

# Implementing the Goodstein Function in $\lambda$ -Calculus

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## Abstract

In this formalization, we develop an implementation of the Goodstein function  $\mathcal{G}$  in plain  $\lambda$ -calculus, linked to a concise, self-contained specification. The implementation works on a Church-encoded representation of countable ordinals. The initial conversion to hereditary base 2 is not covered, but the material is sufficient to compute the particular value  $\mathcal{G}(16)$ , and easily extends to other fixed arguments.

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# 1 Introduction

Given a number  $n$  and a base  $b$ , we can write  $n$  in *hereditary base  $b$* , which results from writing  $n$  in base  $b$ , and then each exponent in hereditary base  $b$  again. For example, 7 in hereditary base 3 is  $3^1 \cdot 2 + 1$ . Given the hereditary base  $b$  representation of  $n$ , we can reinterpret it in base  $b + 1$  by replacing all occurrences of  $b$  by  $b + 1$ .

The Goodstein sequence starting at  $n$  in base 2 is obtained by iteratively taking a number in hereditary base  $b$ , reinterpreting it in base  $b + 1$ , and subtracting 1. The next step is the same with  $b$  incremented by 1, and so on. So starting for example at 4, we compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 4 &= 2^{2^1} \rightarrow 3^{3^1} - 1 = 26 \\
 26 &= 3^2 \cdot 2 + 3^1 \cdot 2 + 2 \rightarrow 4^2 \cdot 2 + 4^1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 2 - 1 = 41 \\
 41 &= 4^2 \cdot 2 + 4^1 \cdot 2 + 1 \rightarrow 5^2 \cdot 2 + 5^1 \cdot 2 + 1 - 1 = 60
 \end{aligned}$$

and so on. We stop when we reach 0. Goodstein's theorem states that this process always terminates [3]. This result is independent of Peano Arithmetic, and is intimately connected to countable ordinals and the slow growing hierarchy (e.g., the Hardy function) [2]. The length of the resulting sequence is the Goodstein function, denoted by  $\mathcal{G}(n)$ . For example,  $\mathcal{G}(3) = 6$ .

For this formalization, we are interested in implementing the Goodstein function in  $\lambda$ -calculus. More concretely, we want to define the value  $\mathcal{G}(16)$  (which is huge; for example, it exceeds Graham's number), in order to bound its Kolmogorov complexity. Our concrete measure of Kolmogorov complexity is the program length in the Binary Lambda Calculus [4, 5]. It turns out that we can define  $\mathcal{G}(16)$  as follows, giving a complexity bound of 195 bits.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{exp}\omega &= (\lambda z s l. n s (\lambda x z. l (\lambda n. n x z)) (\lambda f z. l (\lambda n. f n z)) z) \\
 \text{goodstein} &= (\lambda n c. n \\
 &\quad (\lambda x. x) \\
 &\quad (\lambda n m. n (\lambda f x. m f (f x))) \\
 &\quad (\lambda f m. f (\lambda f x. m f (f (f x))) m) \\
 &\quad c) \\
 \mathcal{G}_{16} &= (\lambda e. \text{goodstein } (e (e (e (e (\lambda z s l. z)))))) (\lambda x. x)) \text{exp}\omega
 \end{aligned}$$

We rely on a shallow embedding of the  $\lambda$ -calculus throughout the formalization, so it turns out that we cannot quite prove this claim in Isabelle/HOL;

the expression for  $\mathcal{G}_{16}$  cannot be typed. However, we can prove that the building blocks  $exp\omega$  and  $goodstein$  work correctly in the sense that

- $exp\omega^4 (\lambda z s l. z)$  is the hereditary base 2 representation of 16; and
- $goodstein c n$  computes the length of a Goodstein sequence given that the hereditary base  $c+1$  representation of the  $c$ -th value in the sequence is equal to  $n$ .

The remaining steps are easily verified by a human.

