

# « Bi-inductive Structural Semantics and its Abstraction »

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## 1. Motivation



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## Motivation

- We look for a formalism to **specify abstract program semantics**
  - from definitional semantics ...
  - to static program analysis algorithmshandling the many **different styles of presentations** found in the literature (rules, fixpoint, equations, constraints, ...) in a uniform way
- A simple **generalization of inductive definitions** from sets to posets seems adequate.



## On the importance of defining both finite and infinite behaviors

- Example of the *choice operator*  $E_1 \mid E_2$  where:
  - $E_1 \Rightarrow a \quad E_2 \Rightarrow b$  termination
  - or  $E_1 \Rightarrow \perp \quad E_2 \Rightarrow \perp$  non-termination
- The *finite behavior* of  $E_1 \mid E_2$  is:
  - $a \mid b \Rightarrow a \quad a \mid b \Rightarrow b$  .

## 2. Semantics of the Eager $\lambda$ -calculus

[1] P. Cousot & R. Cousot. Bi-inductive Structural Semantics. SOS 2007, July 9, 2007, Wroclaw, Poland.



- But for the case  $\perp \mid \perp \Rightarrow \perp$ , the *infinite behaviors* of  $E_1 \mid E_2$  depend on the choice method:

Non-deterministic	Parallel	Eager	Mixed left-to-right	Mixed right-to-left
$\perp \mid b \Rightarrow b$	$\perp \mid b \Rightarrow b$			$\perp \mid b \Rightarrow b$
$\perp \mid b \Rightarrow \perp$		$\perp \mid b \Rightarrow \perp$	$\perp \mid b \Rightarrow \perp$	$\perp \mid b \Rightarrow \perp$
$a \mid \perp \Rightarrow a$	$a \mid \perp \Rightarrow a$		$a \mid \perp \Rightarrow a$	
$a \mid \perp \Rightarrow \perp$		$a \mid \perp \Rightarrow \perp$	$a \mid \perp \Rightarrow \perp$	$a \mid \perp \Rightarrow \perp$

- Nondeterministic: an internal choice is made initially to evaluate  $E_1$  or to evaluate  $E_2$ ;
- Parallel: evaluate  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  concurrently, with an unspecified scheduling, and return the first available result  $a$  or  $b$ ;
- Mixed left-to-right: evaluate  $E_1$  and then either return its result  $a$  or evaluate  $E_2$  and return its result  $b$ ;
- Mixed right-to-left: evaluate  $E_2$  and then either return its result  $b$  or evaluate  $E_1$  and return its result  $a$ ;
- Eager: evaluate both  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  and return either results if both terminate.

## Syntax



### Example III: Erroneous Computation

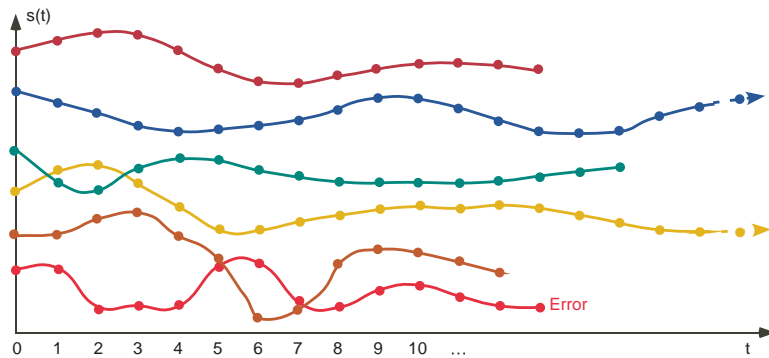
	function	argument
	$((\lambda x \cdot x x) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0))$	$((\lambda y \cdot y) 0)$
→		evaluate argument
	$((\lambda x \cdot x x) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0)) 0$	
→		evaluate function
	$((\lambda x \cdot x x) 0) 0$	
→		evaluate function, cont'd
	$(0 0) 0$	

a runtime error!

