

# From $\lambda x.x$ to Facebook - practical Lambda Calculus and its origins

Functional Miners Meetup

May 21, 2019

## 1 Introduction

## 2 What is Lambda Calculus

- Definition
- Grammar in BNF Notation
- Normal and Applicative orders
- Beta, Eta Reductions
- Alpha Conversion, Free and Bound Variables

## 3 Practical Lambda Calculus

- What can we encode?
  - Pairs
  - Conditionals
  - Bool expressions
  - Natural Numbers

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Let us talk some history

### Alonzo Church (1903-1995)

American mathematician and logician who made a major contributions to mathematical logic and theoretical computer science, creator of Lambda Calculus. Professor at Princeton and California(UCLA). Teacher of Alan Turing, Stephen Cole Kleene and Rosser, J. Barkley.

Biggest accomplishments:

- Church-Rosser Theorem

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- Church-Turing Theorem
- Church Thesis
- Formal system of computation - Lambda Calculus



- Work on Foundations Of Mathematics

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- Turing's model of computation

### Types of Lambda Calculus:

- 1934 - Simply (implicitly) Typed Lambda Calculus (Haskell Curry)
- 1940 - Simply (explicitly) Typed Lambda Calculus (Church)
- 1972 - System F, System $\omega$  (Girard)

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What it really is?

# What is Lambda Calculus definition()

## Definition

A formal system in mathematical logic for expressing computation based on function abstraction

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- if  $M$  is a lambda expression and  $x \in X$ , then  $\lambda x.M$  is a lambda expression
- if  $N$  and  $M$  are lambda expressions then  $(N M)$  is a lambda expression

# What is Lambda Calculus

## grammar()

BNF:

- $\langle \mathbf{exp} \rangle ::= \langle \mathbf{var} \rangle$   
|  $\backslash \langle \mathbf{var} \rangle . \langle \mathbf{exp} \rangle$   
|  $( \langle \mathbf{exp} \rangle \langle \mathbf{exp} \rangle )$

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Haskell:

- **data** Expr = Name **String**  
| Lam **String** Expr  
| App Expr Expr

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- a variable, mainly letters e.g. a, b, x, y
- a function abstraction called lambda abstraction which corresponds directly to function definition, e.g.  $\lambda x.y$

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- a variable, mainly letters e.g. a, b, x, y
- a function abstraction called lambda abstraction which corresponds directly to function definition, e.g.  $\lambda x.y$
- An application, for us programmers a function invocation e.g.  $(\lambda x. y \ x)$

# What is Lambda Calculus

$\underbrace{\lambda x}_{\text{head}} . \underbrace{xyz}_{\text{body}}$



# What is Lambda Calculus

## reductionorders()

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- the unevaluated argument expression - **Normal Order**

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- the value of the argument expression - **Applicative Order**
- the unevaluated argument expression - **Normal Order**

*double x = plus x x*

*average x y = divide (plus x y) 2*

Lets evaluate:

*double (average 2 4)*

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Normal order of evaluation - rewrite the leftmost outermost occurrence of a function application

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- $\text{plus } 3 \ (\text{average } 2 \ 4) \Rightarrow$
- $\text{plus } 3 \ (\text{divide } (\text{plus } 2 \ 4) \ 2) \Rightarrow$
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Applicative Order of reduction - rewrite the leftmost innermost occurrence of a function application first

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# What is Lambda Calculus evaluationstrategies()

- Strict
  - Call by value (Swift, C)
  - Call by address/reference (C++)
  - Call by sharing (Java)
- Non-strict
  - Call by name (Haskell)
  - Call by need (memoization)
  - Lazy Evaluation (Miranda)

# What is Lambda Calculus

## $\beta$ reduction()

### Definition

Beta reduction is a reduction in form of substitution of lambda expressions among terms called beta redexes that may lead to beta normal form of the expression

- Beta redex - is a term of form  $(\lambda x.A)M$
- Beta Normal Form - term is in normal form if no beta reduction is possible