**Contributions.** Our main contributions are a concise specification of the Goodstein function, another proof of Goodstein’s theorem, and establishing the connection to  $\lambda$ -calculus as already outlined.

**Related work.** There is already a formalization of Goodstein’s theorem in the AFP entry on nested multisets [1], which comes with a formalization of ordinal arithmetic. Our focus is different, since our goal is to obtain an implementation of the Goodstein function in  $\lambda$ -calculus. Most notably, the intermediate type *Ord* that we use to represent ordinal numbers has far more structure than the ordinals themselves. In particular it can represent arbitrary trees; if we were to compute  $\omega + 1$ ,  $1 + \omega$  and  $\omega$  on this type, we would get three different results. However, we will use the operations such that  $1 + \omega$  is never computed, keeping the connection to countable ordinals intact. Proving this is a large, albeit hidden, part of our formalization.

**Acknowledgement.** John Tromp raised the question of a concise  $\lambda$ -calculus term computing  $\mathcal{G}(16)$ . He also provided feedback on a draft version of this document.

## 2 Specification

```
theory Goodstein-Lambda
  imports Main
begin
```

### 2.1 Hereditary base representation

We define a data type of trees and an evaluation function that sums siblings and exponentiates with respect to the given base on nesting.

```
datatype C = C (unC: C list)
```

```
fun evalC where
  evalC b (C []) = 0
| evalC b (C (x # xs)) = b ^ evalC b x + evalC b (C xs)
```

**value**  $evalC\ 2\ (C\ []) = 0$   
**value**  $evalC\ 2\ (C\ [C\ []]) = 2^0 = 1$   
**value**  $evalC\ 2\ (C\ [C\ [C\ []]]) = 2^1 = 2$   
**value**  $evalC\ 2\ (C\ [C\ [], C\ []]) = 2^0 + 2^0 = 2^0 \cdot 2 = 2$ ; not in hereditary base 2

The hereditary base representation is characterized as trees (i.e., nested lists) whose lists have monotonically increasing evaluations, with fewer than  $b$  repetitions for each value. We will show later that this representation is unique.

**inductive-set**  $hbase$  for  $b$  where

$C\ [] \in hbase\ b$   
 $| i \neq 0 \implies i < b \implies n \in hbase\ b \implies$   
 $C\ ms \in hbase\ b \implies (\bigwedge m'. m' \in set\ ms \implies evalC\ b\ n < evalC\ b\ m') \implies$   
 $C\ (replicate\ i\ n\ @\ ms) \in hbase\ b$

We can convert to and from natural numbers as follows.

**definition**  $H2N$  where

$H2N\ b\ n = evalC\ b\ n$

As we will show later,  $H2N\ b$  restricted to  $hbase\ n$  is bijective if  $2 \leq b$ , so we can convert from natural numbers by taking the inverse.

**definition**  $N2H$  where

$N2H\ b\ n = inv-into\ (hbase\ b)\ (H2N\ b)\ n$

## 2.2 The Goodstein function

We define a function that computes the length of the Goodstein sequence whose  $c$ -th element is  $g_c = n$ . Termination will be shown later, thereby establishing Goodstein's theorem.

**function** (*sequential*)  $goodstein :: nat \Rightarrow nat \Rightarrow nat$  where

$goodstein\ 0\ n = 0$   
— we start counting at 1; also note that the initial base is  $c + 1$  and  
— hereditary base 1 makes no sense, so we have to avoid this case  
 $| goodstein\ c\ 0 = c$   
 $| goodstein\ c\ n = goodstein\ (c+1)\ (H2N\ (c+2)\ (N2H\ (c+1)\ n) - 1)$   
*<proof>*

**abbreviation**  $\mathcal{G}$  where

$\mathcal{G}\ n \equiv goodstein\ (Suc\ 0)\ n$

## 3 Ordinals

The following type contains countable ordinals, by the usual case distinction into 0, successor ordinal, or limit ordinal; limit ordinals are given by their

fundamental sequence. Hereditary base  $b$  representations carry over to such ordinals by replacing each occurrence of the base by  $\omega$ .