### Traces

- $\mathbb{T}^*$  (resp.  $\mathbb{T}^+$ ,  $\mathbb{T}^\omega$ ,  $\mathbb{T}^\infty$  and  $\mathbb{T}^\infty$ ) be the set of finite (resp. nonempty finite, infinite, finite or infinite, and nonempty finite or infinite) sequences of terms
- $\epsilon$  is the empty sequence  $\epsilon \cdot \sigma = \sigma \cdot \epsilon = \sigma$ .
- $|\sigma| \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\omega\}$  is the length of  $\sigma \in \mathbb{T}^\infty$ .  $|\epsilon| = 0$ .
- If  $\sigma \in \mathbb{T}^+$  then  $|\sigma| > 0$  and  $\sigma = \sigma_0 \cdot \sigma_1 \cdot \dots \cdot \sigma_{|\sigma|-1}$ .
- If  $\sigma \in \mathbb{T}^\omega$  then  $|\sigma| = \omega$  and  $\sigma = \sigma_0 \cdot \dots \cdot \sigma_n \cdot \dots$

### Finite, Infinite and Erroneous Trace Semantics



### Operations on Traces

- For  $a \in \mathbb{T}$  and  $\sigma \in \mathbb{T}^\infty$ , we define  $a @ \sigma$  to be  $\sigma' \in \mathbb{T}^\infty$  such that  $\forall i < |\sigma| : \sigma'_i = a \sigma_i$

$$\begin{array}{l} \sigma = \quad \sigma_0 \quad \sigma_1 \quad \sigma_2 \quad \sigma_3 \quad \dots \quad \sigma_i \quad \dots \\ \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \dots \quad \bullet \quad \dots \\ a @ \sigma = \quad a \sigma_0 \quad a \sigma_1 \quad a \sigma_2 \quad a \sigma_3 \quad \dots \quad a \sigma_i \quad \dots \\ \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \dots \quad \bullet \quad \dots \end{array}$$



## Bifinitary Trace Semantics $\vec{S}$ of the Eager $\lambda$ -calculus<sup>1</sup> [CC92]

$$\begin{array}{c}
 v \in \vec{S}, v \in \mathbb{V} \quad \frac{a[x \leftarrow v] \cdot \sigma \in \vec{S}}{(\lambda x \cdot a) v \cdot a[x \leftarrow v] \cdot \sigma \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, v \in \mathbb{V} \\
 \\
 \frac{\sigma \in \vec{S}^\omega}{a @ \sigma \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, a \in \mathbb{V} \quad \frac{\sigma \cdot v \in \vec{S}^+, (a v) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}}{(a @ \sigma) \cdot (a v) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, v, a \in \mathbb{V} \\
 \\
 \frac{\sigma \in \vec{S}^\omega}{\sigma @ b \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq \quad \frac{\sigma \cdot v \in \vec{S}^+, (v b) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}}{(\sigma @ b) \cdot (v b) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, v \in \mathbb{V}
 \end{array}$$

<sup>1</sup> Note:  $a[x \leftarrow b]$  is the capture-avoiding substitution of  $b$  for all free occurrences of  $x$  within  $a$ . We let  $\text{FV}(a)$  be the free variables of  $a$ . We define the call-by-value semantics of closed terms (without free variables)  $\vec{T} \triangleq \{a \in \mathbb{T} \mid \text{FV}(a) = \emptyset\}$ .

