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Numerical Coding of Lists

Let $List\mathbb{N}$ be the set of all finite lists of natural numbers, defined by:
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- empty list: $[]$
- list cons: $x :: \ell \in List\mathbb{N}$ if $x \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\ell \in List\mathbb{N}$

Notation: $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] \triangleq x_1 :: (x_2 :: (\dots x_n :: [] \dots))$

Numerical Coding of Lists

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For $\ell \in List\mathbb{N}$, define $\lceil \ell \rceil \in \mathbb{N}$ by induction on the length of the list

$$\ell : \begin{cases} \lceil [] \rceil \triangleq 0 \\ \lceil x :: \ell \rceil \triangleq \langle x, \lceil \ell \rceil \rangle = 2^x(2 \cdot \lceil \ell \rceil + 1) \end{cases}$$

Thus, $\lceil [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] \rceil = \langle \langle x_1, \langle \langle x_2, \dots \langle \langle x_n, 0 \rangle \rangle \dots \rangle \rangle \rangle$

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Examples

$$\lceil [3] \rceil = \lceil 3 :: [] \rceil = \langle \langle 3, 0 \rangle \rangle = 2^3(2 \cdot 0 + 1) = 8$$

$$\lceil [1, 3] \rceil = \langle \langle 1, \lceil [3] \rceil \rangle \rangle = \langle \langle 1, 8 \rangle \rangle = 34$$

$$\lceil [2, 1, 3] \rceil = \langle \langle 2, \lceil [1, 3] \rceil \rangle \rangle = \langle \langle 2, 34 \rangle \rangle = 276$$

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Result The function $\ell \mapsto \lceil \ell \rceil$ gives a bijection from $List\mathbb{N}$ to \mathbb{N} .

Numerical Coding of Lists

Let $\text{List } \mathbb{N}$ be the set of all finite lists of natural numbers.

For $\ell \in \text{List } \mathbb{N}$, define $\lceil \ell \rceil \in \mathbb{N}$ by induction on the length of the list

$$\ell : \begin{cases} \lceil [] \rceil \triangleq 0 \\ \lceil x :: \ell \rceil \triangleq \langle x, \lceil \ell \rceil \rangle = 2^x (2 \cdot \lceil \ell \rceil + 1) \end{cases}$$

Result The function $\ell \mapsto \lceil \ell \rceil$ gives a bijection from $\text{List } \mathbb{N}$ to \mathbb{N} .

Sketch Proof

The proof follows by observing that

$$\text{0bb} \lceil [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] \rceil = \boxed{\underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{x_n 0s}} \underbrace{0 \dots 0 \dots 1}_{x_{n-1} 0s} \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{x_1 0s}$$

To prove $\text{0bb} \lceil [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] \rceil = \boxed{1} \boxed{0 \dots 0} \boxed{1} \boxed{0 \dots 0}$ use induction on the structure of $L = [x_1, \dots, x_n]$.

Base Case This is trivial as $0 \text{ b} \lceil [] \rceil = 0$.

Inductive step Assume

$$\begin{aligned} & \boxed{0 \text{ b} \lceil [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k] \rceil} \\ = & \boxed{1} \boxed{0 \dots 0} \boxed{1} \boxed{0 \dots 0} \boxed{1} \\ & \text{By the definitions, we have} \\ 0 \text{ b} \lceil [x, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k] \rceil = & 0 \text{ b} \langle x, \lceil [x_1, \dots, x_k] \rceil \rangle = 0 \text{ b} \lceil [x_1, \dots, x_n] \rceil 1 \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{x 0s} \end{aligned}$$

The induction hypothesis now gives the result. Using this result, $\lceil L \rceil$ is clearly one-to-one and onto. To convince yourself of this, choose a few binary numbers n and give the corresponding list L_n such that $0 \text{ b} \lceil L_n \rceil = n$.

