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DETECTION OF AVAILABLE CONCURRENCY  
IN LISP PROGRAMS

by

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**ABSTRACT** A method for monotonic global data flow analysis in LISP programs is presented. It is shown how this analysis can be used to identify available concurrency in the presence of global side effects, aliasing, and the run time creation of variables.

**Key Words and Phrases:** data flow analysis, LISP, concurrent programming

**CR CATEGORIES:** 5.24, 4.32, 4.12, 4.13

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In most functional and near functional languages, available concurrency can be classified into three categories: iterative, compositional and horizontal. Iterative concurrency is generally indicated by a repetitive data structure. Several processors may be applied, one or more to each element of the structure. Composition of several functions may be evaluated concurrently by instantiating several copies on different processors and streaming data through them. This is most often possible when the composition is the repeated part of an iterative control construct. In another mode, each function is instantiated on a separate processor and data is streamed through in a pipelined fashion. If two or more formal parameters of a function instance have mutually exclusive side effects they may be evaluated concurrently and achieve the same machine state as a sequential evaluation. This will be known as horizontal concurrency.

This paper presents a formalism by which horizontal concurrency can be detected in LISP programs which have global variables and arbitrary side effects. Any execution model which permits some form of explicit sequentialization and permits global variable access and arbitrary side effects can use this method to map functional forms onto their evaluation strategy.

## 2.0 PRELIMINARIES

There has been much work on data flow analysis in procedural languages. For the most part these methods are predicated on flow graph semantics in which state is affected by assignment and control flow by simple conditionals. The formalisms used in these previous works [1-6, 9, 11] are modified to fit into the functional programming environment of LISP. The model used is the definition of the LISP evaluator, that is, function evaluation in the environment of a run time symbol table, formal-actual parameter bindings, and arbitrary binary tree structures.

We define the global LISP environment in terms of its symbol table and then provide informal semantics of the LISP evaluator. The LISP system that is the subject of this analysis is Standard LISP [7] without PROG, ERROR/ERRORSET, vectors, and floating point numbers.

### 2.1 The LISP Symbol Table

A function instance is a source language occurrence representing the invocation of a function and the binding of its actual parameter values to its formal parameter names. A function definition instantiates the application of functions in the environment of the formal-actual parameter bindings.

A LISP identifier is a place holder for three entities. A global value can be associated with an identifier and is accessible by name no matter at what lexicon or evaluation level which it occurs

A function may be associated with an identifier and as such is a global entity. The semantics we define allow global variable bindings and function definitions to coexist. The property list is a structure of indicators with associated values. The property list may also include flags which are indicated by the presence or absence of the identifier by which the flag is known. Flags may have the same names as indicators but with undefined results. These global attributes of an identifier are treated in what follows as attributed identifier which is expressed as:

[indicator : identifier] or [flag : identifier]

The local environment of an extended variable determines its global binding. If the use is as a global variable, the indicator \*BIND\* will be used. If the identifier names a function, then the indicator \*FUNCTION\* is used instead. When the property list of an identifier is being accessed, the indicator is the indicator from the property list.

## 2.2 A Logic For Property Lists

$S$  is the set of identifiers in the LISP system at any given time. In many systems this corresponds to the OBLIST. The set  $S'$  is defined to be the set  $\{S, *BIND*, *FUNCTION*\}$  to prevent \*BIND\* and \*FUNCTION\* from being identifiers in their own right. The possible bindings (that is identifier and indicator) at any given time is the set  $G^*$  with the set  $G \subseteq G^*$  being the current set.  $G^*$  is the set of

elements formed by the cross product  $S' \times S$  whose elements will be given in the form  $[a:b]$ , where  $a$  is the indicator selected from  $S'$  and  $b$  is an identifier in  $S$ .  $G^*$  is divided into equivalence classes:

$$\forall a, b \in S', \quad \forall c, d \in S, [a:c] \equiv [b:d] \text{ iff } c=d.$$

These equivalence classes correspond to the property lists of identifiers which can include both a function and global value.

