

Knowledge-based systems in Bioinformatics, IMB602

Scheme lecture 2

Procedural abstraction and data abstraction



Lecture Overview

- Procedural abstraction
 - Higher order procedures
 - Procedures as arguments
 - Procedures as returned values
- Local variables
- Data abstraction
 - Compound data
 - Principles of data abstraction



Procedural abstraction

1. $1 + 2 + \dots + 100 = (100 * 101)/2$
2. $1 + 4 + 9 + \dots + 100^2 = (100 * 101 * 201)/6$

```
(define (sum-integers a b)
  (if (> a b)
      0
      (+ a (sum-integers (+ 1 a) b))))
```

```
(define (sum-squares a b)
  (if (> a b)
      0
      (+ (square a)
          (sum-squares (+ 1 a) b))))
```

Generalized:

```
(define (sum term a next b)
  (if (> a b)
      0
      (+ (term a)
          (sum term (next a) next b))))
```



The sum procedure

```
(define (sum term a next b)
  (if (> a b)
      0
      (+ (term a)
          (sum term (next a) next b))))
```

- What is the type of this procedure?

(number → number, number, number → number, number) → number

sum procedure



Higher order procedures

- A higher order procedure:
 - takes a procedure as an argument or returns one as a value

```
(define (sum-integers a b)
  (sum (lambda (x) x) a (lambda (x) (+ x 1)) b))
```

```
(define (sum-squares a b)
  (sum square a (lambda (x) (+ x 1)) b))
```

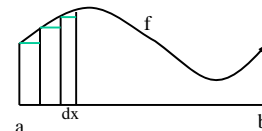
- The sum procedure is a higher order procedure



Integration as a procedure

Integration under a curve is given roughly by

$$dx(f(a) + f(a + dx) + f(a + 2dx) + \dots + f(b))$$

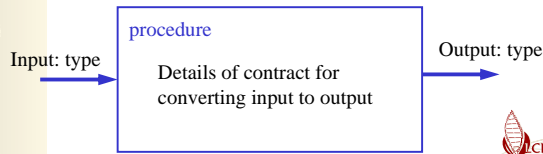


```
(define (integral f a b)
  (* (sum f a (lambda (x) (+ x dx)) b) dx))
(define dx 1.0e-3)
(define (atan a)
  (integral (lambda (x) (/ 1 (+ 1 (square x)))) 0 a))
```



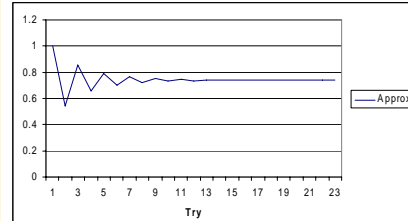
Procedural abstraction

- Process of procedural abstraction
 - Define formal parameters, capture process in body of procedure
 - Give procedure a name
 - Hide implementation details from user, who just invokes names to apply procedures (abstraction barrier)
 - Black box abstraction



Finding fixed points of functions

- Problem: find a x that satisfies $f(x) = x$
- Strategy for finding fixed points:
 - Given a guess x_i , let new guess be $f(x_i)$
 - Keep computing f for last guess, until close enough
- Example: find a x that satisfies $\cos(x) = x$



Finding fixed points of functions cont.

- Given a guess x , let new guess be $f(x)$
 - $f(x), f(f(x)), f(f(f(x))), f(f(f(f(x))))$, ...
- Keep computing f for last guess, until close enough

```
(define (fixed-point f guess)
  (define (close? u v)
    (< (abs (- u v)) 0.0001))
  (define (try g)
    (if (close? (f g) g) (f g)
        (try (f g))))
  (try guess))
```

Using fixed points

- Computing the square root of x require finding a y such that $y^2 = x$, or $y = x/y$
- This is equivalent to looking for a fix point of the function $f(y) = x/y$

```
(define (sqrt x)
  (fixed-point
   (lambda (y) (/ x y))
   1))
```

