

# Administrivia

**Homework 8 has been updated.** It is due on 4/6 *Saturday* by 11:59PM

An early reminder that the final exam for this course is *Wednesday 5/8, 3–5PM in ST0 B50*

**Project 1** will be assigned this week

No discussion sections this week, but we will have office hours during the discussion sections in the same locations (except for Section A6)

# **Formal Semantics II: Applying Rules**

**Principles of Programming Languages  
Lecture 18**

# Objectives

Recap *operational semantics*.

Practice building reduction *derivations* for a collection of small examples.

See how this translates to *OCaml code*.

# Keywords

operational semantics

configuration

abstract machine

reduction rule

derivation

single-step reduction

multi-step reduction

stack-oriented language

# Recap: Operational Semantics

# A Thought Experiment

```
x=3
function f () {
    x=2
}
f
echo $x
```

Bash

```
x = 3
def f():
    x = 2
f()
print(x)
```

Python

```
let x = 3
let f () =
    let x = 2 in
    ()
let _ = f ()
let _ = print_int x
```

OCaml

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OCaml

**Question.** *How do we know what will happen when a program executes?*

Usually we build intuitions by writing programs and reading manuals

But many decisions about what it means to execute a program are arbitrary (or based on concerns like efficiency)

# demo

(Python vs. Bash vs. OCaml)

# High-Level

$$(S, p) \longrightarrow (S', p')$$

**Definition (Informal):** A **program** is a thing which is transformed (reduced) by *evaluation* and may update some kind of state

**Evaluation** is the process of *reducing* a program repeatedly until it is no longer possible to do so

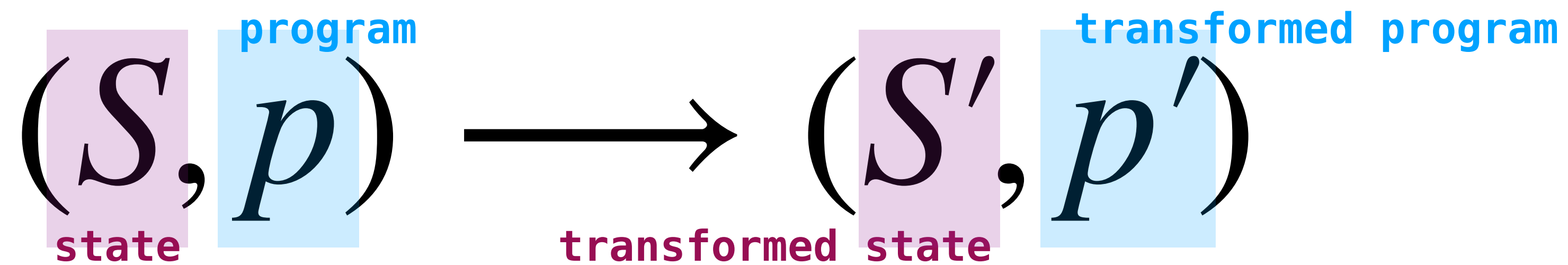
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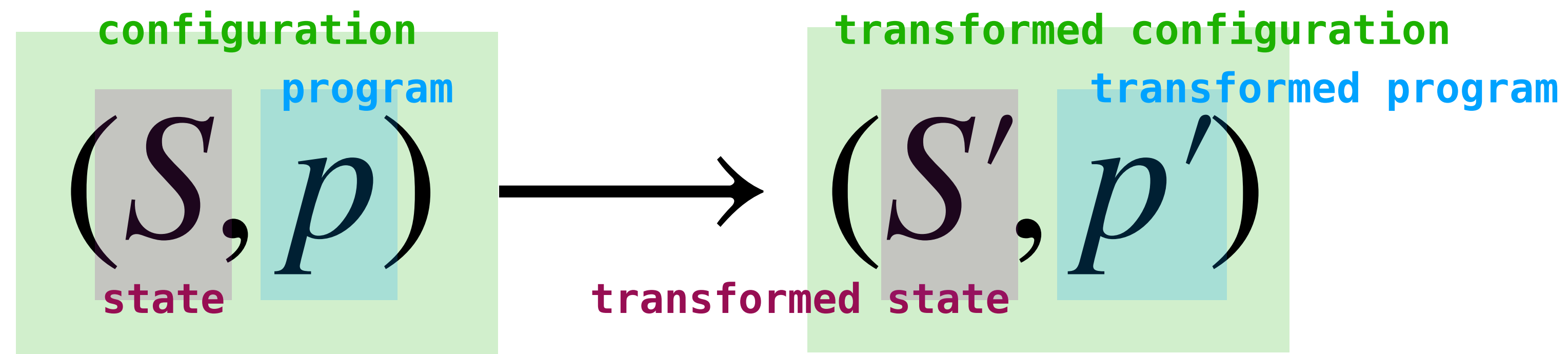
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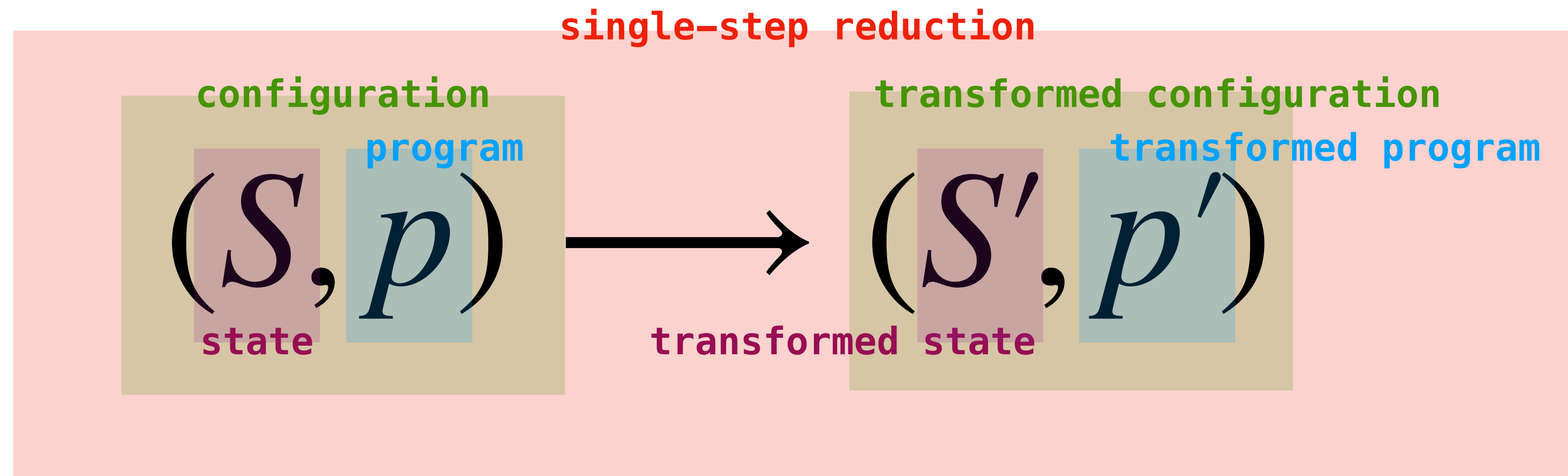
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# Example: Arithmetic Expressions

$$\left( \underbrace{\emptyset}_{\text{state}}, \underbrace{10 \times (2 + 3)}_{\text{program}} \right) \longrightarrow (\emptyset, 10 \times 5) \longrightarrow (\emptyset, 50)$$

