

# Sequential Programs

So far, the language that we've implemented is deterministic.

- Running a program multiple times (or computing things slightly more quickly or slowly) does not change the result of the program.
- Real programming languages do not behave this way

# Threads

```
{ seqn { spawn EXPR1 }  
      { spawn EXPR2 } }
```

Runs **EXPR**<sub>1</sub> and **EXPR**<sub>2</sub> in any order, even interleaved  
with each other

# Threads

```
{with {b {struct {x 1}}}  
  {seqn {spawn {set b x 2}}  
    {seqn {spawn {set b x 3}}  
      {get b x}}}}
```

What are the possible results for the last expression?

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What about the other threads?

3 or 1 for (textually) first thread

2 or 1 for (textually) second thread

# TRFAE = FAE + (Mutable) Records + Threads

```
<TRFAE> ::= <num>
           | {+ <TRFAE> <TRFAE>}
           | {- <TRFAE> <TRFAE>}
           | <id>
           | {fun {<id>} <TRFAE>}
           | {<TRFAE> <TRFAE>}
           | {struct {<id> <TRFAE>} ...}
           | {set <TRFAE> <id> <TRFAE>}
           | {get <TRFAE> <id>}
           | {spawn <TRFAE>}
           | {receive}
           | {deliver <TRFAE> <TRFAE>}
           | {seqn <TRFAE> <TRFAE>}
```



## {receive}

Block the current thread until a value is delivered to it

## {deliver THD-EXPR DELIVERABLE-EXPR}

Send the value of **DELIVERABLE-EXPR** to  
**THD-EXPR** (which is expected to be a thread)

Does *not* wait for receipt.

```
{with {t {spawn {+ 3 {receive}}}}}  
  {deliver t 2}}
```

```
{with {t {spawn {+ 3 {receive}}}}}  
  {deliver t 2}}
```

Spawned thread produces 5, the other produces 2

```
{with {t {spawn 1}}
      {prog {deliver t 2}
            {0 0} } }
```

```
{with {t {spawn 1}}
      {prog {deliver t 2}
            {0 0}}}}
```

Raises an error even though the value is never delivered

```
{seqn {spawn {{fun {x} {x x}}
              {fun {x} {x x}}}}}
{0 0}}
```

```
{seqn {spawn {0 0}}
      {{fun {x} {x x}}
       {fun {x} {x x}}}}}
```

```
{seqn {spawn {{fun {x} {x x}}  
           {fun {x} {x x}}}}}  
{0 0}}
```

```
{seqn {spawn {0 0}}  
      {{fun {x} {x x}}  
       {fun {x} {x x}}}}}
```

Both programs *must* raise an error

Critical question: how can we interrupt our interpreter?

# Continuation-passing style

**Key idea:** convert the interpreter into a style where all remaining work is explicit as an argument to the interpreter

Then we can swap in and out different pieces of work to swap between different threads

# Continuation-passing style

Transform interpreter from:

**interp : ( $\rightarrow$  TRFAE DefrdSub TRFAE-Value)**

into a function with this type:

**( $\rightarrow$  TRFAE DefrdSub (TRFAE-Value  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha$ )  $\alpha$ )**

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NB: the store is a result: so where does it go?

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NB: the store is a result: so where does it go?

**interp : ( $\rightarrow$  TRFAE  
DefrdSub  
Store  
(TRFAE-Value\*Store  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha$ )  
 $\alpha$ )**

What follows in the FAE interpreter, transformed in continuation-passing style. Each future step of computation is explicitly packaged up into a more complex `k` argument to be supplied to the next call to `interp`

```
(define-type FAE
  [num (n number?) ]
  [add (lhs FAE?)
        (rhs FAE?) ]
  [sub (lhs FAE?)
        (rhs FAE?) ]
  [id (name symbol?) ]
  [fun (param symbol?)
        (body FAE?) ]
  [app (fun-expr FAE?)
        (arg-expr FAE?) ] )
```

```
(define-type FAE-Value
  [numV (n number?) ]
  [cloV (param symbol?)
        (body FAE? )
        (ds DefrdSub?) ] )
```

```
(define-type DefrdSub
  [mtSub]
  [aSub (name symbol? )
        (value FAE-Value? )
        (rest DefrdSub?) ] )
```

```
(define (interp-expr a-fae)
  (type-case FAE-Value (interp
                        a-fae
                        (mtSub)
                        (λ (x) x))
    [numV (n) n]
    [cloV (p b d) 'fun]))
```

```
(define/contract (interp a-fae ds k)
  (-> FAE? DefrdSub? (-> FAE-Value? any) any)
  (type-case FAE a-fae
    [num (n) (k (numV n))])
    [add (l r) (numop + l r ds k)])
    [sub (l r) (numop - l r ds k)])
    [id (name) (k (lookup name ds))])
    [fun (param body-expr)
      (k (cloV param body-expr ds))])
    [app (fun-expr arg-expr)
      the next slide contains this case])))
```

```
...
[app (fun-expr arg-expr)
  (interp
    fun-expr ds
    (λ (fun-val)
      (interp
        arg-expr ds
        (λ (arg-val)
          (interp
            (clov-body fun-val)
            (aSub (clov-param fun-val)
                  arg-val
                  (clov-ds fun-val)))
          k)))) ]
```

```
(define (numop f l r ds k)
  (interp l ds
    (λ (l-v)
      (interp r ds
        (λ (r-v)
          (k (numV
            (f (numV-n l-v)
              (numV-n r-v)))))))))))
```

```
(define (lookup name ds)
  (type-case DefrdSub ds
    [mtSub () (error 'lookup "free variable")]
    [aSub (sub-name num rest-ds)
      (if (symbol=? sub-name name)
          num
          (lookup name rest-ds))]))
```