

# Semantics and Verification of Software

## Lecture 7: Denotational Semantics

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Summer semester 2007

- 1 Repetition: Continuous Functions on CCPOs
- 2 The Fixpoint Theorem
- 3 An Example
- 4 Summary: Denotational Semantics
- 5 Equivalence of Operational and Denotational Semantics

## Goals:

- Prove **existence** of  $\text{fix}(\Phi)$  for  $\Phi(f) = \text{cond}(\mathfrak{B}[[b]], f \circ \mathfrak{C}[[c]], \text{id}_\Sigma)$
- Show how it can be **“computed”** (more exactly: approximated)

## Sufficient conditions:

on domain  $\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$ : **chain-complete partial order**

on function  $\Phi$ : **continuity**

# Chain–Complete Partial Orders

## Definition (Chain, (least) upper bound)

Let  $(D, \sqsubseteq)$  be a partial order and  $S \subseteq D$ .

- 1  $S$  is called a **chain** in  $D$  if, for every  $s_1, s_2 \in S$ ,  
$$s_1 \sqsubseteq s_2 \text{ or } s_2 \sqsubseteq s_1$$
  
(that is,  $S$  is a totally ordered subset of  $D$ ).
- 2 An element  $d \in D$  is called an **upper bound** of  $S$  if  $s \sqsubseteq d$  for every  $s \in S$  (notation:  $S \sqsubseteq d$ ).
- 3 An upper bound  $d$  of  $S$  is called **least upper bound (LUB)** or **supremum** of  $S$  if  $d \sqsubseteq d'$  for every upper bound  $d'$  of  $S$  (notation:  $d = \bigsqcup S$ ).

## Definition (Chain completeness)

A partial order is called **chain complete (CCPO)** if every of its chains has a least upper bound.

## Definition (Monotonicity)

Let  $(D, \sqsubseteq)$  and  $(D', \sqsubseteq')$  be partial orders, and let  $F : D \rightarrow D'$ .  $F$  is called **monotonic** (w.r.t.  $(D, \sqsubseteq)$  and  $(D', \sqsubseteq')$ ) if, for every  $d_1, d_2 \in D$ ,

$$d_1 \sqsubseteq d_2 \implies F(d_1) \sqsubseteq' F(d_2).$$

## Definition (Continuity)

Let  $(D, \sqsubseteq)$  and  $(D', \sqsubseteq')$  be CCPOs and  $F : D \rightarrow D'$  monotonic. Then  $F$  is called **continuous** (w.r.t.  $(D, \sqsubseteq)$  and  $(D', \sqsubseteq')$ ) if, for every non-empty chain  $S \subseteq D$ ,

$$F \left( \bigsqcup S \right) = \bigsqcup F(S).$$

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# The Fixpoint Theorem

## Theorem 7.1 (Fixpoint Theorem by Tarski and Knaster)

*Let  $(D, \sqsubseteq)$  be a CCPO and  $F : D \rightarrow D$  continuous. Then*

$$\text{fix}(F) := \bigsqcup \left\{ F^n \left( \bigsqcup \emptyset \right) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \right\}$$

*is the least fixpoint of  $F$  where*

$$F^0(d) := d \text{ and } F^{n+1}(d) := F(F^n(d)).$$

Proof.

on the board



# Application to fix( $\Phi$ ) II

Altogether this completes the definition of  $\mathfrak{C}[\![\cdot]\!]$ . In particular, for the **while** statement we obtain:

## Corollary 7.2

*Let  $b \in BExp$ ,  $c \in Cmd$ , and  $\Phi(f) := \text{cond}(\mathfrak{B}[\![b]\!], f \circ \mathfrak{C}[\![c]\!], \text{id}_\Sigma)$ . Then*

$$\text{graph}(\text{fix}(\Phi)) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \text{graph}(\Phi^n(f_\emptyset))$$