A particular identifier  $g$  determines an equivalence class  $\bar{G} \in G^*$ . The operation  $\sigma$  induces a partial ordering on the set  $\bar{G}$ . When the indicator being accessed by  $\sigma$  is unknown the special indicator  $I \notin S'$  is used.  $\sigma$  induces the following relations:

$$\forall a, b \in S':$$

1.  $\sigma = \sigma(a, \bar{G})$
2.  $\sigma(a, \bar{G}) = \sigma(a, \bar{G})$
3.  $\sigma(a, \bar{G}) = \sigma(b, \bar{G})$
4.  $\sigma(a, \bar{G}) = \sigma(I, \bar{G})$
5.  $\sigma(I, \bar{G}) = \sigma(I, \bar{G})$

A minimal representation of  $\sigma(x, \bar{G})$  is:

$$\forall i, 0 \leq i \leq n, a[i] \in S',$$

$$\{\sigma(a[0], \bar{G}), \sigma(a[1], \bar{G}), \dots, \sigma(a[n], \bar{G})\} \ni$$

$$\forall i, 0 \leq i \leq n,$$

$$\forall j, 0 \leq j \leq n, i \neq j, \sigma(a[i], \bar{G}) \neq \sigma(a[j], \bar{G}).$$

Thus any such set containing  $\sigma(I, \bar{G})$  will contain only  $\sigma(I, \bar{G})$ . Other sets will contain no redundant elements.

Given a minimal set  $B = \{\sigma(b[0], \bar{G}), \dots, \sigma(b[n], \bar{G})\}$  the union of it with a singleton set  $A = \emptyset$ , or  $A = \{\sigma(a, \bar{G})\}$  is defined as:

$$A \cup B ::=$$

if  $B = \emptyset$  then  $A$

else if  $A = \sigma(b[0], \bar{G})$  then  $B$

else if  $\exists i, 0 \leq i \leq n \ni \sigma(a, \bar{G}) = \sigma(b[i], \bar{G})$  then  $B$

else  $\{\sigma(a, \bar{G}), \sigma(b[0], \bar{G}), \dots, \sigma(b[n], \bar{G})\}$ .

Note that  $A \cup B$  is minimal. Set union for two general minimal sets:

$$A = \{\sigma(a[0], \bar{G}), \dots, \sigma(a[m], \bar{G})\}$$

$$B = \{\sigma(b[0], \bar{G}), \dots, \sigma(b[n], \bar{G})\}$$

is defined:

$$A \cup B ::= \{\sigma(a[0], \bar{G}) \cup (\dots \cup (\{\sigma(a[m], \bar{G}) \cup B) \dots)\}$$

For two sets  $H, L \subseteq G^*$  we define set union in terms of equivalence classes of  $H$  and  $L$  which are  $H[0] \dots H[n]$  and  $L[0] \dots L[n]$  where  $H[i]$  and  $L[i]$  are corresponding equivalence classes.

$$H \cup L ::= \{H[0] \cup L[0], \dots, H[n] \cup L[n]\}$$

Set intersection between a singleton set  $A = \emptyset$ , or  $A = \{\sigma(a, \bar{G})\}$  and  $B$  as above is defined as:

$$A \underline{\cap} B ::=$$

$$\text{if } B = \emptyset \text{ then } \emptyset$$

$$\text{else if } A = \sigma(b[0], \bar{G}) \text{ then } A$$

$$\text{else if } \exists i, 0 \leq i \leq n, \exists \sigma(a, \bar{G}) = \sigma(b[i], \bar{G}) \text{ then } A$$

$$\text{else } \emptyset.$$

For the two minimal sets A and B above:

$$A \bar{\cap} B ::= \{(\sigma(a[0], \bar{G}) \underline{\cap} B), \dots, (\sigma(a[n], \bar{G}) \underline{\cap} B)\}$$

