

Chapter 16: Introduction to Computational Programming

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November 12, 2025

Outline

- 1 Specification and Implementation
- 2 Problem Solving
- 3 Program Calculation

Specification and Implementation

- A **specification**
 - describes **what** task an algorithm is to perform,
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The **link** is that **the implementation should be proved to satisfy the specification.**

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- By **functions**: describing **straightforward functional mapping** from input to output of an algorithm, which is executable but could be terribly inefficient.

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Example: *increase*

The specification

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{increase} &:: \textit{Int} \rightarrow \textit{Int} \\ \textit{increase } x &> \textit{square } x \end{aligned}$$

says that the result of *increase* should be strictly greater than the square of its input, where $\textit{square } x = x * x$.

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Example: *increase* (continue)

One implementation is

$$\textit{increase } x = \textit{square } x + 1$$

which can be proved by the following simple calculation.

$$\begin{aligned} & \textit{increase } x \\ = & \quad \{ \text{definition of } \textit{increase} \} \\ & \textit{square } x + 1 \\ > & \quad \{ \text{arithmetic property} \} \\ & \textit{square } x \end{aligned}$$

Specifying Algorithms by Predicates (3/3)

Exercise

Give another implementation of *increase* and prove that your implementation meets its specification.

Specifying Algorithms by Functions (1/3)

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Example: *quad*

The specification for computing quadruple of a number can be described straightforwardly by

$$\textit{quad } x = x * x * x * x$$

which is not efficient in the sense that multiplications are used three times.

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Example: *quad* (continue)

We derive (develop) an efficient algorithm with only two multiplications by the following calculation.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & quad\ x \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{specification} \} \\
 & x * x * x * x \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{since } x \text{ is associative} \} \\
 & (x * x) * (x * x) \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{definition of } square \} \\
 & square\ x * square\ x \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{definition of } square \} \\
 & square\ (square\ x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Specifying Algorithms by Functions (3/3)

Exercise

Extend the idea in the derivation of efficient *quad* to develop an efficient algorithm for computing *exp* defined by

$$\text{exp}(x, n) = x^n.$$

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In this course, we consider functional specification.

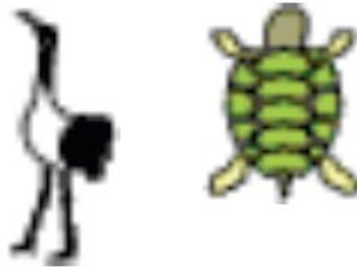
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Tsuru-Kame-Zan

The Tsuru-Kame Problem

Some cranes (tsuru) and tortoises (kame) are mixed in a cage. Known is that there are 6 heads and 20 legs. Find out the numbers of cranes and tortoises.



A Kindergarten Approach

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- A simple enumeration

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Primary School

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- Reasoning

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So there must be $6 - 4 = 2$ cranes.

Middle School

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- Algebra (Equation Theory)

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} x + y & = & 6 \\ 2x + 4y & = & 20 \end{array}$$

Middle School

- Algebra (Equation Theory)

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &= 6 \\ 2x + 4y &= 20\end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned}x &= 2 \\ y &= 4\end{aligned}$$

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- What are **weapons for solving programming problems**? Do we have an “equation theory” for constructing correct and efficient programs?

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Calculational Programming

A Programming Problem

Can you develop a correct linear-time program for solving the following problem?

Maximum Segment Sum Problem

Given a list of numbers, find the maximum of sums of all *consecutive* sublists.

- $[-1, 3, 3, -4, -1, 4, 2, -1] \implies 7$
- $[-1, 3, 1, -4, -1, 4, 2, -1] \implies 6$
- $[-1, 3, 1, -4, -1, 1, 2, -1] \implies 4$

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Exercise

How many segments does a list of length n have?

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Exercise

What is the time complexity of this simple solution?

There indeed exists a clever solution!

```
mss=0; s=0;
for(i=0;i<n;i++){
    s += x[i];
    if(s<0) s=0;
    if(mss<s) mss= s;
}
```

$x[i]$		3	1	-4	-1	1	2	-1
s	0	3	4	0	0	1	3	2
mss	0	3	4	4	4	4	4	4

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- Can we calculate the clever solution from the simple solution?
- What **rules and theorems** are necessary to do so?
- How to **apply** the rules and theorems to do so?
- Can we **reuse** the derivation procedure to solve similar problems, say maximum increasing segment sum problem?

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Transformational Programming

One starts by writing **clean and correct** programs, and then use *program transformation* techniques to transform them step-by-step to more **efficient** equivalents.

Specification: Clean and Correct programs



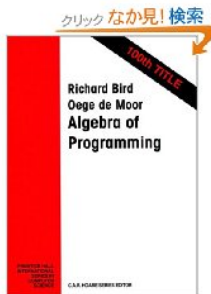
Folding/Unfolding Program Transformation



Efficient Programs

Program Calculation

Program calculation is a kind of program transformation based on **Constructive Algorithmics**, a framework for developing laws/rules/theories for manipulating programs.



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Specification: Clean and Correct programs



Folding-free Program Transformation



Efficient Programs

Work on Program Calculation

- **Algorithm Derivation**
 - Fold/Unfold-based Transformational Programming
(Darlington&Burstall:77)
 - Bird-Meertens Formalism (BMF) (Bird:87)
 - Algebra of Programming (Bird&de Moor:96)

Work on Program Calculation

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- **Our Work on Program Transformation in Calculation Form**
 - Fusion (ICFP'96)
 - Tupling (ICFP'97)
 - Accumulation (NGC'99)
 - Inversion/Bidirectionalization (MPC'04, PEPM'07, ICFP'07, MPC'10, ICFP'10)
 - Dynamic Programming (ICFP'00, ICFP'03, ICFP'08)
 - Parallelization (POPL'98, ESOP'02, PLDI'07, POPL'09, ESOP'12)

What I will talk in this course?

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Functional Programming

(basic concepts of algorithmic languages, program specification and reasoning)

Plan

- ① **Tool for Calculation: Agda** (about 3 lectures)
 - Learn functional programming in Agda
 - Learn program reasoning in Agda
- ② **Program Calculus: BMF** (about 4 lectures)
 - Learn basic programming theory for calculating programs from problem specifications
 - Learn basic techniques for calculating programs
- ③ **Applications of Calculational Programming** (about 1 lectures)
 - Learn how to solve a wide class of optimization problems
 - Learn how to automatic parallelize sequential programs

References

- Aaron Stump, *Verified Functional Programming in Agda*. ACM Book, 2016.
- Ulf Norell, *Dependently Typed Programming in Agda*. Advanced Functional Programming 2008: 230-266.
- Richard Bird, *Lecture Notes on Constructive Functional Programming*, Technical Monograph PRG-69, Oxford University, 1988.
- Richard Bird and Oege de Moor, *The Algebra of Programming*, Prentice-Hall, 1996.
- Roland Backhouse, *Program Construction: Calculating Implementation from Specification*, Wiley, 2003.

Homework

- 16-1 Write a Haskell program to solve the maximum segment sum problem, following the three steps in the slides.
- 16-2 Write a Haskell program to solve the maximum segment sum problem, using the smart algorithm in the slides.