Using fixed points cont.

```
(sqrt 2)
(fixed-point (lambda (y) (/ 2 y)) 1)
(try 1)
...
(try 2)
...
(try 1)
...
(sqrt 2) oscillates between 1 and 2
• So damp out the oscillation...
```

$$\begin{aligned} y &= x/y \\ (y+y)/2 &= (x/y+y)/2 \\ y &= (x/(y+y))/2 \end{aligned}$$

```
(define (sqrt x)
  (fixed-point
   (damp
    (lambda (y)
      (/ x y))))
  1))

(define (average x y)
  (/ (+ x y) 2))

(define (damp f)
  (lambda (x)
    (average x (f x))))
```

Using let to create local variables

- Suppose we wish to compute the function:

$$f(x,y) = x(I+xy)^2 + y(I-y) + (I+xy)(I-y)$$
- which we also could express as:

$$\begin{aligned} a &= I + xy \\ b &= I - y \\ f(x,y) &= xa^2 + yb + ab \end{aligned}$$
- In Scheme:

```
(define (f x y)
  (define (f-help a b)
    (+ (* x (square a))
       (* y b)
       (* a b)))
  (f-help (+ 1 (* x y))
          (- 1 y)))
```

Using let to create local variables cont.

```
(define (f x y)
  (define (f-help a b)
    (+ (* x (square a))
      (* y b)
      (* a b)))
  (f-help (+ 1 (* x y))
    (- 1 y)))
```

↕

```
(define (f x y)
  (let ((a (+ 1 (* x y)))
        (b (- 1 y)))
    (+ (* x (square a))
      (* y b)
      (* a b))))
```

↕

```
(define (f x y)
  ((lambda (a b)
    (+ (* x (square a))
      (* y b)
      (* a b)))
   (+ 1 (* x y))
   (- 1 y)))
```

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Syntax of let expressions

- **General form**

```
(let ((<var1> <exp1>)
      (<var2> <exp2>)
      ...
      (<varn> <expn>))
  <body>)
```
- **var_i cannot depend on var_j**
- **If this is desired, use let*, e.g.**

```
(let* ((a 3)
      (b (* 5 a)))
  (* a b))
```

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Compound data

- Need ways of gluing data elements together into a unit that can be treated as a simple data element
- Need ways of retrieving data elements
- Need a contract between the “glue” and the “unglue”
- Ideally want the result of this “gluing” to have the property of closure:
 - “the result obtained by creating a compound data structure can itself be treated as a primitive object and thus be input to the creation of another compound object”

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Pairs (cons-cells)

- $(\text{cons } \langle x\text{-exp} \rangle \langle y\text{-exp} \rangle) \rightarrow \langle \text{Pair} \rangle$
 Where $\langle x\text{-exp} \rangle$ evaluates to a value $\langle x\text{-val} \rangle$, and $\langle y\text{-exp} \rangle$ evaluates to a value $\langle y\text{-val} \rangle$
- $(\text{car } \langle \text{Pair} \rangle) \rightarrow \langle x\text{-val} \rangle$
 Returns the car-part of the pair $\langle P \rangle$
- $(\text{cdr } \langle \text{Pair} \rangle) \rightarrow \langle y\text{-val} \rangle$
 Returns the cdr-part of the pair $\langle P \rangle$

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Compound data cont.

- **Treat a PAIR as a single unit:**
 - Can pass a pair as argument
 - Can return a pair as a value

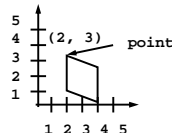
```
(define (make-point x y)
  (cons x y))

(define (point-x point)
  (car point))

(define (point-y point)
  (cdr point))

(define (make-seg pt1 pt2)
  (cons pt1 pt2))

(define (start-point seg)
  (car seg))
```



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Pair abstraction

- **Constructor**
 $(\text{cons } \langle x \rangle \langle y \rangle) \rightarrow \langle \text{Pair} \rangle$
- **Accessors**
 $(\text{car } \langle \text{Pair} \rangle) \rightarrow \langle x \rangle$
 $(\text{cdr } \langle \text{Pair} \rangle) \rightarrow \langle y \rangle$
- **Predicate**
 $(\text{pair? } \langle z \rangle) \rightarrow \#t$ if $\langle z \rangle$ evaluates to a pair, else $\#f$

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Pair abstraction cont.