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 \end{array}$$

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$$\frac{\sigma \in \vec{S}^w}{a @ \sigma \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, a \in \mathbb{V} \quad \frac{\sigma \cdot v \in \vec{S}^+, (a v) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}}{(a @ \sigma) \cdot (a v) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, v, a \in \mathbb{V}$$

$$\frac{\sigma \in \vec{S}^w}{\sigma @ b \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq \quad \frac{\sigma \cdot v \in \vec{S}^+, (v b) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}}{(\sigma @ b) \cdot (v b) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, v \in \mathbb{V} \quad \bullet$$

<sup>1</sup> Note:  $a[x \leftarrow b]$  is the capture-avoiding substitution of  $b$  for all free occurrences of  $x$  within  $a$ . We let  $\text{FV}(a)$  be the free variables of  $a$ . We define the call-by-value semantics of closed terms (without free variables)  $\vec{T} \triangleq \{a \in \mathbb{T} \mid \text{FV}(a) = \emptyset\}$ .

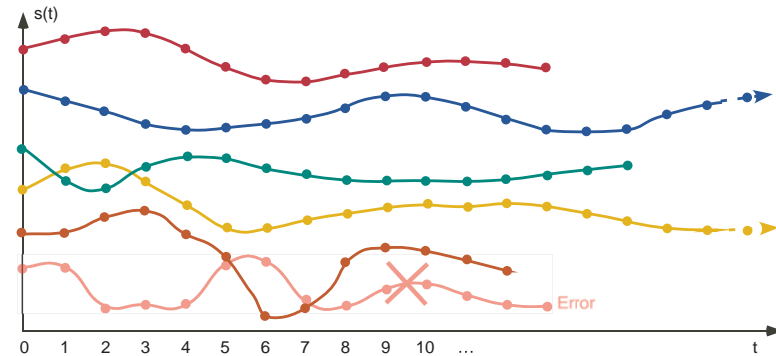
## Relational Semantics

### Example

$$\frac{\sigma \cdot v \in \vec{S}^+, (v b) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}}{(\sigma @ b) \cdot (v b) \cdot \sigma' \in \vec{S}} \sqsubseteq, v \in \mathbb{V}$$

- $\sigma \cdot v = ((\lambda x \cdot x x) (\lambda y \cdot y)) \cdot ((\lambda y \cdot y) (\lambda y \cdot y)) \cdot (\lambda y \cdot y) \in \vec{S}^+$
- $(v b) \cdot \sigma' = (\lambda y \cdot y) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0) \cdot (\lambda y \cdot y) 0 \cdot 0 \in \vec{S}$
- $(\sigma @ b) \cdot (v b) \cdot \sigma'$
- =
- $((\lambda x \cdot x x) (\lambda y \cdot y)) \cdot ((\lambda y \cdot y) (\lambda y \cdot y)) @ ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0) \cdot$
- $((\lambda y \cdot y) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0)) \cdot (\lambda y \cdot y) 0 \cdot 0$
- =
- $((\lambda x \cdot x x) (\lambda y \cdot y)) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0) \cdot ((\lambda y \cdot y) (\lambda y \cdot y)) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0)$
- $\cdot (\lambda y \cdot y) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0) \cdot (\lambda y \cdot y) 0 \cdot 0 \in \vec{S}$

### Trace Semantics









# Transition Semantics

## Abstraction to the Transition Semantics of the Eager $\lambda$ -calculus

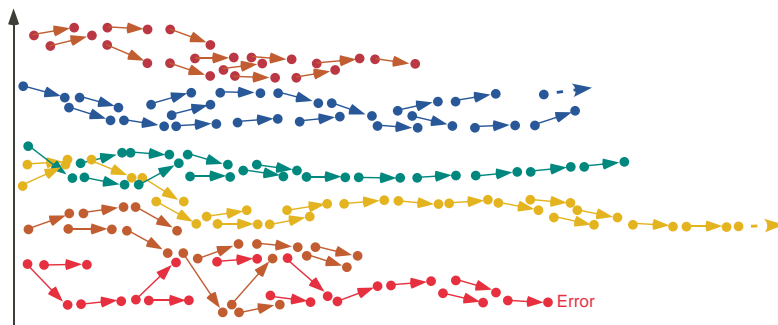
remember execution steps,  
forget about their sequencing

$$\alpha(T) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \bigcup \{ \alpha(\sigma) \mid \sigma \in T \}$$

$$\alpha(\sigma_0 \cdot \sigma_1 \cdot \dots \cdot \sigma_n) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \langle \sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1} \rangle \mid 0 \leq i \wedge i < n \}$$

$$\alpha(\sigma_0 \cdot \dots \cdot \sigma_n \cdot \dots) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ \langle \sigma_i, \sigma_{i+1} \rangle \mid i \geq 0 \}$$

