make it work? Show your solution is effective by using it to define three recursive functions.

Untyped Lambda-Calculus



We can embed the whole untyped lambda-calculus into a statically typed language with recursive types.

$$D = \mu X. X \rightarrow X;$$

$$\mathit{lam} = \lambda f:D \rightarrow D. \mathbf{fold} [D] f;$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathit{lam} : (D \rightarrow D) \rightarrow D$$

$$\mathit{ap} = \lambda f:D. \lambda a:D. \mathbf{unfold} [D] f a;$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathit{ap} : D \rightarrow D \rightarrow D$$

Let M be a closed untyped lambda-term. We can embed M , written M^* , as an element of D .

$$x^* = x$$

$$(\lambda x. M)^* = \mathit{lam} (\lambda x:D. M^*)$$

$$(M N)^* = \mathit{ap} M^* N^*$$



Formulation of Iso-Recursive Types ($\lambda\mu$)

Syntactic Forms

$t ::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] t \mid \text{unfold } [X. T] t$

$v ::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] v$

$T ::= \dots \mid X \mid \mu X. T$

Typing and Evaluation Rules

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T_1] T_1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold } [X. T_1] t_1 : \mu X. T_1} \text{ T-Fold}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \mu X. T_1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unfold } [X. T_1] t_1 : [X \mapsto \mu X. T_1] T_1} \text{ T-Unfold}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{unfold } [X. S] (\text{fold } [Y. T] v_1) \longrightarrow v_1} \text{ E-UnfoldFold}$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{fold } [X. T] t_1 \longrightarrow \text{fold } [X. T] t'_1} \text{ E-Fold}$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{unfold } [X. T] t_1 \longrightarrow \text{unfold } [X. T] t'_1} \text{ E-Unfold}$$

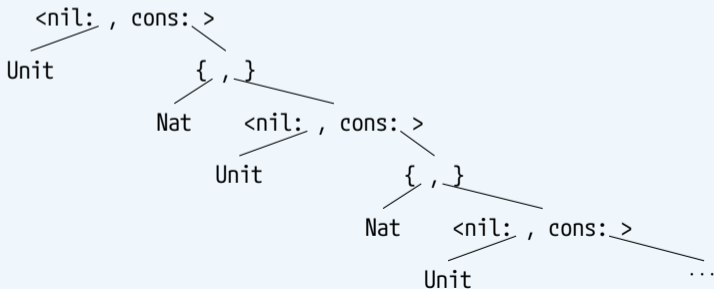
Another Approach to Recursive Types

Question

Let us revisit the question: what is the relation between the type $\mu X. T$ and its one-step unfolding $[X \mapsto \mu X. T]T$?

$\text{NatList} \sim \langle \text{nil} : \text{Unit}, \text{cons} : \{\text{Nat}, \text{NatList}\} \rangle$

NatList as An Infinite Tree





Another Approach to Recursive Types

`NatList ~ <nil : Unit, cons : {Nat, NatList}>`

The Iso-Recursive Approach

- Take a recursive type and its unfolding as **different, but isomorphic**.
- This approach is notationally heavier, requiring programs to be decorated with `fold` and `unfold` instructions wherever recursive types are used.

The Equi-Recursive Approach

- Take these two type expressions as definitionally equal—**interchangeable in all contexts**—because they stand for the same **infinite tree**.
- This approach is more intuitive, but places stronger demands on the type-checker.



Lists under Equi-Recursive Types

```
NatList =  $\mu X$ . <nil:Unit, cons:{Nat,X}>;
```

```
nil = <nil=unit> as NatList;
```

```
▶ nil : NatList
```

```
cons =  $\lambda n$ :Nat.  $\lambda l$ :NatList. <cons={n,l}> as NatList;
```

```
▶ cons : Nat  $\rightarrow$  NatList  $\rightarrow$  NatList
```

```
isnil =  $\lambda l$ :NatList. case l of <nil=u>  $\Rightarrow$  true | <cons=p>  $\Rightarrow$  false;
```

```
▶ isnil : NatList  $\rightarrow$  Bool
```

```
head =  $\lambda l$ :NatList. case l of <nil=u>  $\Rightarrow$  error | <cons=p>  $\Rightarrow$  p.1;
```

```
▶ head : NatList  $\rightarrow$  Nat
```

```
tail =  $\lambda l$ :NatList. case l of <nil=u>  $\Rightarrow$  error | <cons=p>  $\Rightarrow$  p.2;
```

Question

Re-implement previous examples of iso-recursive types under equi-recursive types.



Recursive Types are Useless as Logics

Remark (Curry-Howard Correspondence)

In simply-typed lambda-calculus, we can interpret types as logical propositions (c.f., Chapter 9).

proposition $P \supset Q$	type $P \rightarrow Q$
proposition $P \wedge Q$	type $P \times Q$
proposition $P \vee Q$	type $P + Q$
proposition P is provable	type P is inhabited
proof of proposition P	term t of type P

Observation

Recursive types are so powerful that the strong-normalization property is broken.

$$\omega_{\mathsf{T}} = (\lambda x : (\mu A. A \rightarrow \mathsf{T}). x x) (\lambda x : (\mu A. A \rightarrow \mathsf{T}). x x);$$

► $\omega_{\mathsf{T}} : \mathsf{T}$

The fact that ω_{T} is well-typed for every T means that **every proposition in the logic is provable**—that is, the logic is inconsistent.



Restricting Recursive Types

Question

Suppose that we are not allowed to use fixed points.

What kinds of recursive types can ensure strong-normalization? What kinds cannot?

