

CIS 500  
Software Foundations  
Fall 2006

September 20

Review (and more details)

## Simple Arithmetic Expressions

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The set  $\mathcal{T}$  of terms is defined by the following abstract grammar:

<code>t ::=</code>	<i>terms</i>
<code>  true</code>	<i>constant true</i>
<code>  false</code>	<i>constant false</i>
<code>  if t then t else t</code>	<i>conditional</i>
<code>  0</code>	<i>constant zero</i>
<code>  succ t</code>	<i>successor</i>
<code>  pred t</code>	<i>predecessor</i>
<code>  iszero t</code>	<i>zero test</i>

## Inference Rule Notation

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More explicitly: The set  $\mathcal{T}$  is the *smallest* set *closed* under the following rules.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{true} \in \mathcal{T} & \text{false} \in \mathcal{T} & 0 \in \mathcal{T} \\ \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{succ } t_1 \in \mathcal{T}} & \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{pred } t_1 \in \mathcal{T}} & \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{iszero } t_1 \in \mathcal{T}} \\ \\ \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T} \quad t_2 \in \mathcal{T} \quad t_3 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \in \mathcal{T}} \end{array}$$

## Generating Functions

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Each of these rules can be thought of as a *generating function* that, given some elements from  $\mathcal{T}$ , generates some other element of  $\mathcal{T}$ . Saying that  $\mathcal{T}$  is closed under these rules means that  $\mathcal{T}$  cannot be made any bigger using these generating functions — it already contains everything “justified by its members.”

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{true} \in \mathcal{T} & \text{false} \in \mathcal{T} & 0 \in \mathcal{T} \\ \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{succ } t_1 \in \mathcal{T}} & \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{pred } t_1 \in \mathcal{T}} & \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{iszero } t_1 \in \mathcal{T}} \\ \\ \frac{t_1 \in \mathcal{T} \quad t_2 \in \mathcal{T} \quad t_3 \in \mathcal{T}}{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \in \mathcal{T}} \end{array}$$

Let's write these generating functions explicitly.

$$F_1(U) = \{\text{true}\}$$

$$F_2(U) = \{\text{false}\}$$

$$F_3(U) = \{0\}$$

$$F_4(U) = \{\text{succ } t_1 \mid t_1 \in U\}$$

$$F_5(U) = \{\text{pred } t_1 \mid t_1 \in U\}$$

$$F_6(U) = \{\text{iszero } t_1 \mid t_1 \in U\}$$

$$F_7(U) = \{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \mid t_1, t_2, t_3 \in U\}$$

Each one takes a set of terms  $U$  as input and produces a set of “terms justified by  $U$ ” as output.

If we now define a generating function for the whole set of inference rules (by combining the generating functions for the individual rules),

$$F(U) = F_1(U) \cup F_2(U) \cup F_3(U) \cup F_4(U) \cup F_5(U) \cup F_6(U) \cup F_7(U)$$

then we can restate the previous definition of the set of terms  $\mathcal{T}$  like this:

**Definition:**

- ▶ A set  $U$  is said to be “closed under  $F$ ” (or “ $F$ -closed”) if  $F(U) \subseteq U$ .
- ▶ The set of terms  $\mathcal{T}$  is the smallest  $F$ -closed set.  
(I.e., if  $\mathcal{O}$  is another set such that  $F(\mathcal{O}) \subseteq \mathcal{O}$ , then  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{O}$ .)

Our alternate definition of the set of terms can also be stated using the generating function  $F$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_0 &= \emptyset \\ \mathcal{S}_{i+1} &= F(\mathcal{S}_i) \\ \mathcal{S} &= \bigcup_i \mathcal{S}_i\end{aligned}$$

Compare this definition of  $\mathcal{S}$  with the one we saw last time:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{S}_0 &= \emptyset \\ \mathcal{S}_{i+1} &= \{ \text{true, false, 0} \} \\ &\quad \cup \{ \text{succ } t_1, \text{pred } t_1, \text{iszero } t_1 \mid t_1 \in \mathcal{S}_i \} \\ &\quad \cup \{ \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \mid t_1, t_2, t_3 \in \mathcal{S}_i \}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{S} = \bigcup_i \mathcal{S}_i$$

We have “pulled out”  $F$  and given it a name.



