

CSC 550: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

Spring 2004

Scheme programming

- S-expressions: atoms, lists
- functional expressions, evaluation
- primitive functions: arithmetic, predicate, symbolic, equality, high-level
- defining functions: define
- special forms: if, cond
- recursion: tail vs. full
- let expressions, I/O

Functional programming

1957: FORTRAN was first high-level programming language

- mathematical in nature, efficient due to connection with low-level machine
- not well suited to AI research, which dealt with symbols & dynamic knowledge

1959: McCarthy at MIT developed LISP (List Processing Language)

- symbolic, list-oriented, transparent memory management
- instantly popular as the language for AI
- separation from the underlying architecture tended to make it less efficient (and usually interpreted)

1975: Scheme was developed at MIT

- clean, simple subset of LISP
- static scoping, first-class functions, efficient tail-recursion, ...

Obtaining a Scheme interpreter

many free Scheme interpreters/environments exist

- Dr. Scheme is an development environment developed at Rice University
- contains an integrated editor, syntax checker, debugger, interpreter
- Windows, Mac, and UNIX versions exist

- can download a personal copy from

`http://download.plt-scheme.org/drscheme/`

be sure to set Language to "Textual (MzScheme, includes R5RS)"

LISP/Scheme

LISP/Scheme is very simple

- only 2 kinds of data objects
 1. atoms (identifiers/constants) `robot green 12.5`
 2. lists (of atoms and sublists) `(1 2 3.14)`
`(robot (color green) (weight 100))`

Note: lists can store different types, not contiguous, not random access

- functions and function calls are represented as lists (i.e., program = data)

```
(define (square x) (* x x))
```

- all computation is performed by applying functions to arguments, also as lists

```
(+ 2 3)           evaluates to 5  
(square 5)       evaluates to 25  
(car (reverse '(a b c))) evaluates to c
```

S-expressions

in LISP/Scheme, data & programs are all of the same form:

S-expressions (Symbolic-expressions)

- an S-expression is either an atom or a list

Atoms

- numbers 4 3.14 1/2 #xA2 #b1001
- characters #\a #\Q #\space #\tab
- strings "foo" "Dave Reed" "@%!?#"
- Booleans #t #f
- symbols Dave num123 miles->km !_^_!

symbols are sequences of letters, digits, and "extended alphabetic characters"

*+ - . * / < > = ! ? : \$ % + & ~ ^*

can't start with a digit, case-insensitive

S-expressions (cont.)

Lists

() is a list

(L1 L2 . . . Ln) is a list, where each L_i is either an atom or a list

for example:

```
( ) (a)
(a b c d) ((a b) c (d e))
((((a))))
```

note the recursive definition of a list – GET USED TO IT!

also, get used to parentheses (LISP = Lots of Inane, Silly Parentheses)

Functional expressions

computation in a functional language is via function calls (also S-exprs)

```
(FUNC ARG1 ARG2 . . . ARGn)
```

```
(+ 3 (* 4 2))
```

```
(car '(a b c))
```

quote specifies data, not to be evaluated further
(numbers are implicitly quoted)

evaluating a functional expression:

- function/operator name & arguments are evaluated in unspecified order
note: if argument is a functional expression, evaluate recursively
- the resulting function is applied to the resulting values

```
(car '(a b c))
```

evaluates to primitive function

evaluates to list (a b c) : ' terminates recursive evaluation

so, primitive car function is called with argument (a b c)

Arithmetic primitives

predefined functions:

```
+ - * /  
quotient remainder modulo  
max min abs gcd lcm expt  
floor ceiling truncate round  
= < > <= >=
```

- many of these take a variable number of inputs

```
(+ 3 6 8 4)           → 21  
(max 3 6 8 4)        → 8  
(= 1 (-3 2) (* 1 1)) → #t  
(< 1 2 3 4)          → #t
```

- functions that return a true/false value are called *predicate functions*
zero? positive? negative? odd? even?

```
(odd? 5)              → #t  
(positive? (- 4 5))  → #f
```

Data types in LISP/Scheme

LISP/Scheme is loosely typed

- types are associated with values rather than variables, bound dynamically

numbers can be described as a hierarchy of types



integers and rationals are *exact* values, others can be *inexact*

- arithmetic operators preserve exactness, can explicitly convert

```
(+ 3 1/2)      → 7/2
(+ 3 0.5)     → 3.5

(inexact->exact 4.5) → 9/2
(exact->inexact 9/2) → 4.5
```

