

ON MINIMALITY OF ONE SET OF BUILT-IN FUNCTIONS FOR
FUNCTIONAL PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

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The functional programming language, which uses the set $\{car, cdr, cons, atom, eq, if_then_else\}$ of built-in functions is Turing complete (see [1]). In the present paper the minimality of this set of functions is proved.

Keywords: functional programming language, built-in function, Turing completeness, minimality.

1. Introduction. In [1] it is proved that any functional programming language, which uses $\{car, cdr, cons, atom, eq, if_then_else\}$ built-in functions is Turing complete. Theorem 3.1 of this paper shows that the set of built-in functions $\Phi = \{car, cdr, cons, atom, eq, if_then_else\}$ is minimal for functional programming languages, which use more than two atoms. Theorem 3.2 shows that the function eq is representable in a functional programming language, which uses only two atoms and the set $\Phi \setminus \{eq\}$ of built-in functions; this set is minimal for functional programming languages, which use only two atoms and it is the only proper subset of the set Φ , which is minimal for such languages.

2. Definitions and Preliminary Results.

Definition 2.1. Let M be a partially ordered set, which has a least element \perp , and each element of M is comparable with itself and \perp only. Let us define the set $Types$:

1. $M \in Types$;
2. if $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta \in Types$, then the set of all monotonic mappings from $\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_n$ into β (denoted by $[\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_n \rightarrow \beta]$) belongs to $Types$.

Definition 2.2. Let $\alpha \in Types$ The order of the type α is a natural number (defined as $ord(\alpha)$), where:

1. if $\alpha = M$, then $ord(\alpha) = 0$;
2. if $\alpha = [\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_n \rightarrow \beta]$, $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n, \beta \in Types$, then $ord([\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_n \rightarrow \beta]) = \max(ord(\alpha_1), \dots, ord(\alpha_n), ord(\beta) + 1)$.

For each $\alpha \in Types$ we have an α type countable set of variables V_α . Let $\alpha \in Types$, $ord(\alpha) = n$, $n \geq 0$. If $c \in \alpha$, i.e. c is a constant of type α , then $ord(c) = n$. If $x \in V_\alpha$, i.e. x is a variable of type α , then $ord(x) = n$.

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Let $V = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Types} V_\alpha$ and $\Lambda = \bigcup_{\alpha \in Types} \Lambda_\alpha$, where Λ_α is a set of typed λ -terms of type α . Let us define the set of all terms Λ .

1. If $c \in \alpha$, $\alpha \in Types$, then $c \in \Lambda_\alpha$.
2. If $x \in V_\alpha$, $\alpha \in Types$, then $x \in \Lambda_\alpha$.
3. If $\tau \in \Lambda_{[\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta]}$, $t_i \in \Lambda_{\alpha_i}$, $a_1, \dots, a_k, \beta \in Types$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, $k \geq 1$, then $\tau(t_1, \dots, t_k) \in \Lambda_\beta$.
4. If $\tau \in \Lambda_\beta$, $x_i \in V_\alpha$, $a_1, \dots, a_k, \beta \in Types$, $i \neq j \Rightarrow x_i \neq x_j$, $i, j = 1, \dots, k$, $k \geq 1$, then $\lambda x_1 \dots x_k [\tau] \in \Lambda_{[\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta]}$.

The notions of a free and bound occurrence of a variable in a term and the notation of a free variable of a term are introduced in a conventional way. The set of all free variables of a term t is denoted by $FV(t)$. Terms t_1, t_2 are said to be congruent (which is denoted by $t_1 \equiv t_2$), if one term can be obtained from the other by renaming bound variables. Congruent terms are considered identical.

Definition 2.3. A functional program P is a system of equations of the form

$$\begin{cases} F_1 = \tau_1 \\ \dots \\ F_n = \tau_n \end{cases}, \quad (1)$$

where $F_i \in V_{\alpha_i}$, $i \neq j \Rightarrow F_i \neq F_j$, $\tau_i \in \Lambda_{\alpha_i}$, $\alpha_i \in Types$, $FV(\tau_i) \subset \{F_1, \dots, F_n\}$, $i, j = 1, \dots, n$, $n \geq 1$, all used constants have an order ≤ 1 , constants of order 1 are computable functions and $\alpha_i = [M^k \rightarrow M]$, $k \geq 1$. In [2] it is proved that any program (1) has a least solution. Let $\langle f_1, \dots, f_n \rangle \in \alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_n$ is the least solution of the program P , then $f_p = f_i$ will be the fixpoint semantics of the program P .