Note that our two definitions of terms characterize the same set from different directions:

- ▶ “from above,” as the intersection of all  $F$ -closed sets;
- ▶ “from below,” as the limit (union) of a series of sets that start from  $\emptyset$  and get “closer and closer to being  $F$ -closed.”

Proposition 3.2.6 in the book shows that these two definitions actually define the same set.

**Warning:** Hard hats on for the next slide!

## Structural Induction

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The principle of structural induction on terms can also be re-stated using generating functions:

*Suppose  $T$  is the smallest  $F$ -closed set.*

*If, for each set  $U$ ,*

*from the assumption “ $P(u)$  holds for every  $u \in U$ ”*

*we can show “ $P(v)$  holds for any  $v \in F(U)$ ,”*

*then  $P(t)$  holds for all  $t \in T$ .*

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Why?

# Structural Induction

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Why? Because:

- ▶ We assumed that  $T$  was the *smallest*  $F$ -closed set, i.e., that  $T \subseteq O$  for any other  $F$ -closed set  $O$ .
- ▶ But showing

*for each set  $U$ ,*

*given  $P(u)$  for all  $u \in U$*

*we can show  $P(v)$  for all  $v \in F(U)$*

amounts to showing that “the set of all terms satisfying  $P$ ” (call it  $O$ ) is itself an  $F$ -closed set.

- ▶ Since  $T \subseteq O$ , every element of  $T$  satisfies  $P$ .

## Structural Induction

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Compare this with the structural induction principle for terms from last lecture:

*If, for each term  $s$ ,  
given  $P(r)$  for all immediate subterms  $r$  of  $s$   
we can show  $P(s)$ ,  
then  $P(t)$  holds for all  $t$ .*

Recall, from the definition of  $\mathcal{S}$ , it is clear that, if a term  $t$  is in  $\mathcal{S}_i$ , then all of its immediate subterms must be in  $\mathcal{S}_{i-1}$ , i.e., they must have strictly smaller depths. Therefore:

*If, for each term  $s$ ,  
given  $P(r)$  for all immediate subterms  $r$  of  $s$   
we can show  $P(s)$ ,  
then  $P(t)$  holds for all  $t$ .*

### **Slightly more explicit proof:**

- ▶ Assume that for each term  $s$ , given  $P(r)$  for all immediate subterms of  $s$ , we can show  $P(s)$ .
- ▶ Then show, by induction on  $i$ , that  $P(t)$  holds for all terms  $t$  with depth  $i$ .
- ▶ Therefore,  $P(t)$  holds for all  $t$ .

# Operational Semantics



# Abstract Machines

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An *abstract machine* consists of:

- ▶ a set of *states*
- ▶ a *transition relation* on states, written  $\longrightarrow$

For the simple languages we are considering at the moment, the term being evaluated is the whole state of the abstract machine.

# Operational semantics for Booleans

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## *Syntax of terms and values*

`t ::=`

`true`

`false`

`if t then t else t`

*terms*

*constant true*

*constant false*

*conditional*

`v ::=`

`true`

`false`

*values*

*true value*

*false value*

## Evaluation Relation on Booleans

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The evaluation relation  $t \longrightarrow t'$  is the smallest relation closed under the following rules:

`if true then t2 else t3 → t2 (E-IFTRUE)`

`if false then t2 else t3 → t3 (E-IFFALSE)`

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \longrightarrow \text{if } t'_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3} \text{ (E-IF)}$$

## Digression

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Suppose we wanted to change our evaluation strategy so that the `then` and `else` branches of an `if` get evaluated (in that order) before the guard. How would we need to change the rules?

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Suppose, moreover, that if the evaluation of the `then` and `else` branches leads to the same value, we want to immediately produce that value (“short-circuiting” the evaluation of the guard). How would we need to change the rules?

Of the rules we just invented, which are computation rules and which are congruence rules?

## Evaluation, more explicitly

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$\longrightarrow$  is the smallest two-place relation closed under the following rules:

$$((\text{if true then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3), t_2) \in \longrightarrow$$

$$((\text{if false then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3), t_3) \in \longrightarrow$$

$$(t_1, t'_1) \in \longrightarrow$$

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$$((\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3), (\text{if } t'_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3)) \in \longrightarrow$$

## Even more explicitly...

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What is the generating function corresponding to these rules?

