

Strong Call-by-Value and Multi Types

Published at ICTAC 2023

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Intersection Types and Related Systems (ITRS 2024)
Tallinn, Estonia, 9 July 2024

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- 1 Introduction: Call-by-Value λ -Calculi
- 2 Our Contributions (for Strong CbV)

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1 Introduction: Call-by-Value λ -Calculi

2 Our Contributions (for Strong CbV)

A specific λ -calculus among a plethora of λ -calculi

The λ -calculus is the model of computation underlying

- functional programming languages (Haskell, OCaml, LISP, ...)
- proof assistants (Coq, Isabelle/Hol, Lean, Agda, ...).

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Actually, there are **many** λ -calculi, depending on

- the evaluation mechanism (e.g., call-by-name, call-by-value, call-by-need);
- computational feature the calculus aims to model (e.g., pure, non-determinism);
- the type system (e.g. untyped, simply typed, second order).

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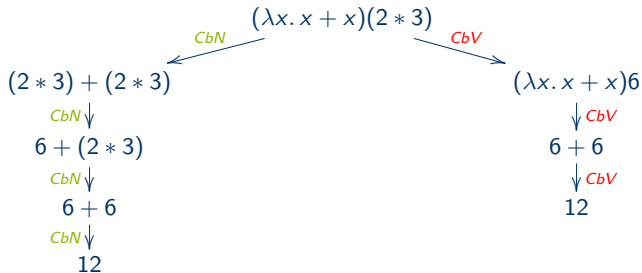
In this talk: pure untyped **call-by-value** λ -calculus (mainly).

Call-by-Name vs. Call-by-Value (for dummies)

- Call-by-Name (CbN): pass the argument to the calling function **before** evaluating it.
- Call-by-Value (CbV): pass the argument to the calling function **after** evaluating it.

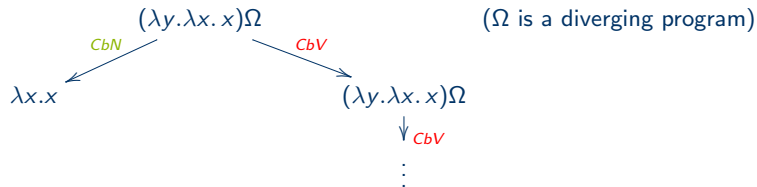
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- Call-by-Value (**CbV**): pass the argument to the calling function **after** evaluating it.



Summing up, **CbV** is **eager**, that is,

- 1 **CbV** is **smarter** than **CbN** when the argument must be duplicated;
- 2 **CbV** is **sillier** than **CbN** when the argument must be discarded.

Plotkin's Call-by-Value λ -calculus [Pl075]

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Terms } s, t, u ::= v \mid tu & \text{Values } v ::= x \mid \lambda x.t \\ \text{CbV reduction } (\lambda x.t)v \rightarrow_{\beta_v} t\{v/x\} & \text{(restriction to } \beta\text{-rule)} \end{array}$$

It is closer to real implementation of most programming languages.
 The semantics is completely different from standard (CbN) λ -calculus.

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Examples (with duplicator $\delta = \lambda z.zz$ and identity $I = \lambda z.z$):

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \Omega = \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \dots$$

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Examples (with duplicator $\delta = \lambda z.zz$ and identity $I = \lambda z.z$):

- 1 $\Omega = \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \dots$
- 2 $\delta(\delta I) \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \delta(II) \rightarrow_{\beta_v} \delta I \rightarrow_{\beta_v} II \rightarrow_{\beta_v} I$ but $\delta(\delta I) \not\rightarrow_{\beta_v} (\delta I)(\delta I)$.
- 3 $(\lambda x.\delta)(xx)\delta$ is β_v -normal but β -divergent!
- 4 $(\lambda x.I)\Omega$ is β_v -divergent but β -normalizing!

A symptom that Plotkin's CbV is sick: Contextual equivalence

Def. Terms t, t' are **contextually equivalent** if they are observably indistinguishable, i.e., for every context C , $C\langle t \rangle \rightarrow_{\beta_v}^* v$ (for some value v) iff $C\langle t' \rangle \rightarrow_{\beta_v}^* v'$ (for some value v')

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Consider the terms (with $\delta := \lambda z.zz$ as usual)

$$\omega_1 := (\lambda x.\delta)(xx)\delta \quad \omega_3 := \delta((\lambda x.\delta)(xx))$$

ω_1 and ω_3 are β_v -normal but contextually equivalent to $\delta\delta$ (which is β_v -divergent)!

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ω_1 and ω_3 are β_v -normal but contextually equivalent to $\delta\delta$ (which is β_v -divergent)!

