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*Advanced Topics in the Theory of Partially Ordered Sets*

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# 1. Motivation

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Complete partially ordered sets are crucial structures for defining the **denotational semantics of programming languages** and for performing **static analysis**.

Three well-known semantics that can be associated to a programming language:

1. **operational** – the meaning of a construct is specified by the computation it induces when it is executed on a machine.
2. **denotational** – functions are associated to each atomic construct, and composition of functions to more complex constructs.
3. **axiomatic** – specific properties of executing the constructs are expressed as assertions.



# 1. Motivation

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A simple imperative programming language (*while*)

$$a ::= n \mid x \mid a_1 + a_2 \mid a_1 * a_2 \mid a_1 - a_2$$
$$b ::= \text{true} \mid \text{false} \mid a_1 = a_2 \mid a_1 \leq a_2 \mid \neg b \mid b_1 \wedge b_2$$
$$S ::= x := a \mid \text{skip} \mid S_1; S_2 \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } S_1 \text{ else } S_2 \mid \text{while } b \text{ do } S$$

where

- $n$  ranges over **numerals**,  $Num$ ;
- $x$  ranges over **variables**,  $Var$ ;
- $a$  ranges over **arithmetic expressions**,  $Aexp$ ;
- $b$  ranges over **boolean expressions**,  $Bexp$ ;
- $S$  ranges over **statements**,  $Stmt$ .



# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- **State**: associates to each variable its current value

$$s : Var \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$$

The set of all states, denoted by *State*, is the set of all functions from *Var* into  $\mathbf{Z}$

$$(Var \rightarrow \mathbf{Z})$$

These functions (states) are total functions.



# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- Meaning of arithmetic expressions:

$$\mathcal{A} : Aexp \rightarrow (State \rightarrow \mathbf{Z})$$

- $\mathcal{A}(n)(s)$  is the natural number  $n$ ;
- $\mathcal{A}(x)(s) = s(x)$ ;
- $\mathcal{A}(a_1 + a_2)(s) = \mathcal{A}(a_1)(s) + \mathcal{A}(a_2)(s)$ ;
- $\mathcal{A}(a_1 * a_2)(s) = \mathcal{A}(a_1)(s) * \mathcal{A}(a_2)(s)$ ;
- $\mathcal{A}(a_1 - a_2)(s) = \mathcal{A}(a_1)(s) - \mathcal{A}(a_2)(s)$ .

“+” in the left hand side is a symbol, but “+” in the right hand side is the usual addition operation on integers (and similar for “\*” and “-”).



# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- Meaning of Boolean expressions:

$$\mathcal{B} : Bexp \rightarrow (State \rightarrow \mathbf{T}), \quad \text{where } \mathbf{T} = \{tt, ff\}$$

- $\mathcal{B}(\text{true})(s) = tt$ ;
- $\mathcal{B}(\text{false})(s) = ff$ ;
- $\mathcal{B}(a_1 = a_2)(s) = \begin{cases} tt, & \text{if } \mathcal{A}(a_1)(s) = \mathcal{A}(a_2)(s) \\ ff, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$
- similar for the other constructs.

“=” in the left hand side is a symbol, but “=” in the right hand side is the usual equality predicate on integers (and similar for “ $\leq$ ”, “ $\neg$ ”, and “ $\wedge$ ”).



# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- **Interpretation function**: interprets each statement as a **partial function** from *State* into *State*

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds} : Stmt \rightarrow (State \rightsquigarrow State)$$

“ $\rightsquigarrow$ ” means partial function. A partial function  $f : A \rightsquigarrow B$  might not be defined for some input values  $a \in A$ . We will write  $f(a) = \perp$  whenever  $f$  is not defined for  $a$  (“ $\perp$ ” means **undefined**).





# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- Meaning of “ $x := a$ ”

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(x := a) : State \leadsto State$$

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(x := a)(s)(y) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{A}(a)(s), & \text{if } y = x \\ s(y), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all variables  $y$ .

- Meaning of “skip”

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(skip) : State \leadsto State$$

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(skip) = id,$$

where  $id$  is the **identity function**, i.e., the function which returns the same value that was used as its argument.



# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- Meaning of “ $S_1; S_2$ ”

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_1; S_2) : State \rightsquigarrow State$$

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_1; S_2) = \mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_2) \circ \mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_1),$$

where “ $\circ$ ” denotes the composition of (partial) functions.

Composition of two partial functions

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$$

is undefined for all input values  $a \in A$  such that  $f(a) = \perp$   
or  $g(f(a)) = \perp$ .



# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- Meaning of “if  $b$  then  $S_1$  else  $S_2$ ”

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{if } b \text{ then } S_1 \text{ else } S_2) : \text{State} \rightsquigarrow \text{State}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{if } b \text{ then } S_1 \text{ else } S_2)(s) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_1)(s), & \text{if } \mathcal{B}(b)(s) = tt \\ \mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_2)(s), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If  $\mathcal{B}(b)(s) = tt$  for all states  $s$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_1)$  is a total function, then

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{if } b \text{ then } S_1 \text{ else } S_2)$$

is a total function ( $\mathcal{I}_{ds}(S_2)$  could be a partial function).



# 1. Motivation

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Denotational semantics:

- Meaning of “while  $b$  do  $S$ ”

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{while } b \text{ do } S) : \text{State} \leadsto \text{State}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{while } b \text{ do } S)(s) = \begin{cases} (\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{while } b \text{ do } S) \circ \mathcal{I}_{ds}(S))(s), & \text{if } \mathcal{B}(b)(s) = tt \\ id(s), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{while } b \text{ do } S)$  verifies an equation of the form  $g = F(g)$ .  
That is,  $\mathcal{I}_{ds}(\text{while } b \text{ do } S)$  should be a fixpoint of some function  $F$ . Given a function  $F$ , does it have fixpoints?  
If it has more than one, which one should we consider in order to get the meaning of while  $b$  do  $S$ ?



# 1. Motivation

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## Conclusions:

- All the constructs, except for **while do**, interpret to total functions;
- **while do** may interpret to partial functions;
- Defining the semantics of **while do** is a major task, and an adequate formalism is needed.

Denotational semantics is based on complete partially ordered sets, continuous functions, and fixed points.



## 2. Complete posets

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A poset  $M = (A; \leq)$  is called **complete** if  $\sup(L)$  exists for each chain  $L$  of  $M$ .

**Remark 1**  $M$  is complete iff:

1.  $M$  has a least element  $\perp_M$  (this is equivalent to existence of  $\sup(\emptyset)$ );
2.  $\sup(L)$  exists for each **non-empty chain**  $L$  of  $M$

There is another completeness concept, namely by **directed sets**. It can be proved that completeness by directed sets and completeness by chains are equivalent.



## 2. Complete posets

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Examples of complete posets:

1. Every poset which has a least element and contains only finite chains is complete.
2. Flat posets are complete.
3.  $(\mathbb{N}; \leq)$  is not complete.
4. Given two sets  $A$  and  $B$ , define the binary relation  $\leq$  on  $(A \rightsquigarrow B)$  by

$$f \leq g \Leftrightarrow \text{Dom}(f) \subseteq \text{Dom}(g), \text{ and } (\forall x \in \text{Dom}(f))(f(x) = g(x)),$$

for all  $f, g \in (A \rightsquigarrow B)$ .

$((A \rightsquigarrow B); \leq)$  is a complete poset.



## 2. Complete posets

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**Lemma 1** Let  $M$  and  $M'$  be two isomorphic posets. Then,  $M$  is complete iff  $M'$  is complete.

Let  $A$  be a set and  $(B; \leq)$  be a poset. Define the binary relation  $\leq_{(A \rightarrow B)}$  on  $(A \rightarrow B)$  by

$$f \leq_{(A \rightarrow B)} g \iff (\forall x \in A)(f(x) \leq g(x)),$$

for all  $f, g \in (A \rightarrow B)$ .

Let  $S \subseteq (A \rightarrow B)$  and  $a \in A$ .  $S(a)$  stands for

$$S(a) = \{f(a) \mid f \in S\}.$$

$S(a) = \emptyset$  if  $S = \emptyset$ .





