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# **COMBINATORS HEREDITARILY OF ORDER TWO**

by

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Research Report No. 88-33<sub>2</sub>

August 1988

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## Introduction

In [4] we introduced the combinators hereditarily of order one (HOO) and showed that the word problem for HOO combinations is  $\log$  space complete for polynomial time. In this note we shall introduce the combinators hereditarily of order two (HOT). We shall show that every partial recursive function is representable by a HOT combinator, although HOT combinators form a hierarchy by definitional level (and consequently are not combinatorially complete). In particular, the word problem for HOT combinations has Turing degree  $0'$ .

HOT

We shall think of members of HOT as atoms with associated reduction rules. Some care will be needed since the resulting conversion relation does not coincide with  $\lambda$  conversion of the corresponding  $\lambda$  terms. Consequently, for negative results we shall switch to the  $\lambda$  calculus and  $\lambda$  conversion. HOT and  $\rightarrow$  are defined simultaneously by induction as follows.

If  $\lambda$  is a combination of  $x$ 's and  $y$ 's then  $X$  defined by the reduction rule  $X\lambda \rightarrow \lambda$  belongs to HOT. If  $\lambda$  is a  $\rightarrow$  normal combination of members of HOT,  $x$ 's, and  $y$ 's then  $X$  defined by reduction rule  $X\lambda \rightarrow \lambda$  belongs to HOT. In each case we write  $X \equiv \lambda$ .

Examples

$$L \equiv \lambda x y. x(yy)$$

$$U \equiv \lambda x y. y(xxy)$$

$$O \equiv \lambda x y. y(xy)$$

$$H_0 \equiv L$$

$$H_x \equiv \lambda x y. x(yL)$$

$$H_{n+2} \equiv \lambda x y. x(yH_{n+1})$$

Encoding Data Types in HOT

Booleans:

$$T \equiv K$$

$$F \equiv K_*$$

$$D \equiv \lambda x y. xyT$$

$$\neg \equiv (\lambda x y. yFT)T$$

Integers: Barendregt numerals

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{0} &\equiv K_{**}K_{**} \\ \text{succ} &\equiv \lambda xy \ yFx \\ \text{pred} &\equiv (\lambda xy \ yF)T \\ \text{zero} &\equiv (\lambda xy \ yT)T \\ \text{sg} &\equiv (\lambda xy \ yT\underline{0} \ \underline{1})T \\ \overline{\text{sg}} &\equiv (\lambda xy \ yT\underline{1} \ \underline{0})T \end{aligned}$$

A Hierachy

If  $X \equiv \lambda xy \ \mathcal{A}$  set  $\text{rnk}(X) = 1 + \max\{\text{rnk}(Y) : Y \text{ appears in } \mathcal{A}\}$ . So, for example,  $\text{rnk}(H_n) = n + 1$ .

Below  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Z} \dots$  range over arbitrary combinations of HOT combinators and variables.  $\mathcal{X}^\lambda$  is the  $\lambda$  term which results from  $\mathcal{X}$  by repeatedly replacing HOT combinators by their  $\lambda$  definitions and  $\mathcal{X}^{\lambda \text{CL}} \equiv \mathcal{X}$ .

We note here that  $\rightarrow$  is a regular left normal combinatory reduction system ([3]) and consequently satisfies the Church-Rosser and standization theorems.

We shall show that  $H_n^\lambda$  does not  $\beta$  convert to an applicative combination of  $\text{HOT}^\lambda$  combinators of ranks  $\leq n$ . For this we need some preliminaries.

Def<sup>n</sup>  $M$  is head secure if for some  $\mathcal{X} \ni y, Mxy \rightarrow x\mathcal{X}$

Def<sup>n</sup>  $\mathcal{X}$  unrolls to  $\mathcal{Y}$  if there are HOT combinators  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) such that

$$\mathcal{X} \xrightarrow{\ell} Y_1(\dots(Y_n \mathcal{Y})\dots)$$

(see [1] pg. 327)

Lemma:

Suppose that  $M$  is a head secure combination of HOT combinators of rank  $\leq n$  and  $Mx \xrightarrow{\text{head}} \mathcal{X}$ . Then  $\mathcal{X}$  is a combination of  $y$ 's, HOT combinators of rank  $< n$ , and  $\mathcal{Y}$  s.t.  $Mx$  unrolls to  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

Proof:

The conclusion is true of  $Mx$ , so suppose that the conclusion is true of  $\mathcal{X}_1$  and  $\mathcal{X}_1 \xrightarrow{\text{head}} \mathcal{X}_2$ .

