

For-loops for free

In other words, students' calculations above already deploy a CbC (correct by construction) "for-loop" implementation of multiplication:

```
a .* n = for (a+) 0 n
```

something to be encoded (much later!) imperatively, eg. in C:

```
int mul(int a, int n)
{
  int s=0; int i;
  for (i=1;i<n+1;i++) {s += a;}
  return s;
};
```

Not so immediate for-loops

Now consider the challenge of encoding the square function, $sq\ n = n^2$. Following the same approach, let students first recall known facts about squares, including Newton's binomial formula:

$$0^2 = 0$$

$$1^2 = 1$$

$$(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

Playing the same game, the following will be obtained:

$$sq\ 0 = 0$$

$$sq\ (n + 1) = sq\ n + \underbrace{2n + 1}_{\text{odd } n}$$

By the way: students aware that n^2 is the sum of the first n odd numbers.

Not so immediate for-loops

- However, *sq* is not a for-loop because each additive contribution $odd\ n = 2n + 1$ is dependent on n .
- What about *odd* itself? Ask the students to try and exploit “its maths”,

$$odd\ 0 = 1$$

$$odd(n + 1) = 2 + odd\ n$$

which lead immediately to for-loop *for* (2+) 1.

- Still, students don't know what to do with *sq*. What can we do about this?

Two-variable for-loops

By putting *sq* and *odd* side by side,

$$\text{sq } 0 = 0$$

$$\text{sq } (n + 1) = \text{sq } n + \text{odd } n$$

$$\text{odd } 0 = 1$$

$$\text{odd } (n+1) = 2 + \text{odd } n$$

observe that both functions share the same input pattern and can thus run “together”, co-operating with each other. Thus proceed to **tupling**,

$$\langle \text{sq}, \text{odd} \rangle x = (\text{sq } x, \text{odd } x)$$

only to exploit “the maths” of this pair of functions:

$$\langle \text{sq}, \text{odd} \rangle 0 = (0, 1)$$

$$\langle \text{sq}, \text{odd} \rangle (i + 1) = \text{let } (s, o) = \langle \text{sq}, \text{odd} \rangle i \text{ in } (s + o, 2 + o)$$

Clearly, this is for-loop $\text{for}((s, o) \mapsto (s + o, 2 + o))(0, 1)$ which computes i^2 on variable s and $\text{odd } i$ on variable o . Thus the code which follows:

Calculation

$$\begin{cases} sq \cdot in = [\underline{0}, +] \cdot F\langle sq, odd \rangle \\ odd \cdot in = [\underline{1}, (2+)] \cdot \pi_2 \cdot F\langle sq, odd \rangle \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \{ \text{mutual recursion law} \}$$

$$\langle sq, odd \rangle = (| \langle [\underline{0}, +], [\underline{1}, (2+)] \cdot \pi_2 \rangle |)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \{ \text{exchange law} \}$$

$$\langle sq, odd \rangle = (| [\langle \underline{0}, \underline{1} \rangle, \langle +, (2+)] \cdot \pi_2 \rangle |)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \{ (| [\underline{i}, b] |) = \text{for } b \text{ } i \text{ (going pointwise into for-loop)} \}$$

$$\langle sq, odd \rangle = \text{for } \langle +, (2+)] \cdot \pi_2 \rangle (0, 1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \{ \text{unfolding loop body} \}$$

$$\langle sq, odd \rangle = \text{for } \lambda(s, o).(s + o, 2 + o) (0, 1)$$

Two-variable for-loops

C code for *sq* (and *odd*, implicitly):

```
int sq(int n)
{
  int s=0; int i; int o=1;
  for (i=1;i<n+1;i++) {s+=o; o+=2;}
  return s;
};
```

Learning outcome

The number of **variables** required by a for-loop implementation of a given function over the natural numbers is the number of **mutually recursive functions** which such given function “unfolds” into once “their maths” are inspected.