

Polarity and the Logic of Delimited Continuations

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12 July, LICS 2010

Part I

Questions

Some old questions and old answers

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Q: What are the meanings of programs with effects?

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A [Kolmogorov, Glivenko-Kuroda, Gödel-Gentzen, ...]:
Derived by $\neg\neg$ translations into intuitionistic logic.

Q: What are the meanings of programs with effects?

A [Reynolds, Steele-Sussman, Plotkin, ...]:
Derived by CPS translations into lambda calculus.

Refining these answers. . .

Of course **A**s beg more **Q**s: meaning of proofs/programs in IL/ λ C?

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(Yes, answers are well-known, but we can also dodge the question!. . .)

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Idea: directly study **canonical forms** in *image* of translations, e.g., as . . .

- strategies (game semantics)
- focusing proofs (proof theory)

Polarity is a guide for describing these canonical forms

Internalized as **polarized logic**

... leading to another question. . .

Polarity ($\neg\neg$ -translation, CPS) plays a role in constructivizing classical logic. Does it have a role in *constructive logic*?¹

¹Cf. Intuitionistic focusing, Benton's LNL logic, Watkins' CLF, Levy's CBPV, ...

Delimited continuations greatly widen
the scope of continuation semantics.²
What is their logical structure?

²Cf. Felleisen '88, Danvy & Filinski '90, Filinski '94, Shan Ph.D., ...

Towards positive answers

Key (simple) idea: study polarity with more than one **answer type**

- Introduces asymmetry between positive and negative polarity
- Yields different “ $\neg\neg$ ”-interpretations of intuitionistic logic
- *Positive* answer types give rise to monadic effects

Paper works out this idea guided mainly by proof-theoretic principles

- pros: concrete, close connection between syntax and semantics
- cons: perhaps not so transparent, very partial picture

Part II

Review of Classical Polarity

The basic type distinction

P

defined by truth
(i.e., datatypes)

vs.

N

defined by falsehood
(e.g., records, classes, etc.)

The basic judgments

	Interpretation	
	Logical	Operational
$[P]$	“ P obvious”	value of type P
$\bullet P$	“ P false”	continuation accepting P
N	“ N true”	value of type N
$[\bullet N]$	“ N absurd”	continuation accepting N
$\#$	“contradiction”	well-typed expression

How to explain the meanings of the judgments? Different approaches. . .

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- definition-by-canonical-forms [most precise, primary in paper]
- definition-by-translation [shortly. . .]
- definition-by-handwaving [now!]

“direct proof of P ”

 $[P]$

Intuition

$$\frac{\text{"direct proof of } P\text{"}}{[P]}$$

$$\frac{\text{"direct proof of } P\text{"} \rightarrow \#}{\bullet P}$$

Intuition

$$\frac{\text{"direct proof of } P\text{"}}{[P]}$$
$$\frac{\text{"direct proof of } P\text{"} \rightarrow \#}{\bullet P}$$
$$\frac{\text{"direct refutation of } N\text{"}}{[\bullet N]}$$

Intuition

$$\frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”}}{[P]} \qquad \frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”} \rightarrow \#}{\bullet P}$$
$$\frac{\text{“direct refutation of } N\text{”} \rightarrow \#}{N} \qquad \frac{\text{“direct refutation of } N\text{”}}{[\bullet N]}$$

Intuition

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”}}{[P]} & & \frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”} \rightarrow \#}{\bullet P} \\ \\ \frac{\text{“direct refutation of } N\text{”} \rightarrow \#}{N} & & \frac{\text{“direct refutation of } N\text{”}}{[\bullet N]} \\ \\ \frac{[P] \quad \bullet P}{\#} & & \frac{N \quad [\bullet N]}{\#} \end{array}$$

Definition by translation

Target: fragment of intuitionistic logic (or intuitionistic linear logic)

Given translations P^+ and N^- [next slide], translate judgments J^* by:

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$$[P]^* = P^+$$

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Given translations P^+ and N^- [next slide], translate judgments J^* by:

$$[P]^* = P^+ \quad \bullet P^* = P^+ \supset \#$$

(where $\#$ a distinguished logical atom)

Definition by translation

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Given translations P^+ and N^- [next slide], translate judgments J^* by:

$$\begin{aligned} [P]^* &= P^+ & \bullet P^* &= P^+ \supset \# \\ & & [\bullet N]^* &= N^- \end{aligned}$$

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Given translations P^+ and N^- [next slide], translate judgments J^* by:

$$\begin{aligned} [P]^* &= P^+ & \bullet P^* &= P^+ \supset \# \\ N^* &= N^- \supset \# & [\bullet N]^* &= N^- \\ \#^* &= \# \end{aligned}$$

