

Abstract Interpretation of Resolution-Based Semantics

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1

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Objective

2

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Our objective

- To understand the work of [Giorgio Levi](#) on the semantics of logic programming languages for static analysis
- By reconstructing the [semantics of Resolution-based/Logic Programming...](#)
 - ...by [abstract interpretations](#) of a concrete semantics
 - ...chosen to be a [branching-time trace-based semantics](#) ([built from a state transition system](#))
- In passing, we get some novel semantics that tackle [impure characteristics of real implementations](#).

3

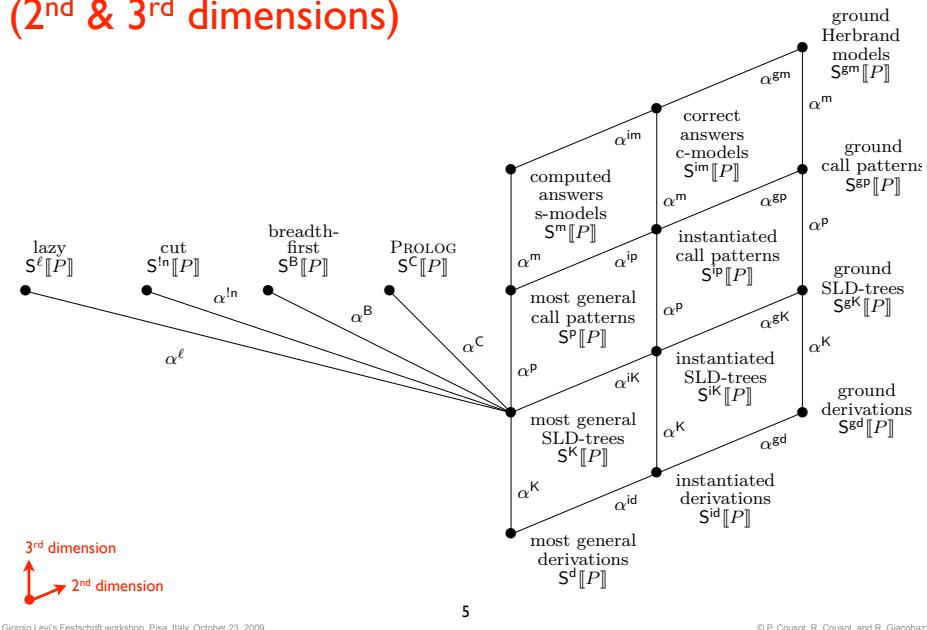
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Result

4

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A Hierarchy of Abstractions and Semantics (2nd & 3rd dimensions)



Syntax

Syntax of logic programs

$f \in \mathbb{F}$	function symbols
$v \in \mathbb{v}$	variable symbols
$\vec{v} = v_1, \dots, v_n$	sequences of variables (\vec{e})
$T, U, \dots \in \mathbb{t}$	terms built on \mathbb{F} and $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{v}$
$p \in \mathbb{p}$	predicate symbols
$A, B \in \mathbb{A}$	atoms built on \mathbb{p} and \mathbb{t}
$B = B_1 \dots B_n \in \mathbb{B}$	sequences of atoms (ε), body
$C = A \leftarrow B \in \mathbb{C}$	definite clauses (unit clauses $B = \varepsilon$)
$P \in \mathbb{P}^n \triangleq [0, n] \mapsto \mathbb{C}$	Prolog programs
0:	$n(0) \leftarrow$
1:	$n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)$
$\alpha^L(P) \triangleq \{P_1, \dots, P_n\} \in \mathbb{L}$	abstraction to logic programs
$\mathbb{G} \triangleq \{p(v) \mid p \in \mathbb{p} \wedge v \in \mathbb{v}\}$	most general atomic goals

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7

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Substitutions

$\vartheta, \sigma \in \mathbb{S}$	substitutions (ε)
$\vartheta(T)$	application to a term T
$\vartheta _e$	restriction to variables of expression e
$\vartheta \circ \sigma$	composition
$\vartheta \preceq \sigma$	pre-order
$\vartheta \simeq \vartheta'$	equivalence (renaming)
$\langle \mathbb{S}^\circ /_{\sim}, \preceq \rangle$	complete lattice of idempotent substitutions up to renaming
$\mathcal{T}_{\sim}^\emptyset$	similarly for terms up to renaming