State: none

Program: arithmetic expression



# Example: (Fragment of) OCaml

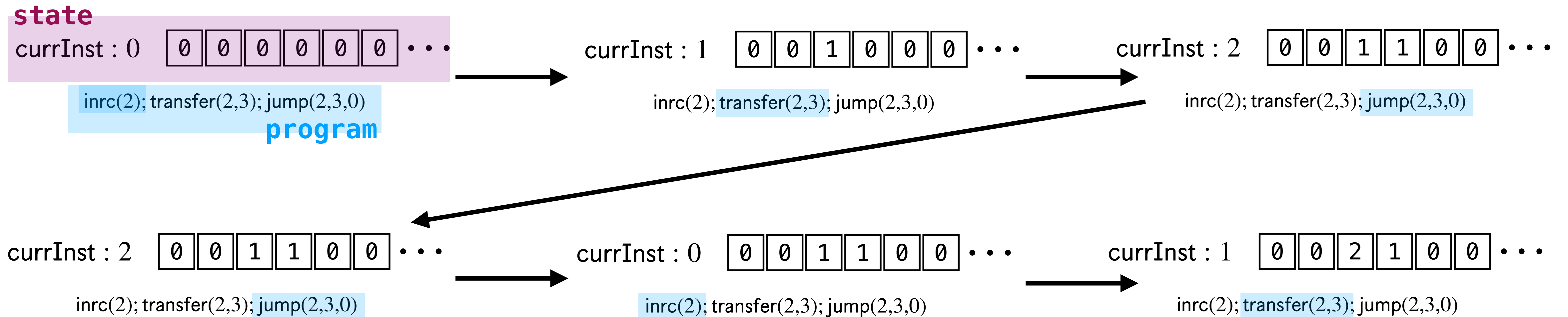
$(\emptyset, \text{let } x = 3 \text{ in if } x > 10 \text{ then } 4 \text{ else } 5)$   $\longrightarrow (\emptyset, \text{if } 3 > 10 \text{ then } 4 \text{ else } 5)$   
 $\longrightarrow (\emptyset, \text{if false then } 4 \text{ else } 5)$   
 $\longrightarrow (\emptyset, 5)$

State: none

Program: OCaml expression

For purely functional languages  
***there is no state***

# Example: Unlimited Register Machines



State:            (current instruction pointer) +  
                      (collection of number registers)

Program: sequence of commands for updating registers  
values and current instruction

# Example: Stack-Oriented Language

<sup>state</sup>  
( $\emptyset$  , <sup>program</sup> push 2; push 3; add)  $\longrightarrow$

(2 ::  $\emptyset$  , push 3; add)  $\longrightarrow$

(3 :: 2 ::  $\emptyset$  , add)  $\longrightarrow$

(5 ::  $\emptyset$  ,  $\epsilon$ )

State: stack (i.e., list) of values

Program: sequence of commands for manipulating the stack

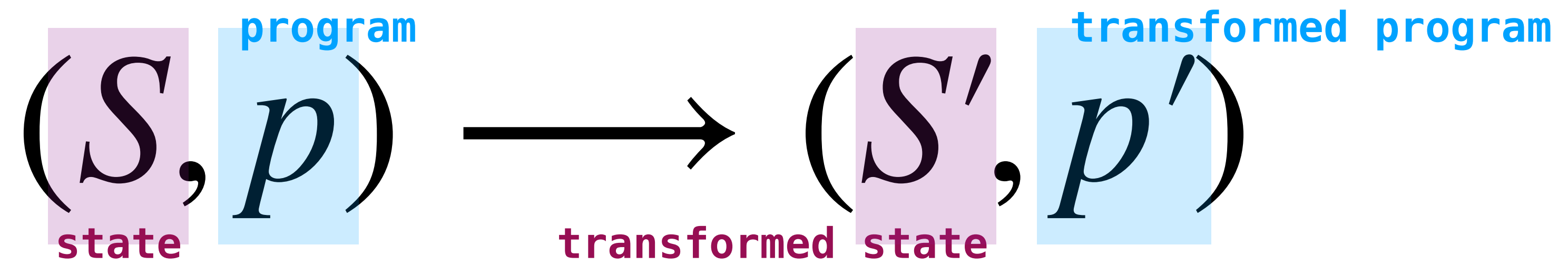
# Example: Stack-Oriented Language with Trace

(<sup>state</sup> ( $\emptyset$ ,  $\emptyset$ ), <sup>program</sup> push 2; trace; push 3; add; trace)  $\longrightarrow$   
( $(2 :: \emptyset, \emptyset)$ , trace; push 3; add; trace)  $\longrightarrow$   
( $(2 :: \emptyset, "2" :: \emptyset)$ , push 3; add; trace)  $\longrightarrow$   
( $(3 :: 2 :: \emptyset, "2" :: \emptyset)$ , add; trace)  $\longrightarrow$   
( $(5 :: \emptyset, "2" :: \emptyset)$ , trace)  $\longrightarrow$   
( $(5 :: \emptyset, "5" :: "2" :: \emptyset)$ ,  $\epsilon$ )

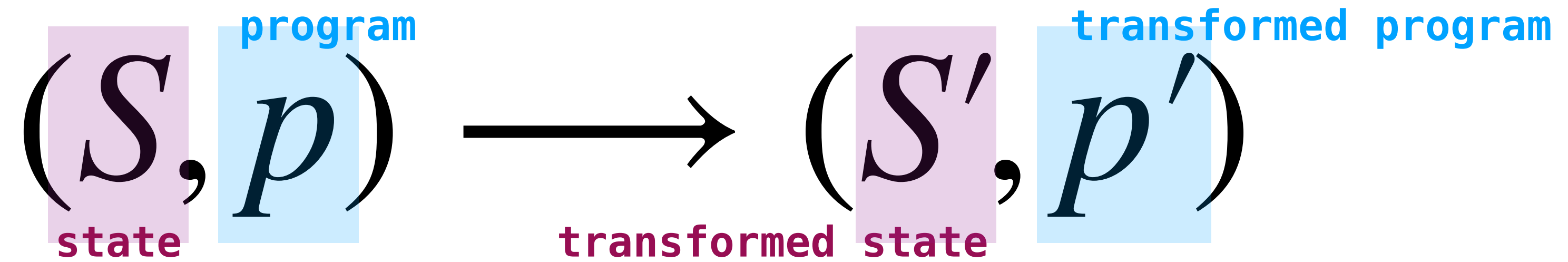
State: stack of values + trace of strings to print

