Programming Languages and Compilers (CS 421)

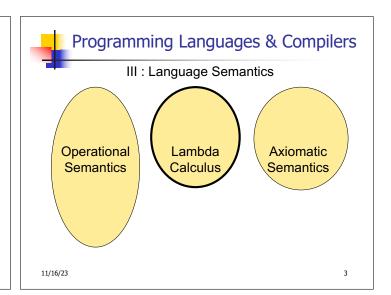


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Based in part on slides by Mattox Beckman, as updated by Vikram Adve and Gul Agha

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Lambda Calculus - Motivation

- Aim is to capture the essence of functions, function applications, and evaluation
- λ-calculus is a theory of computation
- "The Lambda Calculus: Its Syntax and Semantics". H. P. Barendregt. North Holland, 1984

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Lambda Calculus - Motivation

- All sequential programs may be viewed as functions from input (initial state and input values) to output (resulting state and output values).
- λ-calculus is a mathematical formalism of functions and functional computations
- Two flavors: typed and untyped

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Untyped λ-Calculus

- Only three kinds of expressions:
 - Variables: x, y, z, w, ...
 - Abstraction: λ x. e

(Function creation, think fun $x \rightarrow e$)

- Application: e₁ e₂
- Parenthesized expression: (e)

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Untyped λ -Calculus Grammar

- Formal BNF Grammar:
 - <expression> ::= <variable>

| <abstraction>

| <application>

| (<expression>)

<abstraction>

 $:= \lambda < \text{variable} > \cdot < \text{expression} >$

<application>

::= <expression> <expression>

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Untyped λ -Calculus Terminology

- Occurrence: a location of a subterm in a term
- Variable binding: λ x. e is a binding of x in e
- Bound occurrence: all occurrences of x in λ x, e
- Free occurrence: one that is not bound
- Scope of binding: in λ x. e, all occurrences in e not in a subterm of the form λ x. e' (same x)
- Free variables: all variables having free occurrences in a term

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Example

Label occurrences and scope:

$$(\lambda x. y \lambda y. y (\lambda x. x y) x) x$$

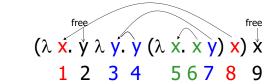
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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Example

Label occurrences and scope:



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Untyped λ-Calculus

- How do you compute with the λ-calculus?
- Roughly speaking, by substitution:
- $(\lambda x. e_1) e_2 \Rightarrow * e_1 [e_2/x]$
- * Modulo all kinds of subtleties to avoid free variable capture

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Transition Semantics for λ-Calculus

$$\frac{E \rightarrow E''}{E E' \longrightarrow E'' E'}$$

- Application (version 1 Lazy Evaluation) $(\lambda \ X . \ E) \ E' --> E[E'/x]$
- Application (version 2 Eager Evaluation)

$$\frac{E' \dashrightarrow E''}{(\lambda \ X \cdot E) \ E' \dashrightarrow (\lambda \ X \cdot E) \ E''}$$

$$(\lambda x \cdot E) V \rightarrow E[V/x]$$

V - variable or abstraction (value)

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How Powerful is the Untyped λ -Calculus?

- The untyped λ-calculus is Turing Complete
 - Can express any sequential computation
- Problems:
 - How to express basic data: booleans, integers, etc?
 - How to express recursion?
 - Constants, if_then_else, etc, are conveniences; can be added as syntactic sugar



Typed vs Untyped λ-Calculus

- The pure λ-calculus has no notion of type: (f f) is a legal expression
- Types restrict which applications are valid
- Types are not syntactic sugar! They disallow some terms
- Simply typed λ-calculus is less powerful than the untyped λ-Calculus: NOT Turing Complete (no recursion)

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α Conversion

- α -conversion:
 - 2. λ x. exp -- α --> λ y. (exp [y/x])
- 3. Provided that
 - 1. y is not free in exp
 - No free occurrence of x in exp becomes bound in exp when replaced by y

 $\lambda x. x (\lambda y. x y) - \times -> \lambda y. y(\lambda y.y y)$

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α Conversion Non-Examples

- 1. Error: y is not free in term second
 - λ x. x y \rightarrow λ y. y y
- 2. Error: free occurrence of x becomes bound in wrong way when replaced by y

$$\lambda x. \lambda y. x y$$
 --x-> $\lambda y. \lambda y. y y$ exp exp[y/x]

But λ x. (λ y. y) x -- α --> λ y. (λ y. y) y And λ y. (λ y. y) y -- α --> λ x. (λ y. y) x

