

# Functional modularity in the lambda calculus

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**FROM UNDERSTANDING COMPUTATION TO  
UNDERSTANDING NEURAL CIRCUITRY**

by

**D. Marr and T. Poggio\***

*Abstract:* The CNS needs to be understood at four nearly independent levels of description: (1) that at which the nature of a computation is expressed; (2) that at which the algorithms that implement a computation are characterized; (3) that at which an algorithm is committed to particular mechanisms; and (4) that at which the mechanisms are realized in hardware. In general, the nature of a computation is determined by the problem to be solved, the mechanisms that are used depend upon the available hardware, and the particular algorithms chosen depend on the problem and on the available mechanisms. Examples are given of theories at each level.

# On the Design and Development of Program Families

DAVID L. PARNAS

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BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13902

One may consider a program development to be good, if the early decisions exclude only uninteresting, undesired, or unnecessary programs. The decisions which remove desired programs would be either postponed until a later stage or confined to a well delimited subset of the code. Objective criticism of a program's structure would be based upon the fact that a decision or assumption which was likely to change has influenced too much of the code either because it was made too early in the development or because it was not confined to an information hiding module.

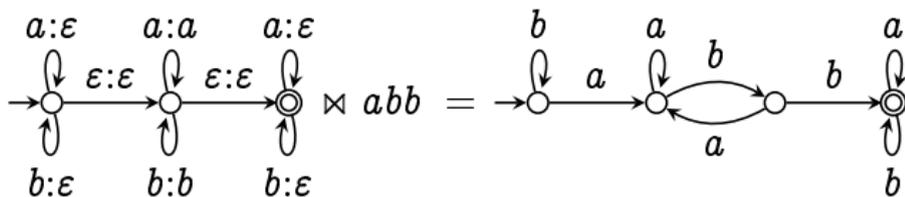
Clearly this is not the only criterion which one may use in evaluating program structures. Clarity (e.g., ease of understanding, ease of verification) is another quite relevant consideration. Although there is some reason to suspect that the two measures are not completely unrelated, there are no rea-

# Functional modularity

## A module is a part of a **description** of a system

- ▶ Modularity should be invariant under physically entangled emulation with dye pack
- ▶ Modularity makes a theory more concise, comprehensible
- ▶ 'Functional structure' (Gallistel)/  
'Wirkungsgefüge' (behavioral physiology)/source code

general description  $\xrightarrow{\text{specialize}}$  specific machinery



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'Wirkungsgefüge' (behavioral physiology)/source code

## Good decomposition helps **reuse** when environment changes

- ▶ Utterances need not re-conventionalize
- ▶ Organisms need not re-learn
- ▶ Species need not re-evolve
- ▶ Researchers need not re-discover

# Lambda the ultimate

The essence of reuse:  
a module is a sub-expression.  
Binding. Higher-order abstractions.

Types classify terms. Polymorphism  
circumscribes information flow.

1. Expressions and interpretations  
in Abstract Categorical Grammar
2. Layers of monads for  
quantification and state



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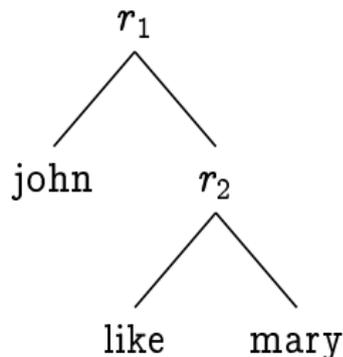
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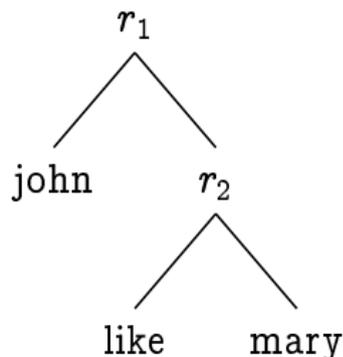
# Abstract Categorical Grammar

