

# Semantics and Verification of Software

## Lecture 16: Provably Correct Implementation I (Abstract Machine & Compiler)

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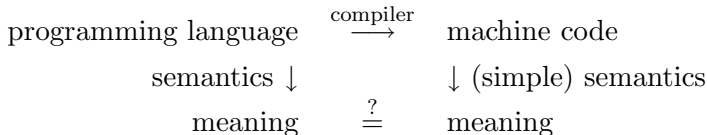
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(Software Modeling and Verification)

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Summer Semester 2010

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The Abstract Machine
- 3 Properties of AM
- 4 The Compiler



## To do:

- Definition of **abstract machine**
- Definition (operational) **semantics of machine instructions**
- Definition of **translation** WHILE  $\rightarrow$  machine code (“compiler”)
- **Proof:** semantics of generated machine code = semantics of original source code

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# The Abstract Machine

## Definition 16.1 (Abstract machine)

The **abstract machine (AM)** is given by

- **configurations** of the form  $\langle d, e, \sigma \rangle \in Cnf$  where
  - $d \in Code$  is the **sequence** of instructions (code) to be executed
  - $e \in Stk := (\mathbb{Z} \cup \mathbb{B})^*$  is the **evaluation stack**
  - $\sigma \in \Sigma := (Var \rightarrow \mathbb{Z})$  is the **(storage) state**

(thus  $Cnf = Code \times Stk \times \Sigma$ )

- **final configurations** of the form  $\langle \varepsilon, e, \sigma \rangle$
- **code sequences** and **instructions**:

$$d ::= \varepsilon \mid i : d$$

$$i ::= \text{PUSH}(z) \mid \text{ADD} \mid \text{MULT} \mid \text{SUB} \mid \\ \text{TRUE} \mid \text{FALSE} \mid \text{EQ} \mid \text{GT} \mid \text{AND} \mid \text{OR} \mid \text{NEG} \mid \\ \text{LOAD}(x) \mid \text{STORE}(x) \mid \text{NOOP} \mid \text{BRANCH}(d, d) \mid \text{LOOP}(d, d)$$

(where  $z \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $x \in Var$ )

## Definition 16.2 (Transition relation of AM)

The **transition relation**  $\triangleright \subseteq \text{Cnf} \times \text{Cnf}$  is given by

$$\langle \text{PUSH}(z) : d, e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, z : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{ADD} : d, z_1 : z_2 : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, (z_1 + z_2) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{MULT} : d, z_1 : z_2 : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, (z_1 * z_2) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{SUB} : d, z_1 : z_2 : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, (z_1 - z_2) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{TRUE} : d, e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, \text{true} : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{FALSE} : d, e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, \text{false} : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{EQ} : d, z_1 : z_2 : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, (z_1 = z_2) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{GT} : d, z_1 : z_2 : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, (z_1 > z_2) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{AND} : d, t_1 : t_2 : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, (t_1 \wedge t_2) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{OR} : d, t_1 : t_2 : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, (t_1 \vee t_2) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{NEG} : d, t : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, \neg t : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{LOAD}(x) : d, e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, \sigma(x) : e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{STORE}(x) : d, z : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, e, \sigma[x \mapsto z] \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{NOOP} : d, e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d, e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{BRANCH}(d_{\text{true}}, d_{\text{false}}) : d, t : e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d_t : d, e, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{LOOP}(d_1, d_2) : d, e, \sigma \rangle \triangleright \langle d_1 : \text{BRANCH}(d_2 : \text{LOOP}(d_1, d_2), \text{NOOP}) : d, e, \sigma \rangle$$

**Remark:** more traditional machine architectures

- **Variables referenced by address** (and not by name)
  - configurations  $\langle d, e, m \rangle$  with **memory**  $m \in \mathbb{Z}^*$
  - $\text{LOAD}(x)/\text{STORE}(x)$  replaced by  $\text{GET}(n)/\text{PUT}(n)$  (where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ )
- **BRANCH** and **LOOP** instruction replaced by **code addresses** (labels) and **jumping instructions**
  - configurations  $\langle pc, d, e, m \rangle$  with **program counter**  $pc \in \mathbb{N}$
  - **BRANCH** and **LOOP** implemented by control flow, using **JUMP( $l$ )** and **JUMPFALSE( $l$ )** ( $l \in \mathbb{N}$ )
- **Registers** for storing intermediate values (in place of evaluation stack  $e$ )

