

Algebraic structure for untyped Racket

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Abstract

A language for defining simple macros and pure functions with pattern-based syntax, along with first-class data constructors. Type system not included.

1 The core model

t	$::=$	$t\ t$	application	p	$::=$	$p\ p$	application
		$t; t$	sequence			$p; p$	sequence
		$\mu p. t$	macro clause			$-$	wildcard
		$\Phi p. t$	function clause			x	variable
		x	variable			δ	constructor
		δ	constructor			\diamond	null
		\diamond	null				
v	$::=$	$\mu p. t; \cdot$	macro				
		$\Phi p. t; \cdot$	function				
		δ	constructor				
		$\delta\ (v; \cdot)$	instance				
		\diamond	null				

A *constructor* (δ) identifies a data type. Constructors are first class; they can be matched against, collected into lists, and passed between functions. A constructor applied to a value is an *instance* of the denoted type.

$$\frac{t_1 \rightsquigarrow t'_1}{t_1; t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_1; t_2} \text{SEQ1} \qquad \frac{t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_2}{v_1; t_2 \rightsquigarrow v_1; t'_2} \text{SEQ2}$$

Sequences $(t; t)$ are evaluated eagerly from left to right. Sequences collect multiple clauses into a single macro or function. A sequence is *uniform* $(t; \cdot)$ when every sub-term has the same shape.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{t_1 \rightsquigarrow t'_1}{t_1 \ t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_1 \ t_2} \text{ APP1} \qquad \frac{p_{11} \times t_2 = \sigma \quad \sigma(t_{12}) = t'_{12}}{(\mu p_{11}.t_{12}) \ t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_{12}} \text{ APPM} \\
\\
\frac{v_1 \not\rightsquigarrow \mu p.t; \cdot \quad t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_2}{v_1 \ t_2 \rightsquigarrow v_1 \ t'_2} \text{ APP2} \qquad \frac{p_{11} \times v_2 = \sigma \quad \sigma(t_{12}) = t'_{12}}{(\phi p_{11}.t_{12}) \ v_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_{12}} \text{ APPF}
\end{array}$$

A *macro clause* $(\mu p.t)$ is a lambda abstraction that can reject or deconstruct a term by pattern matching against its unevaluated argument. A *macro* $(\mu p.t; \cdot)$ is a macro clause or a uniform sequence of macro clauses. A macro gets stuck if every clause rejects the argument term.

A *function clause* $(\phi p.t)$ is a lambda abstraction that can reject or deconstruct a value by pattern matching against its fully-evaluated argument. A *function* $(\phi p.t; \cdot)$ is a function clause or a uniform sequence of function clauses. A function gets stuck if every clause rejects the argument value.

An *application* $(t \ t)$ is evaluated quasi-eagerly, starting on the left. If the left side reduces to a macro, it is a *macro application* and its patterns are matched against the un-evaluated right side. Otherwise, the right side is evaluated; if the left side reduced to a function, it is a *function application* and its patterns are matched against the evaluation result. In either case, if the match succeeds, any bound pattern variables are substituted in the consequent term, which becomes the result of the application.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{(\mu p_1.t_2) \ t_4 \rightsquigarrow t'_2}{(\mu p_1.t_2; v_3) \ t_4 \rightsquigarrow t'_2} \text{ MAC1} \qquad \frac{p_1 \times t_4 = \diamond}{(\mu p_1.t_2; v_3) \ t_4 \rightsquigarrow v_3 \ t_4} \text{ MAC2} \\
\\
\frac{(\phi p_1.t_2) \ v_4 \rightsquigarrow t'_2}{(\phi p_1.t_2; v_3) \ v_4 \rightsquigarrow t'_2} \text{ FUN1} \qquad \frac{p_1 \times v_4 = \diamond}{(\phi p_1.t_2; v_3) \ v_4 \rightsquigarrow v_3 \ v_4} \text{ FUN2}
\end{array}$$

The clauses of a uniform sequence are applied in order, from left to right. The first successful match determines the result.