We will consider functional programming languages (see [3]), which are defined with the following quadruple $L = (M, C, V, \Lambda(C, V))$, where M is a partially ordered set, which has a least element \perp , and each element of M is comparable with itself and \perp only, $C = M \cup \Psi$, Ψ is a set of built-in functions, $\Lambda(C, V)$ is the set of all terms, which are constructed using constants and variables only from the sets C and V . By $\wp(L)$ we will denote the set of programs, for which $F_i \in V$, $\tau_i \in \Lambda(C, V)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, $n \geq 1$.

Definition 2.4. We will say that the function $f \in [M^k \rightarrow M]$, $k \geq 1$, is representable in the language L , if there exists a program $P \in \wp(L)$ such that $f_p = f$, where f_p is the fixpoint semantics of the program P .

Definition 2.5. The set of built-in functions Ψ is called minimal for the language $L = (M, C, V, \Lambda(C, V))$, where $C = M \cup \Psi$, if for any function $f \in \Psi$, f is not representable in the language $L' = (M, C', V, \Lambda(C', V))$, where $C' = M \cup (\Psi \setminus \{f\})$.

The notions of β and δ reductions are given in [4].

We will use the interpretation algorithm FS (full substitution and normal form reduction). The completeness of the interpretation algorithm FS follows from [4].

We will consider a finite set of atoms, $Atoms = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$, $n \geq 2$, which contains at least two elements ($T, nil \in Atoms$). T and nil correspond to logical true and false values respectively.

Definition 2.6. We define the set of *S-expressions* as follows:

1. If $t \in \text{Atoms}$, then $t \in \text{S-expressions}$;
2. If $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \text{S-expressions}$ ($n \geq 0$), then $(t_1 \dots t_n) \in \text{S-expressions}$.

If $l = (t_1 \dots t_n)$, $t_1, \dots, t_n \in \text{S-expressions}$ ($n \geq 0$), then l is called a list. In the case $n=0$, the list is empty and denoted by *nil* (which also corresponds to the logical false value). In the case $n > 0$, t_1 and $(t_2 \dots t_n)$ are correspondingly called the head and the tail of the list l .

Let $M = \text{S-expressions} \cup \{\perp\}$ be a partially ordered set, where \perp is the least element of M , and each element of M is comparable with itself and \perp only.

We will consider the following functions, where $\text{car}, \text{cdr}, \text{atom} \in [M \rightarrow M]$, $\text{cons}, \text{eq} \in [M^2 \rightarrow M]$, $\text{if_then_else} \in [M^3 \rightarrow M]$,

$$\text{car}(m) = \begin{cases} m_i, & \text{if } m = (m_1 \dots m_k), m_i \in \text{S-expressions}, i=1, \dots, k, k \geq 1, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{cdr}(m) = \begin{cases} \text{nil}, & \text{if } m = (m_1), m_1 \in \text{S-expressions}, \\ (m_2 \dots m_k), & \text{if } m = (m_1 \dots m_k), m_i \in \text{S-expressions}, i=1, \dots, k, k > 1, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{cons}(m_0, m) = \begin{cases} (m_0), & \text{if } m_0 \in \text{S-expressions}, m = \text{nil}, \\ (m_0, m_1 \dots m_k), & \text{if } m = (m_1 \dots m_k), m_i \in \text{S-expressions}, i=1, \dots, k, k \geq 1, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{atom}(m) = \begin{cases} T, & \text{if } m \in \text{Atoms}, \\ \text{nil}, & \text{if } m \notin \text{Atoms}, m \neq \perp, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases} \quad \text{eq}(m_1, m_2) = \begin{cases} T, & \text{if } m_1, m_2 \in \text{Atoms}, m_1 = m_2, \\ \text{nil}, & \text{if } m_1, m_2 \in \text{Atoms}, m_1 \neq m_2, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{if_then_else}(m_1, m_2, m_3) = \begin{cases} m_2, & \text{if } m_1 \in \text{S-expressions}, m_1 \neq \text{nil}, \\ m_3, & \text{if } m_1 = \text{nil}, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

3. The Main Results. Let $\Phi = \{\text{car}, \text{cdr}, \text{cons}, \text{atom}, \text{eq}, \text{if_then_else}\}$.

Theorem 3.1. The set of built-in functions Φ is minimal for the language $L = (M, C, V, \Lambda(C, V))$, where $C = M \cup \Phi$, which uses more than two atoms.