# What is Lambda Calculus

practicalbetareduction()

Let  $M = \underline{xy}$

# What is Lambda Calculus

practicalbetareduction()

Let  $M = \underline{xy}$

$(\lambda x.M E)$

# What is Lambda Calculus

practicalbetareduction()

Let  $M = \underline{xy}$

$$(\lambda x.M E) \xrightarrow{(\lambda x.M E)} M[x := E]$$



# What is Lambda Calculus

practicalbetareduction()

Let  $M = \underline{xy}$

$$(\lambda x.M E) \xrightarrow[\substack{(\lambda x.M E) \\ M[x := E]}]{\substack{(\lambda x.M E) \\ M[x := E]}} \underline{Ey}$$

# What is Lambda Calculus normalform()

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Is there only one unique normal form?

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**Yes!**

# What is Lambda Calculus

## normalform()

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Is there only one unique normal form?

**Yes!**

Can we always obtain a normal form of an expression?

# What is Lambda Calculus

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- ...

Is there only one unique normal form?

**Yes!**

Can we always obtain a normal form of an expression?

**No!** Consider:

$$(\lambda z. (z z) \lambda x. (x x))$$



# What is Lambda Calculus normalform()

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# What is Lambda Calculus

## churchrossertheorem()

### Church Rosser Theorem I Corollary

Value of normal form does not depend on order, if reduction terminates it provides a unique normal form.

### Church Rosser Theorem II Corollary

If an expression has a normal form, it can be reached by normal order evaluation.

# What is Lambda Calculus

## alphaconversion()

$((\lambda \text{func}.\lambda \text{arg}.\text{func arg}) \text{arg}) \text{z}$

- $\Rightarrow (\lambda \text{arg}.\text{arg arg}) \text{z}$
- $\Rightarrow (\text{z z})(!)$

using  $\alpha$  conversion we rename  $\text{arg}$  to  $\text{arg1}$ :

- $\equiv ((\lambda \text{func}.\lambda \text{arg1}.\text{func arg1}) \text{arg}) \text{z}$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda \text{arg1}.\text{arg arg1}) \text{z}$
- $\Rightarrow (\text{arg z})$

# What is Lambda Calculus debruijn()

## Nicolaas Govert de Bruijn

$$\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. x z (y z) \xrightarrow[\text{indexing}]{\text{de bruijn}} \lambda \lambda \lambda 3 1 (2 1)$$

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Identity:  $\lambda x.x$

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$$(\lambda x.x \underline{5}) \Rightarrow \underline{5}$$

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$$(\lambda x.x \ \underline{5}) \Rightarrow \underline{5}$$

$$(\lambda x.x \ \underline{\lambda f.\lambda x.(f \ x)}) \Rightarrow \underline{\lambda f.\lambda x.(f \ x)}$$

Identity:  $\lambda x.x$

$$(\lambda x.x \ \underline{5}) \Rightarrow \underline{5}$$

$$(\lambda x.x \ \underline{\lambda f.\lambda x.(f \ x)}) \Rightarrow \underline{\lambda f.\lambda x.(f \ x)}$$

$$(\lambda x.x \ \underline{\lambda z.z}) \Rightarrow \underline{\lambda z.z}$$

but can we represent numbers, boolean expressions, types?

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## pairs()

Lets start with a pair:

# Practical Lambda Calculus

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### Definition

$\text{pair} = \lambda x.$

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$$\text{pair} = \lambda x. \lambda y.$$



Lets start with a pair:

### Definition

$$\text{pair} = \lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda f. ((f x) y)$$

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- pair 1 2

Lets start with a pair:

### Definition

$$\text{pair} = \lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda f. ((f x) y)$$

- $\text{pair } 1 \ 2$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda f. ((f x) y) \ 1) \ 2)$

Lets start with a pair:

### Definition

$$\text{pair} = \lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda f. ((f x) y)$$

- $\text{pair } 1 \ 2$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda f. ((f x) y) \ 1) \ 2)$
- $=> (\lambda y. \lambda f. ((f \ 1) y) \ 2)$

Lets start with a pair:

### Definition

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- $\text{pair } 1 \ 2$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda f. ((f x) y) \ 1) \ 2)$
- $=> (\lambda y. \lambda f. ((f \ 1) y) \ 2)$
- $=> \lambda f. ((f \ 1) \ 2)$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## pairs()

What if we want to get the first value?

