

Topic 2

Least Fixed Points

Thesis

All domains of computation are partial orders with a least element.

$d \sqsubseteq d'$

\exists

- d approximates d'
- d' provides the same or more information than d

Thesis

All domains of computation are partial orders with a least element.

All computable functions are monotonic.

if $d \sqsubseteq d'$ then $f(d) \sqsubseteq f(d')$ ~ monotonicity.

Partially ordered sets

A binary relation \sqsubseteq on a set D is a **partial order** iff it is

reflexive: $\forall d \in D. d \sqsubseteq d$

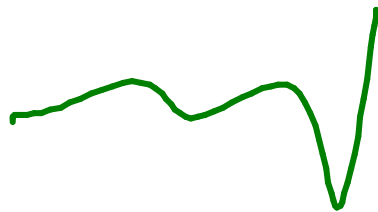
transitive: $\forall d, d', d'' \in D. d \sqsubseteq d' \sqsubseteq d'' \Rightarrow d \sqsubseteq d''$

anti-symmetric: $\forall d, d' \in D. d \sqsubseteq d' \sqsubseteq d \Rightarrow d = d'$.

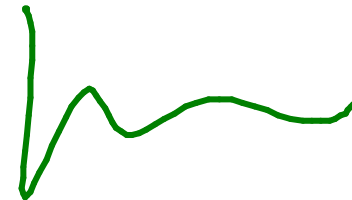
Such a pair (D, \sqsubseteq) is called a **partially ordered set**, or **poset**.

$$\frac{}{x \sqsubseteq x}$$

$$\frac{x \sqsubseteq y \quad y \sqsubseteq z}{x \sqsubseteq z}$$



$$\frac{x \sqsubseteq y \quad y \sqsubseteq x}{x = y}$$



Domain of partial functions, $X \rightarrow Y$

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Underlying set: all partial functions, f , with domain of definition $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq X$ and taking values in Y .

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Partial order:

$$\begin{aligned} f \sqsubseteq g & \text{ iff } dom(f) \subseteq dom(g) \text{ and} \\ & \forall x \in dom(f). f(x) = g(x) \\ & \text{ iff } graph(f) \subseteq graph(g) \end{aligned}$$

Monotonicity

- A function $f : D \rightarrow E$ between posets is **monotone** iff

$$\forall d, d' \in D. d \sqsubseteq d' \Rightarrow f(d) \sqsubseteq f(d').$$

$$\frac{x \sqsubseteq y}{f(x) \sqsubseteq f(y)} \quad (f \text{ monotone})$$

Example: Sequencing a state transformer with itself.

$$f: (\text{State} \rightarrow \text{State}) \rightarrow (\text{State} \rightarrow \text{State})$$

$$f(w) = w \circ w = \lambda s \in \text{State}. w(ws).$$

Monotonicity for f:

For $u, v \in \text{State} \rightarrow \text{State}$

if $u \sqsubseteq v$ then $f(u) \sqsubseteq f(v)$

So assume $u \sqsubseteq v$.

That is, for all states s , if $u(s)$ is defined
then so is $v(s)$ and $u(s) = v(s)$.

We show $u^2 \subseteq v^2$

That is, for all states s , if $u(us)$ is
defined then so is $v(v(s))$ and they
are equal. Indeed, suppose $u(us)$ is
defined then $u(s)$ is defined and so is
 $v(s)$ with $u(s) = v(s)$. Also $v(us)$ is defined
and $v(us) = u(us)$. So, $v(v(s)) = v(us) = u(us)$
is defined, and we are done. \square