And for H and  $L \subseteq G^*$  as before:

$$H \bar{\cap} L ::= \{H[0] \bar{\cap} L[0], \dots, H[n] \bar{\cap} L[n]\}$$

Finally, with  $\bar{L}$  being set complement with respect to  $G^*$ :

$$H - L ::= H \bar{\cap} \bar{L}.$$

To permit fixed indicator, arbitrary identifier access the special set notation  $[a:i]$  is defined:

$$[a:i] ::= \forall i, 0 \leq i \leq n, b[i] \in S, \{[a:b[0]], \dots, [a:b[n]]\}$$

where  $n = |S|$ . Arbitrary indicator and identifier access is permitted but is handled as a completely non-computable side effect.

### 2.3 Sequential LISP Semantics.

The following is an informal model of sequential LISP similar to the semantics of Standard LISP [8]. The concurrency detected by the global data flow analysis will preserve the semantics of LISP encapsulated in this definition.

The definitions are predicated on the definitions of local and global scope. The global scope refers at any time to the set  $G^*$ . There is a set  $A^*$  which is the current local scope.  $A^*$  is the current most local bindings.  $A$  can be thought of as the top most frame of the stack of frames  $A^*$ . The frames are stacked and unstacked by two internal state effectors `GLOCAL` and `UNGLOCAL` (discussed with `LAMBDA`). There is a restriction that:

$$\forall a, [*BIND*:a] \in A^*, \forall b, [*BIND*:b] \in G^*, \quad a \neq b.$$

and

$$\forall a, [*DEFINITION*:a] \in A^*, \forall b, [*DEFINITION*:b] \in G^*, \quad a \neq b.$$

That is, all local variables may not be global variables or functions.

The value associated with an attributed identifier is retrieved by the access function  $\xi$ .

For atoms  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $f$ , for  $i$  an identifier, for  $S$ -expressions  $s$ , and for  $x$ ,  $y$  list structures the following are defined:

1. `CONSTANTP(a) ::= an item which when evaluated yields itself.`  
This includes numeric values, strings, and function pointers.

2. `IDP(a) ::= if  $a \in S$  then true else false`

`IDP` is true if  $a$  is an identifier. An identifier is an item which when evaluated gives the value currently bound to it, either the current `GLOBAL` value or the value from the most recent local parameter binding.



3. CODEP(a) ::= an item which is a link to a function whose internal form is not a LISP S-expression.
4. GLOBALP(a) ::= if [\*BIND\*,a] ∈ G\* then true else false
5. GLOBAL(a) ::= ξ [\*BIND\*:a]
6. LOCAL(a) ::= if [\*BIND\*:a] ∈ A then ξ[\*BIND\*:a]
7. DEFINED(a) ::= if [\*FUNCTION\*:a] ∈ G\* then true else false
8. TYPE(f) ::= for a DEFINED function f, TYPE(f) is the type, EXPR, or FEXPR of the function.
9. DEFINITION(f) ::= the body of the definition of the function whose name is f.
10. EVAL(a) ::= if CONSTANTP(a) then a  
           else if IDP(a) then  
               if GLOBALP(a) then GLOBAL(a)  
               else LOCAL(a);

The evaluation of an atom is either that of constants, or retrieval of the global or local value bound to the variable.

11. (EVAL (f . x)) ::=  
           if ~DEFINED(f) then (ERROR - undefined function)  
           else if TYPE(f) = EXPR then APPLY(DEFINITION(f), EVLIS x)  
           else if TYPE(f) = FEXPR then APPLY(DEFINITION(f), LIST(x));

The evaluation of a function invocation is by applying the function definition to the evaluated list of arguments (an EXPR)

or to the unevaluated arguments collected into a list and bound to the single parameter of the FEXPR.

