

11

Semantics of Programming Languages – Paper 6 Question ??? (PMS) 2004
Solution notes (a) and (b) are bookwork, from Sections 2 and 6 of the notes, reminding the candidate what semantic equivalence means for L1. (c) requires some thought about each example.

(a)

$$(if1) \quad \langle \text{if true then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3, s \rangle \longrightarrow \langle e_2, s \rangle$$

$$(if2) \quad \langle \text{if false then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3, s \rangle \longrightarrow \langle e_3, s \rangle$$

$$(if3) \quad \frac{\langle e_1, s \rangle \longrightarrow \langle e'_1, s' \rangle}{\langle \text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3, s \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \text{if } e'_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3, s' \rangle}$$

$$(while) \quad \langle \text{while } e_1 \text{ do } e_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \text{if } e_1 \text{ then } (e_2; \text{while } e_1 \text{ do } e_2) \text{ else skip}, s \rangle$$

(b)

Define $e_1 \simeq_F^T e_2$ to hold iff for all s such that $\text{dom}(\Gamma) \subseteq \text{dom}(s)$, we have $\Gamma \vdash e_1 : T$, $\Gamma \vdash e_2 : T$, and either

1. $\langle e_1, s \rangle \longrightarrow^\omega$ and $\langle e_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow^\omega$, or
2. for some v, s' we have $\langle e_1, s \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle v, s' \rangle$ and $\langle e_2, s \rangle \longrightarrow^* \langle v, s' \rangle$.

(c)

- (i) l does not occur in e . This ensures that the behaviour of e is not affected by prefixing with an assignment to l and also that the final value stored in l is not affected by executing e .
- (ii) there is no location depended upon by one of e and e_1 and semantically affected by the other, ensuring that the two commute.
- (iii) true.
- (iv) e_2 does not write l . This ensures that l holds the same value at the beginning of each corresponding iteration in the two expressions.