1.1 Pattern matching

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{p_1 \times t_1 = \sigma_1 \quad p_2 \times t_2 = \sigma_2}{(p_1 \ p_2) \times (t_1 \ t_2) = \sigma_1 \cup \sigma_2} \qquad \frac{p_1 \times t_1 = \sigma_1 \quad p_2 \times t_2 = \sigma_2}{(p_1; p_2) \times (t_1; t_2) = \sigma_1 \cup \sigma_2} \qquad x_1 \times t_2 = \{x_1 \mapsto t_2\} \\
\\
\frac{\delta_1 = \delta_2}{\delta_1 \times \delta_2 = \{\}} \qquad - \times t_1 = \{\} \qquad \diamond \times \diamond = \{\}
\end{array}$$

A *constructor pattern* (δ) matches any constructor with the same name. A *null pattern* (\diamond) matches only the null term. A *wildcard* $(-)$ matches anything. A *variable* (x) matches

anything and binds itself to the matched term. An *application pattern* $(p \ p)$ or *sequence pattern* $(p; p)$ matches its sub-patterns against the sub-terms of an application and passes along any variable bindings.

1.2 Variable substitution

$$\begin{array}{c}
\sigma(t_1 \ t_2) = \sigma(t_1) \ \sigma(t_2) \qquad \sigma(t_1; t_2) = \sigma(t_1); \sigma(t_2) \qquad \frac{\sigma' = \sigma \setminus \text{vars}(p_1) \quad t'_2 = \sigma'(t_2)}{\sigma(\mu p_1. t_2) = \mu p_1. t'_2} \\
\\
\frac{\sigma' = \sigma \setminus \text{vars}(p_1) \quad t'_2 = \sigma'(t_2)}{\sigma(\phi p_1. t_2) = \phi p_1. t'_2} \qquad \frac{(x_1 \mapsto t) \in \sigma}{\sigma(x_1) = t} \qquad \sigma(\delta_1) = \delta_1 \qquad \sigma(\diamond) = \diamond
\end{array}$$

1.3 Examples

1.3.1 Numbers

$$\text{add} = \phi(a \ \text{Zero}).a; \phi(a \ (\text{Succ } b)).\text{Succ } (\text{add } (a \ b))$$

$\text{add } ((\text{Succ } \text{Zero}) \ (\text{Succ } (\text{Succ } \text{Zero})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Succ } (\text{add } ((\text{Succ } \text{Zero}) \ (\text{Succ } \text{Zero})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{add } ((\text{Succ } \text{Zero}) \ \text{Zero})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{Succ } \text{Zero}))$

$$\text{mul} = \phi(a \ \text{Zero}).\text{Zero}; \phi(a \ (\text{Succ } b)).\text{add } (a \ (\text{mul } (a \ b)))$$

Denote by $N \in \mathbb{N}$ a series of N Succs and a Zero.

$\text{mul } (2 \ 3)$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ (\text{mul } (2 \ 2)))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ (\text{add } (2 \ (\text{mul } (2 \ 1)))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ (\text{add } (2 \ (\text{add } (2 \ (\text{mul } (2 \ 0))))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ (\text{add } (2 \ (\text{add } (2 \ 0)))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ (\text{add } (2 \ 2)))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ (\text{Succ } (\text{add } (2 \ 1))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ (\text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{add } (2 \ 0)))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{add } (2 \ 4)$

$\rightsquigarrow \text{Succ } (\text{add } (2 \ 3))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{add } (2 \ 2)))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{add } (2 \ 1))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{Succ } (\text{add } (2 \ 0)))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow 6$

1.3.2 Booleans

not = ϕ False.True; ϕ _.False
and = $\mu(a\ b).(\phi$ False.False; ϕ _.b) a
or = $\mu(a\ b).(\phi$ False.b; ϕ x.x) a
xor = $\mu(a\ b).(\phi$ False.b; ϕ x.and ((not b) x)) a

or ((not True) (and ((xor (True True)) True)))
 \rightsquigarrow or (False (and ((xor (True True)) True)))
 \rightsquigarrow and ((xor (True True)) True)
 \rightsquigarrow and ((and ((not True) True)) True)
 \rightsquigarrow and ((and (False True)) True)
 \rightsquigarrow and (False True)
 \rightsquigarrow False