## Definition 16.3 (AM computations)

- A **terminating computation** is a finite configuration sequence of the form  $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k$  where
  - $\gamma_0 = \langle d, \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle$
  - $\gamma_{i-1} \triangleright \gamma_i$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$  ( $k \in \mathbb{N}$ )
  - there is no  $\gamma$  such that  $\gamma_k \triangleright \gamma$
- A **looping computation** is an infinite configuration sequence of the form  $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots$  where
  - $\gamma_0 = \langle d, \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle$
  - $\gamma_i \triangleright \gamma_{i+1}$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{N}$

**Note:** a terminating computation may end in a **final configuration** ( $\langle \varepsilon, e, \sigma \rangle$ ) or in a **stuck configuration** (e.g.,  $\langle \text{ADD}, 1, \sigma \rangle$ )



## Example 16.4

For  $d := \text{PUSH}(1) : \text{LOAD}(x) : \text{ADD} : \text{STORE}(x)$  and  $\sigma(x) = 3$ , we obtain the following terminating computation:

$\langle \text{PUSH}(1) : \text{LOAD}(x) : \text{ADD} : \text{STORE}(x), \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle$

▷  $\langle \text{LOAD}(x) : \text{ADD} : \text{STORE}(x), 1, \sigma \rangle$

▷  $\langle \text{ADD} : \text{STORE}(x), 3 : 1, \sigma \rangle$

▷  $\langle \text{STORE}(x), 4, \sigma \rangle$

▷  $\langle \varepsilon, \varepsilon, \sigma[x \mapsto 4] \rangle$

## Example 16.5

The following computation loops:

$\langle \text{LOOP}(\text{TRUE}, \text{NOOP}), \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle$

- ▷  $\langle \text{TRUE} : \text{BRANCH}(\text{NOOP} : \text{LOOP}(\text{TRUE}, \text{NOOP}), \text{NOOP}), \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle$
- ▷  $\langle \text{BRANCH}(\text{NOOP} : \text{LOOP}(\text{TRUE}, \text{NOOP}), \text{NOOP}), \text{true}, \sigma \rangle$
- ▷  $\langle \text{NOOP} : \text{LOOP}(\text{TRUE}, \text{NOOP}), \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle$
- ▷  $\langle \text{LOOP}(\text{TRUE}, \text{NOOP}), \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle$
- ▷ ...

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## Application: Computation sequences (Def. 16.3)

- Definition:
- for each  $\gamma \in Cnf$ ,  $\gamma$  is a **computation sequence** (of length 0)
  - whenever  $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k$  is a computation sequence and  $\gamma_k \triangleright \gamma_{k+1}$ , then  $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, \gamma_{k+1}$  is a **computation sequence** (of length  $k + 1$ )

**Induction base:** property holds for all computation sequences of length 0

**Induction hypothesis:** property holds for all computation sequences of length  $\leq k$

**Induction step:** property holds for all computation sequences of length  $k + 1$

## Lemma 16.6

If  $\langle d_1, e_1, \sigma \rangle \triangleright^* \langle d', e', \sigma' \rangle$ ,

$$\langle d_1 : d_2, e_1 : e_2, \sigma \rangle \triangleright^* \langle d' : d_2, e' : e_2, \sigma' \rangle$$

for every  $d_2 \in \text{Code}$  and  $e_2 \in \text{Stk}$ .

**Interpretation:** both the code and the stack component can be extended without changing the behavior of the machine

## Proof.

by induction on the length of the computation sequence  
(on the board)



# Another Property: Determinism

## Lemma 16.7

The semantics of AM is **deterministic**: for all  $\gamma, \gamma', \gamma'' \in \text{Cnf}$ ,  
 $\gamma \triangleright \gamma'$  and  $\gamma \triangleright \gamma''$  imply  $\gamma' = \gamma''$ .

## Proof.

The successor configuration is determined by the first instruction in the code component, which is unique.  $\square$

Thus the following function is well defined:

## Definition 16.8 (Semantics of AM)

The **semantics of an instruction sequence** is given by the mapping

$$\mathfrak{M}[\![\cdot]\!] : \text{Code} \rightarrow (\Sigma \dashrightarrow \Sigma),$$

defined by

$$\mathfrak{M}[\![d]\!](\sigma) := \begin{cases} \sigma' & \text{if } \langle d, \varepsilon, \sigma \rangle \triangleright^* \langle \varepsilon, e, \sigma' \rangle \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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## Definition (Syntax of WHILE (Def. 1.2))