(where $\#$ a distinguished logical atom)

Definition by translation

Some connectives:

$$1^+ = \mathbf{T} = \perp^- \quad 0^+ = \mathbf{F} = \top^-$$

$$(P_1 \otimes P_2)^+ = P_1^+ \wedge P_2^+ \quad (N_1 \wp N_2)^- = N_1^- \wedge N_2^-$$

$$(P_1 \oplus P_2)^+ = P_1^+ \vee P_2^+ \quad (N_1 \& N_2)^- = N_1^- \vee N_2^-$$

$$(N^\perp)^+ = N^- \quad (P \rightarrow N)^- = P^+ \wedge N^-$$

$$(\downarrow N)^+ = N^- \supset \# \quad (\uparrow P)^- = P^+ \supset \#$$

The classical connection

Define “polarity-collapsing” translation:

$$|\otimes| = |\&| = \wedge \quad |\oplus| = |\wp| = \vee \quad |\rightarrow| = \supset \quad |-\perp| = \neg \quad |\downarrow| = |\uparrow| = \cdot$$

Proposition

$$\vdash^c |N| \text{ iff } \vdash^i N^* \quad \vdash^c \neg |P| \text{ iff } \vdash^i (\bullet P)^*$$

Punchline: different polarizations yield different $\neg\neg$ -translations

Definition by canonical forms

Contexts $\Delta, \Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Delta_1, \Delta_2 \mid N \mid \bullet P$

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash [P] \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash [P]}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash [P] \longrightarrow \Gamma, \Delta \vdash \#}{\Gamma \vdash \bullet P}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash [\bullet N] \longrightarrow \Gamma, \Delta \vdash \#}{\Gamma \vdash N}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash [\bullet N] \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash [\bullet N]}$$

$$\frac{N \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash [\bullet N]}{\Gamma \vdash \#}$$

$$\frac{\bullet P \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash [P]}{\Gamma \vdash \#}$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \cdot} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta_2}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta_1, \Delta_2}$$

Definition by canonical forms

$$\frac{p \ \sigma}{V^+} \quad p[\sigma] \qquad \frac{p \mapsto E_p}{K^+} \quad p \mapsto E_p$$

$$\frac{d \mapsto E_d}{V^-} \quad d \mapsto E_d \qquad \frac{d \ \sigma}{K^-} \quad d[\sigma]$$

$$\frac{v \ K^-}{E} \quad v \ K^- \quad \frac{k \ V^+}{E} \quad k \ V^+ \qquad \bar{\sigma} \cdot \frac{\sigma_1 \ \sigma_2}{\sigma} \quad (\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$$

Part III

Towards Generalized Polarity

Symmetry

Elegant symmetry or silly redundancy?

$$\begin{array}{c|c} [P] & \bullet P \\ \hline N & [\bullet N] \end{array}$$

Symmetry

Elegant symmetry or silly redundancy?

$$\frac{[P] \mid \bullet P}{N \mid [\bullet N]}$$



$$[P] \mid \bullet P \quad \frac{[P]}{N} \quad \frac{\bullet P}{[\bullet N]} \quad N \mid [\bullet N]$$

Symmetry

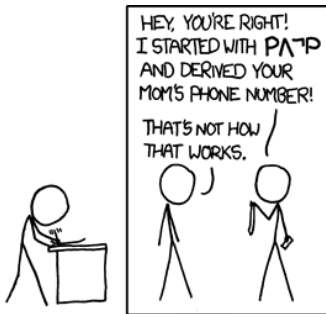
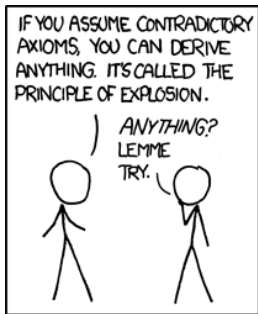
Elegant symmetry or silly redundancy?

$$\frac{[P] \mid \bullet P}{N \mid [\bullet N]}$$

\Updownarrow

$$[P] \mid \bullet P \quad \frac{[P]}{N} \quad \frac{\bullet P}{[\bullet N]} \quad N \mid [\bullet N]$$

Before giving up on our intuitions, let's think about “contradiction” #...



Credit: Randall Munroe

From Symmetry to Asymmetry

Key (simple) idea:

$$\# \rightsquigarrow P$$

$$\bullet A \rightsquigarrow A \triangleright P$$

Perfect symmetry between positive and negative broken!