What if we want to get the first value?

Definition

$\text{first} = \lambda x.$

What if we want to get the first value?

### Definition

$\text{first} = \lambda x.\lambda y.$



What if we want to get the first value?

### Definition

```
first =  $\lambda x.\lambda y.x$ 
```

What if we want to get the first value?

### Definition

```
first =  $\lambda x.\lambda y.x$ 
```

```
pair 1 2 first
```

- $\Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow (\lambda f. ((f\ 1)\ 2)\ first)$

What if we want to get the first value?

### Definition

```
first =  $\lambda x.\lambda y.x$ 
```

pair 1 2 first

- $\Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow (\lambda f. ((f\ 1)\ 2)\ first)$
- $\Rightarrow ((first\ 1)\ 2)$

What if we want to get the first value?

### Definition

$\text{first} = \lambda x. \lambda y. x$

$\text{pair } \underline{1} \ 2 \ \text{first}$

- $\Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow (\lambda f. ((f \ 1) \ 2) \ \text{first})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{first} \ 1) \ 2)$
- $\equiv ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \ 1) \ 2)$

What if we want to get the first value?

### Definition

$\text{first} = \lambda x. \lambda y. x$

$\text{pair } \underline{1} \ 2 \ \text{first}$

- $\Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow (\lambda f. ((f \ 1) \ 2) \ \text{first})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{first} \ 1) \ 2)$
- $\equiv ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \ 1) \ 2)$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. 1) \ 2$

What if we want to get the first value?

### Definition

```
first =  $\lambda x.\lambda y.x$ 
```

pair 1 2 first

- $\Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow (\lambda f. ((f\ 1)\ 2)\ \text{first})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{first}\ 1)\ 2)$
- $\equiv ((\lambda x.\lambda y.x\ 1)\ 2)$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y.1)\ 2)$
- $\Rightarrow \underline{1}$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

pairs()

You have just encoded pairs!

Pair

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

Select First

```
 $\lambda x.\lambda y.x$ 
```

Select Second

```
 $\lambda x.\lambda y.y$ 
```

### Haskell implementation

```
pair :: a -> b -> (forall c. (a -> b -> c) -> c)
pair x y = \f -> f x y
```

```
first :: a -> b -> a
first x y = x
```

```
second :: a -> b -> b
second x y = y
```



# Practical Lambda Calculus

## conditionals()

$\langle \textit{condition} \rangle? \langle \textit{expression} \rangle : \langle \textit{expression} \rangle$

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$\langle \text{condition} \rangle ? \langle \text{expression} \rangle : \langle \text{expression} \rangle$

e.g.  $\text{max} = x > y ? x : y$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## conditionals()

$\langle \text{condition} \rangle ? \langle \text{expression} \rangle : \langle \text{expression} \rangle$

e.g.  $\text{max} = x > y ? x : y$

Lets model a condition abstraction using our pair definition:

### Definition

```
if =  $\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c \ e1) \ e2)$ 
```

**if expression1 expression2**

- $\equiv ((\lambda e1.\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c\ e1)\ e2)\ \text{expression1})\ \text{expression2})$

### if expression1 expression2

- $\equiv$   $((\lambda e1.\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c\ e1)\ e2)\ \text{expression1})\ \text{expression2})$
- $\Rightarrow$   $(\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c\ \text{expression1})\ e2)\ \text{expression2})$