Least Elements

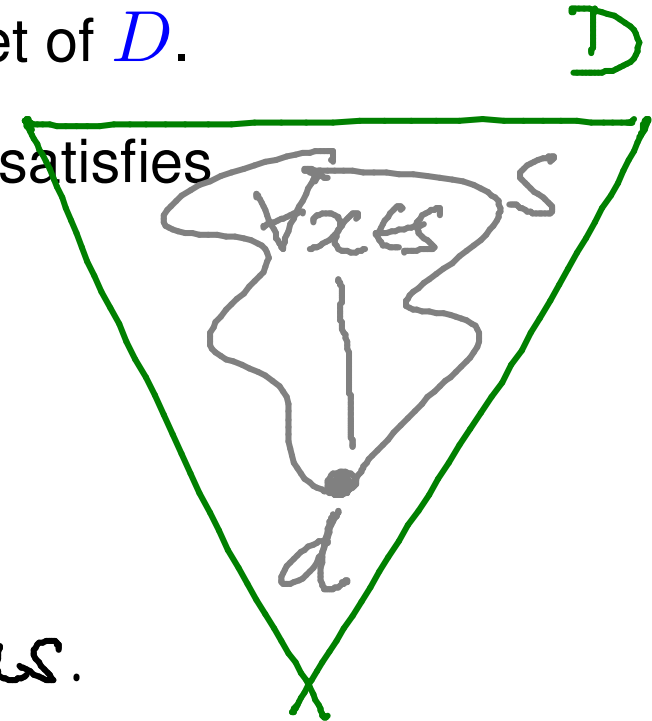
Suppose that D is a poset and that S is a subset of D .

An element $d \in S$ is the *least* element of S if it satisfies

$$\forall x \in S. d \sqsubseteq x .$$

Example:

The completely undefined function is least in the domain of partial functions.



- Note that because \sqsubseteq is anti-symmetric, S has at most one least element.

s, s' are least in S then $s \sqsubseteq s'$
and $s' \sqsubseteq s$

- Note also that a poset may not have least element.

so $s = s'$.

Pre-fixed points

Let D be a poset and $f : D \rightarrow D$ be a function.

An element $d \in D$ is a pre-fixed point of f if it satisfies $f(d) \sqsubseteq d$.

The least pre-fixed point of f , if it exists, will be written

$$\boxed{\text{fix}(f)} = \text{least element of } \{d \in D \mid f(d) \sqsubseteq d\}$$

It is thus (uniquely) specified by the two properties:

$$f(\text{fix}(f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f) \quad (\text{lfp1})$$

$$\forall d \in D. f(d) \sqsubseteq d \Rightarrow \text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq d. \quad (\text{lfp2})$$

Proof principle

2. Let D be a poset and let $f : D \rightarrow D$ be a function with a least pre-fixed point $fix(f) \in D$.

For all $x \in D$, to prove that $fix(f) \sqsubseteq x$ it is enough to establish that $f(x) \sqsubseteq x$.

$$\frac{f(x) \sqsubseteq x}{fix(f) \sqsubseteq x}$$

Proof principle

1.

$$\frac{}{f(\text{fix}(f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f)}$$

2. Let D be a poset and let $f : D \rightarrow D$ be a function with a least pre-fixed point $\text{fix}(f) \in D$.

For all $x \in D$, to prove that $\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq x$ it is enough to establish that $f(x) \sqsubseteq x$.

$$\frac{f(x) \sqsubseteq x}{\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq x}$$

$$\frac{f(\text{fix } f) \sqsubseteq \text{fix } f}{\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq f(\text{fix } f)} \quad \neq$$

$$f(\text{fix } f) = \text{fix}(f)$$

Least pre-fixed points are fixed points

If it exists, the least pre-fixed point of a mononote function on a partial order is necessarily a fixed point.

$$\frac{f(\text{fix } f) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f)}{f(f(\text{fix } f)) \sqsubseteq f(\text{fix } f)} \quad (f \text{ mononote})$$

$$\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq f(\text{fix}(f))$$

Thesis^{*}

All domains of computation are complete partial orders with a least element.

The information provided by a chain of elements in D

$d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_n \sqsubseteq \dots$ ($n \in \mathbb{N}$)

can be joined as an element

$(\bigsqcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} d_n)$ in D

Considering

$d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_n \sqsubseteq \dots$ (new) in D

Thesis*

f
 \downarrow
 E monotone

All domains of computation are complete partial orders with a least element.

we will require that $f(\bigsqcup_n d_n)$ is obtained

All computable functions are continuous.

as the join of $f(d_0) \sqsubseteq f(d_1) \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq f(d_n) \sqsubseteq \dots$ (new)
That is, $f(\bigsqcup_n d_n) = \bigsqcup_n f(d_n)$.