**datatype**  $Ord = Z \mid S\ Ord \mid L\ nat \Rightarrow Ord$

Note that the following arithmetic operations are not correct for all ordinals. However, they will only be used in cases where they actually correspond to the ordinal arithmetic operations.

**primrec**  $addO$  **where**

$addO\ n\ Z = n$   
 $\mid addO\ n\ (S\ m) = S\ (addO\ n\ m)$   
 $\mid addO\ n\ (L\ f) = L\ (\lambda i. addO\ n\ (f\ i))$

**primrec**  $mulO$  **where**

$mulO\ n\ Z = Z$   
 $\mid mulO\ n\ (S\ m) = addO\ (mulO\ n\ m)\ n$   
 $\mid mulO\ n\ (L\ f) = L\ (\lambda i. mulO\ n\ (f\ i))$

**definition**  $\omega$  **where**

$\omega = L\ (\lambda n. (S\ \sim n)\ Z)$

**primrec**  $exp\omega$  **where**

$exp\omega\ Z = S\ Z$   
 $\mid exp\omega\ (S\ n) = mulO\ (exp\omega\ n)\ \omega$   
 $\mid exp\omega\ (L\ f) = L\ (\lambda i. exp\omega\ (f\ i))$

### 3.1 Evaluation

Evaluating an ordinal number at base  $b$  is accomplished by taking the  $b$ -th element of all fundamental sequences and interpreting zero and successor over the natural numbers.

**primrec**  $evalO$  **where**

$evalO\ b\ Z = 0$   
 $\mid evalO\ b\ (S\ n) = Suc\ (evalO\ b\ n)$   
 $\mid evalO\ b\ (L\ f) = evalO\ b\ (f\ b)$

### 3.2 Goodstein function and sequence

We can define the Goodstein function very easily, but proving correctness will take a while.

**primrec**  $goodsteinO$  **where**

$goodsteinO\ c\ Z = c$   
 $\mid goodsteinO\ c\ (S\ n) = goodsteinO\ (c+1)\ n$   
 $\mid goodsteinO\ c\ (L\ f) = goodsteinO\ c\ (f\ (c+2))$

**primrec**  $stepO$  **where**

$stepO\ c\ Z = Z$   
 $\mid stepO\ c\ (S\ n) = n$

|  $stepO\ c\ (L\ f) = stepO\ c\ (f\ (c+2))$

We can compute a few values of the Goodstein sequence starting at 4.

**definition**  $g_4O$  **where**

$g_4O\ n = fold\ stepO\ [1..<Suc\ n]\ ((exp\ \omega\ \sim\ 3)\ Z)$

**value**  $map\ (\lambda n.\ evalO\ (n+2)\ (g_4O\ n))\ [0..<10]$   
—  $[4, 26, 41, 60, 83, 109, 139, 173, 211, 253]$

### 3.3 Properties of evaluation

**lemma**  $evalO-addO$  [*simp*]:

$evalO\ b\ (addO\ n\ m) = evalO\ b\ n + evalO\ b\ m$   
<proof>

**lemma**  $evalO-mulO$  [*simp*]:

$evalO\ b\ (mulO\ n\ m) = evalO\ b\ n * evalO\ b\ m$   
<proof>

**lemma**  $evalO-n$  [*simp*]:

$evalO\ b\ ((S\ \sim\ n)\ Z) = n$   
<proof>

**lemma**  $evalO-\omega$  [*simp*]:

$evalO\ b\ \omega = b$   
<proof>

**lemma**  $evalO-exp\omega$  [*simp*]:

$evalO\ b\ (exp\ \omega\ n) = b^\wedge(evalO\ b\ n)$   
<proof>

Note that evaluation is useful for proving that *Ord* values are distinct:

