



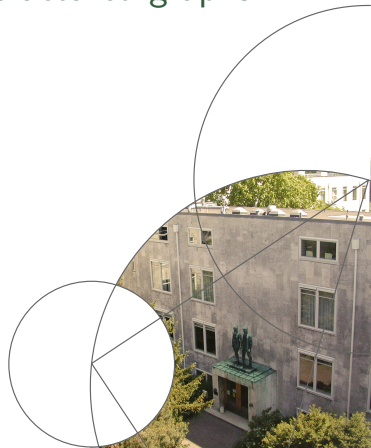
Faculty of Science



Reasoning over compilers using structured graphs

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Goals and Motivation

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Simplify **implementation** of and **reasoning** over compilers.



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- Derivation by **formal calculations**



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- **tree-structured** code vs. explicit labels and **jumps**



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Problem: Representing Branching Control Flow

- **tree-structured** code vs. explicit labels and **jumps**
- Our proposal: use **structured graphs** (Oliveira & Cook, 2012)
- **purely functional** representation using variable binders



Outline

① Calculating Compilers

② Structured Graphs



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Calculating Correct Compilers

(Bahr & Hutton, 2013)

History

- Underlying techniques: **continuation-passing style** & **defunctionalisation** (Reynolds, 1972)
- Origins: Wand (1982); Meijer (1992); Ager et al. (2003)



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Our approach

- simple, **goal-oriented** calculations
- little prior knowledge needed
(e.g. “Target machine has a stack.”)
- full **correctness proof** as a byproduct
- wide variety of **language features**: arithmetic, exceptions, state, lambda calculi, loops, non-determinism, interrupts



Calculate a Compiler in 3 Steps

- 1 Define **evaluation function** in compositional manner.



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- ② Calculate a version that uses a **stack and continuations**.



Calculate a Compiler in 3 Steps

- 1 Define **evaluation function** in compositional manner.
- 2 Calculate a version that uses a **stack and continuations**.
- 3 **Defunctionalise** to produce a compiler and a virtual machine.



Toy Example: Simple Arithmetic Language

Step 1: Semantics of the language

Syntax

data $Expr = Val\ Int \mid Add\ Expr\ Expr$



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data $Expr = Val\ Int \mid Add\ Expr\ Expr$

Semantics

$eval \quad \quad \quad :: Expr \rightarrow Int$

$eval\ (Val\ n) \quad = n$

$eval\ (Add\ x\ y) = eval\ x + eval\ y$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS

Type Definitions

```
type Stack = [Int]  
type Cont = Stack  $\rightarrow$  Stack
```



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$eval_C :: Expr \rightarrow Cont \rightarrow Cont$



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Specification

$$eval_C\ e\ c\ s = c\ (eval\ e : s)$$


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type $Stack = [Int]$
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Specification

$$eval_C e c s = c (eval e : s)$$

Constructive induction: “prove” specification by induction



Step 2: Transformation into CPS

Type Definitions

type $Stack = [Int]$
type $Cont = Stack \rightarrow Stack$

$eval_C :: Expr \rightarrow Cont \rightarrow Cont$

Specification

$$eval_C\ e\ c\ s = c\ (eval\ e : s)$$

Constructive induction: “prove” specification by induction

$\rightsquigarrow$ definition of $eval_C$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

$$eval_C (Add\ x\ y)\ c\ s$$


Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned} & eval_C (Add\ x\ y)\ c\ s \\ = & \{ \text{specification of } eval_C \} \\ & c\ (eval\ (Add\ x\ y) : s) \end{aligned}$$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned} & eval_C (Add\ x\ y)\ c\ s \\ = & \{ \text{specification of } eval_C \} \\ & c\ (eval\ (Add\ x\ y) : s) \end{aligned}$$

$$eval_C\ e\ c\ s = c\ (eval\ e : s)$$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned} & eval_C (Add\ x\ y)\ c\ s \\ = & \{ \text{specification of } eval_C \} \\ & c\ (eval\ (Add\ x\ y) : s) \\ = & \{ \text{definition of } eval \} \\ & c\ ((eval\ x + eval\ y) : s) \end{aligned}$$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & eval_C (Add\ x\ y)\ c\ s \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{specification of } eval \} \\
 & c\ (eval\ (Add\ x\ y) : s) \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{definition of } eval \} \\
 & c\ ((eval\ x + eval\ y) : s)
 \end{aligned}$$

eval (*Add* *x* *y*) = *eval* *x* + *eval* *y*



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned}
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 = & \quad \{ \text{specification of } eval_C \} \\
 & c\ (eval\ (Add\ x\ y) : s) \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{definition of } eval \} \quad \boxed{IH: eval_C\ e\ c\ s = c\ (eval\ e : s)} \\
 & c\ ((eval\ x + eval\ y) : s)
 \end{aligned}$$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

