

## PCF evaluation relation

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takes the form

$$M \Downarrow_{\tau} V$$

where

- $\tau$  is a PCF type
- $M, V \in \text{PCF}_{\tau}$  are closed PCF terms of type  $\tau$
- $V$  is a **value**,

$$V ::= \mathbf{0} \mid \mathbf{succ}(V) \mid \mathbf{true} \mid \mathbf{false} \mid \mathbf{fn } x : \tau . M.$$

## PCF evaluation (sample rules)

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$(\Downarrow_{\text{val}}) \quad V \Downarrow_{\tau} V \quad (V \text{ a value of type } \tau)$

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$(\Downarrow_{\text{cbn}}) \quad \frac{M_1 \Downarrow_{\tau \rightarrow \tau'} \mathbf{fn} \ x : \tau . M'_1 \quad M'_1[M_2/x] \Downarrow_{\tau'} V}{M_1 M_2 \Downarrow_{\tau'} V}$

  
Call-by-name

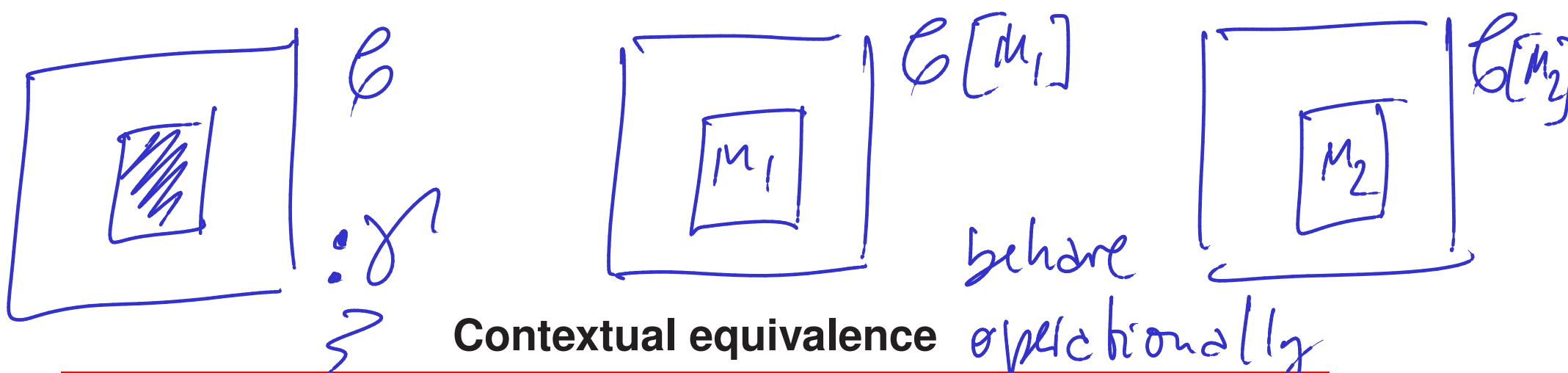
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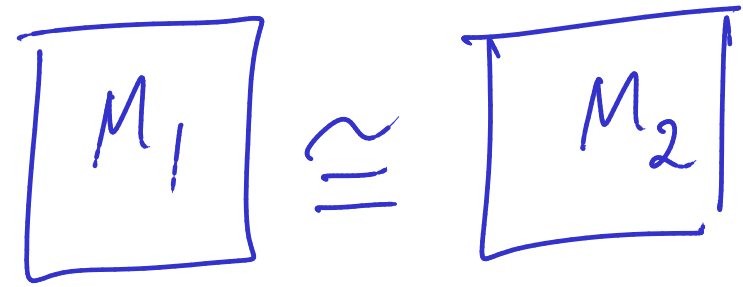
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$$(\Downarrow_{\text{fix}}) \quad \frac{M(\mathbf{fix}(M)) \Downarrow_{\tau} V}{\mathbf{fix}(M) \Downarrow_{\tau} V}$$



Two phrases of a programming language are **contextually equivalent** if any occurrences of the first phrase in a complete program can be replaced by the second phrase without affecting the observable results of executing the program.



