

## Script generated by TTT

Title: Seidl: Virtual\_Machines (03.07.2012)

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Pages: 52

### Example:

```
bigger(X, Y) ← X = elephant, Y = horse
bigger(X, Y) ← X = horse, Y = donkey
bigger(X, Y) ← X = donkey, Y = dog
bigger(X, Y) ← X = donkey, Y = monkey
is_bigger(X, Y) ← bigger(X, Y)
is_bigger(X, Y) ← bigger(X, Z), is_bigger(Z, Y)
? is_bigger(elephant, dog)
```

214

### A More Realistic Example:

```
app(X, Y, Z) ← X = [], Y = Z
app(X, Y, Z) ← X = [H|X'], Z = [H|Z'], app(X', Y, Z')
? app(X, [Y, c], [a, b, Z])
```

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— 15

215

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? app(X, [Y, c], [a, b, Z])
```

X = [a, b]  
Y = b  
c = c

### Remark:

[] == the atom **empty list**  
[H|Z] == **binary** constructor application  
[a, b, Z] == shortcut for: [a|[b|[Z][[]]]]

216

A program  $p$  is constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 t &::= a \mid X \mid \_ \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \\
 g &::= p(t_1, \dots, t_k) \mid X = t \\
 c &::= p(X_1, \dots, X_k) \leftarrow g_1, \dots, g_r \\
 p &::= c_1 \dots c_m ? g
 \end{aligned}$$

- A **term**  $t$  either is an atom, a variable, an anonymous variable or a constructor application.
- A **goal**  $g$  either is a literal, i.e., a predicate call, or a unification.
- A **clause**  $c$  consists of a **head**  $p(X_1, \dots, X_k)$  with predicate name and list of formal parameters together with a **body**, i.e., a sequence of goals.
- A **program** consists of a sequence of clauses together with a single goal as query.

217

### Procedural View of Proll programs:

<del>goal</del>	==	procedure call
predicate	==	procedure
clause	==	definition
term	==	value
unification	==	basic computation step
binding of variables	==	side effect

Note: Predicate calls ...

- ... do not have a return value.
  - ... affect the caller through side effects only :-)
  - ... may fail. Then the next definition is tried :-))
- ⇒ backtracking

218

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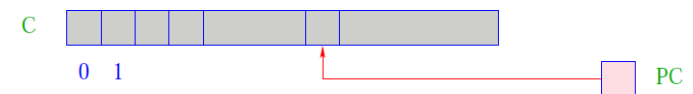
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218

Wark

### 27 Architecture of the WiM:

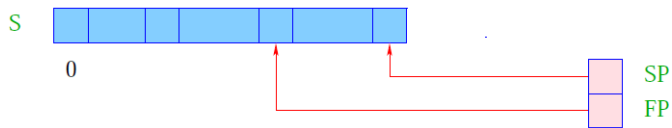
#### The Code Store:



- C = Code store – contains WiM program; every cell contains one instruction;
- PC = Program Counter – points to the next instruction to executed;

219

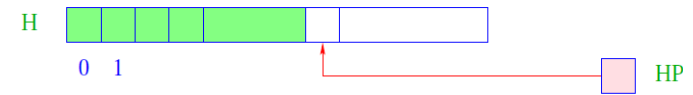
## The Runtime Stack:



- S = Runtime Stack – every cell may contain a value or an address;  
