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- total functions are not a good fit, **partial** functions are better;
- there is some **“information” order** involved;
- we can compute fixed points by iterating  $F$  on the least element  $\perp$  and taking a **“limit”**.

## LEAST FIXED POINTS

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POSETS AND MONOTONE FUNCTIONS

## PARTIALLY ORDERED SET

A **partial order** on a set  $D$  is a binary relation  $\sqsubseteq$  that is

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

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

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

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$$\text{REFL} \frac{}{x \sqsubseteq x}$$

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

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



## DOMAIN OF PARTIAL FUNCTIONS $X \rightarrow Y$

**Underlying set:** partial functions  $f$  with domain of definition  $\mathbf{dom}(f) \subseteq X$  and taking values in  $Y$ ;

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**Order:**  $f \sqsubseteq g$  if  $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \text{dom}(g)$  and  $\forall x \in \text{dom}(f). f(x) = g(x)$ , i.e. if  $\text{graph}(f) \subseteq \text{graph}(g)$ .

Reflex:  $f \sqsubseteq f$  :  $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \text{dom}(f)$  and ...

Trans:  $f \sqsubseteq g \sqsubseteq h$  :  $\text{dom}(f) \subseteq \text{dom}(g) \subseteq \text{dom}(h)$   
 $x \in \text{dom}(f)$   $f(x) = g(x) = h(x)$

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

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Proof!

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

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

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

## LEAST FIXED POINTS

LEAST ELEMENTS AND PRE-FIXED POINTS

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$$\text{LEAST } \frac{x \in S}{\perp_S \sqsubseteq x}$$



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$$\begin{array}{c} \text{LEAST} \frac{x \in S}{\perp_S \sqsubseteq x} \qquad \text{ASYM} \frac{\text{LEAST} \frac{\perp'_S \in S}{\perp_S \sqsubseteq \perp'_S} \quad \text{LEAST} \frac{\perp_S \in S}{\perp'_S \sqsubseteq \perp_S}}{\perp_S = \perp'_S} \end{array}$$

A **fixed point** for a function  $f: D \rightarrow D$  is an element  $d \in D$  satisfying  $f(d) = d$ .

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

$$\text{LFP-FIX} \quad \frac{}{f(\text{fix}(f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f)} \qquad \text{LFP-LEAST} \quad \frac{f(d) \sqsubseteq d}{\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq d}$$

$$\text{LFP-FIX} \frac{}{f(\text{fix}(f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f)}$$

The least pre-fixed point is a pre-fixed point.

$$\text{LFP-FIX} \frac{}{f(\text{fix}(f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f)}$$

$$\text{LFP-LEAST} \frac{f(d) \sqsubseteq d}{\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq d}$$

To prove  $\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq d$ , it is enough to show  $f(d) \sqsubseteq d$ .

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Application: least pre-fixed points of monotone functions are (least) fixed points.

$$\text{ASYM} \frac{\text{LFP-FIX} \frac{}{f(\text{fix}(f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f)} \quad \frac{}{\text{fix}(f) \sqsubseteq f(\text{fix}(f))}}{f(\text{fix}(f)) = \text{fix}(f)}$$



## PROOFS WITH LEAST FIXED POINTS

fixed point  $\Rightarrow$  prefixed point  
 least prefixed point  $\Rightarrow$  fixed point (least)

$$\text{LFP-FIX} \frac{}{f(\text{fix}(f)) \sqsubseteq \text{fix}(f)}$$

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LEAST FIXED POINTS

LEAST UPPER BOUNDS

## LEAST UPPER BOUND OF A CHAIN

The **least upper bound** of countable increasing chains  $d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq d_2 \sqsubseteq \dots$ , written  $\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} d_n$ , satisfies the two following properties:

$$\text{LUB-BOUND} \quad \frac{}{x_i \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} x_n}$$

$$\text{LUB-LEAST} \quad \frac{\forall n \geq 0 . x_n \sqsubseteq x}{\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} x_n \sqsubseteq x}$$

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- Other names: supremum, limit...
- Might write simply  $\bigsqcup_n d_n$  or even  $\bigsqcup d_n$
- Only lubs of chains – but can be generalized
- $\bigsqcup_{i \geq 0} d_i$  need not be one of the  $d_i$  – this is the interesting case!

Lubs are unique.

