# Operational Semantics, Part II

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#### Operational Semantics, Part II LC basics

# LC: A tiny programming language

```
Phases P ::= A \mid B \mid C

Arithmetic Expressons A ::= n \mid !\ell \mid A \circledast A \quad (\circledast \in \{+, -, \times, \ldots\})

Boolean Expressons B ::= b \mid A \circledast A \quad (\circledast \in \{+, -, \times, \ldots\})

Commands C ::= \mathbf{skip} \mid \ell := A \mid C; C \mid \mathbf{if} B \mathbf{then} C \mathbf{else} C \mid \mathbf{while} B \mathbf{do} C

Integers n \in \mathbb{Z} = \{\ldots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots\}

Booleans b \in \mathbb{B} = \{\mathbf{true}, \mathbf{false}\}

Locations \ell \in \mathbb{L} = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2, \ldots\}

\ell \in \mathbb{L} = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \ell_2, \ldots\}
```

#### References

- Andrew Pitts' Lecture Notes on Semantics of Programming Languages: http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/teaching/courses/lsi/sempl.pdf. We'll be following the Pitts' notes for a while and use a lot of his notation.
- The reading list for Matthew Hennessey's Introduction to the Semantics of programming languages course: https://www.scss.tcd.ie/Matthew.Hennessy/splexternal2015/reading.php has lots of good references.
- Also, Hennessey's notes for the above course https://www.scss.tcd.ie/Matthew.Hennessy/splexternal2015/ LectureNotes/Notes14%20copy.pdf are very good.

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#### Operational Semantics, Part II | LC basics

# An Example LC Program

#### Pitts' version

### Computes factorial( $!\ell_0$ )

```
\begin{array}{l} \ell_1 := 1; \\ \ell_2 := !\ell_0; \\ \text{while } (!\ell_2 \!\!>\!\! 0) \text{ do } \\ \ell_1 := !\ell_1 \!\!*\! !\ell_2; \\ \ell_2 := !\ell_2 \!\!-\!\! 1 \end{array}
```

- Pitts'  $\ell_i \equiv \text{our } xi$
- Pitts'  $!\ell_i \equiv \text{our val}(xi)$
- Pitts uses indenting for command bracketing.

#### Our version

## Computes factorial(val(x0))

```
{ x1 := 1;
  x2 := val(x0);
  while (val(x2)>0) do {
    x1 := val(x1)*val(x2);
    x2 := val(x2)-1
  }
}
```

- We use { ...} for command bracketing.
- His version takes up less space.Our version is easier to parse.

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# Big-step (evaluation) semantics for LC

#### **States**

A *state* is a finite mapping of locations to values.

*E.g.*:  $[\ell_0 \mapsto 11, \ell_1 \mapsto 29, \ell_{17} \mapsto 5]$ 

## Configurations

A *configuration* is a pair  $\langle P, s \rangle$  where P is a phrase  $\mathcal{E}$  s is a state.

*E.g.*:  $\langle !\ell_{17} * 9 + !\hat{\ell}_1, [\ell_0 \mapsto 11, \ell_1 \mapsto 29, \ell_{17} \mapsto 5] \rangle$ *E.g.*:  $\langle \ell_0 := 8, [\ell_0 \mapsto 11, \ell_1 \mapsto 29, \ell_{17} \mapsto 5] \rangle$ 

## Terminal configurations

The *terminal* configurations are those of the form:  $\langle n, s \rangle$ ,  $\langle \text{true}, s \rangle$ ,  $\langle \text{false}, s \rangle$ , and  $\langle \text{skip}, s \rangle$ .

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#### Operational Semantics, Part II | Big-step (evaluation) semantics

## **∜**: The LC evaluation relation

The LC evaluation relation

$$\downarrow \subseteq (Phrases \times States) \times (Phrases \times States)$$

is defined inductively as follows ...