Program: sequence of commands for manipulating the stack

# High-Level

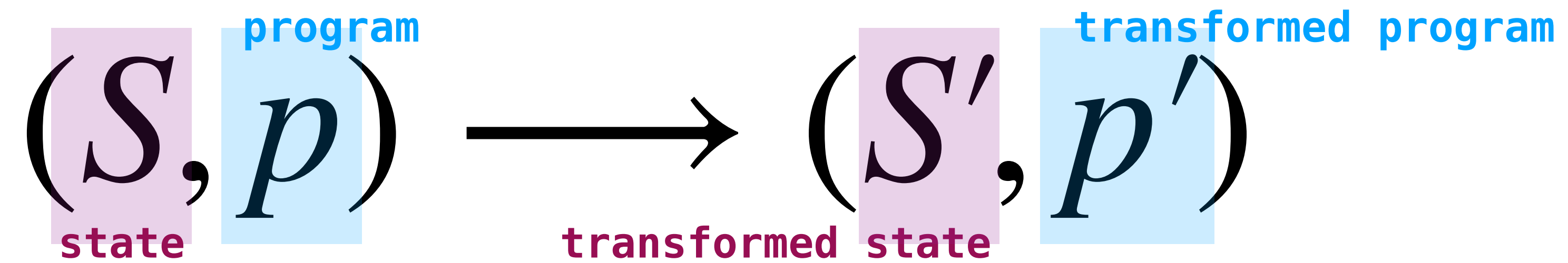


# High-Level



When we define the operational semantics of a programming language, we need to define two things:

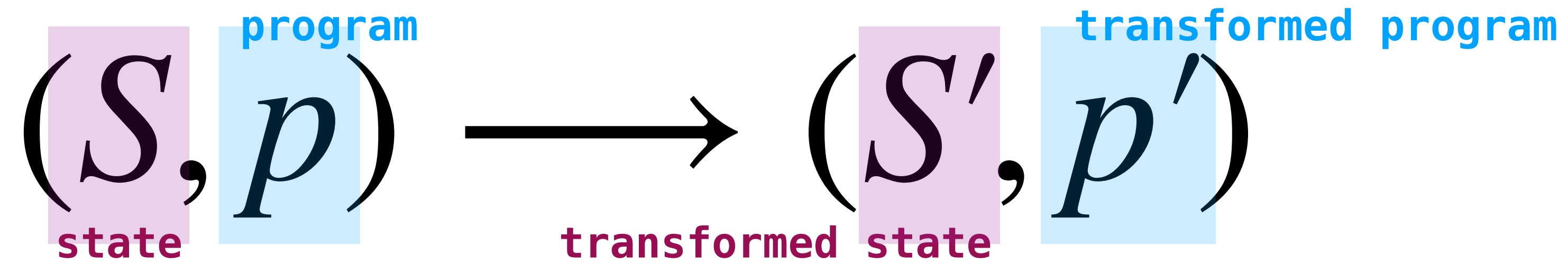
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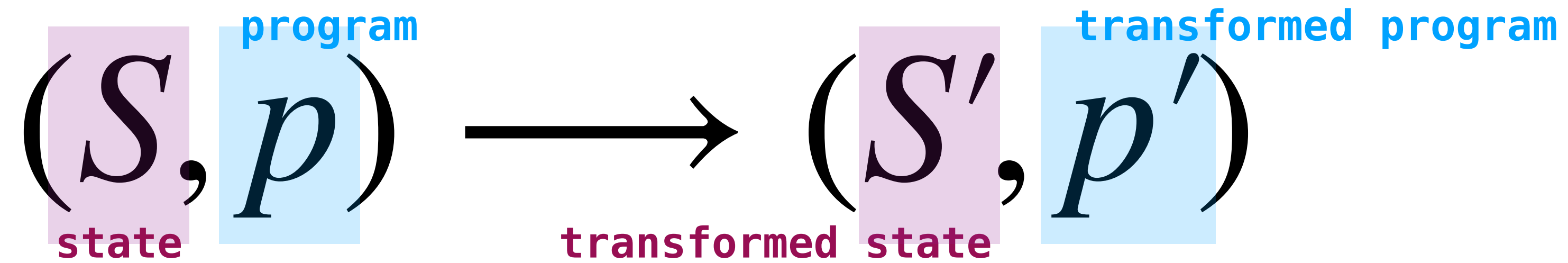


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- » What **rules** describe how to transform configurations?



# High-Level



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# Expressing Possible Reductions

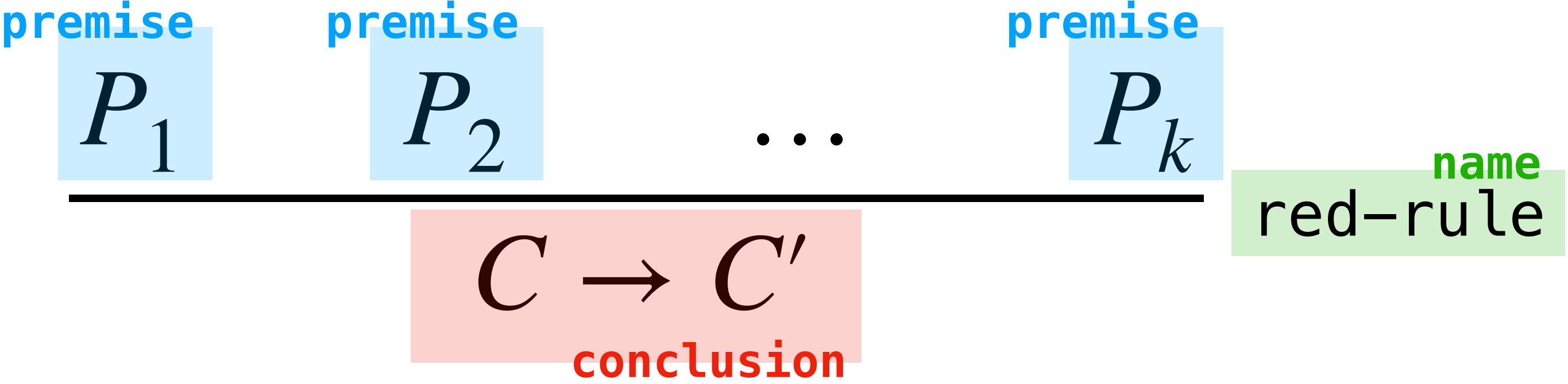
$$\begin{array}{lll} (\emptyset, 1 + 2) \rightarrow (\emptyset, 3) & (\emptyset, 1 + (1 + 2)) \rightarrow (\emptyset, 1 + 3) & \\ (\emptyset, 1 + 3) \rightarrow (\emptyset, 4) & (\emptyset, 1 + (1 + 3)) \rightarrow (\emptyset, 1 + 4) & \dots \\ (\emptyset, 1 + 4) \rightarrow (\emptyset, 5) & (\emptyset, 1 + (1 + 4)) \rightarrow (\emptyset, 1 + 5) & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{array}$$

