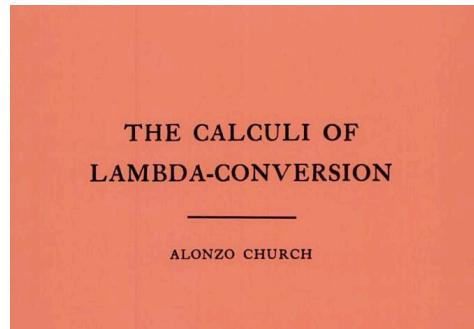


Lambda-Calculus (I)

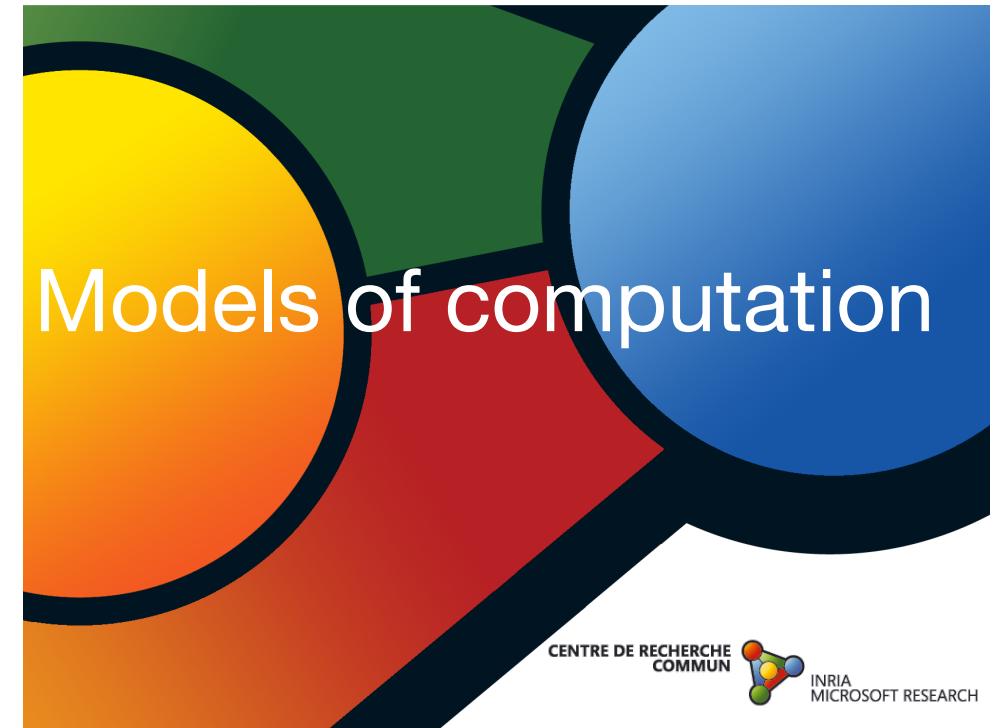
jean-jacques.levy@inria.fr
2nd Asian-Pacific Summer School
on Formal Methods
Tsinghua University,
August 23, 2010

Plan

- computation models
- lambda-notation
- bound variables
- conversion rules
- reductions
- normal forms
- numeral systems
- lambda-definability



Barendregt, Henk, [The Lambda Calculus. Its Syntax and Semantics](#), Elsevier, 2nd edition, 1997.
Barendregt, Henk; Dezani, Mariangiola, [Lambda calculi with Types](#), 2010.



Computation models

- [machines] automata theory -- **Turing** machines
- [character strings] formal grammars, Thue systems, **Post**
- [numbers] **Kleene** recursive functions theory
- [terms] **Church lambda-calculus**, term rewriting systems

Applications to logic

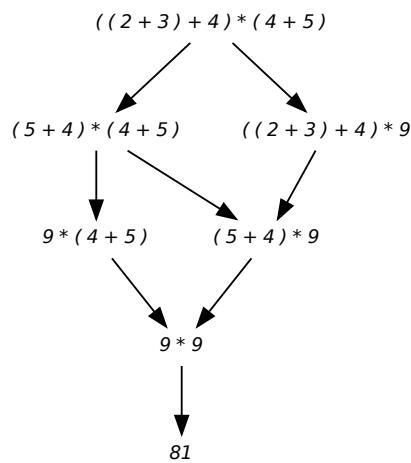
- [cut elimination] 2nd order arithmetic -- **Howard, Girard**
- [higher order dependent types] HOL, Isabelle, Coq -- **Coquand, Huet**

Computing with terms

$$2 + 3 \rightarrow 5$$

$$(2 + 3) + 4 \rightarrow 5 + 4 \rightarrow 9$$

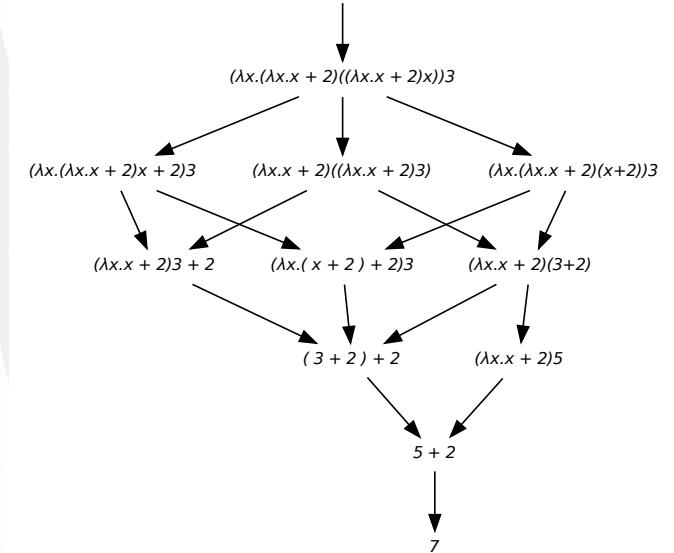
$$((2 + 3) + 4) * (4 + 5) \rightarrow \dots$$