Note:

 $\langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle P', s' \rangle \approx \text{the final result of evaluating } \langle P, s \rangle \text{ is } \langle P', s' \rangle.$ 

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#### Operational Semantics, Part II | Big-step (evaluation) semantics

# Definition of $\downarrow$ , 1

**↓**-Con:

$$\overline{\langle c,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle c,s \rangle}$$

 $(c \in \mathbb{Z} \cup \mathbb{B})$ 

$$\stackrel{\Downarrow}{-} \circledast: \frac{\langle A_1, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle n_1, s' \rangle \quad \langle A_2, s' \rangle \Downarrow \langle n_2, s'' \rangle}{\langle A_1 \circledast A_2, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle c, s'' \rangle} \quad (c = n_1 \circledast n_2)$$

#### Above \* can be:

- $\blacksquare$  +, -, or \* for the arithmetic case, *or*
- ==, /=, <, >, <=, or >= for the boolean (comparison case).

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# Definition of $\downarrow$ , 2

$$\Downarrow$$
-Skip:  $\overline{\langle \mathbf{skip}, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s \rangle}$ 

$$\downarrow$$
-Loc: 
$$\frac{\langle !\ell,s \rangle \downarrow \langle s(\ell),s \rangle}{\langle !\ell,s \rangle \downarrow \langle s(\ell),s \rangle} \qquad (\ell \in dom(s))$$

$$\frac{\langle A, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle n, s' \rangle}{\langle \ell := A, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s' [\ell \mapsto n] \rangle}$$

Notation:  $s[\ell \mapsto k]$  is a modification of state s such that:

- $\bullet (s[\ell \mapsto k])(\ell) = k.$
- $[s[\ell \to k])(\ell') = s(\ell'), \text{ for } \ell' \neq \ell.$

E.g.: For  $s = [\ell_0 \mapsto 12, \ell_1 \mapsto 3, \ \ell_2 \mapsto 9],$  $s[\ell_1 \mapsto 20] = [\ell_0 \mapsto 12, \ell_1 \mapsto 20, \ell_2 \mapsto 9].$  Stuck

 $\langle P, s \rangle$  is *stuck* when there is no rule that applies to it. *E.g.*:  $\langle !\ell_1, \{ \ell_0 \rightarrow 11 \} \rangle$ .

Divergent

 $\langle P, s \rangle$  is *divergent* when it is not stuck, but there is no finite derivation of  $\langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow$  *something*.

*E.g.:*  $\langle$  **while** true **do skip**,  $s \rangle$ .

**Terminating** 

 $\langle P, s \rangle$  is *terminating* when it is neither stuck nor divergent.

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, ...

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# Definition of $\downarrow$ , 4

V-While<sub>1</sub>:

 $\frac{\langle B, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \operatorname{true}, s' \rangle \quad \langle C, s' \rangle \Downarrow \langle \operatorname{skip}, s'' \rangle \quad \langle \operatorname{while} B \operatorname{do} C, s'' \rangle \Downarrow \langle \operatorname{skip}, s''' \rangle}{\langle \operatorname{while} B \operatorname{do} C, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \operatorname{skip}, s''' \rangle}$ 

 $\forall$ -While<sub>2</sub>:  $\frac{\langle B,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{ false}, s' \rangle}{\langle \text{ while } B \text{ do } C,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{ skip}, s' \rangle}$ 

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# Definition of $\downarrow$ , 3

$$\psi
-Seq: \frac{\langle C_1, s \rangle \psi \langle \mathbf{skip}, s' \rangle \quad \langle C_2, s' \rangle \psi \langle \mathbf{skip}, s'' \rangle}{\langle C_1; C_2, s \rangle \psi \langle \mathbf{skip}, s'' \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle B, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \operatorname{true}, s' \rangle \quad \langle C_1, s' \rangle \Downarrow \langle \operatorname{skip}, s'' \rangle}{\langle \operatorname{if} B \operatorname{then} C_1 \operatorname{else} C_2, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \operatorname{skip}, s'' \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle B, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{ false}, s' \rangle \quad \langle C_2, s' \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{ skip}, s'' \rangle}{\langle \text{ if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{ skip}, s'' \rangle}$$