### if expression1 expression2

- $\equiv ((\lambda e1.\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c\ e1)\ e2)\ \text{expression1})\ \text{expression2})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c\ \text{expression1})\ e2)\ \text{expression2})$
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### if expression1 expression2

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- $\Rightarrow (\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c\ \text{expression1})\ e2)\ \text{expression2})$
- $\Rightarrow \lambda c.((c\ \text{expression1})\ \text{expression2})$

### if expression1 expression2

- $\equiv ((\lambda e1.\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c e1) e2) \text{ expression1}) \text{ expression2})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c \text{ expression1}) e2) \text{ expression2})$
- $\Rightarrow \lambda c.((c \text{ expression1}) \text{ expression2})$

### $(\lambda c.((c \text{ expression1}) \text{ expression2}) \text{ first})$

- $\equiv (\lambda c.((c \text{ expression1}) \text{ expression2}) \lambda x..x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda x.\lambda y.x \text{ expression1}) \text{ expression2})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y.\text{expression1} \text{ expression2})$
- $\Rightarrow \underline{\text{expression1}}$



# Practical Lambda Calculus

## conditionals()

### Definition

$\text{true} = \lambda.x.\lambda y.x$

### Definition

$\text{false} = \lambda.x.\lambda y.y$

$\text{if } e1 \ e2 \ \text{first} == \text{if } e1 \ e2 \ \text{true}$

$==> \dots ==> e1$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## not()

X	NOT X
TRUE	FALSE
FALSE	TRUE

Lets look at C-ish example:

`x ? false : true`

and using if:

`((if false) true) x`

**$((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$**

- $\equiv ((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$

**$((\text{if false}) \text{true}) \text{x}$**

- $\equiv ((\text{if false}) \text{true}) \text{x}$
- $\equiv ((\lambda e1.\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c e1) e2) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{x}$

**$(((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x)$**

- $== (((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x)$
- $== (((\lambda e1.\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c e1) e2) \text{false}) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c \text{false}) e2) \text{true}) x)$

**$((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$**

- $== ((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$
- $== (((\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c e1) e2) \text{false}) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c \text{false}) e2) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda c. ((c \text{false}) \text{true}) x)$

**$((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$**

- $== ((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$
- $== (((\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c e1) e2) \text{false}) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c \text{false}) e2) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda c. ((c \text{false}) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((x \text{false}) \text{true})$

**$((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$**

- $== ((\text{if false}) \text{true}) x$
- $== (((\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c e1) e2) \text{false}) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c \text{false}) e2) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda c. ((c \text{false}) \text{true}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((x \text{false}) \text{true})$

### Definition

$\text{not} = \lambda x. ((x \text{false}) \text{true})$



# Practical Lambda Calculus

## not()

Lets check if our negation is correctly encoded

Lets check if our negation is correctly encoded

**not true**

Lets check if our negation is correctly encoded

**not true**

- $== (\lambda x.((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ true})$

Lets check if our negation is correctly encoded

**not true**

- $== (\lambda x. ((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ true})$
- $=> ((\text{true false}) \text{ true})$

Lets check if our negation is correctly encoded

**not true**

- $== (\lambda x.((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ true})$
- $=> ((\text{true} \text{ false}) \text{ true})$
- $== ((\lambda x.\lambda y.x \text{ false}) \text{ true})$

Lets check if our negation is correctly encoded

**not true**

- $== (\lambda x.((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ true})$
- $=> ((\text{true} \text{ false}) \text{ true})$
- $== ((\lambda x.\lambda y.x \text{ false}) \text{ true})$
- $=> (\lambda y.\text{false} \text{ true})$

Lets check if our negation is correctly encoded

**not true**

- $== (\lambda x.((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true false}) \text{ true})$
- $== ((\lambda x.\lambda y.x \text{ false}) \text{ true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y.\text{false true})$
- $\Rightarrow \underline{\text{false}}$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## not()

**not false**



**not false**

- $== (\lambda x. ((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ false})$

