

Virtual Machines

Exercise Sheet 7

Deadline: July 5th, 2011, 14:00

Exercise 1: Tail Recursion

4 Points

A function application $l \equiv e' e_1 \dots e_n$ within some arbitrary expression e_g is identified as a so-called *last call* if the evaluation of l can deliver the value of e_g . In order to perform *tail call optimization* during the translation of e_g , all occurrences of *last calls* have to be determined for e_g .

Develop a general schema to determine the occurrences of last calls in any expression.

Exercise 2: eval Optimization

8 Points

Have a look at the code generated for the expression $e \equiv (a + a)$ with $\rho = \{a \mapsto (L, 1)\}$ and $sd = 1$. It was created using the Call by Need strategy.

```

getvar a ρ 1  ≡ 1  pushloc 0
eval          ≡ 2  eval
getbasic      ≡ 2  getbasic
getvar a ρ 2  ≡ 2  pushloc 1
eval          ≡ 3  eval
getbasic      ≡ 3  getbasic
add           ≡ 3  add
mkbasic       ≡ 2  mkbasic
    
```

The **eval** instructions check whether the value of a has already been computed. If not, a still needs to be evaluated. The second occurrence of **eval** in the above code is obviously *redundant*, because the value of a is already known at this point due to the first **eval**.

The code generation functions can be modified such that redundant **eval** instructions are not generated anymore. To do so, extend the code generation schemata for an expression e with an additional argument A . A collects the set of visible variables that are bound outside e and that are always guaranteed to already having been evaluated when reaching the code to be generated for e .

Thus the code generation scheme for variable access shall look as follows:

$$\text{code}_V x \rho sd A \equiv \begin{cases} \text{getvar } x \rho sd & \text{if } x \in A \\ \text{getvar } x \rho sd \\ \text{eval} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

For example:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{code}_V (e_1 \sqcap_2 e_2) \rho \text{ sd } A &\equiv \text{code}_B e_1 \rho \text{ sd } A \\ &\quad \text{code}_B e_2 \rho (\text{sd} + 1) (A \cup A[e_1]) \\ &\quad \text{op}_2 \\ &\quad \text{mkbasic} \end{aligned}$$

where $A[e_1]$ is the set of free variables in the expression e_1 which had to be evaluated during the evaluation of e_1 .

1. Define $A[e]$ formally, where e is an arbitrary expression.
2. Modify the code generation functions for expressions in order to get rid of redundant `eval` instructions.

Exercise 3: Type Extensions

8 Points

Introduce the new type `'a Tree`. Trees are constructed using the nullary constructor (constant) `Leaf` and the ternary constructor `Node` of `'a * 'a Tree * 'a Tree`. The syntax is then extended with:

$$\begin{aligned} e ::= & \dots \mid \text{Leaf} \mid \text{Node}(e_1, e_2, e_3) \\ & \mid (\text{match } e_0 \text{ with } \text{Leaf} \rightarrow e_1 \mid \text{Node}(\text{info}, \text{left}, \text{right}) \rightarrow e_2) \end{aligned}$$

Define code generation functions for the new expressions. Extend the set of heap objects with new objects of type `Tree`. You may also have to define new MaMa instructions.