

# Introduction to Barendregt's Lambda Cube

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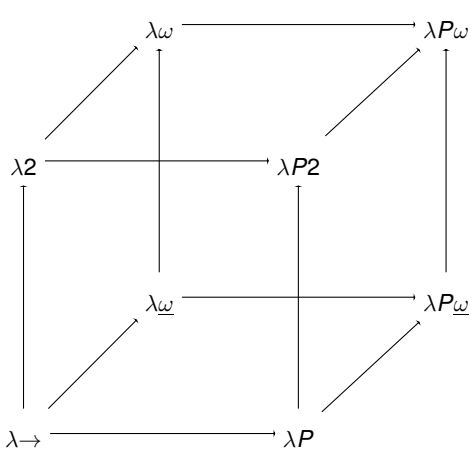


Figure: Lambda cube

- ▶  $\lambda$  Untyped Lambda calculus
- ▶  $\lambda \rightarrow$  Simple types
- ▶  $\lambda 2$  Polymorphic types
- ▶  $\lambda_{\omega}$
- ▶  $\lambda P$  Dependent types
- ▶ Lambda cube
- ▶ Logic cube

# Roadmap

Lambda Calculus

$\lambda \rightarrow$  - Simple types

# Roadmap

Lambda Calculus

$\lambda \rightarrow$  - Simple types

# $\lambda$ -calculus, untyped lambda calculus

## Decision Problem - Background

- ▶ Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz - Characteristica universalis
- ▶ David Hilbert and Wilhelm Ackerman (1928)
  - ▶ **Entscheidungsproblem**, or Decision Problem:  
"Given all the axioms of math,  
is there an algorithm that can tell if a proposition is universally valid  
i.e. deducible from the axioms?"
- ▶ **Negative answers** (1935/36):
  - ▶ Alonzo Church -  $\lambda$ -calculus (equality)
  - ▶ Alan Turing - Turing Machines (halting problem)
  - ▶ Kurt Gödel - Incompleteness theorems (1931)

# $\lambda$ -calculus - 1930s

- ▶ Alonzo Church:
  - ▶ theory of functions - formalisation of mathematics (inconsistent)
  - ▶ successful model for computable functions -  **$\lambda$ -calculus**
  - ▶ **simply typed  $\lambda$ -calculus**
  
- ▶ Haskell Curry:
  - ▶ elimination of variables in logic - Moses Schönfinkel (1921)
  - ▶ successful model for computable functions - **Combinatory logic**
  - ▶ **Combinatory logic with types**
  
- ▶ Alan Turing :
  - ▶ formalisation of the concepts of algorithm and computation
  - ▶ **Turing Machines**

# $\lambda$ -calculus - expressiveness

- ▶ Expressiveness - Effective computability (mid 1930s)
  - ▶ **(Curry)** Equivalence of  $\lambda$ -calculus and Combinatory Logic
  - ▶ **(Kleene)** Equivalence of  $\lambda$ -calculus and recursive functions
  - ▶ **(Turing)** Equivalence of  $\lambda$ -calculus and Turing machines

# Syntax

$$M ::= x \mid c \mid (MM) \mid (\lambda x.M)$$

$x$  ranges over  $V$ , a countable set of variables

$c$  ranges over  $C$ , a countable set of constants

Pure  $\lambda$ -calculus, if  $C = \emptyset$

Conventions for minimizing the number of the parentheses:

- ▶  $M_1 M_2 M_3$  stands for  $((M_1 M_2) M_3)$  application associates to left
- ▶  $\lambda x.y.M$  stands for  $(\lambda x.(\lambda y.(M)))$  abstraction associates to right
- ▶  $\lambda x.M_1 M_2 \equiv \lambda x.(M_1 M_2)$ ; application has priority over abstraction



## Running example

$xyzx$

$\lambda x.zx$

$\mathbf{I} \equiv \lambda x.x$

combinator **I**

$\mathbf{K} \equiv \lambda xy.x$

combinator **K**

$\mathbf{S} \equiv \lambda xyz.xz(yz)$

combinator **S**

$\Delta \equiv \lambda x.xx$

selfapplication

$\mathbf{Y} \equiv \lambda f.(\lambda x.f(xx))(\lambda x.f(xx))$

fixed point combinator

$\Omega \equiv \Delta\Delta \equiv (\lambda x.xx)(\lambda x.xx)$

higher-order function

# Free and bound variables

## Definition

(i) The set  $FV(M)$  of **free** variables of  $M$  is defined inductively:

- ▶  $FV(x) = \{x\}$
- ▶  $FV(MN) = FV(M) \cup FV(N)$
- ▶  $FV(\lambda x.M) = FV(M) \setminus \{x\}$

(ii) A variable in  $M$  is **bound** if it is not free

- ▶  $x$  is bound in  $M$  if it appears in a subterm of the form  $\lambda x.N$

(ii)  $M$  is a **closed**  $\lambda$ -term (or *combinator*) if  $FV(M) = \emptyset$

$\Lambda^0$  denotes the set of closed  $\lambda$ -terms.

## Example

- ▶ In  $\lambda x.zx$ , variable  $z$  is free,  $FV(M) = \{z\}$
- ▶ Term  $\lambda xy.xxy$  is closed,  $FV(M) = \emptyset$

# Reduction rules - operational semantics

$\alpha$ -reduction:

$$\lambda x.M \longrightarrow_{\alpha} \lambda y.M[x := y], \quad y \notin FV(M)$$

$\beta$ -reduction:

$$(\lambda x.M)N \longrightarrow_{\beta} M[x := N]$$

$\eta$ -reduction:

$$\lambda x.(Mx) \longrightarrow_{\eta} M, \quad x \notin FV(M)$$

## $\alpha$ -conversion

Formalisation of the principal that the name of the bound variable is irrelevant

$\alpha$ -reduction:

$$\lambda x.M \longrightarrow_{\alpha} \lambda y.M[x := y], \quad y \notin FV(M)$$

In math,  $f(x) = x^2 + 1$  and  $f(y) = y^2 + 1$  same,  $f(5) = 26$   
 $\lambda x.(x^2 + 1)$  and  $\lambda y.(y^2 + 1)$  must be considered as equal

**Proposition**  $\longrightarrow_{\alpha}$  is an equivalence relation, notation  $=_{\alpha}$

**Proof.**

Symmetry, the interesting case



# $\beta$ -reduction

## Formalisation of function evaluation

$$(\lambda x.M)N \longrightarrow_{\beta} M[x := N]$$

- ▶  $M[x := N]$  represents an evaluation of the function  $M$  with  $N$  being the value of the parameter  $x$ .
- ▶  $(\lambda x.M)N$  is a redex and  $M[x := N]$  is a contractum
- ▶  $\beta$ -conversion is the symmetric closure of  $\longrightarrow_{\beta}$  is an equivalence (with  $\alpha$ -reduction), notation  $\equiv_{\beta}$
- ▶ **Barendregt's variable convention:** If a term contains a free variable which would become bound after *beta*-reduction, that variable should be renamed.
- ▶ Renaming could be done also by using **De Bruijn name free notation**.

## Example

$$(\lambda x.x^2 + 1)5 \longrightarrow_{\beta} 5^2 + 1 \rightarrow 26$$

# $\eta$ -conversion

## Formalisation of extensionality

### Definition

$\eta$ -reduction:

$$\lambda x.(Mx) \longrightarrow_{\eta} M, \quad x \notin FV(M)$$

- ▶ This rule identifies two functions that always produce equal results if taking equal arguments.

### Example

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda x.\mathbf{succ}x &\longrightarrow_{\eta} \mathbf{succ} \\ (\lambda x.\mathbf{succ}x)2 &\longrightarrow_{\beta} \mathbf{succ}2 \quad \mathbf{succ}2 \end{aligned}$$

# Properties

- ▶ confluence
- ▶ normal forms
- ▶ normalisation
- ▶ strong normalisation
- ▶ fixed point theorem
- ▶ expressiveness

# Properties - Confluence

## Theorem (Church-Rosser theorem)

*If  $M \twoheadrightarrow N$  and  $M \twoheadrightarrow P$ , then there exists  $S$  such that  $N \twoheadrightarrow S$  and  $P \twoheadrightarrow S$*

The proof is deep and involved.