## Proof.

Using

- Lemma 5.12  
(( $\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma, \sqsubseteq$ ) CCPO with least element  $f_\emptyset$ ; LUB = union of graphs)
- Lemma 6.7 ( $\Phi$  continuous)
- Theorem 7.1 (Fixpoint Theorem)





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## Example 7.3 (Factorial program)

- Let  $c \in Cmd$  be given by

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

- For every initial state  $\sigma_0 \in \Sigma$ , Def. 4.8 yields:

$$\mathcal{E}[[c]](\sigma_0) = \text{fix}(\Phi)(\sigma_1)$$

where  $\sigma_1 := \sigma_0[y \mapsto 1]$  and, for every  $f : \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(f)(\sigma) &= \text{cond}(\mathcal{B}[[\neg(x=1)]], f \circ \mathcal{E}[[y:=y*x; x:=x-1]], \text{id}_\Sigma)(\sigma) \\ &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ f(\sigma') & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

with  $\sigma' := \sigma[y \mapsto \sigma(y) * \sigma(x), x \mapsto \sigma(x) - 1]$ .

- Approximations of least fixpoint of  $\Phi$  according to Theorem 7.1:

$$\text{fix}(\Phi) = \bigsqcup \{ \Phi^n(f_\emptyset) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}$$

(where  $\text{graph}(f_\emptyset) = \emptyset$ )

## Example 7.3 (Factorial program; continued)

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_0(\sigma) &:= \Phi^0(f_\emptyset)(\sigma) \\
 &= f_\emptyset(\sigma) \\
 &= \text{undefined} \\
 f_1(\sigma) &:= \Phi^1(f_\emptyset)(\sigma) \\
 &= \Phi(f_0)(\sigma) \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ f_0(\sigma') & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
 f_2(\sigma) &:= \Phi^2(f_\emptyset)(\sigma) \\
 &= \Phi(f_1)(\sigma) \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ f_1(\sigma') & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ \sigma' & \text{if } \sigma(x) \neq 1 \text{ and } \sigma'(x) = 1 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \neq 1 \text{ and } \sigma'(x) \neq 1 \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ \sigma' & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 2 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \neq 1 \text{ and } \sigma(x) \neq 2 \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ \sigma[y \mapsto 2 * \sigma(y), & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 2 \\ \quad x \mapsto 1] & \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \neq 1 \\ & \text{and } \sigma(x) \neq 2 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Example 7.3 (Factorial program; continued)

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_3(\sigma) &:= \Phi^3(f_\emptyset)(\sigma) \\
 &= \Phi(f_2)(\sigma) \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ f_2(\sigma') & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ \sigma' & \text{if } \sigma(x) \neq 1 \text{ and } \sigma'(x) = 1 \\ \sigma'[y \mapsto 2 * \sigma'(y), x \mapsto 1] & \text{if } \sigma(x) \neq 1 \text{ and } \sigma'(x) = 2 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \neq 1 \text{ and } \sigma'(x) \neq 1 \text{ and } \sigma'(x) \neq 2 \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ \sigma' & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 2 \\ \sigma'[y \mapsto 2 * \sigma'(y), x \mapsto 1] & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 3 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \notin \{1, 2, 3\} \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 1 \\ \sigma[y \mapsto 2 * \sigma(y), x \mapsto 1] & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 2 \\ \sigma[y \mapsto 3 * 2 * \sigma(y), x \mapsto 1] & \text{if } \sigma(x) = 3 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \notin \{1, 2, 3\} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Example 7.3 (Factorial program; continued)

- $n$ -th approximation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_n(\sigma) &:= \Phi^n(f_\emptyset)(\sigma) \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma[y \mapsto \sigma(x) * (\sigma(x) - 1) * \dots * 2 * \sigma(y), & \text{if } 1 \leq \sigma(x) \leq n \\ \quad x \mapsto 1] & \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \notin \{1, \dots, n\} \end{cases} \\
 &= \begin{cases} \sigma[y \mapsto (\sigma(x))! * \sigma(y), x \mapsto 1] & \text{if } 1 \leq \sigma(x) \leq n \\ \text{undefined} & \text{if } \sigma(x) \notin \{1, \dots, n\} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Fixpoint:

$$\mathfrak{C}[\![c]\!](\sigma_0) = \text{fix}(\Phi)(\sigma_1) = \begin{cases} \sigma[y \mapsto (\sigma(x))!, x \mapsto 1] & \text{if } \sigma(x) \geq 1 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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# Summary: Denotational Semantics