Lists	$\mu X. \langle \text{nil} : \text{Unit}, \text{cons} : \{\text{Nat}, X\} \rangle$	✓
Streams	$\mu A. \text{Unit} \rightarrow \{\text{Nat}, A\}$	✓
Divergence	$\mu A. A \rightarrow \text{Nat}$	✗
Untyped lambda-calculus	$\mu X. X \rightarrow X$	✗

Observation

It seems problematic for a recursive type to recurse in the **contravariant** positions.



Positive Type Operators

$X. T$ pos: “type operator $X. T$ is positive”

$$\frac{}{X. X \text{ pos}}$$

$$\frac{}{X. \text{Unit} \text{ pos}}$$

$$\frac{X. T_1 \text{ pos} \quad X. T_2 \text{ pos}}{X. T_1 \times T_2 \text{ pos}}$$

$$\frac{X. T_1 \text{ pos} \quad X. T_2 \text{ pos}}{X. T_1 + T_2 \text{ pos}}$$

$$\frac{T_1 \text{ type} \quad X. T_2 \text{ pos}}{X. T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \text{ pos}}$$

Question

Which of the following type operators are positive?

$X. \langle \text{nil} : \text{Unit}, \text{cons} : \{\text{Nat}, X\} \rangle$ $A. \text{Unit} \rightarrow \{\text{Nat}, A\}$ $A. A \rightarrow \text{Nat}$ $X. X \rightarrow X$



Inductive & Coinductive Types

Positive type operators can be used to build **inductive** and **coinductive** types.

Syntactic Forms

$$\begin{aligned} T &::= \dots \mid X \mid \mathbf{ind}(X. T) \mid \mathbf{coi}(X. T) && \text{where } X. T \text{ pos} \\ t &::= \dots \mid \mathbf{fold} [X. T] t \mid \mathbf{unfold} [X. T] t \end{aligned}$$

Remark (Solving the Type Equation)

Let $\llbracket T \rrbracket$ be the set of values of type T , e.g., $\llbracket \mathbf{Unit} \rrbracket = \{\mathbf{unit}\}$, $\llbracket \mathbf{Bool} \rrbracket = \{\mathbf{true}, \mathbf{false}\}$.
Consider $\mathbf{BoolList}$. The solution $\llbracket X \rrbracket$ to the equation $X = \mathbf{Unit} + \mathbf{Bool} \times X$ should satisfy:

$$\llbracket X \rrbracket \cong \{\mathbf{inl} \mathbf{unit}\} \cup \{\mathbf{inr} \{v_1, v_2\} \mid v_1 \in \llbracket \mathbf{Bool} \rrbracket, v_2 \in \llbracket X \rrbracket\}$$

Principle

Inductive types are the **least** solutions. For example, the least solution to $X = \mathbf{Unit} + X$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{N} .
Coinductive types are the **greatest** solutions.



Well-Founded Recursion for Inductive Types

Question

How to compute the length of a Boolean list?
Can you do that **without** using fixed points?

Question

Is there a way to allow **useful** recursion schemes on Boolean lists, without allowing general fixed points?

Principle (Structural Recursion)

The argument of a recursion function call can only be the **sub-structures** of the function parameter.

$$\text{len } t = \text{case unfold } [X.\text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] \text{ } t \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow 0 \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{succ } (\text{len } x_2).2$$

It is just **iteration**!



An Iteration Operator for Boolean Lists

Remark (Specialized Introduction Form)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times \text{BoolList}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold} [\text{BoolList}] t_1 : \text{BoolList}} \text{T-Fold-BoolList}$$

Principle (Structural Recursion via Iteration)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{BoolList} \quad \Gamma, x : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times S \vdash t_2 : S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{iter} [\text{BoolList}] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : S} \text{T-Iter-BoolList}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{iter} [\text{BoolList}] (\text{fold} [\text{BoolList}] v) \mathbf{with} x. t_2 \longrightarrow t'} \text{E-Iter-BoolList}$$

where

$$t' \equiv \mathbf{let} \ x = \text{case } v \text{ of } \text{inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{inl } x_1 \mid \\ \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{inr } \{x_2.1, \mathbf{iter} [\text{BoolList}] x_2.2 \mathbf{with} x. t_2\} \\ \mathbf{in} \ t_2$$



An Iteration Operator for Boolean Lists

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{BoolList} \quad \Gamma, x : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times S \vdash t_2 : S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{iter} [\text{BoolList}] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : S} \text{T-Iter-BoolList}$$

Example

$\text{isnil } t \equiv \mathbf{iter} [\text{BoolList}] t \mathbf{with} x. \text{case } x \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{true} \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{false}$
 $\text{len } t \equiv \mathbf{iter} [\text{BoolList}] t \mathbf{with} x. \text{case } x \text{ of inl } x_1 \Rightarrow 0 \mid \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{succ } x_2.2$

Question

Write down the evaluation of $\text{len } \ell_2$ where:

$\ell_2 \equiv \text{fold} [\text{BoolList}] (\text{inr } \{\text{true}, \ell_1\})$

$\ell_1 \equiv \text{fold} [\text{BoolList}] (\text{inr } \{\text{false}, \ell_0\})$

$\ell_0 \equiv \text{fold} [\text{BoolList}] (\text{inl } \text{unit})$



An Iteration Operator for Natural Numbers

Let us repeat the same development for the inductive type of natural numbers.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Unit} + \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fold} [\text{Nat}] t_1 : \text{Nat}} \text{ T-Fold-Nat}$$

Now consider **iteration** over natural numbers.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Nat} \quad \Gamma, x : \text{Unit} + S \vdash t_2 : S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{iter} [\text{Nat}] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : S} \text{ T-Iter-Nat}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{iter} [\text{Nat}] (\text{fold} [\text{Nat}] v) \mathbf{with} x. t_2 \longrightarrow t'} \text{ E-Iter-Nat}$$

where

$$t' \equiv \mathbf{let} x = \text{case } v \text{ of } \text{inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{inl } x_1 \mid \\ \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{inr } (\mathbf{iter} [\text{Nat}] x_2 \mathbf{with} x. t_2) \\ \mathbf{in} t_2$$



Generalizing the `iter` Operator

Question

Can we **inline** the meaning of `BoolList` into **`iter`**?

