THE LIMITS OF MATHEMATICS

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1 Introduction

In a remarkable development, I have constructed a new definition for a self-delimiting universal Turing machine (UTM) that is easy to program and runs very quickly. This provides a new foundation for algorithmic information theory (AIT), which is the theory of the size in bits of programs for self-delimiting UTM's. Previously, AIT had an abstract mathematical quality. Now it is possible to write down executable programs that embody the constructions in the proofs of theorems. So AIT goes from dealing with remote idealized mythical objects to being a theory about practical down-to-earth gadgets that one can actually play with and use.

This new self-delimiting UTM is implemented via software written in a new version of LISP that I invented especially for this purpose. This LISP was designed by writing an interpreter for it in Mathematica that was then translated into C. I have tested this software by running it on IBM RS/6000 workstations with the AIX version of UNIX.

Using this new software and the latest theoretical ideas, it is now possible to give a self-contained “hands on” mini-course presenting very concretely my latest proofs of my two fundamental information-theoretic incompleteness theorems. The first of these theorems states that an N-bit formal axiomatic system cannot enable one to exhibit any specific object with program-size complexity greater than \( N + c \). The second of these theorems states that an N-bit formal axiomatic system cannot enable one to determine more than \( N + c' \) scattered bits of the halting probability \( \Omega \).

Most people believe that anything that is true is true for a reason. These theorems show that some things are true for no reason at all, i.e., accidentally, or at random.

As is shown in this course, the algorithms considered in the proofs of these two theorems are now easy to program and run, and by looking at the size in bits of these programs one can actually, for the first time, determine exact values for the constants \( c \) and \( c' \).

I used this approach and software in an intensive short course on the limits of mathematics that I gave at the University of Maine in Orono in the summer of 1994. I also lectured on this material during a stay at the Santa Fe Institute in the spring of 1993, and at a meeting at the Black Sea University in Romania in the summer of 1995. A summary of the approach that I used on these three occasions will appear under the title “A new version of algorithmic information theory” in a

forthcoming issue of the new magazine *Complexity*, which has just been launched by the Santa Fe Institute and John Wiley and Sons. A less technical discussion of the basic ideas that are involved “How to run algorithmic information theory on a computer” will also appear in *Complexity*.

After presenting this material at these three different places, it became obvious to me that it is extremely difficult to understand it in its original form. So next time, at the Rovaniemi Institute of Technology in the spring of 1996, I am going to use the new, more understandable software in this report; everything has been redone in an attempt to make it as easy to understand as possible.

For their stimulating invitations, I thank Prof. George Markowsky of the University of Maine, Prof. Cristian Calude of the University of Auckland, Prof. John Casti of the Santa Fe Institute, and Prof. Veikko Keränen of the Rovaniemi Institute of Technology. And I am grateful to IBM for supporting my research for almost thirty years, and to my current management chain at the IBM Research Division, Dan Prener, Christos Georgiou, Eric Kronstadt, Jeff Jaffe, and Jim McGroddy.

This report includes the LISP runs *.r* used to present the information-theoretic incompleteness theorems of algorithmic information theory. This report does not include the software used to produce these LISP runs. To obtain the software for this course via e-mail, please send requests to chaitin@watson.ibm.com.

2 The New Idea

Here is a quick summary of this new LISP, in which atoms can now either be words or unsigned decimal integers. First of all, comments are written like this: [comment]. Each LISP primitive function has a fixed number of arguments. ’ is QUOTE, = is EQ, and atom, car, cdr, cadr, caddr, cons are provided with their usual meaning. We also have lambda, define, let, if and display and eval. The notation " indicates that an S-expression with explicit parentheses follows, not what is usually the case in this LISP, an M-expression, in which the parentheses for each primitive function are implicit. nil denotes the empty list O, and the logical truth values are true and false. For dealing with unsigned decimal integers we have +, -, *, ^, <, >, <=, >=, base10-to-2, base2-to-10.

So far this is fairly standard. The new idea is this. We define our standard self-delimiting universal Turing machine as follows. Its program is in binary, and appears on a tape in the following form. First comes a LISP expression, written in ASCII with 8 bits per character, and terminated by an end-of-line character ‘\n’. The TM reads in this LISP expression, and then evaluates it. As it does this, two new primitive functions read-bit and read-exp with no arguments may be used to read more from the TM tape. Both of these functions explode if the tape is exhausted, killing the computation. read-bit reads a single bit from the tape. read-exp reads in an entire LISP expression, in 8-bit character chunks, until it reaches an end-of-line character ‘\n’.

This is the only way that information on the TM tape may be accessed, which forces it to be used in a self-delimiting fashion. This is because no algorithm can search for the end of the tape and then use the length of the tape as data in the
computation. If an algorithm attempts to read a bit that is not on the tape, the algorithm aborts.

How is information placed on the TM tape in the first place? Well, in the starting environment, the tape is empty and any attempt to read it will give an error message. To place information on the tape, one must use the primitive function \texttt{try} which tries to see if an expression can be evaluated.

Consider the three arguments $\alpha$, $\beta$ and $\gamma$ of \texttt{try}. The meaning of the first argument is as follows. If $\alpha$ is no-time-limit, then there is no depth limit. Otherwise $\alpha$ must be an unsigned decimal integer, and gives the depth limit (limit on the nesting depth of function calls and re-evaluations). The second argument $\beta$ of \texttt{try} is the expression to be evaluated as long as the depth limit $\alpha$ is not exceeded. And the third argument $\gamma$ of \texttt{try} is a list of bits to be used as the TM tape.

The value $\nu$ returned by the primitive function \texttt{try} is a triple. The first element of $\nu$ is success if the evaluation of $\beta$ was completed successfully, and the first element of $\nu$ is failure if this was not the case. The second element of $\nu$ is out-of-data if the evaluation of $\beta$ aborted because an attempt was made to read a non-existent bit from the TM tape. The second element of $\nu$ is out-of-time if evaluation of $\beta$ aborted because the depth limit $\alpha$ was exceeded. These are the only possible error flags, because this LISP is designed with maximally permissive semantics. If the computation $\beta$ terminated normally instead of aborting, the second element of $\nu$ will be the result produced by the computation $\beta$, i.e., its value. That's the second element of the list $\nu$ produced by the \texttt{try} primitive function.