## Contextual equivalence of PCF terms

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Given PCF terms  $M_1, M_2$ , PCF type  $\tau$ , and a type environment  $\Gamma$ , the relation  $\Gamma \vdash M_1 \cong_{\text{ctx}} M_2 : \tau$  is defined to hold iff

- Both the typings  $\Gamma \vdash M_1 : \tau$  and  $\Gamma \vdash M_2 : \tau$  hold.
- For all PCF contexts  $\mathcal{C}$  for which  $\mathcal{C}[M_1]$  and  $\mathcal{C}[M_2]$  are closed terms of type  $\gamma$ , where  $\gamma = \text{nat}$  or  $\gamma = \text{bool}$ , and for all values  $V : \gamma$ ,

$$\mathcal{C}[M_1] \Downarrow_{\gamma} V \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}[M_2] \Downarrow_{\gamma} V.$$

# PCF denotational semantics — aims

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- PCF types  $\tau$   $\mapsto$  domains  $\llbracket \tau \rrbracket$ .

$$\llbracket \text{nat} \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{N}_{\perp}$$

$$\llbracket \text{bool} \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{B}_{\perp}$$

$$\llbracket \sigma \rightarrow \tau \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\llbracket \sigma \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket)$$



## PCF denotational semantics — aims

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- PCF types  $\tau \mapsto$  domains  $\llbracket \tau \rrbracket$ .
- Closed PCF terms  $M : \tau \mapsto$  elements  $\llbracket M \rrbracket \in \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$ .

Denotations of open terms will be continuous functions.

$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M : z \rrbracket : \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket z \rrbracket$  continuous

? domain interpreting the environment  $\sigma$

(ex:  $\llbracket x : \sigma \vdash M : z \rrbracket : \llbracket \sigma \rrbracket \xrightarrow{\text{cont}} \llbracket z \rrbracket$ )

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- **Compositionality**.  
In particular:  $\llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket M' \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M] \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M'] \rrbracket$ .

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- **Soundness**.  
For any type  $\tau$ ,  $M \Downarrow_{\tau} V \Rightarrow \llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket V \rrbracket$ .

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In particular:  $\llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket M' \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M] \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M'] \rrbracket$ .
- **Soundness**.  
For any type  $\tau$ ,  $M \Downarrow_{\tau} V \Rightarrow \llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket V \rrbracket$ .
- **Adequacy**.  
For  $\tau = \mathit{bool}$  or  $\mathit{nat}$ ,  $\llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket V \rrbracket \in \llbracket \tau \rrbracket \implies M \Downarrow_{\tau} V$ .

**Theorem.** For all types  $\tau$  and closed terms  $M_1, M_2 \in \text{PCF}_\tau$ , if  $\llbracket M_1 \rrbracket$  and  $\llbracket M_2 \rrbracket$  are equal elements of the domain  $\llbracket \tau \rrbracket$ , then  $M_1 \cong_{\text{ctx}} M_2 : \tau$ .

Assume  $\llbracket M_1 \rrbracket = \llbracket M_2 \rrbracket$ . Consider  $\mathcal{C}[-] : \delta$

$$\mathcal{C}[M_1] \Downarrow v \quad \Rightarrow \quad \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M_1] \rrbracket = \llbracket v \rrbracket \quad \text{soundness}$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \Rightarrow \quad \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M_2] \rrbracket = \llbracket v \rrbracket \quad \text{completeness}$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{C}[M_2] \Downarrow v \quad \text{adequacy}$$

$$M_1 \stackrel{\cong}{\sim}_{\text{ctx}} M_2$$

**Theorem.** For all types  $\tau$  and closed terms  $M_1, M_2 \in \text{PCF}_\tau$ , if  $\llbracket M_1 \rrbracket$  and  $\llbracket M_2 \rrbracket$  are equal elements of the domain  $\llbracket \tau \rrbracket$ , then  $M_1 \cong_{\text{ctx}} M_2 : \tau$ .

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}[M_1] \Downarrow_{\text{nat}} V &\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M_1] \rrbracket = \llbracket V \rrbracket && \text{(soundness)} \\ &\Rightarrow \llbracket \mathcal{C}[M_2] \rrbracket = \llbracket V \rrbracket && \text{(compositionality} \\ &&& \text{on } \llbracket M_1 \rrbracket = \llbracket M_2 \rrbracket) \\ &\Rightarrow \mathcal{C}[M_2] \Downarrow_{\text{nat}} V && \text{(adequacy)} \end{aligned}$$

and symmetrically. □

## Proof principle

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To prove

$$M_1 \cong_{\text{ctx}} M_2 : \tau$$

it suffices to establish

$$\llbracket M_1 \rrbracket = \llbracket M_2 \rrbracket \text{ in } \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket M_1 \rrbracket = \llbracket M_2 \rrbracket$$

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$$M_1 \cong_{\text{ctx}} M_2$$

## Proof principle

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- ? The proof principle is sound, but is it complete? That is, is equality in the denotational model also a necessary condition for contextual equivalence?