## 2. Complete posets

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**Lemma 2** Let  $A$  be a set and  $(B; \leq)$  a poset. Then, for any non-empty subset  $S \subseteq (A \rightarrow B)$  the following property holds true:

$$\exists \sup(S) \Leftrightarrow (\forall a \in A)(\exists \sup(S(a))).$$

Moreover, if  $\sup(S)$  exists then

$$(\forall a \in A)((\sup(S))(a) = \sup(S(a))).$$

**Theorem 1** Let  $A$  be a set and  $(B; \leq)$  be a poset. If  $(B; \leq)$  is complete, then  $((A \rightarrow B); \leq_{(A \rightarrow B)})$  is complete.



## 2. Complete posets

Let  $L = \{f_i | i \geq 0\} \subseteq (\mathbf{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_\perp)$  be the chain:

$L$	$\perp$	0	1	2	3	$\dots$
$f_0$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\dots$
$f_1$	$\perp$	1	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\dots$
$f_2$	$\perp$	1	1!	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\dots$
$f_3$	$\perp$	1	1!	2!	$\perp$	$\dots$
$\dots$	$\dots$					

$\sup(L)$  is the **factorial function**

$$\sup(L)(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x = 0 \\ x!, & x \in \mathbf{N} \\ \perp, & x = \perp, \end{cases}$$

Therefore,  $L$  is an **approximation of the factorial function**:

$$f_0 \leq_{(\mathbf{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_\perp)} f_1 \leq_{(\mathbf{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_\perp)} f_2 \leq_{(\mathbf{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_\perp)} \dots \leq \sup(L)$$



## 2. Complete posets

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Operations with complete posets: **union**

Union of disjoint complete posets is not a complete poset.

Reasons:

1. there is no least element.

Union of posets may not be a poset!



## 2. Complete posets

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Operations with complete posets: [intersection](#)

Intersection of complete posets may not be a complete poset.

Reasons:

1. a least element may not exist, or
2. least upper bounds of some non-empty chains may not exist.

Intersection of posets is a poset!



## 2. Complete posets

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Operations with complete posets: **cartesian product**

$$(A_1; \leq_1) \times (A_2; \leq_2) = (A_1 \times A_2; \leq)$$

where

$$(a_1, a_2) \leq (a'_1, a'_2) \Leftrightarrow a_1 \leq_1 a'_1 \text{ and } a_2 \leq_2 a'_2$$

Cartesian product of complete posets is a complete poset.



## 2. Complete posets

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A sub-poset  $M' = (A'; \leq')$  of a poset  $M = (A; \leq)$  is called a **complete sub-poset of  $M$**  if it preserves  $\perp_M$  and suprema of non-empty chains, i.e.,

1.  $\perp_M \in A'$ ;
2.  $(\forall L \subseteq A')(L \text{ non-empty chain} \Rightarrow \sup_M(L) \in A')$ .

**complete sub-poset  $\neq$  sub-poset which is a complete poset in its own right.** Reasons:

1. complete sub-poset:  $\perp_{M'} = \perp_M$   
sub-poset which is complete:  $\perp_{M'} \geq \perp_M$ ;
2. complete sub-poset:  $\sup_{M'}(L) = \sup_M(L)$   
sub-poset which is complete:  $\sup_{M'}(L) \geq \sup_M(L)$ .



## 2. Complete posets

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Let  $M = (A, \leq)$  and  $M' = (A', \leq')$  be posets. If  $M'$  is complete, then **supremum of any non-empty chain of monotone functions** from  $M$  to  $M'$  **is a monotone function** from  $M$  to  $M'$ .

$(A \rightarrow_m A')$  stands for the set of all monotone functions from  $M$  to  $M'$ .

**Theorem 2**  $(A \rightarrow_m A')$  is a complete sub-poset of  $(A \rightarrow A')$  (w.r.t.  $\leq_{(A \rightarrow A')}$ ).



### 3. Continuous Functions

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In analysis, a function is continuous if it preserves limits. In the context in which a **computation** is **modeled as the supremum of a chain**, it is natural to consider a function as being continuous if it is compatible with the formation of suprema.