Cpo's and domains

A **chain complete poset**, or **cpo** for short, is a poset (D, \sqsubseteq) in which all countable increasing chains $d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq d_2 \sqsubseteq \dots$ have least upper bounds, $\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_n$:

or join

$$\forall m \geq 0. d_m \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_n \quad \underline{\underline{\text{(lub1)}}}$$

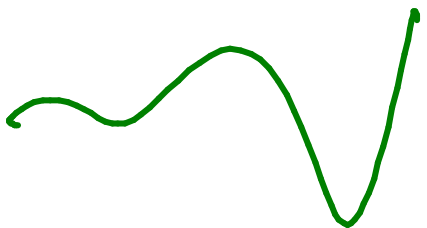
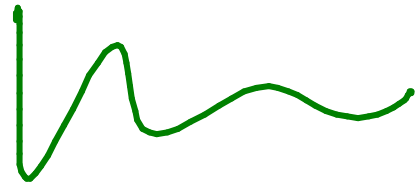
$$\forall d \in D. (\forall m \geq 0. d_m \sqsubseteq d) \Rightarrow \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_n \sqsubseteq d. \quad \underline{\underline{\text{(lub2)}}}$$

A **domain** is a cpo that possesses a least element, \perp :

$$\forall d \in D. \perp \sqsubseteq d.$$

$$\overline{\perp \sqsubseteq x}$$

$$\overline{x_i \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} x_n} \quad (i \geq 0 \text{ and } \langle x_n \rangle \text{ a chain})$$


$$\frac{\forall n \geq 0. x_n \sqsubseteq x}{\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} x_n \sqsubseteq x} \quad (\langle x_i \rangle \text{ a chain})$$


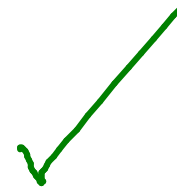
Domain of partial functions, $X \rightarrow Y$

Underlying set: all partial functions, f , with domain of definition $dom(f) \subseteq X$ and taking values in Y .

Partial order:

$$f \sqsubseteq g \quad \text{iff} \quad dom(f) \subseteq dom(g) \text{ and} \\ \forall x \in dom(f). f(x) = g(x)$$

$$\text{iff} \quad graph(f) \subseteq graph(g)$$



Lub of chain $f_0 \sqsubseteq f_1 \sqsubseteq f_2 \sqsubseteq \dots$ is the partial function f with $dom(f) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} dom(f_n)$ and

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} f_n(x) & \text{if } x \in dom(f_n), \text{ some } n \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

That is,

$$graph(f) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} graph(f_n)$$

Domain of partial functions, $X \rightarrow Y$

Underlying set: all partial functions, f , with domain of definition $dom(f) \subseteq X$ and taking values in Y .

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Lub of chain $f_0 \sqsubseteq f_1 \sqsubseteq f_2 \sqsubseteq \dots$ is the partial function f with $dom(f) = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} dom(f_n)$ and

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} f_n(x) & \text{if } x \in dom(f_n), \text{ some } n \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Least element \perp is the totally undefined partial function.

Some properties of lubs of chains

Let D be a cpo.

1. For $d \in D$, $\bigsqcup_n d = d$.
2. For every chain $d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_n \sqsubseteq \dots$ in D ,

$$\bigsqcup_n d_n = \bigsqcup_n d_{N+n}$$

for all $N \in \mathbb{N}$.