*(exercise)*



# Reasoning about Evaluation

## Derivations

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We can record the “justification” for a particular pair of terms that are in the evaluation relation in the form of a tree.

*(on the board)*

Terminology:

- ▶ These trees are called *derivation trees* (or just *derivations*).
- ▶ The final statement in a derivation is its *conclusion*.
- ▶ We say that the derivation is a *witness* for its conclusion (or a *proof* of its conclusion) — it records all the reasoning steps that justify the conclusion.

## Observation

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*Lemma:* Suppose we are given a derivation tree  $\mathcal{D}$  witnessing the pair  $(t, t')$  in the evaluation relation. Then either

1. the final rule used in  $\mathcal{D}$  is E-IFTRUE and we have  $t = \text{if true then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$  and  $t' = t_2$ , for some  $t_2$  and  $t_3$ , or
2. the final rule used in  $\mathcal{D}$  is E-IFFALSE and we have  $t = \text{if false then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$  and  $t' = t_3$ , for some  $t_2$  and  $t_3$ , or
3. the final rule used in  $\mathcal{D}$  is E-IF and we have  $t = \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$  and  $t' = \text{if } t'_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$ , for some  $t_1, t'_1, t_2$ , and  $t_3$ ; moreover, the immediate subderivation of  $\mathcal{D}$  witnesses  $(t_1, t'_1) \in \longrightarrow$ .

## Induction on Derivations

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We can now write proofs about evaluation “by induction on derivation trees.”

Given an arbitrary derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  with conclusion  $t \longrightarrow t'$ , we assume the desired result for its immediate sub-derivation (if any) and proceed by a case analysis (using the previous lemma) of the final evaluation rule used in constructing the derivation tree.

E.g....

## Induction on Derivations — Example

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**Theorem:** If  $t \longrightarrow t'$ , i.e., if  $(t, t') \in \longrightarrow$ , then  $size(t) > size(t')$ .

**Proof:** By induction on a derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $t \longrightarrow t'$ .

1. Suppose the final rule used in  $\mathcal{D}$  is E-IFTRUE, with  $t = \text{if true then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$  and  $t' = t_2$ . Then the result is immediate from the definition of *size*.
2. Suppose the final rule used in  $\mathcal{D}$  is E-IFFALSE, with  $t = \text{if false then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$  and  $t' = t_3$ . Then the result is again immediate from the definition of *size*.
3. Suppose the final rule used in  $\mathcal{D}$  is E-IF, with  $t = \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$  and  $t' = \text{if } t'_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$ , where  $(t_1, t'_1) \in \longrightarrow$  is witnessed by a derivation  $\mathcal{D}_1$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $size(t_1) > size(t'_1)$ . But then, by the definition of *size*, we have  $size(t) > size(t')$ .

## Normal forms

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A *normal form* is a term that cannot be evaluated any further — i.e., a term  $t$  is a normal form (or “is in normal form”) if there is no  $t'$  such that  $t \longrightarrow t'$ .

A normal form is a state where the abstract machine is halted — i.e., it can be regarded as a “result” of evaluation.

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A normal form is a state where the abstract machine is halted — i.e., it can be regarded as a “result” of evaluation.

Recall that we intended the set of *values* (the boolean constants `true` and `false`) to be exactly the possible “results of evaluation.” Did we get this definition right?

## Values = normal forms

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**Theorem:** A term  $t$  is a value iff it is in normal form.

**Proof:**

The  $\implies$  direction is immediate from the definition of the evaluation relation.



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For the  $\impliedby$  direction, it is convenient to prove the contrapositive: If  $t$  is *not* a value, then it is *not* a normal form.

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**Theorem:** A term  $t$  is a value iff it is in normal form.

**Proof:**

The  $\implies$  direction is immediate from the definition of the evaluation relation.

For the  $\impliedby$  direction, it is convenient to prove the contrapositive: If  $t$  is *not* a value, then it is *not* a normal form. The argument goes by induction on  $t$ .

Note, first, that  $t$  must have the form `if  $t_1$  then  $t_2$  else  $t_3$`  (otherwise it would be a value). If  $t_1$  is `true` or `false`, then rule E-IFTRUE or E-IFFALSE applies to  $t$ , and we are done.