Let  $M = (A; \leq)$  and  $M' = (A'; \leq')$  be two complete posets and  $f : A \rightarrow A'$  a function.  $f$  is called **continuous** if

1.  $\sup(f(L))$  exists, and
2.  $f(\sup(L)) = \sup(f(L))$ ,

for any **non-empty** chain  $L$  of  $M$ .





### 3. Continuous Functions

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**Theorem 3** (Continuity and monotony)

Let  $M = (A; \leq)$  and  $M' = (A'; \leq')$  be two complete posets and  $f : A \rightarrow A'$  a function. Then,  $f$  is continuous iff

1.  $f$  is monotone;
2.  $f(\sup(L)) \leq' \sup(f(L))$ , for any non-empty chain  $L$  in  $M$ .

If  $M$  has only finite chains, then continuity is equivalent to monotony!

- $L : a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_n$
- $f(L) : f(a_1) \leq' f(a_2) \leq' \dots \leq' f(a_n)$
- Then,  $\sup(L) = a_n$  and  $\sup(f(L)) = f(a_n) = f(\sup(L))$ .



### 3. Continuous Functions

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In general, monotony does not imply continuity.

Let  $\varphi : (\mathbf{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_\perp) \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_\perp$  given by

$$\varphi(f) = \begin{cases} 1, & (\forall n \in \mathbf{N})(f(n) \neq \perp) \\ \perp, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all  $f \in (\mathbf{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbf{N}_\perp)$ .

It is easy to see that  $\varphi$  is a monotone function.



### 3. Continuous Functions

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Let  $L$  be the chain

$L$	$\perp$	0	1	2	3	$\dots$
$f_0$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\dots$
$f_1$	$\perp$	0	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\dots$
$f_2$	$\perp$	0	0	$\perp$	$\perp$	$\dots$
$\dots$	$\dots$					
$\sup(L)$	$\perp$	0	0	0	0	$\dots$

$\varphi$  is not continuous because

$$\sup(\varphi(L)) = \sup(\{\perp\}) = \perp \neq 1 = \varphi(\sup(L)).$$



### 3. Continuous Functions

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Examples of continuous functions:

1. Let  $M_i = (A_i; \leq_i)$  be flat posets ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and let  $M = (A; \leq)$  be a complete poset. Any monotone function  $f : A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n \rightarrow A$  is continuous.
2. Constant functions (defined on complete posets) are continuous.
3. Identity functions (defined on complete posets) are continuous.
4. Projection functions (defined on complete posets) are continuous:

$$pr_i : A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n \rightarrow A_i$$

$$pr_i(a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_n) = a_i.$$



### 3. Continuous Functions

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**Theorem 4** Composition of continuous functions is a continuous function.

Consequences ( $M = (A; \leq)$  and  $M_i = (A_i; \leq_i)$  are complete posets):

1.  $f : A \rightarrow A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n$  is continuous iff  $pr_i \circ f$  is continuous, for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

In other words,  $f$  is continuous iff it is continuous in each coordinate.

2. Let  $f_i : A \rightarrow A_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and  $f : A \rightarrow A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n$  given by  $f(a) = (f_1(a), \dots, f_n(a))$ , for all  $a \in A$ .  
 $f$  is continuous iff  $f_i$  is continuous, for all  $i$ .



### 3. Continuous Functions

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Let  $f : A_1 \times \cdots \times A_n \rightarrow A$  be a function, where  $n \geq 2$ . The **Curry function** associated to  $f$  is the function

$$f^c : A_1 \times \cdots \times A_{n-1} \rightarrow (A_n \rightarrow A)$$

given by

$$f^c(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})(a_n) = f(a_1, \dots, a_n),$$

for all  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) \in A_1 \times \cdots \times A_{n-1}$  and  $a_n \in A_n$ .

$f^c(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) : A_n \rightarrow A$  will also be called **Curry function** associated to  $f$ , for any  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) \in A_1 \times \cdots \times A_{n-1}$ .



### 3. Continuous Functions

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**Theorem 5** (Monotony and Curry functions)

Let  $M = (A; \leq)$ ,  $M_1 = (A_1; \leq_1), \dots, M_n = (A_n; \leq_n)$  be posets and  $f : A_1 \times \dots \times A_n \rightarrow A$  be a function, where  $n \geq 2$ . Then,  $f$  is monotone iff all its associated Curry functions are monotone.