# ***Topic 6***

## Denotational Semantics of PCF

## Denotational semantics of PCF

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To every typing judgement

$$\Gamma \vdash M : \tau$$

we associate a continuous function

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket : \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$$

between domains.

## Denotational semantics of PCF types

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$\llbracket nat \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{N}_\perp$  (flat domain)

$\llbracket bool \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{B}_\perp$  (flat domain)

where  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  and  $\mathbb{B} = \{true, false\}$ .

## Denotational semantics of PCF types

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$\llbracket nat \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{N}_\perp$  (flat domain)

$\llbracket bool \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{B}_\perp$  (flat domain)

$\llbracket \tau \rightarrow \tau' \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \llbracket \tau \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \tau' \rrbracket$  (function domain).

where  $\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  and  $\mathbb{B} = \{true, false\}$ .

$$\text{Ex: } \llbracket () \rrbracket = \{\perp\}$$

## Denotational semantics of PCF type environments

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$$\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \prod_{x \in \text{dom}(\Gamma)} \llbracket \Gamma(x) \rrbracket \quad (\Gamma\text{-environments})$$

$\Gamma$  is partial function from variables to types  
If  $x$  is a variable in the domain of definition of  $\Gamma$   
then  $\Gamma(x)$  denotes the type associated to  $x$  in  $\Gamma$ .

$$\Gamma \equiv (x_1 : \tau_1, \dots, x_n : \tau_n) \sim \Gamma : [x_i \mapsto \tau_i]_{i=1..n}$$

Ex:

$$\llbracket [x_1 : \tau_1, \dots, x_n : \tau_n] \rrbracket = \llbracket \tau_1 \rrbracket \times \dots \times \llbracket \tau_n \rrbracket$$
$$d \in \llbracket [x_1 : \tau_1, \dots, x_n : \tau_n] \rrbracket \text{ where } d_i \in \llbracket \tau_i \rrbracket$$

## Denotational semantics of PCF type environments

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$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \prod_{x \in \text{dom}(\Gamma)} \llbracket \Gamma(x) \rrbracket \quad (\Gamma\text{-environments}) \\ &= \text{the domain of partial functions } \rho \text{ from variables} \\ &\text{to domains such that } \text{dom}(\rho) = \text{dom}(\Gamma) \text{ and} \\ &\rho(x) \in \llbracket \Gamma(x) \rrbracket \text{ for all } x \in \text{dom}(\Gamma) \end{aligned}$$

# Denotational semantics of PCF type environments

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## Example:

1. For the empty type environment  $\emptyset$ ,

$$\llbracket \emptyset \rrbracket = \{ \perp \} \equiv \emptyset_{\perp}$$

*flat domain on the empty set*

where  $\perp$  denotes the unique partial function with  $\text{dom}(\perp) = \emptyset$ .

$$2. \llbracket \langle x \mapsto \tau \rangle \rrbracket = (\{ x \} \rightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket)$$



$$2. \llbracket \langle x \mapsto \tau \rangle \rrbracket = (\{x\} \rightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket) \cong \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$$

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3.

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket \langle x_1 \mapsto \tau_1, \dots, x_n \mapsto \tau_n \rangle \rrbracket \\ & \cong (\{x_1\} \rightarrow \llbracket \tau_1 \rrbracket) \times \dots \times (\{x_n\} \rightarrow \llbracket \tau_n \rrbracket) \\ & \cong \llbracket \tau_1 \rrbracket \times \dots \times \llbracket \tau_n \rrbracket \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash M : \tau \quad \sim \quad \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket : \llbracket \tau \rrbracket \longrightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$$

## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, I *cont*

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$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{0} \rrbracket(\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 0 \in \llbracket \text{nat} \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{true} \rrbracket(\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{true} \in \llbracket \text{bool} \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{false} \rrbracket(\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{false} \in \llbracket \text{bool} \rrbracket$$

$$\rho \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \underline{\mathbf{true}} \rrbracket = \lambda \rho \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket. \text{true}$$

## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, I

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$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{false} \rrbracket (\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{false} \in \llbracket \text{bool} \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash x \rrbracket (\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \rho(x) \in \llbracket \Gamma(x) \rrbracket \quad (x \in \text{dom}(\Gamma))$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket x_1: \tau_1, \dots, x_n: \tau_n \vdash x_i: \tau_i \rrbracket \\ & \quad \equiv \lambda (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_n) \in \llbracket \tau_1 \rrbracket \times \dots \times \llbracket \tau_n \rrbracket. \rho_i \end{aligned}$$

## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, II

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$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{succ}(M) \rrbracket(\rho)$

$$\underline{\underline{\text{def}}} \begin{cases} \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) + 1 & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) \neq \perp \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) = \perp \end{cases}$$

## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, II

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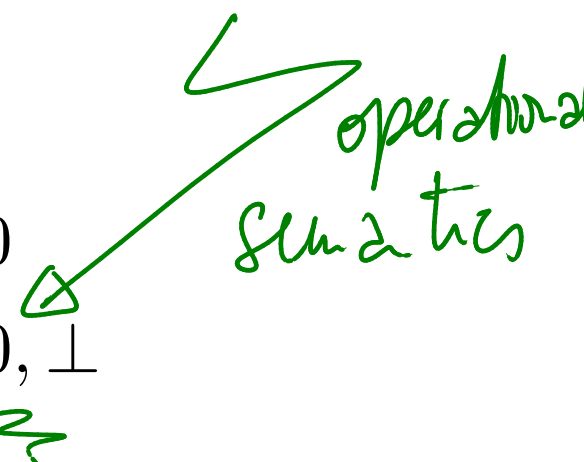
$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{succ}(M) \rrbracket(\rho)$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) + 1 & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) \neq \perp \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) = \perp \end{cases}$$

$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{pred}(M) \rrbracket(\rho)$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) - 1 & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) > 0 \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) = 0, \perp \end{cases}$$

*fred up  
to the  
operational  
semantics*



## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, II

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$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{succ}(M) \rrbracket(\rho)$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) + 1 & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) \neq \perp \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) = \perp \end{cases}$$

$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{pred}(M) \rrbracket(\rho)$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) - 1 & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) > 0 \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) = 0, \perp \end{cases}$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{zero}(M) \rrbracket(\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \mathit{true} & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) = 0 \\ \mathit{false} & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) > 0 \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho) = \perp \end{cases}$$

## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, III

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$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{if} \ M_1 \ \mathbf{then} \ M_2 \ \mathbf{else} \ M_3 \rrbracket (\rho)$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_2 \rrbracket (\rho) & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rrbracket (\rho) = \mathit{true} \\ \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_3 \rrbracket (\rho) & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rrbracket (\rho) = \mathit{false} \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rrbracket (\rho) = \perp \end{cases}$$



## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, III

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$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{if } M_1 \text{ then } M_2 \text{ else } M_3 \rrbracket (\rho)$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \begin{cases} \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_2 \rrbracket (\rho) & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rrbracket (\rho) = \text{true} \\ \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_3 \rrbracket (\rho) & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rrbracket (\rho) = \text{false} \\ \perp & \text{if } \llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rrbracket (\rho) = \perp \end{cases}$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 M_2 \rrbracket (\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \underbrace{\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_1 \rrbracket (\rho)}_{\in (\llbracket \sigma \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket)} \underbrace{\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M_2 \rrbracket (\rho)}_{\in \llbracket \sigma \rrbracket}$$

$\sigma \rightarrow \tau$        $\sigma$

$$\Gamma, x:\tau \vdash M:\sigma \rightsquigarrow \llbracket M \rrbracket : \underbrace{\llbracket \Gamma, x:\tau \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \sigma \rrbracket}_{\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \times \llbracket \tau \rrbracket}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{fn } x:\tau. M : \tau \rightarrow \sigma$$

**Denotational semantics of PCF terms, IV**

Currying

$$\llbracket \text{fn } x:\tau. M \rrbracket : \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \rightarrow (\llbracket \tau \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \sigma \rrbracket)$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{fn } x:\tau. M \rrbracket (\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda d \in \llbracket \tau \rrbracket. \llbracket \Gamma[x \mapsto \tau] \vdash M \rrbracket (\rho[x \mapsto d]) \quad (x \notin \text{dom}(\Gamma))$$

$$\lambda d \in \llbracket \tau \rrbracket. \llbracket \Gamma, x:\tau \vdash M \rrbracket (\rho, d)$$

**NB:**  $\rho[x \mapsto d] \in \llbracket \Gamma[x \mapsto \tau] \rrbracket$  is the function mapping  $x$  to  $d \in \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$  and otherwise acting like  $\rho$ .

## Denotational semantics of PCF terms, V

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$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fix}(M) \rrbracket(\rho) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathit{fix}(\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket(\rho))$$

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Recall that *fix* is the function assigning least fixed points to continuous functions.

## Denotational semantics of PCF

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**Proposition.** *For all typing judgements  $\Gamma \vdash M : \tau$ , the denotation*

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket : \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \tau \rrbracket$$

*is a well-defined continuous function.*

