

COSE312: Compilers

Lecture 13 — Semantic Analysis (3)

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Small-step Operational Semantics

The individual computation steps are described by the transition relation of the form:

$$\langle S, s \rangle \Rightarrow \gamma$$

where γ either is non-terminal state $\langle S', s' \rangle$ or terminal state s' . The transition expresses the first step of the execution of S from state s .

- If $\gamma = \langle S', s' \rangle$, then the execution of S from s is not completed and the remaining computation continues with $\langle S', s' \rangle$.
- If $\gamma = s'$, then the execution of S from s has terminated and the final state is s' .

Small-step Operational Semantics for **While**

$$\overline{\langle x := a, s \rangle \Rightarrow s[x \mapsto \mathcal{A}[[a]](s)]}$$

$$\overline{\langle \text{skip}, s \rangle \Rightarrow s}$$

$$\frac{\langle S_1, s \rangle \Rightarrow \langle S'_1, s' \rangle}{\langle S_1; S_2, s \rangle \Rightarrow \langle S'_1; S_2, s' \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle S_1, s \rangle \Rightarrow s'}{\langle S_1; S_2, s \rangle \Rightarrow \langle S_2, s' \rangle}$$

$$\overline{\langle \text{if } b \ S_1 \ S_2, s \rangle \Rightarrow \langle S_1, s \rangle} \text{ if } \mathcal{B}[[b]](s) = \text{true}$$

$$\overline{\langle \text{if } b \ S_1 \ S_2, s \rangle \Rightarrow \langle S_2, s \rangle} \text{ if } \mathcal{B}[[b]](s) = \text{false}$$

$$\overline{\langle \text{while } b \ S, s \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{if } b \ (S; \text{while } b \ S) \ \text{skip}, s \rangle}$$

Derivation Sequence

A *derivation sequence* of a statement S starting in state s is either

- A finite sequence

$$\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_k$$

which is sometimes written

$$\gamma_0 \Rightarrow \gamma_1 \Rightarrow \gamma_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \gamma_k$$

such that

$$\gamma_0 = \langle S, s \rangle, \quad \gamma_i \Rightarrow \gamma_{i+1} \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq k$$

and γ_k is either a terminal configuration or a stuck configuration.

- An infinite sequence

$$\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots$$

which is sometimes written

$$\gamma_0 \Rightarrow \gamma_1 \Rightarrow \gamma_2 \Rightarrow \dots$$

consisting of configurations satisfying $\gamma_0 = \langle S, s \rangle$ and $\gamma_i \Rightarrow \gamma_{i+1}$ for $0 \leq i$.

Example

Let s be a state such that $s(x) = 5$, $s(y) = 7$, $s(z) = 0$. Consider the statement:

$$(z := x; x := y); y := z$$

Compute the derivation sequence starting in s .

Example: Factorial

Assume that $s(x) = 3$.

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 $\langle y:=1; \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s[y \mapsto 1] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle \text{if } \neg(x=1) \text{ then } ((y:=y \star x; x:=x-1); \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1))$   
   $\text{else skip}, s[y \mapsto 1] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1); \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s[y \mapsto 1] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle x:=x-1; \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s[y \mapsto 3] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s[y \mapsto 3][x \mapsto 2] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle \text{if } \neg(x=1) \text{ then } ((y:=y \star x; x:=x-1); \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1))$   
   $\text{else skip}, s[y \mapsto 3][x \mapsto 2] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1); \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s[y \mapsto 3][x \mapsto 2] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle x:=x-1; \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s[y \mapsto 6][x \mapsto 2] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow \langle \text{while } \neg(x=1) \text{ do } (y:=y \star x; x:=x-1), s[y \mapsto 6][x \mapsto 1] \rangle$   
 $\Rightarrow s[y \mapsto 6][x \mapsto 1]$ 
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Other Notations

- We write $\gamma_0 \Rightarrow^i \gamma_i$ to indicate that there are i steps in the execution from γ_0 to γ_i .
- We write $\gamma_0 \Rightarrow^* \gamma_i$ to indicate that there are a finite number of steps.
- We say that the execution of a statement S on a state s terminates if and only if there is a finite derivation sequence starting with $\langle S, s \rangle$.
- The execution loops if and only if there is an infinite derivation sequence starting with $\langle S, s \rangle$.

Semantic Equivalence

We say S_1 and S_2 are semantically equivalent if for all states s ,

- $\langle S_1, s \rangle \Rightarrow^* \gamma$ if and only if $\langle S_2, s \rangle \Rightarrow^* \gamma$, whenever γ is a configuration that is either stuck or terminal, and
- there is an infinite derivation sequence starting in $\langle S_1, s \rangle$ if and only if there is one starting in $\langle S_2, s \rangle$.

Semantic Function

The semantic function \mathcal{S}_s for small-step semantics:

$$\mathcal{S}_s : \text{Stm} \rightarrow (\text{State} \hookrightarrow \text{State})$$

$$\mathcal{S}_s \llbracket S \rrbracket (s) = \begin{cases} s' & \text{if } \langle S, s \rangle \Rightarrow^* s' \\ \text{undef} & \end{cases}$$

Summary

We have defined the operational semantics of **While**.

- *Big-step operational semantics* describes how the overall results of executions are obtained.
- *Small-step operational semantics* describes how the individual steps of the computations take place.

cf) The big-step and small-step operational semantics are equivalent:

Theorem

For every statement S of **While**, we have $\mathcal{S}_b \llbracket S \rrbracket = \mathcal{S}_s \llbracket S \rrbracket$.