

Title: Seidl: Virtual\_Machines (22.05.2013)

Date: Wed May 22 16:00:38 CEST 2013

Duration: 90:44 min

Pages: 34

## 25 Last Calls

A function application is called **last call** in an expression  $e$  if this application could deliver the value for  $e$ .

A last call usually is the **outermost** application of a defining expression.

A function definition is called **tail recursive** if all recursive calls are last calls.

Examples:

$rt(h :: y)$  is a **last call** in `match x with [] → y | h :: t → rt(h :: y)`  
 $f(x - 1)$  is **not a last call** in `if x ≤ 1 then 1 else x * f(x - 1)`

**Observation:** Last calls in a function body need **no new** stack frame!



Automatic transformation of tail recursion into loops!!!

The code for a last call  $l \equiv (e' e_0 \dots e_m)$  inside a function  $f$  with  $k$  arguments must

1. allocate the arguments  $e_i$  and evaluate  $e'$  to a function (note: all this inside  $f$ 's frame!);
2. deallocate the local variables and the  $k$  consumed arguments of  $f$ ;
3. execute an **apply**.

```
codeV l ρ sd = codeC em-1 ρ sd
              codeC em-2 ρ (sd + 1)
              ...
              codeC e0 ρ (sd + m - 1)
              codeV e' ρ (sd + m) // Evaluation of the function
              move r (m + 1) // Deallocation of r cells
              apply
```

where  $r = sd + k$  is the number of stack cells to deallocate.

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$$g = \{ r \mapsto (G, 0), x \mapsto (L, 0), y \mapsto (L, -1) \}$$

Example:

The body of the function

$r = \text{fun } x \ y \rightarrow \text{match } x \text{ with } [] \rightarrow y \mid h :: t \rightarrow r \ t \ (h :: y)$

0	targ 2	1	jump B	4	pushglob 0
0	pushloc 0			5	eval
1	eval	2	A: pushloc 1	5	move 4 3
1	tlist A	3	pushloc 4		apply
0	pushloc 1	4	cons		slide 2
1	eval	3	pushloc 1	1	B: return 2

Since the old stack frame is kept, **return 2** will only be reached by the direct jump at the end of the []-alternative.

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1. allocate the arguments  $e_i$  and evaluate  $e'$  to a function (note: all this inside  $f$ 's frame!);
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```

codev l ρ sd = codec em-1 ρ sd
               codec em-2 ρ (sd + 1)
               ...
               codec e0 ρ (sd + m - 1)
               codev e' ρ (sd + m) // Evaluation of the function
               move r (m + 1) // Deallocation of r cells
               apply
    
```

where  $r = (sd + k) - (m + 1)$  is the number of stack cells to deallocate.

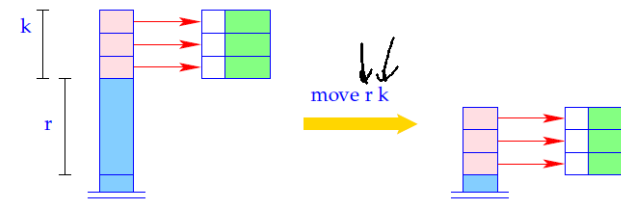
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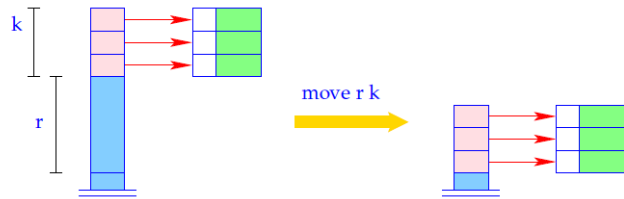
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```

SP = SP - k - r;
for (i=1; i<=k; i++)
  S[SP+i] = S[SP+i+r];
SP = SP + k;
    
```



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```

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## The Translation of Logic Languages

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### 26 The Language Proll

Here, we just consider the core language **Proll** ("Prolog-light" :-). In particular, we omit:

- arithmetic;
- the cut operator;
- self-modification of programs through **assert** and **retract**.