**Theorem 6** (Continuity and Curry functions)

Let  $M = (A; \leq)$ ,  $M_1 = (A_1; \leq_1), \dots, M_n = (A_n; \leq_n)$  be complete posets and  $f : A_1 \times \dots \times A_n \rightarrow A$  be a function, where  $n \geq 2$ . Then,  $f$  is continuous iff all its associated Curry functions are continuous.



### 3. Continuous Functions

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Let  $M_1 = (A_1; \leq_1)$  and  $M_2 = (A_2; \leq_2)$  be complete posets. Denote by  $[M_1 \rightarrow M_2]$  (or  $[A_1 \rightarrow A_2]$ ) the set of all continuous functions from  $M_1$  to  $M_2$ .

Let  $\psi : [A_1 \rightarrow A_2] \times A_1 \rightarrow A_2$  given by

$$\psi(f, a) = f(a),$$

for all  $f \in [A_1 \rightarrow A_2]$  and  $a \in A_1$ . By using Curry functions we can prove that  $f$  is continuous.

$\psi$  is called the apply function.





### 3. Continuous Functions

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Let  $M = (A, \leq)$  and  $M' = (A', \leq')$  be complete posets. Then, **supremum of any non-empty chain of continuous functions from  $M$  to  $M'$  is a continuous function from  $M$  to  $M'$ .**

**Theorem 7**  $[A \rightarrow A']$  is a complete sub-poset of  $(A \rightarrow_m A')$ .

$\subseteq_{csp}$  stands for **complete sub-poset**

$$[A \rightarrow A'] \subseteq_{csp} (A \rightarrow_m A') \subseteq_{csp} (A \rightarrow A')$$



## 4. Fixed Points

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Let  $f : A \rightarrow A$ . If  $f(a) = a$  then  $a$  is called a **fixed point** of  $f$ .

Let  $M = (A; \leq)$  be a complete poset and  $f : A \rightarrow A$  a continuous function. Then

$$L : \quad \perp, f(\perp), f(f(\perp)), \dots$$

is a chain.

There exists  $\sup(L)$  because  $M$  is complete and

$$f(\sup(L)) = \sup(f(L)) = \sup(\{f(\perp), f(f(\perp)), \dots\}) = \sup(L)$$

Therefore,  **$\sup(L)$  is a fixed point of  $f$**



## 4. Fixed Points

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$\sup(L)$  is the **least fixed point** of  $f$ . Indeed,

- let  $a$  be a fixed point of  $f$  (i.e.,  $f(a) = a$ )
- $\perp \leq a$
- $f(\perp) \leq f(a) = a$ , because  $f$  is monotone
- $f(f(\perp)) \leq f(a) = a$  etc.
- $a$  is an upper bound of  $L$  and, therefore,  $\sup(L) \leq a$   
showing that  $\sup(L)$  is the least fixed point of  $f$ .



## 4. Fixed Points

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### **Theorem 8** (Fixed Point Theorem; Knaster-Tarski)

Let  $M = (A; \leq)$  be a complete poset and  $f : A \rightarrow A$  be a continuous function. Then  $f$  has a least fixed point, denoted  $\mu(f)$ . Moreover,

$$\mu(f) = \sup(\{f^i(\perp) \mid i \geq 0\}),$$

where  $f^0(x) = x$  and  $f^{i+1}(x) = f(f^i(x))$ , for all  $i \geq 0$  and  $x \in A$ .

The fixed point theorem provides us with a method for computing the least fixed point of a continuous function defined on a complete poset.



## 4. Fixed Points

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Let  $M = (A; \leq)$  be a complete poset and  $P : A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be a predicate.  $P$  is called **admissible** if

$$(\forall L \subseteq A)(L \text{ non-empty chain} \wedge (\forall a \in L)(P(a)) \Rightarrow P(\sup(L)))$$

**Theorem 9** (Fixed Point Induction; D. Scott)

Let  $M = (A; \leq)$  be a complete poset,  $f : A \rightarrow A$  a continuous function, and  $P$  a predicate on  $A$ . If:

- $P$  is admissible;
- $P(\perp)$
- $P(f^i(\perp)) \Rightarrow P(f^{i+1}(\perp))$ , for all  $i \geq 0$

then  $P(\mu(f))$ .