The third element of the value $\nu$ is a list of all the arguments to the primitive function \texttt{display} that were encountered during the evaluation of $\beta$. More precisely, if \texttt{display} was called $N$ times during the evaluation of $\beta$, then $\nu$ will be a list of $N$ elements. The $N$ arguments of \texttt{display} appear in $\nu$ in chronological order. Thus \texttt{try} can not only be used to determine if a computation $\beta$ reads too much tape or goes on too long (i.e., to greater depth than $\alpha$), but \texttt{try} can also be used to capture all the output that $\beta$ displayed as it went along, whether the computation $\beta$ aborted or not.

In summary, all that one has to do to simulate a self-delimiting universal Turing machine $U(p)$ running on the binary program $p$ is to write

\begin{verbatim}
try no-time-limit 'eval read-exp p
\end{verbatim}

This is an M-expression with parentheses omitted from primitive functions. (Recall that all primitive functions have a fixed number of arguments.) With the parentheses supplied, it becomes the S-expression

\begin{verbatim}
(try no-time-limit ('(eval(read-exp))) p)
\end{verbatim}

This says that one is to read a complete LISP S-expression from the TM tape $p$ and then evaluate it without any time limit and using whatever is left on the tape $p$.

Some more primitive functions have also been added. The 2-argument function \texttt{append} denotes list concatenation, and the 1-argument function \texttt{bits} converts an S-expression into the list of the bits in its ASCII character string representation. These are used for constructing the bit strings that are then put on the TM tape using \texttt{try}'s third argument $\gamma$. We also provide the 1-argument
functions \texttt{size} and \texttt{length} that respectively give the number of characters in an S-expression, and the number of elements in a list. Note that the functions \texttt{append}, \texttt{size} and \texttt{length} could be programmed rather than included as built-in primitive functions, but it is extremely convenient and much much faster to provide them built in.

Finally a new 1-argument identity function \texttt{debug} with the side-effect of outputting its argument is provided for debugging. Output produced by \texttt{debug} is invisible to the "official" \texttt{display} and \texttt{try} output mechanism. \texttt{debug} is needed because \texttt{try }\alpha\beta\gamma \texttt{suppresses all output }\theta \texttt{produced within its depth-controlled evaluation of }\beta. \texttt{Instead }\texttt{try} \texttt{collects all output }\theta \texttt{from within }\beta \texttt{for inclusion in the final value }\nu \texttt{that }\texttt{try} \texttt{returns, namely }\nu = \texttt{(success/failure, value of }\beta, \theta).$

### 3 Course Outline

The course begins by explaining with examples my new LISP. See \texttt{examples.r}.

Then the theory of LISP program-size complexity is developed a little bit. LISP program-size complexity is extremely simple and concrete. In particular, it is easy to show that it is impossible to prove that a self-contained LISP expression is elegant, i.e., that no smaller expression has the same value. To prove that an $N$-character LISP expression is elegant requires a formal axiomatic system that itself has at least LISP complexity $N - 410$. See \texttt{godel.r}.

Next we define our standard self-delimiting universal Turing machine $U(p)$ using

\begin{verbatim}
cadr try no-time-limit 'eval read-exp p
\end{verbatim}

as explained in the previous chapter.

Next we show that

$$H(x, y) \leq H(x) + H(y) + c$$

with $c = 432$. Here $H(\cdots)$ denotes the size in bits of the smallest program that makes our standard universal Turing machine compute $\cdots$. Thus this inequality states that the information needed to compute the pair $(x, y)$ is bounded by a constant $c$ plus the sum of the information needed to compute $x$ and the information needed to compute $y$. Consider

\begin{verbatim}
cons eval read-exp
cons eval read-exp
   nil
\end{verbatim}

This is an M-expression with parentheses omitted from primitive functions. With all the parentheses supplied, it becomes the S-expression

\begin{verbatim}
(cons (eval (read-exp))
   (cons (eval (read-exp))
   nil))
\end{verbatim}

$c = 432$ is just 8 bits plus 8 times the size in characters of this LISP S-expression. See \texttt{utm.r}. 

Consider a binary string $x$ whose size is $|x|$ bits. In $\text{utm.r}$ we also show that

$$H(x) \leq 2|x| + c$$

and

$$H(x) \leq |x| + H(|x|) + c'$$

with $c = 1106$ and $c' = 1024$. As before, the programs for doing this are exhibited and run.

Next we turn to the self-delimiting program-size complexity $H(X)$ for infinite r.e. sets $X$. This is defined to be the size in bits of the smallest LISP expression $\xi$ that executes forever without halting and outputs the members of the r.e. set $X$ using the LISP primitive $\text{display}$, which is an identity function with the side-effect of outputting the value of its argument. Note that this LISP expression $\xi$ is allowed to read additional bits or expressions from the TM tape using the primitive functions $\text{read-bit}$ and $\text{read-exp}$ if $\xi$ so desires. But of course $\xi$ is charged for this; this adds to $\xi$'s program size.

It is in order to deal with such unending expressions $\xi$ that the LISP primitive function for time-limited evaluation $\text{try}$ captures all output from $\text{display}$ within its second argument $\beta$.

Now consider a formal axiomatic system $A$ of complexity $N$, i.e., with a set of theorems $T_A$ that considered as an r.e. set as above has self-delimiting program-size complexity $H(T_A) = N$. We show that $A$ cannot enable us to exhibit a specific S-expression $s$ with self-delimiting complexity $H(s)$ greater than $N + c$. Here $c = 4872$. See $\text{gode12.r}$.

Next we show two different ways to calculate the halting probability $\Omega$ of our standard self-delimiting universal Turing machine in the limit from below. See $\text{omega.r}$ and $\text{omega2.r}$. The first way of doing this, $\text{omega.r}$, is straightforward. The second way to calculate $\Omega$, $\text{omega2.r}$, uses a more clever method. Using the clever method as a subroutine, we show that if $\Omega_N$ is the first $N$ bits of the fractional part of the base-two real number $\Omega$, then

$$H(\Omega_N) > N - c$$

with $c = 8000$. Again this is done with a program that can actually be run and whose size gives us a value for $c$. See $\text{omega3.r}$.