Computing with terms

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2)3 \rightarrow \dots$$

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2)3$$



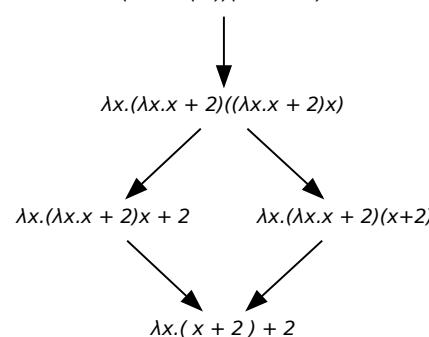
Computing with terms

$$(\lambda x. x + 1)3 \rightarrow 3 + 1 \rightarrow 4$$

$$(\lambda x. 2 * x + 2)4 \rightarrow 2 * 4 + 2 \rightarrow 8 + 2 \rightarrow 10$$

$$(\lambda f. f3)(\lambda x. x + 2) \rightarrow (\lambda x. x + 2)3 \rightarrow 3 + 2 \rightarrow 5$$

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2) \rightarrow \dots \quad (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2)$$

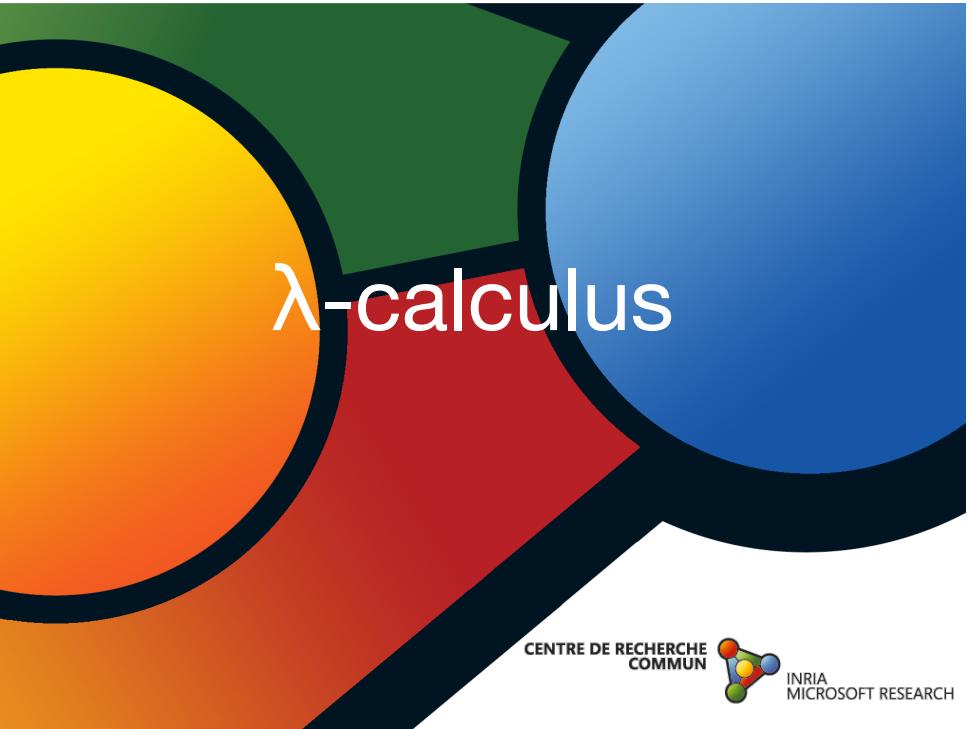


Computation model

- define a **minimum** set
- no instructions, no states, only **expressions**
- no arithmetic
- just a calculus of **functions**
- functions applied to functions
- functions as results



interesting ?



The lambda-calculus

- Lambda terms

M, N, P	$::=$	x, y, z, \dots	(variables)
		$(\lambda x.M)$	(M as function of x)
		$(M N)$	(M applied to N)
		c, d, \dots	(constants)

- Calculations “reductions”

$$((\lambda x.M)N) \xrightarrow{} M\{x := N\}$$

Abbreviations

$$\begin{array}{lll} MM_1 M_2 \cdots M_n & \text{for} & (\cdots ((MM_1) M_2) \cdots M_n) \\ (\lambda x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n . M) & \text{for} & (\lambda x_1.(\lambda x_2. \cdots (\lambda x_n . M) \cdots)) \end{array}$$

external parentheses and parentheses after a dot may be forgotten

Exercice 1

Write following terms in long notation:

$$\begin{array}{l} \lambda x.x, \lambda x.\lambda y.x, \lambda xy.x, \lambda xyz.y, \lambda xyz.zxy, \lambda xyz.z(xy), \\ (\lambda x.\lambda y.x)MN, (\lambda xy.x)MN, (\lambda xy.y)MN, (\lambda xy.y)(MN) \end{array}$$

Examples

$$(\lambda x.x)N \xrightarrow{} N$$

$$(\lambda f.f N)(\lambda x.x) \xrightarrow{} (\lambda x.x)N \xrightarrow{} N$$

$$(\lambda x.xx)(\lambda x.xN) \xrightarrow{} (\lambda x.xN)(\lambda x.xN) \xrightarrow{} (\lambda x.xN)N \xrightarrow{} NN$$

$$(\lambda x.xx)(\lambda x.xx) \xrightarrow{} (\lambda x.xx)(\lambda x.xx) \xrightarrow{} \dots$$

$$Y_f = (\lambda x.f(xx))(\lambda x.f(xx)) \xrightarrow{} f((\lambda x.f(xx))(\lambda x.f(xx))) = f(Y_f)$$

$$f(Y_f) \xrightarrow{} f(f(Y_f)) \xrightarrow{} \dots \xrightarrow{} f^n(Y_f) \xrightarrow{} \dots$$

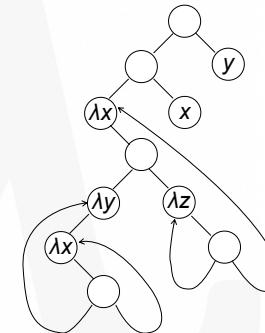
Recapitulation

- calculus is more complex than expected
- looping expressions !!
- recursion operator seems definable
- when termination ?
- consistency ?
- computing power ?