Principle

Let us write **`iter`** `[X. Unit + Bool × X]` for **`iter`** `[BoolList]`.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{ind}(X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X) \quad \Gamma, x : \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times S \vdash t_2 : S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{iter} [X. \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : S} \text{T-Iter-BoolList}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{ind}(X. T) \quad \Gamma, x : [X \mapsto S]T \vdash t_2 : S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{iter} [X. T] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : S} \text{T-Iter}$$



Generalizing the **iter** Operator

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \mathbf{ind}(X.T) \quad \Gamma, x : [X \mapsto S]T \vdash t_2 : S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{iter} [X.T] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : S} \text{T-Iter}$$

Principle

Let us write `fold [X. Unit + Bool × X]` for `fold [BoolList]`.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \mathbf{Unit} + \mathbf{Bool} \times \mathbf{ind}(X. \mathbf{Unit} + \mathbf{Bool} \times X)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fold} [X. \mathbf{Unit} + \mathbf{Bool} \times X] t_1 : \mathbf{ind}(X. \mathbf{Unit} + \mathbf{Bool} \times X)} \text{T-Fold-BoolList}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : [X \mapsto \mathbf{ind}(X.T)]T}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fold} [X.T] t_1 : \mathbf{ind}(X.T)} \text{T-Fold}$$

Question

What about the evaluation rules for **iter**?



Generalizing the `iter` Operator

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{ind}(X.T) \quad \Gamma, x : [X \mapsto S]T \vdash t_2 : S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{iter} [X.T] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : S} \text{T-Iter}$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{iter} [X.\text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] (\text{fold} [X.\text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] v) \mathbf{with} x. t_2 \longrightarrow t'} \text{E-Iter-BoolList}$$

where

$$t' \equiv \mathbf{let} x = \text{case } v \text{ of } \text{inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{inl } x_1 \mid \\ \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{inr } \{x_2.1, \mathbf{iter} [X.\text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X] x_2.2 \mathbf{with} x. t_2\} \\ \mathbf{in} t_2$$

Observation

`$\mathbf{iter} [X.T] (\text{fold} [X.T] v) \mathbf{with} x. t_2$` should replace every sub-structure v_{sub} of v that corresponds to an occurrence of X in T by `$\mathbf{iter} [X.T] v_{\text{sub}} \mathbf{with} x. t_2$` .

Generalizing the `iter` Operator

Observation

`iter` $[X. T]$ (fold $[X. T]$ v) **with** $x. t_2$ should replace every sub-structure v_{sub} of v that corresponds to an occurrence of X in T by `iter` $[X. T]$ v_{sub} **with** $x. t_2$.

Principle

$$\frac{}{\text{iter } [X. T] \text{ (fold } [X. T] v) \text{ with } x. t_2 \longrightarrow [x \mapsto \text{map } [X. T] v \text{ with } y. (\text{iter } [X. T] y \text{ with } x. t_2)] t_2} \text{E-Iter}$$

The operator `map` is defined **inductively** on the structure of the **positive** type operator.

$$\frac{}{\text{map } [X. X] v \text{ with } y. t_2 \longrightarrow [y \mapsto v] t_2} \text{E-Map-Var}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{map } [X. \text{Unit}] v \text{ with } y. t_2 \longrightarrow v} \text{E-Map-Unit}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{map } [X. T_1 \times T_2] v \text{ with } y. t_2 \longrightarrow \{\text{map } [X. T_1] v.1 \text{ with } y. t_2, \text{map } [X. T_2] v.2 \text{ with } y. t_2\}} \text{E-Map-Prod}$$



Generalizing the iter Operator

Principle (Generic Mapping)

$$\frac{}{\text{map } [X. X] \ v \ \text{with } y. t_2 \longrightarrow [y \mapsto v]t_2} \text{E-Map-Var}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{map } [X. \text{Unit}] \ v \ \text{with } y. t_2 \longrightarrow v} \text{E-Map-Unit}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{map } [X. T_1 \times T_2] \ v \ \text{with } y. t_2 \longrightarrow \{\text{map } [X. T_1] \ v.1 \ \text{with } y. t_2, \text{map } [X. T_2] \ v.2 \ \text{with } y. t_2\}} \text{E-Map-Prod}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{map } [X. T_1 + T_2] \ v \ \text{with } y. t_2 \longrightarrow t'} \text{E-Map-Sum}$$

where

$$t' \equiv \text{case } v \ \text{of } \text{inl } x_1 \Rightarrow \text{inl } (\text{map } [X. T_1] \ x_1 \ \text{with } y. t_2) \mid \\ \text{inr } x_2 \Rightarrow \text{inr } (\text{map } [X. T_2] \ x_2 \ \text{with } y. t_2)$$

Question

Derive the evaluation rules E-Iter-BooLList and E-Iter-Nat from these more general rules.