# PROPERTIES OF LUBS

Lubs are unique.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} e_0 & \sqsubseteq & e_1 & \dots & \sqsubseteq & \sqcup_n e_n \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ d_0 & & d_1 & \dots & \sqsubseteq & \sqcup_n d_n \end{array}$$

Lubs are monotone: if for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\underline{d_n} \sqsubseteq e_n$ , then  $\sqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \sqcup_n e_n$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Trans} \quad \frac{d_n \sqsubseteq e_n}{\forall n. d_n \sqsubseteq \sqcup_n e_n} \quad \text{Bound} \quad \frac{e_n \sqsubseteq \sqcup_n e_n}{\sqcup_n e_n \sqsubseteq \sqcup_n e_n} \\ \hline \text{Least} \quad \frac{\forall n. d_n \sqsubseteq \sqcup_n e_n}{\sqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \sqcup_n e_n} \end{array}$$

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$$\text{LUB-MON} \frac{\forall i. d_i \sqsubseteq e_i}{\bigsqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n}$$

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# PROPERTIES OF LUBS

$$d_0 \sqsubseteq d_1 \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq d_N \sqsubseteq d_{N+1} \dots \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n d_n$$

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For any  $d$ ,  $\bigsqcup_n d = d$ .

For any chain and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\bigsqcup_n d_n = \bigsqcup_n d_{n+N}$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Proof} \\ \hline \forall n. d_n \sqsubseteq d_{n+N} \quad \forall n. d_{n+N} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n d_n \\ \hline \text{least} \quad \bigsqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n d_{n+N} \quad \bigsqcup_n d_{n+N} \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n d_n \\ \hline \text{Asym} \quad \bigsqcup_n d_n = \bigsqcup_n d_{n+N} \end{array}$$

Lubs are unique (if they exist).

Lubs are monotone: if for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $d_n \sqsubseteq e_n$ , then  $\bigsqcup_n d_n \sqsubseteq \bigsqcup_n e_n$  (if they exist).

For any  $d$ ,  $\bigsqcup_n d = d$  (and in particular it exists).

For any chain and  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\bigsqcup_n d_n = \bigsqcup_n d_{n+N}$  (if any of the two exists).

## DIAGONALISATION

Assume  $d_{m,n} \in D$  ( $m, n \geq 0$ ) satisfies

$$m \leq m' \wedge n \leq n' \Rightarrow d_{m,n} \sqsubseteq d_{m',n'}.$$

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Then, assuming they exist, the lubs form two chains

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

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Moreover, again assuming the lubs of these chains exist,

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

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$$\bigcup_m d_{m,0} \subseteq \bigcup_m d_{m,1}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} \bigcup \\ d_{m,0} \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \bigcup \\ d_{m,1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d_{k,k}$$

$\subset$

$$\begin{array}{c} \bigcup \\ d_{1,0} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \bigcup \\ d_{1,1} \end{array} \quad \dots \quad \begin{array}{c} \bigcup \\ d_{1,n} \end{array} \subseteq \dots$$

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$$\begin{array}{c} \subseteq \bigcup_n d_{1,n} \\ \bigcup \\ \subseteq \bigcup_n d_{0,n} \end{array}$$



# LEAST FIXED POINTS

COMPLETE PARTIAL ORDERS AND DOMAINS

A **chain complete poset/cpo** is a poset  $(D, \sqsubseteq)$  in which all chains have least upper bounds.

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A **domain** is a cpo with a least element  $\perp$ .

Least element:  $\perp$  is the totally undefined function.

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Lub of a chain:  $f_0 \sqsubseteq f_1 \sqsubseteq f_2 \sqsubseteq \dots$  has lub  $f$  such that

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

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**Beware:** the definition of  $\bigsqcup_{n \geq 0} f_n$  is unambiguous only if the  $f_i$  form a chain!

$$e_i = d_0 \leq d_0 \leq \dots \leq d_1 \leq d_1 \leq \dots \leq d_n \leq d_n \leq \dots$$

cpo

Finite posets are always ~~domains~~ – why?

$$\bigcup e_i = \bigcup_{i+N} e_i = \bigcup_i d_m^N = d_m$$



~~cpo~~

Finite posets are always domains – why?

~~domain~~

Are they always cpo?

qno

Finite posets are always domains – why?

Domain

Are they always ~~cpos~~?



# THE FLAT NATURAL NUMBERS $\mathbb{N}_\perp$



# VERTICAL NATURAL NUMBERS

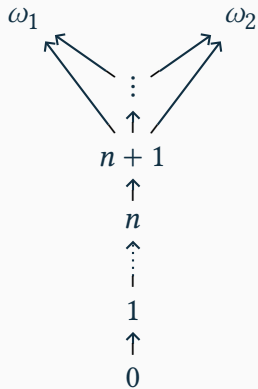
$$\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \uparrow \\ n+1 \\ \uparrow \\ n \\ \uparrow \\ \vdots \\ i \\ \uparrow \\ 1 \\ \uparrow \\ 0 \end{array}$$

No! (Why?)

$$\begin{array}{c} \omega \\ \uparrow \\ \vdots \\ | \\ n+1 \\ \uparrow \\ n \\ \uparrow \\ \vdots \\ | \\ 1 \\ \uparrow \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Yes!

## VERTICAL NATURAL NUMBERS



No! (Why?)