$e = \lambda\langle \text{john}, \text{mary}, \text{like}, r_1, r_2 \rangle.$   
 $r_1 \text{ john } (r_2 \text{ like mary})$



# Abstract Categorical Grammar

$$e = \lambda \langle \text{john}, \text{mary}, \text{like}, r_1, r_2 \rangle.$$
$$r_1 \text{ john } (r_2 \text{ like mary})$$



$$\text{EN} = \langle \text{'John'},$$
$$\text{'Mary'},$$
$$\text{'likes'},$$
$$\lambda s. \lambda v. s \hat{\wedge} \text{' } \hat{\wedge} v,$$
$$\lambda v. \lambda o. v \hat{\wedge} \text{' } \hat{\wedge} o \rangle$$

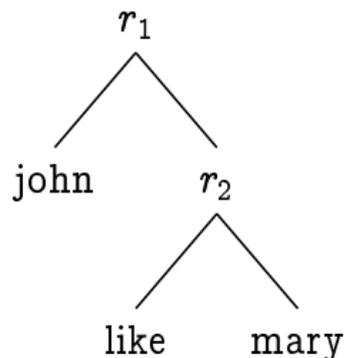
$$\text{Sem} = \langle j',$$
$$m',$$
$$l',$$
$$\lambda s. \lambda v. vs,$$
$$\lambda v. \lambda o. vo \rangle$$

$$e(\text{EN}) = \text{'John likes Mary'}$$

$$e(\text{Sem}) = l m j$$

# Abstract Categorical Grammar

$$e = \lambda \langle \text{john}, \text{mary}, \text{like}, r_1, r_2 \rangle. \\ r_1 \text{ john } (r_2 \text{ like mary})$$



$$\text{JA} = \langle \dots \rangle$$

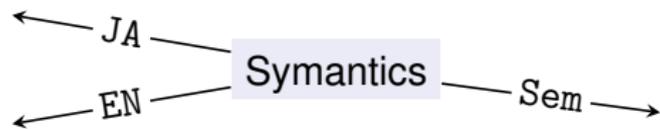
$$\text{EN} = \langle \text{'John'}, \\ \text{'Mary'}, \\ \text{'likes'}, \\ \lambda s. \lambda v. s \hat{\wedge} \text{' } \hat{\wedge} v, \\ \lambda v. \lambda o. v \hat{\wedge} \text{' } \hat{\wedge} o \rangle$$

$$\text{Sem} = \langle j', \\ m', \\ l', \\ \lambda s. \lambda v. vs, \\ \lambda v. \lambda o. vo \rangle$$

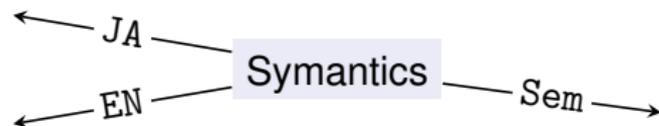
$$e(\text{JA}) = \text{'ジョンさんはメリさんのことが好きだ'}$$

$$e(\text{EN}) = \text{'John likes Mary'} \quad e(\text{Sem}) = l m j$$

# Interpretations

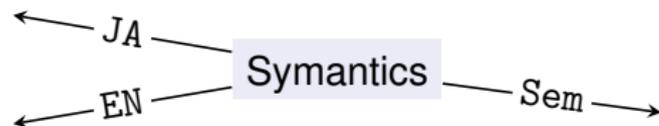


# Interpretation transformers

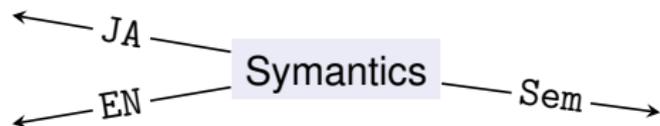


$$\text{Sem} = \langle j', \\ m', \\ l', \\ \lambda s. \lambda v. vs, \\ \lambda v. \lambda o. vo \rangle$$