Abstract syntax

- Example: $(\lambda x.(\lambda y.\lambda x.y x)(\lambda z.z x))x y$

is



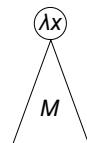
Abstract syntax

- The syntax of lambda-terms can be abstracted as:

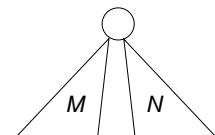
$$M, N, P ::= x, y, z, \dots \quad (\text{variables})$$



$$| \quad (\lambda x.M) \quad (M \text{ as function of } x)$$



$$| \quad (M N) \quad (M \text{ applied to } N)$$



$$| \quad c, d, \dots \quad (\text{constants})$$



Bound variables

$$(\lambda x.(\lambda y.\lambda x.y x)(\lambda z.z x))x y \quad (\text{rightmost } x, y \text{ are free})$$

Exercice 2

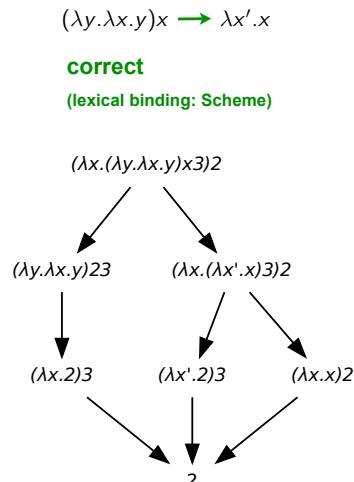
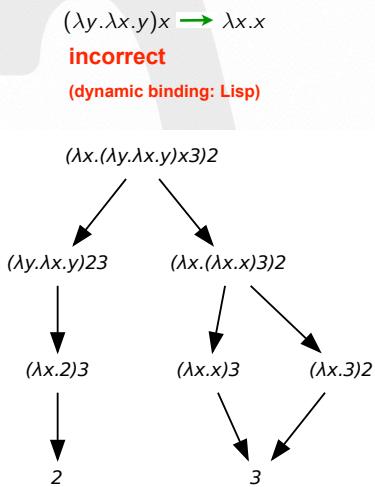
- Show binders of bound variables in

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

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

$$(\lambda f.f((\lambda x.x)3))(\lambda x.\lambda y.x)$$

Bound variables



Exercice 2bis Why Lisp is consistent ?

Bound variables

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

$$(\lambda y. \lambda x. y)x =_{\alpha} (\lambda y. \lambda x'. y)x \rightarrow \lambda x'. x$$

- **renaming** of bound variables
- **names** of bound variables are **not important**
- standard in many other calculi

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \cos(x)dx = \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos(x')dx'$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^9 a_i = \sum_{j=1}^9 a_j$$

$$\lambda x. x + 2 =_{\alpha} \lambda y. y + 2$$

$$\lambda xy. x + y =_{\alpha} \lambda yx. y + x$$

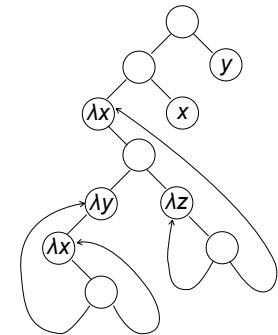
Bound variables

- **de Bruijn indices** is a systematic computer representation of bound variables

- for each occurrence of a bound variable, one counts the number of binders to traverse to reach its binder.

- Example: $(\lambda x. (\lambda y. \lambda x. y x) (\lambda z. z x)) x y$

is $(\lambda. (\lambda. \lambda. \underline{1} \underline{0}) (\lambda. \underline{0} \underline{1})) x y$



Substitution

$$x\{y := P\} = x$$

$$y\{y := P\} = P$$

$$(MN)\{y := P\} = M\{y := P\} N\{y := P\}$$

$$(\lambda y. M)\{y := P\} = \lambda y. M$$

$$(\lambda x. M)\{y := P\} = \lambda x'. M\{x := x'\}\{y := P\}$$

where $x' = x$ if y not free in M or x not free in P , otherwise x' is the first variable not free in M and P .
(we suppose that the set of variables is infinite and enumerable)

Free variables

$$\text{var}(x) = \{x\} \quad \text{var}(c) = \emptyset$$

$$\text{var}(MN) = \text{var}(M) \cup \text{var}(N)$$

$$\text{var}(\lambda x. M) = \text{var}(M) - \{x\}$$

Conversion rules

$$\begin{array}{lll} \lambda x.M \xrightarrow{\alpha} \lambda x'.M\{x := x'\} & (x' \notin \text{var}(M)) \\ (\lambda x.M)N \xrightarrow{\beta} M\{x := N\} & \\ \lambda x.Mx \xrightarrow{\eta} M & (x \notin \text{var}(M)) \end{array}$$

- left-hand-side of conversion rule is a **redex** (reducible expression)
- α -redex, β -redex, η -redex, ...
- we forget indices when clear from context, often β

Reduction step

- let R be a redex in M . Then one can contract redex R in M and get N :

$$M \xrightarrow{R} N$$

Reductions

$$M \xrightarrow{*} N \quad \text{when} \quad M = M_0 \xrightarrow{} M_1 \xrightarrow{} M_2 \xrightarrow{} \dots M_n = N \quad (n \geq 0)$$

- same with explicit contracted redexes

$$M = M_0 \xrightarrow{R_1} M_1 \xrightarrow{R_2} M_2 \dots \xrightarrow{R_n} M_n = N$$

- and with named reductions

$$\rho : M = M_0 \xrightarrow{R_1} M_1 \xrightarrow{R_2} M_2 \dots \xrightarrow{R_n} M_n = N$$

- we speak of redex occurrences when specifying reduction steps,
but it is convenient to confuse redexes and redex occurrences when clear from context

Lambda theories

$M =_{\beta} N$ when M and N are related by a zigzag of reductions

M and N are said **interconvertible**



- Also $M =_{\alpha} N$, $M =_{\eta} N$, $M =_{\beta,\eta} N$, ...
 - Interconvertibility is symmetric, reflexive, transitive closure of reduction relation
 - or with notations of mathematical logic:
- $\alpha \vdash M = N$, $\beta \vdash M = N$, $\eta \vdash M = N$, $\beta + \eta \vdash M = N$, ...
- the syntactic equality $M = N$ will often stand for $M =_{\alpha} N$.

Exercice 3

- Find terms M such that:

$$M \xrightarrow{} M$$

$$M = M_0 \xrightarrow{} M_1 \xrightarrow{} M_2 \xrightarrow{} \dots M_n = M \quad (M_i \text{ all distinct})$$

$$M =_{\beta} x \cdot M$$

$$M =_{\beta} \lambda x. M$$

$$M =_{\beta} MM$$

$$M =_{\beta} MN_1N_2 \dots N_n \quad \text{for all } N_1, N_2, \dots N_n$$

- Find term Y such that, for any M :

$$YM =_{\beta} M(YM)$$

- Find Y' such that, for any M :

$$Y'M \xrightarrow{*} M(Y'M)$$

- (difficult) Show there is only one redex R such that $R \xrightarrow{} R$

Normal forms

- An expression M without redexes **is in** normal form
 $M \xrightarrow{*}$
- If M reduces to a normal form, then M **has a** normal form
 $M \xrightarrow{*} N, \quad N$ in normal form

Exercice 4

• which of following terms are in β -normal form ?

in $\beta\eta$ -normal form ?

