in Higher-order Mathematical Operational Semantics

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## Higher-Order Mathematical Operational Semantics (or HO Abstract GSOS)



- 1. An operational semantics of a higher-order language
  - Typically a typed  $\lambda\text{-calculus.}$
  - Write  $\Lambda_{\tau}(\Gamma)$  for the set  $\{t \mid \Gamma \vdash t \colon \tau\}$  and  $\Lambda_{\tau}$  for the set  $\{t \mid \varnothing \vdash t \colon \tau\}$ .

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- 2. A (type-indexed) predicate  $P \rightarrowtail \Lambda$ , that can't be proven inductively
  - Family  $(P_{\tau} \subseteq \Lambda_{\tau})_{\tau \in \mathsf{Ty}}$
  - Strong normalization, type safety etc.

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4. Proceed by induction to prove that (the open extension of)  $\Box P$  holds.

#### Strong Normalization

#### Definition (A standard logical predicate)

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{SN}_{\mathsf{unit}}\left(t\right) = \Downarrow_{\mathsf{unit}}\left(t\right) \\ &\operatorname{SN}_{\tau_1 \to \tau_2}\left(t\right) = \Downarrow_{\tau_1 \to \tau_2}\left(t\right) \land \left(\forall s \colon \tau_1.\operatorname{SN}_{\tau_1}(s) \implies \operatorname{SN}_{\tau_2}(t \cdot s)\right) \end{aligned}$$

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**Definition (Open extension of** SN)

 $\vec{SN}_{\tau}(t)(\Gamma) = For any closed substitution ( \emptyset \vdash e_n : \Gamma(n))_{n \in |\Gamma|}$ such that  $\forall n \in |\Gamma| . SN_{\Gamma(n)}(e_n)$ , then  $SN_{\tau}(t[e_n/x_n])$  One annoying case of the proof is that of  $\lambda$ -abstraction  $\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1 . t : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$ . Given a substitution  $(\emptyset \vdash e_n : \Gamma(n))_{n \in |\Gamma|}$  satisfying SN, we have to:

 Push the substitution inside the λ-abstraction, try to prove that the whole term is in SN, for that reason consider what happens when we have terms such as (λx: τ<sub>1</sub>.t') · s with SN<sub>τ1</sub>(s) for the substituted t', think back to what happens during β-reduction, reflect on properties of substitution etc.

Complex language  $\implies$  complex argument...

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 if  $t \Downarrow \lambda x : \tau_1 . M$  and  $t' = M[s/x]$ 

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Idea : Abstract away from the predicate  $\Downarrow$ 

$$\Box P_{\text{unit}}(t) = P_{\text{unit}}(t)$$
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greatest subset of 
$$\wedge_{\tau_1 o \tau_2}$$
 unit $(t) = P_{unit}(t)$   
 $\Box P_{\tau_1 o \tau_2}(t) \implies P_{\tau_1 o \tau_2}(t) \wedge \begin{cases} \Box P_{\tau_1 o \tau_2}(t') & \text{if } t o t' \\ \Box P_{\tau_1}(s) \implies \Box P_{\tau_2}(t') & \text{if } t o t' \end{cases}$ 

#### Induction up to $\odot$ on STLC

#### Theorem

Let  $P \rightarrow \Lambda$  be any predicate on closed terms. Then P is true if all of the following are true:

- 1. the unit expression e: unit satisfies  $\Box_{unit} P P_{unit}$ ,
- 2. for all closed application terms t s such that  $\Box_{\tau_1 \to \tau_2} P(t)$  and  $\Box_{\tau_1} P(s)$ , we have  $\Box_{\tau_2} P(ts) P_{\tau_2}(ts)$ , and
- 3. for all  $\lambda$ -abstractions  $\lambda x : \tau_1 . t : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$ , such that  $\lambda x : \tau_1 . t$  is in the open extension of  $\Box P$  and given a substitution  $\vec{e}$  that satisfies  $\Box P$ ,  $(\lambda x : \tau_1 . t)[\vec{e}/\vec{x}]$ , we have that  $(\lambda x : \tau_1 . t)[\vec{e}/\vec{x}]$  is in  $\Box P$ , P.