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Congruence

- Let ~ be a relation on lambda terms. ~ is a congruence if
- it is an equivalence relation
- If $e_1 \sim e_2$ then
 - $(e e_1) \sim (e e_2)$ and $(e_1e) \sim (e_2 e)$
 - λ x. $e_1 \sim \lambda$ x. e_2

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α Equivalence

- α equivalence is the smallest congruence containing α conversion
- One usually treats α -equivalent terms as equal i.e. use α equivalence classes of terms

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Example

Show: λx . (λy . y x) $x \sim \alpha \sim \lambda y$. (λx . x y) y

- λ x. (λ y. y x) x -- α --> λ z. (λ y. y z) z so λ x. (λ y. y x) x \sim α \sim λ z. (λ y. y z) z
- $(\lambda y. yz) --\alpha --> (\lambda x. xz)$ so

 $(\lambda y. yz) \sim \alpha \sim (\lambda x. xz)$ so

(λ y. y z) z $\sim \alpha \sim$ (λ x. x z) z so

 λ z. (λ y. y z) z $\sim \alpha \sim \lambda$ z. (λ x. x z) z

- λ z. (λ x. x z) z -- α --> λ y. (λ x. x y) y so
 - λ z. (λ x. x z) z $\sim \alpha \sim \lambda$ y. (λ x. x y) y
- λ x. (λ y. y x) x ~α~ λ y. (λ x. x y) y

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Substitution

- $\begin{tabular}{ll} \begin{tabular}{ll} \be$
- P [N / x] means replace every free occurrence of x in P by N
 - P called *redex*; N called *residue*
- Provided that no variable free in P becomes bound in P [N / x]
 - Rename bound variables in P to avoid capturing free variables of N

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Substitution

- x [N / x] = N
- $y[N/x] = y \text{ if } y \neq x$
- $(e_1 e_2) [N / x] = ((e_1 [N / x]) (e_2 [N / x]))$
- $(\lambda x. e) [N / x] = (\lambda x. e)$
- $(\lambda y. e) [N / x] = \lambda y. (e [N / x])$ provided $y \neq x$ and y not free in N
 - Rename y in redex if necessary

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Example

 $(\lambda y. yz)[(\lambda x. xy)/z] = ?$

- Problems?
 - z in redex in scope of y binding
 - y free in the residue
- (λ y. y z) [(λ x. x y) / z] --α-->
 (λ w.w z) [(λ x. x y) / z] =
 λ w. w (λ x. x y)

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Example

- Only replace free occurrences
- $(\lambda y. y z (\lambda z. z)) [(\lambda x. x) / z] =$ $\lambda y. y (\lambda x. x) (\lambda z. z)$

Not

 λ y. y (λ x. x) (λ z. (λ x. x))

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β reduction

- β Rule: (λ x. P) N --β--> P [N /x]
- Essence of computation in the lambda calculus
- Usually defined on α-equivalence classes of terms

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Example

- (λ z. (λ x. x y) z) (λ y. y z)
- $--\beta--> (\lambda x. x y) (\lambda y. y z)$
- --β--> (λ y. y z) y --β--> y z
- **(λ x. x x)** (λ x. x x)
- $--\beta-->(\lambda \times \times \times)(\lambda \times \times \times)$
- $--\beta--> (\lambda X. X X) (\lambda X. X X) --\beta-->$

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α β Equivalence

- α β equivalence is the smallest congruence containing α equivalence and β reduction
- A term is in *normal form* if no subterm is α equivalent to a term that can be β reduced
- Hard fact (Church-Rosser): if e_1 and e_2 are $\alpha\beta$ -equivalent and both are normal forms, then they are α equivalent

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Order of Evaluation

- Not all terms reduce to normal forms
- Not all reduction strategies will produce a normal form if one exists

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Lazy evaluation:

- Always reduce the left-most application in a top-most series of applications (i.e. Do not perform reduction inside an abstraction)
- Stop when term is not an application, or left-most application is not an application of an abstraction to a term

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Example 1

- **•** (λ z. (λ x. x)) ((λ y. y y) (λ y. y y))
- Lazy evaluation:
- Reduce the left-most application:
- $(\lambda z. (\lambda x. x)) ((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda y. y y))$ -- β --> $(\lambda x. x)$

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Eager evaluation

- (Eagerly) reduce left of top application to an abstraction
- Then (eagerly) reduce argument
- Then β-reduce the application



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Example 1

- **•** (λ z. (λ x. x))((λ y. y y) (λ y. y y))
- Eager evaluation:
- Reduce the rator of the top-most application to an abstraction: Done.
- Reduce the argument:
- (λ z. (λ x. x))((λ y. y y) (λ y. y y))
- $-\beta->(\lambda z. (\lambda x. x))((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda y. y y))$
- $-\beta$ --> (λ z. (λ x. x))((λ y. y y) (λ y. y y)...