Theorem 3.2. For the languages, which use only two atoms, we have:

a) the function *eq* is representable in the language $L = (M, C, V, \Lambda(C, V))$, where $C = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{\text{eq}\})$;

b) the set of built-in functions $\Phi \setminus \{\text{eq}\}$ is minimal for the language $L = (M, C, V, \Lambda(C, V))$, where $C = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{\text{eq}\})$;

c) for any function $f \in \Phi \setminus \{\text{eq}\}$, f is not representable in the language $L = (M, C, V, \Lambda(C, V))$, where $C = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{f\})$.

The proof of Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 will be deduced from Lemmas 3.1–3.6.

We will consider the following notion of δ -reduction:

1. $\langle f(m_1), m \rangle \in \delta$, where $f \in \{\text{car}, \text{cdr}, \text{atom}\}$, $m_1, m \in M$ and $f(m_1) = m$;
2. $\langle g(m_1, m_2), m \rangle \in \delta$, where $g \in \{\text{cons}, \text{eq}\}$, $m_1, m_2, m \in M$ and $g(m_1, m_2) = m$;

3. $< \text{if nil then } t_1 \text{ else } t_2, t_2 > \in \delta$, where $t_1, t_2 \in \Lambda_M$;
4. $< \text{if } m \text{ then } t_1 \text{ else } t_2, t_1 > \in \delta$, where $m \in M, m \neq \text{nil}, m \neq \perp, t_1, t_2 \in \Lambda_M$;
5. $< \text{if } \perp \text{ then } t_1 \text{ else } t_2, \perp > \in \delta$, where $t_1, t_2 \in \Lambda_M$.

In [4] it is given the definition of real notion of δ -reduction. Also from [4] it follows that the defined notion of δ -reduction is real.

To each term $t \in \Lambda_\alpha$, $\alpha \in \text{Types}$, we will correspond a set $C^0(t)$, which contains constants of order 0 of the term t :

1. If $t \equiv c$, $c \in M$, then $C^0(t) = \{c\}$. If $t \equiv c$, $c \in \alpha$, $\alpha \in \text{Types}$, $\text{ord}(\alpha) \neq 0$, then $C^0(t) = \emptyset$;

2. If $t \equiv x$, $x \in V$, then $C^0(t) = \emptyset$;

3. If $t \equiv \tau(t_1, \dots, t_k) \in \Lambda_\beta$, $\tau \in \Lambda_{[\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta]}$, $t_i \in \Lambda_{\alpha_i}$, $\alpha_i, \beta \in \text{Types}$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, $k \geq 1$,

then $C^0(\tau(t_1, \dots, t_k)) = C^0(\tau) \cup C^0(t_1) \cup \dots \cup C^0(t_k)$;

4. If $t \equiv \lambda x_1 \dots x_k [\tau] \in \Lambda_{[\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta]}$, $\tau \in \Lambda_\beta$, $x_i \in V_{\alpha_i}$, $\alpha_i, \beta \in \text{Types}$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, $k \geq 1$,

$i \neq j \Rightarrow x_i \Rightarrow x_j$, $i, j = 1, \dots, k$, then $C^0(\lambda x_1 \dots x_k [\tau]) = C^0(\tau)$.