# Interpretation transformers


$$\text{Sem} = \lambda \langle j, m, l, @, \neg, \wedge, \dots \rangle.$$
$$\langle j,$$
$$m,$$
$$l,$$
$$\lambda s. \lambda v. @vs,$$
$$\lambda v. \lambda o. @vo \rangle$$

# Interpretation transformers



Sem =  $\lambda\langle j, m, l, @, \neg, \wedge, \dots \rangle.$

$\langle j,$

$m,$

$l,$

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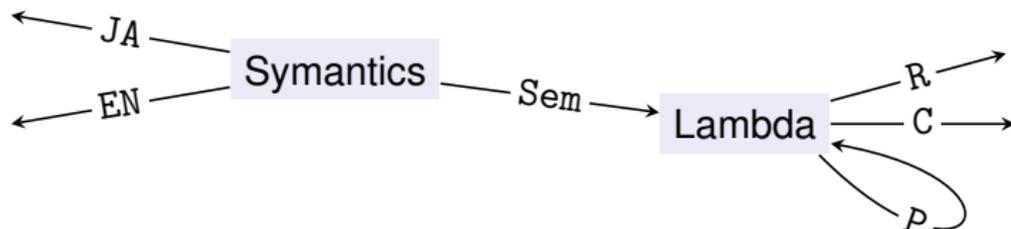
$\lambda v. \lambda o. @vo \rangle$

R =  $\langle j', m', l', \lambda f. \lambda x. fx, \dots \rangle$

C =  $\langle 'j', 'm', 'l', \lambda f. \lambda x. f^{\wedge}('x^{\wedge}'), \dots \rangle$

P =  $\lambda\langle j, m, l, @, \neg, \wedge, \dots \rangle. \langle \dots \rangle$

# Interpretation transformers



Sem =  $\lambda\langle j, m, l, @, \neg, \wedge, \dots \rangle.$

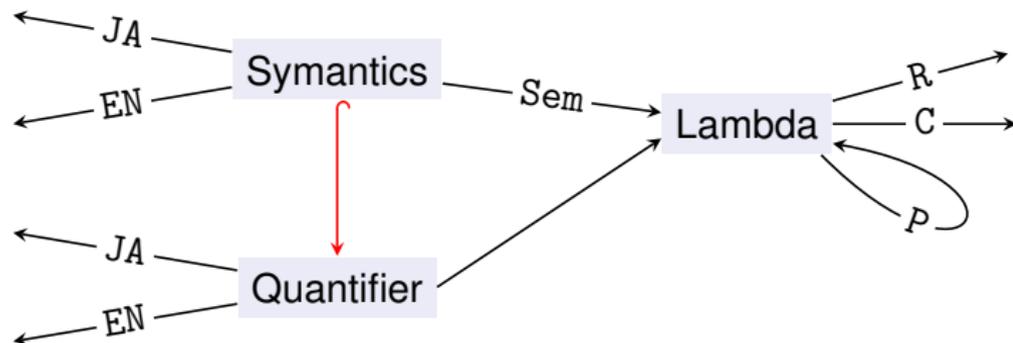
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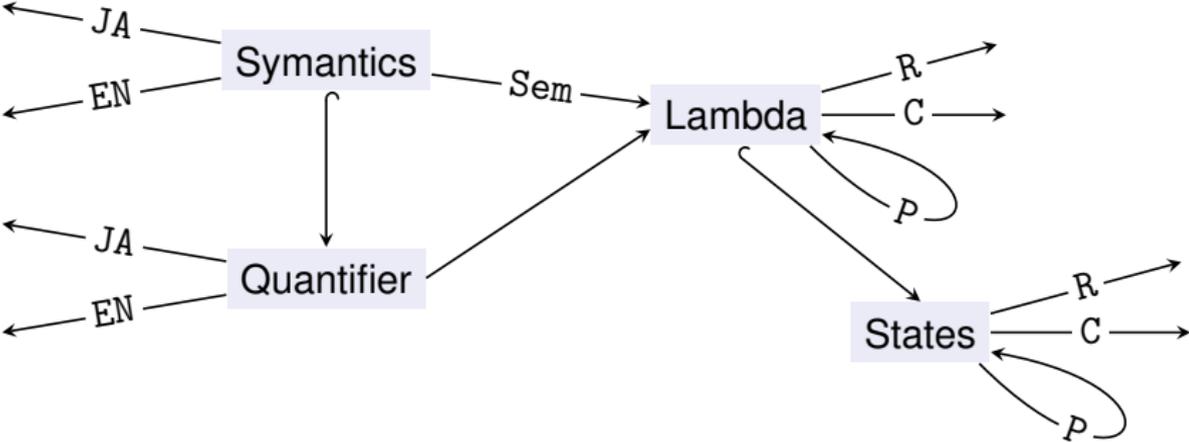
P =  $\lambda\langle j, m, l, @, \neg, \wedge, \dots \rangle. \langle \dots \rangle$