- Note that there is a contract between the constructor and the accessors
 - `(car (cons <a>))` → `<a>`
 - `(cdr (cons <a>))` → ``
- Note how pairs have the **property of closure** – we can use the result of a pair as an element of a new pair:
 - `(cons (cons 1 2) 3)`

An example: rational numbers

- What are the elements of rational numbers n/d ?
 - numerator: n
 - denominator: d
- A rational number is a ratio n/d
- $a/b + c/d = (ad + bc)/bd$
- $a/b * c/d = (ac)/(bd)$

Rational number abstraction

1. **Constructor**
`(make-rat <n> <d>)`
2. **Accessors**
`(numer <r>)`
`(denom <r>)`
3. **Contract**
`(numer (make-rat <n> <d>))` → `<n>`
`(denom (make-rat <n> <d>))` → `<d>`
4. **Layered Operations**
`(print-rat <r>)`
`(+rat x y)`
`(*rat x y)`
5. **Abstraction Barrier**
Say nothing about implementation!

Rational number abstraction cont.

1. Constructor
2. Accessors
3. Contract
4. Layered Operations
5. Abstraction Barrier

Elements of data abstraction

6. Concrete Representation & Implementation (can alternate!)

```
(define (make-rat n d) (cons n d))
(define (numer r) (car r))
(define (denom r) (cdr r))
```

Layered rational numbers operation

```
(define (+rat x y)
  (make-rat (+ (* (numer x) (denom y))
              (* (numer y) (denom x)))
            (* (denom x) (denom y))))

(define (*rat x y)
  (make-rat (* (numer x) (numer y))
            (* (denom x) (denom y))))

(define (print-rat x)
  (newline)
  (display (numer x))
  (display "/" )
  (display (denom x)))
```

Testing our procedures

```
(define one-half (make-rat 1 2))
(define three-fourths (make-rat 3 4))
(define new (+rat one-half three-fourths))
(print-rat new)
10/8
```

Oops – should be 5/4 not 10/8!

Rationalize implementation

- Strategy 1: remove common factors when accessing numer and denom
- Strategy 2: remove common factors when creating a rational number

Implementation – strategy 1

```
(define (gcd a b)
  (if (= b 0)
      a
      (gcd b (remainder a b))))

(define (numer r)
  (let ((g (gcd (car r) (cdr r))))
    (/ (car r) g)))

(define (denom r)
  (let ((g (gcd (car r) (cdr r))))
    (/ (cdr r) g)))

(define (make-rat n d)
  (cons n d))
```

Implementation – strategy 2

```
(define (gcd a b)
  (if (= b 0)
      a
      (gcd b (remainder a b))))

(define (numer r) (car r))

(define (denom r) (cdr r))

(define (make-rat n d)
  (let ((g (gcd n d)))
    (cons (/ n g)
          (/ d g))))
```

Data abstraction cont.

- What is a pair?
 - If we “glue” two objects together using `cons` we can retrieve the objects using `car` and `cdr`
 - We don’t know the implementation only that Scheme supplies procedures (`cons`, `car`, `cdr`) for operating on pairs
- We could implement `cons`, `car`, and `cdr` without using any data structures but only using procedures
- Requirement: contract between constructor and accessor
 - `(car (cons <a>))` → `<a>`
 - `(cdr (cons <a>))` → ``

Data abstraction cont.

```
(define (cons x y)
  (define (dispatch m)
    (cond ((= m 0) x)
          ((= m 1) y)
          (else (error "Wrong arg for disp"))))
  dispatch)

(define (car z) (z 0))
(define (cdr z) (z 1))
```

- `(cons x y)` returns a procedure (higher order procedure)
- This style of programming is often called **message passing**.

References

- H. Abelson, G.J. Sussman, Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs 2nd ed, The MIT Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2000, Chp: 1.3, 2.1, pp: 56-76, 79-94
- 6.001 Spring 2000: Lecture Notes, lecture 4, 5, 6, <http://sicp.ai.mit.edu/Spring-2000/lectures/>