### not false

- $== (\lambda x. ((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ false})$
- $=> ((\text{false false}) \text{ true})$

### not false

- $== (\lambda x. ((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ false})$
- $==> ((\text{false false}) \text{ true})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. y \text{ false}) \text{ true})$

### not false

- $== (\lambda x. ((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ false})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{false false}) \text{ true})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. y \text{ false}) \text{ true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. y \text{ true})$

### not false

- $== (\lambda x.((x \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ false})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{false false}) \text{ true})$
- $== ((\lambda x.\lambda y.y \text{ false}) \text{ true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y.y \text{ true})$
- $\Rightarrow \underline{\text{true}}$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

X	Y	X AND Y
TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
TRUE	FALSE	FALSE
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
FALSE	TRUE	FALSE

Lets look at C-ish example:

$x \text{ ? } y \text{ : false}$

and using if:

$((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

**$((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$**

- $\equiv ((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

**$((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$**

- $\equiv ((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$
- $\equiv ((\lambda e1.\lambda e2.\lambda c.((c e1) e2) y) \text{ false}) x$



# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

**$((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$**

- $== ((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$
- $== (((\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c \ e1) \ e2) \ y) \ \text{false}) \ x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c \ y) \ e2) \ \text{false}) \ x)$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

**$((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$**

- $== ((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$
- $== ((\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c e1) e2) y) \text{ false}) x$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c y) e2) \text{ false}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda c. ((c y) \text{ false}) x)$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

**$((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$**

- $== ((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$
- $== ((\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c e1) e2) y) \text{ false}) x$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c y) e2) \text{ false}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda c. ((c y) \text{ false}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((x y) \text{ false})$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

**$((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$**

- $\equiv ((\text{if } y) \text{ false}) x$
- $\equiv (((\lambda e1. \lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c e1) e2) y) \text{ false}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((\lambda e2. \lambda c. ((c y) e2) \text{ false}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda c. ((c y) \text{ false}) x)$
- $\Rightarrow ((x y) \text{ false})$

## Definition

$\text{and} = \lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{ false})$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

**and true true**

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

**and** true true

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{true})$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

**and** true true

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$



# Practical Lambda Calculus

## and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

**and** true true

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true true}) \text{false})$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

## and true true

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true true}) \text{false})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \text{true}) \text{false})$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

### and true true

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true true}) \text{false})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \text{true}) \text{false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. \text{true false})$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## and()

Lets check if our and is correctly encoded

### and true true

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true true}) \text{false})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \text{true}) \text{false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. \text{true false})$
- $\Rightarrow$  true

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

and true false

## and true false

- $\equiv ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false})) \text{true}) \text{false}$

### and true false

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false})) \text{true}) \text{false}$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false})) \text{true}$

# Practical Lambda Calculus and()

## and true false

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true false}) \text{false})$



# Practical Lambda Calculus

## and()

### and true false

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true } \text{false}) \text{false})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \text{false}) \text{false})$

### and true false

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{false}) \text{true}) \text{false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{false}) \text{true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true } \text{false}) \text{false})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \text{false}) \text{false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. \text{false}) \text{false}$

## and true false

- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. ((x y) \text{ false}) \text{ true}) \text{ false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. ((\text{true } y) \text{ false}) \text{ true})$
- $\Rightarrow ((\text{true } \text{ false}) \text{ false})$
- $== ((\lambda x. \lambda y. x \text{ false}) \text{ false})$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y. \text{ false}) \text{ false}$
- $\Rightarrow$  false

# Practical Lambda Calculus

## or()

X	Y	X OR Y
TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
TRUE	FALSE	TRUE
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
FALSE	TRUE	TRUE

Lets look at C-ish example:

$x ? \text{true} : y$

and using if:

$((\text{if true}) y) x$

# Practical Lambda Calculus

or()

**`((if true) y) x`**

- `== ((if true) y) x`

# Practical Lambda Calculus

or()