**One Approach:** *list them all.*

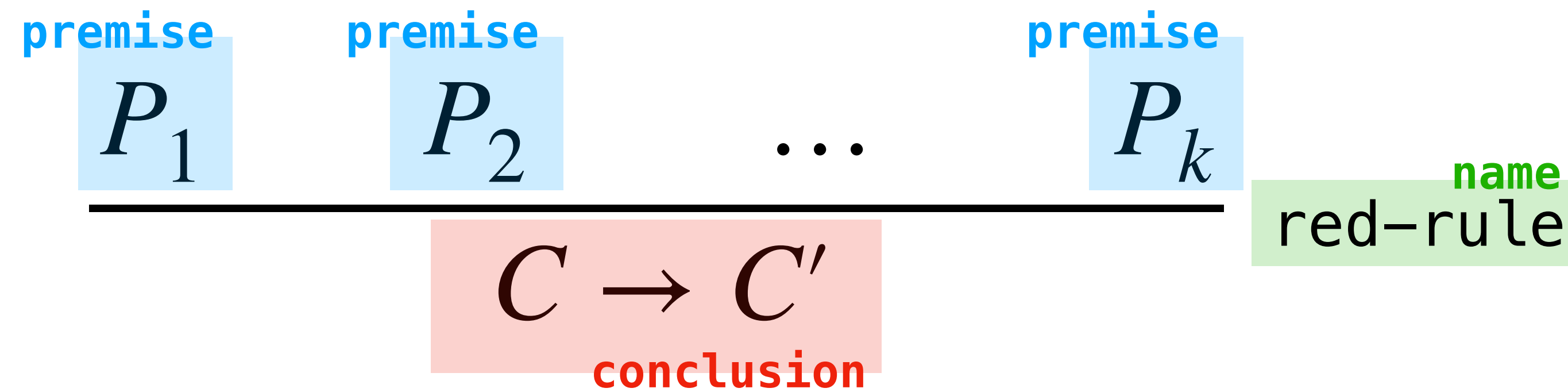
This is fine for small programming languages, but **doesn't scale well.**

We'd rather be able to give a concise description of the **shapes of possible reductions.**

# Reduction Rules

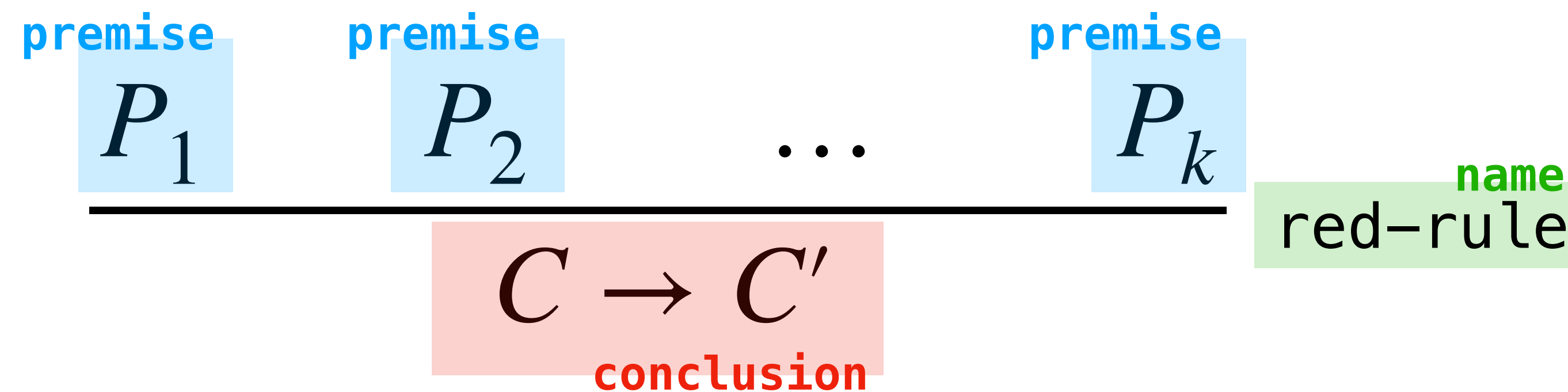


# Reduction Rules



Then general form of a reduction rule has a collection of **premises** and a **conclusion**, which is a **shape of a reduction**

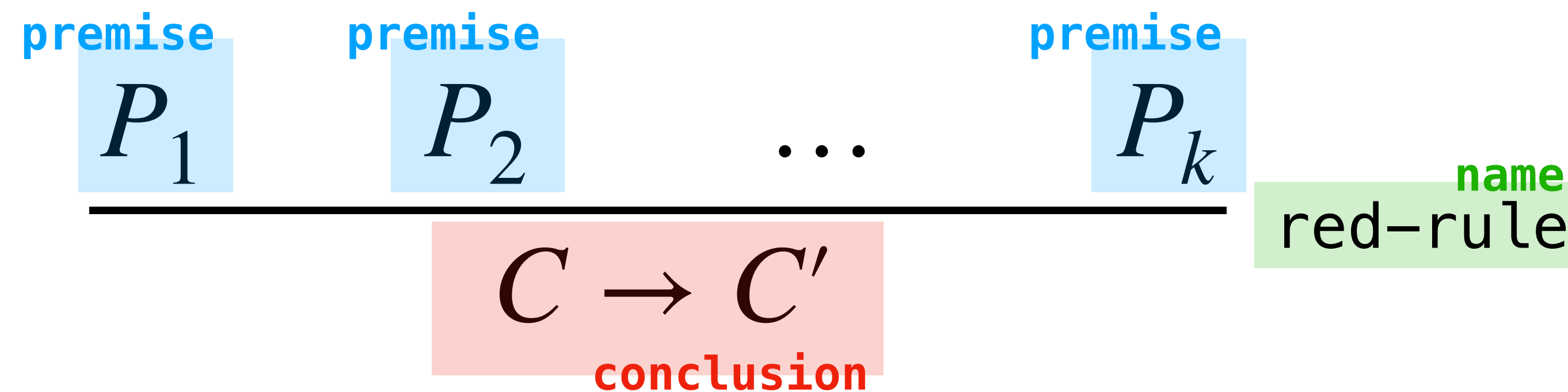
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Think of a "shape" like an OCaml "pattern"

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Think of a "shape" like an OCaml "pattern"

A premise may be another reduction "shape" or a **trivial condition** (we will see examples in the next slide)

# Example

$$\frac{e_1 \xrightarrow{\text{premise}} e'_1}{\text{add } e_1 e_2 \xrightarrow{\text{conclusion}} \text{add } e'_1 e_2} \text{ add-left}$$

```
<expr> ::= ( <op> <expr> <expr> )  
         | <bool> | <int> | ERROR  
<op>    ::= add | sub | eq  
<bool>  ::= true | false  
<int>   ::= ...
```