$\lambda x.x$

$\lambda xy.x$

$\lambda xy.xy$

$\lambda xy.x((\lambda x.yx)(\lambda x.yx))$

$\lambda x.x(\lambda xy.x)(\lambda x.x)$

$\lambda xy.x(\lambda xy.x)(\lambda x.yx)$

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



Exercice 5

• Show that if M is in normal form and $M \xrightarrow{*} N$, then $M = N$

• Show that:

1- $\lambda x.M \xrightarrow{*} N$ implies $N = \lambda x.N'$ and $M \xrightarrow{*} N'$

2- $MN \xrightarrow{*} P$ implies $M \xrightarrow{*} M'$, $N \xrightarrow{*} N'$ and $P = M'N'$

or $M \xrightarrow{*} \lambda x.M'$, $N \xrightarrow{*} N'$ and $M'\{x := N'\} \xrightarrow{*} P$

3- $xM_1M_2 \dots M_n \xrightarrow{*} N$ implies $M_1 \xrightarrow{*} N_1$, $M_2 \xrightarrow{*} N_2$, ... $M_n \xrightarrow{*} N_n$

and $xN_1N_2 \dots N_n = N$

4- $M\{x := N\} \xrightarrow{*} \lambda y.P$ implies $M \xrightarrow{*} \lambda y.M'$ and $M'\{x := N\} \xrightarrow{*} P$

or $M \xrightarrow{*} xM_1M_2 \dots M_n$ and $NM_1\{x := N\} \dots M_n\{x := N\} \xrightarrow{*} \lambda y.P$

Adding δ -rules: PCF

• Terms of PCF

$M, N, P ::=$	x, y, z, \dots	(variables)
	$\lambda x.M$	(M function of x)
	$M N$	(M applied to N)
	n	(integer constant)
	$M \otimes N$	(arithmetic operation, $+, *, -, /$)
	$\text{if } z \text{ then } M \text{ else } N$	(conditional)

• Conversion rules

$$(\lambda x.M)N \xrightarrow{*} M\{x := N\}$$

$$m \otimes n \xrightarrow{*} m \otimes n$$

$$\text{if } z = 0 \text{ then } M \text{ else } N \xrightarrow{*} M$$

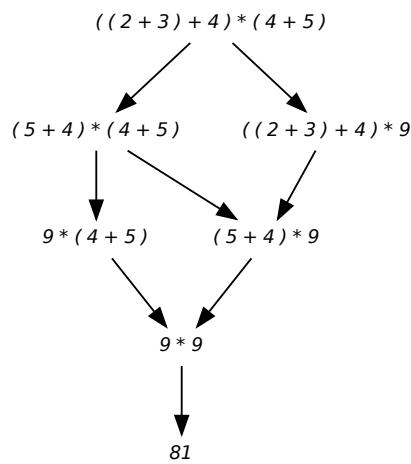
$$\text{if } z = n+1 \text{ then } M \text{ else } N \xrightarrow{*} N$$

Examples (bis)

$$2 + 3 \rightarrow 5$$

$$(2 + 3) + 4 \rightarrow 5 + 4 \rightarrow 9$$

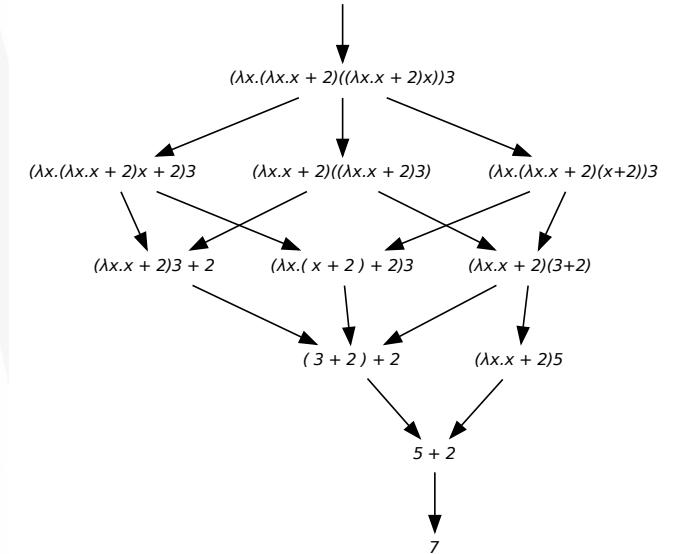
$$((2 + 3) + 4) * (4 + 5) \rightarrow \dots$$



Examples (bis)

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2)3 \rightarrow \dots$$

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2)3$$



Examples (bis)

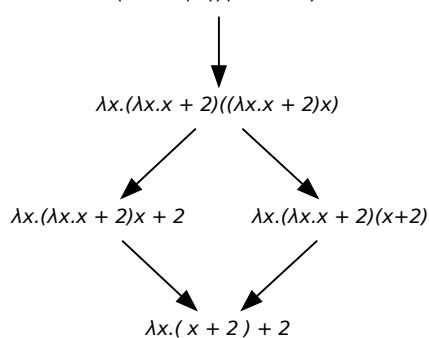
$$(\lambda x. x + 1)3 \rightarrow 3 + 1 \rightarrow 4$$

$$(\lambda x. 2 * x + 2)4 \rightarrow 2 * 4 + 2 \rightarrow 8 + 2 \rightarrow 10$$

$$(\lambda f. f3)(\lambda x. x + 2) \rightarrow (\lambda x. x + 2)3 \rightarrow 3 + 2 \rightarrow 5$$

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2) \rightarrow \dots$$

$$(\lambda f. \lambda x. f(fx))(\lambda x. x + 2)$$



Examples

$$\text{Fact}(3)$$

$$\text{Fact} = Y(\lambda f. \lambda x. \text{if } z \neq x \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1))$$