The “energy” (i.e. divergence) in ω_1 and ω_3 is only **potential**, in $\delta\delta$ is **kinetic**!



Why are ω_1 and ω_3 stuck? Why cannot we transform their potential energy in kinetic? It seems that in Plotkin's **CbV** λ -calculus something is missing...

A second symptom that Plotkin's CbV is sick: denotational semantics (1 of 2)

[Ehr12] defined a **non-idempotent** intersection type system for Plotkin's **CbV** λ -calculus.

Linear types $L ::= * \mid M \multimap N$ Multi types $M, N ::= [L_1, \dots, L_n] \quad n \geq 0$

Idea: $[L, L', L'] \approx L \wedge L' \wedge L' \neq L \wedge L'$ (commutative, associative, non-idempotent \wedge).

\rightsquigarrow A term $t : [L, L', L']$ can be used **once** as a data of type L , **twice** as a data of type L' .

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Def: Environment $\Gamma =$ function from variables to multi types s.t. $\{x \mid \Gamma(x) \neq []\}$ is finite.

$$\frac{}{x : [L] \vdash x : L} \text{ax} \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : M \vdash t : N}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.t : M \multimap N} \lambda \quad \frac{\Gamma_1 \vdash v : L_1 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma_n \vdash v : L_n}{\Gamma_1 + \dots + \Gamma_n \vdash v : [L_1, \dots, L_n]} ! \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : [M \multimap N] \quad \Delta \vdash s : M}{\Gamma + \Delta \vdash ts : N} \textcircled{c}$$

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Rmk: The constructor for multi types (rule !) can be used only by values!

\rightsquigarrow In **CbV**, only values can be duplicated or erased.

A second symptom that Plotkin's CbV is sick: denotational semantics (2 of 2)

Non-idempotent intersection types define a **denotational** model: relational semantics

$$\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\vec{x}} = \{(\Gamma, M) \mid \Gamma \vdash t : M \text{ is derivable}\} \quad \text{where } \vec{x} \subseteq \text{fv}(t)$$

Theorem (Subject reduction and expansion, [Ehr12]): If $t \rightarrow_{\beta_v} u$ then $\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\vec{x}} = \llbracket u \rrbracket_{\vec{x}}$.

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The converse (completeness) fail!

$$\llbracket \omega_1 \rrbracket = \emptyset = \llbracket \omega_3 \rrbracket \quad (\text{and } \llbracket \delta\delta \rrbracket = \emptyset \text{ too!})$$

but ω_1 and ω_3 are β_v -normal, while $\delta\delta$ is β_v -divergent!

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Rmk: Not only in relational semantics but also in other denotational models of CbV!

Summing up: a mismatch between syntax and semantics

In Plotkin's **CbV** λ -calculus there is a **mismatch** between syntax and semantics.

There are terms, such as

$$\omega_1 := (\lambda x. \delta)(xx)\delta \quad \omega_3 := \delta((\lambda x. \delta)(xx))$$

that are **β_v -normal** but their semantics is the same as $\delta\delta$, which is **β_v -divergent!**

- semantics: context equivalence, solvability, denotational models, ...

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- semantics: context equivalence, solvability, denotational models, ...

Somehow, in Plotkin's **CbV** λ -calculus, **β_v -reduction** is “not enough”.

- Can we extend **β_v** so that ω_1 and ω_3 are divergent?
- But we want to keep a **CbV** discipline:

$$(\lambda x. I)(\delta\delta) \text{ is } \beta_v\text{-divergent (but } \beta\text{-normalizing)}$$

First alternative CbV λ -calculus: Fireball calculus [PaoRon99, GreLer02]

Terms $s, t ::= v \mid st$

Inert terms $i ::= x \mid if$

Reduction $(\lambda x.t)f \rightarrow_{\beta_f} t\{f/x\}$

Values $v ::= x \mid \lambda x.t$

Fireballs $f ::= i \mid v$

(call-by-extended-value)

First alternative CbV λ -calculus: Fireball calculus [PaoRon99, GreLer02]Terms $s, t ::= v \mid s t$ Inert terms $i ::= x \mid i f$ Values $v ::= x \mid \lambda x. t$ Fireballs $f ::= i \mid v$ Reduction $(\lambda x. t) f \rightarrow_{\beta_f} t\{f/x\}$ (call-by-extended-value)The fireball calculus (FC) **extends** β_v -reduction: ω_1 and ω_3 are β_v -normal but

$$\omega_1 = (\lambda x. \delta)(xx)\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_f} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_f} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_f} \dots \quad \omega_3 = \delta((\lambda x. \delta)(xx)) \rightarrow_{\beta_f} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_f} \delta\delta \rightarrow_{\beta_f} \dots$$

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Problem 1: No confluence: $(\lambda x.(\lambda z.z)(xx))\delta$

Problem 2: No subject reduction with multi types [Ehr12]: $(\lambda y.yy)(xx) \rightarrow_{\beta_f} (xx)(xx)$.
 No subject expansion with multi types [Ehr12]: $(\lambda y.z)(xx) \rightarrow_{\beta_f} z$.