**notepad begin**

<proof>

**end**

### 3.4 Arithmetic properties

**lemma**  $addO-Z$  [*simp*]:

$addO\ Z\ n = n$   
<proof>

**lemma**  $addO-assoc$  [*simp*]:

$addO\ n\ (addO\ m\ p) = addO\ (addO\ n\ m)\ p$   
<proof>

**lemma**  $mulO-distrib$  [*simp*]:

$mulO\ n\ (addO\ p\ q) = addO\ (mulO\ n\ p)\ (mulO\ n\ q)$   
<proof>

**lemma** *mulO-assoc* [*simp*]:  
 $mulO\ n\ (mulO\ m\ p) = mulO\ (mulO\ n\ m)\ p$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *expω-addO* [*simp*]:  
 $exp\omega\ (addO\ n\ m) = mulO\ (exp\omega\ n)\ (exp\omega\ m)$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

## 4 Cantor normal form

The previously introduced tree type  $C$  can be used to represent Cantor normal forms; they are trees (evaluated at base  $\omega$ ) such that siblings are in non-decreasing order. One can think of this as hereditary base  $\omega$ . The plan is to mirror selected operations on ordinals in Cantor normal forms.

### 4.1 Conversion to and from the ordinal type $Ord$

**fun** *C2O* **where**  
 $C2O\ (C\ []) = Z$   
 |  $C2O\ (C\ (n\ \# \ ns)) = addO\ (C2O\ (C\ ns))\ (exp\omega\ (C2O\ n))$

**definition** *O2C* **where**  
 $O2C = inv\ C2O$

We show that  $C2O$  is injective, meaning the inverse is unique.

**lemma** *addO-expω-inj*:  
**assumes**  $addO\ n\ (exp\omega\ m) = addO\ n'\ (exp\omega\ m')$   
**shows**  $n = n'$  **and**  $m = m'$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *C2O-inj*:  
 $C2O\ n = C2O\ m \implies n = m$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *O2C-C2O* [*simp*]:  
 $O2C\ (C2O\ n) = n$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *O2C-Z* [*simp*]:  
 $O2C\ Z = C\ []$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *C2O-replicate*:  
 $C2O\ (C\ (replicate\ i\ n)) = mulO\ (exp\omega\ (C2O\ n))\ ((S\ \sim\ i)\ Z)$   
 ⟨*proof*⟩

**lemma** *C2O-app*:

$C2O (C (xs @ ys)) = addO (C2O (C ys)) (C2O (C xs))$   
 ⟨proof⟩

## 4.2 Evaluation

**lemma** *evalC-def'*:  
 $evalC b n = evalO b (C2O n)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *evalC-app [simp]*:  
 $evalC b (C (ns @ ms)) = evalC b (C ns) + evalC b (C ms)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *evalC-replicate [simp]*:  
 $evalC b (C (replicate c n)) = c * evalC b (C [n])$   
 ⟨proof⟩

## 4.3 Transfer of the Ord induction principle to C

**fun** *funC* **where** — *funC* computes the fundamental sequence on  $C$   
 $funC (C []) = (\lambda i. [C []])$   
 $| funC (C (C [] \# ns)) = (\lambda i. replicate i (C ns))$   
 $| funC (C (n \# ns)) = (\lambda i. [C (funC n i @ ns)])$

**lemma** *C2O-cons*:  
 $C2O (C (n \# ns)) =$   
 $(if n = C [] then S (C2O (C ns)) else L (\lambda i. C2O (C (funC n i @ ns))))$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *C-Ord-induct*:  
**assumes**  $P (C [])$   
**and**  $\bigwedge ns. P (C ns) \implies P (C (C [] \# ns))$   
**and**  $\bigwedge n ns ms. (\bigwedge i. P (C (funC (C (n \# ns)) i @ ms))) \implies$   
 $P (C (C (n \# ns) \# ms))$   
**shows**  $P n$   
 ⟨proof⟩

