

# Fundamental Property of LR for $\leq_{idw}$

If  $\Gamma \vdash e : ty'$  with  $loc(e) \subseteq \omega$ ,  
then  $\Gamma \vdash e \leq_{id_\omega} e : ty'$ .

More generally, if  $\Gamma, x : ty \vdash e : ty'$  with  
 $loc(e) \subseteq \omega$ , then

$$\Gamma \vdash e_1 \leq_{id_\omega} e_2 \supset \Gamma \vdash e[e_1/x] \leq_{id_\omega} e[e_2/x] : ty'$$

Proved by showing that each syntactic construct of the language preserves  $\Gamma \vdash e_1 \leq_r e_2 : ty$   
(see [15] Prop. 4.8).

For example...

If  $\Gamma, f : ty_1 \rightarrow ty_2, x : ty_1 \vdash e \leq_r e' : ty_2$ ,

then

$$\Gamma \vdash (\text{fun } f = (x : ty_1) \rightarrow e) \leq_r (\text{fun } f = (x : ty_1) \rightarrow e') : ty_1 \rightarrow ty_2$$

This is proved via an important "compactness property" of  $\langle S, \mathcal{F}_S, e \rangle \downarrow$ , namely ...

## An unwinding theorem

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Given  $f : ty_1 \rightarrow ty_2$ ,  $x : ty_1 \vdash e_2 : ty_2$ ,

for each  $0 \leq n \leq \omega$  define  $f_n \in \mathbf{Prog}_{ty_1 \rightarrow ty_2}$  by:

$$\begin{cases} f_0 & \triangleq \text{fun } f = (x : ty_1) \rightarrow f \ x \\ f_{n+1} & \triangleq \text{fun } (x : ty_1) \rightarrow e_2[f_n/f] \\ f_\omega & \triangleq \text{fun } f = (x : ty_1) \rightarrow e_2. \end{cases}$$

Then for all  $f : ty_1 \rightarrow ty_2 \vdash e : ty$  and all states  $s$

$$s, e[f_\omega/f] \Downarrow \text{ iff } \exists n \geq 0. s, e[f_n/f] \Downarrow.$$

(proof : see OS&PE, Theorem 5.3)

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Unwinding Theorem implies

$$f_\omega \leq_{\text{ctx}} g \equiv \forall n ( f_n \leq_{\text{ctx}} g )$$

and more generally

$$f_\omega \leq_r g \equiv \forall n ( f_n \leq_r g )$$

Unwinding Theorem implies

$$e[f_w/f] \leq_{dx} g \equiv \forall n (e[f_n/f] \leq_{dx} g)$$

and more generally

$$e[f_w/f] \leq_r g \equiv \forall n (e[f_n/f] \leq_r g)$$

These "syntactic admissibility" properties provide a direct link with the use of chain-complete partial orders in denotational semantics.

## Some observations

- simple operational semantics does not imply simple properties!  
(in particular, properties of recursion can be subtle)
- Not all SOS's are equally convenient for proofs
- The "ghost" of Domain Theory, in operationally-based proof methods.

Second part of the course is based on section 3 of  
AMP, "Relational Properties of Domains",  
Information & Computation 127(1996)66-90.

(see also the Abramsky-Jung handbook  
chapter on Domain Theory)

## Recursive Domain Equations

- why do we (semanticists) need to solve them? ...
- and why is it hard to do so?