Let us define the change of underlined \underline{m} by m' in a term t (denoted by $t\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\}$), where $t \in L_\alpha$, $\alpha \in \text{Types}$, $m, m' \in M$:

1. If $t \equiv c$, $c \in \alpha$, $\alpha \in \text{Types}$, then

1.1. If $t \equiv m$ and m is underlined, then m' ;

1.2. If $t \equiv (s_1 \dots s_n)$, $s_i \in M$, $n \geq 0$, then $t\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\} \equiv (s_1\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\}, \dots, s_n\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\})$;

1.3. Otherwise, t ;

2. If $t \equiv x$, $x \in V$, then t ;

3. If $t \equiv \tau(t_1, \dots, t_k) \in \Lambda_\beta$, $\tau \in \Lambda_{[\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta]}$, $t_i \in \Lambda_{\alpha_i}$, $\alpha_i, \beta \in \text{Types}$, $i = 1, \dots, k$,

$k \geq 1$, then $\tau(t_1, \dots, t_k)\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\} \equiv \tau\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\}(t_1\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\}, \dots, t_k\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\})$;

4. If $t \equiv \lambda x_1 \dots x_k [\tau] \in \Lambda_{[\alpha_1 \times \dots \times \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta]}$, $\tau \in \Lambda_\beta$, $x_i \in V_{\alpha_i}$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, $k \geq 1$, a_1, \dots, a_k ,

$\beta \in \text{Types}$, $i \neq j \Rightarrow x_i \neq x_j$, $i, j = 1, \dots, k$, then $\lambda x_1 \dots x_k [\tau]\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\} \equiv \lambda x_1 \dots x_k [\tau\{\underline{m} \Rightarrow m'\}]$.

We will say that term t' is obtained from term $t(t, t' \in \Lambda_\alpha, \alpha \in \text{Types})$ by changing \underline{m}_1 by $m'_1, \dots, \underline{m}_n$ by m'_n (denoted by $t\{\underline{m}_1 \Rightarrow m'_1, \dots, \underline{m}_n \Rightarrow m'_n\} \equiv t'$), where $\underline{m}_i, m'_i \in M$, $i \neq j \Rightarrow \underline{m}_i \neq \underline{m}_j$, $i, j = 1, \dots, n$, $n \geq 1$, if there exist terms $t_0, \dots, t_n \in \Lambda_\alpha$ such that $t \equiv t_0$, $t' \equiv t_n$ and $t_i\{\underline{m}_j \Rightarrow m'_j\} \equiv t_{i+1}$, $i = 0, \dots, n-1$, $n \geq 1$.

Let us consider the functional programming language

$L_1 = (M, C_1, V, \Lambda(C_1, V))$, where $C_1 = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{car\})$.

Lemma 3.1. The function car is not representable in the language L_1 .

Proof. We will prove this Lemma by contradiction. Let us assume that the function car is representable in the language L_1 . That means there exists a program $P_1 \in \wp(L_1)$, ($F_1 \in V_{[M \rightarrow M]}$) such that $f_{P_1} = car$. We consider the action of the interpretation algorithm FS for two cases: $FS(P_1, F_1((T)))$ and $FS(P_1, F_1((nil)))$. $FS(P_1, F_1((T)))$ and $FS(P_1, F_1((nil)))$ are defined, because $car((T))$ and $car((nil))$ are defined and the interpretation algorithm FS is complete.

If $FS(P_1, F_1((T))) \neq T$, then $f_{P_1} \neq car$, and we will get a contradiction. So, let us assume that $FS(P_1, F_1((T))) = T$. We will show that $FS(P_1, F_1((nil))) = T \neq nil$, so, $f_{P_1} \neq car$ and we will get a contradiction again.

In the term $F_1((T))$, which is an input data of the interpretation algorithm FS , the atom T will be underlined. So, we will consider $FS(P_1, F_1((\underline{T})))$ and $FS(P_1, F_1((nil)))$.

We will consider two sequences of terms t_0, t_1, \dots and t'_0, t'_1, \dots . $t_0 \equiv F_1((\underline{T}))$, and for any $i \geq 0$, t_{i+1} is obtained from t_i by applying one step of the interpretation algorithm FS with input data P_1 and t_i . Also let $t'_0 \equiv F_1((nil))$ and for any $i \geq 0$, t'_{i+1} is obtained from t'_i by applying one step of the interpretation algorithm FS with input data P_1 and t'_i .

There exists $n > 0$ such that $t_n = T$, because $FS(P_1, F_1((T))) = T$, and the term t_{i+1} is obtained from t_i by applying one of the steps of the interpretation algorithm FS with input data P_1 and t_i .