## Corollary

- ▶ *If  $M \twoheadrightarrow N$  and  $M \twoheadrightarrow P$ , then  $N = P$*
- ▶ *The order of the applied reductions is arbitrary and always leads to the same result*
- ▶ *Reductions can be executed in parallel (parallel computing)*

Proof.





## Normal forms

- ▶  $N \in \Lambda$  is a **normal form** (NF) if there is no  $S$  such that  $N \rightarrow S$
- ▶  $P \in \Lambda$  **is normalising** (has a normal form) if  $P \twoheadrightarrow N$  and  $N$  is a normal form, then  $N$  is a NF of  $P$
- ▶  $P \in \Lambda$  **is strongly normalising** (SN) if all reductions of  $P$  are finite

**Notation:**  $\twoheadrightarrow$  will denote  $\twoheadrightarrow_{\beta} \cup \twoheadrightarrow_{\alpha}$

### Theorem (uniqueness of NF)

*Every lambda term has at most one normal form*

**Proof.**

Exercise



## Running example: $\beta$ -normal forms

$xyzx$

normal form NF

$I \equiv \lambda x.x$

normal form NF

$K \equiv \lambda xy.x$

normal form NF

$S \equiv \lambda xyz.xz(yz)$

normal form NF

$KI(KII)$

strongly normalizing SN

$\Omega \equiv \Delta\Delta \equiv (\lambda x.xx)(\lambda x.xx)$

unsolvable

$KI\Omega$

normalizing N

$Y \equiv \lambda f.(\lambda x.f(xx))(\lambda x.f(xx))$

head normalizing HN (solvable)

$KI(KII) \rightarrow KII \rightarrow I$

$KI(KII) \rightarrow I$

$\Omega \rightarrow \Omega \rightarrow \Omega \rightarrow \Omega \rightarrow \dots$

$KI\Omega \rightarrow \dots$

## Logic, conditionals, pairs

- ▶ Propositional logic in  $\lambda$ -calculus:

$$\begin{aligned} \top &:= \lambda xy.x & \perp &:= \lambda xy.y & \neg &:= \lambda x.x \perp \top \\ \wedge &:= \lambda xy.xy \perp & \vee &:= \lambda xy.x \top y \end{aligned}$$

### Example

$$\top \vee A \longrightarrow (\lambda xy.x \top y)(\lambda zu.z)A \longrightarrow (\lambda zu.z)\top A \longrightarrow \top$$

- ▶ Conditionals and pairs in  $\lambda$ -calculus:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{if } A \text{ then } P \text{ else } Q &:= APQ \\ \text{fst} &:= \lambda x.x \top, & \text{snd} &:= \lambda x.x \perp, & (P, Q) &:= \lambda x.x PQ \end{aligned}$$

### Example

$$\text{if } \top \text{ then } P \text{ else } Q \equiv \top PQ \longrightarrow (\lambda xy.x)PQ \longrightarrow P$$

# Arithmetic

- ▶ Church's numerals (arithmetics on the Nat set):

<u>0</u>	:=	$\lambda fx.x$
<u>1</u>	:=	$\lambda fx.fx$
<u><math>n</math></u>	:=	$\lambda fx.f^n x$
<b>add</b>	:=	$\lambda xypg.xp(ypq)$
<b>mult</b>	:=	$\lambda xyz.x(yz)$
<b>succ</b>	:=	$\lambda xyz.y(xyz)$
<b>exp</b>	:=	$\lambda xy.yx$
<b>iszero</b>	:=	$\lambda n.n(\top \perp)\top$

- ▶ **add**  $n$   $m$   $=_{\beta}$   $n + m$
- ▶ **mult**  $n$   $m$   $=_{\beta}$   $n \times m$

Exercise.