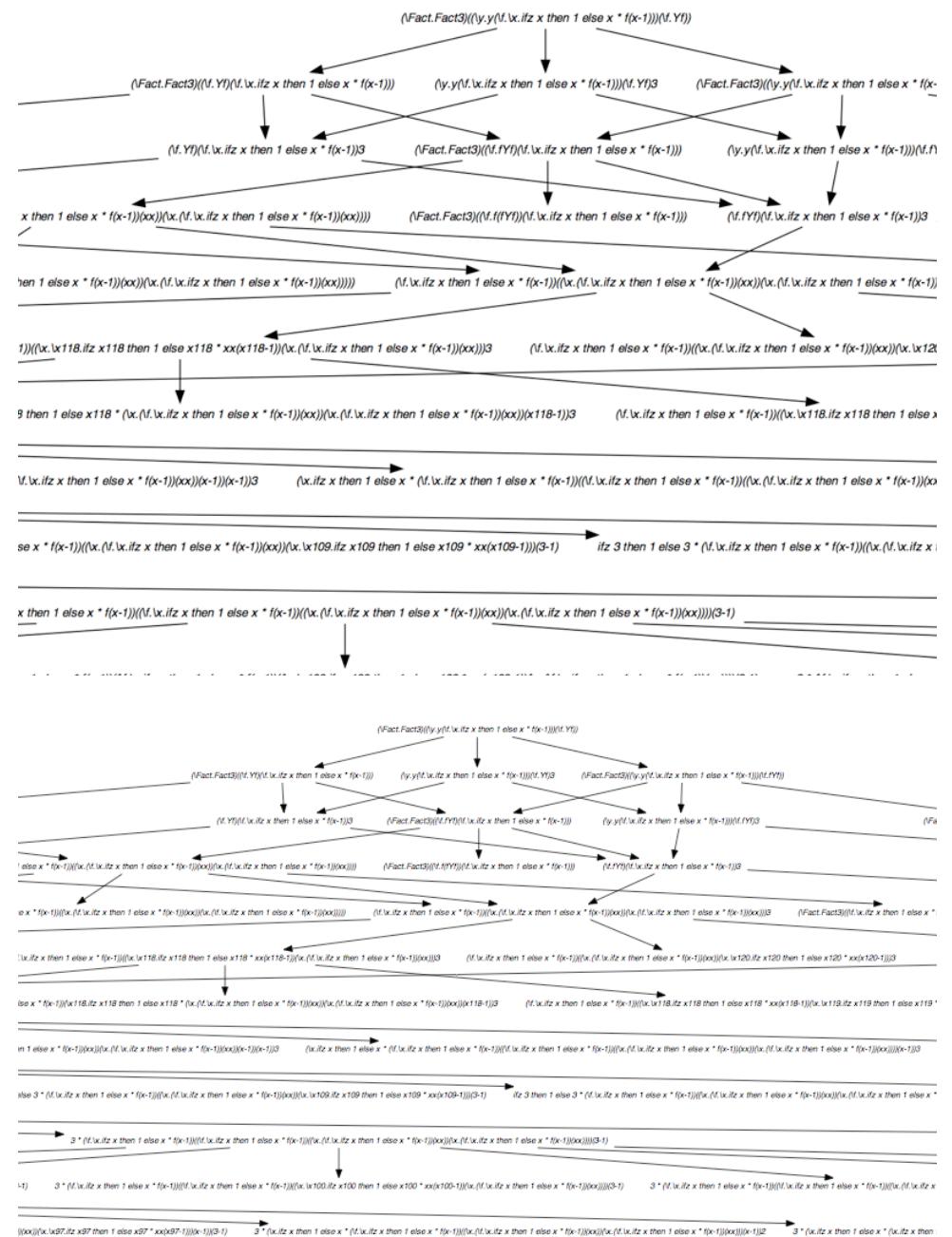
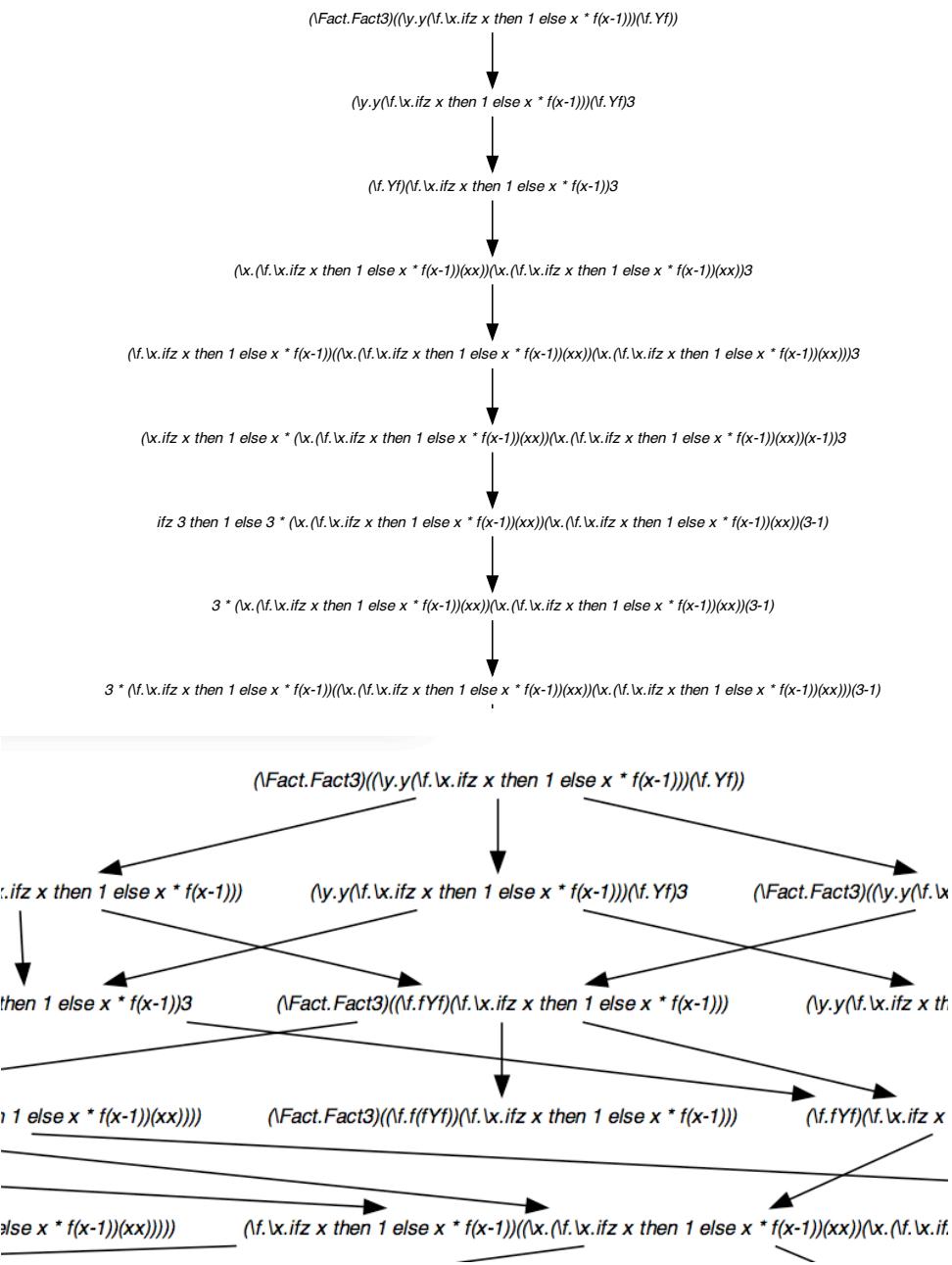
$$Y = \lambda f. (\lambda x. f(xx))(\lambda x. f(xx))$$