1.3.3 Lists

list = $\mu(x\ \diamond).$ Cons (x Nil); $\mu(x\ xs).$ Cons (x (list x s))

list (1 (2 (3 \diamond)))
 \rightsquigarrow Cons (1 (list (2 (3 \diamond))))
 \rightsquigarrow Cons (1 (Cons (2 (list (3 \diamond))))))
 \rightsquigarrow Cons (1 (Cons (2 (Cons (3 Nil))))))

rev = ϕ (Nil a). a ; ϕ ((Cons ($y\ ys$)) a).rev (ys (Cons ($y\ a$)))
reverse = ϕ x s.rev (x s Nil)

reverse (Cons (1 (Cons (2 (Cons (3 Nil))))))
 \rightsquigarrow rev ((Cons (1 (Cons (2 (Cons (3 Nil)))))) Nil)
 \rightsquigarrow rev ((Cons (2 (Cons (3 Nil)))) (Cons (1 Nil)))
 \rightsquigarrow rev ((Cons (3 Nil)) (Cons (2 (Cons (1 Nil)))))
 \rightsquigarrow rev (Nil (Cons (3 (Cons (2 (Cons (1 Nil)))))))
 \rightsquigarrow Cons (3 (Cons (2 (Cons (1 Nil)))))

append = ϕ (Nil ys). ys ; ϕ ((Cons ($x\ xs$)) ys).Cons (x (append (x s ys)))

append ((Cons (1 (Cons (2 Nil)))) (Cons (3 (Cons (4 Nil)))))
 \rightsquigarrow Cons (1 (append ((Cons (2 Nil)) (Cons (3 (Cons (4 Nil))))))

$\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (1 \text{ (Cons } (2 \text{ (append (Nil (Cons } (3 \text{ (Cons } (4 \text{ Nil))))))))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (1 \text{ (Cons } (2 \text{ (Cons } (3 \text{ (Cons } (4 \text{ Nil)))))))$

$\text{map} = \Phi(- \text{Nil}).\text{Nil}; \Phi(f \text{ (Cons } (x \text{ } xs))).\text{Cons } ((f \text{ } x) \text{ (map } (f \text{ } xs)))$

$\text{map } (\text{Succ } (\text{Cons } (3 \text{ (Cons } (2 \text{ (Cons } (1 \text{ Nil)))))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4 \text{ (map } (\text{Succ } (\text{Cons } (2 \text{ (Cons } (1 \text{ Nil)))))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4 \text{ (Cons } (3 \text{ (map } (\text{Succ } (\text{Cons } (1 \text{ Nil)))))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4 \text{ (Cons } (3 \text{ (Cons } (2 \text{ (map } (\text{Succ } \text{Nil})))))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4 \text{ (Cons } (3 \text{ (Cons } (2 \text{ Nil))))))$

2 The extended model

2.1 Extended syntax

$t_1 \ t_2 \ \cdots \ t_n \rightsquigarrow t_1 \ (t_2 \ \cdots \ t_n) \qquad n \geq 2 \qquad p_1 \ p_2 \ \cdots \ p_n \rightsquigarrow p_1 \ (p_2 \ \cdots \ p_n)$

$t_1; t_2; \cdots; t_n \rightsquigarrow t_1; (t_2; \cdots; t_n) \qquad p_1; p_2; \cdots; p_n \rightsquigarrow p_1; (p_2; \cdots; p_n)$

$$\mu \left[\begin{array}{c|c} p_1 & t_1 \\ p_2 & t_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ p_n & t_n \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \mu p_1.t_1; \mu \left[\begin{array}{c|c} p_2 & t_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ p_n & t_n \end{array} \right] \qquad \mu[p_1 \mid t_1] \rightsquigarrow \mu p_1.t_1$$

$$\Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} p_1 & t_1 \\ p_2 & t_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ p_n & t_n \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \Phi p_1.t_1; \Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} p_2 & t_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ p_n & t_n \end{array} \right] \qquad \Phi[p_1 \mid t_1] \rightsquigarrow \Phi p_1.t_1$$

2.2 Let bindings

$\text{fix} = \Phi f.(\Phi x.f \ \Phi y.(x \ x) \ y) \ (\Phi x.f \ \Phi y.(x \ x) \ y)$

$$\text{let} \approx \mu \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} (p \ t) & body & (\Phi p.body) \ t \\ (p \ t; cs) & body & \text{let } (p \ t) \text{ let } cs \ body \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{letrec} \approx \mu \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} (p \ t) & body & \text{let } (p \ \text{fix } \Phi p.body) \ t \\ (p \ t; cs) & body & \text{letrec } (p \ t) \text{ letrec } cs \ body \end{array} \right]$$