# Expressiveness

In the mid 1930s

- ▶ **(Kleene)** Equivalence of  $\lambda$ -calculus and recursive functions
- ▶ **(Turing)** Equivalence of  $\lambda$ -calculus and Turing machines
- ▶ **(Curry)** Equivalence of  $\lambda$ -calculus and Combinatory Logic

# References



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# Roadmap

Lambda Calculus

$\lambda \rightarrow$  - Simple types

# $\lambda \rightarrow$ simple (functional) types

## Motivation

- ▶ “Disadvantages” of the untyped  $\lambda$ -calculus:
  - ▶ **infinite computation** - there exist  $\lambda$ -terms without a normal form
  - ▶ **meaningless applications** - it is allowed to create terms like **sin log**
- ▶ **Types** are syntactical objects that can be assigned to  $\lambda$ -terms
  - ▶ Reasoning with types was present in the early work of Church on untyped lambda calculus
- ▶ two typing paradigms:
  - ▶ *à la Church* - explicit type assignment  
(*typed lambda calculus*).
  - ▶ *à la Curry* - implicit type assignment  
(*lambda calculus with types*)



## $\lambda \rightarrow$ syntax of types

$$\sigma ::= \alpha \mid (\sigma \rightarrow \sigma)$$

$\alpha$  ranges over TVar, a countable set of type variables

Conventions for minimising the number of the parentheses:

- ▶  $\sigma_1 \rightarrow \sigma_2 \rightarrow \sigma_3$  stands for  $(\sigma_1 \rightarrow (\sigma_2 \rightarrow \sigma_3))$

$\lambda \rightarrow$  - the language

$M : \sigma$

### Definition

- ▶ **Type assignment** is an expression of the form  $M : \sigma$ , where  $M$  is a  $\lambda$ -term and  $\sigma$  is a type
- ▶ **Declaration**  $x : \sigma$  is a type assignment in which the term is a variable
- ▶ **Basis (context, environment)**  $\Gamma = \{x_1 : \sigma_1, \dots, x_n : \sigma_n\}$  is a set of declarations in which all term variables are different
- ▶ **Statement (sequent)**  $x_1 : \sigma_1, \dots, x_n : \sigma_n \vdash M : \sigma$   
( $\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma$ )

# $\lambda \rightarrow$ - the type system

à la Church and à la Curry

## ► Axiom

$$(Ax) \quad \frac{}{\Gamma, x : \sigma \vdash x : \sigma}$$

## ► Rules

$$(\rightarrow_{elim}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma \rightarrow \tau \quad \Gamma \vdash N : \sigma}{\Gamma \vdash MN : \tau}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \sigma \vdash M : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \sigma. M : \sigma \rightarrow \tau} \quad (\rightarrow_{intr}) \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : \sigma \vdash M : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. M : \sigma \rightarrow \tau}$$

à la Church

à la Curry

## Running example: types

$M$	Type
$xyz$	$x : \sigma \rightarrow \tau \rightarrow \rho, y : \sigma, z : \tau \vdash xyz : \rho$
$\lambda x.zx$	$z : \sigma \rightarrow \rho \vdash \lambda x.zx : \sigma \rightarrow \rho$
$\mathbf{I} \equiv \lambda x.x$	$\sigma \rightarrow \sigma$
$\mathbf{K} \equiv \lambda xy.x$	$\sigma \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow \sigma$
$\mathbf{S} \equiv \lambda xyz.xz(yz)$	$\sigma \rightarrow \rho \rightarrow \tau \rightarrow (\sigma \rightarrow \tau) \rightarrow (\sigma \rightarrow \rho)$
$\Delta \equiv \lambda x.xx$	<b>NO</b>
$\mathbf{Y} \equiv \lambda f.(\lambda x.f(xx))(\lambda x.f(xx))$	<b>NO</b>
$\Omega \equiv \Delta\Delta \equiv (\lambda x.xx)(\lambda x.xx)$	<b>NO</b>

# I. $\lambda \rightarrow$ Fundamental properties

- ▶ **Uniqueness of types**

If  $\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma$  and  $\Gamma \vdash M : \tau$ , then  $\sigma = \tau$

- ▶ **Church-Rosser property** holds in  $\lambda \rightarrow$

- ▶ **Subject reduction, type preservation under reduction**

If  $M \rightarrow P$  and  $M : \sigma$ , then  $P : \sigma$ .