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# An Example from Pitts (page 30)

Let:

$$C =_{\textit{def}} \text{ while } !\ell > 0 \text{ do } \ell := 0 \qquad \quad s =_{\textit{def}} \ \left\{ \ \ell \mapsto 1 \right\}$$

Then:

$$\frac{\langle !\ell,s\rangle \psi \langle 1,s\rangle}{\langle !\ell>0,s\rangle \psi \langle \text{true},s\rangle} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\ell=0,s) \psi \langle \text{skip},s'\rangle} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\ell\ell>0,s') \psi \langle \text{false},s'\rangle}{\langle (\ell,s') \psi \langle \text{skip},s'\rangle} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}}) \psi \langle \text{skip},s'\rangle} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{op}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}}) \psi \langle \text{skip},s'\rangle} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{op}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}}) \psi \langle \text{skip},s'\rangle} \stackrel{(\psi_{\text{op}})}{\langle (\psi_{\text{op}}) \psi \langle (\psi_{\text{op}}$$

# Big-step semantics as an implementation guide

#### See:

- LC.hs
- LCbs.hs

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# Let:

Exercise

 $C =_{def}$  while  $B \operatorname{do} C'$ 

 $B =_{def} !\ell > 0$ 

 $C' =_{def} \ell' : =!\ell * !\ell'; \ \ell : =!\ell - 1$ 

 $s =_{def} \{ \ell \mapsto 3, \ell' \mapsto 1 \}$ 

Show (as much as you can stand of):

$$\langle C, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s[\ell \mapsto 0, \ell' \mapsto 6] \rangle.$$

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# Do these rules make sense?, 1

#### ;Theorem?

 $(\forall \langle A, s \rangle)(\exists !c)[\langle A, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle c, s \rangle].$ 

 $(\exists! \equiv there\ exists\ a\ unique)$ 

**Counterexample:**  $\langle !\ell_1, \{ \ell_0 \mapsto 11 \} \rangle$ 

(since  $\ell_1 \notin dom(s)$ ).

#### Definition

 $\langle P, s \rangle$  is *sensible* when every location that occurs in *P* is in *dom*(*s*).

## ¡Theorem!

- (a) Suppose  $\langle A, s \rangle$  is sensible. Then  $(\exists!c)[\langle A, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle c, s \rangle]$ .
- (b) Suppose  $\langle B, s \rangle$  is sensible. Then  $(\exists!b)[\langle B, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle b, s \rangle]$ .

[How to prove?]

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## Do these rules make sense?, 2

## Theorem?

Suppose  $\langle C, s \rangle$  is sensible. Then  $(\exists! s') [\langle C, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s' \rangle]$ .

#### **Counterexample:** C = while true do skip.

#### :Theorem!

*Suppose*  $\langle C, s \rangle$  *is sensible. Then:* 

- (a)  $\langle C, s \rangle$  is not stuck.
- (b) There is at most one s' such that  $\langle C, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s' \rangle$ .

[How to prove?]

### A CEK machine for LC

Abstract machines for interpreting LC: (Note: Abstract machine  $\neq$  VM.)

- In §1.2 Pitts details an SMC (= Stack, Memory, Control) abstract machine for interpreting LC. (*Plotkin*)
- Here we sketch a CEK (= Context, Environment, Kontinuation) for interpreting LC. (*Felleisen and Friedman*)

### CEK configurations: (c, s, ks)

c = the current phrase being evaluated

s =the state

*ks* = a "to-do" stack of things needed to complete pending evaluations. (*Examples forthcoming*)

See LCCEK.hs.

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A transition system consists of

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- a set (of states) *S* and
- a (transition) relation  $\rightarrow \subseteq S \times S$ .

**Digression: Transition Systems** 

The "states" can be configurations, game-board positions, etc.

### Example

Definition

- Machines/computations
- Games/plays
- Protocols/runs
- **.**..