3. For every pair of chains $d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_n \sqsubseteq \dots$ and $e_0 \sqsubseteq e_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq e_n \sqsubseteq \dots$ in D ,

if $d_n \sqsubseteq e_n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then $\bigsqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n$.

$$\frac{d_k \sqsubseteq e_k \quad e_k \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n}{d_k \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n}$$

$$\frac{\forall k \quad d_k \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n}{\bigsqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n}$$

$$\bigsqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n$$

3. For every pair of chains $d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_n \sqsubseteq \dots$ and $e_0 \sqsubseteq e_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq e_n \sqsubseteq \dots$ in D ,
 if $d_n \sqsubseteq e_n$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then $\bigsqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n$.

$$\frac{\forall n \geq 0 . x_n \sqsubseteq y_n}{\bigsqcup_n x_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n y_n} \quad (\langle x_n \rangle \text{ and } \langle y_n \rangle \text{ chains})$$

$$\frac{\checkmark}{d \subseteq \bigcup_n d}$$

$$\frac{\forall n \quad \frac{\checkmark}{d \subseteq d}}{\bigcup_n d \subseteq d}$$

$$d = \bigcup_n d$$

$$\textcircled{1} \bigcup_n d_n \subseteq \bigcup_m d_{n+m} \quad \textcircled{2} \bigcup_m d_{n+m} \subseteq \bigcup_n d_n$$

$$\bigcup_n d_n = \bigcup_m d_{n+m} \quad (\text{New})$$

$$\checkmark$$

$$d_n \subseteq d_{n+n}$$

$$\checkmark$$

$$d_{n+n} \subseteq \bigcup_m d_{n+m}$$

$$\forall n \quad d_n \subseteq \bigcup_m d_{n+m}$$

$$\bigcup_n d_n \subseteq \bigcup_m d_{n+m}$$

 f_m

$$d_{N+m} \subseteq \bigcup_n d_n$$

$$\bigcup_m d_{N+m} \subseteq \bigcup_n d_n$$

Consider a double chain: $d_{m,n}$ ($m, n \in \mathbb{N}$)

s.t.

$$\forall i < j, k < l. d_{i,k} \leq d_{j,l}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \vdots & & \vdots & & & & \\ \sqcup & & \sqcup & & & & \\ d_{0,n} \leq & d_{1,n} \leq & \dots & & & & \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ \sqcup & & \sqcup & & & & \sqcup \\ d_{0,1} \leq & d_{1,1} \leq & d_{2,1} \leq & \dots \leq & d_{m,1} \leq & \dots & \\ \sqcup & & \sqcup & & \sqcup & & \sqcup \\ d_{0,0} \leq & d_{1,0} \leq & d_{2,0} \leq & \dots \leq & d_{m,0} \leq & \dots & \end{array}$$

$$\bigsqcup_n d_{0,n} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n d_{1,n} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

\sqcup

\sqcup

\vdots

\vdots

\sqcup

\sqcup

$$d_{0,n} \sqsubseteq d_{1,n} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

\vdots

\vdots

\vdots

\sqcup

\sqcup

\sqcup

$$d_{0,1} \sqsubseteq d_{1,1} \sqsubseteq d_{2,1} \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_{m,1} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

\sqcup

\sqcup

\sqcup

\sqcup

$$d_{0,0} \sqsubseteq d_{1,0} \sqsubseteq d_{2,0} \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_{m,0} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

$$\bigsqcup_n d_{0,n} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n d_{1,n} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

 \sqcup
 \sqcup
 \vdots
 \vdots
 \sqcup
 \sqcup

$$d_{0,n} \sqsubseteq d_{1,n} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

 \vdots
 \vdots
 \sqcup
 \sqcup

$$d_{0,1} \sqsubseteq d_{1,1} \sqsubseteq d_{2,1} \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_{m,1} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

 \sqcup
 \sqcup
 \sqcup
 \sqcup

$$d_{0,0} \sqsubseteq d_{1,0} \sqsubseteq d_{2,0} \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_{m,0} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

 \vdots
 \sqcup

$$\bigsqcup_m d_{m,1}$$

 \sqcup

$$\sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_m d_{m,0}$$

$$\bigsqcup_n d_{0,n} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n d_{1,n} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

$$\sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_m \bigsqcup_n d_{m,n}$$

$$\sqcup$$

⋮

$$\sqcup$$

$$d_{0,n} \sqsubseteq d_{1,n} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