## Example Programs:

```
(add 2 3)  
(add (add 2 3) 5)  
(eq (add 2 3) (sub 7 2))  
(add true 2)
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## Example Programs:

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*If  $e_1$  reduces to  $e'_1$  in one step, then  $\text{add } e_1 e_2$  reduces to  $\text{add } e'_1 e_2$  in one step*



# Example

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Example Programs:

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*If  $e_1$  reduces to  $e'_1$  in one step, then  $\text{add } e_1 e_2$  reduces to  $\text{add } e'_1 e_2$  in one step*

In this case, the premise is another reduction

# Another Example

$$\frac{n_1 \text{ is a number} \quad n_2 \text{ is a number}}{\text{add } n_1 \ n_2 \longrightarrow n_1 + n_2} \text{ add-ok}$$

*If  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are numbers then **add**  $n_1 \ n_2$  reduces in one step to **the number**  $n_1 + n_2$*

In this case, the premises are trivial conditions (it should be easy to determine if something is a number)

# Rules for Addition

<code>&lt;expr&gt;</code>	<code>::=</code>	<code>( &lt;op&gt; &lt;expr&gt; &lt;expr&gt; )</code>
		<code>  &lt;bool&gt;   &lt;int&gt;   ERROR</code>
<code>&lt;op&gt;</code>	<code>::=</code>	<code>add   sub   eq</code>
<code>&lt;bool&gt;</code>	<code>::=</code>	<code>true   false</code>
<code>&lt;int&gt;</code>	<code>::=</code>	<code>...</code>

$$\frac{e_1 \longrightarrow e'_1}{\text{add } e_1 \ e_2 \longrightarrow \text{add } e'_1 \ e_2} \text{ add-left}$$

$$\frac{e_2 \longrightarrow e'_2}{\text{add } e_1 \ e_2 \longrightarrow \text{add } e_1 \ e'_2} \text{ add-right}$$

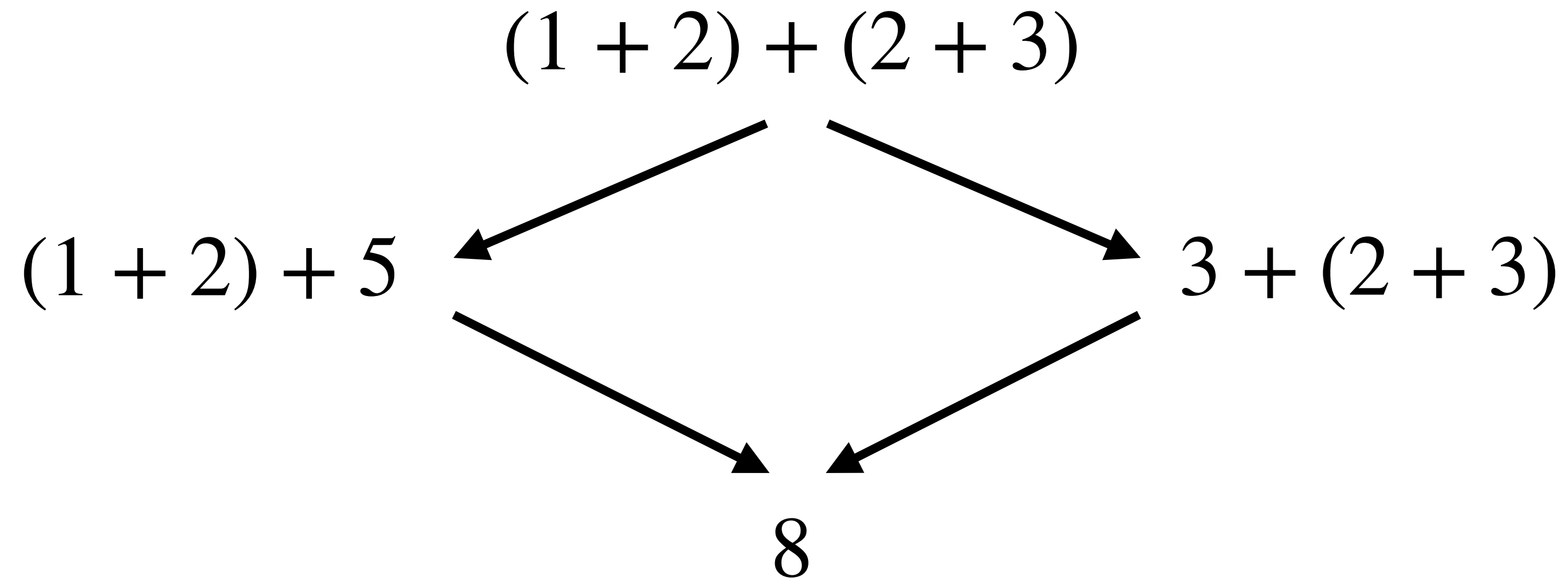
$$\frac{v \text{ is a Bool or Error}}{\text{add } v \ e \longrightarrow \text{Error}} \text{ add-left-error}$$

$$\frac{v \text{ is a Bool or Error}}{\text{add } e \ v \longrightarrow \text{Error}} \text{ add-right-error}$$

error handling

$$\frac{n_1 \text{ is a number} \quad n_2 \text{ is a number}}{\text{add } n_1 \ n_2 \longrightarrow n_1 + n_2} \text{ add-ok}$$

# Reduction is a Relation



It's important to recognize that **reduction is a *relation***.  
This means there may be **multiple choices of reductions**.

When possible, we try do design our rules to avoid this.

# Reduction is a Relation

$$\frac{\text{add } 1 \ 2 \longrightarrow 3}{(\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (\text{add } 3 \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3))} \text{ add-left}$$

$$\frac{\text{add } 2 \ 3 \longrightarrow 5}{(\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) \ 5)} \text{ add-right}$$

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There are two reductions from `(add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))` in our current rule set.

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There are two reductions from `(add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))` in our current rule set.

We can avoid this by *breaking symmetry*. We will enforce that the right argument can be reduced only when the `left argument is completely reduced`.

# Rules for Addition

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$$\frac{e_1 \longrightarrow e'_1}{\text{add } e_1 \ e_2 \longrightarrow \text{add } e'_1 \ e_2} \text{ add-left}$$

$$\frac{v \text{ is a number} \quad e_2 \longrightarrow e'_2}{\text{add } v \ e_2 \longrightarrow \text{add } v \ e'_2} \text{ add-right}$$

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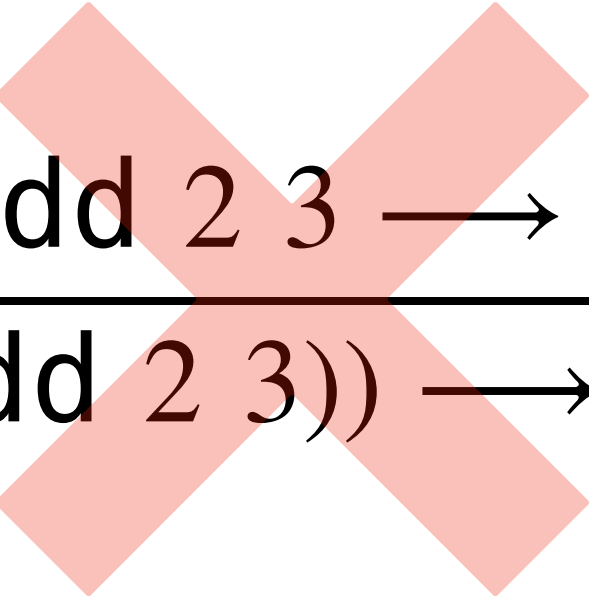
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$$\frac{n_1 \text{ is a number} \quad n_2 \text{ is a number}}{\text{add } n_1 \ n_2 \longrightarrow n_1 + n_2} \text{ add-ok}$$



# Enforcing an Evaluation Order

$$\frac{\text{add } 1 \ 2 \longrightarrow 3}{(\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (\text{add } 3 (\text{add } 2 \ 3))} \text{ add-left}$$


$$\frac{\text{add } 2 \ 3 \longrightarrow 5}{(\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) 5)} \text{ add-right}$$

The new rule enforces that arguments of **add** are evaluated from left to right.

# Understanding Check

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          | <bool> | <int> | ERROR  
<op>    ::= add | sub | eq  
<bool>  ::= true | false  
<int>   ::= ...
```