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Unification

$mgu(\mathcal{T}) = \{\sigma\}$ most general unifier of a set \mathcal{T} of terms
 $\triangleq \emptyset$ not unifiable

$mgu(\mathcal{E})$ most general unifier of a set of equations $\mathcal{E} = \{T_i = U_i \mid i \in \Delta\}$

$\uparrow \in \mathbb{S}^\circ /_\sim \times \mathbb{S}^\circ /_\sim \mapsto \mathbb{S}^\circ /_\sim$ parallel composition of idempotent substitutions

9

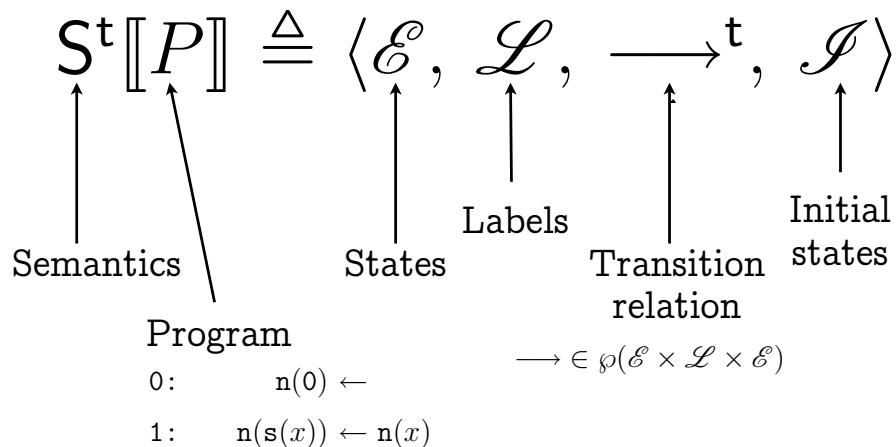
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Operational semantics defined by a labelled transition system

10

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Labelled transition system



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States

states $\eta \in \mathcal{E} \triangleq \mathcal{S} \times \mathbb{S}$

$\eta = \langle \varpi, \vartheta \rangle$

Stack

Substitution

Stacks $\varpi \in \mathcal{S} \triangleq \mathcal{K}^+ \triangleq (\mathcal{C} \cup \mathcal{M})^+$

- $[\vdash A]$ Initial stack for goal A
 - $[\dashv \square]$ Empty stack final marker
- } markers in \mathcal{M}
- $\mathcal{C}^* \triangleq \{[i:A \leftarrow B.B'] \mid i:A \leftarrow B.B' \in P\}$ specifying the control state of the derivation (B has been derived while B' is still to be derived) or a marker \mathcal{M}

12

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Initial states

$$\mathcal{I} \triangleq \{\langle [\vdash A], \vartheta \rangle \mid A \in \mathbb{A} \wedge \vartheta \in \mathbb{S}\}$$

goal $\vartheta(A)$ (most often ϑ is chosen as the empty substitution ε)



13

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Transition labels

- $\langle i:A' \leftarrow B/\sigma : \text{apply renamed-apart clause } i:A' \leftarrow B \text{ to prove goal } A, \text{ such that } A \text{ and } A' \text{ unify by } \sigma \in mgu(\vartheta(A), A') \rangle$
- $\langle i:A \leftarrow B \rangle : \text{the proof of } B \text{ is finished}$

14

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Labelled transition relation $\xrightarrow{\ell}^t, \ell \in \mathcal{L}$

- Start from goal $\vartheta(A)$, apply clause $i:A \leftarrow B$, prove new goal $\sigma \uparrow \vartheta(B)$:

$$\langle [\vdash A], \vartheta \rangle \xrightarrow{\langle i:A' \leftarrow B/\sigma : t \rangle} \langle [\vdash \square][i:A' \leftarrow \bullet B], \vartheta' \rangle$$

if $i:A' \leftarrow B \in P, \sigma \in mgu(\vartheta(A), A'), \vartheta' \in \sigma \uparrow \vartheta$ (2)

