

Simulation of Infinite Memory

In KMA the following program rewriting function *short* is desired. Given a program P_e of arity j using k variables, $k \geq j$, derive a program $P_{short(e)}$ such that $P_{short(e)} = P_e$ and $P_{short(e)}$ uses only $j + r$ variables, where r is a “constant” depending on j but not k .

The approach in KMA used pairing functions to fold a finite amount of memory into a fixed amount of memory. It is just as easy to devise a scheme which folds an *infinite* amount of memory into a fixed amount provided that only a finite number of variables are ever simultaneously non-zero. For a small conceptual effort to clarify what an infinite memory could mean, the while-program mechanisms are simplified.

A *pairing function* is a computable bijection $\tau : \mathbf{N} \times \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$. Its inverse is a pair of *projection functions* π_1 and π_2 such that,

$$i = \tau(\pi_1(i), \pi_2(i))$$

for all $i \in \mathbf{N}$. For our construction to succeed, we require $\tau(0, 0) = 0$. The pairing function of KMA is an example of such a pairing function:

$$\tau(i, j) = \frac{(i + j)(i + j + 1)}{2} + i. \quad (1)$$

We will define the symbol \mathbf{N}^ω as the *direct sum* of an infinite number of copies of the naturals. An element of \mathbf{N}^ω is an infinite-dimensional vector of naturals, all but finitely many entries being zero. The vector e_i which is zero in all but the i -th coordinate where it is one is an example of an element from \mathbf{N}^ω . So is the vector which is 1 for all odd numbers less than a billion and zero elsewhere.

Theorem 1 *There exists a computable bijection $\tau^* : \mathbf{N}^\omega \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$ with a family of projection functions $\pi_i^* : \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots$*

PROOF: Let τ be a pairing function 1. Then τ^* is,

$$\tau^*(x_1, x_2, \dots) = \tau(x_1, \tau(x_2, \dots \tau(x_i, \dots) \dots)).$$

Written this way, the function involves infinite recursion and is not computable, in fact, the definition itself is suspect. However, since $\tau(0, 0) = 0$, at a certain point it is inconsequential to continue the recursion. Define, therefore,

$$\tau^*(x) = \tau^i(x) = \tau(x_1, \tau(x_2, \dots, \tau(x_i, 0)) \dots)$$

where i is any integer such that x_j is zero for all $j > i$. If i and i' are two integers such that $x_j = 0$ for all $j > \min(i, i')$, then $\tau^i(x) = \tau^{i'}(x)$.

The inverse is defined as,

$$\pi_i^*(x) = \pi_1(\pi_2^{(i-1)}(x)).$$

That is, apply the projection π_2 iteratively $i - 1$ times to the argument, and then project by π_1 . Since τ^* is τ^i for some i , the proof that this π^* is the inverse reduces to what has already been proved by KMA for the case of pairing functions $\mathbf{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$.

The function τ^* is injective. Suppose $\tau^*(x) = \tau^*(y)$. Then for some i and j , $\tau^*(x) = \tau^i(x)$ and $\tau^*(y) = \tau^j(y)$. Letting $k = \max(i, j)$ then,

$$\tau^k(x) = \tau^i(x) = \tau^*(x) = \tau^*(y) = \tau^j(y) = \tau^k(y).$$

In KMA it is shown that τ^k is a bijection, so $x = y$.

The surjectivity a consequence of π^* being total.

□

To encode the variable X_1, \dots, X_k of a certain k -variable while-program into a single variable, say M , we consider the finite set of variables which the program actually uses as a subset of the infinite set of variables:

$$\dots, X_{-3}, X_{-2}, X_{-1}, X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots$$

The variables of index zero or less are always zero, as are the variables of indices larger than k .

For a j -ary program P_e begin by encoding the vector,

$$(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_j, 0, 0, \dots)$$

into a single number M . Since j is known, it is possible to select the proper finite version of τ^* . The variables,

$$(X_0, X_{-1}, \dots),$$

being all zero are encoded into the number $M' = 0$. We have the following macro, which takes the “top” number off of M and places it on M' .

```
nextX(M,M') =
  begin
    M' := tau( pi1(M), M' ) ;
    M  := pi2(M)
  end
```

Extraction of the value of a certain X_i from M is then possible by shifting an appropriate number of times and then projecting,

```
Xi := get(M,i) =
  begin
    M'' := M ;
    M'  := 0 ;
    i   := prev(i) ;
    while i <> 0 do nextX(M'',M') ;
    Xi  := pi1(M'')
  end
```

Changing the value of a certain X_i in memory M proceeds as follows.

```
set(M,i,Xi) =
  begin
    M' := 0 ;
    k  := prev(i) ;
    while k <> 0 do nextX(M,M') ;
    M := pi2(M) ;
    M := tau(Xi,M) ;
    k := pred(i) ;
    while k <> 0 do nextX(M',M)
  end
```

At the close of the program, we need to correctly place a value in X_1 ,

```
X1 := pi1(M)
```