Examples of Iteration for Inductive Types

```
NatList = ind(X. <nil:Unit, cons:{Nat,X}>);
```

```
sumlist = λl:NatList. iter [NatList] l  
           with x. case x of  
               <nil=u> ⇒ 0  
               | <cons=p> ⇒ plus p.1 p.2;
```

► `sumlist : NatList → Nat`

```
append = λl1:NatList. λl2:NatList.  
          iter [NatList] l1  
            with x. case x of  
                <nil=u> ⇒ l2  
                | <cons=p> ⇒ fold [NatList] <cons={p.1,p.2}>;
```

► `append : NatList → NatList → NatList`

Revisiting Streams

Streams

A stream consumes an arbitrary number of unit values, each time returning a pair of a value and a new stream.

$$\text{Stream} = \mu A. \text{Unit} \rightarrow \{\text{Nat}, A\};$$
$$\text{upfrom0} = \mathbf{fix} (\lambda f:\text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Stream}. \lambda n:\text{Nat}. \mathbf{fold} [\text{Stream}] (\lambda _: \text{Unit}. \{n, f (\text{succ } n)\})) \ 0;$$

► $\text{upfrom0} : \text{Stream}$

Observation

A stream is isomorphic to an **infinite** list.

Consider the solution $\llbracket X \rrbracket$ to the equation $X = \text{Nat} \times X$. It should satisfy:

$$\llbracket X \rrbracket \cong \{ \{v_1, v_2\} \mid v_1 \in \llbracket \text{Nat} \rrbracket, v_2 \in \llbracket X \rrbracket \}$$

The **least** solution is just the empty set.

But the **greatest** solution is $\{ \{v_1, \{v_2, \{v_3, \dots\}\}\} \mid v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots \in \llbracket \text{Nat} \rrbracket \}$, i.e., the streams!



Well-Founded Recursion for Coinductive Types

Question

What is the difference between the recursion schemes on inductive and coinductive types?

Observation

- For inductive types (e.g., lists), we use recursion to **iterate** over them.
- For coinductive types (e.g., streams), we use recursion to **generate** them.

Question

Recall the implementation of streams under general recursive types:

```
Stream =  $\mu A. \text{Unit} \rightarrow \{\text{Nat}, A\}$ ;  
upfrom0 = fix ( $\lambda f: \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Stream}. \lambda n: \text{Nat}. \text{fold}$  [Stream] ( $\lambda _: \text{Unit}. \{n, f (\text{succ } n)\}$ )) 0;  
► upfrom0 : Stream
```

Can we define a recursion scheme for **generating** values of coinductive types?



A Generation Operator for Streams

Remark (Specialized Elimination Form)

Let us consider the type of streams as the greatest solution to $X = \text{Nat} \times X$.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Stream}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unfold} [\text{Stream}] t_1 : \text{Nat} \times \text{Stream}} \text{ T-Unfold-Stream}$$

Principle (Structural Recursion for Generation)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : S \quad \Gamma, x : S \vdash t_2 : \text{Nat} \times S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{gen} [\text{Stream}] t_1 \mathbf{with} x.t_2 : \text{Stream}} \text{ T-Gen-Stream}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{unfold} [\text{Stream}] (\mathbf{gen} [\text{Stream}] v \mathbf{with} x.t_2) \longrightarrow \mathbf{let} v_2 = [x \mapsto v]t_2 \mathbf{in} \{v_2.1, (\mathbf{gen} [\text{Stream}] v_2.2 \mathbf{with} x.t_2)\}} \text{ E-Gen-Stream}$$



A Generation Operator for Streams

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : S \quad \Gamma, x : S \vdash t_2 : \text{Nat} \times S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{gen} \text{ [Stream] } t_1 \mathbf{with} x.t_2 : \text{Stream}} \text{T-Gen-Stream}$$

Example

`upfrom0` \equiv `gen [Stream] 0 with x. {x, succ x}`

`fib` \equiv `gen [Stream] {1, 1} with x. {x.1, {x.2, (plus x.1 x.2)}}`

Question

Write down the evaluation of `(unfold [Stream] t2).1` where:

`t2` \equiv `(unfold [Stream] t1).2`

`t1` \equiv `(unfold [Stream] t0).2`

`t0` \equiv `(unfold [Stream] fib).2`



Generalizing the **gen** Operator

Question

Can we **inline** the meaning of `Stream` (i.e., the greatest solution to $X = \text{Nat} \times X$) into **gen**?

Principle

Let us write **gen** $[X. \text{Nat} \times X]$ for **gen** $[\text{Stream}]$.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : S \quad \Gamma, x : S \vdash t_2 : \text{Nat} \times S}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{gen} [X. \text{Nat} \times X] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : \mathbf{coi}(X. \text{Nat} \times X)} \text{T-Gen-Stream}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : S \quad \Gamma, x : S \vdash t_2 : [X \mapsto S]T}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{gen} [X. T] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : \mathbf{coi}(X. T)} \text{T-Gen}$$



Generalizing the **gen** Operator

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : S \quad \Gamma, x : S \vdash t_2 : [X \mapsto S]T}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{gen} [X. T] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : \mathbf{coi}(X. T)} \text{T-Gen}$$

Principle

Let us write `unfold [X. Nat × X]` for `unfold [Stream]`.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \mathbf{coi}(X. \text{Nat} \times X)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{unfold} [X. \text{Nat} \times X] t_1 : \text{Nat} \times \mathbf{coi}(X. \text{Nat} \times X)} \text{T-Unfold-Stream}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \mathbf{coi}(X. T)}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{unfold} [X. T] t_1 : [X \mapsto \mathbf{coi}(X. T)]T} \text{T-Unfold}$$

Question

What about the evaluation rules for unfolding a **gen**?



