



# Language Module

[smlhelp.github.io](https://smlhelp.github.io) – Auxiliary Library

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# 1 Decision Problems

## Defn. 1 (Set of values)

For any type  $\mathsf{t}$ , write  $\text{Values}(\mathsf{t})$  to denote the set of all values of type  $\mathsf{t}$  (up to extensional equivalence).

## Example 2

- $\text{Values}(\text{bool}) = \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$
- $\text{Values}(\text{bool} \rightarrow \text{bool}) = \{\text{not}, \text{Fn.id}, (\text{fn } \_ \Rightarrow \text{true}), (\text{fn } \_ \Rightarrow \text{false})\}$

## Defn. 3

A **decision problem** of type  $\mathsf{t}$  is a subset

$$L \subseteq \text{Values}(\mathsf{t})$$

## Defn. 4

A decision problem  $L \subseteq \text{Values}(\mathsf{t})$  is said to be **decidable** if there is a **total** value  $D : \mathsf{t} \rightarrow \text{bool}$  such that

$$D(v) \implies \text{true} \quad \text{iff} \quad v \in L$$

for all values  $v : \mathsf{t}$ . In this case, we say that  $D$  **decides** (or **computes**)  $L$

## Example 5

The *subset sum problem* is a family of decision problems of type  $\text{int list}$ , one for each value  $n : \text{int}$

$$\text{SUBSETSUM}_n = \{l \in \text{Values}(\text{int list}) \mid \text{foldr op+ } 0 \ l \cong n\}$$

For each  $n$ , the problem  $\text{SUBSETSUM}_n$  is decidable: we can define a total function

$$\text{subsetSum } n : \text{int list} \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

such that  $\text{subsetSum } n \ l \implies \text{true}$  iff  $\text{foldr op+ } 0 \ l \cong n$ .

## Defn. 6

Given a total function  $D : \mathsf{t} \rightarrow \text{bool}$ , define the **language** of  $D$  to be the set

$$\mathcal{L}(D) = \{v \in \text{Values}(\mathsf{t}) \mid D(v) \implies \text{true}\}.$$

**Defn. 7**

An **equality type** is any type  $\mathbf{t}$  such that

$$(\text{op } =) : \mathbf{t} * \mathbf{t} \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

is well-typed, i.e. any type whose values we can compare with the  $=$  and  $<>$  operators.

**Defn. 8**

Given an equality type  $\mathbf{Sigma}$ , a **decision problem over the alphabet  $\mathbf{Sigma}$**  is a subset

$$L \subseteq \text{Values}(\mathbf{Sigma} \text{ list}).$$

## 2 Specification

**Note 9**

Throughout,  $\mathbf{Sigma}$  will denote some equality type, the type of our “alphabet”. Though some of our results will hold when  $\mathbf{Sigma}$  is allowed to be a general polymorphic type (e.g. [Lemma 14](#)), we are mainly concerned with situations where  $\mathbf{Sigma}$  is an equality type (and the values `singleton` and `just` demand that  $\mathbf{Sigma}$  be an equality type).

A paradigm example is to take

```
1 type Sigma = char
```

**Lemma 10**

For any total function  $D : \mathbf{Sigma} \text{ list} \rightarrow \text{bool}$  and any subset  $L \subseteq \text{Values}(\mathbf{Sigma} \text{ list})$ , the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $D$  computes  $L$  ([Defn. 4](#))
- (2) For *all* values  $v : \mathbf{Sigma} \text{ list}$ ,

$$D(v) \implies \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } v \in L \\ \text{false} & \text{if } v \notin L \end{cases}$$

- 1.  $\mathcal{L}(D) = L$  ([Defn. 6](#))

**Type Spec**

```
'S language = 'S list -> bool
```

**Value Spec**

`everything : 'S language`

**ENSURES:** `everything : Sigma language` is a total function computing the decision problem `Values(Sigma list)` over the alphabet `Sigma`.

