

# Lambda Calculus

38

## Alonzo Church

- Computability, Logic
- Lambda Calculus
- Why Lambda?



39

## Only 3 "Interesting Parts" of Any PL

- Variables:
  - $x, y, z$
- Function Definitions:
  - $\lambda x. x+3 \equiv (\text{lambda } (x) (+ x 3))$
- Function Application:
  - $(\lambda x. x+3) 6 \rightarrow 6+3$
  - $(\lambda a. (\lambda b. a*b)) 3 4 \rightarrow (\lambda b. 3*b) 4 \rightarrow 3*4$

40

## Really, That's It?

```
int f(int x) { return x + 10; }
f(5);

let f = λx.x+10 in f(5)

(λf.f(5)) (λx.x+10)
```

41

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

```
(defun twice (f)
  (lambda (x) (f (f x))))
```

**Paren Rules**

- $A B C = (A B) C$
- $\lambda x. xy = \lambda x. (xy)$

```
(λf.λx.f(f x)) (λy.y+1) 2
= ((λf.λx.f(f x)) (λy.y+1)) 2
→ (λx.(λy.y+1)((λy.y+1)x)) 2
→ (λx.(λy.y+1)(x+1)) 2
→ (λx.(x+1)+1) 2
→ (2+1)+1
```

43

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f\ x)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 = \\
& (\lambda f. \lambda a. f(f\ a)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 \rightarrow \text{(rename } x) \\
& ([(\lambda z. x+z) / f] \lambda a. f(f\ a)) 2 = \text{(reduce } f) \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda z. x+z) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 = \text{(substitution)} \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 \rightarrow \text{(rename } z) \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) ([a/z] (x+z))) 2 = \text{(reduce } z) \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) (x+a)) 2 \rightarrow \text{(substitution)} \\
& (\lambda a. [(x+a) / b] (x+b)) 2 = \text{(reduce } b) \\
& (\lambda a. x+(x+a)) 2 \rightarrow \text{(substitution)} \\
& [2/a] (x+(x+a)) = \text{(reduce } a) \\
& x+x+2 \text{(substitution)}
\end{aligned}$$

44

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f\ x)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 = \\
& (\lambda f. \lambda a. f(f\ a)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 \rightarrow \text{(rename } x) \\
& ([(\lambda z. x+z) / f] \lambda a. f(f\ a)) 2 = \text{(reduce } f) \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda z. x+z) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 = \text{(substitution)} \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 \rightarrow \text{(rename } z)
\end{aligned}$$

45

Try a different step.  
What is the final result?

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f\ x)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 = \\
& (\lambda f. \lambda a. f(f\ a)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 \rightarrow \text{(rename } x) \\
& ([(\lambda z. x+z) / f] \lambda a. f(f\ a)) 2 = \text{(reduce } f) \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda z. x+z) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 = \text{(substitution)} \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 \rightarrow \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) (x+a)) 2 \rightarrow \\
& (\lambda a. x+x+a) 2 \rightarrow \\
& x+x+2
\end{aligned}$$

46

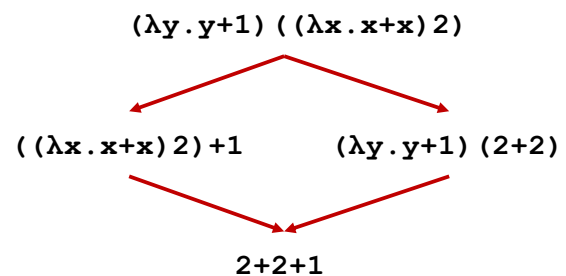
$$\begin{aligned}
& (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f\ x)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 = \\
& (\lambda f. \lambda a. f(f\ a)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 \rightarrow \text{(rename } x) \\
& ([(\lambda z. x+z) / f] \lambda a. f(f\ a)) 2 = \text{(reduce } f) \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda z. x+z) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 = \text{(substitution)} \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 \rightarrow \\
& (\lambda a. x+((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 \rightarrow \\
& (\lambda a. x+(x+a)) 2 \rightarrow \\
& x+x+2
\end{aligned}$$

47

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\lambda f. \lambda x. f(f\ x)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 = \\
& (\lambda f. \lambda a. f(f\ a)) (\lambda z. x+z) 2 \rightarrow \text{(rename } x) \\
& ([(\lambda z. x+z) / f] \lambda a. f(f\ a)) 2 = \text{(reduce } f) \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda z. x+z) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 = \text{(substitution)} \\
& (\lambda a. (\lambda b. x+b) ((\lambda z. x+z) a)) 2 \rightarrow \\
& (\lambda b. x+b) ((\lambda z. x+z) 2) \rightarrow \\
& (\lambda b. x+b) (\lambda z. x+2) \rightarrow \\
& x+x+2
\end{aligned}$$

48

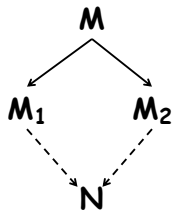
### Confluence



49

### Confluence

If  $M \rightarrow M_1$  and  $M \rightarrow M_2$   
then  $M_1 \rightarrow^* N$  and  $M_2 \rightarrow^* N$   
for some  $N$



50

### Is Functional Programming Better?

Pros?  
Cons?

51