## 4. Fixed Points

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### Admissible predicates:

- If  $P$  and  $Q$  are admissible, then  $P \vee Q$  and  $P \wedge Q$  are admissible.
- If  $f_i, g_i : A \rightarrow A'$  are continuous,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then

$$P(a) \Leftrightarrow (\forall i)(f_i(a) \leq' g_i(a))$$

is admissible ( $P : A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ ).

- If  $f, g : A \rightarrow A'$  are continuous, then

$$P(a) \Leftrightarrow f(a) = g(a)$$

is admissible ( $P : A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ ).



## 5. Denotational Semantics of While Programs

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### A general approach to while programs:

Let  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$  be a basis ( $\mathcal{V}$  is a set of variables,  $\mathcal{F}$  is a set of function symbols, and  $\mathcal{P}$  is a set of predicate symbols).

- if  $x \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $t$  is a term over  $\mathcal{B}$ , then  $x := t$  is a while program over  $\mathcal{B}$ ;
- if  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are while programs over  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $e$  is a logical expression over  $\mathcal{B}$ , then  $S_1; S_2$ , *if  $e$  then  $S_1$  else  $S_2$*  and *while  $e$  do  $S_1$*  are while programs over  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Convention:** when  $S$  is of the form “ $S_1; S_2$ ”, we will write *if  $e$  then  $S_1$  else  $(S)$*  instead of *if  $e$  then  $S_1$  else  $S$* , and *while  $e$  do  $(S)$*  instead of *while  $e$  do  $S$* .



## 5. Denotational Semantics of While Programs

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Examples:

1.  $\text{while } x > 0 \text{ do } x := x - 1.$

2.  $y := 1; \text{ while } \neg(x = 1) \text{ do } (y := y * x; x := x - 1).$

3.  $z := 0; \text{ while } y \leq x \text{ do } (z := z + 1; x := x - y).$





## 5. Denotational Semantics of While Programs

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Let  $\mathcal{B} = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$  be a basis. An **interpretation** of  $\mathcal{B}$  is any pair  $\mathcal{I} = (D, \mathcal{I}_0)$  consisting of a non-empty domain  $D$  and an initial interpretation  $\mathcal{I}_0$  satisfying:

- $\mathcal{I}_0(f) : D^n \rightarrow D$ , for any function symbol  $f$  of arity  $n \geq 0$ ;
- $\mathcal{I}_0(P) : D^n \rightarrow \text{Bool}$ , for any predicate symbol  $P$  of arity  $n \geq 0$ , where  $\text{Bool} = \{0, 1\}$ .

**Assignment:**  $\gamma : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow D$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be the set of all assignments.



## 5. Denotational Semantics of While Programs

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Let  $S$  be a while program over a basis  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$  an interpretation of  $\mathcal{B}$ . The **semantic function** associated to  $S$  under the interpretation  $\mathcal{I}$  is the function

$$\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S) : \Gamma_{\perp} \rightarrow \Gamma_{\perp}$$

given by:

- $$\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S)(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \gamma[x/\mathcal{I}(t)(\gamma)], & \text{if } \gamma \neq \perp \\ \perp, & \text{if } \gamma = \perp, \end{cases}$$

for any  $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\perp}$ , if  $S$  is the program  $x := t$ ;

- $\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S) = \phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_2) \circ \phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_1)$ , if  $S$  is the program  $S_1; S_2$ ;



## 5. Denotational Semantics of While Programs

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- $$\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S)(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_1)(\gamma), & \text{if } \mathcal{I}(e)(\gamma) = 1 \text{ and } \gamma \neq \perp \\ \phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_2)(\gamma), & \text{if } \mathcal{I}(e)(\gamma) = 0 \text{ and } \gamma \neq \perp \\ \perp, & \text{if } \gamma = \perp, \end{cases}$$

for any  $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\perp}$ , if  $S$  is the program *if  $e$  then  $S_1$  else  $S_2$* ;

