

# Learning checklist

## PART I

Lecture Notes  
pointers

### Lecture 1: Introduction

- Understand the basic ideas of the *denotational approach* to the semantics of programming languages. [\[Slides 1–2\]](#)
- Understand the notion of *compositional semantics*. [\[Slides 3–4\]](#)
- Understand the need for supporting *fixed point operators*. [\[§1.1\]](#)

### Lecture 2: Least fixed points

- Be able to give the definition and examples/non-examples of *partial order*, *cpo*, and *domain*. [\[§2.1\]](#)
- Be able to give the definition of *lubs* of chains, and use the definition as a proof principle. Be able to state and prove the *basic properties of lubs* of chains. [\[§2.1\]](#)  
[\[Slide 16\]](#)
- Be able to give the definition and examples/non-examples of *monotone*, *continuous*, and *strict* functions. [\[§2.1\]](#)
- Be able to give the definition of *least pre-fixed point*, and use the definition as a proof principle. Be able to prove that least pre-fixed points are *fixed-points*. [\[§2.2\]](#)
- Be able to state and prove *Tarski's fixed point theorem*. [\[§2.2\]](#)

### Lecture 3: Constructions on domains

- Be able to give the definition of the *product* of domains, *function* domains, and *flat* domains. [\[§§3.1–3.3\]](#)
- Be able to give the definition and establish the *continuity* of the various functions (projections, pairings, evaluation, currying, composition, fixed point operator) associated to the above constructions. [\[§§3.1–3.3\]](#)  
[\[Slide 37\]](#)

### Lecture 4: Scott induction<sup>1</sup>

- Be able to give the definition of the concept of *admissible subset* of a domain. [\[§4.1\]](#)
- Be able to state, prove the soundness of, and apply *Scott's induction principle*. [\[§§4.1–4.2\]](#)
- Be able to build *admissible subsets*, justifying the constructions. [\[§4.3\]](#)

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<sup>1</sup>You can safely skip pages 32–34 of the lecture notes.

## Learning checklist

### PART II

Lecture Notes  
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#### Lecture 5: PCF

- Understand the syntax, typing, and operational semantics of *PCF*. [\[§5.1–5.4\]](#)
- Be able to define *partial recursive functions* in PCF. [\[§5.3\]](#)
- Be able to give the definition of the notion of *contextual equivalence* in PCF. [\[§5.5\]](#)

#### Lecture 6: Denotational semantics of PCF

- Be able to give the definition of the *denotational semantics of PCF*. [\[§6.1–6.2\]](#)
- Be able to *use* the denotational semantics of PCF to prove contextual equivalence in PCF. [\[Slide 30\]](#)
- Be able to state the *compositionality properties* of the denotational semantics of PCF. [\[§6.3\]](#)
- Be able to state and prove the *soundness* of the denotational semantics of PCF. [\[§6.4\]](#)  
[\[Slide 27\]](#)

#### Lecture 7: Relating denotational and operational semantics

- Be able to state the *adequacy* property of the denotational semantics of PCF. [\[Slide 27\]](#)
- Be able to give the definition of the notion of *contextual preorder* in PCF, and to state and prove its extensionality properties. [\[§7.3\]](#)

#### Lecture 8: Full abstraction

- Understand the concept of *full abstraction* in PCF, and the reason for which it fails. [\[§8.1\]](#)
- Be able to give the definition of the operational and denotational semantics of PCF with parallel or. [\[§8.2\]](#)