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Recall Register Machines

Definition

A register machine (sometimes abbreviated to RM) is specified by:

- finitely many registers R_0, R_1, \dots, R_n , each capable of storing a natural number;
- a program consisting of a finite list of instructions of the form label: body where, for $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, the $(i + 1)^{\text{th}}$ instruction has label L_i . The instruction body takes the form:

$R^+ \rightarrow L'$	add 1 to contents of register R and jump to instruction labelled L'
$R^- \rightarrow L', L''$	if contents of R is > 0 , then subtract 1 and jump to L' , else jump to L''
$HALT$	stop executing instructions

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Numerical Coding of Programs

If P is the RM program

$L_0 : body_0$
$L_1 : body_1$
\vdots
$L_n : body_n$

then its numerical code is

$$\lceil P \rceil \triangleq \lceil \lceil body_0 \rceil, \dots, \lceil body_n \rceil \rceil$$

where the numerical code $\lceil body \rceil$ of an instruction body is defined

$$\text{by: } \begin{cases} \lceil R_i^+ \rightarrow L_j \rceil \triangleq \langle\langle 2i, j \rangle\rangle \\ \lceil R_i^- \rightarrow L_j, L_k \rceil \triangleq \langle\langle 2i + 1, \langle j, k \rangle \rangle\rangle \\ \lceil HALT \rceil \triangleq 0 \end{cases}$$

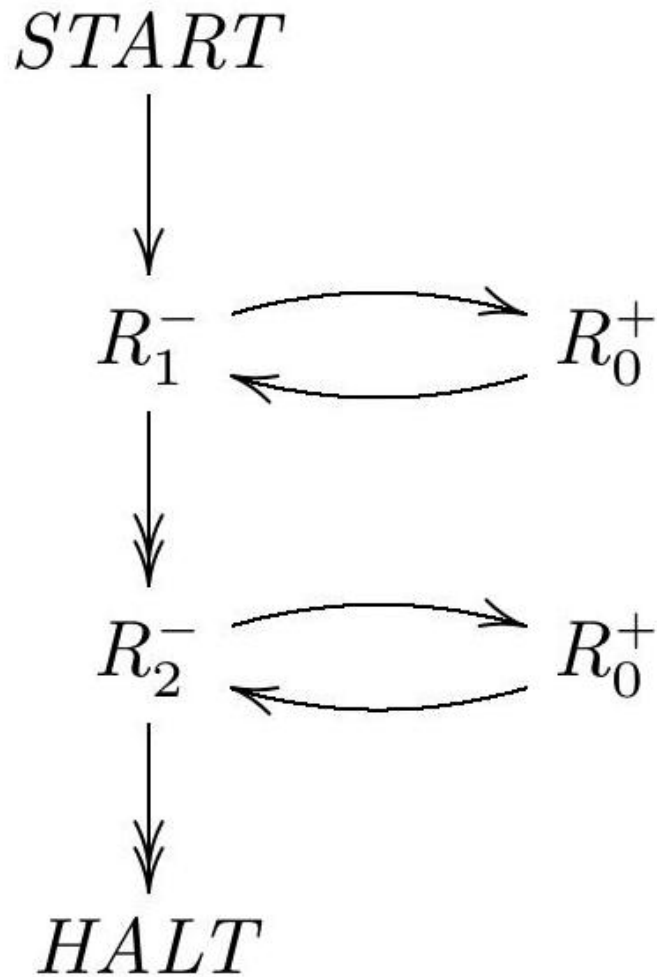
Since $\langle -, - \rangle : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^+$, $\langle -, - \rangle : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ and $\lceil - \rceil : \text{List } \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ are bijections, the functions $\lceil - \rceil$ from bodies to natural numbers and $\lceil - \rceil$ from RM programs to \mathbb{N} are bijections.

Recall Addition $f(x, y) \triangleq x + y$ is Computable

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Registers
$R_0 R_1 R_2$
Program
$L_0 : R_1^- \rightarrow L_1, L_2$
$L_1 : R_0^+ \rightarrow L_0$
$L_2 : R_2^- \rightarrow L_3, L_4$
$L_3 : R_0^+ \rightarrow L_2$
$L_4 : HALT$

Graphical Representation



If the machine starts with registers $(R_0, R_1, R_2) = (0, x, y)$, it halts with registers $(R_0, R_1, R_2) = (x + y, 0, 0)$.