12. EVLIS(NIL) ::= NIL
13. EVLIS(x . y) ::= EVAL x . EVLIS y
14. APPLY(f, x) ::=
- ```

    if IDP(f) then
      if not DEFINED(f) then
        {ERROR - undefined function}
      else if TYPE(f) = EXPR then
        APPLY(DEFINITION(f), x)
      else {ERROR - Can't be evaluated by APPLY}
  
```

If the function to be applied is a defined function, apply its definition to its arguments.

15. APPLY(((LAMBDA . x) . s), y) ::=
- i) PUSH(A). Stack the current local environment onto A\*.
  - ii) A = {[\*BIND\*:x[0]], ..., [\*BIND\*:x[m]]}.  $\xi[*BIND*:x[0]] = y[0], \dots, \xi[*BIND*:x[m]] = y[m]$ . Bind the values in y to the corresponding local variable names in x.
  - iii) Compute EVAL(s).
  - iv) A = POP(A\*). Redefine the current set of local variables to its previous contour.
  - v) APPLY(((LAMBDA . x) . s), y) = value from step iii.

LAMBDA functions cause the instantiation of LOCAL type variables for the lexical scope of the LAMBDA expression (that is, s).

The current LOCAL binding is not accessible outside of the lexical scope of the LAMBDA as it is in many LISP interpreters. The semantics of local variables are that used by most LISP compilers.

#### 2.4 Variables And Their Use.

The following terms are defined assuming the sequential interpretation of evaluation of function instances.

**Definitions:** An extended variable in a function  $F$  is a free variable in  $F$ . An extended occurrence of a variable in a function instance  $f$  is a free occurrence of the variable in  $f$ . An extended variable occurring in a function  $F$  is a source variable iff the evaluation of  $F$  is not affected by the initial value of the variable when the function is invoked. An extended variable occurring in a function  $F$  is an access variable iff for no possible execution of  $F$  is the variable rebound. An extended variable occurring in a function  $F$  is a changed variable if there exists an execution of  $F$  in which the evaluation of  $F$  depends on its value and then modifies its value. A hard function has a nonlocal effect which cannot be determined by our method except by evaluation in its environment. A soft function has no such effect.

The following sets of variables of a given function  $F$  are defined:

SF - the set of source variables

AF - the set of access variables

CF - the set of changed variables

As a consequence, SF, AF, and CF are pairwise disjoint for any function  $F$ . There is a boolean value associated with each function:

HF - is true if function  $F$  is hard

An R quadruple,  $RF$ , is defined as the ordered quadruple (SF, AF, CF, HF). Also defined are the standard quadruples  $R\emptyset = (\emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \text{false})$  and  $Rt = (\emptyset, \emptyset, \emptyset, \text{true})$ . It is assumed that for any function  $F$ ,  $RF$  is known.

## 2.5 Data Flow In Single Rooted Directed Trees.

A set of operations on R quadruples are defined with which to determine whether or not two functional instances can be evaluated concurrently without affecting their sequential semantics. The two operators  $\langle \rightarrow \rightarrow \rangle$  and  $\rightarrow \rightarrow$  are the basic data flow equations for LISP.

The operator  $\langle \rightarrow \rightarrow \rangle$  maps two function instance R quadruples into a resultant R quadruple representing the semantics of the sequential evaluation. For two functional instances  $a$  and  $b$ :

$R_a \langle \text{---} \rangle R_b = (S_c, A_c, C_c, H_c)$ , where:

$$S_c = (S_a \cup S_b) - (C_a \cup C_b) - (A_a \cup A_b)$$

$$A_c = (A_a \cup A_b) - (S_a \cup S_b) - (C_a \cup C_b)$$

$$C_c = (C_a \cup C_b) \cup ((S_a \cup S_b) \cap (A_a \cup A_b))$$

$$H_c = H_a \vee H_b$$

The  $\langle \text{---} \rangle$  operator defines what happens to extended variables in the sequential evaluation of  $a$  and  $b$ . The set of source variables in  $R_c$  is the union of the source variables in  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  less any which appear as changed or access variables in either. The set of access variables in  $R_c$  is the union of the access variables in  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  less any that appear as changed or source variables. The set of changed variables in  $R_c$  is the union of the set of changed variables in  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  and any that appear as both source and access variables. If either  $a$  or  $b$  has a hard effect,  $R_c$  will also.