- Start from subgoal $\vartheta(B)$, apply clause $j:B' \leftarrow B''$, prove new goal $\sigma \uparrow \vartheta(B'')$:

$$\langle \varpi[i:A \leftarrow B.BB'], \vartheta \rangle \xrightarrow{\langle j:B' \leftarrow B''/\sigma : t \rangle} \langle \varpi[i:A \leftarrow BB.B'][j:B' \leftarrow \bullet B''], \vartheta' \rangle$$

if $i:A \leftarrow BBB', j:B' \leftarrow B'' \in P, \sigma \in mgu(\vartheta(B), B'), \vartheta' \in \sigma \uparrow \vartheta$ (3)

Let $i:A \leftarrow B \in P$ means that $i:A \leftarrow B$ is a clause of the PROLOG program P renamed/standardized apart using fresh variables

15

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Labelled transition relation $\xrightarrow{\ell}^t, \ell \in \mathcal{L}$

- Proof of B is finished, go back to previous goal on stack:

$$\langle \varpi[i:A \leftarrow B.], \vartheta \rangle \xrightarrow{\langle i:A \leftarrow B : t \rangle} \langle \varpi, \vartheta \rangle \quad \text{if } i:A \leftarrow B \in P . \quad (4)$$

16

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Example:

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0:      n(0) ←
1:      n(s(x)) ← n(x)

```

$\langle \vdash n(s(s(0))), \varepsilon \rangle$
 $\xrightarrow{(\exists 1:n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)/\{x \leftarrow s(0)\})}^t$ {initial state}

$\langle \neg \square [1:n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)], \{x \leftarrow s(0)\} \rangle$
 $\xrightarrow{(\exists 1:n(s(x')) \leftarrow n(x')/\{x' \leftarrow 0\})}^t$ {by (2)}

$\langle \neg \square [1:n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)][1:n(s(x')) \leftarrow n(x')], \{x \leftarrow s(0), x' \leftarrow 0\} \rangle$
 $\xrightarrow{(\exists 0:n(0) \leftarrow / \varepsilon)}^t$ {by (3)}

$\langle \neg \square [1:n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)][1:n(s(x')) \leftarrow n(x')][0:n(0) \leftarrow /],$
 $\{x \leftarrow s(0), x' \leftarrow 0\} \rangle$
 $\xrightarrow{0:n(0) \leftarrow /}^t$ {by (4)}

$\langle \neg \square [1:n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)][1:n(s(x')) \leftarrow n(x')], \{x \leftarrow s(0), x' \leftarrow 0\} \rangle$
