

COMP 210, FALL 2000

Lecture 19: Functional Abstraction

Reminders:

1. Next exam is a take-home; handed out 3/17/00, due 3/22/00 (5pm in my office).
2. Exam will cover through *last* lecture. I will post the lecture notes for last lecture this afternoon, along with a revised explanation of how local actually translates the name space.
3. This week's homework will be a half-homework.

Review

1. We worked more examples with local. We tried to hammer home, by repetition, the ideas behind local.

On to Functional Abstraction

Write a simple function that consumes a list of numbers and produces a list of numbers. The numbers in the returned list should be exactly those numbers in the original list that are less than 5 (in the same order as the original list).

```
;; keep-lt-5 : list of numbers -> list of numbers
;; Purpose: keeps all input numbers less than 5
(define (keep-lt-5 alon)
  (cond
    [(empty? alon) empty]
    [(cons? alon)
     (cond
       [< (first alon) 5]
       [(cons (first alon) (keep-lt-5 (rest alon)))]
       [else (keep-lt-5 (rest alon))])
     ])
  ))
```

What about keep-lt-9 ?

```
;; keep-lt-9 : list of numbers -> list of numbers
;; Purpose: keeps all input numbers less than 9
(define (keep-lt-9 a-lon)
  (cond
    [(empty? alon) empty]
    [(cons? alon)
     (cond
       [< (first alon) 9]
       [(cons (first alon) (keep-lt-9 (rest alon)))]
       [else (keep-lt-9 (rest alon))])
     ])
  ))
```

Notice how these two functions have in common. Can we write one function that captures all this common code (*single-point of control*) and use it to implement keep-lt-5 and keep-lt-9?

```
;; keep-lt: number list-of-numbers -> list-of-numbers
;; Purpose: keep all input numbers that are less than the given number
(define (keep-lt num alon)
  (cond
    [(empty? alon) empty]
    [(cons? alon)
     (cond
       [(< (first alon) num)
        (cons (first alon) (keep-lt num (rest alon)))]
       [else (keep-lt num (rest alon))] ) ] ))
```

Notice that **num** never changes. We could use a local to avoid passing it around in so many places (and save work) [But, efficiency isn't a concern in the 1st part of Comp 210]

```
;; keep-lt: number list-of-numbers -> list-of-numbers
;; Purpose: keep all input numbers that are less than the given number
(define (keep-lt num alon)
  (local
    [(define (filter-lt alon)
      (cond
        [(empty? alon) empty]
        [(cons? alon)
         (cond
           [(< (first alon) num)
            (cons (first alon) (filter-lt num (rest alon)))]
           [else (filter-lt num (rest alon))] ) ] ))
     ]
    (filter-lt alon)
  ))
```

Using keep-lt, we can define keep-lt-5 and keep-lt-9

```
(define (keep-lt-5 alon)
  (keep-lt 5 alon))

(define (keep-lt-9 alon)
  (keep-lt 9 alon))
```

What if we wanted to write keep-gt-5

```
;; keep-gt-5 : list of numbers -> list of numbers
;; Purpose: keeps all input numbers greater than 5
(define (keep-gt-5 alon)
  (cond
    [(empty? alon) empty]
    [(cons? alon)
     (cond
       [(> (first alon) 5)
        (cons (first alon) (keep-gt-5 (rest alon)))]
       [else (keep-gt-5 (rest alon))])
     ])
  ))
```

Where do these functions differ? Only in the comparison operator and in the names of the functions. [The last lecture should have convinced you that the names are malleable.] How can we reuse the common code here? Previously, we made the upper limit on the value into a parameter. Now, we need to make the comparison operation itself be a parameter.

Aside

How do we represent > in the contract? (number number -> number)

We've been writing these contracts for eight weeks now. This should be pretty natural.

Back To Abstracting Out Comparison

```
;; keep-rel-5 : (num num -> num) list of numbers -> list of numbers
;; Purpose: keeps all input numbers that have relation than 5
(define (keep-rel-5 relation alon)
  (cond
    [(empty? alon) empty]
    [(cons? alon)
     (cond
       [(relation (first alon) 5)
        (cons (first alon) (keep-rel-5 relation (rest alon)))]
       [else (keep-relation-5 (rest alon))])
     ])
  ))
```

and

```
(define (keep-lt-5 alon)
  (keep-rel-5 < alon))
```

```
(define (keep-gt-5 alon)
  (keep-rel-5 > alon))
```

As before, we can use local in the obvious way to avoid passing relation as a parameter.

```
;; keep-rel-5 : (num num -> num) list of numbers -> list of numbers
;; Purpose: keeps all input numbers that have relation than 5
(define (keep-rel-5 relation alon)
  (local
    [(define (filter-rel alon)
      (cond
        [(empty? alon) empty]
        [(cons? alon)
         (cond
           [(relation (first alon) 5)
            (cons (first alon) (filter-rel (rest alon)))]
           [else (filter-rel (rest alon))] ) ] )])
    (filter-rel alon)))
(define (keep-lt-5 alon)
  (keep-rel-5 < alon))
```

Of course, the next thing we want to do is abstract out the number 5. We should be able to write a function that takes both the relation and the limit as parameters and returns a list containing the specified subset of the numbers in the original list.

```
;; keep-rel (num num -> num) num list-of-nums -> list-of-nums
;; Purpose: keep all the numbers in the input list that have the relation given
;; by the function argument to the number argument (whew!)
(define (keep-rel relation num alon)
  (local [(define filter-rel alon) ;; treat relation & num as invariant
          (cond
            [(empty? alon) empty]
            [(cons? alon)
             (cond
               [(relation (first alon) num)
                (cons (first alon) (filter-rel (rest alon)))]
               [else (filter-rel (rest alon))] ) ] )])
    (filter-rel alon) ))
(define (keep-gt-9 alon)
  (keep-rel > 9 alon))
```

Enough for one day.