The basic judgments

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P	“ P true”	expression of type P

The basic judgments++

	Interpretation	
	Logical	Operational
$[P]$	“ P obvious”	value of type P
$P_1 \triangleright P_2$	“ P_1 entails P_2 ”	continuation from P_1 to P_2
N	“ N true”	value of type N
$[\bullet N]$	“ N absurd”	continuation accepting N
P	“ P true”	expression of type P

The basic judgments++

	Interpretation	
	Logical	Operational
$[P]$	“ P obvious”	value of type P
$P_1 \triangleright P_2$	“ P_1 entails P_2 ”	continuation from P_1 to P_2
N	“ N true”	value of type N
$[N \triangleright P]$	“ N manifests P ”	continuation from N to P
P	“ P true”	expression of type P

Intuition

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”}}{[P]} \qquad \frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”} \rightarrow \#}{\bullet P} \\ \frac{\text{“direct refutation of } N\text{”} \rightarrow \#}{N} \qquad \frac{\text{“direct refutation of } N\text{”}}{[\bullet N]} \\ \frac{[P] \quad \bullet P}{\#} \qquad \frac{N \quad [\bullet N]}{\#} \end{array}$$

$$\frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”}}{[P]}$$

$$\frac{\text{“direct proof of } P_1\text{”} \rightarrow P_2}{P_1 \triangleright P_2}$$

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$$\frac{[P] \quad \bullet P}{\#} \quad \frac{N \quad [\bullet N]}{\#}$$

“direct proof of P ”
 $\frac{\quad}{[P]}$

“direct proof of P_1 ” $\rightarrow P_2$
 $\frac{\quad}{P_1 \triangleright P_2}$

“direct refutation of N ” $\rightarrow \#$
 $\frac{\quad}{N}$

“direct argument from N to P ”
 $\frac{\quad}{[N \triangleright P]}$

$\frac{[P] \bullet P}{\#}$

$\frac{N [\bullet N]}{\#}$

$$\frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”}}{[P]}$$

$$\frac{\text{“direct proof of } P_1\text{”} \rightarrow P_2}{P_1 \triangleright P_2}$$

$$\frac{\text{“direct argument from } N \text{ to } \alpha\text{”} \rightarrow \alpha}{N}$$

$$\frac{\text{“direct argument from } N \text{ to } P\text{”}}{[N \triangleright P]}$$

$$\frac{[P] \bullet P}{\#}$$

$$\frac{N [\bullet N]}{\#}$$

$$\frac{\text{"direct proof of } P\text{"}}{[P]} \qquad \frac{\text{"direct proof of } P_1\text{"} \rightarrow P_2}{P_1 \triangleright P_2}$$

$$\frac{\text{"direct argument from } N \text{ to } \alpha\text{"} \rightarrow \alpha}{N} \qquad \frac{\text{"direct argument from } N \text{ to } P\text{"}}{[N \triangleright P]}$$

$$\frac{[P] \quad P \triangleright P'}{P'} \qquad \frac{N \quad [N \triangleright P]}{P}$$

Intuition++

$$\frac{\text{“direct proof of } P\text{”}}{[P]} \qquad \frac{\text{“direct proof of } P_1\text{”} \rightarrow P_2}{P_1 \triangleright P_2}$$

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$$\frac{[P] \quad P \triangleright P'}{P'} \qquad \frac{N \quad [N \triangleright P]}{P}$$

$$\frac{[P]}{P} \qquad \frac{P \quad P \triangleright P'}{P'}$$

Definition by translation

Target: fragment of intuitionistic logic (or intuitionistic linear logic)

Given type translations P^+ and N^- , translate judgments by:

$$\begin{aligned} [P]^* &= P^+ & \bullet P^* &= P^+ \supset \# \\ N^* &= N^- \supset \# & [\bullet N]^* &= N^- \\ \#^* &= \# \end{aligned}$$

(where $\#$ a distinguished logical atom)

Definition by translation++

Target: fragment of 2nd-order intuitionistic logic

Given type translations P^+ and $N^{-\alpha}$, translate judgments by:

$$\begin{aligned} [P]^* &= P^+ & (P_1 \triangleright P_2)^* &= P_1^+ \supset P_2^+ \\ N^* &= \forall \alpha. N^{-\alpha} \supset \alpha & [N \triangleright P]^* &= N^{-\alpha} [P^+ / \alpha] \\ P^* &= P^+ \end{aligned}$$

Definition by translation++

Target: fragment of 2nd-order intuitionistic logic + “monad T ”

