The functional kernel language



- Now we have seen all the concepts in the functional paradigm that we will use
 - We can define its full kernel language
- We will use this kernel language to understand exactly what a functional program does
 - We have used it to see why list functions are tail-recursive
 - We will use it as part of the formal semantics (in lesson 6)
- Each time we introduce a new paradigm in the course we will define its kernel language
 - Each extends the functional kernel language with a new concept

The functional kernel language (in part)



- <v> ::= <number> | ! ...
- <number> ::= <int> | <float>
- ::= nil | <x> | <x> '|' <list>

The functional kernel language (in part)



```
• <s> ::= skip

| <s>1 <s>2

| local <x> in <s> end

| <xx>1 =<xx>2

| <xx>=<v>

| if <x> then <s>1 else <s>2 end

| proc {<x> <x>1 ... <x>n} <s> end
1. Procedure declarations (should be values)
```

case <x> of then <s>1 else <s>2 end

- <v> ::= <number> | !:= <number> | ...
- <number> ::= <int> | <float>
- ::= nil | <x> | <x> '|' t>

2. Compound types (should be more than lists only)

The functional kernel language (in part)



1. Procedures are values in memory (like numbers and lists)

- <v> ::= <number> | | ist> | ...
- <number> ::= <int> | <float>
- o cedure> ::= proc {\$ <x>1 ... <x>n} <s> end
- ::= nil | <x> | <x> '|' t>

The functional kernel language (complete)



- <v> ::= <number> | + list> | <record>
- <number> ::= <int> | <float>
- o cedure> ::= proc {\$ <x>1 ... <x>n} <s> end
- <record>, ::= | | (<f>1:<x>1 ... <f>n:<x>n)

2. Records subsume lists

The functional kernel language (complete)



- <v> ::= <number> | | <record>
- <number> ::= <int> | <float>
- o cedure> ::= proc {\$ <x>1 ... <x>n} <s> end
- <record>, ::= | | (<f>1:<x>1 ... <f>n:<x>n)

Kernel language of the functional paradigm



- <v> ::= <number> | | <record>
- <number> ::= <int> | <float>
- o cedure> ::= proc {\$ <x>1 ... <x>n} <s> end
- <record>, ::= | (<f>1:<x>1 ... <f>n:<x>n)

Three ways to understand languages



Approach

Kernel language

Aid the programmer

in reasoning and

understanding

translation

Foundational calculus

Practical programming language

> Virtual machine

Motivation

All the kernel languages of this course Mathematical study of programming

Efficient execution on a real machine

Examples

λ calculus. π calculus

Java Virtual Machine (JVM)