Case 1;  $\mathcal{X}_1 \equiv \mathcal{Y} \mathcal{Y}_1 \dots \mathcal{Y}_m$  where  $Mx$  unrolls to  $\mathcal{Y}$ . Since  $Mx$  is headsecure  $\mathcal{Y}$  is not an atom. If  $\mathcal{Y}$  begins with a head redex, the conclusion clearly holds for  $\mathcal{X}_2$ . The last remaining case is  $\mathcal{Y} \equiv Y \mathcal{Y}_0$ . By definition  $Mx$  unrolls to  $\mathcal{Y}_0$ . Moreover, if  $Z$  appears in the r.h.s. of the defining reduction rule for  $Y$ , then  $\text{rnk}(Z) < n$ . Thus  $\mathcal{X}_2$  satisfies the conclusion.

Case 2;  $\mathcal{X}_1 \equiv Y \mathcal{Y}_1 \dots \mathcal{Y}_m$  where  $\text{rnk}(Y) < n$ . As above,  $\mathcal{X}_2$  satisfies the conclusion.

Corollary:

If  $M$  is head secure then  $Mx$  has a normal form

$$Y_1(\dots(Y_n x)\dots)$$

Proof:

If  $M$  is head secure then for some  $\mathcal{X} \ni y$ ,  $Mxy \xrightarrow[\text{head}]{} x\mathcal{X}$ . Since  $Mx$  does not unroll to  $x\mathcal{X}$ ,  $Mx$  unrolls to  $x$ .

Proposition:

There is no combination  $M$  of HOT combinators of rank  $\leq n$  such that

$$M^\lambda = H_n^\lambda$$

Proof:

The proof is by induction on  $n$ . The basis case, when  $n = 0$  is trivial. Suppose  $n > 0$  and  $M^\lambda = H_n^\lambda$ . Then  $M^\lambda xy \xrightarrow[\beta]{} x(y H_{n-1}^\lambda)$ . By the standardization theorem there is a reduction

$$M^\lambda xy \xrightarrow[\beta \text{ head}]{} x\mathcal{X} \xrightarrow[\beta \text{ head}]{\text{reduction of } \mathcal{X}} x(y\mathcal{Y}) \xrightarrow[\beta \text{ internal}]{} x(y H_{n-1}^\lambda)$$



Thus we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Mxy & \xrightarrow{\text{head}} & x\mathcal{X}^{\text{CL}} & \xrightarrow{\text{head}} & x(y\mathcal{Y}^{\text{CL}}). \\
 & & & \text{reduction of} & \\
 & & & \mathcal{X}^{\text{CL}} & 
 \end{array}$$

In particular,  $M$  is head secure so  $Mx$  has a normal form

$X_1(\dots(X_m x)\dots)$ . We have then (\*)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X_1(\dots(X_m x)\dots)y & \xrightarrow{\text{head}} & x\mathcal{Z} & \xrightarrow{\text{head}} & x(y\mathcal{Z}) \\
 & & & \text{reduction of} & \\
 & & & \mathcal{Z} & 
 \end{array}$$

where  $\mathcal{Z} \xrightarrow{\beta} H_{n-1}^\lambda$ . Now  $\mathcal{Z}$  is combination of HOT combinators of rank  $< n$ ,  $y$ 's, and terms

$$X_i(\dots(X_m x)\dots)$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m + 1$ . Put  $N \equiv [\Omega/x, \Omega/y]\mathcal{Z}$ . Then as above

$$\begin{array}{l}
 Nxy \rightarrow x(yy) \quad \text{if } n = 1 \\
 Nxy \rightarrow x\mathcal{X}_1 \rightarrow x(y\mathcal{Y}_1) \quad \text{where } \mathcal{Y}_1 \xrightarrow{\beta} H_{n-2}^\lambda \quad \text{when } n > 1.
 \end{array}$$

In either case  $N$  is head secure so  $Nx$  has a normal form

$Y_1(\dots(Y_k x)\dots)$ . When  $n = 1$ , since each HOT combinator in  $N$  appears only in iterated function position applied to  $\Omega$ , we have  $k = 0$  and

$Nx \rightarrow x$ . This a contradiction. When  $n > 1$ , by similar reasoning  $\text{rnk}(Y_j) < n$  for  $j = 1 \dots k$ . By standarization there is a reduction

$$Y_1(\dots(Y_k x)\dots)y \xrightarrow{\text{head}} x \mathcal{Q}_1 \xrightarrow{\text{head}} x(y \mathcal{Z}_1)$$

reduction of  $\mathcal{Q}_1$

where  $\mathcal{Z}_1^\lambda \xrightarrow{\beta} H_{n-2}^\lambda$ . This reproduces  $(*)$  at one lower rank.