⋮

$$\sqcup$$

$$d_{0,1} \sqsubseteq d_{1,1} \sqsubseteq d_{2,1} \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_{m,1} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

$$\sqcup$$

$$\sqcup$$

$$\sqcup$$

$$\sqcup$$

$$d_{0,0} \sqsubseteq d_{1,0} \sqsubseteq d_{2,0} \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_{m,0} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

$$\bigsqcup_n \bigsqcup_m d_{m,n}$$

⋮

$$\bigsqcup_m d_{m,1}$$

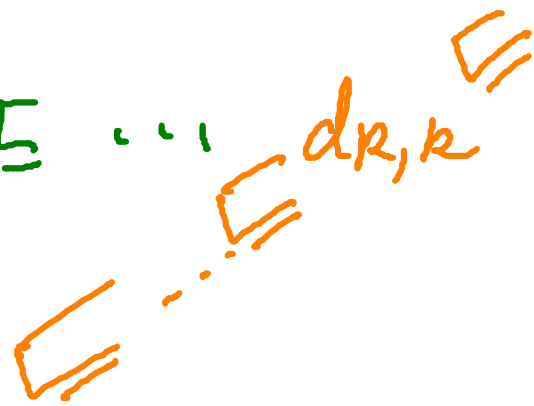
$$\sqcup$$

$$\sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_m d_{m,0}$$

$$\bigsqcup_n d_{0,n} \subseteq \bigsqcup_n d_{1,n} \subseteq \dots$$

 \sqcup
 \sqcup
 \vdots
 \vdots
 \sqcup
 \sqcup

$$d_{0,n} \subseteq d_{1,n} \subseteq \dots \subseteq d_{k,k}$$

 \vdots
 \vdots
 \sqcup
 \sqcup


$$d_{0,1} \subseteq d_{1,1} \subseteq d_{2,1} \subseteq \dots \subseteq d_{m,1} \subseteq \dots$$

 \sqcup
 $\checkmark \sqcup$
 \sqcup
 \sqcup
 \sqcup

$$d_{0,0} \subseteq d_{1,0} \subseteq d_{2,0} \subseteq \dots \subseteq d_{m,0} \subseteq \dots$$

$$\subseteq \bigsqcup_m \bigsqcup_n d_{m,n}$$

|| lemma

$$\bigsqcup_k d_{k,k} = \bigsqcup_n \bigsqcup_m d_{m,n}$$

 \vdots
 \sqcup
 \vdots
 \sqcup

$$\bigsqcup_m d_{m,1}$$

 \sqcup

$$\subseteq \bigsqcup_m d_{m,0}$$



$$d_{k,k} \subseteq \bigcup_n d_{k,n} \quad \bigcup_n d_{k,n} \subseteq \bigcup_m \bigcup_n d_{m,n}$$

$$\forall k \quad d_{k,k} \subseteq \bigcup_m \bigcup_n d_{m,n}$$

$$\bigcup_k d_{k,k} \subseteq \bigcup_m \bigcup_n d_{m,n}$$

$$l = \text{def } \max(m, n)$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \checkmark \\ d_{m,n} \subseteq d_{l,l} \end{array} \quad \frac{\begin{array}{c} \checkmark \\ d_{l,l} \subseteq \bigcup_k d_{k,k} \end{array}}{\underline{d_{m,n} \subseteq \bigcup_k d_{k,k}}}$$

$$\forall n \quad d_{m,n} \subseteq \bigcup_k d_{k,k}$$

$$\forall m \quad \bigcup_n d_{m,n} \subseteq \bigcup_k d_{k,k}$$

$$\bigcup_m \bigcup_n d_{m,n} \subseteq \bigcup_k d_{k,k}$$

Diagonalising a double chain

Lemma. Let D be a cpo. Suppose that the doubly-indexed family of elements $d_{m,n} \in D$ ($m, n \geq 0$) satisfies

$$m \leq m' \ \& \ n \leq n' \Rightarrow d_{m,n} \sqsubseteq d_{m',n'}. \quad (\dagger)$$

