

# Homework 2: Operational Semantics for WHILE

CS 252: Advanced Programming Languages  
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## 1 Introduction

For this assignment, you will implement the semantics for a small imperative language, named WHILE.

The language for WHILE is given in Figure 1. Unlike the Bool\* language we discussed previously, WHILE supports *mutable references*. The state of these references is maintained in a *store*, a mapping of references to values. (“Store” can be thought of as a synonym for heap.) Once we have mutable references, other language constructs become more useful, such as sequencing operations  $(e_1; e_2)$ .

## 2 Small-step semantics

The big-step semantics for WHILE are given in Figure ???. Most of these rules are fairly straightforward, but there are a couple of points to note with the [SS-WHILE] rule. First of all, this is the only rule that makes a more complex expression when it has finished. (This rule is much cleaner when specified with the big-step operational semantics.)

Secondly, note the final value of this expression once the while loop completes. It will *always* be **false** when it completes. We could have created a special value, such as **null**, or we could have made the while loop a statement that returns no value. Both choices, however, would complicate our language needlessly.

## 3 YOUR ASSIGNMENT

**Part 1:** Rewrite the operational semantic rules for WHILE in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to use big-step operational semantics instead. Submit both your L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X source and the generated PDF file.

Extend your semantics with features to handle boolean values. **Do not treat these as binary operators.** Specifically, add support for:

- **and**
- **or**
- **not**

The exact behavior of these new features is up to you, but should seem reasonable to most programmers.

**Part 2:** Once you have your semantics defined, download `WhileInterp.hs` and implement the `evaluate` function, as well as any additional functions you need. Your implementation must be consistent with your operational semantics, *including your extensions for **and**, **or**, and **not***. Also, you may not change any type signatures provided in the file.

Finally, implement the interpreter to match your semantics.

**Zip all files together into `hw2.zip` and submit to Canvas.**

$e ::=$	<i>Expressions</i>
$x$	variables/addresses
$v$	values
$x := e$	assignment
$e; e$	sequential expressions
$e \text{ op } e$	binary operations
<b>if</b> $e$ <b>then</b> $e$ <b>else</b> $e$	conditional expressions
<b>while</b> $(e)$ $e$	while expressions
$v ::=$	<i>Values</i>
$i$	integer values
$b$	boolean values
$op ::=$	<i>Binary operators</i>
$+ \mid - \mid * \mid / \mid > \mid >= \mid < \mid <=$	

**Figure 1:** The WHILE language

Evaluation Rule: $(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (e_1, \sigma_1)$	
[BS-VAR]	$\frac{v_0 = \sigma_0(x_0)}{x_0, \sigma_0 \Downarrow v_0, \sigma_0}$
[BS-VAL]	$\frac{}{v_0, \sigma_0 \Downarrow v_0, \sigma_0}$
[BS-ASSNGVAL]	$\frac{}{(x_0 := e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_0)}$
[BS-ASSIGN]	$\frac{(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_1) \text{ where } \sigma_2 = \sigma_1(x.v_0)}{(x_0 := (e_0, \sigma_0)) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_2)}$
[BS-OP]	$\frac{(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_1) \quad (e_1, \sigma_1) \Downarrow (v_1, \sigma_2) \quad v_2 = v_0 \text{ op } v_1}{(e_0 \text{ op } e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_2, \sigma_2)}$
[BS-OPVAL]	$\frac{(e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_1, \sigma_1) \text{ where } v_2 = v_0 \text{ op } v_1}{(v_0 \text{ op } e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_2, \sigma_1)}$
[BS-SEQ]	$\frac{(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_1) \quad (e_1, \sigma_1) \Downarrow (v_1, \sigma_2)}{(e_0 ; e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_1 \sigma_2)}$
[BS-IFTRUE]	$\frac{(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow \text{True} \quad (e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_1)}{\text{if}(e_0 \ e_1 \ e_2, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_1)}$
[BS-IFFALSE]	$\frac{(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow \text{False} \quad (e_2, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_1)}{\text{if}(e_0 \ e_1 \ e_2, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_1)}$
[BS-ANDTRUE]	$\frac{(e_0 \sigma_0) \Downarrow (\text{True}, \sigma_1) \quad (e_1 \sigma_1) \Downarrow (b, \sigma_2) \text{ where } b \text{ is a boolean value}}{(AND \ e_0 \ e_1 \ \sigma_0) \Downarrow (b, \sigma_2)}$
[BS-ANDFALSE]	$\frac{(e_0 \sigma_0) \Downarrow (\text{False}, \sigma_1)}{(AND \ e_0 \ e_1 \ \sigma_0) \Downarrow (\text{False}, \sigma_1)}$
[BS-ORTRUE]	$\frac{(e_0 \sigma_0) \Downarrow (\text{True}, \sigma_1)}{(OR \ e_0 \ e_1 \ \sigma_0) \Downarrow (\text{True}, \sigma_1)}$
[BS-ORFALSE]	$\frac{(e_0 \sigma_0) \Downarrow (\text{False}, \sigma_1) \quad (e_1 \sigma_1) \Downarrow (b, \sigma_2) \text{ where } b \text{ is a boolean value}}{(OR \ e_0 \ e_1 \ \sigma_0) \Downarrow (b, \sigma_2)}$

**Figure 2:** Big-step semantics for WHILE

[BS-NOTTRUE]	$\frac{(e_0\sigma_0) \Downarrow (True, \sigma_1)}{(NOT\ e_0\ \sigma_0) \Downarrow (False, \sigma_1)}$
[BS-NOTFALSE]	$\frac{(e_0\sigma_0) \Downarrow (False, \sigma_1)}{(NOT\ e_0\ \sigma_0) \Downarrow (True, \sigma_1)}$
[BS-WHILEFALSE]	$\frac{(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (False, \sigma_1)}{(while(e_0)\ e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (False\ \sigma_1)}$
[BS-WHILETRUE]	$\frac{(e_0, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (True, \sigma_1)\ (e_1, \sigma_1); \Downarrow (v_0, \sigma_2)\ (while(e_0)\ e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_1, \sigma_3)}{(while(e_0)\ e_1, \sigma_0) \Downarrow (v_1\ \sigma_3)}$

**Figure 3:** Big-step semantics for WHILE