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#### **CEK Transitions**

### CEK configurations: (c, s, ks)

c = the current phrase being evaluated

s =the state

*ks* = a "to-do" stack of things needed to complete pending evaluations. (*Examples forthcoming*)

#### **CEK** transitions

$$(c, s, ks) \rightarrow (c', s', ks')$$
 means:

according to the rules (forthcoming) configuration (c, s, ks) can move to configuration (c', s', ks') in one step.

*Note:* The funny **s** 's are to make configurations easier to visually parse.

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# Integer expressions

```
(!\ell, \mathbf{s}, ks) \leadsto (s(\ell), \mathbf{s}, ks) \qquad (\ell \in dom(s))
(e_1 \circledast e_2, \mathbf{s}, ks) \leadsto (e_1, \mathbf{s}, (DoIOp1 \ e_2 \circledast) : ks)
(n_1, \mathbf{s}, (DoIOp1 \ e_2 \circledast) : ks) \leadsto (e_2, \mathbf{s}, (DoIOp2 \circledast n_1) : ks)
(n_2, \mathbf{s}, (DoIOp2 \circledast n_1) : ks) \leadsto (n_1, \mathbf{s}, ks) \qquad (n = n_1 \circledast n_2)
```

## The big-step rules for integer expressions

$$\downarrow \text{-Loc: } \frac{}{\langle !\ell,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle s(\ell),s \rangle} \ (\ell \in dom(s))$$

$$\downarrow \text{-} \circledast: \frac{\langle A_1,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle n_1,s' \rangle}{\langle A_1 \circledast A_2,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle c,s'' \rangle} \ (c = n_1 \circledast n_2)$$

#### The set command

**Evaluate** 

$$\langle ((!\ell_1+2)*!\ell_2, [\ell_1 \mapsto 1, \ell_2 \mapsto 5] \rangle$$

by both big-step rule and the CEK.

Notice how the CEK computation amounts to a stack-based traversal of the big-step derivation.

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 $(\ell := a, \underline{s}, ks) \rightsquigarrow (a, \underline{s}, (DoSet \ \ell) : ks)$  $(n, \underline{s}, (DoSet \ \ell) : ks) \rightsquigarrow (\mathbf{skip}, \underline{s[\ell \mapsto n]}, ks)$ 

The big-step rules for the set command

$$\downarrow \text{-Set: } \frac{\langle A, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle n, s' \rangle}{\langle \ell := A, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s' [\ell \mapsto n] \rangle}$$

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# Sequencing

$$(C_1; C_2, s, ks) \rightsquigarrow (C_1, s, (DoSeq C_2) : ks)$$
  
 $(\mathbf{skip}, s, (DoSeq C_2) : ks) \rightsquigarrow (C_2, s, ks)$ 

The big-step rules for sequencing

$$\Downarrow -Seq: \frac{\langle C_1, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s' \rangle \quad \langle C_2, s' \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s'' \rangle}{\langle C_1; C_2, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s'' \rangle}$$

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#### If-then-else

(if be then  $C_1$  else  $C_2$ , s, ks)  $\rightsquigarrow$  (be, s, (DoIf  $C_1$   $C_2$ ) : ks) (true, s, (DoIf  $C_1$   $C_2$ ) : ks)  $\rightsquigarrow$  ( $C_1$ , s, ks) (false, s, (DoIf  $C_1$   $C_2$ ) : ks)  $\rightsquigarrow$  ( $C_2$ , s, ks)

The big-step rules for if-then-else

$$\psi\text{-}If_1: \frac{\langle B,s \rangle \psi \langle \text{true},s' \rangle \quad \langle C_1,s' \rangle \psi \langle \text{skip},s'' \rangle}{\langle \text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2,s \rangle \psi \langle \text{skip},s'' \rangle}$$

$$\psi\text{-}If_1: \frac{\langle B,s \rangle \psi \langle \text{false},s' \rangle \langle C_2,s' \rangle \psi \langle \text{skip},s'' \rangle}{\langle \text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2,s \rangle \psi \langle \text{skip},s'' \rangle}$$