Consider again the formal axiomatic system $A$ with complexity $N$, i.e., with self-delimiting program-size complexity $H(T_A) = N$. Using the lower bound of $N - c$ on $H(\Omega_N)$ established in $\text{omega3.r}$, we show that $A$ cannot enable us to determine more than the first $N + c'$ bits of $\Omega$. Here $c' = 15328$. In fact, we show that $A$ cannot enable us to determine more than $N + c'$ bits of $\Omega$ even if they are scattered and we leave gaps. See $\text{gode13.r}$.

Last but not least, the philosophical implications of all this should be discussed, especially the extent to which it tends to justify experimental mathematics. This would be along the lines of the discussion in my talk transcript “Randomness in arithmetic and the decline and fall of reductionism in pure mathematics.”

This concludes our “hands-on” mini-course on the information-theoretic limits of mathematics.
4 References

Here is a useful collection of hand-outs for this course:


examples.r

LISP Interpreter Run

[ Test new lisp & show how it works ]

aa [ initially all atoms eval to self ]

expression aa
value aa

nil [ except nil = the empty list ]

expression nil
value ()

'aa [ quote = literally ]

expression (' aa)
value aa

'(aa bb cc) [ delimiters are ' " ( ) [] blank \n ]

expression (' (aa bb cc))
value (aa bb cc)

(aa bb cc) [ what if quote omitted?! ]

expression (aa bb cc)
value aa

'car '(aa bb cc) [ here effect is different ]

expression (' (car (' (aa bb cc))))
value (car (' (aa bb cc)))

car '(aa bb cc) [ car = first element of list ]

expression (car (' (aa bb cc)))
value aa
car '(a b c d)
expression (car ( (a b c d)))
value (a b)
car '(aa)
expression (car ( (aa)))
value aa
car aa [ ignore error ]
expression (car aa)
value aa
cdr '(aa bb cc) [ cdr = rest of list ]
expression (cdr ( (aa bb cc)))
value (bb cc)
cdr '((a b c d))
expression (cdr ( (a b c d)))
value (c d)
cdr '(aa)
expression (cdr ( (aa)))
value ()
cdr aa [ ignore error ]
expression (cdr aa)
value aa
cadr '(aa bb cc) [ combinations of car & cdr ]
expression (car (cdr ( (aa bb cc))))
value bb
caddr '(aa bb cc)
expression (car (cdr (cdr ( (aa bb cc)))))
value cc
cons 'aa '(bb cc) [ cons = inverse of car & cdr ]
expression (cons ( (aa)) ( (bb cc)))
value (aa bb cc)
cons'(a b)'(c d)
expression (cons ( (a b)) ( (c d)))
value ((a b) c d)
(cons aa nil)

expression (cons aa nil)
value (aa)

(cons aa ())

expression (cons aa ())
value (aa)

(cons aa bb [ ignore error ])

expression (cons aa bb)
value aa

("cons aa) [ supply nil for missing arguments ]

expression (cons aa)
value (aa)

("cons ' (aa) ' (bb) ' (cc)) [ ignore extra arguments ]

expression (cons (' (aa)) (' (bb)) (' (cc)))
value ((aa) bb)

atom ' aa [ is-atomic? predicate ]

expression (atom (' aa))
value true

atom ' (aa)

expression (atom (' (aa)))
value false

atom ' ()

expression (atom (' ()))
value true

= aa bb [ are-equal-S-expressions? predicate ]

expression (= aa bb)
value false

= aa aa

expression (= aa aa)
value true

= '(a b)' (a b)

expression (= (' (a b)) (' (a b)))
value true
=(a b)(a x)
expression  (= (a b) (a x))
value false

if true x y [ if ... then ... else ... ]
expression  (if true x y)
value x

if false x y
expression  (if false x y)
value y

if xxx x y [ anything not false is true ]
expression  (if xxx x y)
value x

[ display intermediate results ]
cdr display cdr display cdr display (a b c d e)
expression  (cdr (display (cdr (display (display (a b c d e))))))
display (a b c d e)
display (b c d e)
display (c d e)
value (d e)

('lambda(x y)x 1 2) [ lambda expression ]
expression  (' (lambda (x y) x)) 1 2)
value 1

('lambda(x y)y 1 2)
expression  (' (lambda (x y) y)) 1 2)
value 2

('lambda(x y)cons y cons x nil 1 2)
expression  (' (lambda (x y) (cons y (cons x nil)))) 1 2)
value (2 1)
(if true "car "cdr '(a b c)) [ function expressions ]
expression  ((if true car cdr) (a b c))
value a

(if false "car "cdr '(a b c))
expression  ((if false car cdr) (a b c))
value (b c)
(‘lambda()cons x cons y nil) [ function with no arguments ]

display (‘ (lambda () (cons x (cons y nil))))

value (x y)

[ Here is a way to create an expression and then evaluate it in the current environment. EVAL (see below) does this using a clean environment instead. ]

display cons "lambda cons nil cons display 'cons x cons y nil nil"

display (display (cons lambda (cons nil (cons (display (‘ (cons x (cons y nil))))) nil)))

display (cons x (cons y nil))

display (lambda () (cons x (cons y nil)))

value (x y)

[ let ... be ... in ... ]

let x a cons x cons x nil [ first case, let x be ... in ... ]

expression (‘ (lambda (x) (cons x (cons x nil))) a)

value (a a)

expression x

type x

[ second case, let (f x) be ... in ... ]

let (f x) if atom display x x (f car x)

(f '((((a)b)c))

expression (‘ (lambda (f) (f ‘(((a) b) c)))) (‘ (lambda (x) (if (atom (display x)) x (f (car x)))))

display ‘(((a) b) c)

display (a)

display a

value a

f

expression f

value f

append '(a b c) '(d e f) [ concatenate-list primitive ]

expression (append ‘(a b c) ‘(d e f))

value (a b c d e f)