 SP = Stack Pointer – points to the topmost occupied cell;  
 FP = Frame Pointer – points to the current stack frame.  
 Frames are created for predicate calls,  
 contain cells for each variable of the current clause

220

## The Heap:

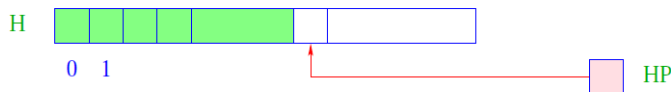


- H = Heap for dynamically constructed terms;  
 HP = Heap-Pointer – points to the first free cell;

- The heap is maintained like a **stack** as well :-)
- A new-instruction allocates a object in H.
- Objects are **tagged** with their types (as in the **MaMa**) ...

221

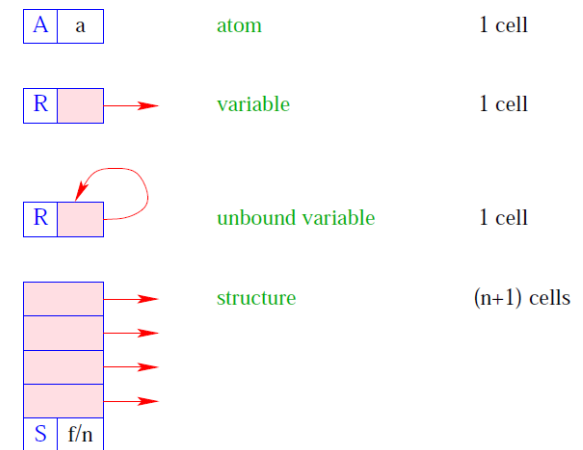
## The Heap:



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221



222



$$\rho(X) \leftarrow \rho(\overline{X}, Y).$$

For a distinction, we mark occurrences of already initialized variables through over-lining (e.g.  $\overline{X}$ ).

**Note:** Arguments are always initialized!

Then we define:

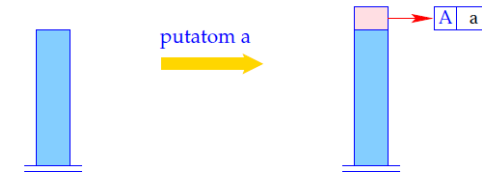
$\text{code}_A a \rho = \text{putatom } a$	$\text{code}_A f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \rho = \text{code}_A t_1 \rho$
$\text{code}_A X \rho = \text{putvar } (\rho X)$	...
$\text{code}_A \overline{X} \rho = \text{putref } (\rho X)$	$\text{code}_A t_n \rho$
$\text{code}_A \_ \rho = \text{putanon}$	$\text{putstruct } f/n$

For  $f(g(\overline{X}, Y), a, Z)$  and  $\rho = \{X \mapsto 1, Y \mapsto 2, Z \mapsto 3\}$  this results in the sequence:

putref 1	putatom a
putvar 2	putvar 3
putstruct g/2	putstruct f/3

226

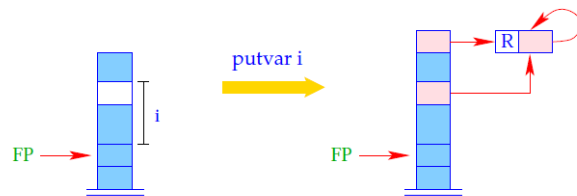
The instruction `putatom a` constructs an atom in the heap:



SP++; S[SP] = new (A,a);

227

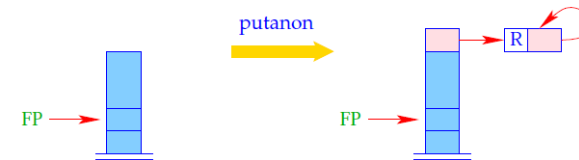
The instruction `putvar i` introduces a new unbound variable and additionally initializes the corresponding cell in the stack frame:



SP = SP + 1;  
S[SP] = new (R, HP);  
S[FP + i] = S[SP];

228

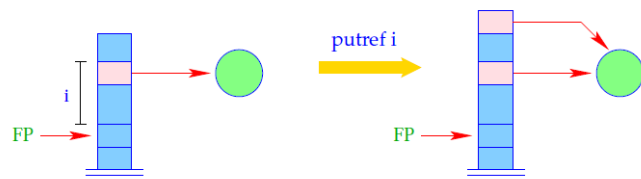
The instruction `putanon` introduces a new unbound variable but does not store a reference to it in the stack frame:



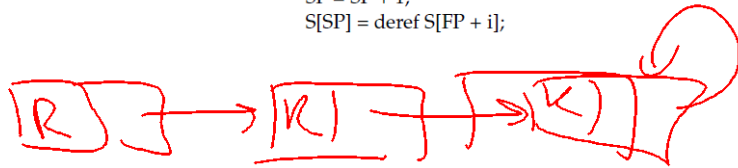
SP = SP + 1;  
S[SP] = new (R, HP);

229

The instruction `putref i` pushes the value of the variable onto the stack:

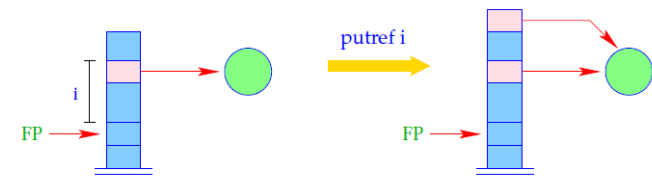


$SP = SP + 1;$   
 $S[SP] = \text{deref } S[FP + i];$



230

The instruction `putref i` pushes the value of the variable onto the stack:



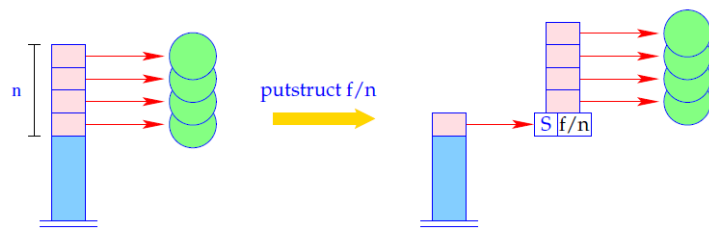
$SP = SP + 1;$   
 $S[SP] = \text{deref } S[FP + i];$

The auxiliary function `deref` contracts chains of references:

```
ref deref (ref v) {
  if (H[v]==(R,w) && v!=w) return deref (w);
  else return v
}
```

231

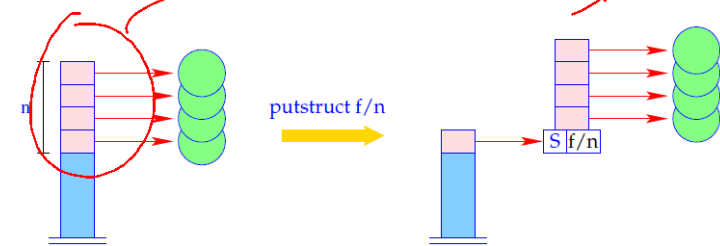
The instruction `putstruct f/n` builds a constructor application in the heap:



$v = \text{new } (S, f, n);$   
 $SP = SP - n + 1;$   
 for ( $i=1; i \leq n; i++$ )  
 $H[v + i] = S[SP + i - 1];$   
 $S[SP] = v;$

232

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 $H[v + i] = S[SP + i - 1];$   
 $S[SP] = v;$

232

## 29 The Translation of Literals (Goals)

Idea:

- Literals are treated as **procedure calls**.
- We first allocate a stack frame.
- Then we construct the actual parameters (in the heap)
- ... and store references to these into the stack frame.
- Finally, we jump to the code for the procedure/predicate.

234

```
codeG p(t1, ..., tk) ρ =  mark B           // allocates the stack frame
                          codeA t1 ρ
                          ...
                          codeA tk ρ
                          call p/k         // calls the procedure p/k
                          B: ...
```

235

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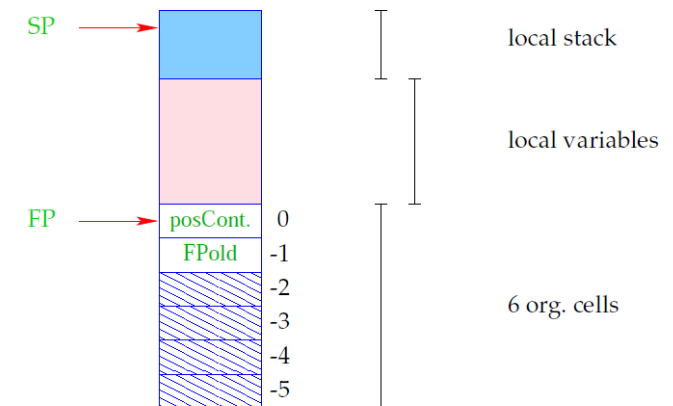
Example:  $p(a, X, g(\bar{X}, Y))$  with  $\rho = \{X \mapsto 1, Y \mapsto 2\}$

We obtain:

```
mark B           putref 1           call p/3
putatom a        putvar 2           B: ...
putvar 1         putstruct g/2
```

236

Stack Frame of the WiM:

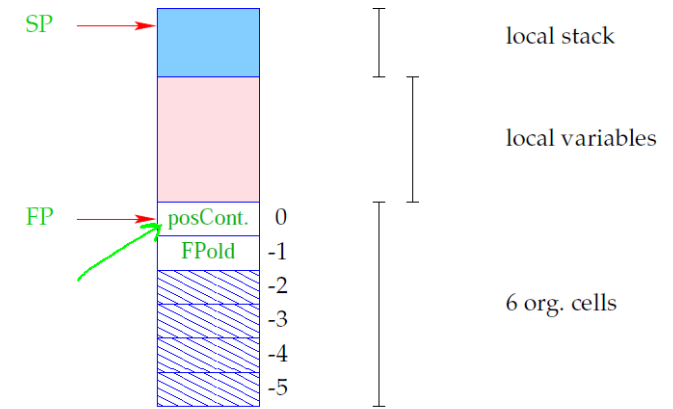


237

Remarks:

- The **positive** continuation address records where to continue after successful treatment of the goal.
- Additional organizational cells are needed for the implementation of **backtracking**
  - ⇒ will be discussed at the translation of predicates.

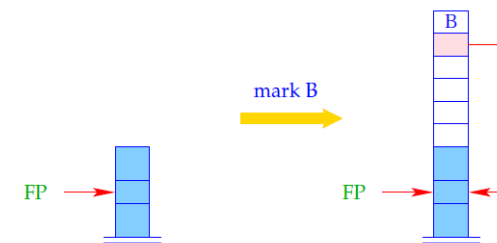
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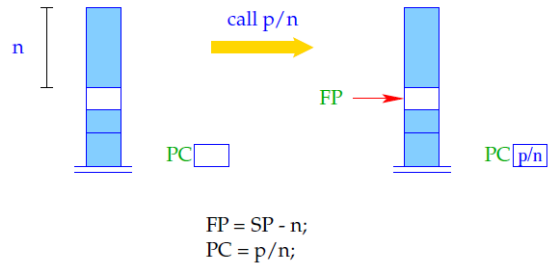
The instruction **mark B** allocates a new stack frame:



$SP = SP + 6;$   
 $S[SP] = B; S[SP-1] = FP;$

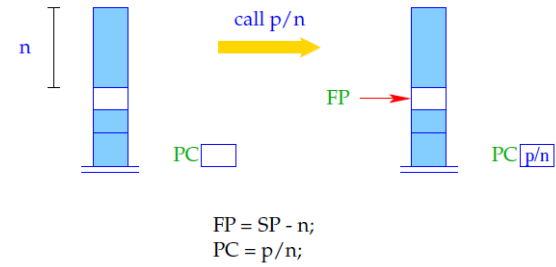


The instruction `call p/n` calls the  $n$ -ary predicate  $p$  :



240

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240

### 30 Unification

Convention:

- By  $\tilde{X}$ , we denote an occurrence of  $X$ ;  
it will be translated differently depending on whether the variable is initialized or not.
- We introduce the macro `put  $\tilde{X}$   $\rho$`  :

`put  $X$   $\rho$`  = `putvar ( $\rho X$ )`  
`put  $\_$   $\rho$`  = `putanon`  
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241

$X = a$

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241

Let us translate the unification  $\tilde{X} = t$ .

Idea 1:

- Push a reference to (the binding of)  $X$  onto the stack;
- Construct the term  $t$  in the heap;
- Invent a new instruction implementing the unification :-)

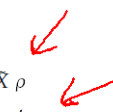
242

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- Invent a new instruction implementing the unification :-)

$\text{code}_G(\tilde{X} = t) \rho = \text{put } \tilde{X} \rho$   
 $\text{code}_A t \rho$   
 $\text{unify}$



243

$\_ = t$

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243

Example:

Consider the equation:

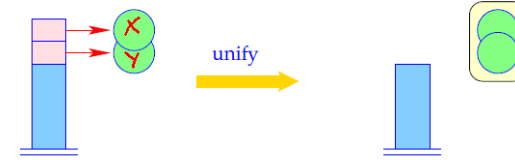
$$\bar{U} = f(g(\bar{X}, Y), a, Z)$$

Then we obtain for an address environment

$$\rho = \{X \mapsto 1, Y \mapsto 2, Z \mapsto 3, U \mapsto 4\}$$

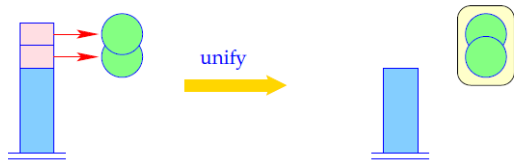
putref 4	putref 1	putatom a	unify
	putvar 2	putvar 3	
	putstruct g/2	putstruct f/3	

The instruction `unify` calls the run-time function `unify()` for the topmost two references:



```
unify (S[SP-1], S[SP]);
SP = SP-2;
```

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SP = SP-2;
```

$$X = f(X)$$

↑                      ↑

```
bool unify (ref u, ref v) {
  if (u == v) return true;
  if (H[u] == (R, _)) {
    if (H[v] == (R, _)) {
      if (u > v) {
        H[u] = (R, v); trail (u); return true;
      } else {
        H[v] = (R, u); trail (v); return true;
      }
    }
  }
  } elseif (check (u, v)) {
  H[u] = (R, v); trail (u); return true;
  } else {
  backtrack(); return false;
  }
}
...