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(while be do C), s, ks)

(if be then { C; while be do C } else skip, s, ks)

The big-step rules for if-then-else

 $\Downarrow$ -While<sub>1</sub>:

 $\langle B, s \rangle \downarrow \langle \text{true}, s' \rangle \quad \langle C, s' \rangle \downarrow \langle \text{skip}, s'' \rangle \quad \langle \text{while } B \text{ do } C, s'' \rangle \downarrow \langle \text{skip}, s''' \rangle$  $\langle$  while B do  $C, s \rangle \downarrow \langle$  skip,  $s''' \rangle$ 

 $\downarrow$ -While<sub>2</sub>:

 $\frac{\langle B, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{ false}, s' \rangle}{\langle \text{ while } B \text{ do } C, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \text{ skip}, s' \rangle}$ 

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Operational Semantics, Part II | An abstract machine for LC

# Proof of equivalence with the big-step semantics

#### Theorem

For all  $\langle P, s \rangle$  and all terminal  $\langle V, s' \rangle$ :

 $\langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle V, s' \rangle \iff \langle P, s, [Halt] \rangle \rightsquigarrow {}^* \langle V, s', [Halt] \rangle$ 

#### Proof of $\Longrightarrow$ .

Roughly, the CEK rules run a left-to-right traversal of the evaluation tree.

Proof of  $\Leftarrow$ .

*Key idea:* Show that if  $\langle P, s, ks \rangle \sim {}^*\langle V, s', ks \rangle$ ,

then you can reconstruct the evaluation tree for  $\langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle V, s \rangle$ .

Exercise

Let:

$$C =_{def}$$
 while  $!\ell > 0$  do  $\ell := 0$ 

$$s =_{def} \{\ell \mapsto 1\}$$

Trace the CEK evaluation of  $\langle C, s \rangle$  and compare to:

$$\frac{\langle !\ell,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle 1,s \rangle }{\langle !\ell \rangle 0,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \textbf{true},s \rangle } \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{(\Downarrow_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle 0,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \textbf{o},s \rangle } \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle 0,s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \textbf{o},s \rangle } \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}})} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\vdash_{\text{c}}),s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \textbf{skip},s' \rangle} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}}),s \rangle} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}}),s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \textbf{skip},s' \rangle} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}}),s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \textbf{skip},s' \rangle} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}}),s \rangle \Downarrow \langle \textbf{skip},s' \rangle} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{con}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text{op}}),s \rangle} \stackrel{(\Downarrow_{\text{op}})}{\langle (\Downarrow_{\text$$

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Operational Semantics, Part II | Small-step (transition) semantics

# Small-step (transition) semantics of LC

The LC transition relation

 $\rightarrow$   $\subseteq$  (Phrases  $\times$  States)  $\times$  (Phrases  $\times$  States)

is defined inductively as follows ...

Note:

 $\langle P, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle P', s' \rangle \approx \langle P, s \rangle$  "rewrites" to  $\langle P', s' \rangle$  in one step.

## Definition of $\rightarrow$ , 1

$$\rightarrow -op1: \qquad \frac{\langle A_1, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle A'_1, s' \rangle}{\langle A_1 \circledast A_2, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle A'_1 \circledast A_2, s' \rangle}$$

$$\rightarrow$$
-op2:  $\langle A_2, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle A'_2, s' \rangle \over \langle n_1 \circledast A_2, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle n_1 \circledast A'_2, s' \rangle$ 

$$\rightarrow$$
-op3:  $(c = n_1 \circledast n_2)$ 

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# Operational Semantics, Part II —Small-step (transition) semantics