[ define "by hand" temporarily ]
let (cat x y) if atom x y cons car x (cat cdr x y)
  (cat '(a b c) '(d e f))

expression ((' (lambda (cat) (cat (' (a b c)) (' (d e f)))))
  (' (lambda (x y) (if (atom x) y (cons (car x) (cat (cdr x) y)))))

value (a b c d e f)

cat

expression cat
value cat

[ define "by hand" permanently ]

define (cat x y) if atom x y cons car x (cat cdr x y)

define cat
value (lambda (x y) (if (atom x) y (cons (car x) (cat (cdr x) y))))

cat

expression cat
value (lambda (x y) (if (atom x) y (cons (car x) (cat (cdr x) y))))

(cat '(a b c) '(d e f))

expression (cat (' (a b c)) (' (d e f))
value (a b c d e f)

define x (a b c) [ define atom, not function ]

define x
value (a b c)

cons x nil

expression (cons x nil)
value ((a b c))

define x (d e f)

define x
value (d e f)

cons x nil

expression (cons x nil)
value ((d e f))

size abc [ size of S-expression in characters ]

expression (size abc)
value 3
size ' ( a b c )

expression (size (' (a b c)))
value 7

length ' ( a b c ) [ number of elements in list ]

expression (length (' (a b c)))
value 3

length display bits ' a [ S-expression -> bits ]

expression (length (display (bits (' a))))
display (0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)
value 16

length display bits ' abc [ extra character is \n ]

expression (length (display (bits (' abc))))
display (0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)
value 32

length display bits nil

expression (length (display (bits nil)))
display (0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)
value 24

length display bits ' (a)

expression (length (display (bits (' (a))))))
display (0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0)
value 32

[ plus ]
+ abc 15 [ not number -> 0 ]

expression (+ abc 15)
value 15

+ '(abc) 15

expression (+ ('(abc)) 15)
value 15

+ 10 15

expression (+ 10 15)
value 25

- 10 15 [ non-negative minus ]
expression (- 10 15)
value 0
- 15 10

expression (- 15 10)
value 5

* 10 15 [ times ]
expression (* 10 15)
value 150

^ 10 15 [ power ]
expression (^ 10 15)
value 100000000000000

< 10 15 [ less than ]
expression (< 10 15)
value true
< 10 10
expression (< 10 10)
value false

> 15 10 [ greater than ]
expression (> 15 10)
value true
> 10 10
expression (> 10 10)
value false

<= 15 10 [ less than or equal ]
expression (<= 15 10)
value false
<= 10 10
expression (<= 10 10)
value true

>= 10 15 [ greater than or equal ]
expression (>= 10 15)
value false
>= 10 10
expression  (>= 10 10)
value        true

= 10 15 [ equal ]
expression  (= 10 15)
value        false

= 10 10
expression  (= 10 10)
value        true

[ here not number isn’t considered zero ]
= abc 0
expression  (= abc 0)
value        false

= 0003 3 [ other ways numbers are funny ]
expression  (= 3 3)
value        true

000099 [ leading zeros removed ]
expression  99
value        99

[ and numbers are constants ]
let x b cons x cons x nil
expression  ((' (lambda (x) (cons x (cons x nil)))) b)
value        (b b)

let 99 45 cons 99 cons 99 nil
expression  ((' (lambda (99) (cons 99 (cons 99 nil)))) 45)
value        (99 99)

define 99 45
define 99
value        45

cons 99 cons 99 nil
expression  (cons 99 (cons 99 nil))
value        (99 99)

[ decimal<--binary conversions ]
base10-to-2 255
expression (base10-to-2 255)
value (1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1)

base10-to-2 256

expression (base10-to-2 256)
value (1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0)

base10-to-2 257

expression (base10-to-2 257)
value (1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1)

base2-to-10 '(1 1 1 1)

expression (base2-to-10 (' (1 1 1 1)))
value 15

base2-to-10 '(1 0 0 0 0)

expression (base2-to-10 (' (1 0 0 0 0)))
value 16

base2-to-10 '(1 0 0 0 1)

expression (base2-to-10 (' (1 0 0 1)))
value 17

[ illustrate eval & try ]

eval display '+ display 5 display 15

expression (eval (display (' (+ (display 5) (display 15)))))
display (+ (display 5) (display 15))
display 5
display 15
value 20

try 0 display '+ display 5 display 15 nil

expression (try 0 (display (' (+ (display 5) (display 15)) nil))
display (+ (display 5) (display 15))
value (success 20 (5 15))

try 0 display '+ debug 5 debug 15 nil

expression (try 0 (display (' (+ (debug 5) (debug 15)) nil))
display (+ (debug 5) (debug 15))
debug 5
debug 15
value (success 20 ())

[ eval & try use initial variable bindings ]
cons x nil

expression (cons x nil)
value ((d e f))

eval 'cons x nil

expression (eval (' (cons x nil)))
value (x)

try 0 'cons x nil nil

expression (try 0 (' (cons x nil)) nil)
value (success (x) ())

define five! [ to illustrate time limits ]
let (f x) if = display x 0 1 * x (f - x 1)
(f 5)
define five!
value (' (lambda (f) (f 5))) (' (lambda (x) (if (= (display x) 0) 1 (* x (f (- x 1))))))

eval five!

expression (eval five!)
display 5
display 4
display 3
display 2
display 1
display 0
value 120

[ by the way, numbers can be big: ]
let (f x) if = x 0 1 * x (f - x 1)
(f 100) [ one hundred factorial! ]

expression (' (lambda (f) (f 100))) (' (lambda (x) (if (= x 0) 1 (* x (f (- x 1))))))
value 93326215443944152681699238856266700490715968264381
62146859966389521759999322991560894146397615651828
625369792082722237852851852109166640000000000000000
0000000