The **syntax of WHILE programs** is defined by the following context-free grammar:

$$a ::= z \mid x \mid a_1 + a_2 \mid a_1 - a_2 \mid a_1 * a_2 \in AExp$$
$$b ::= t \mid a_1 = a_2 \mid a_1 > a_2 \mid \neg b \mid b_1 \wedge b_2 \mid b_1 \vee b_2 \in BExp$$
$$c ::= \text{skip} \mid x := a \mid c_1 ; c_2 \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2 \mid \text{while } b \text{ do } c \in Cmd$$



# Translation of Arithmetic Expressions

## Definition 16.9 (Translation of arithmetic expressions)

The translation function

$$\mathfrak{T}_a[\cdot] : AExp \rightarrow Code$$

is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{T}_a[z] &:= \text{PUSH}(z) \\ \mathfrak{T}_a[x] &:= \text{LOAD}(x) \\ \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1 + a_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_a[a_2] : \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1] : \text{ADD} \\ \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1 - a_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_a[a_2] : \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1] : \text{SUB} \\ \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1 * a_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_a[a_2] : \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1] : \text{MULT}\end{aligned}$$

## Example 16.10

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{T}_a[x + 1] &= \mathfrak{T}_a[1] : \mathfrak{T}_a[x] : \text{ADD} \\ &= \text{PUSH}(1) : \text{LOAD}(x) : \text{ADD}\end{aligned}$$

## Definition 16.11 (Translation of Boolean expressions)

The translation function

$$\mathfrak{T}_b[\cdot] : BExp \rightarrow Code$$

is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{T}_b[\text{true}] &:= \text{TRUE} \\ \mathfrak{T}_b[\text{false}] &:= \text{FALSE} \\ \mathfrak{T}_b[a_1 = a_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_a[a_2] : \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1] : \text{EQ} \\ \mathfrak{T}_b[a_1 > a_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_a[a_2] : \mathfrak{T}_a[a_1] : \text{GT} \\ \mathfrak{T}_b[\neg b] &:= \mathfrak{T}_b[b] : \text{NEG} \\ \mathfrak{T}_b[b_1 \wedge a_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_b[b_2] : \mathfrak{T}_b[b_1] : \text{AND} \\ \mathfrak{T}_b[b_1 \vee a_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_b[b_2] : \mathfrak{T}_b[b_1] : \text{OR}\end{aligned}$$

# Translation of Statements

## Definition 16.12 (Translation of statements)

The translation function  $\mathfrak{T}_c[\cdot] : \text{Cmd} \rightarrow \text{Code}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{T}_c[\text{skip}] &:= \text{NOOP} \\ \mathfrak{T}_c[x := a] &:= \mathfrak{T}_a[a] : \text{STORE}(x) \\ \mathfrak{T}_c[c_1; c_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_c[c_1] : \mathfrak{T}_c[c_2] \\ \mathfrak{T}_c[\text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2] &:= \mathfrak{T}_b[b] : \text{BRANCH}(\mathfrak{T}_c[c_1], \mathfrak{T}_c[c_2]) \\ \mathfrak{T}_c[\text{while } b \text{ do } c] &:= \text{LOOP}(\mathfrak{T}_b[b], \mathfrak{T}_c[c])\end{aligned}$$

## Example 16.13 (Factorial program)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathfrak{T}_c[y:=1; \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y*x; x:=x-1)] \\ &= \mathfrak{T}_c[y:=1] : \mathfrak{T}_c[\text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y*x; x:=x-1)] \\ &= \mathfrak{T}_a[1] : \text{STORE}(y) : \text{LOOP}(\mathfrak{T}_b[\neg(x=1)], \mathfrak{T}_c[y:=y*x; x:=x-1]) \\ &= \text{PUSH}(1) : \text{STORE}(y) : \text{LOOP}(\mathfrak{T}_b[x=1] : \text{NEG}, \mathfrak{T}_c[y:=y*x] \mathfrak{T}_c[x:=x-1]) \\ &\vdots \\ &= \text{PUSH}(1) : \text{STORE}(y) : \text{LOOP}(\text{PUSH}(1) : \text{LOAD}(x) : \text{EQ} : \text{NEG}, \\ &\quad \text{LOAD}(x) : \text{LOAD}(y) : \text{MULT} : \text{STORE}(y) : \\ &\quad \text{PUSH}(1) : \text{LOAD}(x) : \text{SUB} : \text{STORE}(x))\end{aligned}$$