 $\xrightarrow{1:n(s(x')) \leftarrow n(x')}^t$ {by (4)}

$\langle \neg \square [1:n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)], \{x \leftarrow s(0), x' \leftarrow 0\} \rangle$
 $\xrightarrow{1:n(s(x)) \leftarrow n(x)}^t$ {by (4)}

$\langle \neg \square, \{x \leftarrow s(0), x' \leftarrow 0\} \rangle$ \square

17

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Transitional Most General Maximal Derivation Semantics

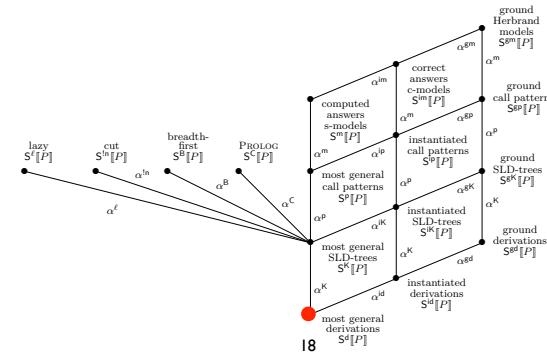
- Maximal traces generated by the transition system starting from most general goals:

$$\begin{aligned}
S^d[P] &\triangleq \{\eta_0 \xrightarrow{\ell_0} \eta_1 \dots \eta_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\ell_{n-1}} \eta_n \in \Theta[n+1] \mid n \geq 0 \wedge \\
&\quad \eta_0 = \langle \vdash p(v), \varepsilon \rangle \wedge p \in \mathbb{P} \wedge v \in \mathbb{V} \wedge \forall i \in [0, n-1] : \eta_i \xrightarrow{\ell_i}^t \eta_{i+1} \wedge \\
&\quad \forall \eta \in \mathcal{S} : \forall \ell \in \mathcal{L} : \neg(\eta_n \xrightarrow{\ell}^t \eta)\}.
\end{aligned}$$

19

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Most general maximal terminal derivation semantics of logic programs



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Final states

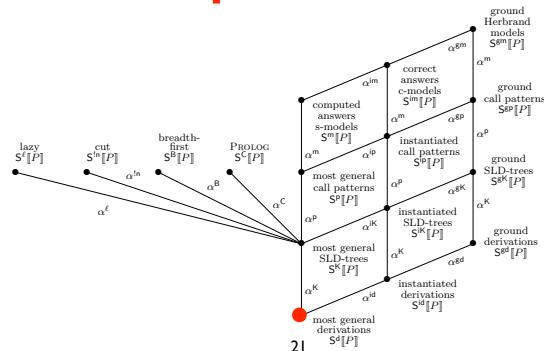
- answer substitution states in $\mathcal{E}^{AS} \triangleq \{\langle \vdash \square, \vartheta \rangle \mid \vartheta \in \mathbb{S}\}$ for successful traces, or
- finite failure states in $\mathcal{E}^{FF} \triangleq \{\langle \varpi[i:A \leftarrow \mathbf{B}.\mathbf{B}'], \vartheta \rangle \mid \forall j:B' \leftarrow \mathbf{B}'' \in P : mgu(\vartheta(B), B') = \emptyset\}$ for failing traces.

20

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Most general maximal terminal derivation semantics of logic programs in fixpoint form



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Abstractions of the trace semantics

23

Transitional Most General Derivation Semantics in Fixpoint Form

Theorem 20 $S^d[\![P]\!] = \text{lfp}^\subseteq \hat{F}^d[\!\![\overline{P}]\!]$.

