

Exercises week 14

Exercise 14.1 (The purpose of this question is to review Haskell programming. If you are confident with Haskell, skip to the next question.)

Define the following functions in Haskell:

- A function `max2 :: Int -> Int -> Int` that returns the largest of its two integer arguments. For instance, `max2 99 3` should give 99.
- A function `max3 :: Int -> Int -> Int -> Int` that returns the largest of its three integer arguments.
- A function `isPositive :: [Int] -> Bool` so that `isPositive xs` returns true if all elements of `xs` are greater than 0, and false otherwise.
- A function `isSorted :: [Int] -> Bool` so that `isSorted xs` returns true if the elements of `xs` appear sorted in non-decreasing order, and false otherwise. For instance, the list `[11, 12, 12]` is sorted, but `[12, 11, 12]` is not. Note that the empty list `[]` and any one-element list such as `[23]` are sorted.
- A function `count :: IntTree -> Int` that counts the number of internal nodes (`Br` constructors) in an `IntTree`, where the type `IntTree` is defined by:

```
data IntTree = Br Int IntTree IntTree | Lf
```

That is, `count (Br 37 (Br 117 Lf Lf) (Br 42 Lf Lf))` should give 3, and `count Lf` should give 0.

- A function `depth :: IntTree -> Int` that measures the depth of an `IntTree`, that is, the maximal number of internal nodes (`Br` constructors) on a path from the root to a leaf. For instance, `depth (Br 37 (Br 117 Lf Lf) (Br 42 Lf Lf))` should give 2, and `depth Lf` should give 0.

Exercise 14.2 (i) File `Intro2.hs` on the course homepage contains a definition of the lecture's `Expr` expression language and an evaluation function `eval`. Extend the `eval` function to handle three additional operators: `"max"`, `"min"`, and `"=="`. Like the existing operators, they take two argument expressions. The equals operator should return 1 when true and 0 when false.

(ii) Write some example expressions in this extended expression language, using abstract syntax, and evaluate them using your new `eval` function.

(iii) Rewrite one of the `eval` functions to evaluate the arguments of a primitive before branching out on the operator, in this style:

```
eval :: Expr -> [(String, Int)] -> Int
eval (CstI i) env = ...
eval (Var x) env = ...
eval (Prim op e1 e2) env
  = let i1 = ...
      i2 = ...
      in case op of
          "+" -> i1 + i2
          ...
```

(iv) Extend the expression language with conditional expressions `If e1 e2 e3` corresponding to Haskell's conditional expression `if e1 then e2 else e3`.

You need to extend the `Expr` datatype with a new constructor `If` that takes three `Expr` arguments.

(v) Extend the interpreter function `eval` correspondingly. It should evaluate `e1`, and if `e1` is non-zero, then evaluate `e2`, else evaluate `e3`. You should be able to evaluate this expression `If (Var "a") (CstI 11) (CstI 22)` in an environment that binds variable `a`.

Note that various strange and non-standard interpretations of the conditional expression are possible. For instance, the interpreter might start by testing whether expressions `e2` and `e3` are syntactically identical, in which case there is no need to evaluate `e1`, only `e2` (or `e3`). Although possible, this is rarely useful.

Exercise 14.3 (i) Declare an alternative datatype `AExpr` for a representation of arithmetic expressions without let-bindings. The datatype should have constructors `CstI`, `Var`, `Add`, `Mul`, `Sub`, for constants, variables, addition, multiplication, and subtraction.

The idea is that we can represent $x * (y + 3)$ as `Mul (Var "x") (Add (Var "y") (CstI 3))` instead of `Prim "*" (Var "x") (Prim "+" (Var "y") (CstI 3))`.

(ii) Write the representation of the expressions $v - (w + z)$ and $2 * (v - (w + z))$ and $x + y + z + v$.

(iii) Write a Haskell function `fmt :: AExpr -> String` to format expressions as strings. For instance, it may format `Sub (Var "x") (CstI 34)` as the string `"(x - 34)"`. It has very much the same structure as an `eval` function, but takes no environment argument (because the *name* of a variable is independent of its *value*).

(iv) Write a Haskell function `simplify :: AExpr -> AExpr` to perform expression simplification. For instance, it should simplify $(x + 0)$ to x , and simplify $(1 + 0)$ to 1 . The more ambitious student may want to simplify $(1 + 0) * (x + 0)$ to x . Hint 1: Pattern matching is your friend. Hint 2: Don't forget the case where you cannot simplify anything.

You might consider the following simplifications, plus any others you find useful and correct:

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 0 + e & \longrightarrow & e \\
 e + 0 & \longrightarrow & e \\
 e - 0 & \longrightarrow & e \\
 1 * e & \longrightarrow & e \\
 e * 1 & \longrightarrow & e \\
 0 * e & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 e * 0 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 e - e & \longrightarrow & 0
 \end{array}$$

Exercise 14.4 Write a version of the formatting function `fmt` from the preceding exercise that avoids producing excess parentheses.

For instance,

```
Mul (Sub (Var "a") (Var "b")) (Var "c")
```

should be formatted as `"(a-b)*c"` instead of `"((a-b)*c)"`, whereas

```
Sub (Mul (Var "a") (Var "b")) (Var "c")
```

should be formatted as `"a*b-c"` instead of `"((a*b)-c)"`.

Also, it should be taken into account that operators associate to the left, so that

```
Sub (Sub (Var "a") (Var "b")) (Var "c")
```

is formatted as `"a-b-c"` whereas

```
Sub (Var "a") (Sub (Var "b") (Var "c"))
```

is formatted as `"a-(b-c)"`.

Hint: This can be achieved by declaring the formatting function to take an extra parameter `pre` that indicates the precedence or binding strength of the context. The new formatting function then has type `fmt :: AExpr -> Int -> String`.

Higher precedence means stronger binding. When the top-most operator of an expression to be formatted has higher precedence than the context, there is no need for parentheses around the expression. A left associative operator of precedence 6, such as minus (`-`), provides context precedence 5 to its left argument, and context precedence 6 to its right argument.

As a consequence, `Sub (Var "a") (Sub (Var "b") (Var "c"))` will be parenthesized `a - (b - c)` but `Sub (Sub (Var "a") (Var "b")) (Var "c")` will be parenthesized `a - b - c`.