## 4.4 Goodstein function and sequence on C

**function** (*domintros*) *goodsteinC* **where**  
 $goodsteinC c (C []) = c$   
 $| goodsteinC c (C (C [] \# ns)) = goodsteinC (c+1) (C ns)$   
 $| goodsteinC c (C (C (n \# ns) \# ms)) =$   
 $goodsteinC c (C (funC (C (n \# ns)) (c+2) @ ms))$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**termination**  
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *goodsteinC-def'*:



$goodsteinC\ c\ n = goodsteinO\ c\ (C2O\ n)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**function** (*domintros*) *stepC* **where**  
 $stepC\ c\ (C\ []) = C\ []$   
 $| stepC\ c\ (C\ (C\ []\ \# ns)) = C\ ns$   
 $| stepC\ c\ (C\ (C\ (n\ \# ns)\ \# ms)) =$   
 $stepC\ c\ (C\ (funC\ (C\ (n\ \# ns))\ (Suc\ (Suc\ c))\ @\ ms))$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**termination**  
 ⟨proof⟩

**definition**  $g4C$  **where**  
 $g4C\ n = fold\ stepC\ [1..<Suc\ n]\ (C\ [C\ [C\ [C\ []]])$

**value**  $map\ (\lambda n. evalC\ (n+2)\ (g4C\ n))\ [0..<10]$   
 —  $[4, 26, 41, 60, 83, 109, 139, 173, 211, 253]$

## 4.5 Properties

**lemma** *stepC-def'*:  
 $stepC\ c\ n = O2C\ (stepO\ c\ (C2O\ n))$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *funC-ne* [*simp*]:  
 $funC\ m\ (Suc\ n) \neq []$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *evalC-funC* [*simp*]:  
 $evalC\ b\ (C\ (funC\ n\ b)) = evalC\ b\ (C\ [n])$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *stepC-app* [*simp*]:  
 $n \neq C\ [] \implies stepC\ c\ (C\ (unC\ n\ @\ ns)) = C\ (unC\ (stepC\ c\ n)\ @\ ns)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *stepC-cons* [*simp*]:  
 $ns \neq [] \implies stepC\ c\ (C\ (n\ \# ns)) = C\ (unC\ (stepC\ c\ (C\ [n]))\ @\ ns)$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *stepC-dec*:  
 $n \neq C\ [] \implies Suc\ (evalC\ (Suc\ (Suc\ c))\ (stepC\ c\ n)) = evalC\ (Suc\ (Suc\ c))\ n$   
 ⟨proof⟩

**lemma** *stepC-dec'*:  
 $n \neq C\ [] \implies evalC\ (c+3)\ (stepC\ c\ n) < evalC\ (c+3)\ n$   
 ⟨proof⟩

## 5 Hereditary base $b$ representation

We now turn to properties of the *hbase*  $b$  subset of trees.

### 5.1 Uniqueness

We show uniqueness of the hereditary base representation by showing that *evalC*  $b$  restricted to *hbase*  $b$  is injective.

**lemma** *hbaseI2*:

$$i < b \implies n \in \text{hbase } b \implies C \ m \in \text{hbase } b \implies$$

$$(\bigwedge m'. m' \in \text{set } m \implies \text{evalC } b \ n < \text{evalC } b \ m') \implies$$

$$C \ (\text{replicate } i \ n \ @ \ m) \in \text{hbase } b$$

*<proof>*

**lemmas** *hbase-singletonI* =

*hbase.intros(2)[of 1 Suc (Suc b) for b, OF - - hbase.intros(1), simplified]*

**lemma** *hbase-hd*:

$$C \ ns \in \text{hbase } b \implies ns \neq [] \implies \text{hd } ns \in \text{hbase } b$$

*<proof>*

**lemmas** *hbase-hd' [dest] = hbase-hd[of n # ns for n ns, simplified]*

**lemma** *hbase-tl*:

$$C \ ns \in \text{hbase } b \implies ns \neq [] \implies C \ (\text{tl } ns) \in \text{hbase } b$$