Note that the symmetry of set operations implies that:

$$R_a \langle \text{---} \rangle R_b = R_b \langle \text{---} \rangle R_a$$

Consequently no matter what order the actual parameters are evaluated in, the  $R$  quadruple of the result is the same. It is most often the case that the sequential semantics dictate a "first to last" evaluation and thus the  $(R_b \langle \text{---} \rangle R_a)$  case will never occur (if this sequential order can be determined). The restriction of  $\langle \text{---} \rangle$  to sequential order is the  $\text{--}\rangle$  operator defined over two  $R$  quadruples  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  such that  $R_a \text{--}\rangle R_b$  is defined as the  $R$

quadruple of evaluating 'a' before 'b'.

$R_a \rightarrow R_b = (S_c, A_c, C_c, H_c)$  where:

$$S_c = S_a \cup (S_b - (A_a \cup C_a))$$

$$A_c = (A_a - (S_b \cup C_b)) \cup (A_b - (S_a \cup C_a))$$

$$C_c = C_a \cup ((C_b - S_a) \cup (A_a \cap S_b))$$

$$H_c = H_a \vee H_b$$

The  $\rightarrow$  operator removes variables from the changed class that are in the first set and the accessed to the source class. Variables which are accessed, then set, are removed from the access class and added to the changed class.

The defined evaluation of a LISP EXPR function instance  $(f a[0] a[1] \dots a[n])$  is left to right. That is, first  $a[0]$  is evaluated, then  $a[1]$ , and so on. To compute the R quadruple of an instance of  $F$ , the  $\rightarrow$  operator is applied across the arguments of  $F$  by the RSPREAD function to create an R quadruple for the instance. For the function instance  $f$ , RSPREAD is defined:

1.  $RSPREAD(f . NIL) ::= R\emptyset$
2.  $RSPREAD(f . (x . y)) ::= RQUADRUPLE(x) \rightarrow RSPREAD(y)$

The construction function RQUADRUPLE used above maps function composition to R quadruples. Assume that RSEMANTIC( $f$ ) and RSEMANTICP( $f$ ) are known for all functions in the system. For function instance  $f$  and atom  $a$ :

1. RQUADRUPLE(a) ::= if CONSTANTP(a) then R $\emptyset$   
           else ( $\emptyset$ , {[\*BIND\*]:a},  $\emptyset$ , false)
2. RQUADRUPLE(f . x) ::=  
       if RSEMANTICP(f) then APPLY(RSEMANTIC(f), x).  
       else RSPREAD(x) --> Rf

APPLY causes evaluation of evaluation of a function with arguments. In this case, the semantic definition associated with a function which does not have its arguments evaluated is applied to the argument list. Note that the last line of the definition of RQUADRUPLE defines function composition as a sequential process. That is, the actual parameters are evaluated first, then the function is applied to their values.

The RSEMANTIC function used in the definition of RQUADRUPLE is a selector of special forms in which the sequential evaluation is not strictly left to right, or ones which are primitive and have side effects. It returns a semantic function used to define the evaluation sequence in terms of applications of --> and <--> which is applied to the argument list of the instance. Some of these semantic functions will appear later.

Two relations are introduced defining the order of evaluation of functional arguments which preserves the sequential semantics of LISP. For two functional instances "a" and "b" in a sentential form (f ... a ... b ...), let:

$A = \text{RQUADRUPLE}(a)$  and  $B = \text{RQUADRUPLE}(b)$

If "a" is evaluated before "b" in the sequential mode then one of the following is true:

1.  $(S_a \cup (S_b \cup A_b \cup C_b) \neq \emptyset) \vee$   
 $(A_a \cup (S_b \cup C_b) \neq \emptyset) \vee$   
 $(C_a \cap (S_b \cup A_b \cup C_b) \neq \emptyset) \vee H_a$

If true we say " $a \ll b$ ", "a" must be evaluated before "b" because the effect of "a" affects the evaluation of "b".

