

S4.1: Expression Evaluation: Eager and Lazy Evaluation

CSci 2041: Advanced Programming Principles

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Exercise #1:

Above we saw that evaluation can be seen as a sequence of rewrites of the expression.

Using this approach, evaluate

$a \ (3 + 4) \ (3 / 0)$

where

$a \ x \ y = x + 3$

using

1. call-by-name semantics, and then
2. call-by-value semantics

Exercise #2:

Using call-by-value evaluation and then lazy evaluation, write out the first 10 steps of the evaluation of the following:

```
take 2 (makefrom 4 5)
```

Use the following definitions (clearly not OCaml syntax):

```
take n [] = []
```

```
take 0 (x::xs) = []
```

```
take n (x::xs) = x::take (n-1) xs
```

```
makefrom 0 v = []
```

```
makefrom n v = v :: makefrom (n-1) (v+1)
```

Exercise #3:

Write a function named `cond` that has the same behavior as OCaml's if-then-else construct.

Exercise #4:

Evaluate the first dozen steps or so of the following:

```
sum (take 3 (squares_from 1))
```

where

```
sum [] = 0
```

```
sum x::xs -> x + sum xs
```

```
squares_from v = v*v :: squares_from (v+1)
```

Exercise #5:

Define an infinite list containing all natural numbers, starting at 0. Call this `allnats`. Recall our definition of squares:

```
let allnats = let ns n = n :: ns (n+1) in ns 0
```

Then evaluate the first 10 steps of

```
drop 3 allnats
```

where

```
let drop n [] = []  
let drop n x::xs = if n > 0  
                    then drop (n-1) xs  
                    else x::xs
```