*To the best of your ability, write down the reduction rules for **eq***

*When should there be an error?*

*What order should the arguments be evaluated?*

# Answer

```
<expr> ::= ( <op> <expr> <expr> )  
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$$\frac{v \text{ is a num or bool} \quad e_2 \longrightarrow e'_2}{(\text{eq } v \ e_2) \longrightarrow (\text{eq } v \ e'_2)}$$

$$\frac{b_1 \text{ is a bool} \quad b_2 \text{ is a bool}}{(\text{eq } b_1 \ b_2) \longrightarrow b_1 = b_2}$$

$$\frac{n_1 \text{ is a num} \quad n_2 \text{ is a num}}{(\text{eq } n_1 \ n_2) \longrightarrow n_1 = n_2}$$

$$\frac{b \text{ is a bool} \quad n \text{ is a num}}{(\text{eq } b \ n) \longrightarrow \text{ERROR}}$$

$$\frac{n \text{ is a num} \quad b \text{ is a bool}}{(\text{eq } n \ b) \longrightarrow \text{ERROR}}$$

# Answer

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$$\frac{b \text{ is a bool} \quad n \text{ is a num}}{(\text{eq } b \ n) \longrightarrow \text{ERROR}}$$

$$\frac{n \text{ is a num} \quad b \text{ is a bool}}{(\text{eq } n \ b) \longrightarrow \text{ERROR}}$$

**Looks a lot like pattern matching.**

# Evaluation

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Specifying the operational semantics of a programming language means:

- » Deciding on what a **configuration** is (i.e., what **state** there is, if any)
- » Providing all the **reduction rules** for configurations

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# Derivations

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{10 \text{ is a number}}{\text{sub } 10 (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 (\text{add } 3 (\text{add } 2 \ 3))} \text{sub-right}}{\text{add-left}}}{\frac{\frac{\frac{1 \text{ is a number} \quad 2 \text{ is a number}}{\text{add } 1 \ 2 \longrightarrow 3} \text{add-ok}}{\text{add-left}} \text{ (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{(add 3 (add 2 3))} \text{add-left}}$$

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**Definition (Informal):** A **derivation** is a tree of reductions, gotten by applying reduction rules. The leaves are trivial premises.

A derivation is a **proof** that the reduction step is valid in the operational semantics.

# How To: Building Derivations

sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))

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# How To: Building Derivations

$$\frac{10 \text{ is a number} \quad (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (\text{add } 3 \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3))}{\text{sub } 10 \ (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 \ (\text{add } 3 \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3))} \text{sub-right}$$

We can build derivations from the ground up, applying rules in reverse.

If the reduction is valid, then at each step we should be able to find a rule to apply.

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If the reduction is valid, then at each step we should be able to find a rule to apply.



# How To: Building Derivations

$$\frac{\frac{10 \text{ is a number} \quad \frac{\text{add } 1 \ 2 \longrightarrow 3}{(\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (\text{add } 3 (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \text{ add-left}}}{\text{sub } 10 (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 (\text{add } 3 (\text{add } 2 \ 3))} \text{ sub-right}$$

We can build derivations from the ground up, applying rules in reverse.

If the reduction is valid, then at each step we should be able to find a rule to apply.

# How To: Building Derivations

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{1 \text{ is a number} \quad 2 \text{ is a number}}{\text{add } 1 \ 2 \longrightarrow 3} \text{ add-ok}}{\text{(add (add } 1 \ 2) \text{ (add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (add } 3 \text{ (add } 2 \ 3))} \text{ add-left}}{\text{sub } 10 \text{ (add (add } 1 \ 2) \text{ (add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow sub } 10 \text{ (add } 3 \text{ (add } 2 \ 3))} \text{ sub-right}$$

We can build derivations from the ground up, applying rules in reverse.

If the reduction is valid, then at each step we should be able to find a rule to apply.

# How To: Building Derivations

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{10 \text{ is a number}}{\text{sub } 10 \text{ (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 \text{ (add 3 (add 2 3))}}{\text{(add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{(add 3 (add 2 3))}} \text{sub-right}}{\frac{\text{(add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{(add 3 (add 2 3))}}{\text{add 1 2} \longrightarrow 3} \text{add-left}} \text{add-ok}$$

We can build derivations from the ground up, applying rules in reverse.

If the reduction is valid, then at each step we should be able to find a rule to apply.

# Two Questions

Once we have an operational semantics, there are **two questions** we can ask (as PL designers and on the final exam):

» Show that  $C \longrightarrow C'$ .

» Given  $C$ , determine a configuration  $C'$  such that  $C \longrightarrow C'$  (and show that it holds).

# Single-Step Evaluation

sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  ???

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`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3)) → ???`

The more "realistic" situation is to be given a program and then try to `figure out what it evaluates to` in a single step.

# Single-Step Evaluation

sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  ???

The more "realistic" situation is to be given a program and then try to figure out what it evaluates to in a single step.

This is why we want to be careful about how we design our rules: *we don't want to get too caught up on which rule to apply.*

# How To: Performing Single-Step Evaluation

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3)) → ??`

We can perform a single evaluation step by again, build derivations from the ground up.

If we've designed our rules well (e.g., by enforcing evaluation order) there should always be a rule to use.



# How To: Performing Single-Step Evaluation

*sub  $n$   $e$*   
sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  ??

We can perform a single evaluation step by again, build derivations from the ground up.

If we've designed our rules well (e.g., by enforcing evaluation order) there should always be a rule to use.

# How To: Performing Single-Step Evaluation

$$\frac{10 \text{ is a number} \quad (\text{add} (\text{add} 1 2) (\text{add} 2 3)) \longrightarrow ??}{\text{sub } 10 (\text{add} (\text{add} 1 2) (\text{add} 2 3)) \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 ??} \text{ sub-right}$$

We can perform a single evaluation step by again, build derivations from the ground up.

If we've designed our rules well (e.g., by enforcing evaluation order) there should always be a rule to use.

# How To: Performing Single-Step Evaluation

$$\frac{10 \text{ is a number} \quad \text{add } e_1 \ e_2 \quad (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow ??}{\text{sub } 10 \ (\text{add } (\text{add } 1 \ 2) \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 \ ??} \text{sub-right}$$

We can perform a single evaluation step by again, build derivations from the ground up.

If we've designed our rules well (e.g., by enforcing evaluation order) there should always be a rule to use.

# How To: Performing Single-Step Evaluation

$$\frac{\frac{10 \text{ is a number} \quad \frac{\text{add } 1 \ 2 \longrightarrow ??}{\text{(add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{(add ?? (add 2 3))} \text{ add-left}}{\text{sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{sub 10 (add ?? (add 2 3))} \text{ sub-right}}}$$

We can perform a single evaluation step by again, build derivations from the ground up.

If we've designed our rules well (e.g., by enforcing evaluation order) there should always be a rule to use.

# How To: Performing Single-Step Evaluation

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{10 is a number} \\ \hline \text{sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \end{array} \quad \frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{add } n_1 \text{ } n_2 \\ \text{add 1 2} \end{array} \longrightarrow ?? \quad \text{add-left}}{\text{(add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{(add ?? (add 2 3))}} \quad \text{sub-right}}{\text{sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{sub 10 (add ?? (add 2 3))}}$$

We can perform a single evaluation step by again, build derivations from the ground up.

If we've designed our rules well (e.g., by enforcing evaluation order) there should always be a rule to use.

# How To: Performing Single-Step Evaluation

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{1 \text{ is a number} \quad 2 \text{ is a number}}{\text{add } 1 \ 2 \longrightarrow 3} \text{ add-ok}}{\text{add (add } 1 \ 2) \text{ (add } 2 \ 3) \longrightarrow \text{add } 3 \text{ (add } 2 \ 3)} \text{ add-left}}{\text{sub } 10 \text{ (add (add } 1 \ 2) \text{ (add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 \text{ (add } 3 \text{ (add } 2 \ 3))} \text{ sub-right}}$$