By induction it can be proved that for any $0 \leq I \leq n$, $\underline{T} \notin C^0(t_i)$ and $t_i \{ \underline{T} \Rightarrow nil \} \equiv t_i$. So, we get $FS(P_1, F_1((nil))) = T \neq nil$.

This contradiction proves the Lemma.

Let us consider the functional programming language

$$L_2 = (M, C_2, V, \Lambda(C_2, V)), \text{ where } C_2 = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{cdr\}).$$

Lemma 3.2. The function cdr is not representable in the language L_2 .

Proof. The proof of this Lemma is similar to the proof of Lemma 3.1. Here we consider the work of the interpretation algorithm FS for two cases:

$FS(P_2, F_1((T\underline{T})))$ and $FS(P_2, F_1((T nil)))$. By induction it can be proved that for any $0 \leq i \leq n$, $\underline{T} \notin C^0(t_i)$, $C^0(t_i)$ does not contain a list containing a sublist with head \underline{T} and $t_i \{ \underline{T} \Rightarrow nil \} \equiv t'_i$. So, we get $FS(P_2, F_1((T nil))) = (T) \neq (nil)$. Consequently, we get a contradiction, which proves the Lemma.

Definition 3.1. To each $m \in M$ we will correspond a natural number A_m (we will call it the count of atoms of m):

1. If $m = \perp$, then $A_m = 0$;
2. If $m \in Atoms$, then $A_m = 1$;
3. If $m = (m_1 \dots m_n)$, $m_i \in M$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, $n \geq 0$, then $A_m = A_{m_1} + \dots + A_{m_n}$.

Let P be a program. Let $\{m_1, \dots, m_n\}$ be the set of constants of order 0 used in the program P , where $m_i \in M$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, $n \geq 0$. By A_P we will devote the following:

$$A_P = \max \{ A_{m_1}, \dots, A_{m_n} \} + 1.$$

Let us consider the functional programming language

$$L_3 = (M, C_3, V, \Lambda(C_3, V)), \text{ where } C_3 = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{cons\}).$$

Lemma 3.3. The function $cons$ is not representable in the language L_3 .

Proof. The proof of this Lemma is similar to the proof of Lemma 3.1. Here we consider the work of the interpretation algorithm FS : $FS(P_3, F_1(TT'))$, where $T' = \underbrace{(T \dots T)}_{A_{P_3}}$. By induction it can be proved that for any $0 \leq i \leq n$

$\max \{ A_m \in C^0(t_i) \} \leq A_{P_3}$. So, we get $FS(P_3, F_1(T, T')) \neq \underbrace{(T \dots T)}_{A_{P_3} + 1}$. The contradiction

proves the Lemma.

Let us consider the functional programming language

$$L_4 = (M, C_4, V, \Lambda(C_4, V)), \text{ where } C_4 = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{atom\}).$$

Lemma 3.4. The function *atom* is not representable in the language L_4 .

Proof. This Lemma will be proved by contradiction. Let us assume that the function *atom* is representable in the language L_4 . That means there exists a program $P_4 \in \wp(L_4)$, $(F_1 \in V_{[M \rightarrow M]})$ such that $f_{P_4} = \text{atom}$. We are interested in the result of the interpretation algorithm *FS* in the following two cases: $FS(P_4, F_1(T))$ and $FS(P_4, F_1((T)))$.

$FS(P_4, F_1(T))$ and $FS(P_4, F_1((T)))$ are well defined, because *atom*(T) and *atom*((T)) are defined and the interpretation algorithm *FS* is complete.

If $FS(P_4, F_1(T)) \neq T$, then $f_{P_4} \neq \text{atom}$, and we will get a contradiction. So, let us assume that $FS(P_4, F_1(T)) = T$. We will show that $FS(P_4, F_1((T))) \neq \text{nil}$ implying $f_{P_4} \neq \text{atom}$ and we will get a contradiction once more. In the term $F_1(T)$, which is an input data of the interpretation algorithm *FS*, the atom T will be underlined. Namely, we will consider $FS(P_4, F_1(\underline{T}))$ and $FS(P_4, F_1((\underline{T})))$.

