

Logic and Functional Programming

Basic Elements of LISP

Dr. Cristian-Paul Bara

Computer Science Department
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science,
Babeş Bolyai University,
Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Table of Contents

LISP Functions

LISP Functions

- ▶ (LIST $e_1 e_2 \dots e_n$): list
- ▶ Forms the list of the arguments

(LIST 'A 'B) = (A B)

(LIST '(A B) 'C) = ((A B) C)

(LIST 'A) = (A) \leftrightarrow (CONS A NIL)

(LIST '(A B C) NIL) = ((A B C) NIL)

LISP Functions

- ▶ (APPEND $e_1 e_2 \dots e_n$): list
- ▶ Repeatedly calls CONS on the last two element and returns the resulting list
- ▶ If the arguments are lists it effectively concatenates them
- ▶ In CLISP the arguments cannot be atoms, except for the last one
- ▶ Memory inefficient, the first argument is always copied before being linked to the next

(APPEND '(A B) '(C D)) = (A B C D)

(APPEND '(A B) 'C) = (A B . C)

(APPEND '(A B C) '()) = (A B C)

LISP Functions

- ▶ (ATOM *e*): T,NIL
- ▶ T if the argument is an atom or NIL otherwise
 - (ATOM 'A) = T
 - (ATOM A) = depends to what A evaluates to
 - (ATOM '(A B C)) = NIL
 - (ATOM NIL) = T

LISP Functions

- ▶ (LISTP e) : T, NIL
▶ T if the argument is a list or NIL otherwise

(LISTP 'A) = NIL

(LISTP A) = T A evaluates to a list

(LISTP '(A B C)) = T

(LISTP NIL) = T

LISP Functions

- ▶ (EQUAL $e_1 e_2$) : T, NIL
- ▶ T if the arguments have the same structure

(EQUAL '(A B) '(A B)) = T

(EQUAL '(A B) '(A (B))) = NIL

(EQUAL 3.0 3.0) = T

(EQUAL 8 8) = T

(EQUAL 'a 'a) = T

LISP Functions

- ▶ (*NULL e*) : T, NIL - T is the argument evaluates to an ampty list or NIL atom, or NIL otherwise
- ▶ (*NUMBERP e*): T,NIL - T if the argument is a number, NIL otherwise
- ▶ (*NOT e*): T,NIL - T if the argument evaluates to NIL, NIL otherwise. Equivalent tu *NULL*
- ▶ (*AND e₁ e₂ ... e_n*): T,NIL - Evaluated left to right until the first NIL in which case it returns NIL, or the value of the last argument
- ▶ (*OR e₁ e₂ ... e_n*): T,NIL - Evaluated left to right until the first value other than NIL in which case it returns that value, or NIL otherwise
(*OR (cdr l) (car l)*) will return (*cdr l*) if (*cdr l*) is not NIL or (*car l*) otherwise

(or (cdr ()) (car '(3 4))) → 3

(or (cdr '(1 2)) (car '(3 4))) → (2)

LISP Functions

- ▶ Arithmetic Operators:

(+ $n_1 n_2 \dots$); (- $n_1 n_2 \dots$); (* $n_1 n_2 \dots$);
(/ $n_1 n_2 \dots$); (MAX $n_1 n_2 \dots$); (MIN $n_1 n_2 \dots$)

- ▶ Relational Operators

= for numbers only, <, <=, >, >=

LISP Functions

- ▶ (COND
 - (*<conditional expression>* *<return expression>*)
 - (*<conditional expression>* *<return expression>*)
 - ...
 - (t *<default return expression>*))
- ▶ (COND
 - ((> x 5) (cons 'a '(b)))
 - (t 'a))
- ▶ returns (a b) for x=7 and a for x=4

LISP Functions

- ▶ (DEFUN <*function name*> (<*arguments*>)
 <*symbolic expression*>
 <*symbolic expression*>
 ...
 <*symbolic expression*>
 <*symbolic expression to be returned*>
)
- ▶ (DEFUN MAX (X Y)
 (COND
 ((> X Y) X)
 (T Y))
)

LISP Functions

- ▶ DEFUN can redefine inbuilt functions
- ▶ (DEFUN f (l)
 (CAR l)
)
▶ (DEFUN f (l₁ l₂)
 (CDR l₂)
)
▶ In case a function is redefine with a different arity the last one is kept.
 $(f '(1 2 3))$ will throw an error while $(f '(1 2) '(3 4))$ will return (4)

LISP Functions

- ▶ What does this function return for (F 2 5) or (F 5 2)?

- ▶ (DEFUN F (X Y)
 (COND
 ((< X Y) X)
 (T Y))
 Y)

LISP Functions

- ▶ What does this function return for (F 2 5) or (F 5 2)?
- ▶ (DEFUN F (X Y)
 (COND
 ((< X Y) X)
 (T Y))
 Y)
- ▶ (F 2 5) → 5
- ▶ (F 5 2) → 2

How to Install

- ▶ Ubuntu: \$ sudo apt-get -y install clisp
- ▶ Mac: \$ brew install clisp
- ▶ Windows: Click [here](#) to download