We can perform a single evaluation step by again, build derivations from the ground up.

If we've designed our rules well (e.g., by enforcing evaluation order) there should always be a rule to use.

# Understanding Check

sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 5)

*Give a derivation of the above reduction.*

# Answer

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{2 is a number} \quad \text{3 is a number} \\ \hline \text{3 is a number} \quad (\text{add } 2 \ 3) \longrightarrow 5 \\ \hline \text{10 is a number} \quad (\text{add } 3 \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow (\text{add } 3 \ 5) \\ \hline \text{sub } 10 \ (\text{add } 3 \ (\text{add } 2 \ 3)) \longrightarrow \text{sub } 10 \ (\text{add } 3 \ 5) \end{array}$$

add-ok

add-right

sub-right



# demo

(single-step evaluator in OCaml)  
(interlude: recursive parsers)

# Multi-Step Reduction Relation

$$\frac{}{C \longrightarrow^* C} \text{ refl} \qquad \frac{C \longrightarrow C' \quad C' \longrightarrow^* D}{C \longrightarrow^* D} \text{ trans}$$

Given any single-step (a.k.a. small-step) reduction relation, we can derive the **multi-step reduction relation**:

- » Every configuration reduces to itself **(reflexivity)**
- » Every  $\longrightarrow^*$  reduction can be extended by a single step **(transitivity)**

# Two Questions (Again)

Once we have an operational semantics, there are **two questions** we can ask (as PL designers and on the final exam):

- » Show that  $C \longrightarrow^* C'$ .
- » Given  $C$ , determine a configuration  $C'$  such that  $C \longrightarrow^* C'$  and  $C'$  cannot be reduced.

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# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^*$  2`  
want to show

» Derive all necessary single-step evaluations.

# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^*$  2`  
want to show

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))` (we did this)

» Derive all necessary single-step evaluations.

# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^*$  2`  
want to show

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))` (we did this)

`sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 5)` (you did this)

» Derive all necessary single-step evaluations.

# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^*$  2`  
want to show

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))` (we did this)

`sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 5)` (you did this)

`sub 10 (add 3 5)  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 8` (exercise)

» Derive all necessary single-step evaluations.



# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^*$  2`  
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`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))` (we did this)

`sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 5)` (you did this)

`sub 10 (add 3 5)  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 8` (exercise)

`sub 10 8  $\longrightarrow$  2` (easy)

» Derive all necessary single-step evaluations.

# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^*$  2`

- » Derive all necessary single-step evaluations
- » Combine them with the **transitivity rule**.

# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{(we did this)} \\ \vdots \\ s\ 10\ (a\ (a\ 1\ 2)\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \end{array} \quad s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow^* 2}{\text{sub}\ 10\ (\text{add}\ (\text{add}\ 1\ 2)\ (\text{add}\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow^* 2} \text{trans}$$

- » Derive all necessary single-step evaluations
- » Combine them with the **transitivity rule**.

# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(we did this)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \text{s 10 (a (a 1 2) (a 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{s 10 (a 3 (a 2 3))} \\
 \hline
 \text{sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow^* 2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(you did this)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \text{s 10 (a 3 (a 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{s 10 (a 3 5)} \\
 \hline
 \text{s 10 (a 3 (a 2 3))} \longrightarrow^* 2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{s 10 (a 3 5)} \longrightarrow^* 2 \\
 \hline
 \text{trans}
 \end{array}$$

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- » Combine them with the **transitivity rule**.

# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(we did this)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \text{s 10 (a (a 1 2) (a 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{s 10 (a 3 (a 2 3))} \quad \text{s 10 (a 3 (a 2 3))} \longrightarrow^* 2 \\
 \hline
 \text{sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow^* 2
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(you did this)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \text{s 10 (a 3 (a 2 3))} \longrightarrow \text{s 10 (a 3 5)} \quad \text{s 10 (a 3 5)} \longrightarrow^* 2 \\
 \hline
 \text{s 10 (a 3 5)} \longrightarrow \text{s 10 8} \quad \text{s 10 8} \longrightarrow^* 2 \\
 \hline
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 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(an exercise)} \\
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 \text{s 10 (a 3 5)} \longrightarrow \text{s 10 8} \quad \text{s 10 8} \longrightarrow^* 2 \\
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 \hline
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 \hline
 \text{s 10 8} \longrightarrow 2 \quad 2 \longrightarrow^* 2 \\
 \hline
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 \end{array}
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 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{(easy)} \\
 \vdots \\
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 \hline
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 \end{array}
 \quad
 \text{trans}$$

- » Derive all necessary single-step evaluations
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# How To: Derivations of Multi-Step Reductions

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{(easy)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \frac{s\ 10\ 8 \longrightarrow 2 \quad 2 \longrightarrow^* 2}{2 \longrightarrow^* 2} \text{ refl} \\
 \text{(an exercise)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \frac{s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ 5) \longrightarrow s\ 10\ 8 \quad s\ 10\ 8 \longrightarrow^* 2}{s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ 5) \longrightarrow^* 2} \text{ trans} \\
 \text{(you did this)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \frac{s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ 5) \quad s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ 5) \longrightarrow^* 2}{s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow^* 2} \text{ trans} \\
 \text{(we did this)} \\
 \vdots \\
 \frac{s\ 10\ (a\ (a\ 1\ 2)\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \quad s\ 10\ (a\ 3\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow^* 2}{s\ 10\ (a\ (a\ 1\ 2)\ (a\ 2\ 3)) \longrightarrow^* 2} \text{ trans} \\
 \text{sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))} \longrightarrow^* 2
 \end{array}$$

- » Derive all necessary single-step evaluations
- » Combine them with the **transitivity rule**.

# Two Questions (Again)

Once we have an operational semantics, there are **two questions** we can ask (as PL designers and on the final exam):

» Show that  $C \longrightarrow C'$ .

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# How To: Evaluation

sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^{\star}$  ??  
want to show

sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  ??

If our rules are well defined, then should be easy:

*Solve this single-step evaluation problem until you reach a configuration that cannot be further reduced*

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sub 10 8  $\longrightarrow$  ??

If our rules are well defined, then should be easy:

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# How To: Evaluation

sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^{\star}$  2  
want to show

sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 5)

sub 10 (add 3 5)  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 8

sub 10 8  $\longrightarrow$  2

If our rules are well defined, then should be easy:

*Solve this single-step evaluation problem until you reach a configuration that cannot be further reduced*

# How To: Evaluation

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow^*$  2`  
want to show

`sub 10 (add (add 1 2) (add 2 3))  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 (add 3 (add 2 3))`

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`sub 10 (add 3 5)  $\longrightarrow$  sub 10 8`

`sub 10 8  $\longrightarrow$  2`

If our rules are well defined, then should be easy:

*Solve this single-step evaluation problem until you reach a configuration that cannot be further reduced*

# demo

(multi-step evaluator in OCaml)

# Stack-Oriented Language



# Our Toy Language