**Value Spec**

`nothing : 'S language`

**ENSURES:** `nothing : Sigma language` is a total function computing the decision problem  $\emptyset$ .

**Value Spec**

`singleton : ''S list -> ''S language`

**ENSURES:** `(singleton v) : Sigma language` is a total function computing the decision problem  $\{v\}$

**Value Spec**

`just : ''S list list -> ''S language`

**ENSURES:** `(just [v1, v2, ..., vn]) : Sigma language` is a total function computing the decision problem  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$

**Value Spec**

`Or : 'S language * 'S language -> 'S language`

**REQUIRES:** L1 and L2 are total

**ENSURES:** `Or (L1, L2)` is a total function such that

$$\mathcal{L}(\text{Or}(L1, L2)) = \mathcal{L}(L1) \cup \mathcal{L}(L2)$$

**Value Spec**

`And : 'S language * 'S language -> 'S language`

**REQUIRES:** L1 and L2 are total

**ENSURES:** `And (L1, L2)` is a total function such that

$$\mathcal{L}(\text{And}(L1, L2)) = \mathcal{L}(L1) \cap \mathcal{L}(L2)$$

**Value Spec**

`Not : 'S language -> 'S language`

**REQUIRES:** L is total

**ENSURES:** For any  $L : \text{Sigma language}$ ,  $\text{Not}(L)$  is a total function such that

$$\mathcal{L}(\text{Not}(L)) = \text{Values}(\text{Sigma list}) \setminus \mathcal{L}(L)$$

### Value Spec

$\text{Xor} : 'S \text{ language} * 'S \text{ language} \rightarrow 'S \text{ language}$

**REQUIRES:**  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are total

**ENSURES:**  $\text{Xor}(L_1, L_2)$  is a total function such that

$$\mathcal{L}(\text{Xor}(L_1, L_2)) = \mathcal{L}(\text{Or}(L_1, L_2)) \setminus \mathcal{L}(\text{And}(L_1, L_2))$$

### Value Spec

$\text{lengthEqual} : \text{int} \rightarrow 'S \text{ language}$

**REQUIRES:**  $n \geq 0$

**ENSURES:**  $\text{lengthEqual } n$  is a total function such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\text{lengthEqual } n) \\ = \{s \in \text{Values}(\text{Sigma list}) \mid ((\text{List.length } s) = n) \implies \text{true}\} \end{aligned}$$

### Value Spec

$\text{lengthLess} : \text{int} \rightarrow 'S \text{ language}$

**REQUIRES:**  $n \geq 0$

**ENSURES:**  $\text{lengthLess } n$  is a total function such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\text{lengthLess } n) \\ = \{s \in \text{Values}(\text{Sigma list}) \mid ((\text{List.length } s) < n) \implies \text{true}\} \end{aligned}$$

### Value Spec

$\text{lengthGreater} : \text{int} \rightarrow 'S \text{ language}$

**REQUIRES:**  $n \geq 0$

**ENSURES:**  $\text{lengthGreater } n$  is a total function such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(\text{lengthGreater } n) \\ = \{s \in \text{Values}(\text{Sigma list}) \mid ((\text{List.length } s) > n) \implies \text{true}\} \end{aligned}$$

### 3 Implementation

aux-library: Language.sml

```
31 type 'S language = 'S list -> bool
32
33 fun everything (x:'S list) = true
34 fun nothing (x : 'S list) = false
35
36 val singleton = Fn.equal
37 fun just ([] : ''S list list) s = false
38   | just (x::xs) s = (s=x) orelse just xs s
39
40 fun Or (L1,L2) s = (L1 s) orelse (L2 s)
41 fun And (L1,L2) s = (L1 s) andalso (L2 s)
42 fun Not L = not o L
43 fun Xor (L1,L2) s = (L1 s) <> (L2 s)
44
45 fun lengthEqual n s = (List.length s)=n
46 fun lengthLess n s = (List.length s)<n
47 fun lengthGreater n s = (List.length s)>n
48
49 fun str L = L o String.explode
```

## 4 Lemmas

Throughout,  $L, L1, L2, L3 : \text{Sigma language}$  are total.