- ▶ Broader context: evaluation of terms (expressions, programs, processes) does not cause the type change.
- ▶ type soundness
- ▶ type safety = progress and preservation

## II. $\lambda \rightarrow$ Strong normalisation

- ▶ Strong normalization

If  $M : \sigma$ , then  $M$  is strongly normalizing.

- ▶ Tait 1967
- ▶ reducibility method (reducibility candidates, logical relations)
- ▶ arithmetic proofs

### III. $\lambda \rightarrow$ expressiveness

Selfapplication is not typable  $\not\vdash \lambda x.xx : \sigma$

Numerals are typeable

$\underline{n} \equiv \lambda f.\lambda x.f^n x : (\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$  (exercise)

$\underline{n} \equiv \lambda x.\lambda f.f^n x : \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$  (exercise)

#### Definition (Extended polynomials)

The smallest class of functions over  $\mathbb{N}$

- ▶ constant functions 0 and 1
- ▶ projections
- ▶ addition
- ▶ multiplication
- ▶  $ifzero(n, m, p) := if\ n = 0\ then\ m\ else\ p$

closed under composition

#### Theorem

$M$  is typeable in  $\lambda \rightarrow$  if and only if  $M$  is an extended polynomial

## $\lambda \rightarrow$ and logic

Intuitionistic logic (minimal) - Natural deduction, Gentzen 1930s

### ► Axiom

$$(Ax) \quad \frac{}{\Gamma, \sigma \vdash \sigma}$$

### ► Rules

$$(\rightarrow_{elim}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \sigma \rightarrow \tau \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma}{\Gamma \vdash \tau}$$

$$(\rightarrow_{intr}) \quad \frac{\Gamma, \sigma \vdash \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \sigma \rightarrow \tau}$$



## $\lambda \rightarrow$ and logic

Intuitionistic logic (minimal) - Natural deduction, Gentzen 1930s

### ► Axiom

$$(Ax) \quad \frac{}{\Gamma, x:\sigma \vdash x:\sigma}$$

### ► Rules

$$(\rightarrow_{elim}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M:\sigma \rightarrow \tau \quad \Gamma \vdash N:\sigma}{\Gamma \vdash MN:\tau}$$

$$(\rightarrow_{intr}) \quad \frac{\Gamma, x:\sigma \vdash M:\tau}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.M:\sigma \rightarrow \tau}$$

## IV. $\lambda \rightarrow$ Curry-Howard correspondence

### Intuitionistic logic vs computation

$$\vdash \sigma \Leftrightarrow \vdash M : \sigma$$

A formula is provable in minimal intuitionistic logic  
**if and only if** it is inhabited in  $\lambda \rightarrow$ .

- ▶ 1950s Curry
- ▶ 1968 (1980) Howard formulae-as-types
- ▶ 1970s Lambek - CCC Cartesian Closed Categories
- ▶ 1970s de Bruijn AUTOMATH
- ▶ 1970s Martin-Löf Type Theory

formulae (propositions)	–as–	types
proofs	– as –	<b>terms</b>
proofs	–as–	<b>programs</b>
proof normalisation	–as–	term reduction

- ▶ BHK - Brouwer, Heyting, Kolmogorov interpretation of logical connectives is formalized by the Curry-Howard correspondence

### 3 Type?

Type checking: given  $M$  and  $\sigma$

$$(M : \sigma)?$$

Type inference (typability, type synthesis): given  $M$

$$M : ?$$

Type inhabitation (term, program synthesis) : given  $\sigma$

$$? : \sigma$$

# $\lambda \rightarrow 3$ Type?

## Theorem

In  $\lambda \rightarrow$

- ▶ Type checking  $((M : \sigma)?)$  is *decidable*
- ▶ Type inference  $(M :?)$  is *decidable*
- ▶ Type inhabitation  $(? : \sigma)$  is *decidable*

## $\lambda \rightarrow$ sum up

### **Advantages**

- ▶ All terms are SN
- ▶ Typability, inhabitation, type checking decidable
- ▶ Types exactly all extended polynomials

### **Shortcomings**

- ▶ no self-application
- ▶ no recursion
- ▶ no factorial
- ▶ no total functions
- ▶ not Turing complete

# References



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