Symbolic primitives

predefined functions:

```
car  cdr  cons
list list-ref length member
reverse append equal?
```

```
(list 'a 'b 'c)      → (a b c)
(list-ref '(a b c) 1) → b
(member 'b '(a b c)) → (b c)
(member 'd '(a b c)) → #f
(equal? 'a (car '(a b c))) → #t
```

- `car` and `cdr` can be combined for brevity

```
(cadr '(a b c)) ≡ (car (cdr '(a b c))) → b
```

`cadr` returns 2nd item in list

`caddr` returns 3rd item in list

`caddr` returns 4th item in list (can only go 4 levels deep)

Defining functions

can define a new function using `define`

- a function is a mapping from some number of inputs to a single output

```
(define (NAME INPUTS) OUTPUT_VALUE)
```

```
(define (square x)
  (* x x))

(define (next-to-last arlist)
  (cadr (reverse arlist)))

(define (add-at-end1 item arlist)
  (reverse (cons item (reverse arlist))))

(define (add-at-end2 item arlist)
  (append arlist (list item)))
```

```
(square 5) → 25

(next-to-last '(a b c d))
  → c

(add-at-end1 'x '(a b c))
  → '(a b c x)

(add-at-end2 'x '(a b c))
  → '(a b c x)
```

Examples

```
(define (miles->feet mi)
  IN-CLASS EXERCISE
)
```

```
(miles->feet 1) → 5280
```

```
(miles->feet 1.5) → 7920.0
```

```
(define (replace-front new-item old-list)
  IN-CLASS EXERCISE
)
```

```
(replace-front 'x '(a b c))
  → (x b c)
```

```
(replace-front 12 '(foo))
  → (12)
```

Conditional evaluation

can select alternative expressions to evaluate

```
(if TEST TRUE_EXPRESSION FALSE_EXPRESSION)

(define (my-abs num)
  (if (negative? num)
      (- 0 num)
      num))

(define (wind-chill temp wind)
  (if (<= wind 3)
      (exact->inexact temp)
      (+ 35.74 (* 0.6215 temp)
         (* (- (* 0.4275 temp) 35.75) (expt wind 0.16)))))
```

Conditional evaluation (cont.)

logical connectives `and`, `or`, `not` can be used

predicates exist for selecting various types

```
symbol?   char?   boolean?  string?   list?    null?
number?   complex? real?     rational? integer?
exact?    inexact?
```

note: an if-expression is a *special form*

- is *not* considered a functional expression, doesn't follow standard evaluation rules

```
(if (list? x)
    (car x)
    (list x))
```

test expression is evaluated

- if value is anything but `#f`, first expr evaluated & returned
- if value is `#f`, second expr evaluated & returned

```
(if (and (list? x) (= (length x) 1))
    'singleton
    'not)
```

Boolean expressions are evaluated left-to-right, short-circuited

Multi-way conditional

when there are more than two alternatives, can

- nest if-expressions (i.e., cascading ifs)
- use the `cond` special form (i.e., a switch)

```
(cond (TEST1 EXPRESSION1)
      (TEST2 EXPRESSION2)
      . . .
      (else EXPRESSIONn))
```

evaluate tests in order

- when reach one that evaluates to "true", evaluate corresponding expression & return

```
(define (compare num1 num2)
  (cond ((= num1 num2) 'equal)
        (> num1 num2) 'greater)
        (else 'less)))

(define (wind-chill temp wind)
  (cond (> temp 50) 'UNDEFINED)
        (<= wind 3) (exact->inexact temp))
        (else (+ 35.74 (* 0.6215 temp)
                  (* (- (* 0.4275 temp) 35.75)
                     (expt wind 0.16))))))
```

Examples

```
(define (palindrome? lst)
  IN-CLASS EXERCISE
)
```

```
(palindrome? '(a b b a))
→ #t
```

```
(palindrome? '(a b c a))
→ #f
```

```
(define (safe-replace-front new-item old-list)
  IN-CLASS EXERCISE
)
```

```
(safe-replace-front 'x '(a b c))
→ (x b c)
```

```
(safe-replace-front 'x '())
→ 'ERROR
```

Repetition via recursion

pure LISP/Scheme does not have loops

- repetition is performed via recursive functions

```
(define (sum-1-to-N N)
  (if (< N 1)
      0
      (+ N (sum-1-to-N (- N 1)))))
```

```
(define (my-member item lst)
  (cond ((null? lst) #f)
        ((equal? item (car lst)) lst)
        (else (my-member item (cdr lst)))))
```