### Prop 11 (Totality)

All values of the `Sigma language` type produced using the `Language` module methods are total:

- `everything` is total
- `nothing` is total
- For any value  $v : \text{Sigma list}$ , `(singleton v)` is total
- For any value  $l : \text{Sigma list list}$ , `(just l)` is total
- All the curried higher-order functions (`singleton`, `just`, `Or`, `And`, `Not`, `Xor`, `lengthEqual`, `lengthLess`, `lengthGreater`, and `str`) are all *total* in the trivial sense: upon being supplied one argument, they evaluate to a value (a function expecting the next curried argument)
- If  $L1, L2 : \text{Sigma language}$  are total,
  - `Or (L1, L2)` is total
  - `And (L1, L2)` is total
  - `Not (L1)` is total
  - `Xor (L1, L2)` is total
- For any  $n \geq 0$ ,
  - `lengthEqual n` is total
  - `lengthLess n` is total
  - `lengthGreater n` is total
- If  $L : \text{char language}$  is total, so too is `str L`

*Proof.* We prove several paradigmatic cases, and the others can be done similarly.

Recall `just` is implemented as

aux-library: Language.sml

```

37 fun just ([] : ''S list list) s = false
38   | just (x::xs) s = (s=x) orelse just xs s

```

So we can prove the totality of `(just l)` by structural induction on  $l : \text{Sigma list list}$ . The base case is immediate: for any value  $s : \text{Sigma list}$ , `just [] s`  $\implies$

`false`, a value. Inductively assuming `just xs s` valuable, then we can see that `(just (x::xs) s)` is also valuable, since `(s=x)` is valuable and, if `(s=x)` evaluates to `false`, then

$$\text{just } (x::xs) \text{ s} \implies \text{just } xs \text{ s}$$

which our IH tells us is valuable, completing the proof.

Recall `And` is implemented as

aux-library: Language.sml

```
41 fun And (L1,L2) s = (L1 s) andalso (L2 s)
```

so if `L1` and `L2` are total, then `(L1 s)` and `(L2 s)` are valuable, hence `(L1 s) andalso (L2 s)` is valuable, proving `And(L1,L2)` total.

Taking for granted that `List.length` is total, it follows that the expression `(List.length s)=n` is valuable. Since this is the body of `lengthEqual n s`, we get that `lengthEqual n` is total.

Proving the totality of `str L` from the totality of `L` is a straightforward consequence of the totality of `String.explode`.  $\square$

## Lemma 12

$$\text{just} \cong (\text{foldr } \text{Or } \text{nothing}) \circ (\text{map } \text{singleton})$$

*Proof.* It suffices to show that for all values `l : Sigma list list`,

$$\text{just } l \cong \text{foldr } \text{Or } \text{nothing } (\text{map } \text{singleton } l)$$

which we do by structural induction on `l`.

**BC** `l = []`. Pick arbitrary `s : Sigma list`. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{just } [] \text{ s} & \\ &\cong \text{false} && (\text{Defn. just}) \\ &\cong \text{nothing } s && (\text{Defn. nothing}) \\ &\cong (\text{foldr } \text{Or } \text{nothing } []) \text{ s} && (\text{Defn. foldr}) \\ &\cong (\text{foldr } \text{Or } \text{nothing } (\text{map } \text{singleton } [])) \text{ s} && (\text{Defn. map}) \end{aligned}$$

Establishing that `just []  $\cong$  foldr Or nothing (map singleton [])`.