Exercise: Justify

#### Answer to 1.

#### Answer to 2.

# **Exercise:** Justify

1. 
$$(((3*2)+(8-3))*(5-2)) \rightarrow ((6+(8-3))*(5-2))$$

2. 
$$((6+(8-3))*(5-2)) \rightarrow ((6+5)*(5-2))$$

3. 
$$((6+5)*(5-2)) \rightarrow (11*(5-2))$$

4. 
$$(11*(5-2)) \rightarrow (11*3)$$

$$(11*3) \rightarrow 33$$

The above parts justifies each step of the complete transition sequence:

$$\begin{array}{cccc} (((3*2)+(8-3))*(5-2)) & \to & ((6+(8-3))*(5-2)) \\ \to & ((6+5)*(5-2)) & \to & (11*(5-2)) & \to & (11*3) & \to & 33 \end{array}$$

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# Operational Semantics, Part II Small-step (transition) semantics

└─Exercise: Justify

 $((6+5)*(5-2)) \rightarrow (11*(5-2))$   $(11*(5-2)) \rightarrow (11*3)$   $(11*3) \rightarrow 33$   $(11*3) \rightarrow 33$ we above party justifies each shop of the complete transitions sequence:  $((1/5,7)+(5-7))(5/2,7) \rightarrow (4/5,7)+(5/5,7)$ 

#### Answer to 3.

#### Answer to 4.

→-op3: 
$$\frac{(5-2)}{(11*(5-2))}$$
 →  $\frac{(5-2)}{(11*3)}$ 

#### Answer to 5.

$$\rightarrow$$
-op3:  $(11*3) \rightarrow 33$ 

## Definition of $\rightarrow$ , 2

$$\rightarrow$$
-loc:  $(\ell \in dom(s))$ 

$$\rightarrow$$
-set1:  $\langle A, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle A', s' \rangle \over \langle \ell := A, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \ell := A', s' \rangle$ 

$$\rightarrow$$
-set2:  $\langle \ell := n, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mathbf{skip}, s[\ell \mapsto n] \rangle$ 

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# Definition of $\rightarrow$ , 3

$$\rightarrow -seq1: \qquad \frac{\langle C_1, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle C_1', s' \rangle}{\langle C_1; C_2, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle C_1'; C_2, s' \rangle}$$

$$\rightarrow$$
-seq2:  $\langle \mathbf{skip}; C, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle C, s \rangle$ 

 $\rightarrow$ -while:  $\overline{\langle \text{ while } B \text{ do } C, s \rangle} \rightarrow \langle \text{ if } B \text{ then } \{C; \text{ while } B \text{ do } C \} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle$ 

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Operational Semantics, Part II | Small-step (transition) semantics

# Definition of $\rightarrow$ , 4

$$\rightarrow$$
-if1:  $\langle B, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle B', s' \rangle$   $\langle \text{if } B \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{if } B' \text{ then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s' \rangle$ 

$$\rightarrow$$
-if2:  $\overline{\langle \text{ if true then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle C_1, s \rangle}$ 

$$\rightarrow$$
-if3:  $\overline{\langle \text{ if false then } C_1 \text{ else } C_2, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle C_2, s \rangle}$ 

Operational Semantics, Part II | Small-step (transition) semantics

## A sample transition, 1

Let:

$$\begin{array}{lll} C & =_{def} & \textbf{while } B \textbf{ do } C' & B & =_{def} & !\ell > 0 \\ C' & =_{def} & \ell' : = !\ell * !\ell'; & \ell : = !\ell - 1 & s & =_{def} & \{ \ \ell \mapsto 3, \ \ell' \mapsto 1 \ \} \end{array}$$

#### The start of the full transition

$$\langle C, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{ if } B \text{ then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle$$

$$\rightarrow \langle \text{ if } 3 > 0 \text{ then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle$$

$$\rightarrow \langle \text{ if true then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle$$

$$\rightarrow \langle C'; C, s \rangle$$

$$\rightarrow$$
 \* $\langle$  skip,  $s[\ell \mapsto 0, \ell' \mapsto 6] \rangle$ .