[ time limit is nesting depth of re-evaluations
due to function calls & eval & try ]

try 0 five! nil

expression (try 0 five! nil)
value (failure out-of-time ())

try 1 five! nil
expression  (try 1 five! nil)
value      (failure out-of-time ())

try 2 five! nil
expression  (try 2 five! nil)
value      (failure out-of-time (5))

try 3 five! nil
expression  (try 3 five! nil)
value      (failure out-of-time (5 4))

try 4 five! nil
expression  (try 4 five! nil)
value      (failure out-of-time (5 4 3))

try 5 five! nil
expression  (try 5 five! nil)
value      (failure out-of-time (5 4 3 2))

try 6 five! nil
expression  (try 6 five! nil)
value      (failure out-of-time (5 4 3 2 1))

try 7 five! nil
expression  (try 7 five! nil)
value      (success 120 (5 4 3 2 1 0))

try no-time-limit five! nil
expression  (try no-time-limit five! nil)
value      (success 120 (5 4 3 2 1 0))

define two* [ to illustrate running out of data ]
let (f x) if = 0 x nil
        cons * 2 display read-bit (f - x 1)
        (f 5)

define two*
value   ((' (lambda (f) (f 5))) (' (lambda (x) (if (= 0 x) nil cons * 2 (display (read-bit))) (f (- x 1)) ))))

try 6 two* '(1 0 1 0 1)
expression  (try 6 two* (' (1 0 1 0 1)))
value      (failure out-of-time (1 0 1 0 1))

try 7 two* '(1 0 1 0 1)
expression  (try 7 two* ('(1 0 1 0 1)))
value       (success (2 0 2 0 2) (1 0 1 0 1))

try 7 two* '(1 0 1)
expression  (try 7 two* ('(1 0 1)))
value       (failure out-of-data (1 0 1))

try no-time-limit two* '(1 0 1)
expression  (try no-time-limit two* ('(1 0 1)))
value       (failure out-of-data (1 0 1))

try 18
'let (f x) if = 0 x nil
    cons * 2 display read-bit (f - x 1)
(f 16)
bits 'a

expression  (try 18 ('((' (lambda (f) (f 16)) (' (lambda (x)
      (if (= 0 x) nil (cons (* 2 (display (read-bit)))
        (f (- x 1)))))))) (bits '(' a)))
value       (success (0 2 2 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 2 0 2 0) (0 1 1
                      0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0))

[ illustrate nested try’s ]
[ most constraining limit wins ]

try 20
'cons abcd ef try 10
'let (f n) (f display + n 1) (f 0) [infinite loop]
nil nil

expression  (try 20 (' (cons abcd ef try 10 '(' ((lambda (f)
      (f 0)) (' (lambda (n) (f (display (+ n 1))))))
        nil))) nil)
value       (success (abcd ef failure out-of-time (1 2 3 4 5 6
                      7 8 9)) ()

try 10
'cons abcd ef try 20
'let (f n) (f display + n 1) (f 0) [infinite loop]
nil nil

expression  (try 10 (' (cons abcd ef try 20 (' ((lambda (f)
      (f 0)) (' (lambda (n) (f (display (+ n 1))))))
        nil))) nil)
value       (failure out-of-time ())

try 10
'cons abcd ef try 20
'let (f n) (f debug + n 1) (f 0) [infinite loop]
nil nil

expression  (try 10 (' (cons abcd ef try 20 (' ((lambda (f)
(f 0))) (' (lambda (n) (f (debug (+ n 1))))) nil
debug 1
dep 2
dep 3
dep 4
dep 5
dep 6
dep 7
dep 8
value (failure out-of-time ())

try no-time-limit
'cons abedef try 20
'let (f n) (f display + n 1) (f 0) [infinite loop]
nil nil

expression (try no-time-limit (' (cons abedef (try 20 (' (lambda (f) (f 0))) (' (lambda (n) (f (display (+ n 1))))) nil))) nil)
value (success (abcdef failure out-of-time (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19)) ())

try 10
'cons abedef try no-time-limit
'let (f n) (f display + n 1) (f 0) [infinite loop]
nil nil

expression (try 10 (' (cons abedef (try no-time-limit (' (lambda (f) (f 0))) (' (lambda (n) (f (display (+ n 1))))) nil))) nil)
value (failure out-of-time ())

[ illustrate read-bit & read-exp ]

read-bit

expression (read-bit)
value out-of-data

read-exp

expression (read-exp)
value out-of-data

try 0 'read-bit nil
expression (try 0 (' (read-bit)) nil)
value (failure out-of-data ())

try 0 'read-exp nil
expression (try 0 (' (read-exp)) nil)
value (failure out-of-data ())
try 0 'read-exp bits 'abc
expression (try 0 (' (read-exp) (bits (' abc)))
value (success abc ()))

try 0 'read-exp bits '(abc def)
expression (try 0 (' (read-exp) (bits (' (abc def))))
value (success (abc def) ()))

try 0 'read-exp bits '(abc (def ghi) jkl)
expression (try 0 (' (read-exp) (bits (' (abc (def ghi) jkl)))
value (success (abc (def ghi) jkl) ()))

try 0 'cons read-exp cons read-bit nil bits 'abc
expression (try 0 (' (cons (read-exp) (cons (read-bit) nil))
(bits (' abc)))
value (failure out-of-data ())

try 0 'cons read-exp cons read-bit nil append bits 'abc '(0)
expression (try 0 (' (cons (read-exp) (cons (read-bit) nil))
(append (bits (' abc)) (' (0))))
value (success (abc 0) ())

try 0 'cons read-exp cons read-bit nil append bits 'abc '(1)
expression (try 0 (' (cons (read-exp) (cons (read-bit) nil))
(append (bits (' abc)) (' (1))))
value (success (abc 1) ())

try 0 'read-exp bits '(a b c)
expression (try 0 (' (read-exp) (bits (' (a b c))))
value (success (a b c) ())

try 0 'cons read-exp cons read-exp nil bits '(a b c)
expression (try 0 (' (cons (read-exp) (cons (read-exp) nil))
(bits (' (a b c))))
value (failure out-of-data ())

try 0 'cons read-exp cons read-exp nil
append bits '(a b c) bits '(d e f)
expression (try 0 (' (cons (read-exp) (cons (read-exp) nil))
(append (bits (' (a b c))) (bits (' (d e f))))))
value (success ((a b c) (d e f)) ())

bits 'a [ to get characters codes ]
expression (bits (' a))
value (0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)

try 0 'read-exp ' (0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1) ['a' but no \n character]

expression (try 0 ( (read-exp)) (' (0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1)))
value (failure out-of-data ())

try 0 'read-exp ' (0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1) [0 missing]

expression (try 0 ( (read-exp)) (' (0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1)))
value (failure out-of-data ())

try 0 'read-exp ' (0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0) [okay]

expression (try 0 ( (read-exp)) (' (0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1)))
value (success a ())