**IH** Suppose for some `xs : Sigma list list` that

$$\text{just } xs \cong \text{foldr } \text{Or } \text{nothing } (\text{map } \text{singleton } xs)$$

Now pick some `x : Sigma list`. We'll show that

$$\text{just } (x::xs) \cong \text{foldr } \text{Or } \text{nothing } (\text{map } \text{singleton } (x::xs))$$



Pick arbitrary  $s : \text{Sigma list}$ .

```

just (x::xs) s
≅ (s=x) otherwise just xs s                                (Defn. just)
≅ (x=s) otherwise just xs s                                (Symmetry of =)
≅ (Fn.equal x s) otherwise just xs s                       (Defn. Fn.equal)
≅ (singleton x s) otherwise just xs s                     (Defn. singleton)
≅ (singleton x s) otherwise (foldr Or nothing (map singleton xs)) s
IH
≅ Or(singleton x, (foldr Or nothing (map singleton xs))) s
   (Defn. Or, Prop. 11, higher-order totality of map and foldr)
≅ (foldr Or nothing ((singleton x)::(map singleton xs))) s
   (Defn. foldr, Prop. 11, higher-order totality of map)
≅ (foldr Or nothing (map singleton (x::xs))) s             (Defn. map)

```

so we're done.  $\square$

### Cor. 13

$$\text{nothing} \cong \text{just } []$$

### Lemma 14

For any total  $L, L1, L2, L3 : \text{Sigma language}$ , the following equivalences hold

- $\text{And}(L1, \text{And}(L2, L3)) \cong \text{And}(\text{And}(L1, L2), L3)$
- $\text{And}(L1, L2) \cong \text{And}(L2, L1)$
- $\text{Or}(L1, \text{Or}(L2, L3)) \cong \text{Or}(\text{Or}(L1, L2), L3)$
- $\text{Or}(L1, L2) \cong \text{Or}(L2, L1)$
- $\text{And}(L, \text{everything}) \cong L \cong \text{And}(\text{everything}, L)$
- $\text{Or}(L, \text{nothing}) \cong L \cong \text{Or}(\text{nothing}, L)$
- $\text{Not}(\text{Not}(L)) \cong L$
- $\text{Or}(L1, \text{And}(L1, L2)) \cong L1 \cong \text{And}(L1, \text{Or}(L1, L2))$
- $\text{Or}(L1, \text{And}(L2, L3)) \cong \text{And}(\text{Or}(L1, L2), \text{Or}(L1, L3))$   
 $\text{And}(L1, \text{Or}(L2, L3)) \cong \text{Or}(\text{And}(L1, L2), \text{And}(L1, L3))$

- $\text{And}(L, \text{Not } L) \cong \text{nothing}$   
 $\text{Or}(L, \text{Not } L) \cong \text{everything}$

### Lemma 15

For all values  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\text{Not}(\text{lengthGreater } n) \cong \text{Or}(\text{lengthEqual } n, \text{lengthLess } n)$$

*Proof.* Pick arbitrary  $s : \text{Sigma list}$ , and let  $m$  denote the value of  $\text{List.length } s$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (\text{Not}(\text{lengthGreater } n)) s \\
 & \cong \text{not}(\text{lengthGreater } n s) && (\text{Defn. Not, Prop. 11}) \\
 & \cong \text{not}((\text{List.length } s) > n) && (\text{Defn. lengthGreater}) \\
 & \cong \text{not } (m > n) && (\text{Defn. m}) \\
 & \cong m = n \text{ or else } m < n && (\text{math}) \\
 & \cong ((\text{List.length } s) = n) \text{ or else } ((\text{List.length } s) < n) && (\text{Defn. m}) \\
 & \cong (\text{lengthEqual } n s) \text{ or else } (\text{lengthLess } n s) && (\text{Defn. lengthEqual and lengthLess}) \\
 & \cong (\text{Or}(\text{lengthEqual } n, \text{lengthLess } n)) s && (\text{Defn. Or, Prop. 11})
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

This proof can be modified to prove similar equivalences, e.g.

$$\text{Not}(\text{lengthLess } n) \cong \text{Or}(\text{lengthEqual } n, \text{lengthGreater } n).$$