

Recursively defining base b expansion calculators

Our CSE 20 professor defined a bunch of procedures in pseudocode using rather imperative constructs such as `while` loops, even though it could be defined using some epic iterative recursion instead.

```
1  procedure half( $n$  : a positive integer)
2   $r := 0$ 
3  while  $n > 1$ 
4     $r := r + 1$ 
5     $n := n - 2$ 
6  return  $r$  { $r$  holds the result of the operation}
```

This could instead be defined with a piecewise function.

$$\text{half}' : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$
$$\text{half}'(r, n) = \begin{cases} \text{half}'(r + 1, n - 2) & \text{if } n > 1 \\ r & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{half} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$
$$\text{half}(n) = \text{half}'(0, n)$$

I'm going to generalize `half` to any divisor. It'll be the equivalent to the `div` operator, which does integer division.

$$\text{div}' : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$
$$\text{div}'(q, n, d) = \begin{cases} \text{div}'(q + 1, n - d, d) & \text{if } n \geq d \\ q & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{div} : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$
$$\text{div}(n, d) = \text{div}'(0, n, d)$$

Because $n = dq + r = d(n \text{ div } d) + (n \text{ mod } d)$, let's define a `mod` function.

$$\text{mod} : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$
$$\text{mod}(n, d) = n - d \cdot \text{div}(n, d)$$

That's pretty poggers. My professor defined a procedure that calculates the

integer part of \log_b . As another epic piecewise function,

$$B = \{b \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \mid b > 1\}$$

$$\log' : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \times B \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$\log'(r, n, b) = \begin{cases} \log'(r + 1, \text{div}(n, b), b) & \text{if } n > b - 1 \\ r & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\log : \mathbb{N} \times B \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$\log(n, b) = \log'(0, n, b)$$

Before I can convert numbers to bases, I'll first define the set of all base b expansions of a natural number.

First, let $D_b = \{d \in \mathbb{N} \mid d < b\}$, the set of digits available. $D_b \subset E_b$. Then if $e \in E_b$, $d \in D_b$, and $e \neq 0$, then $e \circ d \in E_b$. Also, for convenience, let $E'_b \subset E'_b$ and $\lambda \in E'_b$; in other words, E'_b is E_b but with the empty string.

Finally, I think I'll implement the "Least significant first" algorithm for calculating the base b expansion from the right.

$$\text{base}' : E'_b \times \mathbb{N} \times B \rightarrow E_b$$

$$\text{base}'(a, q, b) = \begin{cases} \text{base}'(\text{mod}(q, b) \circ a, \text{div}(q, b), b) & \text{if } q \neq 0 \\ a & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{base} : \mathbb{N} \times B \rightarrow E_b$$

$$\text{base}(n, b) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ \text{base}'(\lambda, n, b) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

... I think? CSE 20 is fun.

□