# Interpretation transformers

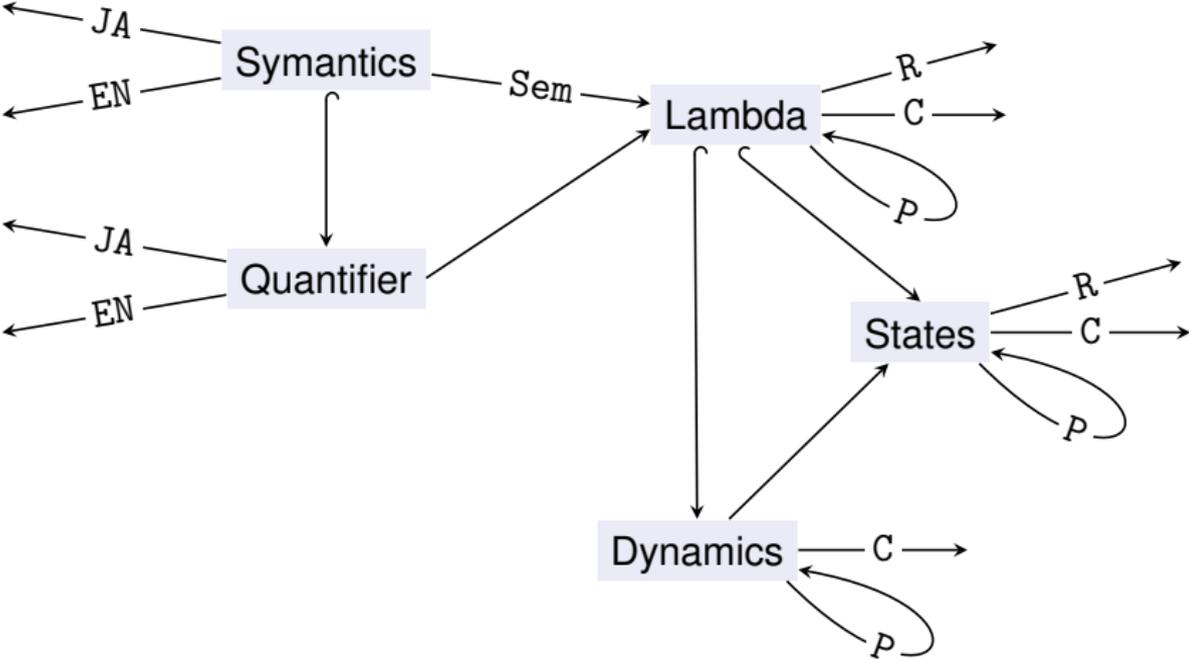


$\lambda\langle\text{john, mary, like, } r_1, r_2, \text{ every, some, } r_4, r_5\rangle.$   
 $\langle\text{john, mary, like, } r_1, r_2\rangle$