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Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & eval_C (Add\ x\ y)\ c\ s \\
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 & c\ ((eval\ x + eval\ y) : s) \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{define: } add\ c\ (n : m : s) = c\ ((eval\ n + eval\ m) : s) \} \\
 & add\ c\ (eval\ y : eval\ x : s) \\
 = & \quad \{ \text{induction hypothesis for } y \} \\
 & eval_C\ y\ (add\ c)\ (eval\ x : s)
 \end{aligned}$$

IH: $eval_C\ y\ c\ s = c\ (eval\ y : s)$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

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 & add\ c\ (eval\ y : eval\ x : s) \\
 = & \{ \text{induction hypothesis for } y \} \\
 & eval_C\ y\ (add\ c)\ (eval\ x : s) \\
 = & \{ \text{induction hypothesis for } x \} \\
 & eval_C\ x\ (eval_C\ y\ (add\ c))\ s
 \end{aligned}$$

IH: $eval_C\ x\ c\ s = c\ (eval\ x : s)$



Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

Derived definition

$$eval_C :: Expr \rightarrow Cont \rightarrow Cont$$
$$eval_C (Val\ n) \quad c = push\ n\ c$$
$$eval_C (Add\ x\ y) \quad c = eval_C\ x\ (eval_C\ y\ (add\ c))$$


Step 2: Transformation into CPS (cont.)

Derived definition

$$\text{eval}_C :: \text{Expr} \rightarrow \text{Cont} \rightarrow \text{Cont}$$
$$\text{eval}_C (\text{Val } n) \quad c = \text{push } n \ c$$
$$\text{eval}_C (\text{Add } x \ y) \ c = \text{eval}_C \ x \ (\text{eval}_C \ y \ (\text{add } c))$$
$$\text{push} :: \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Cont} \rightarrow \text{Cont}$$
$$\text{push } n \ c \ s = c \ (n : s)$$
$$\text{add} :: \text{Cont} \rightarrow \text{Cont}$$
$$\text{add } c \ (n : m : s) = c \ ((m + n) : s)$$


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$$\text{push} :: \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Cont} \rightarrow \text{Cont}$$
$$\text{push } n \ c \ s = c \ (n : s)$$
$$\text{add} :: \text{Cont} \rightarrow \text{Cont}$$
$$\text{add } c \ (n : m : s) = c \ ((m + n) : s)$$

Identity continuation

$$\text{eval}_S :: \text{Expr} \rightarrow \text{Cont}$$
$$\text{eval}_S \ e = \text{eval}_C \ e \ \text{halt}$$
$$\text{halt} :: \text{Cont}$$
$$\text{halt } s = s$$


Step 3: Defunctionalisation

Compiler

Defunctionalisation of $eval_S$ and $eval_C$:

$$comp :: Expr \rightarrow Code$$
$$comp\ e = comp^A\ e\ HALT$$
$$comp^A :: Expr \rightarrow Code \rightarrow Code$$
$$comp^A\ (Val\ n)\ c = PUSH\ n\ c$$
$$comp^A\ (Add\ x\ y)\ c = comp^A\ x\ (comp^A\ y\ (ADD\ c))$$


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Defunctionalisation of $eval_S$ and $eval$

