Parameter Passing

T. METIN SEZGIN

Learning outcomes of this lecture

- A student attending this lecture should be able to:
 - 1. Understand that there are variations to parameter passing
 - 2. Understand CBV/CBR and how they work
 - 3. Understand the uses of CBR
 - 4. Trace and CBV/CBR evaluation using the env & store
 - 5. Implement CBR/CBR

Nugget

There are flavors to parameter passing.

What is the value of the following expression?

• What happens during evaluation?

```
let p = proc (x) set x = 4
in let a = 3
  in begin (p a); a end
```

Parameter Passing Variations

- Natural (PROC)
- Call-by-value
- Call-by-reference
- Call-by-name (lazy evaluation)
- Call-by-need (lazy evaluation)

PROC

Evaluates to 3

Call-by-value (IREF)

```
let p = proc (x) set x = 4
in let a = 3
  in begin (p a); a end
```

Evaluates to 3

IREF -- Call-by-reference

```
let p = proc (x) set x = 4
in let a = 3
  in begin (p a); a end
```

Evaluates to 4

Nugget

In Call by Value, a copy of the argument is passed

Another example

```
let f = proc (x) set x = 44
in let g = proc (y) (f y)
  in let z = 55
  in begin (g z); z end
```

$$CBV \rightarrow 55$$

$$CBR \rightarrow 44$$

end

Evaluation trace

```
> (run "
let f = proc(x) set x = 44
in let q = proc(y) (f y)
in let z = 55
in begin
    (q z);
 end")
newref: allocating location 0
newref: allocating location 1
newref: allocating location 2
entering let f
newref: allocating location 3
entering body of let f with env =
((f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))
store =
((0 #(struct:num-val 1))
 (1 #(struct:num-val 5))
 (2 #(struct:num-val 10))
 (3 (procedure x ... ((i 0) (v 1) (x 2)))))
```

```
entering let q
newref: allocating location 4
entering body of let g with env =
((g 4) (f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))
store =
((0 #(struct:num-val 1))
(1 #(struct:num-val 5))
 (2 #(struct:num-val 10))
 (3 (procedure x ... ((i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (4 (procedure y ... ((f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2)))))
entering let z
newref: allocating location 5
entering body of let z with env =
((z 5) (g 4) (f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))
store =
((0 #(struct:num-val 1))
 (1 #(struct:num-val 5))
 (2 #(struct:num-val 10))
 (3 (procedure x ... ((i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (4 (procedure y ... ((f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (5 #(struct:num-val 55)))
```

end

Evaluation trace

```
entering let g
newref: allocating location 4
entering body of let g with env =
((q 4) (f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))
store =
((0 #(struct:num-val 1))
 (1 #(struct:num-val 5))
 (2 #(struct:num-val 10))
 (3 (procedure x ... ((i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (4 (procedure y ... ((f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2)))))
entering let z
newref: allocating location 5
entering body of let z with env =
((z 5) (g 4) (f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))
store =
((0 #(struct:num-val 1))
 (1 #(struct:num-val 5))
 (2 #(struct:num-val 10))
 (3 (procedure x ... ((i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (4 (procedure y ... ((f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (5 #(struct:num-val 55)))
```

```
entering body of proc y with env =
((y 5) (f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))
store =
((0 #(struct:num-val 1))
 (1 #(struct:num-val 5))
 (2 #(struct:num-val 10))
 (3 (procedure x ... ((i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (4 (procedure y ... ((f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (5 #(struct:num-val 55)))
entering body of proc x with env =
((x 5) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))
store =
((0 #(struct:num-val 1))
 (1 #(struct:num-val 5))
 (2 #(struct:num-val 10))
 (3 (procedure x ... ((i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (4 (procedure y ... ((f 3) (i 0) (v 1) (x 2))))
 (5 #(struct:num-val 55)))
#(struct:num-val 44)
```

Uses of call-by-reference

Multiple return values

Learning outcomes of this lecture

- A student attending this lecture should be able to:
 - 1. Understand that there are variations to parameter passing
 - 2. Understand CBV/CBR and how they work
 - 3. Understand the uses of CBR
 - 4. Trace and CBV/CBR evaluation using the env & store
 - 5. Implement CBR

Parameter Passing Variations

- Natural (PROC)
- Call-by-value
- Call-by-reference
- Call-by-name (lazy evaluation)
- Call-by-need (lazy evaluation)

Lazy evaluation

- Call-by-name
- Call-by-need

```
letrec infinite-loop (x) = infinite-loop(-(x,-1))
in let f = proc (z) 11
  in (f (infinite-loop 0))
```

Thunks

Save any future work for the future

```
(define-datatype thunk thunk?
  (a-thunk
     (exp1 expression?)
     (env environment?)))
```

Implementation (call-by-name)

```
DenVal = Ref(ExpVal + Thunk)

ExpVal = Int + Bool + Proc
```

```
(var-exp (var)
  (let ((ref1 (apply-env env var)))
     (let ((w (deref ref1)))
        (if (expval? w)
          w
          (value-of-thunk w)))))
```

Memoization (call-by-need)