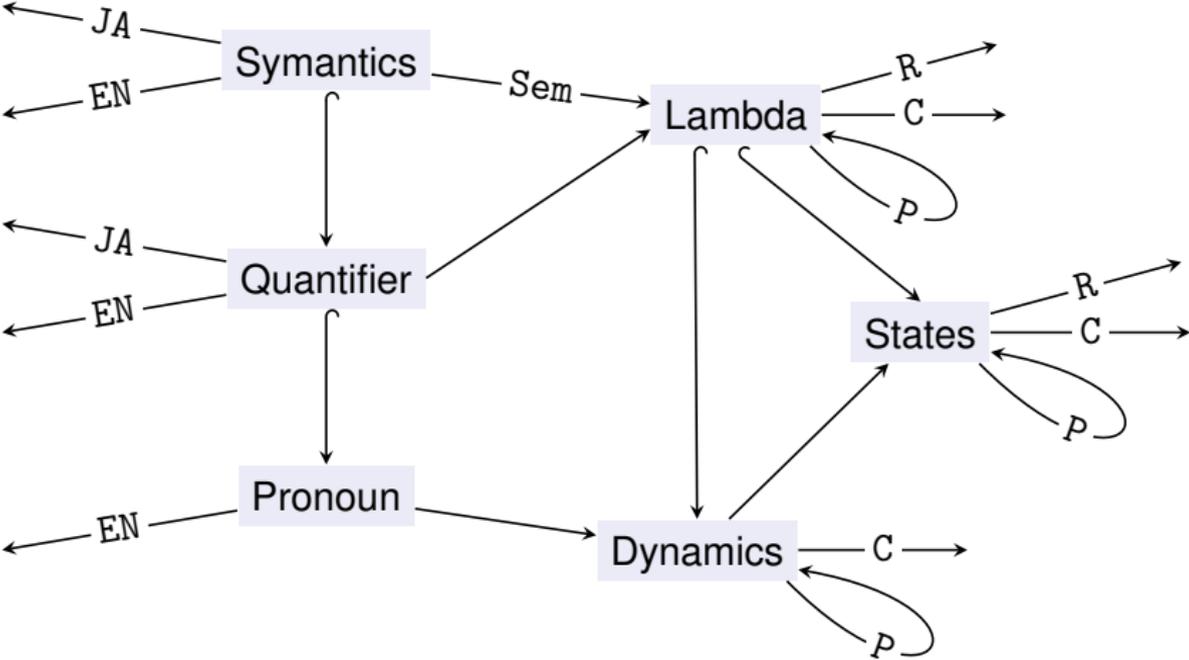
# Dynamic logic



# Dynamic logic



# Dynamic logic



# Expression transformers

Macros are maps from expressions to expressions.

$$\vee = \lambda\langle j, m, l, @, \neg, \wedge, \dots \rangle. \\ \lambda e_1. \lambda e_2. \neg(\wedge(\neg e_1)(\neg e_2))$$

Also for analyzing unquotation.

*Ralph warned that he has  
'long suspected that [Ortcutt] is a spy'.*

*Ralph warned that he has  
'long suspected that [Ortcutt's beach alias] is a spy'.*

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# Generalization to the worst case

## extensional

john =  $j$

mary =  $m$

$r_1 = \lambda s. \lambda v. vs$

$r_2 = \lambda v. \lambda o. vo$

## possible worlds

john =  $\lambda w. j$

mary =  $\lambda w. m$

$r_1 = \lambda s. \lambda v. \lambda w. vw(sw)$

$r_2 = \lambda v. \lambda o. \lambda w. vw(ow)$

## alternative sets

john =  $\{j\}$

mary =  $\{m\}$

$r_1 = \lambda s. \lambda v. \{fx \mid x \in s, f \in v\}$

$r_2 = \lambda v. \lambda o. \{fx \mid f \in v, x \in o\}$

# Generalization to the worst case

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## state

john =  $\lambda i. \langle i, j \rangle$

mary =  $\lambda i. \langle i, m \rangle$

$r_1 = \lambda s. \lambda v. \lambda i. \langle i'', fx \rangle$  where  $\langle i', x \rangle = si$   $\langle i'', f \rangle = vi'$