$\hat{F}^d[\![P]\!] \in \wp(\Theta) \mapsto \wp(\Theta)$

$$\hat{F}^d[\![P]\!] \triangleq \lambda \Theta \cdot \bigcup_{i : A \leftarrow B \in P, p \in \wp, v \in \mathbb{V}, \vartheta \in \text{mgu}(p(v), A)} \langle \langle \vdash p(v), \varepsilon \rangle \xrightarrow{\langle i : A \leftarrow B / \vartheta \rangle} \hat{F}_*^d[i : A \leftarrow B] \vartheta \Theta \rangle \quad (9)$$

$\hat{F}_*^d[i : A \leftarrow B.B'] \in \mathbb{S} \mapsto \wp(\Theta) \mapsto \wp(\Theta)$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{F}_*^d[i : A \leftarrow B.BB'] &\triangleq \lambda \vartheta \cdot \lambda \Theta \cdot \\ &\{ \langle \langle \langle \neg \Box \rangle \vdash i : A \leftarrow B.BB', \neg \Box \vdash i : A \leftarrow BB.B', \vartheta \rangle \uparrow^d \eta \xrightarrow{\ell} \langle \varpi, \vartheta' \rangle \rangle ; \theta | \\ &\eta \xrightarrow{\ell} \langle \varpi, \vartheta' \rangle \in \Theta.B' \wedge \sigma \in \text{mgu}(B, B') \wedge \theta \in \hat{F}_*^d[i : A \leftarrow BB.B'] (\vartheta \uparrow \sigma \uparrow \vartheta'^3) \Theta \} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

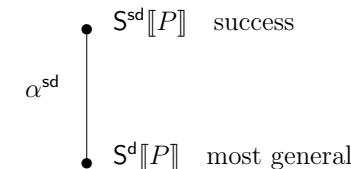
$$\hat{F}_*^d[i : A \leftarrow B_*] \triangleq \lambda \vartheta \cdot \lambda \Theta \cdot \{ \langle \langle \neg \Box \rangle \vdash i : A \leftarrow B_*, \vartheta \rangle \xrightarrow{\langle i : A \leftarrow B \rangle} \langle \langle \neg \Box \rangle, \vartheta \rangle \} . \quad (11)$$

22

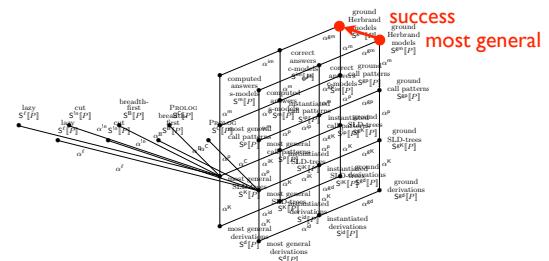
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1st dimension: Partial correctness Abstractions



The *success abstraction* eliminates finite failures

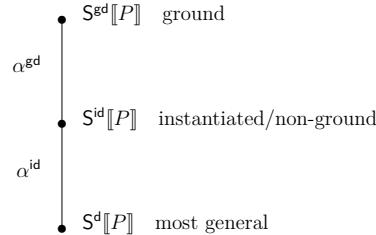


24

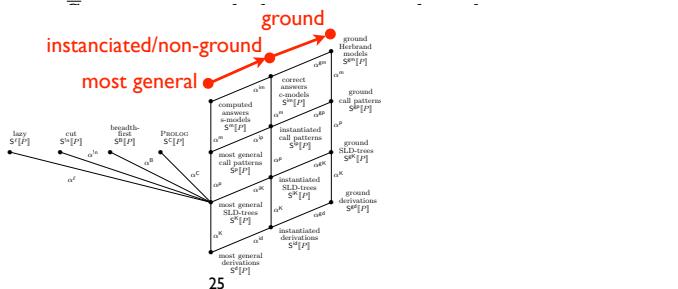
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2nd dimension: Instantiation Abstractions

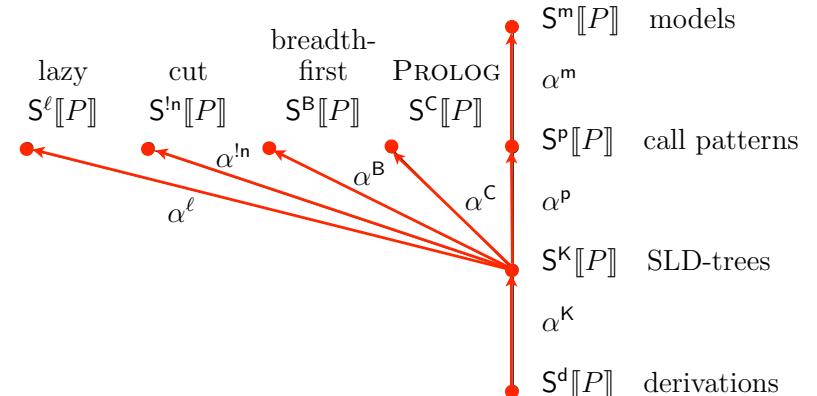


The *derivation ground instantiation abstraction* maps derivations for non-ground goals to derivations for ground instantiations of these goals.



3rd dimension: Computational Information Abstractions

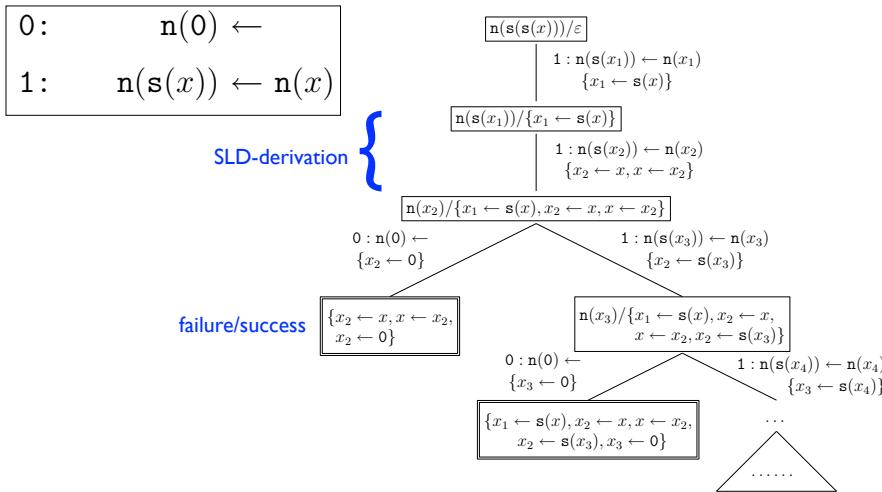