Otherwise,  $t_1$  is not a value and so, by the induction hypothesis, there is some  $t'_1$  such that  $t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1$ . But then rule E-IF yields

$$\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \longrightarrow \text{if } t'_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$$

i.e.,  $t$  is not in normal form.

# Numbers

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## *New syntactic forms*

`t ::= ...`

`0`

`succ t`

`pred t`

`iszero t`

*terms*

*constant zero*

*successor*

*predecessor*

*zero test*

`v ::= ...`

`nv`

*values*

*numeric value*

`nv ::=`

`0`

`succ nv`

*numeric values*

*zero value*

*successor value*

*New evaluation rules*

$$\boxed{t \longrightarrow t'}$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{succ } t_1 \longrightarrow \text{succ } t'_1} \quad (\text{E-SUCC})$$

$$\text{pred } 0 \longrightarrow 0 \quad (\text{E-PREDZERO})$$

$$\text{pred } (\text{succ } nv_1) \longrightarrow nv_1 \quad (\text{E-PREDSUCC})$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{pred } t_1 \longrightarrow \text{pred } t'_1} \quad (\text{E-PRED})$$

$$\text{iszero } 0 \longrightarrow \text{true} \quad (\text{E-ISZEROZERO})$$

$$\text{iszero } (\text{succ } nv_1) \longrightarrow \text{false} \quad (\text{E-ISZEROSUCC})$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{iszero } t_1 \longrightarrow \text{iszero } t'_1} \quad (\text{E-ISZERO})$$

## Values are normal forms

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Our observation a few slides ago that all values are in normal form still holds for the extended language.

Is the converse true? I.e., is every normal form a value?

## Values are normal forms, but we have stuck terms

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Our observation a few slides ago that all values are in normal form still holds for the extended language.

Is the converse true? I.e., is every normal form a value?

No: some terms are *stuck*.

Formally, a stuck term is one that is a normal form but not a value.  
What are some examples?

Stuck terms model run-time errors.

## Multi-step evaluation.

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The *multi-step evaluation* relation,  $\longrightarrow^*$ , is the reflexive, transitive closure of single-step evaluation.

I.e., it is the smallest relation closed under the following rules:

$$\frac{t \longrightarrow t'}{t \longrightarrow^* t'}$$

$$t \longrightarrow^* t$$

$$\frac{t \longrightarrow^* t' \quad t' \longrightarrow^* t''}{t \longrightarrow^* t''}$$



## Termination of evaluation

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**Theorem:** For every  $t$  there is some normal form  $t'$  such that  $t \longrightarrow^* t'$ .

**Proof:**

## Termination of evaluation

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**Theorem:** For every  $t$  there is some normal form  $t'$  such that  $t \longrightarrow^* t'$ .

**Proof:**

- ▶ First, recall that single-step evaluation strictly reduces the size of the term:

$$\text{if } t \longrightarrow t', \text{ then } \text{size}(t) > \text{size}(t')$$

- ▶ Now, assume (for a contradiction) that

$$t_0, t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, \dots$$

is an infinite-length sequence such that

$$t_0 \longrightarrow t_1 \longrightarrow t_2 \longrightarrow t_3 \longrightarrow t_4 \longrightarrow \dots$$

- ▶ Then

$$\text{size}(t_0) > \text{size}(t_1) > \text{size}(t_2) > \text{size}(t_3) > \dots$$

- ▶ But such a sequence cannot exist — contradiction!

# Termination Proofs

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Most termination proofs have the same basic form:

**Theorem:** *The relation  $R \subseteq X \times X$  is terminating — i.e., there are no infinite sequences  $x_0, x_1, x_2$ , etc. such that  $(x_i, x_{i+1}) \in R$  for each  $i$ .*

**Proof:**

1. Choose
  - ▶ a well-founded set  $(W, <)$  — i.e., a set  $W$  with a partial order  $<$  such that there are no infinite descending chains  $w_0 > w_1 > w_2 > \dots$  in  $W$
  - ▶ a function  $f$  from  $X$  to  $W$
2. Show  $f(x) > f(y)$  for all  $(x, y) \in R$
3. Conclude that there are no infinite sequences  $x_0, x_1, x_2$ , etc. such that  $(x_i, x_{i+1}) \in R$  for each  $i$ , since, if there were, we could construct an infinite descending chain in  $W$ .