Examples

```
(define (sum-list numlist)
  IN-CLASS EXERCISE
  )
```

```
(sum-list '()) → 0
```

```
(sum-list '(10 4 19 8)) → 41
```

```
(define (my-length lst)
  IN-CLASS EXERCISE
  )
```

```
(my-length '()) → 0
```

```
(my-length '(10 4 19 8)) → 4
```

Tail-recursion vs. full-recursion

a tail-recursive function is one in which the recursive call occurs last

```
(define (my-member item lst)
  (cond ((null? lst) #f)
        ((equal? item (car lst)) lst)
        (else (my-member item (cdr lst)))))
```

a full-recursive function is one in which further evaluation is required

```
(define (sum-1-to-N N)
  (if (< N 1)
      0
      (+ N (sum-1-to-N (- N 1)))))
```

full-recursive call requires memory proportional to number of calls

→ limit to recursion depth

tail-recursive function can reuse same memory for each recursive call

→ no limit on recursion

Tail-recursion vs. full-recursion (cont.)

any full-recursive function can be rewritten using tail-recursion

- often accomplished using a help function with an accumulator
- since Scheme is statically scoped, can hide help function by nesting

```
(define (factorial N)
  (if (zero? N)
      1
      (* N (factorial (- N 1)))))
```

value is computed "on the way up"

```
(factorial 2)
  ↑
(* 2 (factorial 1))
  ↑
(* 1 (factorial 0))
  ↑
1
```

```
(define (factorial N)
  (define (factorial-help N value-so-far)
    (if (zero? N)
        value-so-far
        (factorial-help (- N 1)
                        (* N value-so-far))))
  (factorial-help N 1))
```

value is computed "on the way down"

```
(factorial-help 2 1)
  ↓
(factorial-help 1 (* 2 1))
  ↓
(factorial-help 0 (* 1 2))
  ↓
2
```

Finally, variables!

Scheme does provide for variables and destructive assignments

```
> (define x 4)           define creates and initializes a variable

> x
4

> (set! x (+ x 1))      set! updates a variable

> x
5
```

since Scheme is statically scoped, can have global variables

- destructive assignments destroy the functional model
- for efficiency, Scheme utilizes structure sharing – messed up by set!

Let expression

fortunately, Scheme provides a "clean" mechanism for creating variables to store (immutable) values

```
(let ((VAR1 VALUE1)
      (VAR2 VALUE2)
      . . .
      (VARn VALUEn))
  EXPRESSION)
```

let expression introduces a new environment with variables (i.e., a block)

good for naming a value (don't need set!)

same effect could be obtained via help function

game of craps:

- if first roll is 7, then WINNER
- if first roll is 2 or 12, then LOSER
- if neither, then first roll is "point"
 - keep rolling until get 7 (LOSER) or point (WINNER)

```
(define (craps)
  (define (roll-until point)
    (let ((next-roll (+ (random 6) (random 6) 2)))
      (cond ((= next-roll 7) 'LOSER)
            ((= next-roll point) 'WINNER)
            (else (roll-until point)))))
  (let ((roll (+ (random 6) (random 6) 2)))
    (cond ((or (= roll 2) (= roll 12)) 'LOSER)
          ((= roll 7) 'WINNER)
          (else (roll-until roll)))))
```

Scheme I/O

to see the results of the rolls, could append rolls in a list and return

or, bite the bullet and use non-functional features

- `display` displays S-expr (`newline` yields carriage return)
- `read` reads S-expr from input
- `begin` provides sequencing (for side effects), evaluates to last value

```
(define (craps)
  (define (roll-until point)
    (let ((next-roll (+ (random 6) (random 6) 2)))
      (begin (display "Roll: ") (display next-roll) (newline)
             (cond ((= next-roll 7) 'LOSER)
                   ((= next-roll point) 'WINNER)
                   (else (roll-until point))))))
  (let ((roll (+ (random 6) (random 6) 2)))
    (begin (display "Point: ") (display roll) (newline)
           (cond ((or (= roll 2) (= roll 12)) 'LOSER)
                 ((= roll 7) 'WINNER)
                 (else (roll-until roll))))))
```

Next week...

AI programming and logic

- classic AI programs in Scheme
- logic, predicate calculus
- automated deduction

Read Chapter 2

Be prepared for a quiz on

- this week's lecture (moderately thorough)
- the reading (superficial)