- Abstract away the information provided by a computation



26

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SLD trees



27

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SLD abstraction

- The SLD-abstraction collects the nodes of the SLD-tree from the states of traces.
- The SLD-trees are built from traces by grouping their common prefixes in the order of the PROLOG program clauses.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha^K(\langle \vdash A \rangle, \vartheta) &\triangleq \boxed{\leftarrow \vartheta(A) / \vartheta} \\
 \alpha^K(\langle \varpi, \vartheta \rangle) &\triangleq \boxed{\leftarrow \langle \alpha^K(\langle \varpi, \vartheta \rangle), \vartheta \rangle} \\
 \alpha'^K(\langle \varpi[i:A \leftarrow B.BB'], \vartheta \rangle) &\triangleq \vartheta(BB')\alpha'^K(\langle \varpi, \vartheta \rangle) \\
 \alpha'^K(\langle \neg \Box, \vartheta \rangle) &\triangleq \varepsilon \\
 \alpha^K(\Theta) &\triangleq \{\alpha^K(\eta)[i_1:\ell_1\alpha^K(\Theta_1); \dots; i_n:\ell_n\alpha^K(\Theta_n)] \mid \eta \in \mathcal{E} \wedge i_1 < \dots < i_n \wedge \\
 \Theta.\eta &= \bigcup_{k=1}^n \Theta_k \wedge \forall k \in [1, n] : \Theta_k = \{\theta \mid \eta \xrightarrow{i_k:\ell_k} \theta \in \Theta.\eta\} \neq \emptyset\} \cup \\
 \alpha^K(\{\theta \mid \eta \xrightarrow{i:C} \theta \in \Theta\}) &\cup \{\boxed{\vartheta} \quad | \quad \exists \vartheta : \langle \neg \Box, \vartheta \rangle \in \Theta\}
 \end{aligned}$$

28

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Call-patterns abstractions

- The *call-patterns abstraction* collects the goal, call-patterns and the answer substitution for each derivation, including those leading to finite failures

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha^P(\langle \xi_i, i \in \Delta \rangle) &\triangleq \bigcup \{\alpha^P(\xi_i) \mid i \in \Delta\} && \text{SLD derivation forest} \\
 \alpha^P(\boxed{\leftarrow A/\sigma} [\![i_1 : A_1 \leftarrow B_1/\vartheta_1 \xi_1; \dots; i_n : A_n \leftarrow B_n/\vartheta_n \xi_n]\!]) &\triangleq && \text{SLD tree} \\
