



# Today's Cunning Plan

- Review, Truth, and Provability
- Large-Step Opsem Commentary
- **Small-Step Contextual Semantics**
  - Reductions, Redexes, and Contexts
- Applications and Recent Research

# Summary - Semantics

- A formal semantics is a system for assigning meanings to programs.
- For now, programs are IMP commands and expressions
- In operational semantics the meaning of a program is “what it evaluates to”
- Any opsem system gives rules of inference that tell you how to evaluate programs

# Summary - Judgments

- Rules of inference allow you to derive judgments (“something that is knowable”) like

$$\langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n$$

- In state  $\sigma$ , expression  $e$  evaluates to  $n$

$$\langle c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'$$

- After evaluating command  $c$  in state  $\sigma$  the new state will be  $\sigma'$

- State  $\sigma$  maps variables to values ( $\sigma : L \rightarrow Z$ )
- Inferences equivalent up to variable renaming:

$$\langle c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma' \quad === \quad \langle c', \sigma_7 \rangle \Downarrow \sigma_8$$

# Notation: Rules of Inference

- We express the evaluation rules as rules of inference for our judgment
  - called the derivation rules for the judgment
  - also called the evaluation rules (for operational semantics)
- In general, we have **one rule for each language construct**:

$$\frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_2}{\langle e_1 + e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 + n_2}$$

This is the only rule for  $e_1 + e_2$

# Rules of Inference

Hypothesis<sub>1</sub> ... Hypothesis<sub>N</sub>

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Conclusion

$\Gamma \vdash b : \text{bool}$      $\Gamma \vdash e1 : \tau$      $\Gamma \vdash e2 : \tau$

---

$\Gamma \vdash \text{if } b \text{ then } e1 \text{ else } e2 : \tau$

- For any given proof system, a finite number of rules of inference (or schema) are listed somewhere
- Rule instances should be **easily checked**
- **What is the definition of “NP”?**

# Derivation

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\Gamma(x) = int}{\Gamma \vdash x : int} \text{ var} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash 3 : int}{\Gamma \vdash 3 : int} \text{ int}}{\Gamma \vdash x > 3 : bool} \text{ gt} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\Gamma(x) = int}{\Gamma \vdash x : int} \text{ var} \quad \frac{\frac{\Gamma(x) = int}{\Gamma \vdash 1 : int} \text{ var}}{\Gamma \vdash 1 : int} \text{ int sub}}{\Gamma \vdash x - 1 : int} \text{ assign}}{\Gamma \vdash x := x - 1} \text{ while}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{while } x > 3 \text{ do } x := x - 1 \text{ done}}$$

- Tree-structured (conclusion at bottom)
- May include multiple sorts of rules-of-inference
- Could be constructed, typically are not
- Typically verified in polynomial time

# Evaluation Rules (for Aexp)

$$\frac{}{\langle n, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n}$$

$$\frac{}{\langle x, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma(x)}$$

$$\frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_2}{\langle e_1 + e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \text{ plus } n_2} \quad \frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_2}{\langle e_1 - e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \text{ minus } n_2}$$

$$\frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_2}{\langle e_1 * e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \text{ times } n_2}$$

- This is called structural operational semantics
  - rules defined based on the structure of the expression
- These rules do **not** impose an order of evaluation!

# Evaluation Rules (for Bexp)

$$\frac{}{\langle \text{true}, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true}}$$

$$\frac{}{\langle \text{false}, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}$$

$$\frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_2}{\langle e_1 \leq e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \leq n_2}$$

$$\frac{}{\langle e_1 = e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 = n_2}$$

$$\frac{}{\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}$$

$$\frac{}{\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}$$

$$\frac{\langle b_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}{\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}$$

$$\frac{\langle b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}{\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}$$

$$\frac{}{\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true}}$$

$$\frac{}{\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true}}$$

$$\frac{\langle b_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true} \quad \langle b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true}}{\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true}}$$

(show: candidate  $\vee$  rule)  $\langle b_1 \wedge b_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true}$