Generalizing the **gen** Operator

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : S \quad \Gamma, x : S \vdash t_2 : [X \mapsto S]T}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{gen} [X. T] t_1 \mathbf{with} x. t_2 : \mathbf{coi}(X. T)} \text{ T-Gen}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{unfold } [X. \text{Nat} \times X] (\mathbf{gen} [X. \text{Nat} \times X] v \mathbf{with} x. t_2) \longrightarrow \mathbf{let} v_2 = [x \mapsto v]t_2 \mathbf{in} \{v_2.1, (\mathbf{gen} [X. \text{Nat} \times X] v_2.2 \mathbf{with} x. t_2)\}} \text{ E-Gen-Stream}$$

Observation

$\text{unfold } [X. T] (\mathbf{gen} [X. T] v \mathbf{with} x. t_2)$ should substitute x with v in t_2 , obtain the result v_2 , and replace every sub-structure v_{sub} of v_2 that corresponds to an occurrence of X in T by $\mathbf{gen} [X. T] v_{\text{sub}} \mathbf{with} x. t_2$.

Generalizing the gen Operator

Observation

`unfold [X. T] (gen [X. T] v with x. t2)` should substitute `x` with `v` in `t2`, obtain the result `v2`, and replace every sub-structure `vsub` of `v2` that corresponds to an occurrence of `X` in `T` by `gen [X. T] vsub with x. t2`.

Principle

Recall that for any **positive** type operator `X. T`, the term `map [X. T] v with y. t` replaces every sub-structure `vsub` of `v` that corresponds to an occurrence of `X` in `T` by `[y ↦ vsub]t`.

$$\frac{\text{unfold [X. T] (gen [X. T] v with x. t}_2)}{\text{map [X. T] [x ↦ v]t}_2 \text{ with y. (gen [X. T] y with x. t}_2)} \text{E-Gen}$$

Question

Derive the evaluation rule `E-Gen-Stream` from this more general rule.



Formulation of Inductive/Coinductive Types

Syntactic Forms

$$\begin{aligned} t &::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] \ t \mid \mathbf{iter} \ [X. T] \ t \ \mathbf{with} \ x. t \mid \text{unfold } [X. T] \ t \mid \mathbf{gen} \ [X. T] \ t \ \mathbf{with} \ x. t_2 \\ v &::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] \ v \mid \mathbf{gen} \ [X. T] \ v \ \mathbf{with} \ x. t \\ T &::= \dots \mid X \mid \text{ind}(X. T) \mid \text{coi}(X. T) \qquad \text{where } X. T \text{ pos} \end{aligned}$$

Remark

Inductive types are characterized by how to **construct** them (i.e., fold).
Coinductive types are characterized by how to **deconstruct** them (i.e., unfold).

Aside

Read more about inductive & coinductive types: [N. P. Mendler. 1987. Recursive Types and Type Constraints in Second-Order Lambda Calculus. In *Logic in Computer Science \(LICS'87\)*, 30–36.](#)

Revisiting General Recursive Types

Solving the Type Equation

Let $\llbracket T \rrbracket$ be the set of values of type T , e.g., $\llbracket \text{Unit} \rrbracket = \{\text{unit}\}$, $\llbracket \text{Bool} \rrbracket = \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$.
Consider BoolList . The solution $\llbracket X \rrbracket$ to the equation $X = \text{Unit} + \text{Bool} \times X$ should satisfy:

$$\llbracket X \rrbracket \cong \{\text{inl unit}\} \cup \{\text{inr } \{v_1, v_2\} \mid v_1 \in \llbracket \text{Bool} \rrbracket, v_2 \in \llbracket X \rrbracket\}$$

Question

Does the definition mean **least** or **greatest** solution?

Principle (Types are NOT Sets)

For example, arrow types characterize **computable** functions, not **arbitrary** functions.
Otherwise, the equation $X = X \rightarrow X$ (with the understanding of **partial** functions) does not have a solution.
Formal (and unique) characterization of recursive types requires **domain theory**: S. Abramsky and A. Jung. 1995.
Domain Theory. In *Handbook of Logic in Computer Science (Vol. 3): Semantic Structures*. Oxford University Press, Inc. <https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.5555/218742.218744>.

Revisiting General Recursive Types

Eager Semantics

$$t ::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] \ t \mid \text{unfold } [X. T] \ t \quad v ::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] \ v \quad T ::= \dots \mid X \mid \mu X. T$$

$$\frac{}{\text{unfold } [X. S] \ (\text{fold } [Y. T] \ v_1) \longrightarrow v_1} \text{E-UnfoldFold}$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{fold } [X. T] \ t_1 \longrightarrow \text{fold } [X. T] \ t'_1} \text{E-Fold}$$

Recursive types have an **inductive** flavor under eager semantics.
Coinductive analogues are accessible as well by using function types.

