

Paper 12

Introduction to Functional Programming

2000

1. The type of `foldl` is $(\alpha * \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha \text{ list} \rightarrow \beta$ `foldr op/` has type `real -> real list -> real`
2. (a) `val product = foldl op* 1.0;`
 (b) `fun exists p = foldl (fn (a,b) => p(a) orelse b) false;`
 (c) `fun length l = foldl (fn (_,n) => n+1) 0 l;`
3. We use induction on the stronger statement: for all n :

$$\text{foldl op+ } n \ l = \text{foldr op+ } n \ l$$

Base case: when the list l is empty:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{foldl op+ } n \ [] &= n && \text{by definition of foldl} \\ &= \text{foldr op+ } n \ [] && \text{by definition of foldr} \end{aligned}$$

Induction Step: $l = h::t$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{foldl op+ } n \ h::t &= \text{foldl op+ } h + n \ t && \text{by definition of foldl} \\ &= \text{foldr op+ } h + n \ t && \text{by induction hypothesis} \\ &= \text{foldr op+ } h + n \ t && \text{by induction hypothesis} \\ &= h + \text{foldr op+ } n \ t && \text{by properties of addition} \\ &= \text{foldr op+ } n \ h::t && \text{by definition of foldr} \end{aligned}$$