Primitive Recursive Functions

Put  $\hat{\text{succ}} \equiv \lambda xy(\lambda uv \ vFu)(xy)$  and

$$\Theta \equiv (\lambda uv \ v\underline{O}\underline{U}\underline{U}(\lambda xy \ yT(K_{\times}K_{\times})(\hat{\text{succ}}(x(yF))))v)T.$$

Then  $\Theta$  is a normal HOT combination and  $\Theta^\lambda$  has a  $\beta$  normal form.

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta_{\underline{n}} &= \frac{\Theta(\lambda xy \ yT(K_{\times}K_{\times})(\hat{\text{succ}}(x(\text{pred } y))))}{\Phi} \underline{n} \\ &= \underline{n} T(K_{\times}K_{\times})(\hat{\text{succ}}(\Phi(\text{pred } \underline{n}))) \\ &= \frac{\hat{\text{succ}}(\dots(\hat{\text{succ}} \underline{O})\dots)}{\underline{n}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\Theta \underline{n} \underline{m} = \underbrace{\text{succ}(\dots(\text{succ} \underline{m})\dots)}_{\underline{n}} \equiv \underline{n + m}.$$

Put  $\hat{\Theta} \equiv \lambda xy \ x y \underline{O} \underline{U} \underline{U} (\lambda uv \ v \underline{T} (K_{*} K_{*}) (\hat{\text{succ}}(u(vF)))) (xy) y$

$$\Theta \equiv (\lambda uv \ v \underline{O} \underline{U} \underline{U} (\lambda xy \ y \underline{T} (K \underline{O}) (\hat{\Theta}(x(yF)))) v) \underline{T}$$

Then  $\Theta$  is a normal HOT combination and  $\Theta^{\lambda}$  has a  $\beta$  normal form.

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta \underline{n} &= \underbrace{\Theta(\lambda xy \ y \underline{T} (K \underline{O}) (\hat{\Theta}(x(\text{pred } y))))}_{\Psi} \underline{n} \\ &= \underline{n} \underline{T} (K \underline{O}) (\hat{\Theta}(\Psi(\text{pred } \underline{n}))) \\ &= \underbrace{\hat{\Theta}(\dots(\hat{\Theta}(K \underline{O}))\dots)}_{\underline{n}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\Theta \underline{n} \underline{m} = \underbrace{\Theta(\dots(\Theta(\Theta(K \underline{O} \underline{m}) \underline{m}) \underline{m})\dots)}_{\underline{n}} \underline{m} = \underline{n \cdot m}$$

Set  $\hat{\text{pred}} \equiv \lambda xy \ x y \underline{T} \underline{O} (xyF)$

$$\Theta \equiv (\lambda uv \ v \underline{O} \underline{U} \underline{U} (\lambda xy \ y \underline{T} \underline{O} (\hat{\text{pred}}(x(yF)))) v) \underline{T}$$

Then  $\Theta$  is a normal HOT combination and  $\Theta^{\lambda}$  has a  $\beta$  normal form.

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta_{\underline{n}} &= \frac{\theta(\lambda xy \ y T Q(\widehat{\text{pred}}(x(\text{pred } y))))}{x} \underline{n} \\
 &= \underline{n} T Q(\widehat{\text{pred}}(x(\text{pred } \underline{n}))) \\
 &= \frac{\widehat{\text{pred}}(\dots(\widehat{\text{pred } Q})\dots)}{n}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\theta_{\underline{n} \ \underline{m}} = \frac{\widehat{\text{pred}}(\dots(\widehat{\text{pred } \underline{m}})\dots)}{n} \quad \text{if } m \geq n$$

$\underline{Q}$ 
else

so  $\theta_{\underline{n} \ \underline{m}} = \underline{m} \dot{-} \underline{n}$ .