**$((\text{if true}) y) x$**

- $== ((\text{if true}) y) x$
- $\Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow ((x \text{ true}) y)$

## Definition

$\text{or} = \lambda x. \lambda y. ((x \text{ true}) y)$

# What can we encode? numbers()

## Definition

$\text{zero} = \text{identity}$

## Definition

$\text{succ} = \lambda n. \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) n)$

# What can we encode? numbers()

one = succ zero

- ==  $(\lambda n. \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) n) \text{ zero})$
- =>  $\lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero})$



# What can we encode? numbers()

one = succ zero

- ==  $(\lambda n. \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) n) \text{ zero})$
- ==>  $\lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero})$

two = succ one

- ==  $(\lambda n. \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) n) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero}))$
- ==>  $\lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero}))$

# What can we encode? numbers()

one = succ zero

- ==  $(\lambda n. \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) n) \text{ zero})$
- =>  $\lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero})$

two = succ one

- ==  $(\lambda n. \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) n) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero}))$
- =>  $\lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero}))$

three = succ two

- ==  $(\lambda n. \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) n) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero})))$
- =>  $\lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \lambda s. ((s \text{ false}) \text{ zero})))$

# What can we encode? numbers()

By having a number encoded as a function with an argument that can be used as a selector we can try to extract values from them by using our pair first and second functions

# What can we encode? numbers()

By having a number encoded as a function with an argument that can be used as a selector we can try to extract values from them by using our pair first and second functions

$$(\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \textit{number}) \textit{first}$$

# What can we encode? numbers()

By having a number encoded as a function with an argument that can be used as a selector we can try to extract values from them by using our pair first and second functions

$$(\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \textit{number}) \textit{first}$$

- $== (\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \textit{number}) \lambda x.\lambda y.x$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda x.\lambda y.x \text{ false}) \textit{number}$
- $\Rightarrow (\lambda y.\text{false } \textit{number})$
- $\Rightarrow \text{false}$

# What can we encode? numbers()

We used *first* as a selector before, lets now use *second* and see what will we get from the number:

$$(\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \text{ number}) \text{ second}$$

# What can we encode? numbers()

We used *first* as a selector before, lets now use *second* and see what will we get from the number:

$$(\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \text{ number}) \text{ second}$$

- $== (\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \text{ number}) \lambda x.\lambda y.y$

# What can we encode? numbers()

We used *first* as a selector before, lets now use *second* and see what will we get from the number:

$$(\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \text{ number}) \text{ second}$$

- $== (\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \text{ number}) \lambda x.\lambda y.y$
- $=> (\lambda x.\lambda y.y \text{ false}) \text{ number}$



# What can we encode? numbers()

We used *first* as a selector before, lets now use *second* and see what will we get from the number:

$$(\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \text{ number}) \text{ second}$$

- $== (\lambda s.(s \text{ false}) \text{ number}) \lambda x.\lambda y.y$
- $=> (\lambda x.\lambda y.y \text{ false}) \text{ number}$
- $=> \text{ number}$

# What can we encode? numbers()

## Definition

$\text{pred} = \lambda n. (n \text{ second})$

Now we caught up to where **Kleene** was in 1936.



Greg Michaelson.

*An Introduction to Functional Programming Through Lambda Calculus.*

Dover Publications, 1989.



Pat Helland.

Immutability changes everything.



Felice Cardone Roger Hindley.

History of lambda-calculus and combinatory logic.



Henk Barendregt.

The impact of the lambda calculus in logic and computer science.



Stephanie Weirich Justin Hsu Richard A. Eisenberg.

System  $fc$  with explicit kind equality.



[Russel Church.](#)

Some properties of conversion.



[Haskell.org.](#)

Representation of the ghc core language.

# From $\lambda x.x$ to Facebook - practical Lambda Calculus and its origins

Functional Miners Meetup

May 21, 2019