## Transition Semantics = $\alpha$ (Trace Semantics)



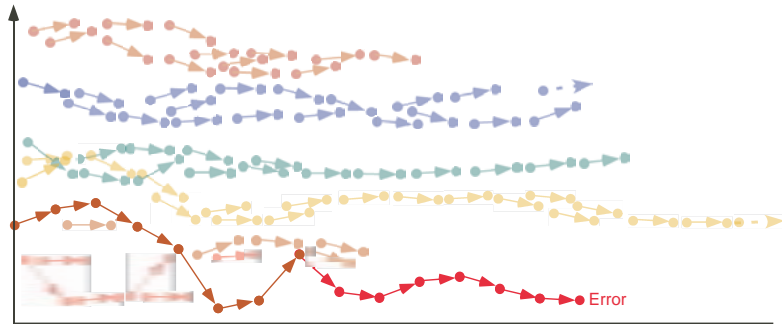
## Transition Semantics of the Eager $\lambda$ -calculus [Plo81]

$$((\lambda x \cdot a) v) \rightarrow a[x \leftarrow v]$$

$$\frac{a_0 \rightarrow a_1}{a_0 b \rightarrow a_1 b} \subseteq$$

$$\frac{b_0 \rightarrow b_1}{v b_0 \rightarrow v b_1} \subseteq .$$

## Approximation



$$((\lambda x \cdot x x) ((\lambda z \cdot z) 0)) (\lambda y \cdot y) \rightarrow ((\lambda x \cdot x x) 0) (\lambda y \cdot y) \rightarrow (0 0) (\lambda y \cdot y) \text{ an error!}$$

## 3. Bi-inductive Structural Definitions

[2] P. Cousot & R. Cousot. Bi-inductive Structural Semantics. SOS 2007, July 9, 2007, Wroclaw, Poland.



## The Abstract Semantics are Correct by Calculational Design

**Abstract Semantics**

$\mathbb{L} ::= \dots$

$\mathbb{L} \rightarrow \dots$

$\mathbb{L} \rightarrow \dots$

**Concrete Semantics**

$\mathbb{L} ::= \dots$

$\mathbb{L} \rightarrow \dots$

$\mathbb{L} \rightarrow \dots$

**Correctness**

$\mathbb{L} ::= \dots$

$\mathbb{L} \rightarrow \dots$

$\mathbb{L} \rightarrow \dots$

## Syntax

- $l, l_1, \dots, l_n \in \mathbb{L}$  language
- $l ::= l_1, \dots, l_n$  derivation relation
- The “syntactic subcomponent” relation  $\prec$  on  $\mathbb{L}$ :
 
$$l' \prec l \triangleq l ::= l_1, \dots, l', \dots, l_n$$
 is
  - irreflexive
  - finite left images ( $\forall l \in \mathbb{L} : |\{l' \in \mathbb{L} \mid l' \prec l\}| \in \mathbb{N}$ )
  - well-founded
- Example:  $a, b, \dots ::= x \mid \lambda x \cdot a \mid a b$  defines  $a \prec \lambda x \cdot a$ ,  $a \prec a b$  and  $b \prec a b$ .