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(\lambda X. X X)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) --\beta-->$$



Example 2

- $(\lambda x. x x)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))$
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(\lambda x. x x)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) --\beta-->$$

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(\lambda \times X \times X)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))$$
 -- β --> $((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))$

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xample 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(\lambda x. x x)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) --\beta-->$$
 $((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) ((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)$

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(\lambda x. x x)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) --\beta-->$$

 $((\lambda y. y) (\lambda z. z)) ((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))$

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) --β-->$$

 $((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) ((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$
 $-β--> ((λ z. z) (λ z. z))((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) --β-->$$

 $((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) ((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$
 $-β-->[((λ z. z) (λ z. z))]((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$

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Example 2

- $(\lambda x. x x)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))$
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) --β-->$$

 $((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) ((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$
 $--β--> ((λ z. z)) ((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) --β-->$$

 $((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) ((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$
 $-β--> ((λ z. z) (λ z. z))((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$
 $-β--> (λ z. z) ((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(\lambda x. x x)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) --\beta-->$$

$$((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) ((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))$$

$$-\beta-->((\lambda z. z) (\lambda z. z))((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z))$$

$$--\beta-->(\lambda z. z)((\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)) --\beta-->$$

$$(\lambda y. y y) (\lambda z. z)$$

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Example 2

- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Lazy evaluation:

$$(λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) --β-->$$

$$([λ y. y y) (λ z. z)] ((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$$

$$β→ ((λ z. z) (λ z. z))((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$$

$$-β-→ (λ z. z)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z)) --β-->$$

$$(λ y. y y) (λ z. z) γβ λ z. z$$



- (λ x. x x)((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))
- Eager evaluation:

$$(λ x. x x)$$
 $((λ y. y y) (λ z. z))$ --β-->
 $(λ x. x x)$ $((λ z. z) (λ z. z))$ --β-->
 $(λ x. x x)$ $(λ z. z)$ --β-->
 $(λ z. z) (λ z. z)$ --β--> $λ z. z$

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Extra Material

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Untyped λ-Calculus

- Only three kinds of expressions:
 - Variables: x, y, z, w, ...
 - Abstraction: λ x. e
 (Function creation)
 - Application: e₁ e₂

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E2

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How to Represent (Free) Data Structures (First Pass - Enumeration Types)

- Suppose τ is a type with n constructors: C_1, \dots, C_n (no arguments)
- Represent each term as an abstraction:
- Let $C_i \rightarrow \lambda X_1 \dots X_n$. X_i
- Think: you give me what to return in each case (think match statement) and I'll return the case for the /th constructor

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How to Represent Booleans

- bool = True | False
- True $\rightarrow \lambda x_1$. λx_2 . $x_1 \equiv_{\alpha} \lambda x$. λy . x
- False $\rightarrow \lambda x_1$. λx_2 . $x_3 \equiv_{\alpha} \lambda x$. λy . y
- Notation
 - Will write

$$\lambda x_1 ... x_n$$
. e for λx_1 λx_n . e $e_1 e_2 ... e_n$ for $(...(e_1 e_2)... e_n)$

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Functions over Enumeration Types

- Write a "match" function
- match e with $C_1 \rightarrow x_1$

$$\mid ... \mid C_n \rightarrow X_n$$

- $\rightarrow \lambda X_1 ... X_n e. e X_1...X_n$
- Think: give me what to do in each case and give me a case, and I'll apply that case



Functions over Enumeration Types

- type $\tau = C_1 | ... | C_n$
- match e with $C_1 \rightarrow X_1$ | ... | $C_n \rightarrow X_n$
- $match\tau = \lambda x_1 ... x_n e. e x_1...x_n$
- e = expression (single constructor)
 x_i is returned if e = C_i

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match for Booleans

- bool = True | False
- True $\rightarrow \lambda x_1 x_2 . x_1 \equiv_{\alpha} \lambda x y . x$
- False $\rightarrow \lambda x_1 x_2 \cdot x_2 \equiv_{\alpha} \lambda x y \cdot y$
- match_{bool} = ?

