

COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part II – 2015 – Paper 9

4 Denotational Semantics (MPF)

- (a) (i) Define the contextual-equivalence relation $\Gamma \vdash M \cong_{\text{ctx}} M' : \tau$ for pairs of PCF terms M, M' , PCF types τ , and PCF type environments Γ . [3 marks]
- (ii) For PCF terms M and N with respective typings $\Gamma \vdash M : \tau \rightarrow \alpha$ and $\Gamma \vdash N : \alpha \rightarrow \sigma$, let $N \circ M$ be the PCF term $\mathbf{fn} x : \tau. N(Mx)$, where $x \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma)$, with typing $\Gamma \vdash N \circ M : \tau \rightarrow \sigma$.

State whether or not if $\Gamma \vdash M \cong_{\text{ctx}} M' : \tau \rightarrow \alpha$ and $\Gamma \vdash N \cong_{\text{ctx}} N' : \alpha \rightarrow \sigma$ then $\Gamma \vdash N \circ M \cong_{\text{ctx}} N' \circ M' : \tau \rightarrow \sigma$. Justify your answer. [5 marks]

- (b) By considering the countable chain of functions $(P_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ in the function domain $(\mathbb{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_\perp)$ given by

$$P_n(k) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{false} & \text{if } k \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } k < n \\ \perp & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (k \in \mathbb{N}_\perp)$$

or otherwise, show that the function ε from $(\mathbb{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_\perp)$ to \mathbb{B}_\perp given by

$$\varepsilon(P) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{if } \exists n \in \mathbb{N}. P(n) = \text{true} \\ \text{false} & \text{if } \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. P(n) = \text{false} \\ \perp & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (P \in (\mathbb{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_\perp))$$

is not continuous. Argue as to whether or not ε is definable by a closed term of type $(\text{nat} \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}$ in both PCF and PCF+por. [5 marks]

- (c) Let M be the PCF+por term

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbf{fn} f : (\text{nat} \rightarrow \text{bool}) \rightarrow \text{bool}. \\ &\mathbf{fn} P : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{bool}. \\ &\mathbf{por}\left(P \mathbf{0}, f\left(\mathbf{fn} n : \text{nat}. P(\mathbf{succ}(n))\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

Give an explicit description of $\llbracket \mathbf{fix}(M) \rrbracket \in ((\mathbb{N}_\perp \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_\perp) \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_\perp)$. [7 marks]