## Example 2: fixpoint small-step maximal trace semantics

- The small-step maximal trace semantics  $\xrightarrow{\infty}$  of a transition relation  $\rightarrow$  is

$$\xrightarrow{n} \triangleq \{\sigma \in \mathbb{T}^+ \mid |\sigma| = n > 0 \wedge \forall i : 0 \leq i < n - 1 : \sigma_i \rightarrow \sigma_{i+1}\} \quad \text{partial traces}$$

$$\xrightarrow{n} \triangleq \{\sigma \in \xrightarrow{n} \mid \sigma_{n-1} \in \mathbb{V}\} \quad \text{maximal execution traces of length } n$$

$$\xrightarrow{+} \triangleq \bigcup_{n > 0} \xrightarrow{n} \quad \text{maximal finite execution traces}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\omega} \triangleq \{\sigma \in \mathbb{T}^\omega \mid \forall i \in \mathbb{N} : \sigma_i \rightarrow \sigma_{i+1}\} \quad \text{infinite execution traces}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\infty} \triangleq \xrightarrow{+} \cup \xrightarrow{\omega} \quad \text{maximal finite and diverging execution traces.}$$

## Constraint-based definitions

- A *constraint-based definition* has the form:

$\langle S_e[\ell], \ell \in \mathbb{L} \rangle$  is the componentwise  $\sqsubseteq_\ell$ -least  $\langle X_\ell, \ell \in \mathbb{L} \rangle$  satisfying the system of constraints (inequations)

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall_{\ell \in \mathbb{L}} F_\ell^i(X_\ell, \prod_{\ell' < \ell} X_{\ell'}) \sqsubseteq_\ell X_\ell \\ i \in \Delta_\ell \\ \ell \in \mathbb{L} \end{array} \right. .$$

- Junction  $\mathbin{;}$  of set of traces:

$$S \mathbin{;} T \triangleq S^\omega \cup \{\sigma_0 \bullet \dots \bullet \sigma_{|\sigma|-2} \bullet \sigma' \mid \sigma \in S^+ \wedge \sigma_{|\sigma|-1} = \sigma'_0 \wedge \sigma' \in T\}$$

- Small-step transformer  $\vec{f} \in \wp(\overline{\mathbb{T}}^\infty) \mapsto \wp(\overline{\mathbb{T}}^\infty)$ :

$$\vec{f}(T) \triangleq \{v \in \overline{\mathbb{T}}^\infty \mid v \in \mathbb{V}\} \cup \xrightarrow{2}; T \quad (1)$$

- Small-step maximal trace semantics  $\xrightarrow{\infty}$  in fixpoint form:

$$\xrightarrow{\infty} = \text{lfp}^\sqsubseteq \vec{f} .$$

- The big-step and small-step trace semantics are the same

$$\vec{S} = \xrightarrow{\infty} .$$

## Rule-based definitions

- A *rule-based definition* is a sequence of rules of the form

$$\frac{X_\ell}{F_\ell^i(X_\ell, \prod_{\ell' < \ell} S_r[\ell'])} \sqsubseteq_\ell \quad \ell \in \mathbb{L}, i \in \Delta_\ell$$

where the premise and conclusion are elements of the  $\langle \mathcal{D}_\ell, \sqsubseteq_\ell \rangle$  cpo.

- If  $F_\ell^i$  does not depend upon the premise  $X_\ell$ , it is an axiom

## Rule-based definitions in logical form

$$\frac{X_\ell \sqsubseteq_\ell S_r[\ell]}{F_\ell^i(X_\ell, \prod_{\ell' \prec \ell} S_r[\ell']) \sqsubseteq_\ell S_r[\ell]} \sqsubseteq_\ell \quad \ell \in \mathbb{L}, X_\ell \in \mathcal{D}_\ell, i \in \Delta_\ell$$

To make the join  $\gamma_\ell$  explicit, we can write

$$\frac{X_\ell \sqsubseteq_\ell S_r[\ell]}{\gamma_{\ell \in \Delta_\ell} F_\ell^i(X_\ell, \prod_{\ell' \prec \ell} S_r[\ell']) \sqsubseteq_\ell S_r[\ell]} \sqsubseteq_\ell \quad \ell \in \mathbb{L}, X_\ell \in \mathcal{D}_\ell.$$