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Problem 1: No confluence: $(\lambda x.(\lambda z.z)(xx))\delta$ **Problem 2:** No subject reduction with multi types [Ehr12]: $(\lambda y.yy)(xx) \rightarrow_{\beta_f} (xx)(xx)$.
No subject expansion with multi types [Ehr12]: $(\lambda y.z)(xx) \rightarrow_{\beta_f} z$.**Solution** to Problems 1–2: Just modify the syntax of the FC (a bit tricky, omitted).

Second alternative CbV λ -calculus: Value Substitution Calculus [AccPao12]

Terms: $s, t ::= v \mid ts \mid t[s/x]$

Values: $v ::= x \mid \lambda x.t$

Substitution contexts: $L ::= [t_1/x_1] \dots [t_n/x_n]$

Reductions: $(\lambda x.t)Ls \rightarrow_m t[s/x]L$

$t[vL/x] \rightarrow_e t\{v/x\}L$

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- ① β_v -reduction can be **simulated** in the Value Substitution Calculus (VSC).

$$(\lambda x.t)v \rightarrow_m t[v/x] \rightarrow_e t\{v/x\}$$

- ② VSC **extends** β_v -reduction: ω_1 and ω_3 are β_v -normal but

$$\omega_1 = (\lambda x.\delta)(xx)\delta \rightarrow_m \delta[xx/x]\delta \rightarrow_m (zz)[\delta/z][xx/x] \rightarrow_e \delta\delta[xx/x] \rightarrow \dots$$

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Theorem (Subject reduction and expansion, [AccGue18]): If $t \rightarrow_{VSC} u$ then $\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\vec{x}} = \llbracket u \rrbracket_{\vec{x}}$.

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : M \vdash t : N \quad \Delta \vdash s : M}{\Gamma + \Delta \vdash t[s/x] : N} ES$$

Termination equivalence: weak but not strong

Consider **weak** reduction (i.e. not firing redexes under λ 's): perfect match!

Prop (Diamond) Both VSC-reduction and β_f -reduction are diamond.

Thm (Termination equivalence [AccGue16]): t is VSC-normalizing iff t is β_f -normalizing.

Thm (Correctness & completeness [AccGue18]): t is VSC-normalizing iff $\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\bar{x}} \neq \emptyset$.

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With **strong** reduction (i.e. firing redexes everywhere): A mess! (and the diamond fails)

Problem 1: VSC -reduction and β_f -reduction have different notions of termination.

Problem 2: Characterization of VSC -normalization or β_f -normalization with multi types?

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What is the analog for **Strong CbV**? Things are a bit trickier!

Def: The **external strategy** (roughly) fires a redex everywhere, **except** under λ 's in a *irrelevant* position for normalization (e.g. an applied λ or a λ on the right of another λ).

Rmk: The external strategy \rightarrow_x is not deterministic but diamond.

Ex: If $I = \lambda z.z$, \rightarrow_x cannot fire the redex II in $(\lambda x.(II))v$. But $\lambda x.\delta\delta \rightarrow_x \lambda x.\delta\delta \rightarrow_x \dots$

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Rmk: The external strategy behaves **differently** in VSC and FC.

External in FC: $t = (\lambda x.I)(y(\lambda z.\delta\delta)) \rightarrow_{x\beta_f} I$ (which is normal)

External in VSC: $t \rightarrow_{xVSC} I[y(\lambda z.\delta\delta)/x] \rightarrow_{xVSC}^* I[y(\lambda z.\delta\delta)/x] \rightarrow_{xVSC} \dots$

More about the external strategy

Question: Why is the external strategy important?

[AccConSac21,BieChaDra20] proved that it is a reasonable cost model for Strong CbV.

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Def: In VSC, the **external reduction** \rightarrow_{xVSC} is formally defined as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{Rigid terms:} & r ::= x \mid r t \mid r[t/x] \\
 \text{Rigid contexts:} & R ::= rX \mid Rt \mid R[r/x] \mid r[R/x] \\
 \text{External contexts:} & X ::= \langle \cdot \rangle \mid \lambda x.X \mid t[R/x] \mid X[r/x] \mid R
 \end{array}$$

\rightarrow_{xVSC} is the closure under external contexts of weak reduction in VSC.

Rmk: in VSC, t is normal for \rightarrow_{xVSC} iff t is normal for \rightarrow_{VSC} .