```
<prog> ::= { <com> }  
<com>  ::= Push <int> | Pop | Swap | Add  
<int>  ::= ...
```

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*What is our configuration?*

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*What is our configuration?*

State: A list of integers or **ERROR**.

# Our Toy Language

```
<prog> ::= { <com> }  
<com>  ::= Push <int> | Pop | Swap | Add  
<int>  ::= ...
```

*What is our configuration?*

State: A list of integers or **ERROR**.

Program: A sequence of <com> commands.

# The Operational Semantics

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$$\frac{}{(S, \text{Push } n \ P) \longrightarrow (n :: S, \ P)} \text{ push}$$

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$$\frac{}{(S, \text{Push } n \ P) \longrightarrow (n :: S, P)} \text{ push}$$

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$$\frac{}{(\emptyset, \text{Pop } P) \longrightarrow (\text{ERROR}, \epsilon)} \text{ pop-error}$$

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$$\frac{}{(\emptyset, \text{Swap } P) \longrightarrow (\text{ERROR}, \epsilon)} \text{ swap-error-0}$$

$$\frac{}{(n :: \emptyset, \text{Swap } P) \longrightarrow (\text{ERROR}, \epsilon)} \text{ swap-error-1}$$



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$$\frac{}{(m :: n :: S, \text{Add } P) \longrightarrow ((m + n) :: S, P)} \text{ add-ok}$$

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$$\frac{}{(n :: \emptyset, \text{Add } P) \longrightarrow (\text{ERROR}, \epsilon)} \text{ add-error-1}$$

## Note.

- » Each rule has no premise
- » Each rule behaves like OCaml pattern-matching

# Example: Evaluating a Program

**Question.** Evaluate `Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add` in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 1: Derive all necessary single-step reductions.*

# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$(1) \quad \frac{}{(\emptyset, \text{Push } 1 \text{ Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add}) \longrightarrow (1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add})} \text{push}$$

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$$(3) \quad \frac{}{(2 :: 1 :: \emptyset, \text{Swap Add}) \longrightarrow (1 :: 2 :: \emptyset, \text{Add})} \text{swap-ok}$$

**Question.** Evaluate **Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add** in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

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# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$(1) \quad \frac{}{(\emptyset, \text{Push } 1 \text{ Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add}) \longrightarrow (1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add})} \text{push}$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{}{(1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add}) \longrightarrow (2 :: 1 :: \emptyset, \text{Swap Add})} \text{push}$$

$$(3) \quad \frac{}{(2 :: 1 :: \emptyset, \text{Swap Add}) \longrightarrow (1 :: 2 :: \emptyset, \text{Add})} \text{swap-ok}$$

$$(4) \quad \frac{}{(1 :: 2 :: \emptyset, \text{Add}) \longrightarrow (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)} \text{add-ok}$$

**Question.** Evaluate **Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add** in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push } 1 \text{ Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 1: Derive all necessary single-step reductions.*

# Example: Evaluating a Program

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**Again, choosing the right rule is like pattern matching.**

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*Step 1: Derive all necessary single-step reductions.*



# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)$$

**Question.** Evaluate `Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add` in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 2: Combine using the transitivity rule.*

# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$\frac{(1) \quad (1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{(\emptyset, \text{Push } 1 \text{ Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}^{\text{trans}}$$

**Question.** Evaluate `Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add` in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push } 1 \text{ Push } 2 \text{ Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 2: Combine using the transitivity rule.*

# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$\frac{\frac{(2) \quad (2 :: 1 :: \emptyset, \text{Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{(1) \quad (1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}^{\text{trans}}}{(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}^{\text{trans}}$$

**Question.** Evaluate **Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add** in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 2: Combine using the transitivity rule.*

# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{(3) \quad (1 :: 2 :: \emptyset, \text{Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{\text{trans}} \\ \frac{(2) \quad (2 :: 1 :: \emptyset, \text{Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{\text{trans}} \\ \frac{(1) \quad (1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{\text{trans}} \\ (\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \end{array}$$

**Question.** Evaluate **Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add** in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 2: Combine using the transitivity rule.*

# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$\begin{array}{c}
 (4) \quad (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \\
 \hline
 (3) \quad (1 :: 2 :: \emptyset, \text{Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \text{trans} \\
 \hline
 (2) \quad (2 :: 1 :: \emptyset, \text{Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \text{trans} \\
 \hline
 (1) \quad (1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \text{trans} \\
 \hline
 (\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \text{trans}
 \end{array}$$

**Question.** Evaluate **Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add** in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 2: Combine using the transitivity rule.*

# Example: Evaluating a Program

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{(4) \quad \frac{}{(3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{\text{refl}}}{\text{trans}} \\
 \frac{(3) \quad (1 :: 2 :: \emptyset, \text{Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{\text{trans}} \\
 \frac{(2) \quad (2 :: 1 :: \emptyset, \text{Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{\text{trans}} \\
 \frac{(1) \quad (1 :: \emptyset, \text{Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)}{\text{trans}} \\
 (\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow^* (3 :: \emptyset, \epsilon)
 \end{array}$$

**Question.** Evaluate **Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add** in an empty stack. In other words, find a configuration  $C$  which cannot be reduced such that

$$(\emptyset, \text{Push 1 Push 2 Swap Add}) \longrightarrow C$$

*Step 2: Combine using the transitivity rule.*

# Understanding Check

push 1 push 2 add push 2 add add

*Evaluate the above program in the empty stack.  
Write down the necessary single-step reductions  
and which rules you used in each case.*

# A Note on the Project

$$\frac{}{(S, \text{Push } n \ P) \longrightarrow (n :: S, \ P)} \text{ push}$$

⋮  
▼

```
| ...  
| (s, push n :: rest_prog) -> eval (Int n :: s) rest_prog  
| ...
```

Much of what the projects will be is reading these rules and turning them into OCaml code. **It's not always going to be a perfect translation.**

*Please take the time to learn how to read and apply these rules.*