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 $comp^A\ (Add\ x\ y)\ c = comp^A\ x\ (comp^A\ y\ (ADD\ c))$

data Code where

$HALT :: Code$

$PUSH :: Int \rightarrow Code \rightarrow Code$

$ADD :: Code \rightarrow Code$



Step 3: Defunctionalisation

Compiler

Defunctionalisation of $eval_S$ and $eval$

$$\begin{aligned} comp &:: Expr \rightarrow Code \\ comp\ e &= comp^A\ e\ HALT \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} comp^A &:: Expr \rightarrow Code \rightarrow Code \\ comp^A\ (Val\ n)\ c &= PUSH\ n\ c \\ comp^A\ (Add\ x\ y)\ c &= comp^A\ x\ (comp^A\ y\ (ADD\ c)) \end{aligned}$$

data Code where

$HALT :: Code$

$PUSH :: Int \rightarrow Code \rightarrow Code$

$ADD :: Code \rightarrow Code$

Virtual Machine

$$\begin{aligned} exec &:: Code \rightarrow Cont \\ exec\ HALT &= halt \\ exec\ (PUSH\ n\ c) &= push\ n\ (exec\ c) \\ exec\ (ADD\ c) &= add\ (exec\ c) \end{aligned}$$


Compiler Correctness

$$\text{eval}_C e \ c \ s = c \ (\text{eval } e : s) \quad (\text{Specification})$$



Compiler Correctness

$$eval_C e c s = c (eval e : s) \quad (\text{Specification})$$

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$$+ \quad eval_S e = eval_C e halt \quad (\text{Definition of } eval_S)$$



Compiler Correctness

$$eval_C e \ c \ s = c \ (eval \ e : s) \quad (\text{Specification})$$

$$+ \quad exec \ (comp \ e) \ s = eval_S \ e \ s \quad (\text{Defunctionalisation})$$

$$+ \quad eval_S \ e = eval_C \ e \ halt \quad (\text{Definition of } eval_S)$$

$$= \quad exec \ (comp \ e) \ s = eval \ e : s \quad (\text{Compiler correctness})$$



A Language with Exceptions

data $Expr = Val\ Int \mid Add\ Expr\ Expr$
 $\mid Throw \mid Catch\ Expr\ Expr$



A Language with Exceptions

data $Expr = Val\ Int \mid Add\ Expr\ Expr$
 $\mid Throw \mid Catch\ Expr\ Expr$

$eval :: Expr \rightarrow Maybe\ Int$

$eval\ (Val\ n) = Just\ n$

$eval\ (Add\ x\ y) = \mathbf{case}\ eval\ x\ \mathbf{of}$
 $Nothing \rightarrow Nothing$
 $Just\ n \rightarrow \mathbf{case}\ eval\ y\ \mathbf{of}$
 $Nothing \rightarrow Nothing$
 $Just\ m \rightarrow Just\ (n + m)$

$eval\ Throw = Nothing$

$eval\ (Catch\ x\ h) = \mathbf{case}\ eval\ x\ \mathbf{of}$
 $Nothing \rightarrow eval\ h$
 $Just\ n \rightarrow Just\ n$



The Derived Compiler

data $Code = \begin{array}{l|l|l} PUSH\ Int\ Code & ADD\ Code & HALT \\ MARK\ Code\ Code & UNMARK\ Code & THROW \end{array}$



The Derived Compiler

data $Code = PUSH\ Int\ Code \mid ADD\ Code \mid HALT$
 $\mid MARK\ Code\ Code \mid UNMARK\ Code \mid THROW$

$comp^A :: Expr \rightarrow Code \rightarrow Code$

$comp^A (Val\ n) \quad c = PUSH\ n\ c$

$comp^A (Add\ x\ y) \quad c = comp^A\ x\ (comp^A\ y\ (ADD\ c))$

$comp^A\ Throw \quad c = THROW$

$comp^A (Catch\ x\ h) \quad c = MARK\ (comp^A\ h\ c)\ (comp^A\ x\ (UNMARK\ c))$

$comp :: Expr \rightarrow Code$

$comp\ e = comp^A\ e\ HALT$



The Derived Compiler

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$comp^A\ Throw \quad c = THROW$

$comp^A (Catch\ x\ h) \quad c = MARK\ (comp^A\ h \triangleright c) \triangleright comp^A\ x \triangleright UNMARK \triangleright c$

$comp :: Expr \rightarrow Code$

$comp\ e = comp^A\ e \triangleright HALT$



Outline

① Calculating Compilers

② Structured Graphs



Structured Graphs (Oliveira & Cook, 2012)