2.3 Examples

2.3.1 Numbers

$$\text{add} = \Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} a & \text{Zero} \\ a & \text{Succ } b \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} a \\ \text{Succ add } a \ b \end{array} \right] \quad \text{mul} = \Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} a & \text{Zero} \\ a & \text{Succ } b \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{Zero} \\ \text{add } a \ \text{mul } a \ b \end{array} \right]$$

add (Succ Zero) Succ Succ Zero
 \rightsquigarrow Succ add (Succ Zero) Succ Zero
 \rightsquigarrow Succ Succ add (Succ Zero) Zero
 \rightsquigarrow Succ Succ Succ Zero

mul 2 3
 \rightsquigarrow add 2 mul 2 2
 \rightsquigarrow add 2 add 2 mul 2 1
 \rightsquigarrow add 2 add 2 add 2 mul 2 0
 \rightsquigarrow add 2 add 2 add 2 0
 \rightsquigarrow add 2 add 2 2
 \rightsquigarrow add 2 Succ add 2 1
 \rightsquigarrow add 2 Succ Succ add 2 0

\rightsquigarrow add 2 4
 \rightsquigarrow Succ add 2 3
 \rightsquigarrow Succ Succ add 2 2
 \rightsquigarrow Succ Succ Succ add 2 1
 \rightsquigarrow Succ Succ Succ Succ add 2 0
 \rightsquigarrow 6

2.3.2 Booleans

$$\text{not} = \Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \text{False} & \text{True} \\ - & \text{False} \end{array} \right] \quad \text{and} = \mu(a \ b). \Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \text{False} & \text{False} \\ - & b \end{array} \right] a$$

$$\text{or} = \mu(a \ b). \Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \text{False} & b \\ x & x \end{array} \right] a \quad \text{xor} = \mu(a \ b). \Phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \text{False} & b \\ x & \text{and } (\text{not } b) \ x \end{array} \right] a$$

or (not True) and (xor True True) True
 \rightsquigarrow or False and (xor True True) True
 \rightsquigarrow and (xor True True) True
 \rightsquigarrow and (and (not True) True) True
 \rightsquigarrow and (and False True) True
 \rightsquigarrow and False True
 \rightsquigarrow False

2.3.3 Lists

$$\text{list} = \mu \left[\begin{array}{c|c} x & \diamond \\ x & xs \end{array} \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{Cons } (x; \text{Nil}) \\ \text{Cons } (x; \text{list } xs) \end{array} \right]$$

list 1 2 3 \diamond
 \rightsquigarrow Cons (1; list 2 3 \diamond)

$\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (1; \text{Cons } (2; \text{list } 3)) \diamond$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (1; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (3; \text{Nil})))$

$$\text{reverse} = \phi xs. \text{letrec } \left(rev \ \phi \left[\begin{array}{cc} \text{Nil} & a \\ (\text{Cons } (y; ys)) & a \end{array} \middle| rev \ ys \ \text{Cons } (y; a) \right] \right) rev \ xs \ \text{Nil}$$

$\text{reverse Cons } (1; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (3; \text{Nil})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow rev \ (\text{Cons } (1; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } 3 \ \text{Nil}))) \ \text{Nil}$
 $\rightsquigarrow rev \ (\text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (3; \text{Nil}))) \ \text{Cons } (1; \text{Nil})$
 $\rightsquigarrow rev \ (\text{Cons } (3; \text{Nil})) \ \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (1; \text{Nil}))$
 $\rightsquigarrow rev \ \text{Nil} \ \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (1; \text{Nil})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (1; \text{Nil})))$

$$\text{append} = \phi \left[\begin{array}{cc} \text{Nil} & ys \\ (\text{Cons } (x; xs)) & ys \end{array} \middle| \text{Cons } (x; \text{append } xs \ ys) \right]$$