[ if we get to \n reading 8 bits at a time, 
we will always interpret as a valid S-expression ]

try 0 'read-exp 
' (0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0) [nothing in record; only \n]

expression (try 0 ( (read-exp)) (' (0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)))
value (success ()) ()

try 0 'read-exp ' (1 1 1 1 1 1 1 [unprintable character] 
0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0) [is deleted]

expression (try 0 ( (read-exp)) (' (1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)))
value (success () ())

bits () [ to get characters codes ]

expression (bits ())
value (0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)

[ three left parentheses===>three right parentheses supplied ]

try 0 'read-exp ' (0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)

expression (try 0 ( (read-exp)) (' (0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)))
value (success ((()))) ()

[ right parenthesis 'a'===>left parenthesis supplied ]

try 0 'read-exp ' (0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 
0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0) [ & extra 'a' ignored ]

expression (try 0 ( (read-exp)) (' (0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 0)))
value (success () ())
Show that a formal system of lisp complexity $H_{\text{lisp}} (\text{FAS}) = N$ cannot enable us to exhibit an elegant $S$-expression of size greater than $N + 410$. An elegant lisp expression is one with the property that no smaller $S$-expression has the same value. Setting: formal axiomatic system is never-ending lisp expression that displays elegant $S$-expressions.

[Here is the key expression.]

define expression

let (examine x)
  if atom x false
  if $< n$ size car x car x
  (examine cdr x)

let fas 'display ^ 10 430 [insert FAS here preceeded by ']

let n + 410 size fas

let t 0

let (loop)
  let v try t fas nil
  let s (examine caddr v)
  if s eval s
  if = success car v failure
  let t + t 1
  (loop)

(\loop)

define expression

value (('lambda (examine) (((lambda (fas) (('lambda
  a (n) (((lambda (t) (((lambda (loop) (loop)))))))} 0, it seems to be a program written in a formal system and it's used to show that a formal system of lisp complexity $H_{\text{lisp}} (\text{FAS}) = N$ cannot enable us to exhibit an elegant $S$-expression of size greater than $N + 410$. An elegant lisp expression is one with the property that no smaller $S$-expression has the same value. Setting: formal axiomatic system is never-ending lisp expression that displays elegant $S$-expressions.
(\lambda () ((\lambda (v) ((\lambda (s) (if s (eval s) (if (= success (car v)) failure ((\lambda (t) (loop)) (+ t 1)))) (examine (car (cdr v)))) (try t fas nil)))) 0)) (+ 410 (size fas))) ('(display (~ 10 430))) ((\lambda (x) (if (atom x) false (if (<= n (size (car x))) (car x) (examine (cdr x))))))

[Size expression.]
size expression
expression (size expression)
value 430

[Run expression & show that it knows its own size
and can find something bigger than it is.]
let fas 'display ~ 10 429 [insert FAS here preceded by ']

let n + 410 size fas

let t 0

let (loop)
let v try t fas nil
let s (examine caddr v)
if s eval s
if = success car v failure
let t + t 1
(loop)

(expression ((\lambda (examine)) ((\lambda (fas)) ((\lambda a (n)) ((\lambda (t) (\loop)) (\loop)))
(' (\lambda ()) (' (\lambda (v)) (' (\lambda (s)) (if

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LISP Interpreter Run

[[
First steps with my new construction for a self-delimiting universal Turing machine.
We show that
\[ H(x,y) \leq H(x) + H(y) + c \]
and determine c.
Consider a bit string x of length |x|.
We also show that
\[ H(x) \leq 2|x| + c \]
and that
\[ H(x) \leq |x| + H(\text{the binary string for } |x|) + c \]
and determine both these c’s.
]]

[Here is the self-delimiting universal Turing machine!]
declare (U p) cadr tryp no-time-limit 'eval read-exp p

declare U
value (lambda (p) (car (cdr (try no-time-limit (' (eval (read-exp))) p))))

(U 'cons x 'cons y 'cons z nil)

expression (U (bits (' (cons x (cons y (cons z nil)))))),

value (x y z)

(U append bits 'cons a debug read-exp
 bits '(b c d))

expression (U (append (bits (' (cons a (debug (read-exp)))))
(bits (' (b c d)))))

debug (b c d)
value (a b c d)

[...]

End of LISP Run

Elapsed time is 2 seconds.

utmr
The length of alpha in bits is the constant \( c \) in \( H(x) \leq 2|x| + 2 + c \).

```lisp
(define alpha
  (let ((loop) (let x read-bit
                 (let y read-bit
                   (if (= x y)
                       (cons x (loop))
                       nil)) (loop)))
   (define alpha
     (value ' (lambda (loop) (loop)) ' (lambda () (( (lambda bda x) (( (lambda y) (if (= x y) (cons x (loop) nil)))) (read-bit)))) (read-bit))))

(length bits alpha)

(expression (length (bits alpha)))

value 1004

(U append
  ' (0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1)
)

(expression (U (append (bits alpha) ' (0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1)))

value (0 1 0 1)

(U append
  ' (0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0)
)

(expression (U (append (bits alpha) ' (0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0)))

value out-of-data
```