*<proof>*

**lemmas** *hbase-tl' [dest] = hbase-tl[of n # ns for n ns, simplified]*

**lemma** *hbase-elt [dest]*:

$$C \ ns \in \text{hbase } b \implies n \in \text{set } ns \implies n \in \text{hbase } b$$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *evalC-sum-list*:

$$\text{evalC } b \ (C \ ns) = \text{sum-list } (\text{map } (\lambda n. b^{\wedge} \text{evalC } b \ n) \ ns)$$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *sum-list-replicate*:

$$\text{sum-list } (\text{replicate } n \ x) = n * x$$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *base-red*:

**fixes**  $b :: \text{nat}$

**assumes**  $n: \bigwedge n'. n' \in \text{set } ns \implies n < n' \ i < b \ i \neq 0$

**and**  $m: \bigwedge m'. m' \in \text{set } ms \implies m < m' \ j < b \ j \neq 0$

**and**  $s: i * b^{\wedge} n + \text{sum-list } (\text{map } (\lambda n. b^{\wedge} n) \ ns) = j * b^{\wedge} m + \text{sum-list } (\text{map } (\lambda n.$

$b^{\wedge} n) \ ms)$

**shows**  $i = j \wedge n = m$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

**lemma** *evalC-inj-on-hbase*:

$n \in \text{hbase } b \implies m \in \text{hbase } b \implies \text{evalC } b \ n = \text{evalC } b \ m \implies n = m$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

## 5.2 Correctness of *stepC*

We show that *stepC*  $c$  preserves hereditary base  $c + 2$  representations. In order to cover intermediate results produced by *stepC*, we extend the hereditary base representation to allow the least significant digit to be equal to  $b$ , which essentially means that we may have an extra sibling in front on every level.

**inductive-set** *hbase-ext* for  $b$  where

$n \in \text{hbase } b \implies n \in \text{hbase-ext } b$

|  $n \in \text{hbase-ext } b \implies$

$C \ m \in \text{hbase } b \implies (\bigwedge m'. m' \in \text{set } m \implies \text{evalC } b \ n \leq \text{evalC } b \ m') \implies$

$C \ (n \# m) \in \text{hbase-ext } b$

**lemma** *hbase-ext-hd'* [dest]:

$C \ (n \# ns) \in \text{hbase-ext } b \implies n \in \text{hbase-ext } b$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

**lemma** *hbase-ext-tl*:

$C \ ns \in \text{hbase-ext } b \implies ns \neq [] \implies C \ (tl \ ns) \in \text{hbase } b$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

**lemmas** *hbase-ext-tl'* [dest] = *hbase-ext-tl*[of  $n \# ns$  for  $n \ ns$ , simplified]

**lemma** *hbase-funC*:

$c \neq 0 \implies C \ (n \# ns) \in \text{hbase-ext } (Suc \ c) \implies$

$C \ (\text{funC } n \ (Suc \ c) \ @ \ ns) \in \text{hbase-ext } (Suc \ c)$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

**lemma** *stepC-sound*:

$n \in \text{hbase-ext } (Suc \ (Suc \ c)) \implies \text{stepC } c \ n \in \text{hbase } (Suc \ (Suc \ c))$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

## 5.3 Surjectivity of *evalC*

Note that the base must be at least 2.

**lemma** *evalC-surjective*:

$\exists n' \in \text{hbase } (Suc \ (Suc \ b)). \ \text{evalC } (Suc \ (Suc \ b)) \ n' = n$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

## 5.4 Monotonicity of *hbase*

Here we show that every hereditary base  $b$  number is also a valid hereditary base  $b + 1$  number. This is not immediate because we have to show that monotonicity of siblings is preserved.