Structured Graphs

- Trees with explicit let bindings
- (parametric) higher-order abstract syntax



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Example

$$\begin{aligned} \text{comp}^A (\text{Val } n) \quad c &= \text{PUSH } n \triangleright c \\ \text{comp}^A (\text{Add } x \ y) \quad c &= \text{comp}^A x \triangleright \text{comp}^A y \triangleright \text{ADD} \triangleright c \\ \text{comp}^A \text{Throw} \quad c &= \text{THROW} \\ \text{comp}^A (\text{Catch } x \ h) \quad c &= \text{MARK} (\text{comp}^A h \triangleright c) \\ &\quad \triangleright \text{comp}^A x \triangleright \text{UNMARK} \triangleright c \end{aligned}$$


Structured Graphs (Oliveira & Cook, 2012)

Structured Graphs

- Trees with explicit let bindings
- (parametric) higher-order abstract syntax

Example

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{comp}_G^A (\text{Val } n) \quad c &= \text{PUSH}_G n \triangleright c \\
 \text{comp}_G^A (\text{Add } x \ y) \quad c &= \text{comp}_G^A x \triangleright \text{comp}_G^A y \triangleright \text{ADD}_G \triangleright c \\
 \text{comp}_G^A \text{Throw} \quad c &= \text{THROW}_G \\
 \text{comp}_G^A (\text{Catch } x \ h) \quad c &= \text{Let } c \ (\lambda c' \rightarrow \text{MARK}_G (\text{comp}_G^A h \triangleright \text{Var } c') \\
 &\quad \triangleright \text{comp}_G^A x \triangleright \text{UNMARK}_G \triangleright \text{Var } c')
 \end{aligned}$$


Explicit Representation of Tree Types

Tree Type: fixed point of a functor

data $Tree\ f = In\ (f\ (Tree\ f))$



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Explicit Representation of Tree Types

Tree Type: fixed point of a functor

data $Tree\ f = In\ (f\ (Tree\ f))$

data $Code\ a = PUSH\ Int\ a \mid ADD\ a \mid HALT$
 $\mid MARK\ a\ a \mid UNMARK\ a \mid THROW$

$comp_T^A :: Expr \rightarrow Tree\ Code \rightarrow Tree\ Code$

$comp_T^A\ (Val\ n) \quad c = PUSH_T\ n \triangleright c$

$comp_T^A\ (Add\ x\ y) \quad c = comp_T^A\ x \triangleright comp_T^A\ y \triangleright ADD_T \triangleright c$

$comp_T^A\ Throw \quad c = THROW_T$

$comp_T^A\ (Catch\ x\ h) \quad c = MARK_T\ (comp_T^A\ h \triangleright c)$
 $\triangleright comp_T^A\ x \triangleright UNMARK_T \triangleright c$

$comp_T :: Expr \rightarrow Tree\ Code$

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Structured Graphs

Definition

data $Graph' f v = Gln (f (Graph' f v))$
| $Let (Graph' f v) (v \rightarrow Graph' f v)$
| $Var v$



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data  $Graph' f v = Gln (f (Graph' f v))$   
    |  $Let (Graph' f v) (v \rightarrow Graph' f v)$   
    |  $Var v$   
  
newtype  $Graph f = Graph (\forall v . Graph' f v)$ 
```



Definition

```
newtype Graph f = Graph (∀ v . Graph' f v)
```

$$\begin{aligned} comp_G^A (Catch \ x \ h) \ c = & Let \ c \ (\lambda c' \rightarrow MARK_G (comp_G^A h \triangleright Var \ c') \\ & \triangleright comp_G^A x \triangleright UNMARK_G \triangleright Var \ c') \end{aligned}$$


Definition

