

From Calculus to Computation, Part I

Olivier Danvy

Department of Computer Science

Aarhus University



Representation

- Magritte: “This is not a pipe.”



- Functional programs.

Representation

- Obiwan Kenobi: “That’s no moon.”



- Functional programs.

No self-representation, though



Toolbox (1/2)

1. closure conversion
2. CPS transformation
3. defunctionalization

Toolbox (2/2)

1. closure conversion / closure unconversion
2. CPS transformation / DS transformation
3. defunctionalization / refunctionalization

...and their left inverses.

Closure conversion

Represent each λ -abstraction with a pair:

- code, and
- environment.

The virtue of 'closures'

- In computer science: Landin, 1964
- In mathematical logic: Hasenjaeger, 1950's

The virtue of ‘closures’

- In computer science: Landin, 1964
- In mathematical logic: Hasenjaeger, 1950's
(Scholz & Hasenjaeger, Grundzüge der Mathematischen Logik, Springer 1961)

CPS transformation

1. Names intermediate results.
2. Sequentializes their computation.
3. Introduces first-class functions
(continuations).

Subplan

- S
- fib
- map

A simple example (1/3)

$f\ x\ (g\ x)$

A simple example (2/3)

`f x (g x)`

`let v1 = f x`

`v2 = g x`

`v3 = v1 v2`

`in v3`

A simple example (3/3)

```
f x (g x)
```

```
let v1 = f x      \k.f x (\v1.  
    v2 = g x      g x (\v2.  
    v3 = v1 v2    v1 v2 (\v3.  
in v3            k v3)))
```

Subplan

- S ✓
- fib
- map

The Fibonacci function (1/3)

```
fib n
= if n <= 1
  then n
  else fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2)
```


The Fibonacci function (2/3)

```
fib n
= if n <= 1
  then n
  else let v1 = fib(n - 1)
         v2 = fib(n - 2)
       in v1 + v2
```

The Fibonacci function (3/3)

```
fib (n, k)
= if n <= 1
  then k n
  else fib(n - 1, \v1.
           fib(n - 2, \v2.
           k (v1 + v2)))
```

The Fibonacci function (4/3)

```
fib n = let b = n <= 1
        in if b then n
           else let n1 = n - 1
                 v1 = fib n1
                 n2 = n - 2
                 v2 = fib n2
           in v1 + v2
```

Subplan

- S ✓
- fib ✓
- map

The map function (1/3)

```
fun map (f, nil)
  = nil
| map (f, x :: xs)
  = (f x) :: (map (f, xs))
```

The map function (2/3)

```
fun map (f, nil)
  = nil
| map (f, x :: xs)
  = let v1 = f x
      v2 = map (f, xs)
    in v1 :: v2
```

The map function (3/3)

```
fun map (f, nil, k)
  = k nil
| map (f, x :: xs, k)
  = f (x, \v1.
      map (f, xs, \v2.
          k (v1 :: v2)))
```

Subplan

- S ✓
- fib ✓
- map ✓

Toolbox

1. closure conversion ✓
2. CPS transformation ✓
3. defunctionalization

Defunctionalization (a change of representation)

- Enumerate inhabitants of function space.
- Represent the function space as a **sum type** and a **dispatching apply function**.
- Transform function declarations / applications into sum constructions / calls to apply.

N.B. Closure conversion, revisited

- A special case of defunctionalization.
- Only one summand.
- Apply function inlined.

Defunctionalization example

```
(* fac : int * (int -> 'a) -> 'a *)  
fun fac (0, k)  
  = k 1  
  | fac (n, k)  
    = fac (n - 1, fn v => k (n * v))  
  
fun main n  
  = fac (n, fn a => a)
```

Defunctionalization example

```
(* fac : int * (int -> 'a) -> 'a *)  
fun fac (0, k)  
  = k 1  
  | fac (n, k)  
    = fac (n - 1, fn v => k (n * v))  
  
fun main n  
  = fac (n, fn a => a)
```

The whole program

```
(* fac : int * (int -> int) -> int *)  
fun fac (0, k)  
  = k 1  
  | fac (n, k)  
    = fac (n - 1, fn v => k (n * v))  
  
fun main n  
  = fac (n, fn a => a)
```

The function space to defunctionalize

```
(* fac : int * (int -> int) -> int *)  
fun fac (0, k)  
  = k 1  
  | fac (n, k)  
    = fac (n - 1, fn v => k (n * v))  
  
fun main n  
  = fac (n, fn a => a)
```

The constructors

```
(* fac : int * (int -> int) -> int *)  
fun fac (0, k)  
  = k 1  
  | fac (n, k)  
  = fac (n - 1, fn v => k (n * v) )  
  
fun main n  
  = fac (n, fn a => a )
```