Using the above techniques and constructions one can find HOT combinators  $\text{sq}$ ,  $\text{rt}$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\text{quadres}$ ,  $P$ , and  $R$ , all of whose  $\lambda$  have a  $\beta$  normal form s.t.

$$\Lambda_{\underline{n} \ \underline{m}} = \underline{|n - m|}$$

$$\text{sq } T \ \underline{n} = \underline{n}^2$$

$$\text{rt } T \ \underline{n} = \underline{\lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor}$$

$$\text{quadres } T \underline{n} = \underline{n - \lfloor \sqrt{n} \rfloor^2}$$

$$P \underline{n} \underline{m} = \underline{((n + m)^2 + m)^2 + n}$$

$$RT \underline{n} = \text{quadres } T(\text{rt } T \underline{n}).$$

Note that  $RT(P \underline{n} \underline{m}) = \underline{m}$  and  $\text{quadres } T(P \underline{n} \underline{m}) = \underline{n}$ .

Suppose now that  $M$  and  $N$  are normal HOT combinations s.t.  $M^\lambda, N^\lambda$  have  $\beta$  normal forms. Define

$$\text{Sum}(M, N) \equiv (\lambda y x \ x \underline{0} \ \oplus(x \underline{0} \ M x)(x \underline{0} \ N x))T$$

$$\text{Comp}(M, N) \equiv (\lambda y x \ x \underline{0} \ M(x \underline{0} \ N x))T$$

$$\text{It}(M) \equiv (\lambda y x \ x \underline{0} \ \cup \cup(\lambda u v \ v \underline{0} \ \underline{y \underline{0} \ M(u(vF))}))x)T$$

Then  $\text{Sum}(M, N)$ ,  $\text{Comp}(M, N)$ , and  $\text{It}(M)$  are normal HOT combinations whose  $\lambda$ 's have  $\beta$  normal forms and

$$\text{Sum}(M, N) \underline{n} = \oplus(M \underline{n})(N \underline{n})$$

$$\text{Comp}(M, N) \underline{n} = M(N \underline{n})$$

$$\text{It}(M) \underline{n} = \underbrace{M(\dots(M \underline{0})\dots)}_n$$

Thus by [2] pg. 93 we have proved the following.

Proposition:

Every primitive recursive unary function is representable by a normal HOT combination whose  $\lambda$  has a  $\beta$  normal form.

Partial Recursive Functions

Let  $t$  be the characteristic function of Kleene's  $T$  predicate i.e.  $T(e, x, y) \leftrightarrow t(e, x, y) = 0$  and  $\neg T(e, x, y) \leftrightarrow t(e, x, y) = 1$ . Then by the previous proposition for each Gödel number the unary primitive recursive function  $t(e, x \div [\sqrt{x}]^2, [\sqrt{x}] \div [\sqrt{[\sqrt{x}]^2})$  is representable by a normal HOT combination  $H_e^\lambda$  s.t.  $H_e^\lambda$  has a  $\beta$  normal form. By [2] pgs. 83 and 84  $H_e(P \underline{n} \underline{m}) = \underline{t(e, n, m)}$ . Define  $G_e \equiv$

$$(\lambda v u. u \underline{0} \underline{1} \underline{1} (\lambda x y (y \underline{0} H_e y T) (y \underline{0} R y) (x (y \underline{0} P (y \underline{0} L y))))$$

$$((y \underline{0} \text{succ})(y \underline{0} R y)))) (u \underline{0} P u \underline{0}) T$$

Then

$$G_e \underline{n} = \theta \frac{(\lambda x y (y \underline{0} H_e y T) (y \underline{0} R y) (x (y \underline{0} P (y \underline{0} L y)))) ((y \underline{0} \text{succ})(y \underline{0} R y)))}{\Gamma} (P \underline{n} \underline{0})$$

$$= H_e (P \underline{n} \underline{0}) T \underline{0} (\theta \Gamma (P \underline{n} \underline{1})) = \dots$$

$$\underline{\mu m t(e, n, m) = 0.}$$

Thus if  $F$  is a normal HOT combination representing Kleene's result extracting function with  $F^\lambda$  having a  $\beta$  normal form

$$(\lambda yx \ x \underline{0} F(x \underline{0} G_e x))T$$

is a normal HOT combination whose  $\lambda$  has a  $\beta$  normal form which represents the partial recursive function  $\{e\}$ . Thus we have proved the following theorem.

Theorem:

Every partial recursive function is representable by a normal HOT combination whose  $\lambda$  has a  $\beta$  normal form.

## References

- [1] Barendregt, *The Lambda Calculus*, North Holland, 1984.
- [2] Peter, *Recursive Functions*, Academic Press, 1967.
- [3] Klop, *Combinatory Reduction Systems*, Math. Centrum, Amsterdam, 1980.
- [4] Statman, Combinators hereditarily of order one, Manuscript, July 1988.



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