```

```

if ((H[v] == (R,_)) {
    if (check (v,u)) {
        H[v] = (R,u); trail (v); return true;
    } else {
        backtrack(); return false;
    }
}
if (H[u]==(A,a) && H[v]==(A,a))
    return true;
if (H[u]==(S, f/n) && H[v]==(S, f/n)) {
    for (int i=1; i<=n; i++)
        if(!unify (deref (H[u+i]), deref (H[v+i])) return false;
    return true;
}
backtrack(); return false;
}

```

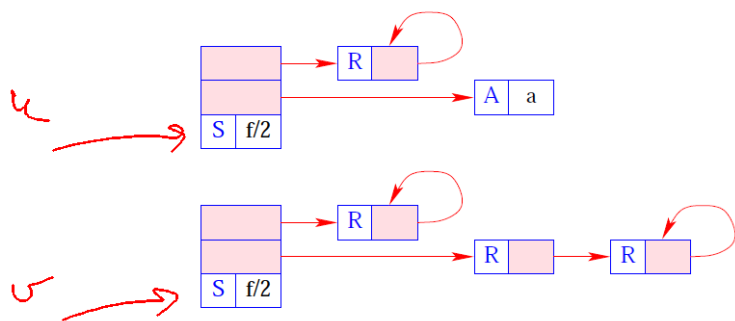
248

```

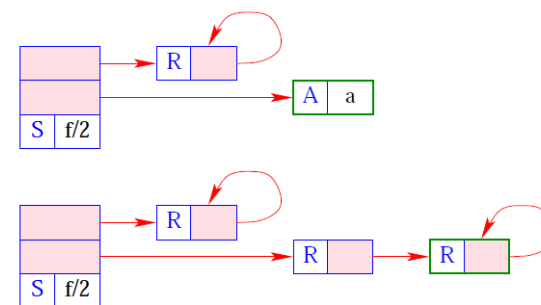
...
if ((H[v] == (R,_)) {
    if (check (v,u)) {
        H[v] = (R,u); trail (v); return true;
    } else {
        backtrack(); return false;
    }
}
if (H[u]==(A,a) && H[v]==(A,a))
    return true;
if (H[u]==(S, f/n) && H[v]==(S, f/n)) {
    for (int i=1; i<=n; i++)
        if(!unify (deref (H[u+i]), deref (H[v+i])) return false;
    return true;
}
backtrack(); return false;
}

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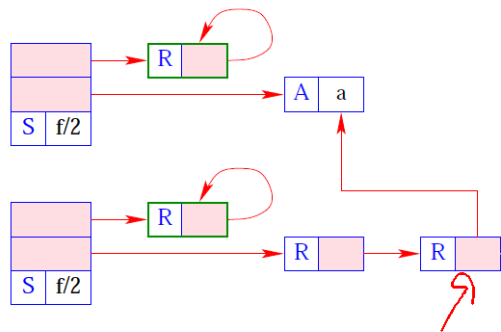
248



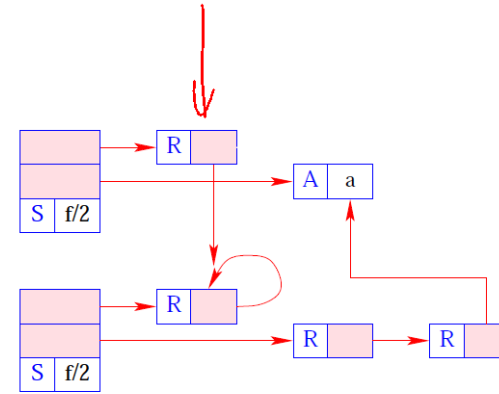
249



251



252



253

- The run-time function `trail()` records the ~~potential~~ new binding.
- The run-time function `backtrack()` initiates **backtracking**.
- The auxiliary function `check()` performs the **occur-check**: it tests whether a variable (the first argument) **occurs inside** a term (the second argument).
- Often, this check is skipped, i.e.,

```
bool check (ref u, ref v) { return true;}
```

254

Otherwise, we could implement the run-time function `check()` as follows:

```
bool check (ref u, ref v) {
  if (u == v) return false;
  if (H[v] == (S, f/n)) {
    for (int i=1; i<=n; i++)
      if (!check(u, deref (H[v+i])))
        return false;
  }
  return true;
}
```

255

### Discussion:

- The translation of an equation  $\tilde{X} = t$  is very simple :-)
- Often the constructed cells immediately become **garbage** :-)

### Idea 2:

- Push a reference to the run-time binding of the left-hand side onto the stack.
- Avoid to construct sub-terms of  $t$  whenever possible !
- Translate each node of  $t$  into an instruction which performs the unification with this node !!