We will consider two sequences of terms t_0, t_1, \dots and t'_0, t'_1, \dots (in these terms some subterms of order 0 will be double underlined). $t_0 \equiv F_1(\underline{T})$, $t'_0 \equiv F_1((\underline{T}))$ and for any $i \geq 0$, t_{i+1} and t'_{i+1} are correspondingly obtained from t_i and t'_i in the following way:

1. If the leftmost redex r of the term t_i is a subterm of double underlined subterm, then $t'_{i+1} \equiv t'_i$ and the term t_{i+1} is obtained from the term t_i by replacing the redex r with its bundle. In the term t_{i+1} the subterm corresponding to the double underlined subterm, which contains the term r , is double underlined. In the term t_{i+1} all terms, which are double underlined in the term t_i , are double underlined;

2. If the leftmost redex r of the term t_i is not a subterm of double underlined subterm, and if the leftmost redex r' of the term t'_i is a subterm of double underlined subterm, then $t_{i+1} \equiv t_i$ and the term t'_{i+1} is obtained from the term t'_i by replacing the redex r' with its bundle. In the term t'_{i+1} the subterm corresponding to the double underlined subterm, which contains the term r' , is double underlined. In the term t'_{i+1} all terms, which are double underlined in the term t'_i , are double underlined;

3. If the leftmost redex r of the term t_i and the leftmost redex r' of the term t'_i are not subterms of double underlined subterms, then the terms t_{i+1} and t'_{i+1} are obtained correspondingly from the terms t_i and t'_i by replacing the redexes r and r' with their bundles. Let r be a β -redex $\lambda x_1 \dots x_k [\tau_0](\tau_1 \dots \tau_k)$, where $x_i \in V_{\alpha_i}$, $\tau_i \in \Lambda_{\alpha_i}$, $\tau_0 \in \Lambda$, $\alpha_i \in \text{Types}$, $i = 1, \dots, k$, $k \geq 1$. In the bundles of redexes the subterms, which correspond to double underlined subterms of τ_0 , are also double underlined. If for any $i = 1, \dots, k$, $k \geq 1$, a subterm of the term τ_i is double underlined, then if in τ_0 a free occurrence of the variable x_i is not in double underlined subterm, then after substitution double underlined subterm of the term t_i is double underlined, otherwise, it is not. Let r be a δ -redex. During the proof of this Lemma the cases of δ -redexes are considered separately and it is denoted, which subterms in bundle of δ -redex, are double underlined. Double underlined subterms of the term t'_{i+1} are obtained similarly;

4. If $t_i \in NF$, $FV(t_i) \cap \{F_1, \dots, F_n\} \neq \emptyset$ and in the term t_i all free occurrences of the variables F_1, \dots, F_n stand in double underlined subterms, then

$t_{i+1} \equiv t_i \{ \tau_1/F_1, \dots, \tau_n/F_n \}$ and $t'_{i+1} \equiv t'_i$. In the term t_{i+1} subterms corresponding to double underlined subterms of the term are double underlined;

5. If $t_i \in NF$, $FV(t_i) \cap \{F_1, \dots, F_n\} \neq \emptyset$, $t'_i \in NF$, $FV(t'_i) \cap \{F_1, \dots, F_n\} \neq \emptyset$, and in the term t'_i all free occurrences of the variables F_1, \dots, F_n stand in double underlined subterms, then $t'_{i+1} \equiv t'_i \{ \tau_1/F_1, \dots, \tau_n/F_n \}$ and $t'_{i+1} \equiv t'_i$. In the term t'_{i+1} subterms corresponding to double underlined subterms of the term t'_i are double underlined;

6. If $t_i \in NF$, $FV(t_i) \cap \{F_1, \dots, F_n\} \neq \emptyset$ and if in the term t_i at least one of free occurrences of the variables F_1, \dots, F_n is not in double underlined subterm, then $t_{i+1} \equiv t_i \{ \tau_1/F_1, \dots, \tau_n/F_n \}$ and $t'_{i+1} \equiv t'_i \{ \tau_1/F_1, \dots, \tau_n/F_n \}$. In the terms t_{i+1} and t'_{i+1} subterms corresponding to double underlined subterms of the terms t_i and t'_i are double underlined.