# How to Read the Rules?

- Forward (top-down) = inference rules
  - if we know that the hypothesis judgments hold then we can **infer** that the conclusion judgment also holds
  - If we know that  $\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 5$  and  $\langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 7$ , then we can infer that  $\langle e_1 + e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 12$

# How to Read the Rules?

- Backward (bottom-up) = evaluation rules
  - Suppose we want to evaluate  $e_1 + e_2$ , i.e., find  $n$  s.t.  $e_1 + e_2 \Downarrow n$  is derivable using the previous rules
  - By inspection of the rules we notice that the last step in the derivation of  $e_1 + e_2 \Downarrow n$  **must be** the addition rule
    - the other rules have conclusions that would not match  $e_1 + e_2 \Downarrow n$
    - this is called reasoning by inversion on the derivation rules

# Evaluation By Inversion

- Thus we must find  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  such that  $e_1 \Downarrow n_1$  and  $e_2 \Downarrow n_2$  are derivable
  - This is done **recursively**
- If there is exactly one rule for each kind of expression we say that the rules are syntax-directed
  - At each step at most one rule applies
  - This allows a simple evaluation procedure as above (recursive tree-walk)
  - True for our Aexp but not Bexp. **Why?**

# Evaluation of Commands

- The evaluation of a Com may have side effects but has **no direct result**
  - What is the result of evaluating a command ?
- The “result” of a Com is a **new state**:

$$\langle C, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'$$

- But the evaluation of Com might not terminate! **Danger Will Robinson!** (huh?)



# Com Evaluation Rules 1

$$\frac{}{\langle \text{skip}, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma} \qquad \frac{\langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma' \quad \langle c_2, \sigma' \rangle \Downarrow \sigma''}{\langle c_1 ; c_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma''}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true} \quad \langle c_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false} \quad \langle c_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}{\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}$$

# Com Evaluation Rules 2

$$\frac{\langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n}{\langle x := e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma[x := n]}$$

Def: $\sigma[x := n](x) = n$ $\sigma[x := n](y) = \sigma(y)$
---

- Let's do **while** together

# Com Evaluation Rules 3

$$\frac{\langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n}{\langle x := e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma[x := n]}$$

Def:  $\sigma[x := n](x) = n$   
 $\sigma[x := n](y) = \sigma(y)$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true} \quad \langle c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}$$

# Summary - Rules

- Rules of inference list the **hypotheses** necessary to arrive at a **conclusion**

$$\frac{}{\langle x, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma(x)} \quad \frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_2}{\langle e_1 - e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \text{ minus } n_2}$$

- A derivation involves interlocking (well-formed) instances of rules of inference

$$\frac{\frac{\langle 4, \sigma_3 \rangle \Downarrow 4 \quad \langle 2, \sigma_3 \rangle \Downarrow 2}{\langle 4 * 2, \sigma_3 \rangle \Downarrow 8} \quad \langle 6, \sigma_3 \rangle \Downarrow 6}{\langle (4 * 2) - 6, \sigma_3 \rangle \Downarrow 2}$$

# Operational Semantics

## Small-Step Semantics



Sherlock saw the man using binoculars.



Sherlock saw the man using binoculars.

# Provability



- Given an opsem system,  $\langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n$  is provable *if there exists* a well-formed derivation with  $\langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n$  as its conclusion
  - “well-formed” = “every step in the derivation is a valid instance of one of the rules of inference for this opsem system”
  - “ $\vdash \langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n$ ” = “it is provable that  $\langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n$ ”
- We would *like* truth and provability to be closely related

