

# Simulating call by value in Combinatory Logic

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# Introduction

## Motivations:

- What is the dynamic significance of the encoding of  $\lambda$ -calculus into Combinatory Logic?
  - Which notion of reduction in  $\Lambda$  can be simulated in **CL**?
- How much does it cost to do a step of reduction in  $\lambda$ -calculus with *cbv*?
  - We can assume the cost of a reduction step to be unitary. [Moran04, DallagoMartini09]
  - Let's translate in **CL** and simulate it. We will reduce to  $\lambda$  calculus weak.
- What are the relations between the complexity of  $\lambda$  steps and a **CL** step?
- We shall consider the  $\lambda$ -calculus weak.

# Bibliography

Related works in bibliography:

- *Call-by-Value Combinatory Logic and the Lambda-Value Calculus* - J.Gateley & B.F.Duba
- *A New Implementation Technique for Applicative Languages* - D.A.Turner
- *On Constructor Rewrite Systems and Lambda Calculus* - U.Dal lago & S.Martini

# Translation $\Lambda \rightarrow \text{CL}$

The Curry translation:

$$\begin{aligned} [x]_{\eta} &= x \\ [MN]_{\eta} &= [M]_{\eta}[N]_{\eta} \\ [\lambda x.M]_{\eta} &= [x]_{\mu} \cdot [M]_{\eta} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} [x]_{\mu} \cdot M &= \mathbf{KM} && x \notin FV(M) \\ [x]_{\mu} \cdot x &= \mathbf{I} \\ [x]_{\mu} \cdot \mathbf{C} &= \mathbf{KC} && \text{with } \mathbf{C} \text{ combinator} \\ [x]_{\mu} \cdot MN &= \mathbf{S}([x]_{\mu} \cdot M)([x]_{\mu} \cdot N) && \text{otherwise} \end{aligned}$$

# Bad Properties

- It does not map normal forms to normal forms.

## Example

$\lambda x.\Delta\Delta$  is NF in the weak  $\lambda$ -calculus.

$[\lambda x.\Delta\Delta]_{\eta} = \mathbf{K}((\mathbf{SII})(\mathbf{SII}))$  is not NF in **CL**

- In general, strong reduction cannot be simulated.

## Example

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

$[\lambda x.(\lambda y.y)x] = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{KI})\mathbf{I}$

- Weak reduction cannot be simulated exactly:  $\lambda$  weak is not confluent while **CL** is confluent.

## Another abstraction algorithm

Do we need to choose another abstraction algorithm? **NO**  
consider the follow abstraction algorithm:

$$\begin{aligned} [x]_{\nu}.y &= \mathbf{K}y && x \neq y \\ [x]_{\nu}.x &= \mathbf{I} \\ [x]_{\nu}.\mathbf{C} &= \mathbf{KC} && \text{with } \mathbf{C} \text{ combinator} \\ [x]_{\nu}.MN &= \mathbf{S}([x]_{\nu}.M)([x]_{\nu}.N) && \text{otherwise} \end{aligned}$$

This algorithm differs from the previous for the first rule.  
It maps NF to NF, but it cannot be used for simulating call by value: it does not preserve the substitution.

## Translation $CL \rightarrow \Lambda$

From Combinatory Logic to  $\lambda$  calculus, instead of using the standard translation

$$\begin{array}{ll} [x]_{\lambda} & = x \\ [\mathbf{K}]_{\lambda} & = \lambda xy.x \\ [XY]_{\lambda} & = [X]_{\lambda}[Y]_{\lambda} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ll} [\mathbf{I}]_{\lambda} & = \lambda x.x \\ [\mathbf{S}]_{\lambda} & = \lambda xyz.xz(yz) \end{array}$$

we'll use the followed one:

$$\begin{array}{ll} [x]_{\lambda} & = x \\ [\mathbf{KM}]_{\lambda} & = \lambda y.[M]_{\lambda} \\ [XY]_{\lambda} & = [X]_{\lambda}[Y]_{\lambda} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ll} [\mathbf{I}]_{\lambda} & = \lambda x.x \\ [\mathbf{SMN}]_{\lambda} & = \lambda z.[M]_{\lambda}z([N]_{\lambda}z) \end{array}$$

we'll see why...