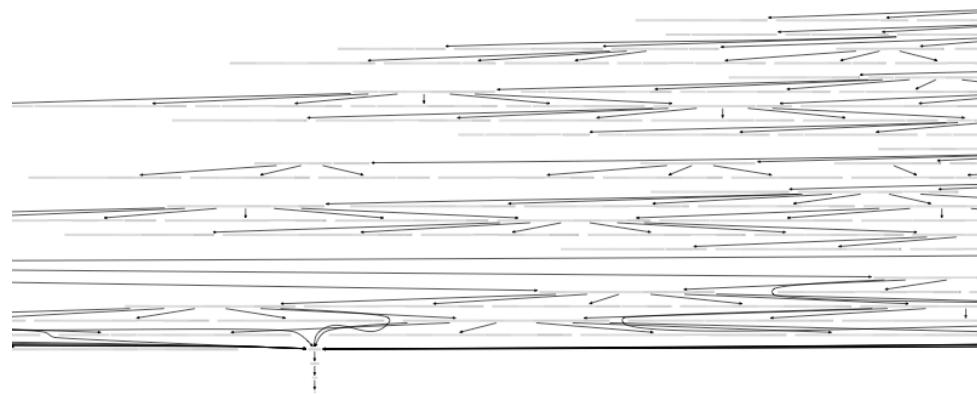
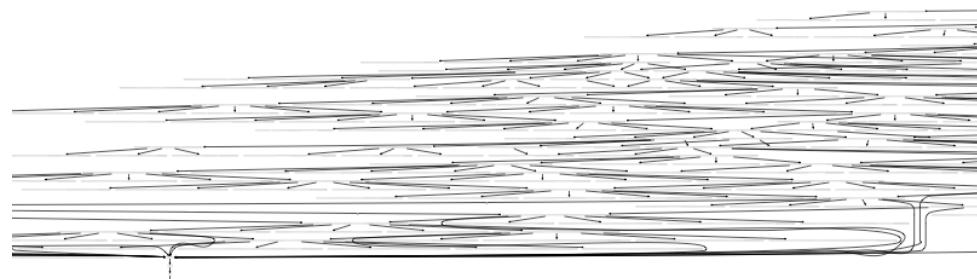
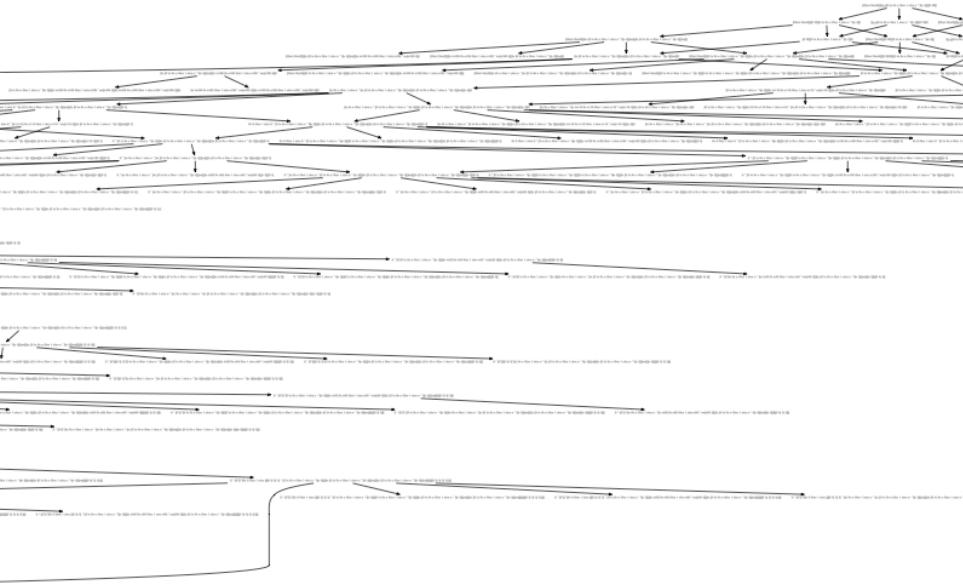
can be written as a single term in:

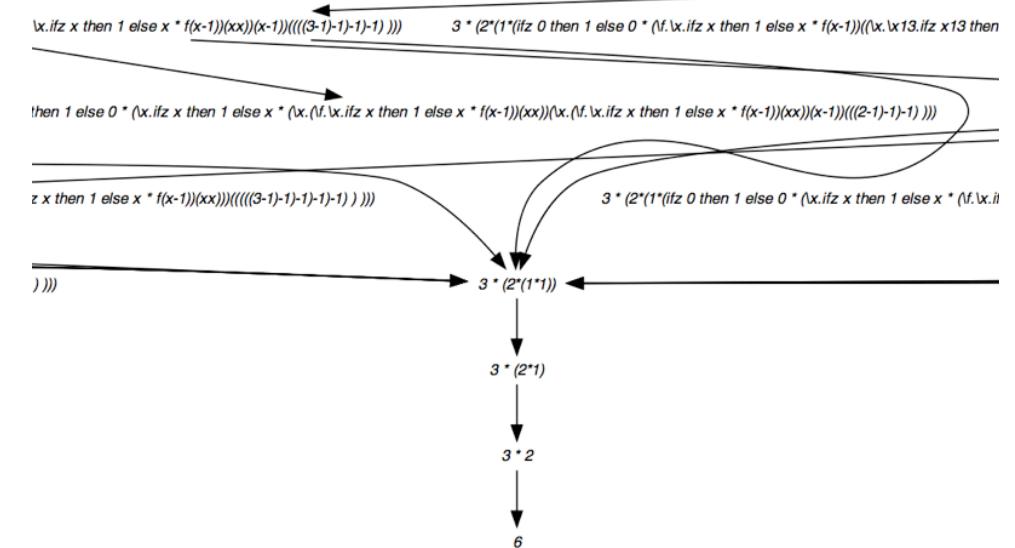
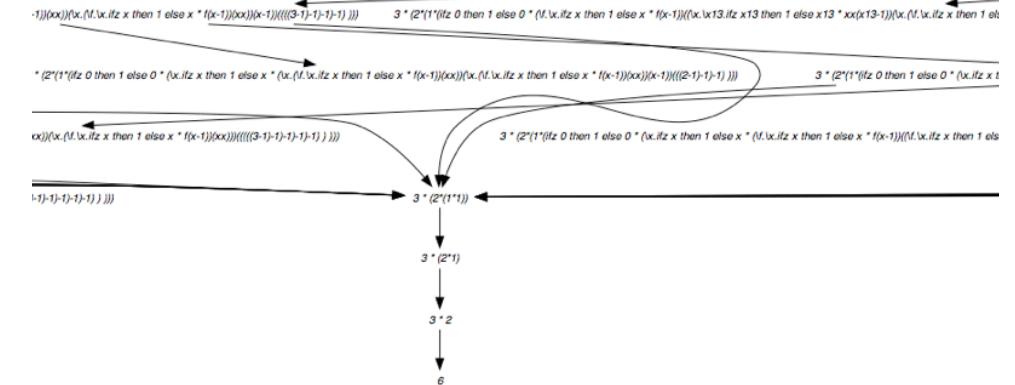
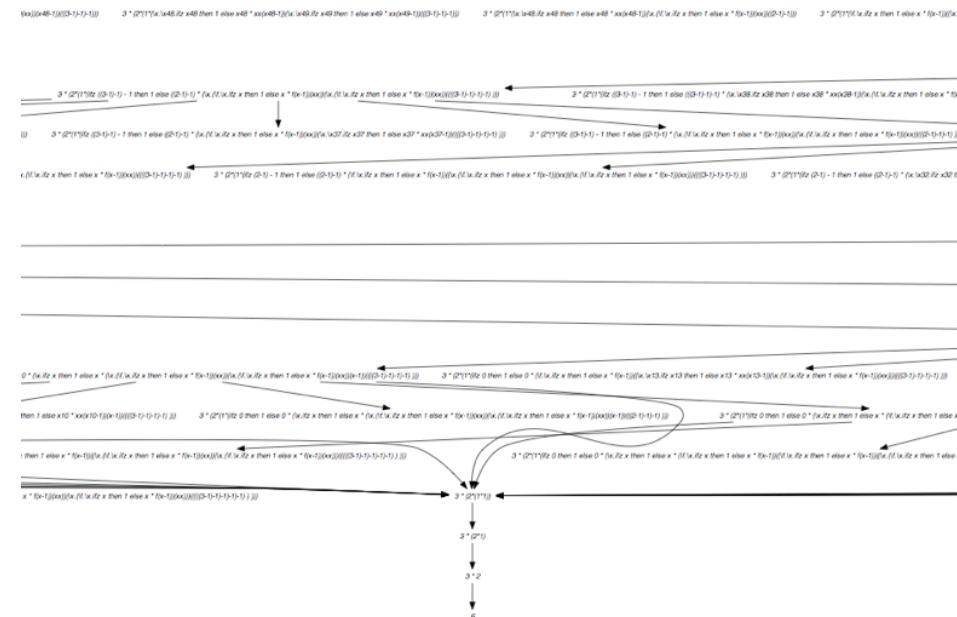
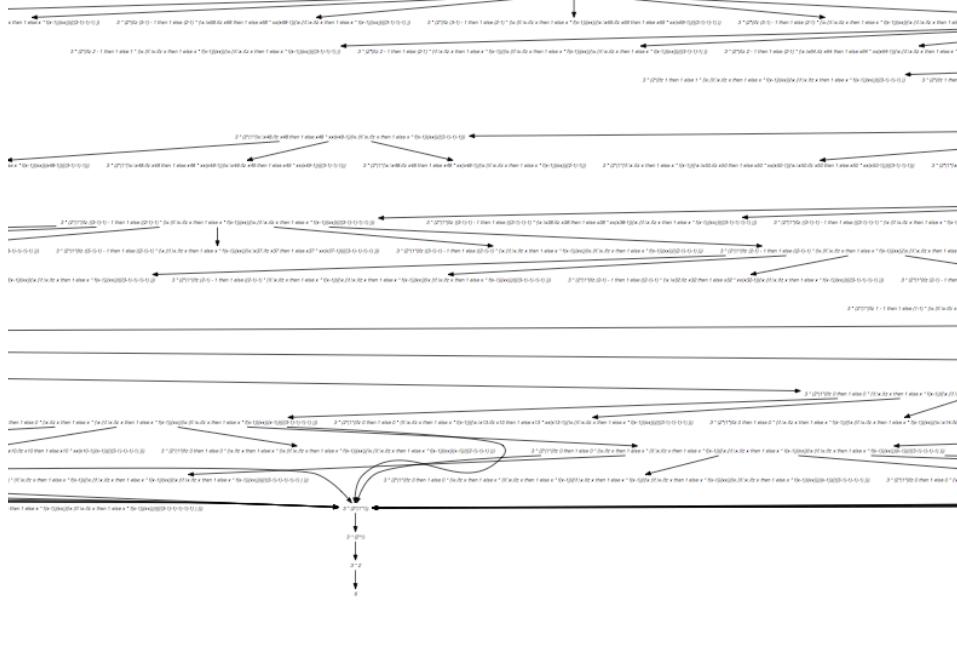
$$(\lambda \text{Fact} . \text{Fact}(3))$$

$$((\lambda Y. Y(\lambda f. \lambda x. \text{if } z \neq x \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } x * f(x - 1))))$$

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









Computing without δ -rules

- Booleans

$$\begin{aligned}\text{True} &= \lambda x. \lambda y. x = K \\ \text{False} &= \lambda x. \lambda y. y\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{True } M N &\xrightarrow{*} M \\ \text{False } M N &\xrightarrow{*} N\end{aligned}$$

- Pairs and Projections

$$\begin{aligned}\langle M, N \rangle &= \lambda x. xMN \\ \pi_1 &= \lambda x. x \text{ True} \\ \pi_2 &= \lambda x. x \text{ False}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_1 \langle M, N \rangle &\xrightarrow{*} M \\ \pi_2 \langle M, N \rangle &\xrightarrow{*} N\end{aligned}$$

- Non-negative integers ...