Given type translations P^+ and $N^{-\alpha}$, translate judgments by:

$$\begin{aligned} [P]^* &= P^+ & (P_1 \triangleright P_2)^* &= P_1^+ \supset TP_2^+ \\ N^* &= \forall \alpha. N^{-\alpha} \supset T\alpha & [N \triangleright P]^* &= N^{-\alpha} [P^+ / \alpha] \\ & & P^* &= TP^+ \end{aligned}$$

(where “monad T ” = $[\forall \alpha. \alpha \supset T\alpha] \wedge [\forall \alpha \beta. (\alpha \supset T\beta) \supset (T\alpha \supset T\beta)]$)

Definition by translation++

Type translation:

$$1^+ = \mathbf{T} = \perp^{-\alpha} \quad 0^+ = \mathbf{F} = \top^{-\alpha}$$

$$(P_1 \otimes P_2)^+ = P_1^+ \wedge P_2^+ \quad (N_1 \wp N_2)^{-\alpha} = N_1^{-\alpha} \wedge N_2^{-\alpha}$$

$$(P_1 \oplus P_2)^+ = P_1^+ \vee P_2^+ \quad (N_1 \& N_2)^{-\alpha} = N_1^{-\alpha} \vee N_2^{-\alpha}$$

$$(N \multimap P)^+ = N^{-\alpha}[P^+/\alpha] \quad (P \rightarrow N)^{-\alpha} = P^+ \wedge N^{-\alpha}$$

$$(\downarrow N)^+ = \forall \alpha. N^{-\alpha} \supset T\alpha \quad (\uparrow P)^{-\alpha} = P^+ \supset T\alpha$$

The intuitionistic connection

Define “polarity-collapsing” translation:

$$|\otimes| = |\&| = \wedge \quad |\oplus| = |\wp| = \vee \quad |\rightarrow| = |\dashv\cdot| = \supset \quad |\Downarrow| = |\Uparrow| = \cdot$$

Proposition

$\vdash^i |A|$ iff $\text{Mon}_T \vdash^{2i} A^*$ for $\wp, \dashv\cdot$ -free A

Punchline: different “ $\neg\neg$ ”-interpretations **of** intuitionistic logic

“Polarized IL is a restriction of a generalization of polarized CL”

Definition by canonical forms++

Contexts $\Delta, \Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Delta_1, \Delta_2 \mid N \mid P \triangleright P'$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\Delta \Vdash [P] \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash [P]} \qquad \frac{\Delta \Vdash [P] \longrightarrow \Gamma, \Delta \vdash P'}{\Gamma \vdash P \triangleright P'} \\
 \\
 \frac{\alpha. \Delta \Vdash [N] \triangleright - \longrightarrow \Gamma, \alpha. \Delta \vdash \alpha}{\Gamma \vdash N} \qquad \frac{\alpha. \Delta \Vdash [N] \triangleright - \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta[P/\alpha]}{\Gamma \vdash [N] \triangleright P} \\
 \\
 \frac{N \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash [N] \triangleright P}{\Gamma \vdash P} \qquad \frac{P \triangleright P' \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash [P]}{\Gamma \vdash .P'} \qquad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \cdot} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta_2}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta_1, \Delta_2} \\
 \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash [P]}{\Gamma \vdash P} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash .P \quad \Gamma \vdash P \triangleright P'}{\Gamma \vdash P'}
 \end{array}$$

Definition by canonical forms++

$$\frac{p \ \sigma}{V^+} \ p[\sigma] \qquad \frac{p \ \mapsto \ E_p}{K^+} \ p \mapsto E_p$$

$$\frac{d \ \mapsto \ E_d}{V^-} \ d \mapsto E_d \qquad \frac{d \ \sigma}{K^-} \ d[\sigma]$$

$$\frac{v \ K^-}{E} \ v \ K^- \quad \frac{k \ V^+}{.E} \ k \ V^+ \quad \bar{\sigma} \cdot \frac{\sigma_1 \ \sigma_2}{\sigma} \ (\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$$

$$\frac{V^+}{E} \ !V^+ \quad \frac{.E \ K^+}{E} \ K^+ \$.E$$

The delimited connection

Delimited control operators are already here, really!

- Danvy & Filinski's original type-and-effect system as derived rules
- Connections to Asai & Kameyama '07 and Kiselyov & Shan '07
- See paper (and Twelf code!) for a more concrete connection

Important caveat: **only the first-level of the CPS hierarchy**

Asymmetry in constructive logic is still not very well-understood

Continuation semantics (\neq semantics of callcc) deserves to be revisited

Filinski's **monadic reflection** [POPL94/10] is an underappreciated idea

The **CPS hierarchy** (= “substructural hierarchy”?) is ripe for exploration