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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) .

```

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Example:

~~X, Y~~

$\text{bigger}(X, Y) \leftarrow X = \text{elephant}, Y = \text{horse}$   
 $\text{bigger}(X, Y) \leftarrow X = \text{horse}, Y = \text{donkey}$   
 $\text{bigger}(X, Y) \leftarrow X = \text{donkey}, Y = \text{dog}$   
 $\text{bigger}(X, Y) \leftarrow X = \text{donkey}, Y = \text{monkey}$   
 $\text{is\_bigger}(X, Y) \leftarrow \text{bigger}(X, Y)$   
 $\text{is\_bigger}(X, Y) \leftarrow \text{bigger}(X, Z), \text{is\_bigger}(Z, Y)$   
 ?  $\text{is\_bigger}(\text{elephant}, \text{dog})$

A More Realistic Example:

$\text{app}(X, Y, Z) \leftarrow X = [], Y = Z$   
 $\text{app}(X, Y, Z) \leftarrow X = [H|X'], Z = [H|Z'], \text{app}(X', Y, Z')$   
 ?  $\text{app}(X, [Y, c], [a, b, Z])$

$X = a$   
 $Y = b$   
 $Z = c$

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Remark:

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

A program  $p$  is constructed as follows:

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

- 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.

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$$f(X, Y) = f(a, g(X))$$

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### Procedural View of Proll programs:

goal	==	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 :-))  
 $\implies$  backtracking

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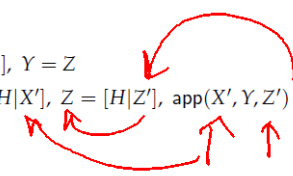
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Note: Predicate calls ...

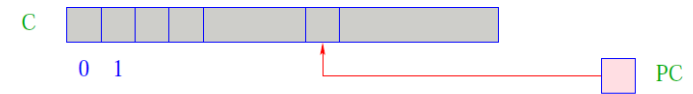
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*Teach Willem*

### 27 Architecture of the WiM:

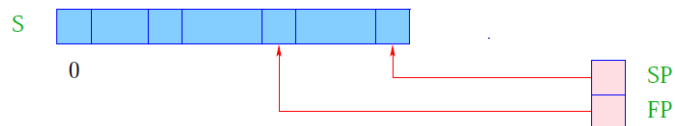
#### The Code Store:



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

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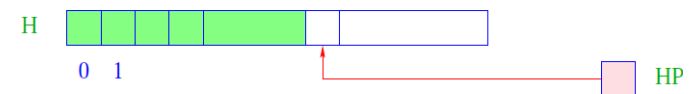
#### The Runtime Stack:



- 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

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#### The Heap:

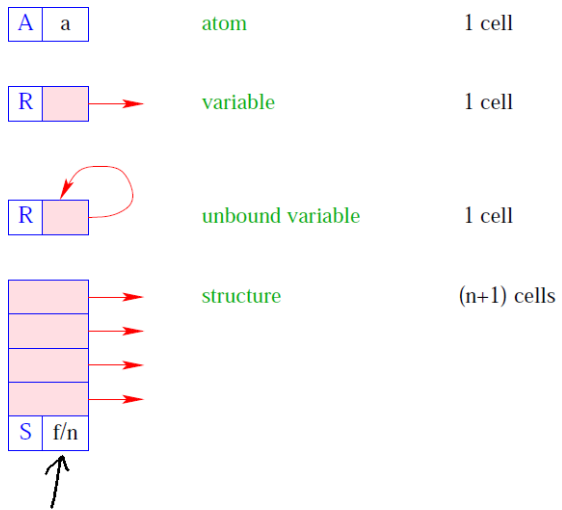


- H = Heap for dynamically constructed terms;
- HP = Heap-Pointer – points to the first free cell;

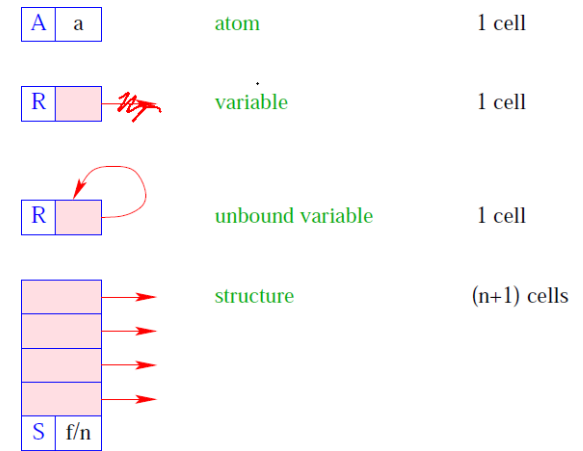
- The heap is maintained like a stack as well :-)
- A new-instruction allocates a object in H.
- Objects are tagged with their types (as in the MaMa) ...

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## 28 Construction of Terms in the Heap

Parameter terms of goals (calls) are constructed in the heap before passing.

Assume that the **address environment**  $\rho$  returns, for each clause variable  $X$  its address (relative to **FP**) on the stack. Then  $\text{code}_A t \rho$  should ...

- construct (a presentation of)  $t$  in the heap; and
- return a reference to it on top of the stack.

Idea:

- Construct the tree during a **post-order** traversal of  $t$
- with one instruction for each new node!

Example:  $t \equiv f(g(X, Y), a, Z)$ .

Assume that  $X$  is **initialized**, i.e.,  $S[\text{FP} + \rho X]$  contains already a reference,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are not yet initialized.

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