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match for Booleans

- bool = True | False
- True $\rightarrow \lambda x_1 x_2 \cdot x_1 \equiv_{\alpha} \lambda x y \cdot x$
- False $\rightarrow \lambda x_1 x_2 \cdot x_2 \equiv_{\alpha} \lambda x y \cdot y$
- match_{bool} = $\lambda x_1 x_2$ e. e $x_1 x_2$ $\equiv_{\alpha} \lambda x y$ b. b x y

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How to Write Functions over Booleans

- if b then x_1 else $x_2 \rightarrow$
- if_then_else b $x_1 x_2 = b x_1 x_2$
- if_then_else $\equiv \lambda$ b $x_1 x_2$. b $x_1 x_2$

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How to Write Functions over Booleans

- Alternately:
- if b then x_1 else x_2 = match b with True \rightarrow x_1 | False \rightarrow $x_2 \rightarrow$ match_{bool} x_1 x_2 b = (λ x_1 x_2 b . b x_1 x_2) x_1 x_2 b = b x_1 x_2
- if_then_else
 - $= \lambda b x_1 x_2. (match_{bool} x_1 x_2 b)$ = $\lambda b x_1 x_2. (\lambda x_1 x_2 b. b x_1 x_2) x_1 x_2 b$ = $\lambda b x_1 x_2. b x_1 x_2$

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Example:

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- = match b with True -> False | False -> True
- \rightarrow (match_{bool}) False True b
- = $(\lambda x_1 x_2 b . b x_1 x_2) (\lambda x y. y) (\lambda x y. x) b$
- = b $(\lambda x y. y)(\lambda x y. x)$
- not $\equiv \lambda$ b. b $(\lambda x y. y)(\lambda x y. x)$
- Try and, or



and

or



How to Represent (Free) Data Structures (Second Pass - Union Types)

- Suppose τ is a type with n constructors: type $\tau = C_1 t_{11} \dots t_{1k} | \dots | C_n t_{n1} \dots t_{nm}$.
- Represent each term as an abstraction:
- $C_i t_{i1} \dots t_{ij} \rightarrow \lambda X_1 \dots X_n$. $X_i t_{i1} \dots t_{ij}$
- $C_i \rightarrow \lambda t_{i1} \dots t_{ij} X_1 \dots X_n \cdot X_i t_{i1} \dots t_{ij}$
- Think: you need to give each constructor its arguments fisrt

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How to Represent Pairs

- Pair has one constructor (comma) that takes two arguments
- type (α,β) pair = (,) α β
- (a, b) --> λ x . x a b
- (_ , _) --> λ a b x . x a b

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Functions over Union Types

- Write a "match" function
- match e with C_1 y_1 ... y_{m1} -> f_1 y_1 ... y_{m1} | ...

$$| ...$$

 $| C_n y_1 ... y_{mn} -> f_n y_1 ... y_{mn}$

- $match\tau \rightarrow \lambda f_1 ... f_n e. e f_1...f_n$
- Think: give me a function for each case and give me a case, and I'll apply that case to the appropriate fucntion with the data in that case

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Functions over Pairs

- match_{pair} = λ f p. p f
- fst p = match p with (x,y) -> x
- fst $\rightarrow \lambda$ p. match_{pair} (λ x y. x) = (λ f p. p f) (λ x y. x) = λ p. p (λ x y. x)
- snd $\rightarrow \lambda$ p. p (λ x y. y)

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How to Represent (Free) Data Structures (Third Pass - Recursive Types)

- Suppose τ is a type with n constructors: type $\tau = C_1 t_{11} \dots t_{1k} | \dots | C_n t_{n1} \dots t_{nm}$
- Suppose t_{ih} : τ (ie. is recursive)
- In place of a value t_{ih} have a function to compute the recursive value $r_{ih} x_1 \dots x_n$
- $C_i t_{i1} \dots t_{ih} \dots t_{ij} \rightarrow \lambda X_1 \dots X_n \cdot X_i t_{i1} \dots (t_{ih} X_1 \dots X_n) \dots t_{ij}$
- $C_i \rightarrow \lambda t_{i1} \dots t_{ih} \dots t_{ij} X_1 \dots X_n X_i t_{i1} \dots (r_{ih} X_1 \dots X_n) \dots t_{ii}$

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How to Represent Natural Numbers

- nat = Suc nat | 0
- Suc = λ n f x. f (n f x)
- Suc $n = \lambda f x$. f(n f x)
- $\overline{0} = \lambda f x. x$
- Such representation called Church Numerals

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Some Church Numerals

Suc 0 = $(\lambda n f x. f (n f x)) (\lambda f x. x) -->$ $\lambda f x. f ((\lambda f x. x) f x) -->$ $\lambda f x. f ((\lambda x. x) x) --> \lambda f x. f x$

Apply a function to its argument once

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Some Church Numerals

• Suc(Suc 0) = $(\lambda \text{ n f x. f (n f x)})$ (Suc 0) --> $(\lambda \text{ n f x. f (n f x)})$ $(\lambda \text{ f x. f x})$ --> $\lambda \text{ f x. f }((\lambda \text{ f x. f x}) \text{ f x}))$ --> $\lambda \text{ f x. f }((\lambda \text{ x. f x}) \text{ x}))$ --> $\lambda \text{ f x. f }(f \text{ x})$ Apply a function twice