 \alpha'^P(\boxed{\leftarrow A/\sigma} [\![i_1 : A_1 \leftarrow B_1/\vartheta_1 \xi_1; \dots; i_n : A_n \leftarrow B_n/\vartheta_n \xi_n]\!])(\sigma(A)) \\
 \alpha'^P(\boxed{\leftarrow BB/\sigma} [\![i_1 : A_1 \leftarrow B_1/\vartheta_1 \xi_1; \dots; i_n : A_n \leftarrow B_n/\vartheta_n \xi_n]\!])A' &\triangleq && \\
 \{\langle \sigma(A'), \sigma(B) \rangle\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^n \alpha'^P(\xi_i)(A') \\
 \alpha'^P(\boxed{\leftarrow B/\sigma} \square)A' &\triangleq \emptyset && \text{failure} \\
 \alpha'^P(\boxed{\sigma} \square)A' &\triangleq \{\langle \sigma(A'), \neg \square \rangle\} && \text{success.}
 \end{aligned}$$

29

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The model abstraction

- The *model abstraction* collects answers in the call patterns

$$\alpha^M(K) \triangleq \{A \in \mathbb{A} \mid \langle A, \neg \square \rangle \in K\}$$

30

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The PROLOG abstraction

- The PROLOG *abstraction* abstracts a forest $\langle \xi_i, i \in \Delta \rangle$ of SLD-trees $\xi_i, i \in \Delta$ into the set of execution traces corresponding to a depth-first traversal of these SLD-trees ξ_i (as in the PROLOG interpreter).
- SLD-trees may have infinite branches so the execution sequence, defined by transfinite recursion, may be transfinite (and is truncated to ω by PROLOG interpreters, which is a further abstraction).

$$\alpha^C(\langle \xi_i, i \in \Delta \rangle) \triangleq \langle \alpha^C(\xi_i), i \in \Delta \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha^C(\boxed{\leftarrow B/\sigma} [\![i_1 : A_1 \leftarrow B_1/\vartheta_1 \xi_1; \dots; i_n : A_n \leftarrow B_n/\vartheta_n \xi_n]\!]) &\triangleq \\
 \boxed{\leftarrow B/\sigma} i_1 : A_1 \leftarrow B_1/\vartheta_1 \alpha^C(\xi_1) \dots i_n : A_n \leftarrow B_n/\vartheta_n \alpha^C(\xi_n) \\
 \alpha^C(\boxed{\leftarrow B/\sigma} \square) &\triangleq \epsilon \\
 \alpha^C(\boxed{\sigma} \square) &\triangleq \sigma .
 \end{aligned}$$

31

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Fixpoint abstract semantics

32

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Abstract semantics