2.  $(S_a \cap (S_b \cup A_b \cup C_b) = \emptyset) \wedge$   
 $(A_a \cap (S_b \cup C_b) = \emptyset) \wedge$   
 $(C_a \cap (S_b \cup A_b \cup C_b) = \emptyset) \wedge \neg H_a \wedge \neg H_b$

If true we say " $a == b$ ", "a" and "b" may be evaluated concurrently because the evaluation of "a" does not affect the evaluation of "b" and the evaluation of "b" does not affect the evaluation of "a".

When the sequential order of evaluation cannot be determined then one of the following is true:

1.  $a \ll b$  or  $a \gg b$  then sequential evaluation is indicated to preserve the semantics.
2.  $a == b$ , "a" and "b" can be evaluated concurrently because neither can affect the other.



## 2.6 Semantics Of Modifiers And Access Functions.

A class of functions called `modifiers` have nonlocal effect upon their environment. If the location of this effect can be exactly computed before the evaluation of the function instance, the effect is known. If the location cannot be computed except by the evaluation of the instance in its environment, the effect is not known. These two possibilities are known as `soft modifiers` and `hard modifiers` respectively.

The computation of the R quadruple for each modifier occurrence is performed by a semantic function associated with it. These semantic functions take as parameters the formal parameters of the function being modeled. A few semantic functions associated with modifiers are presented here.

```
RSEMANTIC(SET a b) ::= Rt
```

```
RSEMANTIC(SET (QUOTE a) b) ::=
```

```
(([*BIND*:a]),  $\emptyset$ ,  $\emptyset$ , false) --> RQUADRUPLE(b);
```

If the argument of SET is a quoted variable name then the effect of SET is known (a soft modifier). Otherwise, SET is a hard modifier with the R quadruple indicating a non-computable side effect.

```
RSEMANTIC(SETQ a b) ::=
```

```
(([*BIND*:a]),  $\emptyset$ ,  $\emptyset$ , false) --> RQUADRUPLE(b);
```

Here "a" is a source variable combined by --> with the quadruple of the second argument "b".

```
RSEMANTIC(RPLACA a b) ::= Rt
```

```
RSEMANTIC(RPLACD a b) ::= Rt
```

Because of aliasing problems, RPLACA, RPLACD and functions which use them are always hard functions and instances. Since a hard function forces complete sequentialization, the R quadruple "b" need not be computed for this instance. The evaluation of "b" may have available concurrency, but it must all be completed before the RPLACA or RPLACD is started.

```
RSEMANTIC(PUT (QUOTE a) (QUOTE b) c) ::=
```

```
(([b:a]), ∅, ∅, false) --> RQUADRUPLE(c);
```

```
RSEMANTIC(PUT (QUOTE a) b c) ::=
```

```
(([I:a]), ∅, ∅, false) --> RQUADRUPLE(b) --> RQUADRUPLE(c);
```

```
RSEMANTIC(PUT a (QUOTE b) c) ::=
```

```
(RQUADRUPLE(a) --> ([b:I]), ∅, ∅, false) --> RQUADRUPLE(c)
```

```
RSEMANTIC(PUT a b c) ::= Rt
```

There are four possible cases for PUT. In the first, both the identifier being modified, and its indicator are precisely known and the R quadruple has the [b:a] pair as a source variable. This is combined by the action of --> with what ever happens during the evaluation in "c". In the second case, we know that "a" is the identifier being accessed, but the indicator is non-computable giving rise to the [I:a] form. In the third case the identifier is non-computable, but the indicator is known consequently the [I:b] form. In the final case, nothing can be computed about the instance and a complete sequentialization is forced.