**Note:** Each step of a transition must be justified by a derivation.

# A sample transition, 2

Let:

$$\begin{array}{lll} C & =_{\textit{def}} & \textit{while } B \; \textit{do} \; C' & B & =_{\textit{def}} \; !\ell > 0 \\ C' & =_{\textit{def}} \; \; \ell' : = !\ell * !\ell'; \; \; \ell : = !\ell - 1 & s \; =_{\textit{def}} \; \; \left\{ \; \ell \mapsto 3, \; \ell' \mapsto 1 \; \right\} \\ \end{array}$$

**Note:** Each step of a transition must be justified by a derivation.

## **Exercise: Justify**

- 1  $\langle C, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{ if } B \text{ then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle$
- 2  $\langle$  if B then  $\{C'; C\}$  else skip,  $s \rangle \rightarrow \langle$  if 3 > 0 then  $\{C'; C\}$  else skip,  $s \rangle$
- 3  $\langle$  if 3 > 0 then  $\{C'; C\}$  else skip,  $s \rangle$  $\rightarrow \langle$  if true then  $\{C'; C\}$  else skip,  $s \rangle$
- **4**  $\langle$  if true then  $\{C'; C\}$  else skip,  $s \rangle \rightarrow \langle C'; C, s \rangle$

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# Operational Semantics, Part II —Small-step (transition) semantics

☐A sample transition, 2

#### Answer to 3.

$$\rightarrow -if1: \frac{\rightarrow -op3: \frac{}{\langle 3 > 0, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{ true}, s \rangle} \text{ (since } 3 > 0 \text{ is true)}}{\langle \text{ if } 3 > 0 \text{ then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{ if true then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle}$$

Answer to 4.

$$\rightarrow$$
-if2:  $\overline{\langle \text{ if true then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \{C'; C\}, s \rangle}$ 

# Operational Semantics, Part II

—Small-step (transition) semantics

└A sample transition, 2

Let:  $C =_{ab} \text{ while B do } C' \qquad B =_{ab} \text{ M} \times 0$   $C' =_{ab} (f - 2d + 2f \cdot f + 1d - 1 + a - a \cdot f \cdot f + 3, f' + 1)$  Note Each step of a transition must be justified by a derivation. Exercise justify  $B (C_s) = (\text{if B them } (C, C|\text{obs. akip.}s)$   $B (B + 2f \cdot f + 2f \cdot f$ 

#### Answer to 1.

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$$\rightarrow$$
-while:  $\overline{\langle C, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{ if } B \text{ then } \{C'; C\} \text{ else skip, } s \rangle}$ 

**Answer to 2.** Recall  $B =_{def} !\ell > 0$ .

#### Operational Semantics, Part II | Small-step (transition) semantics

# Some properties of $\rightarrow$

#### Theorem (Determinacy)

*If*  $\langle P, s \rangle$  *is neither stuck nor terminal, then*  $(\exists! \langle P', s' \rangle) [\langle P, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle P', s' \rangle].$ 

### Theorem (Subject reduction)

*If*  $\langle P, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle P', s' \rangle$ , then P and P' are the same type (i.e., command, integer-expression, boolean-expression).

#### Theorem (Expressions have no side-effects)

*If P is an integer or boolean expression and*  $\langle P, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle P', s' \rangle$ *, then* s = s'.

[How to prove?]

# Equivalence of the big-step & small-step semantics

#### Theorem

For all  $\langle P, s \rangle$  and all terminal  $\langle V, s' \rangle$ :

$$\langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle V, s' \rangle \iff \langle P, s \rangle \rightarrow^* \langle V, s' \rangle$$

#### Proof.

One needs to show:

(a) 
$$\langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle V, s' \rangle \implies \langle P, s \rangle \rightarrow^* \langle V, s' \rangle$$
.

(b) 
$$\langle P, s \rangle \rightarrow \langle P', s' \rangle \& \langle P', s' \rangle \Downarrow \langle V, s'' \rangle \implies \langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle V, s'' \rangle.$$

(c) 
$$\langle P, s \rangle \to {}^* \langle V, s' \rangle \implies \langle P, s \rangle \Downarrow \langle V, s' \rangle$$
.

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