$r_2 = \lambda v. \lambda o. \lambda i. \langle i'', fx \rangle$  where  $\langle i', f \rangle = vi$   $\langle i'', x \rangle = oi'$

## continuations

john =  $\lambda c. cj$

mary =  $\lambda c. cm$

$r_1 = \lambda s. \lambda v. \lambda c. s\lambda x. v\lambda f. c(fx)$

$r_2 = \lambda v. \lambda o. \lambda c. v\lambda f. o\lambda x. c(fx)$

# Generalization of the worst case

Three components of a monad:

$$\mathbb{M}, \quad \eta : \alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{M}\alpha, \quad \star : \mathbb{M}\alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{M}\beta) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}\beta$$

extensional

$$\mathbb{M}\alpha = \alpha$$

$$\eta(a) = a$$

$$m \star q = qm$$

$$\text{john} = \eta(j)$$

$$\text{mary} = \eta(m)$$

$$r_1 = \lambda s. \lambda v. s \star \lambda x. v \star \lambda f. \eta(fx)$$

$$r_2 = \lambda v. \lambda o. v \star \lambda f. o \star \lambda x. \eta(fx)$$

possible worlds

$$\mathbb{M}\alpha = s \rightarrow \alpha$$

$$\eta(a) = \lambda w. a$$

$$m \star q = \lambda w. q(mw)$$

state

$$\mathbb{M}\alpha = i \rightarrow (i \times \alpha)$$

$$\eta(a) = \lambda i. \langle i, a \rangle$$

$$m \star q = \lambda i. qai' \text{ where } \langle i', a \rangle = mi$$

alternative sets

$$\mathbb{M}\alpha = \alpha \rightarrow t$$

$$\eta(a) = \{a\}$$

$$m \star q = \bigcup_{a \in m} qa$$

continuations

$$\mathbb{M}\alpha = (\alpha \rightarrow r) \rightarrow r$$

$$\eta(a) = \lambda c. ca$$

$$m \star q = \lambda c. m\lambda a. qac$$

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$$\text{her} = \lambda i. \langle i, i(5) \rangle$$

## possible worlds

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$$\text{john and mary} = \lambda c. cj \wedge cm$$

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# Semantic cartography

## state monad

$$\mathbb{M}\alpha = i \rightarrow (i \times \alpha)$$

$$\eta(a) = \dots$$

$$m \star q = \dots$$

$$\text{her} = \ell(\lambda i. \langle i, i(5) \rangle)$$

## continuation monad transformer

$$\mathbb{M}'\alpha = (\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{M}r) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}r$$

$$\eta'(a) = \dots$$

$$m \star' q = \dots$$

$$\ell(m) = \lambda c. m \star c$$

$$\text{j\&m} = \lambda c. cj \star \lambda x. cm \star \lambda y. \eta(x \wedge y)$$

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---

$$\mathbb{M}'\alpha = (\alpha \rightarrow i \rightarrow (i \times r)) \rightarrow i \rightarrow (i \times r)$$

$$\text{her} = \lambda c. \lambda i. c(i(5))i$$

$$\text{j\&m} = \lambda c. \lambda i. \langle i'', x \wedge y \rangle \quad \text{where} \quad \langle i', x \rangle = cji \quad \langle i'', y \rangle = cmi'$$

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$$\mathbb{M}'\alpha = (\alpha \rightarrow i \rightarrow (i \times r)) \rightarrow i \rightarrow (i \times r)$$

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$$\neq \lambda c. \lambda i. \langle i, c(i(5))i \vee c(i(6))i \rangle$$

$$\text{j\&m} = \lambda c. \lambda i. \langle i'', x \wedge y \rangle \quad \text{where} \quad \langle i', x \rangle = cji \quad \langle i'', y \rangle = cmi'$$

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# Summary

**Functional modules** are description parts that can be reused in the face of change

- ▶ Expressions
- ▶ Interpretations
- ▶ Side effects
- ▶ Lexical entries
- ▶ ...

Types enforce **information hiding**

