

Operational Semantics

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Amyli language

Tiny functional language that supports recursive functions.

Works only on integers and booleans.

(Initial) program is a pair (e_{top}, t_{top}) where

- ▶ e_{top} is the top-level environment mapping function names to function definitions
- ▶ t_{top} is the top-level term (expression) that starts execution

Function definition for a given function name is a tuple of: parameter list \bar{x} , parameter types $\bar{\tau}$, expression representing function body t , and result type τ_0 .

Expressions are formed by invoking primitive functions $(+, -, \leq, \&\&)$, invocations of defined functions, or **if** expressions.

No local **val** definitions nor **match**. e will remain fixed

Amyli: abstract syntax of terms

$$t := \text{true} \mid \text{false} \mid c_l \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid \mathbf{if} (t) t_1 \mathbf{else} t_2$$

where

- ▶ $c_l \in \mathbb{Z}$ denotes integer constant
- ▶ f denotes either application of a user-defined function or one of the primitive operators

Program representation as a mathematical structure

$p_{fact} = (e, fact(2))$

where environment e is defined by:

$$e(fact) = (\begin{array}{l} n, \\ Int, \\ \mathbf{if} (n \leq 1) \ 1 \ \mathbf{else} \ n * fact(n-1), \\ Int \\) \end{array} \begin{array}{l} (parameters) \\ (their\ types) \\ (body) \\ (result\ type) \end{array})$$

Operational semantics of Amyli: **if** expression

Given a program with environment e , we specify the result of executing the program as an inductively defined binary (infix) relation “ \rightsquigarrow ” on expressions.

If the top-level expression becomes a constant after some number of steps of \rightsquigarrow , we have computed the result: $t \rightsquigarrow^* c$

Rules for **if**:

$$\frac{b \rightsquigarrow b'}{(\mathbf{if} (b) t_1 \mathbf{else} t_2) \rightsquigarrow (\mathbf{if} (b') t_1 \mathbf{else} t_2)}$$

$$\frac{}{(\mathbf{if} (true) t_1 \mathbf{else} t_2) \rightsquigarrow t_1}$$

$$\frac{}{(\mathbf{if} (false) t_1 \mathbf{else} t_2) \rightsquigarrow t_2}$$

b, b', t_1, t_2 range over expressions

Operational semantics of Amyli: primitives

Logical operators:

$$\frac{b_1 \rightsquigarrow b'_1}{(b_1 \ \&\& \ b_2) \rightsquigarrow (b'_1 \ \&\& \ b_2)}$$

$$\overline{(true \ \&\& \ b_2) \rightsquigarrow b_2}$$

$$\overline{(false \ \&\& \ b_2) \rightsquigarrow false}$$

Arithmetic:

$$\frac{k_1 \rightsquigarrow k'_1}{(k_1 + k_2) \rightsquigarrow (k'_1 + k_2)}$$

$$\frac{k_2 \rightsquigarrow k'_2}{(c + k_2) \rightsquigarrow (c + k'_2)} \quad c \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\overline{(c_1 + c_2) \rightsquigarrow c} \quad c_1, c_2, c \in \mathbb{Z}, \ c = c_1 + c_2$$

Operational semantics: user function f

If c_1, \dots, c_{i-1} are constants, then (as expected in call-by-value)

$$\frac{t_i \rightsquigarrow t'_i}{f(c_1, \dots, c_{i-1}, t_i, \dots) \rightsquigarrow f(c_1, \dots, c_{i-1}, t'_i, \dots)}$$

Let the environment e define f by $e(f) = ((x_1, \dots, x_n), \bar{\tau}, t_f, \tau_0)$

- ▶ (x_1, \dots, x_n) is the list of formal parameters of f
- ▶ t_f is the body of the function f

Then we have a rule

$$\frac{}{f(c_1, \dots, c_n) \rightsquigarrow t_f[x_1 := c_1, \dots, x_n := c_n]}$$

In general, if t is term, then $t[x_1 := t_1, \dots, x_n := t_n]$ denotes result of substituting (replacing) in t each variable x_i by term t_i .

Execution of factorial example program

$\rho_{fact} = (e, fact(2))$

where $e(fact) = (n, Int, \mathbf{if} (n \leq 1) 1 \mathbf{else} n * fact(n-1), Int)$

$fact(2) \rightsquigarrow$

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$fact(2) \rightsquigarrow$

$\mathbf{if} (2 \leq 1) 1 \mathbf{else} 2 * fact(2-1) \rightsquigarrow$

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$2 * fact(1) \rightsquigarrow$

$2 * (\mathbf{if} (1 \leq 1) 1 \mathbf{else} 1 * fact(1-1)) \rightsquigarrow$

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