## 4. Abstraction



## Proofs

- A  $D \in \mathcal{D}_\ell$  is *provable* if and only if it has a *proof* that is a transfinite sequence <sup>4</sup>  $D_0, \dots, D_\lambda$  of elements of  $\mathcal{D}_\ell$  such that
  - $D_0 = \perp_\ell$ ,  $D_\lambda = D$  and
  - for all  $0 < \delta \leq \lambda$ ,  $D_\delta \sqsubseteq_\ell \gamma_{\ell \in \Delta_\ell} F_\ell^i(\bigsqcup_{\beta < \delta} D_\beta, \prod_{\ell' \prec \ell} S_r[\ell'])$ .
- The *meaning* of a rule-based definition is

$$S_r[\ell] \triangleq \bigsqcup_{\ell} \{D \in \mathcal{D}_\ell \mid D \text{ is provable}\}.$$

<sup>4</sup> In the classical case [Acz77], the fixpoint operator is continuous whence proofs are finite.



## Kleenean abstraction

- $\langle \mathcal{D}, \sqsubseteq, \perp, \sqcup \rangle, \langle \mathcal{D}^\sharp, \sqsubseteq^\sharp, \perp^\sharp, \sqcup^\sharp \rangle$  dcpos
- $F \in \mathcal{D} \mapsto \mathcal{D}, F^\sharp \in \mathcal{D}^\sharp \mapsto \mathcal{D}^\sharp$  monotone
- $\alpha \in \mathcal{D} \mapsto \mathcal{D}^\sharp$  strict and continuous on chains of  $\mathcal{D}$
- $\alpha \circ F = F^\sharp \circ \alpha$ , commutation condition
- $\implies \alpha(\text{lfp}^\sqsubseteq F) = \text{lfp}^{\sqsubseteq^\sharp} F^\sharp$

OK for abstracting finite behaviors, not infinite ones





### Tarskian abstraction

- $\langle \mathcal{D}, \sqsubseteq, \perp, \sqcup \rangle, \langle \mathcal{D}^\sharp, \sqsubseteq^\sharp, \perp^\sharp, \sqcup^\sharp \rangle$  dcpos
- $F \in \mathcal{D} \mapsto \mathcal{D}, F^\sharp \in \mathcal{D}^\sharp \mapsto \mathcal{D}^\sharp$  monotone
- $\alpha \in \mathcal{D} \mapsto \mathcal{D}^\sharp$  preserves meets
- $F^\sharp \circ \alpha \sqsubseteq^\sharp \alpha \circ F$ , semi-commutation condition
- $\forall y \in \mathcal{D}^\sharp : (F^\sharp(y) \sqsubseteq^\sharp y) \implies (\exists x \in \mathcal{D} : \alpha(x) = y \wedge F(x) \sqsubseteq x)$   
 $\implies \alpha(\text{lfp}^\sqsubseteq F) = \text{lfp}^\sqsubseteq^\sharp F^\sharp$

OK for abstracting infinite behaviors, not finite ones  
 $\implies$  abstract by parts.

### Requirements

- Both **convergence/termination** and **divergence/nonterminating behaviors** are needed in **static strictness analysis** [Myc80], safety & security analysis, typing [Cou97, Ler06], etc;
- Such static analyzes must be proved correct with respect to a semantics chosen at an **appropriate level of abstraction** (small-step/big-step trace/relational/natural semantics);

## 5. Conclusion



### Requirements satisfaction

- The bifinite extension of OS should satisfy the need for formal **finite and infinite semantics**, at various **levels of abstraction** and using various **equivalent presentations** (fixpoints, equational, constraints and inference rules) needed in static program analysis.

THE END



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THE END, THANK YOU



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