#### Proof.

Instantiate Th. 36 with  $(\text{Th}36.P)_{\tau}(\varnothing) = P_{\tau}$  and  $(\text{Th}36.P)_{\tau}(\Gamma \neq \varnothing) = \top$ .

#### Proving strong normalization for STLC

1. ↓<sub>unit</sub> (e);

- 2.  $\Downarrow_{\tau_2} (ts)$  with  $\Box_{\tau_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2} \Downarrow (t)$  and  $\Box_{\tau_1} \Downarrow (s)$ ;
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#### Proof.

(1) and (3) are trivial, (2) is straightforward once you realize that  $\Box Q$  is an **invariant** w.r.t.  $\rightarrow$  for all Q.

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- Generic predicate transformer  $\Box^{\gamma,\overline{B}} \colon \mathsf{Pred}_{\mu\Sigma}(\mathcal{C}) \to \mathsf{Pred}_{\mu\Sigma}(\mathcal{C})$ 

## (Vanilla) Logical Predicates proof method in the abstract

Assuming the following:

- 1. An initial algebra (object of terms)  $\Sigma \mu \Sigma \xrightarrow{\iota} \mu \Sigma$ ,
- 2. an "operational semantics" morphism  $\mu \Sigma \to B(\mu \Sigma, \mu \Sigma)$  for some bifunctor  $B: C^{op} \times C \to C$ ,
- 3. and logical predicates  $\Box(-)$ ,

the proof method of logical predicates amount to the following:

#### **Fundamental Property**

As initial algebras have no proper subalgebras, then

$$\overline{\Sigma}(\Box P) \leq \iota^{\star}[\Box P] \implies \Box P \cong \mu \Sigma \implies P \cong \mu \Sigma.$$

## **Categorical machinery**

$$\begin{split} & B(X,Y): \ \mathcal{C}^{\mathsf{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{C} \quad \gamma \colon \mu \Sigma \to B(\mu \Sigma, \mu \Sigma) \\ & B(X,Y) = Y + Y^X \qquad \gamma(t) = t' \ \text{if} \ t \to t' \ \text{and} \ \gamma(\lambda x.M) = (e \mapsto M[e/x]) \end{split}$$

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For example,  $\overline{B}(P, Q) \subseteq \mu \Sigma + \mu \Sigma^{\mu \Sigma}$  is the disjoint union of (i) the set  $\{t \mid Q(t)\}$  and (ii) the set of functions  $f \in \mu \Sigma^{\mu \Sigma}$  that map inputs in P to outputs in Q.

#### **Relative invariant**

Let  $c: Y \to B(X, Y)$  be a B(X, -)-coalgebra. Given predicates  $S \to X$ ,  $P \to Y$ , we say that P is an S-relative ( $\overline{B}$ -)invariant (for c) if

 $P \leq c^{\star}[\overline{B}(S,P)].$ 

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2. For all s, if  $t \xrightarrow{s} t'$  and P(s), then P(t').

#### One logical predicate to rule them all

#### The 🗆

Under certain conditions, the most important being that the predicate lifting  $\overline{B}$  is **predicate-contractive**, for every predicate  $P \rightarrow X$  on the state space of our coalgebra  $X \rightarrow B(X, X)$  (i.e. a program property), there exists a certain "large" predicate  $\Box P$  such that:

1.  $\Box P \leq P$ 

- 2.  $\Box P \leq c^{\star}[\overline{B}(\Box P, \Box P)]$  (i.e.  $\Box P$  is logical)
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**Conclusion/translation:** The lifting being defined inductively on types is sufficient for the existence of this magical, suitable logical predicate.

Induction up to  $\Box$ 

For a certain class of **higher-order GSOS laws**, instead of laboriously showing  $\overline{\Sigma}(\Box P) \leq \iota^*[\Box P]$ , it suffices to show the much simpler  $\overline{\Sigma}(\Box P) \leq \iota^*[P]$ .

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# Thank you!