The definition of the data flow semantics of PUT is prototype for the very similar functions PUTD, FLAG, and REMFLA

```
RSEMANTIC(DE f name args body) ::=
  ([[*FUNCTION*:f]], ∅, ∅, false)
```

```
RSEMANTIC(DF f name args body) ::=
  ([[*FUNCTION*:f]], ∅, ∅, false)
```

DE and DF are FEXPR's, and they don't evaluate their argument. The only effect is to define the function and the R quadruple need not be computed for each of the arguments.

```
RSEMANTIC(REMPROP (QUOTE a) (QUOTE b)) ::=
  (∅, ∅, {[b:a]}, false)
```

```
RSEMANTIC(REMPROP (QUOTE a) b) ::=
  (∅, ∅, {[I:a]}, false)
```

```
RSEMANTIC(REMPROP a (QUOTE b)) ::=
  RQUADRUPLE(a) --> (∅, ∅, {[b:I]}, false)
```

```
RSEMANTIC(REMPROP a b) ::= Rt
```

REMPROP removes the indicator "b" and its value from the proper list of "a". It returns the value associated with the indicator "b" so "a" becomes a changed variable rather than a source. The function REMD for removing functions is similar. The function REMFLAG is like PUT because it does not reference the flag before removing them.

```
RSEMANTIC(GET (QUOTE a) (QUOTE b)) ::=
  (∅, {[b:a]}, ∅, false)
```

```
RSEMANTIC(GET (QUOTE a) b) ::=
  (∅, {[I:a]}, ∅, false) --> RQUADRUPLE(b)
```

RSEMANTIC(GET a (QUOTE b)) ::=

RQUADRUPLER(a) --> (  $\emptyset$ , {[b:1]},  $\emptyset$ , false)

RSEMANTIC(GET a b) ::= Rt

GET simply accesses a portion of the property list of identifier. In most systems GET is not permitted to access the global binding or the function definition. In this case a similar function is defined for these two special cases (the functions GLOBAL, and DEFINITION were used in the exposition EVAL APPLY earlier). I have chosen to incorporate the semantics of global and local variable access in the RQUADRUPLER function rather than at this level. The reasoning is that variable access in any form is important enough to hide the access functions from the user.

The functions GETD, GLOBALP, and FLAGP are very similar to GET and are not defined here.

## 2.7 Other Functions

There are a large number of primitive EXPR type functions which form the basic processing capabilities of the system. For the most part they have R quadruples of R $\emptyset$ . The few which do not or are surprising are presented here.

RSEMANTIC(COMPRESS x) ::= R $\emptyset$

COMPRESS does little more than create atoms of various sorts. When the attributes of these atoms are accessed by other

functions the identifiers are added to the R quadruple, usual in the form of Rt.

RSEMANTIC(EXPLODE x) ::= R $\emptyset$

EXPLODE does not reference the quantity it is creating nor the characters of the list it creates.

RSEMANTIC(GENSYM) ::=

(([I:gensym]),  $\emptyset$ , ([\*BIND\*:gensym-counter]), false)

GENSYM both changes a global variable which contains a counter to cause creation of unique symbols. Likewise it is a source for the property list of the created symbol.

RSEMANTIC(INTERN x) ::= ([I:x]),  $\emptyset$ ,  $\emptyset$ , false)

INTERN augments the current set of symbols S and also destroys any property list associated with x. Thus it is a source for a of x.

RSEMANTIC(EVAL x) ::= RQUADRUPLE(x)

The EVAL function performs no modifications on the global state, rather it relies on its argument for this effect. The same is true for APPLY.

## 2.8 Recursive Functions

The problem of data flow analysis of recursive functions consists of two subproblems: functions which are directly recursive, and those which are indirectly recursive. The indirect recursive functions

problem will not be solved here. Rather the ad hoc solution of having the user directly specify the R quadruple of at least one element of the recursive chain will be adopted.