- $\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S) = \mu(F)$ , if  $S$  is the program *while  $e$  do  $S_1$* , where  $F$  is the function

$$F : [\Gamma_{\perp} \rightarrow \Gamma_{\perp}] \rightarrow [\Gamma_{\perp} \rightarrow \Gamma_{\perp}]$$

given by

$$F(f)(\gamma) = \begin{cases} f(\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_1)(\gamma)), & \text{if } \mathcal{I}(e)(\gamma) = 1 \text{ and } \gamma \neq \perp \\ \gamma, & \text{if } \mathcal{I}(e)(\gamma) = 0 \text{ and } \gamma \neq \perp \\ \perp, & \text{if } \gamma = \perp, \end{cases}$$

for any  $f \in [\Gamma_{\perp} \rightarrow \Gamma_{\perp}]$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\perp}$ .



## 6. Static Analysis

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Constant propagation is an analysis that determines whether an expression always evaluates to a constant value.

- $x := 5; y := x * x + 25$
- $y$  will always be 50
- it is safe to replace the above statements by

$$x := 5; y := 50$$



## 6. Static Analysis

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Detection of sign analysis determines the sign of expressions

- $x := 5; y := x * x + 25$
- $y$  will always be positive (independently of the value assigned to  $x$ )
- this property is useful for code elimination. In a statement as

$y := x * x + 25; \text{ while } y \leq 0 \text{ do } \dots$

there is no need to generate code for the while-loop because it is never executed



## 6. Static Analysis

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Dependency analysis regards some of the variables as **input variables** and others as **output variables**, and determines whether or not the final values of the output variables depend upon the initial values of the input variables.

- $x$  is an input variable and  $y$  is an output variable
- $x := 5; y := x * x + 25$  – in this program there is a **functional dependency** between the input and the output variables;
- $y := 1; \text{while } \neg(x = 1) \text{ do } (y := y * x; x := x - 1)$  – the final value of  $y$  depends upon the initial value of  $x$ ;
- $\text{while } \neg(x = 1) \text{ do } (y := y * x; x := x - 1)$  – the final value of  $y$  does not only depend upon the initial value of  $x$ , but also on the initial value of  $y$ .



## 6. Static Analysis

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In order to develop dependency analysis we will use two symbols, *OK* and *D?*, with the following meaning:

- when *OK* labels a given value (or variable) then the value **definitely depends** on the initial values of the input variables, and **only on them**;
- when *D?* labels a given value then the value **may depend** on the initial values of non-input variables (*D* = dubious)
- $P = \{OK, D?\}$ , and structure this set as a complete poset by  $OK \leq D?$ .



## 6. Static Analysis

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At any state, all variables will be labeled by an element in  $\mathbf{P}$ . We will consider one more variable, `on-track`, which gives information about the “flow of control”. It will be labeled by elements in  $\mathbf{P}$  too.

- A **p-state** is any function  $\psi : \mathcal{V} \cup \{\text{on-track}\} \rightarrow \mathbf{P}$
- $\Psi$  denotes the set of all p-states. It is a complete poset
- A p-state is called **proper** if  $\psi(\text{on-track}) = OK$ ; otherwise, it is called **improper**
- $OK(\psi) = \{x \mid \psi(x) = OK\}$
- $LOST$  is the p-state given by  $LOST(x) = D?$ , for all  $x$ .





## 6. Static Analysis

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The **p-interpretation** function of terms and logical expression is defined as follows:

- $p\mathcal{I}(t)(\psi) = \begin{cases} OK, & \text{if } \psi \text{ is proper} \\ D?, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$

if  $t \in \mathcal{F}$  is a constant symbol;

- $p\mathcal{I}(t)(\psi) = \begin{cases} \psi(t), & \text{if } \psi \text{ is proper} \\ D?, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$

if  $t \in \mathcal{V} \cup \{\text{on-track}\}$  is a variable;

- $p\mathcal{I}(f(t_1, \dots, t_n))(\psi) = \sup(\{p\mathcal{I}(t_1)(\psi), \dots, p\mathcal{I}(t_n)(\psi)\});$