```
newtype Graph f = Graph (∀ v . Graph' f v)
```

$$comp_G e = Graph (comp_G^A e \triangleright HALT_G)$$

Virtual Machine as a Fold

Fold over Trees

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fold} &:: \text{Functor } f \Rightarrow (f \ r \rightarrow r) \rightarrow \text{Tree } f \rightarrow r \\ \text{fold } \text{alg } (\text{In } t) &= \text{alg } (\text{fmap } (\text{fold } \text{alg}) t) \end{aligned}$$


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Virtual Machine as a Fold

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Folds on Graphs

$$\begin{aligned} \text{unfold} &:: \text{Functor } f \Rightarrow (f \text{ } r \rightarrow r) \rightarrow \text{Graph } f \rightarrow r \\ \text{unfold } \text{alg } (\text{Graph } g) &= \text{unfold}' g \textbf{ where} \\ \text{unfold}' (G \text{In } t) &= \text{alg } (\text{fmap } \text{unfold}' t) \\ \text{unfold}' (\text{Let } e f) &= \text{unfold}' (f (\text{unfold}' e)) \\ \text{unfold}' (\text{Var } x) &= x \end{aligned}$$


Virtual Machine as a Fold

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Virtual Machine as a Fold

$$\begin{aligned} \text{exec}_G &:: \text{Graph Code} \rightarrow \text{Stack} \rightarrow \text{Stack} \\ \text{exec}_G &= \text{unfold } \text{execAlg} \end{aligned}$$

Folds on Graphs

$$\begin{aligned} \text{unfold} &:: \text{Functor } f \Rightarrow (f \ r \rightarrow r) \rightarrow \text{Graph } f \rightarrow r \\ \text{unfold } \text{alg } (\text{Graph } g) &= \text{unfold}' g \textbf{ where} \\ \text{unfold}' (G \text{In } t) &= \text{alg } (\text{fmap } \text{unfold}' t) \\ \text{unfold}' (\text{Let } e \ f) &= \text{unfold}' (f (\text{unfold}' e)) \\ \text{unfold}' (\text{Var } x) &= x \end{aligned}$$


Correctness proof

Correctness of tree-based compiler (from calculation)

$$\text{exec}_T (\text{comp}_T e) [] = \text{conv} (\text{eval } e)$$



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It suffices to show that

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Proof.

$$\text{exec}_G (\text{comp}_G e) s \stackrel{(1)}{=} \text{exec}_T (\text{unravel} (\text{comp}_G e)) s$$



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Correctness of tree-based compiler (from calculation)

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Theorem

$$\text{unfold alg} = \text{fold alg} \circ \text{unravel}$$



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Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{exec}_G (\text{comp}_G e) s &\stackrel{(1)}{=} \text{exec}_T (\text{unravel} (\text{comp}_G e)) s \\ &\stackrel{(2)}{=} \text{exec}_T (\text{comp}_T e) s \end{aligned}$$

Theorem

$$\text{unfold alg} = \text{fold alg} \circ \text{unravel}$$



Proof of (2)

Lemma

$$\text{unravel}(\text{comp}_G e) = \text{comp}_T e$$



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Lemma

$$\text{unravel}(\text{comp}_G e) = \text{comp}_T e$$

Proof.

By induction on e .



Proof of (2)

Lemma

$$\text{unravel} (\text{comp}_G e) = \text{comp}_T e$$

Proof.

By induction on e .

The interesting part:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{unravel} (\text{Let } c (\lambda c' \rightarrow \\ & \quad \text{MARK}_G (\text{comp}_G^A h \triangleright \text{Var } c') \\ & \quad \triangleright \text{comp}_G^A x \triangleright \text{UNMARK}_G \triangleright \text{Var } c')) \\ &= \text{MARK}_T (\text{comp}_T^A h \triangleright \text{unravel } c) \\ & \quad \triangleright \text{comp}_T^A x \triangleright \text{UNMARK}_T \triangleright \text{unravel } c \end{aligned}$$



But ...

Things are not as nice as they seem on the outside

- HOAS is a nice interface to construct graphs
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Alternative: “Names for free” (Bernardy & Pouillard, 2013)

- provides the same HOAS interface
- **But:** it's de Bruin indices under the hood



Summary

Calculating Correct Compilers

- simple, **goal-oriented** calculations; **no magic**
- little prior knowledge needed
(by using **partial specifications**)
- full correctness proof
- scales to wide variety of **language features**



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Structured Graphs/Names for free

- improve calculated compilers
- avoid reasoning over explicit labels and jumps
- simple reasoning principle



Open Questions / Future Work

Beyond folds

- What if the virtual machine is **not a fold**?
- This seems impossible with HOAS-style graphs
- Ad hoc reasoning for “Names for free”-style graphs possible



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Cyclic graphs

- Our method is restricted to **acyclic graphs**.
- Cyclic graphs require **different reasoning principle**.
(fixed-point induction?)

