



Advanced Programming with MOSTflexiPL

Lecture in Wintersemester 2025/2026
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8. Task Sheet (December 23, 2025)

Task 14: Rational Numbers

Subtask 14.a)

Define a type `rat` for the representation of rational numbers, i.e., fractions with integral numerator and denominator.

A *natural* fraction is a `rat` object whose numerator and denominator are natural `int` values and whose denominator is different from 0 (i.e., the integer division of the numerator by the denominator does not return `nil`). All other `rat` objects including `nil` are *unnatural* fractions.

A *normalized* fraction is a natural fraction which is completely canceled (i.e., numerator and denominator do not have any common divisor) and whose denominator is positive (i.e., a negative sign is only allowed in the numerator).

Subtask 14.b)

Define the following operators:

- For `int` values `n` and `d`, `n/d` returns a fraction with numerator `n` and denominator `d`.
- For a `rat` value `r`, `-r` returns the fraction `r` with inverse sign.
- For `rat` values `r1` and `r2` and `int` values `i1` and `i2`, `r1+r2`, `r1+i2`, and `i1+r2` return the sum of `r1` or `i1`, respectively, and `r2` or `i2`, respectively, as a fraction. (However, `i1+i2` must still return the sum of `i1` and `i2` as an `int` value.)
- Accordingly for difference (`r1-r2`, `r1-i2`, `i1-r2`), product (`r1*r2`, `r1*i2`, `i1*r2`), and quotient (`r1/r2`, `r1/i2`, `i1/r2`).

All operators mentioned above always return either normalized fractions (if this is possible) or `nil` (if the result would be an unnatural fraction).

Each of the operators mentioned above shall have the same binding properties as the corresponding predefined operators for `int` values, where `•/•` corresponds to the predefined operator `•:•`.

Subtask 14.c)

Define, in analogy to task 7, an operator that allows chained comparisons of all kinds with two or more operands, each of which has either type `rat` or `int`, for example:

```
r1 := 3/4;  
r2 := 5/6;
```

```
r1 < 1;  
r1 < 1 > r2
```

Define, if necessary, in analogy to task 11.a, additional “intersection operators” in order to make all comparisons of `rat` and `int` values unambiguous, even if the comparison operators from task 7 and 8.b are also visible and/or a comparison would also match the predefined equality test, for example:

```
r1 = r2;  
r1 /= r2
```

All operators defined in this subtask shall have the same binding properties as the predefined equality test.