Lazy Semantics

$$t ::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] \ t \mid \text{unfold } [X. T] \ t \quad v ::= \dots \mid \text{fold } [X. T] \ t \quad T ::= \dots \mid X \mid \mu X. T$$

$$\frac{}{\text{unfold } [X. S] \ (\text{fold } [Y. T] \ t_1) \longrightarrow t_1} \text{E-UnfoldFold}$$

no E-Fold

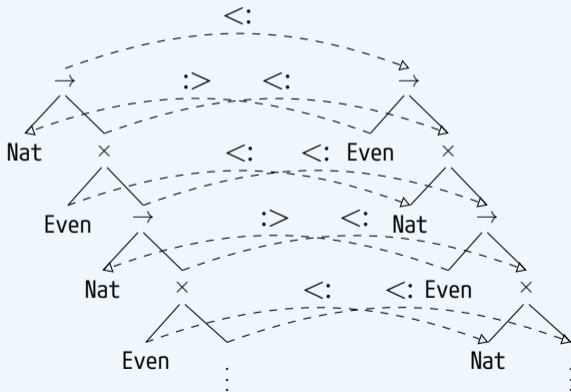
Recursive types have a **coinductive** flavor under lazy semantics.
However, the inductive analogues are inaccessible.

Subtyping



Can we deduce the relation below, given that $\text{Even} <: \text{Nat}$?

$$\mu X. \text{Nat} \rightarrow (\text{Even} \times X) <: \mu X. \text{Even} \rightarrow (\text{Nat} \times X)$$





Review: Subtyping in Chapters 15 & 16

For brevity, we only consider three type constructors: \rightarrow , \times , and Top .

$$T ::= \text{Top} \mid T \rightarrow T \mid T \times T$$

Declarative Version

$$\frac{}{T <: \text{Top}}$$

$$\frac{T_1 <: S_1 \quad S_2 <: T_2}{S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2}$$

$$\frac{S_1 <: T_1 \quad S_2 <: T_2}{S_1 \times S_2 <: T_1 \times T_2}$$

$$\frac{}{S <: S}$$

$$\frac{S <: U \quad U <: T}{S <: T}$$

Algorithmic Version

$$\frac{}{\triangleright T <: \text{Top}}$$

$$\frac{\triangleright T_1 <: S_1 \quad \triangleright S_2 <: T_2}{\triangleright S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2}$$

$$\frac{\triangleright S_1 <: T_1 \quad \triangleright S_2 <: T_2}{\triangleright S_1 \times S_2 <: T_1 \times T_2}$$

Definition

Let X range over a fixed countable set $\{X_1, X_2, \dots\}$ of type variables. The set of **raw μ -types** is the set of expressions defined by the following grammar (inductively):

$$T ::= X \mid \text{Top} \mid T \rightarrow T \mid T \times T \mid \mu X. T$$

Definition

A raw μ -type T is **contractive** (and called a **μ -type**) if, for any subexpression of T of the form $\mu X_1. \mu X_2. \dots \mu X_n. S$, the body S is not X .

Question

How to extend the subtype relation to support μ -types?

Subtyping on μ -Types



An Attempt: μ -Folding Rules

$$\frac{S <: [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T}{S <: \mu X. T}$$

$$\frac{[X \mapsto \mu X. S]S <: T}{\mu X. S <: T}$$

Question

Do those rules work?

Try those rules to check if $\mu X. \text{Top} \times X <: \mu X. \text{Top} \times (\text{Top} \times X)$ holds.

Subtyping on μ -Types

Example

Let $S \equiv \mu X. \text{Top} \times X$ and $T \equiv \mu X. \text{Top} \times (\text{Top} \times X)$.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\text{Top} <: \text{Top}}{\text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times (\text{Top} \times T)}}{\text{Top} \times S <: T}}{S <: T}$$

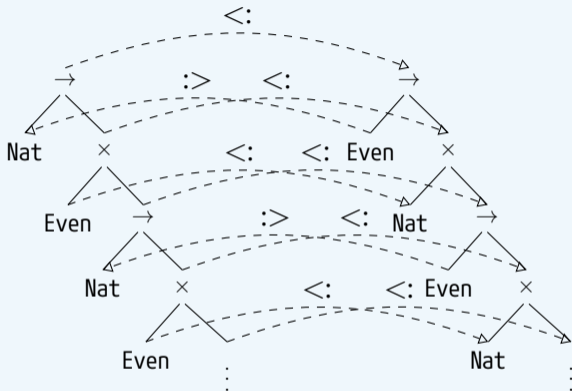
$\frac{\frac{\text{Top} <: \text{Top}}{\text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times T}}{S <: \text{Top} \times T}$

$\frac{\text{Top} <: \text{Top} \quad \frac{\vdots}{S <: T}}{\text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times T}$

Observation

The inference works only if we consider the subtyping rules **coinductively**, i.e., consider the **largest** relation generating by the subtyping rules.

Why?



Principle

The subtype relation must consider types with structures like **infinite trees**.



Hypothetical Subtyping

$\Sigma \vdash S <: T$: “one can derive $S <: T$ by assuming the subtype facts in Σ ”

$$\frac{(S <: T) \in \Sigma}{\Sigma \vdash S <: T}$$

$$\frac{}{\Sigma \vdash \text{Top} <: \text{Top}}$$

$$\frac{\Sigma \vdash T_1 <: S_1 \quad \Sigma \vdash S_2 <: T_2}{\Sigma \vdash S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2}$$

$$\frac{\Sigma \vdash S_1 <: T_1 \quad \Sigma \vdash S_2 <: T_2}{\Sigma \vdash S_1 \times S_2 <: T_1 \times T_2}$$

$$\frac{\Sigma, S <: \mu X. T \vdash S <: [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T}{\Sigma \vdash S <: \mu X. T}$$

$$\frac{\Sigma, \mu X. S <: T \vdash [X \mapsto \mu X. S]S <: T}{\Sigma \vdash \mu X. S <: T}$$

Let $S \equiv \mu X. \text{Top} \times X$ and $T \equiv \mu X. \text{Top} \times (\text{Top} \times X)$.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\dots \vdash \text{Top} <: \text{Top}}{\dots \vdash \text{Top} <: \text{Top}}}{S <: T, \dots \vdash \text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times T}}{\frac{\frac{\frac{(S <: T) \in S <: T, \dots}{S <: T, \dots \vdash S <: T}}{\dots \vdash \text{Top} <: \text{Top}}}{S <: T, \dots \vdash \text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times T}}}{S <: T, \dots \vdash \text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times (\text{Top} \times T)}}{S <: T \vdash \text{Top} \times S <: T}}{\emptyset \vdash S <: T}$$



Why Does Hypothetical Subtyping Work?

