Formalizing operational semantics in a proof assistant



Edoardo Marangoni University of Milan

A thesis submitted for the degree of *Master of Science*

September 13, 2023

Contents

1	Intro	oduction	1	
2	Sem : 2.1	antics Introduction	3	
3	Induction and coinduction			
	3.1	Introduction	5	
	3.2	Infinite datatypes	5	
	3.3	Infinite proofs	5	
	3.4	Relation with fixed points	5	
4	Agd	a	7	
	4.1	Dependent types	7	
	4.2	Termination and productivity	7	
	4.3	Sized types	7	
5	The partiality monad			
	5.1	Monads	9	
	5.2	Implementation	9	
6	The	IMP language	11	
	6.1	Syntax	11	
	6.2	Semantics	11	
	6.3	Implementation	11	
	6.4		11	
			11	
		6.4.2 Pure folding	11	

iv *CONTENTS*

Introduction

2 INTRODUCTION CHAPTER 1

Semantics

2.1 Introduction

In 1967, computer scientist Robert Floyd wrote, in a seminal paper [Flo67],

4 SEMANTICS CHAPTER 2

Induction and coinduction

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Infinite datatypes
- 3.3 Infinite proofs
- 3.4 Relation with fixed points

Agda

- 4.1 Dependent types
- 4.2 Termination and productivity
- 4.3 Sized types

8 AGDA CHAPTER 4

The partiality monad

- 5.1 Monads
- 5.2 Implementation

The IMP language

In this chapter we will go over the implementation of a simple imperative language called **Imp**, as described in [PdAC⁺23]. After defining its syntax, we will give rules for its semantics and show its implementation in Agda. After this introductory work, we will discuss analysis and optimization of Imp programs.

6.1 Syntax

The syntax of the Imp language is straightforward, and can be described in a handful of EBNF rules.

- 6.2 Semantics
- 6.3 Implementation
- 6.4 Analysis and optimization
- 6.4.1 Definite initialization analysis
- 6.4.2 Pure folding

Bibliography

- [Flo67] R. W. Floyd. Assigning meanings to programs. *Mathematical aspects of computer science*, 19, 1967.
- [PdAC⁺23] Benjamin C. Pierce, Arthur Azevedo de Amorim, Chris Casinghino, Marco Gaboardi, Michael Greenberg, Cătălin Hriţcu, Vilhelm Sjöberg, and Brent Yorgey. Logical foundations, 2023. [Accessed 13-09-2023].