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Coding of the RM for Addition

$\ulcorner P \urcorner \triangleq \ulcorner \ulcorner B_0 \urcorner, \dots, \ulcorner B_4 \urcorner \urcorner$ where

$$\begin{aligned}
\lceil B_0 \rceil &= \lceil R_1^- \rightarrow L_1, L_2 \rceil = \langle (2 \times 1) + 1, \langle 1, 2 \rangle \rangle \\
&= \langle \langle 3, 9 \rangle = 8 \times (18 + 1) = 152 \\
\lceil B_1 \rceil &= \lceil R_0^+ \rightarrow L_0 \rceil = \langle 2 \times 0, 0 \rangle = 1 \\
\lceil B_2 \rceil &= \lceil R_2^- \rightarrow L_3, L_4 \rceil = \langle \langle (2 \times 2) + 1, \langle 3, 4 \rangle \rangle \\
&= \langle \langle 5, (8 \times 9) - 1 \rangle \rangle = \langle \langle 5, 71 \rangle \\
&= 2^5 \times ((2 \times 71) + 1) = 32 \times 143 = 4576 \\
\lceil B_3 \rceil &= \lceil R_0^+ \rightarrow L_2 \rceil = \langle 2 \times 0, 2 \rangle = 5 \\
\lceil B_4 \rceil &= \lceil HALT \rceil = 0
\end{aligned}$$

In the next section, we will introduce the Universal Register Machine. The Universal Register Machine carries out the following computation: starting with $R_0 = 0, R_1 = e$ (the code of the program), $R_2 = a$ (code of the list of arguments), and all other registers zeroed:

- decode e as a RM program P
- decode a as a list of register values a_1, \dots, a_n
- carry out the computation of the RM program P starting with $R_0 = 0, R_1 = a_1, \dots, R_n = a_n$ (and any other registers occurring in P set to 0).

It is therefore important for you to understand what it means for a number $x \in \mathbb{N}$ to decode to a unique instruction $\text{body}(x)$, and for a number $e \in \mathbb{N}$ to decode to a unique program $\text{prog}(e)$.

Decoding Numbers as Bodies and Programs

Any $x \in \mathbb{N}$ decodes to a unique instruction $\text{bod } y(x)$:
if $x = 0$ then $\text{bod } y(x)$ is HALT , else ($x > 0$ and) let $x = \langle \langle y, z \rangle$ in if $y = 2i$ is even, then $\text{bod } y(x)$ is $R_i^+ \rightarrow L_z$,
Slide 29 else $y = 2i + 1$ is odd, let $z = \langle j, k \rangle$ in $\text{body}(x)$ is $R_i^- \rightarrow L_j, L_k$
So any $e \in \mathbb{N}$ decodes to a unique program $\text{prog}(e)$, called the register machine program with index e :

$$\text{prog}(e) \triangleq \left[\begin{array}{c} L_0 : \text{body}(x_0) \\ \vdots \\ L_n : \text{body}(x_n) \end{array} \right] \text{ where } e = \lceil [x_0, \dots, x_n] \rceil$$

Example of $\text{prog}(e)$

- $786432 = 2^{19} + 2^{18} = 0 \text{ b}11 \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{18''0^{0''}s} = \lceil [18, 0] \rceil$

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- $18 = 0 \text{ b}10010 = \langle 1, 4 \rangle = \langle \langle 1, \langle 0, 2 \rangle \rangle = \ulcorner R_0^- \rightarrow L_0, L_2 \urcorner$
- $0 = \ulcorner HALT \urcorner$

$$\text{So } \text{prog}(786432) = \begin{matrix} L_0 : R_0^- \rightarrow L_0, L_2 \\ L_1 : HALT \end{matrix}$$

Notice that, when $e = 0$, we have $0 = \ulcorner \square \urcorner$ so $\text{prog}(0)$ is the program with an empty list of instructions, which by convention we regard as a RM that does nothing (i.e. that halts immediately). Also, notice in slide 26 the jump to a label with no body (an erroneous halt). Again, choose some numbers and see what the register-machine programs they correspond to.