HW 21

Due: 23 November 2010

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COSC 3015

1 Parsing lambda terms

In class we presented a type to represent the abstract syntax of of lambda terms. In this assignment you will write code to parse terms and to build elements of the data type Term defined as follows:

We also presented some concrete syntax for this language which is slightly modified here to simplify the assignment. A right recursive BNF specification for the language of lambda terms with pairing and spreads is given as follows:

```
 \begin{array}{llll} term & ::= & term1 & (term \mid \epsilon) \\ term1 & ::= & identifier \\ & & \mid \text{``lambda''} & identifier ''.'' & term \\ & & \mid \text{``spread''} \text{''}(" & term ''," ''<" & identifier ''," & identifier ''," & identifier ''," & term '')" \\ & & & \mid \text{`'}(" & term ''," & term '')" \end{array}
```

A term is a white-space separated sequence of one or more elements of the term1 syntactic class. If there is more than one term1 in the sequence then it is interpreted as an application (an Ap) which associates to the left¹.

Thus:

```
*Lambda_parser> applyParser pTerm "x y z" Ap (Ap (V "x") (V "y")) (V "z")
```

Elements of the syntactic class *term1* take one of the following forms: it is an *identifier*; it is an abstraction which starts with the keyword **lambda**; it is a spread which starts with the keyword **spread**; it is a pairing term which consists of a pair of terms enclosed in angled brackets or it is a *term* which is enclosed in parenthesis.

You can build your *identifier* parser with the parser identifier (which is in the file *Parser.hs*) though you need to make sure that the keywords spread and lambda are *not* included among the class of identifiers for this language.

Exercise 1.1. Write Term parsers pAbs for abstractions (lambda terms), pSpread for spread terms, pPair for pair terms, a parser pParenTermfor terms enclosed in parenthesis, and the pTerm1 parser for the class term1.

Exercise 1.2 (Extra credit) Extend your parser for abstractions so that it allows one or more variable names between the keyword lambda and the ".". Do not change the type Term, simply generate nested Abs terms as the following examples show.

¹Since left associativity is a bit tricky to implement in the parser, I have provided code for the term parser.

```
*Lambda_parser> applyParser pTerm "lambda x . x"
Abs "x" (V "x")

*Lambda_parser> applyParser pTerm "lambda x y . y x"
Abs "x" (Abs "y" (Ap (V "y") (V "x")))

*Lambda_parser> applyParser pTerm "lambda x y . z"
Abs "x" (Abs "y" (V "z"))
```