In general $n = \lambda f x$. f(...(f x)...) with n applications of f

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Primitive Recursive Functions

- Write a "fold" function
- fold $f_1 \dots f_n = \text{match e}$ with $C_I y_1 \dots y_{m1} \rightarrow f_1 y_1 \dots y_{m1}$ | ... | $Ci y_1 \dots r_{ij} \dots y_{in} \rightarrow f_n y_1 \dots (\text{fold } f_1 \dots f_n r_{ij}) \dots y_{mn}$ | ... | $C_n y_1 \dots y_{mn} \rightarrow f_n y_1 \dots y_{mn}$
- $fold\tau \rightarrow \lambda f_1 ... f_n e. e f_1...f_n$
- Match in non recursive case a degenerate version of fold

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Primitive Recursion over Nat

- fold f z n=
- match n with 0 -> z
- | Suc m -> f (fold f z m)
- $\overline{\text{fold}} = \lambda \text{ f z n. n f z}$
- is zero $n = fold (\lambda r. False)$ True n
- \bullet = (λ f x. f ⁿ x) (λ r. False) True
- \bullet = ((λ r. False) ⁿ) True
- \blacksquare if n = 0 then True else False

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Adding Church Numerals

- $\mathbf{n} \equiv \lambda f \mathbf{x} \cdot f^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{m} \equiv \lambda f \mathbf{x} \cdot f^{\mathbf{m}} \mathbf{x}$
- $\overline{n + m} = \lambda f x. f^{(n+m)} x$ $= \lambda f x. f^{n} (f^{m} x) = \lambda f x. \overline{n} f(\overline{m} f x)$
- + $\equiv \lambda$ n m f x. n f (m f x)
- Subtraction is harder



Multiplying Church Numerals

- $\mathbf{n} \equiv \lambda f \mathbf{x}. f^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{x}$ and $\mathbf{m} \equiv \lambda f \mathbf{x}. f^{\mathbf{m}} \mathbf{x}$
- $\overline{n * m} = \lambda f x. (f^{n * m}) x = \lambda f x. (f^{m})^{n} x$ $= \lambda f x. \overline{n} (\overline{m} f) x$
- $\bar{*} \equiv \lambda \, n \, m \, f \, x. \, n \, (m \, f) \, x$

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Predecessor

- let pred_aux n =
 match n with 0 -> (0,0)
 | Suc m
- -> (Suc(fst(pred_aux m)), fst(pred_aux m) = fold (λ r. (Suc(fst r), fst r)) (0,0) n
- pred = λ n. snd (pred_aux n) n = λ n. snd (fold (λ r.(Suc(fst r), fst r)) (0,0) n)

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Recursion

- Want a λ-term Y such that for all term R we have
- Y R = R (Y R)
- Y needs to have replication to "remember" a copy of R
- $Y = \lambda y. (\lambda x. y(x x)) (\lambda x. y(x x))$
- Y R = $(\lambda x. R(x x)) (\lambda x. R(x x))$ = R $((\lambda x. R(x x)) (\lambda x. R(x x)))$
- Notice: Requires lazy evaluation

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Factorial

• Let $F = \lambda f n$. if n = 0 then 1 else n * f (n - 1)Y F 3 = F (Y F) 3= if 3 = 0 then 1 else 3 * ((Y F)(3 - 1))= 3 * (Y F) 2 = 3 * (F(Y F) 2)= 3 * (if 2 = 0 then 1 else 2 * (Y F)(2 - 1))= 3 * (2 * (Y F)(1)) = 3 * (2 * (F(Y F) 1)) = ...= 3 * 2 * 1 * (if 0 = 0 then 1 else 0 * (Y F)(0 - 1))= 3 * 2 * 1 * 1 = 6

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Y in OCaml

```
# let rec y f = f (y f);;
val y : ('a -> 'a) -> 'a = <fun>
# let mk_fact =
    fun f n -> if n = 0 then 1 else n * f(n-1);;
val mk_fact : (int -> int) -> int -> int = <fun>
# y mk_fact;;
Stack overflow during evaluation (looping recursion?).
```

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Eager Eval Y in Ocaml

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Use recursion to get recursion



Some Other Combinators

- For your general exposure
- $I = \lambda x \cdot x$
- $K = \lambda x. \lambda y. x$
- $K_* = \lambda x. \lambda y. y$
- $S = \lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. x z (y z)$





End of Extra Material