The length of beta in bits is the constant \( c \) in \( H(x,y) \leq H(x) + H(y) + c \).

```lisp
(define beta
  (cons eval read-exp
        (cons eval read-exp
              nil))
   (define beta
     (value (cons (eval (read-exp)) (cons (eval (read-exp)) nil))
           1))

(length bits beta)
expression  (length (bits beta))
value  432

(U
  append
    bits  beta
  append
    bits  (cons a cons b cons c nil)
    bits  (cons x cons y cons z nil)
)

expression  (U (append (bits beta) (append (bits (cons a (cons b (cons c (cons nil)))))) (bits (cons x (cons y (cons z (cons nil)))))))
value  ((a b c) (x y z))

(U
  append
    bits  beta
  append
    bits  alpha '(0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1)
    append  bits  alpha '(1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1 0)
)

expression  (U (append (bits beta) (append (append (bits alpha ) (cons read-bit (loop - k 1)) (loop base2-to-10 eval read-exp)

define  gamma
let (loop k)
  if = 0 k nil
  cons read-bit (loop - k 1)
(101010)

define  gamma
value  ((lambda (loop) (loop (base2-to-10 (eval (read-exp)))))) (lambda (k) (if (= 0 k) nil (cons (read-bit) (loop (~ k 1))))))

length bits gamma

expression  (length (bits gamma))
value  1024

(U
  append
    bits  gamma
  append
    [Arbitrary program for U to compute number of bits]
bits' '(1 0 0 0)
[That many bits of data]
'(0 0 0 0 0 0 1)
)

expression (U (append (bits gamma) (append (bits ' (1 0 0 0)) '\001)) (\000 0 0 0 0 0 0 1)))
value (0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1)

End of LISP Run

Elapsed time is 19 seconds.