- **Compositional definition** of functional  $\mathcal{C}[\![\cdot]\!]$  operating on **partial state transformations**
- Capturing the recursive nature of loops by a **fixpoint definition** (for a continuous function on a CCPO)

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**Remember:** in Def. 4.3,  $\mathfrak{D}[\![\cdot]\!] : Cmd \rightarrow (\Sigma \multimap \Sigma)$  was given by

$$\mathfrak{D}[\![c]\!](\sigma) = \sigma' \iff \langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'$$

## Theorem 7.4 (Coincidence Theorem)

*For every  $c \in Cmd$ ,*

$$\mathfrak{D}[\![c]\!] = \mathfrak{C}[\![c]\!],$$

*i.e.,  $\mathfrak{D}[\![\cdot]\!] = \mathfrak{C}[\![\cdot]\!]$ .*

# Equivalence of Semantics II

The proof of Theorem 7.4 employs the following auxiliary propositions:

## Lemma 7.5

- ① *For every  $a \in AExp$ ,  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , and  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$ :*

$$\langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z \iff \mathfrak{A}[[a]](\sigma) = z.$$

- ② *For every  $b \in BExp$ ,  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , and  $t \in \mathbb{B}$ :*

$$\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow t \iff \mathfrak{B}[[b]](\sigma) = t.$$

## Proof.

- ① see Exercise 3.2  
② analogously



Proof (Theorem 7.4).

We have to show that

$$\langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma' \iff \mathfrak{E}[[c]](\sigma) = \sigma'$$

$\Rightarrow$  by structural induction over the derivation tree of  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'$

$\Leftarrow$  by structural induction over  $c$  (with a nested complete induction over fixpoint index  $n$ )

(on the board)



# Reminder: Operational/Denotational Semantics

## Definition (Operational semantics of statements)

Execution relation  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{\langle \text{skip}, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma} \text{ (skip)} \qquad \frac{\langle a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow z}{\langle x := a, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma[x \mapsto z]} \text{ (asgn)} \\ \frac{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma' \quad \langle c_2, \sigma' \rangle \rightarrow \sigma''}{\langle c_1; c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma''} \text{ (seq)} \qquad \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true} \quad \langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'} \text{ (if-t)} \\ \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false} \quad \langle c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma'} \text{ (if-f)} \qquad \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{false}}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma} \text{ (wh-f)} \\ \frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \text{true} \quad \langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma' \quad \langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma' \rangle \rightarrow \sigma''}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \sigma''} \text{ (wh-t)} \end{array}$$

## Definition (Denotational semantics of statements)

Denotational semantic functional for statements  $\mathcal{C}[\cdot] : Cmd \rightarrow (\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}[\text{skip}] &:= \text{id}_\Sigma \\ \mathcal{C}[x := a] \sigma &:= \sigma[x \mapsto \mathcal{A}[a] \sigma] \\ \mathcal{C}[c_1; c_2] &:= \mathcal{C}[c_2] \circ \mathcal{C}[c_1] \\ \mathcal{C}[\text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2] &:= \text{cond}(\mathcal{B}[b], \mathcal{C}[c_1], \mathcal{C}[c_2]) \\ \mathcal{C}[\text{while } b \text{ do } c] &:= \text{fix}(\Phi) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Phi : (\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma) \rightarrow (\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma) : f \mapsto \text{cond}(\mathcal{B}[b], f \circ \mathcal{C}[c], \text{id}_\Sigma)$