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\text{Top} <: \text{Top}}{\text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times T} \quad \frac{\frac{\text{Top} <: \text{Top}}{\text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times T} \quad \frac{\vdots}{S <: T}}{S <: \text{Top} \times T}}{\text{Top} \times S <: \text{Top} \times (\text{Top} \times T)}}{\text{Top} \times S <: T}}{S <: T}$$

Observation (Termination)

To check the original subtype relation $S <: T$ between μ -types, the set of reachable states $S' <: T'$ is **finite**. See Chapter 21.9 for a detailed argument.

Question (Correctness)

Why is hypothetical subtyping correct with respect to the original (coinductive) subtype relation?



Coinductive Subtyping

Definition (Generating Functions)

A generating function is a function $F : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{U})$ that is **monotone**, i.e., $X \subseteq Y$ implies $F(X) \subseteq F(Y)$.

Let F be monotone. A subset X of \mathcal{U} is a **fixed point** of F if $F(X) = X$.

The **least** fixed point is written μF . The **greatest** fixed point is written νF .¹

Subtype Relation

Let \mathcal{T}_m denote the set of all μ -types. Two μ -types S and T are said to be in the **subtype relation** (“ S is a subtype of T ”) if $(S, T) \in \nu F_d$, where the monotone function $F_d : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{T}_m \times \mathcal{T}_m) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{T}_m \times \mathcal{T}_m)$ is defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} F_d(\mathbf{R}) \equiv & \{(T, \text{Top}) \mid T \in \mathcal{T}_m\} \\ & \cup \{(S_1 \rightarrow S_2, T_1 \rightarrow T_2) \mid (T_1, S_1), (S_2, T_2) \in \mathbf{R}\} \\ & \cup \{(S_1 \times S_2, T_1 \times T_2) \mid (S_1, T_1), (S_2, T_2) \in \mathbf{R}\} \\ & \cup \{(S, \mu X. T) \mid (S, [X \mapsto \mu X. T]) \in \mathbf{R}\} \cup \{(\mu X. S, T) \mid ([X \mapsto \mu X. S]) \in \mathbf{R}\} \end{aligned}$$

¹Their existence and uniqueness can be justified by the Knaster-Tarski Theorem.



Correctness of Hypothetical Subtyping

Lemma

Suppose $\Sigma \vdash S <: T$ and each $S' <: T'$ in Σ satisfies $(S', T') \in \nu F_d$.
Then $(S, T) \in \nu F_d$.

Proof Sketch

By induction on the derivation of $\Sigma \vdash S <: T$.
For μ -folding rules, we need the fact that νF_d is the greatest fixed point of F_d .

Lemma

Suppose $(S, T) \in \nu F_d$. Then $\emptyset \vdash S <: T$.

Proposition

Suppose $\Sigma \vdash S <: T$ does **NOT** hold and each $S' <: T'$ in Σ satisfies $(S', T') \in \nu F_d$.
Then $(S, T) \notin \nu F_d$.



Algorithmic Hypothetical Subtyping

$\Sigma \vdash S <: T \triangleright \perp$: “one can/cannot derive $S <: T$ by assuming the subtype facts in Σ ”

$$\frac{(S <: T) \in \Sigma}{\Sigma \vdash S <: T \triangleright \top} \quad \frac{(T, \text{Top}) \notin \Sigma}{\Sigma \vdash T <: \text{Top} \triangleright \top} \quad \frac{(S_1 \rightarrow S_2, T_1 \rightarrow T_2) \notin \Sigma \quad \Sigma \vdash T_1 <: S_1 \triangleright \top \quad \Sigma \vdash S_2 <: T_2 \triangleright \top}{\Sigma \vdash S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \triangleright \top}$$

$$\frac{(S_1 \rightarrow S_2, T_1 \rightarrow T_2) \notin \Sigma \quad \Sigma \vdash T_1 <: S_1 \triangleright \perp}{\Sigma \vdash S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \triangleright \perp} \quad \frac{(S_1 \rightarrow S_2, T_1 \rightarrow T_2) \notin \Sigma \quad \Sigma \vdash T_1 <: S_1 \triangleright \top \quad \Sigma \vdash S_2 <: T_2 \triangleright \perp}{\Sigma \vdash S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \triangleright \perp}$$

$$\frac{(S, \mu X. T) \notin \Sigma \quad \Sigma, S <: \mu X. T \vdash S <: [X \mapsto \mu X. T]T \triangleright \text{ans}}{\Sigma \vdash S <: \mu X. T \triangleright \text{ans}} \quad \frac{(\mu X. S, T) \notin \Sigma \quad T \neq \text{Top} \quad T \neq \mu Y. U \quad \Sigma, \mu X. S <: T \vdash [X \mapsto \mu X. S]S <: T \triangleright \text{ans}}{\Sigma \vdash \mu X. S <: T \triangleright \text{ans}}$$

Otherwise, we have $\Sigma \vdash S <: T \triangleright \perp$.

