

**Example:**

```
eval two_times_three :  
    MULT TWO ONE  
    =~> TWO
```

## *Programming in $\lambda$ -calculus*

- ✓ • **Booleans** [done]
- ✓ • **Records** (structs, tuples) [done]

- ✓ • Numbers [done]
- Lists
  - Functions [we got those]
  - Recursion

## $\lambda$ -calculus: Lists

Lets define an API to build lists in the  $\lambda$ -calculus.

An Empty List

NIL

Constructing a list

① Build  
② Access



A list with 4 elements

CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe (CONS dragon NIL)))

intuitively CONS h t creates a new list with

- head h
- tail t

*h : t*

STACK

Cons = PUSH

head = TOP

tail = POP

Destructing a list

- HEAD l returns the *first* element of the list
- TAIL l returns the *rest* of the list

HEAD (CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe (CONS dragon NIL))))

=~> apple

*head tail*

TAIL (CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe (CONS dragon NIL))))

=~> CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe (CONS dragon NIL)))

## $\lambda$ -calculus: Lists

```
let NIL  = ???  
let CONS = ???  
let HEAD = ???  
let TAIL = ???  
  
eval exHd:  
  HEAD (CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe (CONS dragon NIL))))  
  => apple  
  
eval exTl  
  TAIL (CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe (CONS dragon NIL))))  
  => CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe (CONS dragon NIL)))
```

CONS = PAIR  
HEAD = FST  
TAIL = SND

## EXERCISE: Nth

Write an implementation of GetNth such that

- GetNth n l returns the n-th element of the list l

Assume that *l* has *n* or more elements

```
let GetNth = ???
```

eval nth1 :  
 GetNth ZERO (CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe NIL)))  
 => apple

0      1      2

eval nth1 :  
 GetNth ONE (CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe NIL)))  
 => banana

0      1      2

eval nth2 :  
 GetNth TWO (CONS apple (CONS banana (CONS cantaloupe NIL)))  
 => cantaloupe

0      1      2

Click here to try this in elsa ([https://goto.ucsd.edu/elsa/index.html#?demo=permalink%2F1586466816\\_52273.lc](https://goto.ucsd.edu/elsa/index.html#?demo=permalink%2F1586466816_52273.lc))

*tail*

*tail*

*tail*

*head*

*tail*

*tail*

$n^{th} l = \underline{\underline{head}}(tail "n" \text{ times } l)$

# $\lambda$ -calculus: Recursion

I want to write a function that sums up natural numbers up to  $n$ :

```
let SUM = \n -> ... -- 0 + 1 + 2 + ... + n
```

such that we get the following behavior

eval exSum0: SUM ZERO	=~>	ZERO	0
eval exSum1: SUM ONE	=~>	ONE	0+1
eval exSum2: SUM TWO	=~>	THREE	0+1+2
eval exSum3: SUM THREE	=~>	SIX	0+1+2+3

Can we write sum using Church Numerals?

ADD

Click here to try this in Elsa ([https://goto.ucsd.edu/elsa/index.html#?demo=permalink%2F1586465192\\_52175.lc](https://goto.ucsd.edu/elsa/index.html#?demo=permalink%2F1586465192_52175.lc))

# QUIZ

You can write SUM using numerals but its tedious.

Is this a correct implementation of SUM?

```
let SUM = \n -> ITE (ISZ n)
      ZERO
      (ADD n (SUM (DEC n)))
```

A. Yes

B. No

No!

- Named terms in Elsa are just syntactic sugar
- To translate an Elsa term to  $\lambda$ -calculus: replace each name with its definition

```
\n -> ITE (ISZ n)
      ZERO
      (ADD n (SUM (DEC n))) -- But SUM is not yet defined!
```

Recursion:

- Inside *this* function
- Want to call the *same* function on DEC n

Looks like we can't do recursion!

- Requires being able to refer to functions *by name*,
- But  $\lambda$ -calculus functions are *anonymous*.

Right?

## $\lambda$ -calculus: Recursion

Think again!

Recursion:

Instead of

- Inside *this* function I want to call the *same* function on ~~DEC n~~

Lets try

- Inside *this* function I want to call *some* function *rec* on *DEC n*
- And BTW, I want *rec* to be the *same* function

Step 1: Pass in the function to call “recursively”

```
let STEP =  
  \rec -> \n -> ITE (ISZ n)  
    ZERO  
    (ADD n (rec (DEC n))) -- Call some rec
```

Step 2: Do some magic to STEP, so rec is itself

```
\n -> ITE (ISZ n) ZERO (ADD n (rec (DEC n)))
```

That is, obtain a term MAGIC such that

MAGIC =\*> STEP MAGIC

# $\lambda$ -calculus: Fixpoint Combinator

**Wanted:** a  $\lambda$ -term **FIX** such that

- **FIX STEP** calls **STEP** with **FIX STEP** as the first argument:

(**FIX STEP**)  $=\rightarrow$  **STEP (FIX STEP)**

(In math: a *fixpoint* of a function  $f(x)$  is a point  $x$ , such that  $f(x) = x$ )

Once we have it, we can define:

**let SUM = FIX STEP**

Then by property of **FIX** we have:

**SUM**

$=\rightarrow$

**FIX STEP**

$=\rightarrow$

**STEP (FIX STEP)**

$=\rightarrow$

**STEP SUM**

and so now we compute:

```
eval sum_two:  
  SUM TWO  
  => STEP SUM TWO  
  => ITE (ISZ TWO) ZERO (ADD TWO (SUM (DEC TWO)))  
  => ADD TWO (SUM (DEC TWO))  
  => ADD TWO (SUM ONE)  
  => ADD TWO (STEP SUM ONE)  
  => ADD TWO (ITE (ISZ ONE) ZERO (ADD ONE (SUM (DEC ONE))))  
  => ADD TWO (ADD ONE (SUM (DEC ONE)))  
  => ADD TWO (ADD ONE (SUM ZERO))  
  => ADD TWO (ADD ONE (ITE (ISZ ZERO) ZERO (ADD ZERO (SUM DEC ZERO  
))))  
  => ADD TWO (ADD ONE (ZERO))  
  => THREE
```

How should we define FIX ???

## The Y combinator

Remember  $\Omega$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} & (\lambda x \rightarrow x x) (\lambda x \rightarrow x x) \\ =& b> (\lambda x \rightarrow x x) (\lambda x \rightarrow x x) \end{aligned}$$

This is *self-replicating code!* We need something like this but a bit more involved...

The Y combinator discovered by Haskell Curry:

```
let FIX = ![\lambda stp \rightarrow (\lambda x \rightarrow stp (x x)) (\lambda x \rightarrow stp (x x))]
```

fixpoint 'f'

How does it work?

some 'x'       $x = f x$   
                    $\text{STEP} = \text{fix STEP}$

```

eval fix_step:
    FIX STEP
    =d> (\$tp -> (\$x -> stp (x x)) (\$x -> stp (x x))) STEP
    => (\$x -> STEP (x x)) (\$x -> STEP (x x))
    => STEP (((\$x -> STEP (x x)) (\$x -> STEP (x x)))
    -- ~~~~~ this is FIX STEP ~~~~~

```

**Fix STEP  $\Rightarrow$  STEP (Fix STEP)**

**SUM = Fix ( $\lambda rec \rightarrow n \rightarrow$   
if (isz n) ZERO (ADD n (rec(Dec)))**

That's all folks, Haskell Curry was very clever.

Next week: We'll look at the language named after him ( Haskell )

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Generated by Hakyll (<http://jaspervdj.be/hakyll>), template by Armin Ronacher

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