Then

$$\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_{0,n} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_{1,n} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_{2,n} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

and

$$\bigsqcup_{m \geq 0} d_{m,0} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_{m \geq 0} d_{m,1} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_{m \geq 0} d_{m,2} \sqsubseteq \dots$$

Moreover

$$\bigsqcup_{m \geq 0} \left(\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_{m,n} \right) = \bigsqcup_{k \geq 0} d_{k,k} = \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} \left(\bigsqcup_{m \geq 0} d_{m,n} \right).$$

$$\blacktriangleright f(\bigsqcup_n d_n) \subseteq \bigsqcup_n f(d_n)$$

Continuity and strictness

- If D and E are cpo's, the function f is **continuous** iff
 1. it is monotone, and
 2. it preserves lubs of chains, *i.e.* for all chains $d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots$ in D , it is the case that

$$f(\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_n) = \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} f(d_n) \text{ in } E. \quad \checkmark$$

Note

$$d_n \subseteq \bigsqcup_n d_n$$

f monotone

$$\forall n \quad f(d_n) \subseteq f(\bigsqcup_n d_n)$$

$$\bigsqcup_n f(d_n) \subseteq f(\bigsqcup_n d_n)$$

Continuity and strictness

- If D and E are cpo's, the function f is **continuous** iff
 1. it is monotone, and
 2. it preserves lubs of chains, *i.e.* for all chains $d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots$ in D , it is the case that

$$f\left(\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_n\right) = \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} f(d_n) \quad \text{in } E.$$

- If D and E have least elements, then the function f is **strict** iff $f(\perp) = \perp$.

Tarski's Fixed Point Theorem

Let $f : D \rightarrow D$ be a continuous function on a domain D . Then

- f possesses a least pre-fixed point, given by

$$\text{fix}(f) = \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} f^n(\perp).$$

- Moreover, $\text{fix}(f)$ is a fixed point of f , *i.e.* satisfies $f(\text{fix}(f)) = \text{fix}(f)$, and hence is the **least fixed point** of f .

PROOF OF TARSKI'S FIXED POINT THEOREM

$$(1) \perp \in f(\perp) \xRightarrow{\text{f monotone}} f^n(\perp) \in f^{n+1}(\perp)$$

$$\perp \in f(\perp) \subseteq f^2(\perp) \subseteq \dots \subseteq f^n(\perp) \subseteq \dots$$

$(n \in \mathbb{N})$

$$\bigsqcup_n f^n(\perp) = \underline{\text{fix}}(f)$$

(2) $\text{fix}(f)$ is a fixed point

$$f\left(\bigcup_n f^n(\perp)\right)$$

\parallel f continuous

$$\bigcup_n f(f^n(\perp)) = \bigcup (f(\perp) \sqsubseteq f^2(\perp) \sqsubseteq \dots)$$

$$= \bigcup (\perp \sqsubseteq f(\perp) \sqsubseteq f^2(\perp) \sqsubseteq \dots)$$

$$= \bigcup_n f^n(\perp).$$

(3) $\text{fix}(f)$ is least amongst prefixed points.

Let d be a prefixed point, i.e. $f(d) \leq d$.

Then, it follows by induction using that f is monotone and that \perp is a least element, that $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. f^n(\perp) \leq d$.

Hence, $\bigsqcup_n f^n \perp \leq d$.



[[while B do C]]

[[while B do C]]

$$= \text{fix}(f_{[[B]], [[C]])}$$

$$= \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} f_{[[B]], [[C]]}^n(\perp)$$

$$= \lambda s \in \text{State}.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} [[C]]^k(s) \quad \text{if } k \geq 0 \text{ is such that } [[B]]([[C]]^k(s)) = \text{false} \\ \quad \text{and } [[B]]([[C]]^i(s)) = \text{true for all } 0 \leq i < k \\ \text{undefined} \quad \text{if } [[B]]([[C]]^i(s)) = \text{true for all } i \geq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$f_{[[B]], [[C]]}: (\text{State} \rightarrow \text{State}) \rightarrow (\text{State} \rightarrow \text{State})$
CONTINUOUS!