Proposition

Suppose $\Sigma \vdash S <: T \triangleright \perp$ and each $S' <: T'$ in Σ satisfies $(S', T') \in \nu F_d$. Then $(S, T) \notin \nu F_d$.

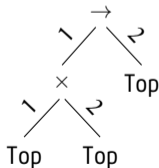
Aside: Why is Coinductive Subtyping Indeed Correct?

Definition

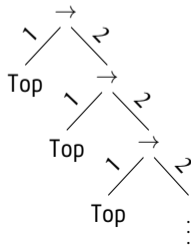
A **tree type** is a partial function $T : \{1, 2\}^* \rightarrow \{\rightarrow, \times, \text{Top}\}$ satisfying the following constraints:

- $T(\bullet)$ is defined;
- if $T(\pi, \sigma)$ is defined then $T(\pi)$ is defined;
- if $T(\pi) = \rightarrow$ or $T(\pi) = \times$ then $T(\pi, 1)$ and $T(\pi, 2)$ are defined;
- if $T(\pi) = \text{Top}$ then $T(\pi, 1)$ and $T(\pi, 2)$ are undefined.

$(\text{Top} \times \text{Top}) \rightarrow \text{Top}$



$\text{Top} \rightarrow (\text{Top} \rightarrow (\text{Top} \rightarrow \dots))$





Aside: Why is Coinductive Subtyping Indeed Correct?

Subtype Relation

Let \mathcal{T} denote the set of all tree types. Two tree types S and T are said to be in the **subtype relation** (“ S is a subtype of T ”) if $(S, T) \in \nu F$, where the monotone function $F : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T})$ is defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} F(R) \equiv & \{(T, \text{Top}) \mid T \in \mathcal{T}\} \\ & \cup \{(S_1 \rightarrow S_2, T_1 \rightarrow T_2) \mid (T_1, S_1), (S_2, T_2) \in R\} \\ & \cup \{(S_1 \times S_2, T_1 \times T_2) \mid (S_1, T_1), (S_2, T_2) \in R\} \end{aligned}$$

Principle

Under an equi-recursive setting, the subtype relation νF on possibly-infinite tree types is the desired relation.



Interpreting μ -Types as Possibly-Infinite Tree Types

The function *treeof*, mapping closed μ -types to tree types, is defined inductively as follows:

$$\text{treeof}(\text{Top})(\bullet) \equiv \text{Top}$$

$$\text{treeof}(T_1 \rightarrow T_2)(\bullet) \equiv \rightarrow$$

$$\text{treeof}(T_1 \times T_2)(\bullet) \equiv \times$$

$$\text{treeof}(\mu X. T)(\pi) \equiv \text{treeof}([X \mapsto \mu X. T]T)(\pi)$$

$$\text{treeof}(T_1 \rightarrow T_2)(i, \pi) \equiv \text{treeof}(T_i)(\pi)$$

$$\text{treeof}(T_1 \times T_2)(i, \pi) \equiv \text{treeof}(T_i)(\pi)$$

Question

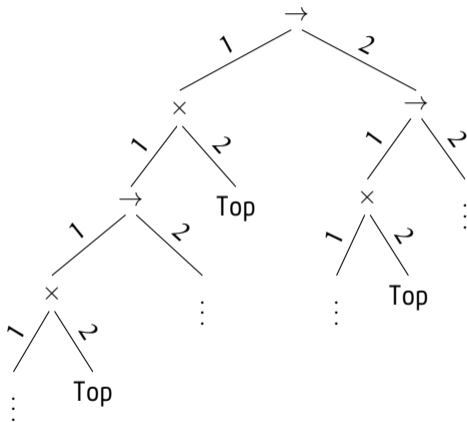
Why is *treeof* well-defined?

Answer

Every recursive use of *treeof* on the right-hand side reduces the lexicographic size of the pair $(|\pi|, \mu\text{-height}(T))$, where $\mu\text{-height}(T)$ is the number of μ -bindings at the front of T .



$treeof(\mu X. ((X \times Top) \rightarrow X))$





Aside: Why is Coinductive Subtyping Indeed Correct?

Subtype Relation

Let \mathcal{T} denote the set of all tree types. Two tree types S and T are said to be in the **subtype relation** (“ S is a subtype of T ”) if $(S, T) \in \nu F$, where the monotone function $F : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T})$ is defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} F(R) \equiv & \{(T, \text{Top}) \mid T \in \mathcal{T}\} \\ & \cup \{(S_1 \rightarrow S_2, T_1 \rightarrow T_2) \mid (T_1, S_1), (S_2, T_2) \in R\} \\ & \cup \{(S_1 \times S_2, T_1 \times T_2) \mid (S_1, T_1), (S_2, T_2) \in R\} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

Recall that F_d is the generating function for the subtype relation on μ -types.

Let $(S, T) \in \mathcal{T}_m \times \mathcal{T}_m$. Then $(S, T) \in \nu F_d$ **if and only if** $(\text{treeof}(S), \text{treeof}(T)) \in \nu F$.



Question

- Implement Y_T (shown on Slide 23) in OCaml/MoonBit. Does it really work as a fixed-point operator? Why?
- How to make it work? Show your solution is effective by using it to define three recursive functions.
- Formulate your solution with explicit `fold`'s and `unfold`'s. You may check your solution using the `fullisorec` checker.