Directly recursive functions can be analyzed by recognizing that they always involve the computation of  $R_f \rightarrow R_f$  for the recursive function  $f$ . It is easy to show that  $R_f \rightarrow R_f \equiv R_f$  by appropriate substitutions into the  $\rightarrow$  equation. Likewise it can also be shown that  $R_g \rightarrow R_f \equiv R_f$ . Consequently, directly recursive calls in functions can be treated as  $R_0$  instances without affecting the outcome of the analysis. Since the implementation of available concurrency happens after the computation of  $R_f$ ,  $R_f$  for the recursive instance will be known.

## 2.9 FEXPR's

Most LISP's permit the definition of functions with an arbitrary number of arguments in which the order of evaluation is defined by the function itself. For arbitrary functions the implementor must supply an appropriate RSEMANTIC function as in general, the problem of machine definition of such a function appears to be very difficult.

RSEMANTIC functions compute the "worst case" instance of evaluation, that is, the one with the least amount of concurrency that evaluates the most arguments. We define some of the most important LISP functions here.

RSEMANTIC(AND NIL) ::= R $\emptyset$

RSEMANTIC(AND (x . y)) ::=

RQUADRUPLE(x) --> RQUADRUPLE(AND y)

The AND function and OR, PROGN, MAX, MIN, TIMES, PLUS and other forms will in the "worst case" evaluate all their arguments sequentially. To take advantage of a non-deterministic MAX, or MIN would require redefining their semantics because of their ability to deal with mixed mode arguments (integer and floating point).

RSEMANTIC(COND NIL) ::= R $\emptyset$

RSEMANTIC(COND ((a . (c)) . x) ::=

(RQUADRUPLE(a) --> RQUADRUPLE(c)) -->

RQUADRUPLE(COND x)

The data flow semantics of COND are very similar to AND. There is available concurrency in individual antecedent-consequent elements but none in the structure as a whole.

## 2.10 Local References And Effects

Functional forms that introduce local variables effect the detection of available concurrency within their scope by temporarily modifying the local environment. The computation of R quadruples for these nested forms must include this contour information. Variables of this sort can be reassigned in the current environment with SET or SETQ temporarily introducing new binding values. Consequently these variables will be treated as temporary global variables, glocals, an acronym for global and local. The variables are tagged as such b

the effector functions GLOCAL and UNGLOCAL. The GLOCAL function pushes the current A into A\* and creates a new set of local variables. The UNGLOCAL function removes these and returns the previous set of locals from A\*.

LAMBDA forms permit local modification of actual parameter values. This modification is in effect only in the lexical scope of the LAMBDA form. To describe this effect requires an operation description of the semantic properties of LAMBDA.

RSEMANTIC(LAMBDA v b) ::=

1. GLOCAL v;
2. x := RQUADRUPL(b) -  
 (([\*BIND\*:v[0]], ... , [\*BIND\*:v[n]]),  
 ([\*BIND\*:v[0]], ... , [\*BIND\*:v[n]]),  
 ([\*BIND\*:v[0]], ... , [\*BIND\*:v[n]]), false)
3. UNGLOCAL v;

The RSEMANTIC function for LAMBDA has the value of the second form. The environment is affected after this value is computed. Note that this definition of LAMBDA permits local modification of formal parameter values with the SET and SETQ functions.

### 3.0 CONCLUSIONS

Potential horizontal concurrency in simple LISP functions is detected using global data flow analysis techniques. Application of this knowledge to the creation of concurrently executable programs is dealt with in [7].



The analysis has been simplified by two assumptions. The analysis covers LISP functions whose flow graphs are single directed rooted trees. Secondly, it is assumed that the R quadruples for all functions are known before they are needed. The first assumption can be removed by employing path expression analysis [5, 10] which permit the analysis of LISP PROG forms and other forms of flow control. The second can be removed only if the incremental property of LISP systems is removed and blocks of code can be treated as single entities.

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