Multi types for Strong CbV

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Idea: Let's use multi types [Ehr12]! But it's trickier!

Ex: $\lambda x. \delta \delta$ is external divergent but typable with $[]$ (use the rule ! with no premises).

Ex: $x \lambda x. \delta \delta$ is external divergent but typable with $x : [[] \multimap M] \vdash x \lambda x. \delta \delta : M$, for all M .

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Questions: For which Strong CbV? And how to prove it?

Idea: Let's use multi types [Ehr12]! But it's trickier!

Ex: $\lambda x.\delta\delta$ is external divergent but typable with $[]$ (use the rule ! with no premises).

Ex: $x \lambda x.\delta\delta$ is external divergent but typable with $x : [[] \multimap M] \vdash x \lambda x.\delta\delta : M$, for all M .

Idea: Let's forbid $[]$ on the right of \vdash and on the left of arrow types in the environment

\rightsquigarrow no $[]$ in the **positive** positions (**right shrinking types**);

\rightsquigarrow dually, no $[]$ in the **negative** positions (**left shrinking types**).

Shrinking types, formally

We take the same type system as [Ehr12], we just restrict the types.

Right multi shrink. $M^r ::= [A_1^r, \dots, A_n^r] \ (n \geq 1)$ **Right linear shrink.** $L^r ::= * \mid M^\ell \multimap M^r$
Left multi shrink. $M^\ell ::= [A_1^\ell, \dots, A_n^\ell] \ (n \geq 0)$ **Left linear shrink.** $L^\ell ::= * \mid M^r \multimap M^\ell$

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Def: An environment $x_1 : M_1, \dots, x_n : M_n$ is **left shrinking** if all M_i 's are left shrinking.
 A typing $(\Gamma; M)$ is **shrinking** if Γ is left shrinking and M is right shrinking.

The key results 1: Shrinking typability \Rightarrow external normalization

Thm (Quantitative subject reduction) Let $\Pi \triangleright \Gamma \vdash t : M$ a derivation where (Γ, M) is shrinking. If $t \rightarrow_{xVSC} t'$ then there is a derivation $\Pi' \triangleright \Gamma \vdash t' : M$ with $|\Pi| > |\Pi'|$.

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Rmk: Dropping shrinkingness, the quantitative aspect is false! $\lambda x. \delta \delta \rightarrow_{xVSC} \lambda x. (zz)[\delta/z]$ but both terms are only typable with $[]$ using the $!$ rule with no premises $\rightsquigarrow |\Pi| = |\Pi'|$.

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Rmk: Replacing \rightarrow_{xVSC} with \rightarrow_{VSC} , quantitativity fails! $I(\lambda x. II) \not\rightarrow_{VSC} I(\lambda x. z[I/z])$ and

$$\Pi = \frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{\vdash y : []}^!}{\vdash \lambda y. y : [] \multimap []}^\lambda}{\vdash \lambda y. y : [[] \multimap []]}^!}{\vdash I(\lambda x. II) : []}^\circ \quad \frac{}{\vdash \lambda x. II : []}^! \quad \text{but any } \Pi' \triangleright \vdash I(\lambda x. z[I/z]) : [] \text{ is s.t. } |\Pi'| \geq |\Pi|.$$

Thm (Shrinking correctness) Let $\Pi \triangleright \Gamma \vdash t : M$ a derivation where (Γ, M) is shrinking. Then $t \rightarrow_{xVSC}^* u$ where u is VSC-normal.

The key results 2: External normalization \Rightarrow shrinking typability

Lemma: Every VSC-normal form is typable with a shrinking typing.

Thm (Shrinking completeness) Let $t \rightarrow_{xVSC}^* u$ where u is VSC-normal. Then $\Pi \triangleright \Gamma \vdash t : M$ a derivation where Γ and M are shrinking.

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Cor: If t is VSC-normalizing then t is VSC-normalizing with the external strategy.

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Shrinking types define a **denotational** model: shrinking relational semantics:

$$\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\vec{x}}^{\text{shr}} = \{(\Gamma, M) \text{ shrinking} \mid \Gamma \vdash t : M \text{ is derivable}\} \quad \text{where } \vec{x} \subseteq \text{fv}(t)$$

which is **adequate**: $\llbracket t \rrbracket_{\vec{x}}^{\text{shr}} \neq \emptyset$ iff t is VSC-normalizing.

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Rmk: Shrinking completeness fails in FC, see counterexample on p. 15: $(\lambda x. I)(y(\lambda z. \delta\delta))$.
 \rightsquigarrow The shrinking relational semantics suggests that VSC is the “right” Strong CbV.

Thank you!

Questions?