# Call-by-Value in CL

Values:

$$\begin{aligned}V_2 &= \{\mathbf{S}\} \\V_1 &= \{\mathbf{K}\} \cup \{MN \mid M \in V_2 \wedge N \in \mathbf{CL}\} \\V_0 &= \{\mathbf{I}\} \cup \{MN \mid M \in V_1 \wedge N \in \mathbf{CL}\} \\V &= \{M \mid M \in V_0 \vee M \in V_1 \vee M \in V_2 \vee M = x\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{M \in V}{\mathbf{I}M \triangleright_w \text{CBV } M}$$

$$\frac{N \in V}{\mathbf{K}MN \triangleright_w \text{CBV } M}$$

$$\frac{P \in V}{\mathbf{S}MNP \triangleright_w \text{CBV } (MP)(NP)}$$

$$\frac{M \triangleright_w \text{CBV } N}{ML \triangleright_w \text{CBV } NL}$$

$$\frac{M \triangleright_w \text{CBV } N \quad L \notin V_1 \cup V_2}{LM \triangleright_w \text{CBV } LN}$$



## Call-by-Value in CL V.2

Let's reformulate the rules in the following way. Let's consider **S**, **K**, **I** as functions, respectively, 2-ary, 1-ary, 0-ary.

Here, simply, the set of values is defined as:

$$\mathbf{V} = \{M \mid M = I \vee M = K(P) \vee M = S(P, Q) \vee M = x, \text{ for some } P, Q\}$$

$$\frac{M \in \mathbf{V}}{\mathbf{I}M \triangleright_w CBV M}$$

$$\frac{N \in \mathbf{V}}{\mathbf{K}(M)N \triangleright_w CBV M}$$

$$\frac{P \in \mathbf{V}}{\mathbf{S}(M, N)P \triangleright_w CBV (MP)(NP)}$$

$$\frac{M \triangleright_w CBV N}{ML \triangleright_w CBV NL}$$

The  $[\cdot]_\mu$  abstraction produces always a term in **V**!

# Results

Results:

Theorem (lambda to combinatory)

If  $M \rightarrow_{\lambda wCBV} M'$  then  $[M]_{\eta} \triangleright_{wCBV}^{2 \times |M| - 1} [M']_{\eta}$

Theorem (combinatory to lambda)

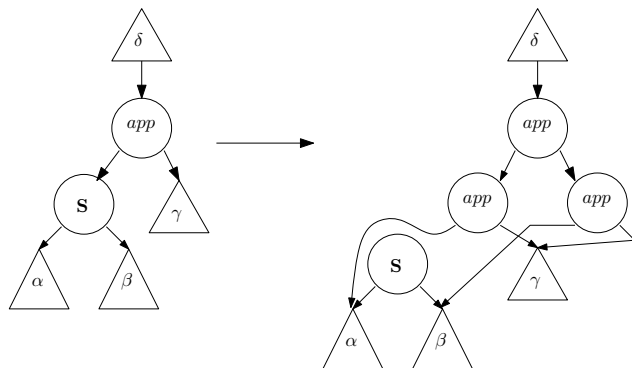
If  $M \triangleright_{wCBV} M'$  then  $[M]_{\lambda} \rightarrow_{\lambda w}^* [M']_{\lambda}$

Theorem (combinatory to lambda)

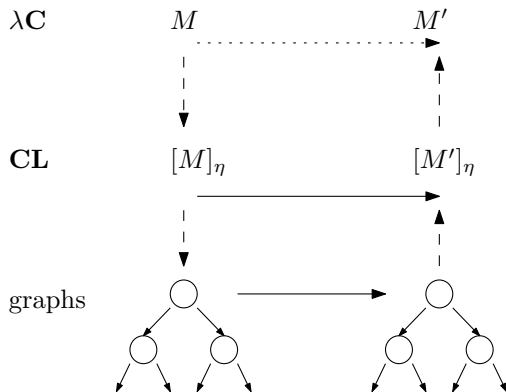
$[\cdot]_{\lambda}$  maps NFs to NFs.

# Graph Implementation

- The reduction steps in **CL** may duplicate sub-terms.
- We can implement it by using term graph rewriting as explained in [Turner79] by sharing these subgraphs.



# General Overview



What about the call by name?

We have several ideas, still a working in progress.

The main problem lies in the fact that doing only leftmost step is not enough.

$$(\lambda z. \lambda x. xz)a \rightarrow \lambda x. xa$$

$$\underbrace{(\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{SI})))}_{\text{leftmost}} \underbrace{(((\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{KK}))\mathbf{I})))}_{\text{call by name}} a \triangleright [\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{SI})a][(((\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{KK}))\mathbf{I})a)] \dots$$

# Profiling tool

With Marco Gaboardi, i'm developing a general framework to deal with languages based on Combinatory Logic.

CoLoBo - Combinatory Logic in Bologna (<http://colobo.sourceforge.net/>)

The idea is to develop a tool to perform evaluation of quantitative properties (e.g. number of steps). It also works as a generic interpreter.

End

Questions?