Common Lisp and Introduction to Functional Programming Lecture 9: Functional Data Structures 2/2

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Functional Data Structures

- Persistent data structures are data structures that allow multiple versions of the data structure to exist at the same time.
- Ephemeral data structures are data structures that allow only a single version to exist at a time.
- In functional programming languages all data structures are persistent.

Structure Sharing

- Every operation that updates a persistent data structures, creates a new version of the data structure with the contents that correspond to the updated data.
- Persistent data structures are inefficient when fully copied.
- Efficiency can be achieved by utilizing structure sharing.
- Common Lisp's list is a persistent data structure.
- More complex structure-sharing data structures can be built on lists.

Stacks 1/2

- Stack is an a collection of elements with two operations:
 - push add an element to the collection,
 - pop remove the most recently added element from the collection (LIFO, Last In, First Out).
- Common Lisp has built-in destructive operations push and pop for using lists as stacks:

```
CL-USER> (setq s '(1 2 3))
(1 2 3)
CL-USER> (push 0 s)
(0 1 2 3)
CL-USER> (pop s)
0
CL-USER> s
(1 2 3)
```

Stacks 2/2

Functional stack can be trivially implemented as follows:

```
;; Simply construct a new list with a new element at its head.
(defun stack-push (e s)
   (cons e s))

;; Return both the top stack value and the new version of stack.
(defun stack-pop (s)
   (values (car s) (cdr s)))
```

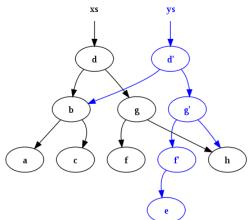
Example:

Dictionaries

- Dictionary or finite map is a collections of key-value associations:
 - insert add a key-value association,
 - delete remove an association between a key and its value,
 - lookup find an associated value for a given key.
- Dictionaries can be represented with lists (e.g. built-in plist and alist structures).
- Sequential representation is inefficient:
 - **insert** is O(1), but
 - **delete** is O(n) and
 - **lookup** is O(n) as well.

Trees

- Structure-sharing dictionary can be implemented with the tree data structure.
- Example: operation that inserts new node e, must created new nodes d', g' and f', but can share nodes b and all its children.



Binary Search Trees 1/5

- Binary search tree (BST) is a rooted binary tree whose internal nodes each store a key
 - each node contains a key and, optionally, an associated value,
 - each node has two subtrees (children), denoted left and right,
 - binary search property: for every node its key is greater than all the keys in the node's left subtree and less than those in its right subtree.
- On average, binary tree allows for significantly more efficient operations (still O(n) in the worst case):
 - **insert** is $O(\log n)$,
 - **delete** is $O(\log n)$,
 - **lookup** is $O(\log n)$.

Binary Search Trees 2/5

 Binary search trees can be built on top of lists using the following abstraction:

```
(defun make-tree ()
 nil)
(defun make-node (key value left right)
  (list key value left right))
(defun node-key (node)
  (first node))
(defun node-value (node)
  (second node))
(defun node-left-child (node)
  (third node))
(defun node-right-child (node)
  (fourth node))
```

Binary Search Trees 3/5

Insert operation works as follows:

```
(defun tree-insert (node key value)
  (cond ((null node)
         (make-node key value nil nil))
        ((string= key (node-key node))
         (make-node key
                    value
                    (node-left-child node)
                    (node-right-child node)))
        ((string< key (node-key node))
         (make-node (node-key node)
                    (node-value node)
                    (tree-insert (node-left-child node) key value)
                    (node-right-child node)))
        (t ;; (string> key (node-key node))
         (make-node (node-key node)
                    (node-value node)
                    (node-left-child node)
                    (tree-insert (node-right-child node) key value)))))
```

Binary Search Trees 4/5

• Lookup operation is straightforward:

Binary Search Trees 5/5

- Delete operation is slightly more complicated because the binary search property must be preserved, so the tree must be rebalanced.
- If the values being inserted are **ordered**, the tree becomes **degenerate** and will provide worst case O(n) performance.
- Self-balancing structures like red-black trees can be used to mitigate that.

Queues 1/5

- Queue is a collection of entities that can be modified by the addition of entities at one end of the sequence and the removal of entities from the other end of the sequence.
- By convention, the end of the sequence where elements are added is called the back or tail of the queue.
- The end where elements are removed is called the front or head of the queue.
- Queue data structure has two main operations:
 - enqueue add an element to the queue,
 - dequeue take an element from the queue in the FIFO (First In, First Out) order.

Queues 2/5

- Using list as a queue is inefficient, because only one operation can be implemented efficiently:
 - **enqueue** is O(1), then **dequeue** O(n) or
 - **dequeue** is O(1), then **enqueue** O(n).
- Efficient queue can be constructed by splitting the queue list into two parts:
 - first part, front, is sorted from the least recent to the most recent element.
 - second part, back, is sorted from the most recent to the least recent element,
 - enqueue operation adds a new element to the head of the front list.
 - dequeue operation takes the head of the back list as the result.

Queues 3/5

The following queue

$$Q = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)$$

is represented internally like this

Adding an element 6 to the queue results in

```
front: | 1 |-->| 2 |-->| 3 |-->|NIL|

+---+ +---+ +---+ +---+

back: | 6 |-->| 5 |-->| 4 |-->|NIL|

+---+ +---+ +---+ +---+
```

Taking an element from the queue results in

```
+--+ +---+ +---+

front: | 2 |-->| 3 |-->|NIL|

+--+ +---+ +---+

+---+ +---+ +---+ +---+

back: | 6 |-->| 5 |-->| 4 |-->|NIL|

+---+ +---+ +---+ +---+
```

Queues 4/5

- If the front of the queue is empty, but the back is not, we need to move the element from the back to the front:
 - before

```
+---+
front: |NIL|
+---+
+---+ +---+ +---+
back: | 6 | --> | 5 | --> | 4 | --> |NIL|
+---+ +---+ +---+ +---+
```

after

```
+--+ +--+ +--+ +--+
front: | 4 |-->| 5 |-->| 6 |-->|NIL|
+--+ +--+ +---+ +---+
back: |NIL|
+---+
```

Queues 5/5

- The queue implementation above satisfies the requirement
 - **enqueue** runs in O(1),
 - **dequeue** runs in O(1), O(n) in the worst case.
- The operation of moving the elements from the back to the front causes the worst case scenario for dequeue operation, but it only happens when the **front** is empty.
- The O(n) cost of moving the element from the back to the front is amortized across multiple O(1) operations.

Amortized Analysis 1/2

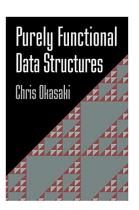
- Amortized analysis is an approach to complexity analysis that considers the possible sequences of operations instead of isolated operations.
- First formally introduced by Robert Tarjan in his 1985 paper Amortized Computational Complexity.
- The basic idea is that a worst-case operation can alter the state in such a way that the worst case cannot occur again for a long time, thus "amortizing" its cost.

Amortized Analysis 2/2

- Three main ways to perform amortized analysis:
 - the **aggregate method** (determine the upper bound T(n) on the total cost of a sequence of n operations, then calculate the amortized cost to be T(n)/n),
 - the accounting method, (operations have a cost higher than the actual cost, accumulating a saved "credit" that is used to "pay" for the later operations),
 - the **potential method** (operation has a cost and a change in potential, which is some function of the state of the data structure).

Useful Resources

 Purely Functional Data Structures by Chris Okasaki



The End

Thank you!