The consumers

```
(* fac : int * (int -> int) -> int *)  
fun fac (0, k)  
  = k 1  
  | fac (n, k)  
    = fac (n - 1, fn v => k (n * v) )  
  
fun main n  
  = fac (n, fn a => a)
```

The defunctionalized continuation

```
datatype cont = C0
              | C1 of cont * int
```

```
fun apply_cont C0
  = (fn a => a)
  | apply_cont (C1 (k, n))
  = (fn v => apply_cont (k, n * v))
```

Uncurried version

```
datatype cont = C0  
              | C1 of cont * int
```

```
fun apply_cont (C0, a)  
  = a  
  | apply_cont (C1 (k, n), v)  
  = apply_cont (k, n * v)
```

Factorial in CPS, defunctionalized

```
fun fac (0, k)
  = apply_cont (k, 1)
| fac (n, k)
  = fac (n - 1, C1 (k, n) )
```

```
fun main n
  = fac (n, C0 )
```

Toolbox

1. closure conversion ✓
2. CPS transformation ✓
3. defunctionalization ✓

The functional correspondence

In essence:

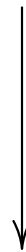
1. closure conversion
2. CPS transformation
3. defunctionalization

On with the exercises!

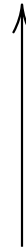
The thesis

λ -calculus with expl. subst. + red. strategy

‘syntactic’ | correspondence



abstract machine with environment



‘functional’ | correspondence

evaluation function with environment

A “Scott-Tarski” evaluator written in the syntax of Standard ML

```
datatype term =  
  IND of int (* de Bruijn index *)  
  | ABS of term  
  | APP of term * term
```

```
datatype value =  
  FUN of value -> value
```



```

fun eval (IND n, e)
  = List.nth (e, n)
| eval (ABS t, e)
  = FUN (fn v => eval (t, v :: e))
| eval (APP (t0, t1), e)
  = apply (eval (t0, e),
           eval (t1, e))

and apply (FUN f, a)
  = f a

fun main t (* : term -> value *)
  = eval (t, nil)

```

John Reynolds's question

Does this interpreter define

- a call-by-**name** language, or
- a call-by-**value** language?

```
fun eval (IND n, e)
  = List.nth (e, n)
  | eval (ABS t, e)
  = FUN (fn v => eval (t, v :: e))
  | eval (APP (t0, t1), e)
  = apply (eval (t0, e),
           eval (t1, e))
and apply (FUN f, a)
  = f a
```

John Reynolds's point

Be mindful of **the evaluation order**
of the meta-language:

- Call by name yields call by name.
- Call by value yields call by value.

Well-defined definitional interpreters

- Evaluation-order independent.
- First-order.

Closure conversion of the def. int.

```
datatype value = FUN of term * env  
withtype      env = value list
```

```
(* main : term -> value *)
```

```
fun main t  
    = eval (t, nil)
```

```
and eval (IND n, e)
  = List.nth (e, n)
| eval (ABS t, e)
  = FUN (t, e)
| eval (APP (t0, t1), e)
  = apply (eval (t0, e),
           eval (t1, e))
and apply (FUN (t, e), a)
  = eval (t, a :: e)
```

CPS transformation of the def. int.

```
datatype value = FUN of term * env
```

```
withtype      env = value list
```

```
type      ans = value
```

```
type      cont = value -> ans
```

```
(* main : term -> ans *)
```

```
fun main t
```

```
  = eval (t, nil, fn v => v)
```



```

and eval (IND n, e, k)
  = k (List.nth (e, n))
| eval (ABS t, e, k)
  = k (FUN (t, e))
| eval (APP (t0, t1), e, k)
  = eval (t0, e, fn v0 =>
            eval (t1, e, fn v1 =>
                  apply (v0, v1, k)))
and apply (FUN (t, e), a, k)
  = eval (t, a :: e, k)

```

Defunctionalization of the def. int.

```
datatype value = FUN of term * env
withtype      env = value list
              and  ans = value
```

```
datatype cont =
  C2 of term * env * cont
| C1 of denval * cont
| C0
```

```

fun main t
  = eval (t, nil, C0)

and apply_cont (C2 (t1, e, k), v0)
  = eval (t1, e, C1 (v0, k))
  | apply_cont (C1 (v0, k), v1)
  = apply (v0, v1, k)
  | apply_cont (C0, v)
  = v

```

```

and eval (IND n, e, k)
  = apply_cont (k, List.nth (e, n))
| eval (ABS t, e, k)
  = apply_cont (k, FUN (t, e))
| eval (APP (t0, t1), e, k)
  = eval (t0, e, C2 (t1, e, k))

and apply (FUN (t, e), a, k)
  = eval (t, a :: e, k)

```

“Machine-like character”

Reynolds: see the “machine-like character”
of this interpreter?

In summary

evaluator for λ -terms

closure conversion

CPS transformation

defunctionalization

an abstract machine