**lemma** *hbase-evalC-mono*:

**assumes**  $n \in \text{hbase } b$   $m \in \text{hbase } b$   $\text{evalC } b \ n < \text{evalC } b \ m$

**shows**  $\text{evalC } (\text{Suc } b) \ n < \text{evalC } (\text{Suc } b) \ m$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *hbase-mono*:

$n \in \text{hbase } b \implies n \in \text{hbase } (\text{Suc } b)$

*<proof>*

## 5.5 Conversion to and from *nat*

We have previously defined  $H2N \ b = \text{evalC } b$  and  $N2H \ b$  as its inverse. So we can use the injectivity and surjectivity of  $\text{evalC } b$  for simplification.

**lemma** *N2H-inv*:

$n \in \text{hbase } b \implies N2H \ b \ (H2N \ b \ n) = n$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *H2N-inv*:

$H2N \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \ (N2H \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \ n) = n$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *N2H-eqI*:

$n \in \text{hbase } (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \implies$

$H2N \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \ n = m \implies N2H \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \ m = n$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *N2H-neI*:

$n \in \text{hbase } (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \implies$

$H2N \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \ n \neq m \implies N2H \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } b)) \ m \neq n$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *N2H-0 [simp]*:

$N2H \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } c)) \ 0 = C \ []$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *N2H-nz [simp]*:

$0 < n \implies N2H \ (\text{Suc } (\text{Suc } c)) \ n \neq C \ []$

*<proof>*

## 6 The Goodstein function revisited

We are now ready to prove termination of the Goodstein function *goodstein* as well as its relation to *goodsteinC* and *goodsteinO*.

**lemma** *goodstein-aux*:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{goodsteinC } (Suc\ c) (N2H\ (Suc\ (Suc\ c))\ (Suc\ n)) = \\ & \text{goodsteinC } (c+2)\ (N2H\ (c+3)\ (H2N\ (c+3)\ (N2H\ (c+2)\ (n+1)) - 1)) \\ & \langle proof \rangle \end{aligned}$$

**termination** *goodstein*

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *goodstein-def'*:

$$c \neq 0 \implies \text{goodstein } c\ n = \text{goodsteinC } c\ (N2H\ (c+1)\ n)$$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *goodstein-impl*:

$$c \neq 0 \implies \text{goodstein } c\ n = \text{goodsteinO } c\ (C2O\ (N2H\ (c+1)\ n))$$

— but note that *N2H* is not executable as currently defined

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *goodstein-16*:

$$G\ 16 = \text{goodsteinO } 1\ (\text{expw } (\text{expw } (\text{expw } (\text{expw } Z))))$$

$\langle proof \rangle$

## 7 Translation to $\lambda$ -calculus

We define Church encodings for *nat* and *Ord*. Note that we are basically in a Hindley-Milner type system, so we cannot use a proper polymorphic type. We can still express Church encodings as folds over values of the original type.

**abbreviation**  $Z_N$  **where**  $Z_N \equiv (\lambda s\ z.\ z)$

**abbreviation**  $S_N$  **where**  $S_N \equiv (\lambda n\ s\ z.\ s\ (n\ s\ z))$

**primrec** *fold-nat* ( $\langle - \rangle_N$ ) **where**

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle 0 \rangle_N = Z_N \\ & | \langle Suc\ n \rangle_N = S_N\ \langle n \rangle_N \end{aligned}$$

**lemma** *one<sub>N</sub>*:

$$\langle 1 \rangle_N = (\lambda x.\ x)$$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**abbreviation**  $Z_O$  **where**  $Z_O \equiv (\lambda z\ s\ l.\ z)$

**abbreviation**  $S_O$  **where**  $S_O \equiv (\lambda n\ z\ s\ l.\ s\ (n\ z\ s\ l))$

**abbreviation**  $L_O$  **where**  $L_O \equiv (\lambda f\ z\ s\ l.\ l\ (\lambda i.\ f\ i\ z\ s\ l))$

**primrec** *fold-Ord* ( $\langle - \rangle_O$ ) **where**

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Z \rangle_O &= Z_O \\ | \langle S \ n \rangle_O &= S_O \ \langle n \rangle_O \\ | \langle L \ f \rangle_O &= L_O \ (\lambda i. \langle f \ i \rangle_O) \end{aligned}$$

The following abbreviations and lemmas show how to implement the arithmetic functions and the Goodstein function on a Church-encoded *Ord* in lambda calculus.