## 6. Static Analysis

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- $p\mathcal{I}(\text{true})(\psi)$ ,  $p\mathcal{I}(\text{false})(\psi)$  and  $p\mathcal{I}(p)(\psi)$ , for any propositional constant  $p$ , are defined as for constant symbols;
- $p\mathcal{I}(t_1 = t_2)(\psi) = \sup(\{p\mathcal{I}(t_1)(\psi), p\mathcal{I}(t_2)(\psi)\})$ ;
- $p\mathcal{I}(P(t_1, \dots, t_n))(\psi) = \sup(\{p\mathcal{I}(t_1)(\psi), \dots, p\mathcal{I}(t_n)(\psi)\})$ ;
- $p\mathcal{I}(\neg e)(\psi) = p\mathcal{I}(e)(\psi)$ ;
- $p\mathcal{I}(e_1 \circ e_2)(\psi) = \sup(\{p\mathcal{I}(e_1)(\psi), p\mathcal{I}(e_2)(\psi)\})$ , for any  $\circ \in \{\vee, \wedge, \Rightarrow, \Leftrightarrow\}$ ,

for any  $\psi \in \Psi$ .



## 6. Static Analysis

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The **p-interpretation** function of programs is defined as follows:

- $p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S)(\psi) = \psi[x/p\mathcal{I}(t)(\psi)]$ , for any  $\psi \in \Psi$ , if  $S$  is  $x := t$ ;
- $p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S) = p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_2) \circ p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_1)$ , if  $S$  is  $S_1; S_2$ ;
- $\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S)(\psi) = \begin{cases} \sup(\{p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_1)(\psi), p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_2)(\psi)\}), & \text{if } p\mathcal{I}(e)(\psi) = OK \\ LOST, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$   
for any  $\psi \in \Psi$ , if  $S$  is *if*  $e$  *then*  $S_1$  *else*  $S_2$ ;



## 6. Static Analysis

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- $p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S) = \mu(F)$ , if  $S$  is *while*  $e$  *do*  $S_1$ , where  $F$  is the function

$$F : [\Psi \rightarrow \Psi] \rightarrow [\Psi \rightarrow \Psi]$$

given by

$$F(f)(\psi) = \begin{cases} \sup(\{f(p\phi_{\mathcal{I}}(S_1)(\psi)), \psi\}) & \text{if } p\mathcal{I}(e)(\psi) = OK \\ LOST, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

for any  $f \in [\Psi \rightarrow \Psi]$  and  $\psi \in \Psi$ .



## 6. Static Analysis

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### **Input:**

while program  $S$ ;

sets  $I$  and  $O$  of input and output variables

### **Output:**

*Yes* – if there definitely is a functional dependency

*No?* – if there may not be a functional dependency

### **Begin**

let  $\psi_0$  given by  $OK(\psi_0) = I \cup \{\text{on} - \text{track}\}$ ;

let  $\psi_f := p\phi_I(S)(\psi_0)$ ;

if  $O \cup \{\text{on} - \text{track}\} \subseteq OK(\psi_f)$  then *Yes* else *No?*

### **End.**



## 6. Static Analysis

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### Free Variables

- $FV(x := t) = \{x\} \cup FV(t);$
- $FV(S_1; S_2) = FV(S_1) \cup FV(S_2);$
- $FV(\text{if } b \text{ then } S_1 \text{ else } S_2) = FV(b) \cup FV(S_1) \cup FV(S_2);$
- $FV(\text{while } b \text{ do } S) = FV(b) \cup FV(S).$



## 6. Static Analysis

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### Theorem 10

- (1) For any while program *while b do S* the following holds true:

$$p\phi_X(\text{while } b \text{ do } S) = F^{m+1}(f_0),$$

where  $X = FV(\text{while } b \text{ do } S)$ ,  $f_0$  is the least element of  $[\Psi_X \rightarrow \Psi_X]$  and  $m = |X|$ .

- (2) There exists a while program *while b do S* such that

$$p\phi_X(\text{while } b \text{ do } S) \neq F^{m-1}(f_0),$$

where  $X = FV(\text{while } b \text{ do } S)$ ,  $f_0$  is the least element of  $[\Psi_X \rightarrow \Psi_X]$  and  $m = |X|$ .