It is obvious that in the sequences t_0, t_1, \dots and t'_0, t'_1, \dots there are no infinite sequences $t_i \equiv t_{i+1} \equiv t_{i+2} \equiv \dots$ or $t'_i \equiv t'_{i+1} \equiv t'_{i+2} \equiv \dots$ ($i \geq 0$). For any $i > 0$ we will double underlin those subterms of order 0, in the term t_i , for which corresponding subterms in the term t'_i are \perp , and in the term t'_i we will double underlin those subterms of order 0, for which corresponding subterms in the term t_i are \perp . By $\tilde{\tau}$ we will denote the term obtained from the term τ by replacing all double underlined subterms of order 0 with \perp .

Then there exists $n > 0$ such that $t_n = T$, because $FS(P_4, F_1(T)) = T$ and the term t_{i+1} is either congruent to the term t_i or obtained from t_i by applying one of the steps of the interpretation algorithm FS with input data P_4 and t_i .

By induction it can be proved that for any $0 \leq i \leq n$, $\tilde{t}_i \{ \underline{T} \Rightarrow (T) \equiv \tilde{t}'_i$. So, we get $FS(P_4, F_1(\underline{T})) = T$, $FS(P_4, F_1((T))) = (T)$ or $FS(P_4, F_1((T))) = \perp$, so, $FS(P_4, F_1((T))) \neq nil$. So, we get a contradiction, which proves the Lemma.

Let us consider the functional programming language $L_5 = (M, C_5, V, \Lambda(C_5, V))$, where $C_5 = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{if_then_else\})$.

Lemma 3.5. The function if_then_else is not representable in the language L_5 .

Proof. Let us assume that the function if_then_else is representable in the language L_5 . It follows that the function $g \in [M \rightarrow M]$ will be representable in the language L_5 also, where

$$g(m) = \begin{cases} T, & \text{if } m = T, \\ (T), & \text{if } m = nil, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad m \in M, T, nil \in Atoms,$$

We will get a desired contradiction by proving that the function g is not representable in the language L_5 . The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 3.1. Here we consider the action of the interpretation algorithm FS for two cases: $FS(P_5, F_1(\underline{T}))$ and $FS(P_5, F_1(nil))$. By induction it can be proved that for any $0 \leq i \leq n$, $\tilde{t}_i \{ \underline{T} \Rightarrow nil, \underline{nil} \Rightarrow T \} \equiv \tilde{t}'_i$. So, we get $FS(P_5, F_1(nil)) = T$, $FS(P_5, F_1(\underline{nil})) = nil$ or $FS(P_5, F_1(\underline{nil})) = \perp$ and, so, $FS(P_5, F_1(nil)) \neq (T)$. So, we get a contradiction, which proves the Lemma.

Let us consider the functional programming languages

$L_6 = (M, C_6, V, \Lambda(C_6, V))$, and $L'_6 = (M, C_6, V, \Lambda(C_6, V))$, where $C_6 = M \cup (\Phi \setminus \{eq\})$. The language L_6 uses more than two atoms, the language L'_6 uses only two atoms.

Lemma 3.6. The function eq is representable in the language L'_6 and is not representable in the language L_6 .

The function eq is representable in the language L'_6 , because it is the least solution of the following equation:

$$F_{eq} = \lambda xy[\text{if atom}(x) \text{ then}(\text{if atom}(y) \text{ then}(\text{if } x \text{ then } y \text{ else}(\text{if } y \text{ then } nil \text{ else } T))\text{else } \perp)\text{else } \perp].$$

Now let us show that the function eq is not representable in the language L_6 , which uses more than two atoms, $\{a, T, nil\} \subset Atoms$.

If we assume that the function eq is representable in the language L_6 , then the function $f \in [M \rightarrow M]$ will be representable in the language L_6 also, where

$$f(m) = \begin{cases} T, & \text{if } m = a, \\ a, & \text{if } m = T, \quad m \in M, \quad a, T \in Atoms, \quad a \neq T, nil, \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

To get a contradiction, let us prove that the function f is not representable in the language L_6 . The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 3.1. Now we consider the work of the interpretation algorithm FS for two cases: $FS(P_6, F_1(\underline{a}))$ and $FS(P_6, F_1(T))$. By induction it can be proved that for any $0 \leq i \leq n$, $t_i \{ \underline{a} \Rightarrow T \} \equiv t'_i$. So, we get $FS(P_6, F_1(T)) = T \neq a$, the contradiction proves the Lemma.

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