**abbreviation** (*input*) *add*<sub>O</sub> **where**  
 $add_O \ n \ m \equiv (\lambda z \ s \ l. \ m \ (n \ z \ s \ l) \ s \ l)$

**lemma** *add*<sub>O</sub>:  
 $\langle add_O \ n \ m \rangle_O = add_O \ \langle n \rangle_O \ \langle m \rangle_O$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**abbreviation** (*input*) *mul*<sub>O</sub> **where**  
 $mul_O \ n \ m \equiv (\lambda z \ s \ l. \ m \ z \ (\lambda m. \ n \ m \ s \ l) \ l)$

**lemma** *mul*<sub>O</sub>:  
 $\langle mul_O \ n \ m \rangle_O = mul_O \ \langle n \rangle_O \ \langle m \rangle_O$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**abbreviation** (*input*)  $\omega_O$  **where**  
 $\omega_O \equiv (\lambda z \ s \ l. \ l \ (\lambda n. \ \langle n \rangle_N \ s \ z))$

**lemma**  $\omega_O$ :  
 $\langle \omega \rangle_O = \omega_O$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**abbreviation** (*input*) *exp* $\omega_O$  **where**  
 $exp_{\omega_O} \ n \equiv (\lambda z \ s \ l. \ n \ s \ (\lambda x \ z. \ l \ (\lambda n. \ \langle n \rangle_N \ x \ z)) \ (\lambda f \ z. \ l \ (\lambda n. \ f \ n \ z)) \ z)$

**lemma** *exp* $\omega_O$ :  
 $\langle exp_{\omega} \ n \rangle_O = exp_{\omega_O} \ \langle n \rangle_O$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**abbreviation** (*input*) *goodstein*<sub>O</sub> **where**  
 $goodstein_O \equiv (\lambda c \ n. \ n \ (\lambda x. \ x) \ (\lambda n \ m. \ n \ (m + 1)) \ (\lambda f \ m. \ f \ (m + 2) \ m) \ c)$

**lemma** *goodstein*<sub>O</sub>:  
 $goodstein_O \ c \ n = goodstein_O \ c \ \langle n \rangle_O$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

Note that modeling Church encodings with folds is still limited. For example, the meaningful expression  $\langle n \rangle_N \ exp_{\omega_O} \ Z_O$  cannot be typed in Isabelle/HOL, as that would require rank-2 polymorphism.

## 7.1 Alternative: free theorems

The following is essentially the free theorem for Church-encoded *Ord* values.

**lemma** *freeOrd*:

**assumes**  $\bigwedge n. h (s n) = s' (h n)$  **and**  $\bigwedge f. h (l f) = l' (\lambda i. h (f i))$

**shows**  $h (\langle n \rangle_O z s l) = \langle n \rangle_O (h z) s' l'$

*<proof>*

Each of the following proofs first states a naive definition of the corresponding function (which is proved correct by induction), from which we then derive the optimized version using the free theorem, by (conditional) rewriting (without induction).

**lemma** *add<sub>O</sub>'*:

$\langle addO n m \rangle_O = add_O \langle n \rangle_O \langle m \rangle_O$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *mul<sub>O</sub>'*:

$\langle mulO n m \rangle_O = mul_O \langle n \rangle_O \langle m \rangle_O$

*<proof>*

**lemma** *exp<sub>O</sub>'*:

$\langle expO n \rangle_O = exp_O \langle n \rangle_O$

*<proof>*

**end**

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