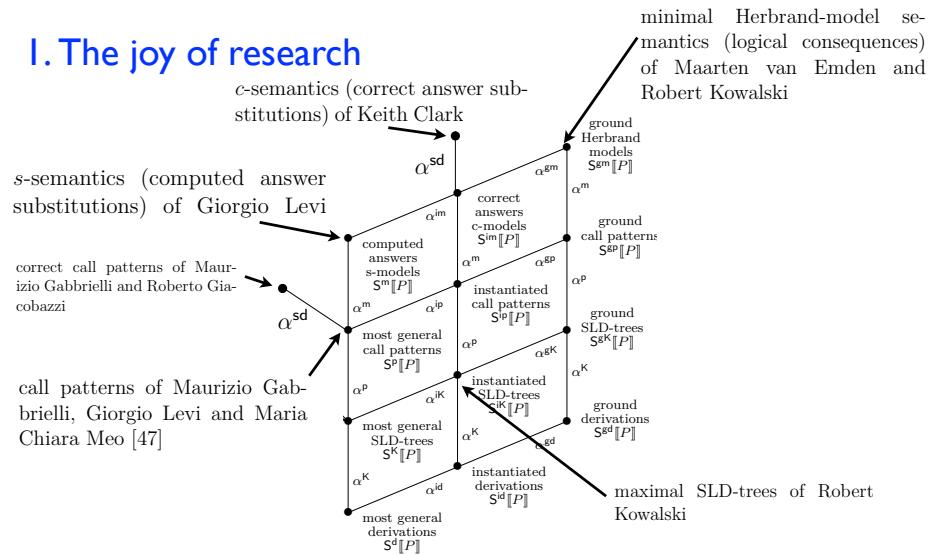
1. Define an abstraction of the trace semantics
2. Constructively derive the abstract semantics in fixpoint form (by proving commutation and applying the exact fixpoint transfer theorem)

33

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Conclusion

I. The joy of research



35

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Computational design of the abstract fixpoint semantics

- The trace semantics is in fixpoint form $s^d[P] = \text{lfp}^\subseteq \hat{F}^d[\bar{P}]$
- So, by abstraction, the abstract fixpoint semantics also have a fixpoint definition
- Example: Fixpoint s -semantics

Theorem 24 (G. Levi et al.) $S^s[P] = \text{lfp}^\subseteq \hat{F}^s[P]$.

Let us define the bottom-up call-patterns transformer $\hat{F}^s[P] \in \wp(\mathcal{A}) \mapsto \wp(\mathcal{A})$ for a PROLOG program $P \in \mathbb{P}$ as

$$\hat{F}^s[P] \triangleq \lambda \mathcal{A} \cdot \bigcup_{i:A \leftarrow B \in P} \{\vartheta(A) \mid \vartheta \in \hat{F}_i^s[i:A \leftarrow B] \mathcal{A} \{\varepsilon\}\} \quad (12)$$

where the clause transformer $\hat{F}_i^s[i:A \leftarrow B.B'] \in \wp(\Theta) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{S}) \mapsto \wp(\mathbb{S})$ is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{F}_i^s[i:A \leftarrow B.B'] &\triangleq \lambda \mathcal{A} \cdot \lambda \mathcal{I} \cdot \{\vartheta' \mid B' \in \mathcal{A} \wedge \sigma \in \text{mgu}(B, B') \wedge \vartheta \in \mathcal{I} \wedge \\ &\quad \vartheta' \in \hat{F}_i^s[i:A \leftarrow B.B'] \mathcal{A} (\vartheta \uparrow \sigma)\} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

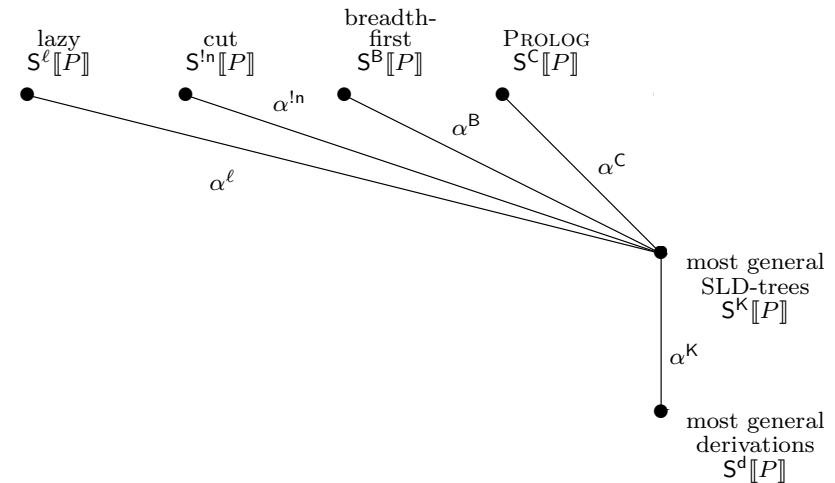
$$\hat{F}_i^s[i:A \leftarrow B.] \triangleq \lambda \mathcal{A} \cdot \lambda \mathcal{I} \cdot \mathcal{I}. \quad (14)$$

34

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Conclusion (cont'd)

2. Life is hard!



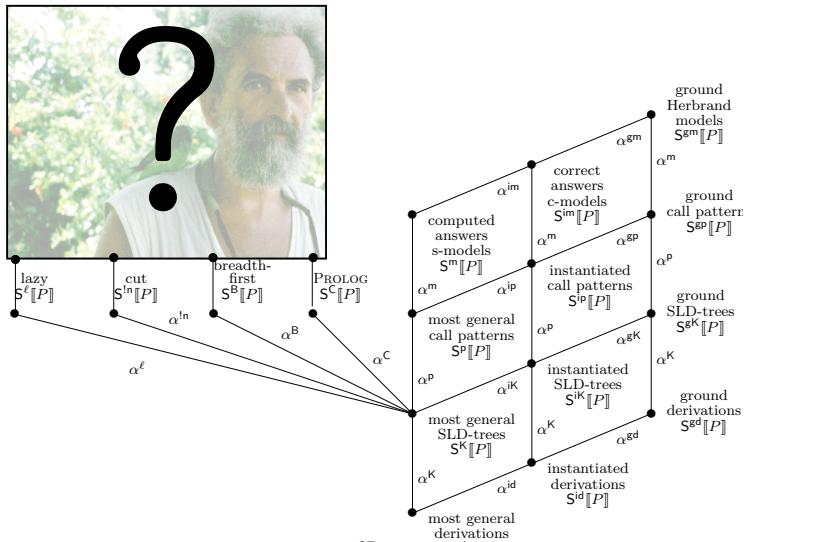
36

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Conclusion (cont'd)

3. Future work for Giorgio



Thank you



38

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