# Denotational semantics as a tool for reasoning about contextual equiv. $\cong_{ctx}$

Require: mathematical structure  $D$  plus operations on  $D$  for the prog. lang. constructs permitting compositional definition of

$$\llbracket e \rrbracket \in D \text{ denotation of program phrase } e$$

that is at least computationally adequate:

$$\llbracket e_1 \rrbracket = \llbracket e_2 \rrbracket \in D \supset e_1 \cong_{ctx} e_2$$

( $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket = \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$  coinciding with  $\cong_{ctx}$  is called full abstraction)

# Denotational semantics as a tool for reasoning about contextual equiv. $\cong_{ctx}$

Require: mathematical structure  $D$  plus operations on  $D$  for the prog. lang. constructs  
often(?) lead to use of

recursively defined domains

given domain construction  $D \mapsto \Phi(D)$   
seek domain  $D = \text{rec } X. \Phi(X)$  which is "minimal" with property  $D \cong \Phi(D)$

isomorphism

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needed for computational adequacy results

## Example

Domain  $E$  for denotations of expressions calculating an int using a storage location for holding codes of functions  $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}$

E.g. of such an expression in OCaml

let  $y = \text{ref} (\text{fun } (x: \text{int}) \rightarrow x)$  in

$y := (\text{fun } (x: \text{int}) \rightarrow \text{if } x=0 \text{ then } ! \text{ else } x * (!y)(x-1));$   
 $(!y) 42$

computes 42!

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calculating an int using a storage location  
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$$\begin{cases} \text{denotations of expressions} & E \cong S \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z} \times S) \\ \text{denotations of states} & S \cong \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow E \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{array} \text{ partial functions}$$

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So need  $E \cong \Phi(E)$  where

$$\Phi(-) \triangleq (\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow (-)) \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z} \times (\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow (-)))$$

(If  $\rightarrow$  means all partial fns, then no such set  $E$  exists, by Cantor.)

# Classic example: untyped $\lambda$ -calculus

Given iso  $i: D \cong D \rightarrow D$  one can give denotations to  $\lambda$ -terms

$$t ::= x \mid \lambda x.t \mid tt$$

as elements  $\llbracket t \rrbracket \rho \in D$

environment mapping variables to elements of  $D$

- $\llbracket x \rrbracket \rho \equiv \rho(x)$
- $\llbracket \lambda x.t \rrbracket \rho \equiv i^{-1}(d \in D \mapsto \llbracket t \rrbracket (\rho[x \mapsto d]))$
- $\llbracket tt' \rrbracket \rho \equiv i(\llbracket t \rrbracket \rho)(\llbracket t' \rrbracket \rho)$

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but there is no such set

( $0 \not\cong 1 \cong 0 \rightarrow 0$ ; and if  $|D| \geq 1$ , then

$$|D \rightarrow D| \geq |D \rightarrow 1| = |\mathcal{P}D| > |D|$$

↑ Cantor)



# History - selected highlights

Scott | Plotkin (1969)

Denotational semantics in categories of domains = partially ordered sets with least element, lubs of chains, ...  
& continuous functions = monotone functions preserving lubs of chains

cf properties of  $\text{ctx}$

fewer functions allows possibility of things like  $D \cong D \rightarrow D$

# History - selected highlights

Scott | Plotkin (1969)

"Limit-colimit" construction of  $\text{rec } X. \Phi(X)$

as inverse limit of posets

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} D_0 & \xleftarrow{\pi_0} & D_1 & \xleftarrow{\pi_1} & D_2 & \xleftarrow{\pi_2} & \dots & \text{rec } X. \Phi(X) \\ & & \parallel & & \parallel & & & \parallel \\ \{ \perp \} & & \Phi(D_0) & & \Phi(D_1) & \dots & \{ d \in \prod_n D_n \mid \forall n. \pi_n(d_{n+1}) = d_n \} \end{array}$$

# History - selected highlights

Ward ; Lehmann ; Smyth-Plotkin (1982)

Use of order-enriched category theory to provide a general framework for the limit-colimit construction of  $\text{rec } X. \Phi(x)$ .

⇒ generalization to solving domain equations with parameters and recursively defined domain constructions ("nested datatypes", GADTs, ...)

# History - selected highlights

Freyd (1992) Categorical axiomatization of  $\text{rec } X. \Phi(x)$  via notion of "algebraic compactness" & "free dialgebras".

⇒ Simplified proofs of adequacy w.r.t. operational semantics (AMP)

induction/coinduction principles for recursive domains (Fiore, AMP)