$\text{append } (\text{Cons } (1; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Nil}))) \ \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (4; \text{Nil}))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (1; \text{append } (\text{Cons } (2; \text{Nil})) \ \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (4; \text{Nil})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (1; \text{Cons } (2; \text{append } \text{Nil} \ \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (4; \text{Nil}))))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (1; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (4; \text{Nil}))))$

$$\text{map} = \phi \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{Nil} \\ f \end{array} \ \text{Cons } (x; xs) \middle| \begin{array}{c} \text{Nil} \\ \text{Cons } (f \ x; \text{map } f \ xs) \end{array} \right]$$

$\text{map Succ Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (1; \text{Nil})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4; \text{map Succ Cons } (2; \text{Cons } (1; \text{Nil})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4; \text{Cons } (3; \text{map Succ Cons } (1; \text{Nil})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4; \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (2; \text{map Succ Nil})))$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{Cons } (4; \text{Cons } (3; \text{Cons } (2; \text{Nil})))$

3 Host integration

3.1 Primitive data

$t ::= \dots \mid \ell \qquad p ::= \dots \mid \ell \qquad v ::= \dots \mid \ell \qquad \ell ::= \diamond$

$$\frac{\ell_1 = \ell_2}{\ell_1 \times \ell_2 = \{\}}$$

3.1.1 Procedures

$$t ::= \dots \mid f \quad p ::= \dots \mid f \quad v ::= \dots \mid f \ell \quad f ::= \dots$$

$$\frac{\text{call}(f_1, \ell_{21}, \ell_{22}, \dots, \ell_{2n}) = \ell'_1, \ell'_2, \dots, \ell'_m \quad n, m \geq 1}{f_1 \ell_{21} \ell_{22} \dots \ell_{2n} \rightsquigarrow \ell'_1 \ell'_2 \dots \ell'_m} \text{PRO}$$

3.1.2 Numbers

$$\ell ::= \dots \mid n \quad f ::= \dots \mid = \mid > \mid < \mid + \mid - \mid * \mid /$$

$$\text{fib} = \phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} n \text{ if } < n \ 2 & 1 \\ n & (\text{fib} - n \ 1) \text{ fib} - n \ 2 \end{array} \right]$$

fib 3

$\rightsquigarrow + (\text{fib} - 3 \ 1) \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + (\text{fib} \ 2) \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + (+ (\text{fib} - 2 \ 1) \text{ fib} - 2 \ 2) \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + (+ (\text{fib} \ 1) \text{ fib} - 2 \ 2) \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + (+ 1 \text{ fib} - 2 \ 2) \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + (+ 1 \text{ fib} \ 0) \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + (+ 1 \ 1) \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + 2 \text{ fib} - 3 \ 2$
 $\rightsquigarrow + 2 \text{ fib} \ 1$
 $\rightsquigarrow + 2 \ 1$
 $\rightsquigarrow 3$

3.1.3 Booleans

$$\ell ::= \dots \mid \top \mid \perp$$

$$\text{not} = \phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \perp & \top \\ - & \perp \end{array} \right] \quad \text{and} = \mu(a \ b). \phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \perp & \perp \\ - & b \end{array} \right] a \quad \text{or} = \mu(a \ b). \phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \perp & b \\ x & x \end{array} \right] a$$

$$\text{xor} = \mu(a \ b). \phi \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \perp & b \\ x & \text{and} (\text{not } b) \ x \end{array} \right] a$$

$\text{or} (\text{not } \top) \text{ and } (\text{xor } \top \ \top) \ \top$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{or } \perp \text{ and } (\text{xor } \top \ \top) \ \top$
 $\rightsquigarrow \text{and } (\text{xor } \top \ \top) \ \top$

\rightsquigarrow and $(\text{and } (\text{not } \top) \top) \top$
 \rightsquigarrow and $(\text{and } \perp \top) \top$
 \rightsquigarrow and $\perp \top$
 $\rightsquigarrow \perp$

3.1.4 Lists

$\ell ::= \dots \mid \ell \ell$

3.2 Pattern Guards

$p ::= \dots \mid p \text{ if } t$

$$\frac{p_1 \times t_3 = \sigma_1 \quad \sigma_1(t_2) \rightsquigarrow^* v_2 \neq \perp}{(p_1 \text{ if } t_2) \times t_3 = \sigma_1}$$