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= \langle \text{True}, \text{True} \rangle \\ n + 1 &= \langle \text{False}, n \rangle \\ \text{isZero} &= \pi_1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{isZero } 0 &\xrightarrow{*} \text{True} \\ \text{isZero}(n + 1) &\xrightarrow{*} \text{False}\end{aligned}$$

Computing without δ -rules

- Numbers will be in **unary**-code

$$\mathbb{N} = 0 \oplus S(\mathbb{N})$$

with following implementation:

$$0 = \langle \text{True}, ? \rangle$$

$$1 = \langle \text{False}, 0 \rangle = \langle \text{False}, \langle \text{True}, ? \rangle \rangle$$

$$2 = \langle \text{False}, 1 \rangle = \langle \text{False}, \langle \text{False}, \langle \text{True}, ? \rangle \rangle \rangle$$

⋮

$$n = \langle \text{False}, n - 1 \rangle = \langle \text{False}, \langle \text{False}, \dots, \langle \text{True}, ? \rangle \rangle \rangle$$

n

Computing without δ -rules

- ... integers

$$\text{Succ} = \lambda x. \langle \text{False}, x \rangle$$

$$\text{Pred} = \lambda x. \text{isZero} x 0 \pi_2$$

Other numeral system

- also named **Church's numerals**

$$n = \lambda f. \lambda x. f(f(\dots f(x) \dots))$$

n

or

$$n = \lambda f. f \circ f \circ \dots f$$

n



was $n+1$ in Church's original monograph

Other numeral system

- ... successor and predecessor

$$\text{Succ} = \lambda n. \lambda f. \lambda x. n f (f x)$$

$$\text{Pred} = \lambda n. \pi_3^3 (n \phi \langle 1, 1, 1 \rangle)$$

$$\phi = \lambda t. (\lambda x. \lambda y. \lambda z. (\text{Succ } x, x, y))(\pi_1^3 t)(\pi_2^3 t)(\pi_3^3 t)$$

where $\pi_1^3, \pi_2^3, \pi_3^3$ are the 3 projections on triples

4	3	2
3	2	1
2	1	1
1	1	1

ϕ shift register! FIFO

Other numeral system

- Lambda-/I calculus

$$\lambda x. M$$

(M depends upon x)

$$\text{no } K = \lambda x. \lambda y. x$$

- Church numerals

$$n = \lambda f. \lambda x. f^n(x)$$

$$n I \xrightarrow{*} I$$

$$n \geq 1$$

$$I = \lambda x. x$$

- Pairs and projections

$$\langle M, N \rangle = \lambda x. xMN$$

$$\pi_1 \langle m, n \rangle \xrightarrow{*} m$$

$$\pi_1 = \lambda p. p(\lambda x. \lambda y. y I x)$$

$$\pi_2 \langle m, n \rangle \xrightarrow{*} n$$

$$\pi_2 = \lambda p. p(\lambda x. \lambda y. x I y)$$

Church numeral system



Alonzo Church



Stephen Kleene



§9. ORDERED PAIRS AND TRIADS, THE PREDECESSOR FUNCTION 31

If L, M, N are formulas representing positive integers, then $\beta_1[M, N] \text{ conv } M$, $\beta_2[M, N] \text{ conv } N$, $\beta_1[L, M, N] \text{ conv } L$, $\beta_2[L, M, N] \text{ conv } M$, and $\beta_3[L, M, N] \text{ conv } N$.

Verification of this depends on the observation that, if M is a formula representing a positive integer, $MI \text{ conv } I$ (the m th power of the identity is the identity).

By the predecessor function of positive integers we mean the function whose value for the argument 1 is 1 and whose value for any other positive integer argument x is $x-1$. This function is λ -defined by

$$P \rightarrow \lambda a. \beta_3(a(\lambda b[S(\beta_1 b), \beta_1 b, \beta_2 b])[1, 1, 1]).$$

For if K, L, M represent positive integers,

$$(\lambda b[S(\beta_1 b), \beta_1 b, \beta_2 b])[K, L, M] \text{ conv } [SK, K, L],$$



CENTRE DE RECHERCHE
COMMUN
INRIA
MICROSOFT RESEARCH



CENTRE DE RECHERCHE
COMMUN
INRIA
MICROSOFT RESEARCH

Towards programming languages

- Many δ -rules
- Adding types → never following terms :



$3 + \lambda x.x$ $4(5)$ $20(\lambda x.x)$ $\text{ifz } \lambda x.x \text{ then } 1 \text{ else } 3$

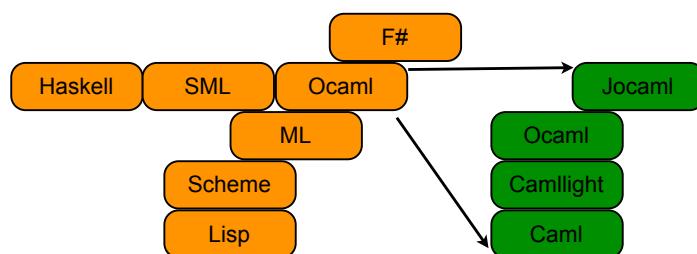
$\lambda f.(\lambda x.f(xx))(\lambda x.f(xx))$ $\lambda x.xx$

- Adding store and mutable values



Functional programming

- Scheme, SML, Ocaml, Haskell are functional programming languages
- they manipulate functions
- and try to reduce the number of memory states



Next class

- confluence
- consistency