```
godel2.r
```

LISP Interpreter Run

```[[
Show that a formal system of complexity N
can't prove that a specific object has
complexity > N + 4872.
Formal system is a never halting lisp expression
that output pairs (lisp object, lower bound
on its complexity). E.g., '(x 4) means
that x has complexity H(x) greater than or equal to 4.
]]]
```

[Here is the prefix.]

define pi

let (examine pairs)
  if atom pairs false
  if < n cadr car pairs
    car pairs
    (examine cdr pairs)

let t 0
let fas nil

let (loop)
  let v try t 'eval read-exp fas
  let n + 4872 length fas
  let p (examine caddr v)
  if p car p
  if = car v success failure
  if = cadr v out-of-data
    let fas append fas cons read-bit nil
    (loop)
  if = cadr v out-of-time
    let t + t 1
  (loop)
unexpected-condition
(loop)

define pi value ((' (lambda (examine) ((' (lambda (t) ((' (lambda (fas) ((' (lambda (loop) (loop))) (' (lambda () ((' (lambda (v) ((' (lambda (n) ((' (lambda (p) (if p (car p) (if (= (car v) success) failure (if (= (car (cdr v)) out-of-data) ('' (lambda (fas) (loop) )) (append fas (cons (read-bit nil))) (if (= (car (cdr v)) out-of-time) ('' (lambda (t) (loop))) (+ t 1)) unexpected-condition)))))) (examine (car (cdr (cdr v)))))))) (+ 4872 (length fas)))))))) (try t (\ ( (eval (read-exp)) fas))))) nil)))) 0)) (' (lambda (pairs) (if (atom pairs) false (if (= n ('' \ (car (cdr pairs)))) (car pairs) (examine (cdr pair s)))))))

[Size pi.]
length bits pi

expression (length (bits pi))
value 4872

[Size pi + fas.]
length append bits pi
bits 'display 'xyz 9999

expression (length (append (bits pi) (bits (' (display (' (display (xyz 9999)))))))
value 5072

[Here pi finds something suitable.]
cadr try no-time-limit 'eval read-exp
append bits pi
bits 'display 'xyz 5073

expression (car (cdr (try no-time-limit (' (eval (read-exp))))
(append (bits pi) (bits (' (display (' (xyz 5073)) ))))))))
value xyz

[Here pi doesn’t find anything suitable.]
cadr try no-time-limit 'eval read-exp
append bits pi
bits 'display 'xyz 5072

expression (car (cdr (try no-time-limit (' (eval (read-exp))))
(append (bits pi) (bits (' (display (' (xyz 5072)) )))))))
value failure
End of LISP Run

Elapsed time is 153 seconds.

omega.r

LISP Interpreter Run

[[[[ Omega in the limit from below!]]]]

define (all-bit-strings-of-size k)
  if (= 0 k '(())
    (extend-by-one-bit (all-bit-strings-of-size - k 1))

define all-bit-strings-of-size
  value (lambda (k) (if (= 0 k) '(())) (extend-by-one-bit
    t (all-bit-strings-of-size (- k 1))))

define (extend-by-one-bit x)
  if atom x nil
    cons append car x '(0)
    cons append car x '(i)
    (extend-by-one-bit cdr x)

define extend-by-one-bit
  value (lambda (x) (if (atom x) nil (cons (append (car x)
    '(0)) (cons (append (car x) '(i)) (extend-by-one-bit
    (cdr x))))))

define (count-halt p)
  if atom p 0
    +
    if (= success car try t 'eval read-exp car p
      1 0
      (count-halt cdr p)

define count-halt
  value (lambda (p) (if (atom p) 0 (+ (if (= success (car
    (try t (' (eval (read-exp))) (car p))) 1 0) (count-
    t-halt (cdr p))))))

define (omega t) cons (count-halt (all-bit-strings-of-size t))
  cons /
  cons (2 t
    nil

define omega
  value (lambda (t) (cons (count-halt (all-bit-strings-of-
    size t)) (cons / (cons (2 t) nil)))))

(omega 0)

expression (omega 0)

value (0 / 1)
(omega 1)
expression (omega 1)
value (0 / 2)

(omega 2)
expression (omega 2)
value (0 / 4)

(omega 3)
expression (omega 3)
value (0 / 8)

(omega 8)
expression (omega 8)
value (1 / 256)

End of LISP Run
Elapsed time is 38 seconds.

omega2.r

LISP Interpreter Run

[[[ Omega in the limit from below! ]]]

define (count-halt prefix bits-left-to-extend)
  if = bits-left-to-extend 0
    if = success car try t 'eval read-exp prefix
    1 0
  + (count-halt append prefix '0) - bits-left-to-extend 1
  (count-halt append prefix '1) - bits-left-to-extend 1

define count-halt
value (lambda (prefix bits-left-to-extend) (if (= bits-left-to-extend 0) (if (= success (car (try t (' (eval (read-exp)) prefix))) 1 0) (+ (count-halt (append prefix '0)) (- bits-left-to-extend 1)) (count-halt (append prefix '1)) (- bits-left-to-extend 1)))))

define (omega t) cons (count-halt nil t)
  cons /
  cons ~ 2 t
nil

define omega
value (lambda (t) (cons (count-halt nil t) (cons / (cons (~ 2 t) nil)))))
Show that

\[ H(\Omega_n) > n - 8000. \]
\( \Omega_n \) is the first \( n \) bits of \( \Omega \),
where we choose

\( \Omega = xxx0111111... \)
instead of

\( \Omega = xxx1000000... \)
if necessary.

[Here is the prefix.]

define pi

let (count-halt prefix bits-left-to-extend)
  if = bits-left-to-extend 0
  if = success car try t 'eval read-exp prefix
  i 0
  + (count-halt append prefix '0) - bits-left-to-extend 1)
(count-halt append prefix '(1) - bits-left-to-extend 1)

let (omega t) cons (count-halt nil t)
  cons /
  cons ^ 2 t
  nil

let w eval read-exp

let n length w

let w cons base2-to-10 w
  cons /
  cons ^ 2 n
  nil

let (loop t)
  if (<=rat w (omega t))
    (big nil n)
    (loop + t 1)

let (<=rat x y)
  <= * car x caddr y * caddr x car y

let (big prefix bits-left-to-add)
  if = 0 bits-left-to-add
  cons cadr try t 'eval read-exp prefix
  nil
append (big append prefix '(0) - bits-left-to-add 1)
  (big append prefix '(1) - bits-left-to-add 1)

(loop 0)

define pi
value
  ' (lambda (count-halt) (' (lambda (omega) (' (lambda w) (' (lambda n) (' (lambda (w) (' (lambda (big) (loop) (' (lambda ((=rat) (' (lambda (big) (loop 0)) (' (lambda (prefix bits-left-to-add) (if (= 0 bits-left-to-add) (cons (car (cdr (try t (' (eval (read-exp)) prefix)))) nil) (append (big (append prefix '(0)) - bits-left-to-add 1)) (big (append prefix '(1)) - bits-left-to-add 1)))))))) (' (lambda (x y) (<= (* (car x) (car (cdr (cadr y)))) (* (car (cdr (cadr x)) (car y))))) (' (lambda (t) (if (=rat w (omega t)) (big nil n) (loop (+ t 1))))) (cons (base2-to-10 w) (cons / (cons ^ 2 n nil))) (length w))) (eval (read-exp)))))) (' (lambda (t) (cons (count-halt nil t) (cons / (cons ^ 2 t nil)))))) (' (lambda (prefix bits-left-to-extend) (if (= bits-left-to-extend 0) (if (= success (car (try t (' (eval (read-exp)) prefix)) 1 0) (+ (count-halt (append prefix '(' (0)) (- bits-left-to-extend 1)) (count-halt (append prefix '(' (1)) (- bits-left-to-extend 1))))))))) 10) (+ (count-halt (append prefix '(' (0)) (- bits-left-to-extend 1)) (count-halt (append prefix '(' (1)) (- bits-left-to-extend 1))))))
Program to compute first n = 8 bits of Omega

'(0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1)
Show that a formal system of complexity $N$ can’t determine more than $N + 8000 + 7328 = N + 15328$ bits of Omega.

Formal system is a never halting lisp expression that outputs lists of the form $(1 \ 0 \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X \ X)$. This stands for the fractional part of Omega, and means that these $0,1$ bits of Omega are known. $X$ stands for an unknown bit.

[Here is the prefix.]

define pi

let (number-of-bits-determined w)
   if atom w 0
   + (number-of-bits-determined cdr w)
   if = X car w
      0
      1
let (supply-missing-bits w)
  if atom w nil
  cons if = X car w
  read-bit
  car w
  (supply-missing-bits cdr w)

let (examine w)
  if atom w false
  [if < n (number-of-bits-determined car w)]
  [ Change n to 1 here so will succeed. ]
  if < 1 (number-of-bits-determined car w)
    car w
  (examine cdr w)

let t 0

let fas nil

let (loop)
  let v try t 'eval read-exp fas
  let n + 8000 + 7328 length fas
  let w (examine caddr v)
  if w (supply-missing-bits w)
    if = car v success failure
    if = cdr v out-of-data
      let fas append fas cons read-bit nil
    (loop)
  if = cdr v out-of-time
    let t + t 1
    (loop)
  unexpected-condition

(loop)

define pi
  value
    ((' (lambda (number-of-bits-determined) ((' (lambda a (supply-missing-bits) ((' (lambda (examine) ((' (lambda (t) ((' (lambda (fas) ((' (lambda (loop) (loop)) (' (lambda ()) (' (lambda (v) (' (lambda (n) (' (lambda (w) (if w (supply-missing-bits w) (if (= (car v) success) failure (if (= (car (cdr v)) out-of-data) (' (lambda (fas) (loop))) (append fas (cons (read-bit) nil))) (if (= (car (cdr v)) out-of-time) (' (lambda (t) (loop)) (+ t 1))) unexpected-condition)))))) (examine (car (cdr (cdr v))))))) (+ 8000 (+ 7328 (length fas))))))) (try t (' (eval (read-exp)) fas)))))) nil))) 0)) (' (lambda (w) (if (atom w) false (if (< 1 (number-of-bits-determined (car w))) (car w) (examine (cdr w))))) ((' (lambda (w) (if (atom w) nil (cons (if (= X (car w)) (read-bit) (car w)) (supply-missing-bits (cdr w))))))) (' (lambda (w) (if (atom w) 0 (+ (number-of-bits-determined (cdr w)) (if (= X (car w)) 0 1)))))))
[Size pi.]
length bits pi

expression  (length (bits pi))
value  7328

[Run pi.]
cadr try no-time-limit 'eval read-exp
append bits pi
append [Toy formal system with only one theorem.]
   bits 'display '(1 X 0)
   [Missing bit of omega that is needed.]
   '(1)

expression  (car (cdr (try no-time-limit (' (eval (read-exp)))
   (append (bits pi) (append (bits (' (display (' (1
   X 0)))))) (' (1))))))
value  (1 1 0)

End of LISP Run
Elapsed time is 94 seconds.