# Truth?

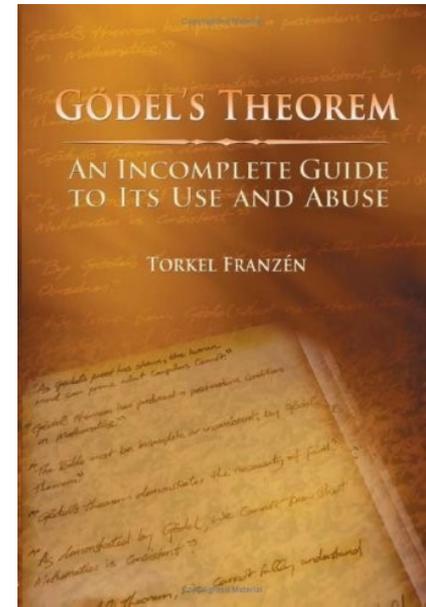
- “A Vorlon said understanding is a three-edged sword. Your side, their side and the **truth**.”
  - Sheridan, *Into The Fire*
- We will **not formally define** “**truth**” yet
- Instead we appeal to your **intuition**
  - $\langle 2+2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 4$       -- *should be* true
  - $\langle 2+2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 5$       -- *should be* false

# Completeness

- A proof system (like our operational semantics) is complete if every true judgment is provable.
- If we *replaced* the subtract rule with:

$$\frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 0}{\langle e_1 - e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n}$$

- Our opsem would be incomplete:  
 $\langle 4-2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 2$  -- true but not provable



# Consistency

- A proof system is consistent (or sound) if every provable judgment is true.
- If we *replaced* the subtract rule with:

$$\frac{\langle e_1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 \quad \langle e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_2}{\langle e_1 - e_2, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n_1 + 3}$$

- Our opsem would be inconsistent (or unsound):
  - $\langle 6-1, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow 9$       -- false but provable

“A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, adored by little statesmen and philosophers and divines.”  
-- Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Essays. First Series. Self-Reliance.*

# Desired Traits

- Typically a system (of operational semantics) is always **complete** (unless you forget a rule)
- If you are not careful, however, your system may be **unsound**
- Usually that is **very bad**
  - A paper with an unsound type system is usually rejected
  - Papers often prove (sketch) that a system is sound
  - Recent research (e.g., Engler, ESP) into useful but unsound systems exists, however
- In this class **your work should be complete and consistent** (e.g., on homework problems)

Dr. Peter Venkman: I'm a little fuzzy on the whole "good/bad" thing here. What do you mean, "bad"?

Dr. Egon Spengler: Try to imagine all life as you know it stopping instantaneously and every molecule in your body exploding at the speed of light.

# With That In Mind

- We now return to opsem for IMP

$$\frac{\langle e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow n}{\langle x := e, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma[x := n]}$$

Def:  $\sigma[x := n](x) = n$   
 $\sigma[x := n](y) = \sigma(y)$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{false}}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma}$$

$$\frac{\langle b, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \text{true} \quad \langle c; \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}{\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'}$$

# Command Evaluation Notes

- The order of evaluation is important
  - $c_1$  is evaluated **before**  $c_2$  in  $c_1; c_2$
  - $c_2$  is **not** evaluated in “if true then  $c_1$  else  $c_2$ ”
  - $c$  is **not** evaluated in “while false do  $c$ ”
  - $b$  is evaluated **first** in “if  $b$  then  $c_1$  else  $c_2$ ”
  - this is explicit in the evaluation rules
- Conditional constructs (e.g.,  $b_1 \vee b_2$ ) have multiple evaluation rules
  - but only one can be applied at one time

# Command Evaluation Trials

- The evaluation rules are not syntax-directed
  - See the rules for **while**,  $\wedge$
  - The evaluation **might not terminate**
- Recall: the evaluation rules suggest an interpreter
- Natural-style semantics has two big disadvantages (continued ...)

# Disadvantages of Natural-Style Operational Semantics

- It is hard to talk about commands whose evaluation does **not terminate**
  - i.e., when there is **no**  $\sigma'$  such that  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \Downarrow \sigma'$
  - But that is true also of ill-formed or erroneous commands (in a richer language)!
- It does not give us a way to talk about **intermediate states**
  - Thus we cannot say that on a parallel machine the execution of two commands is interleaved (= **no modeling threads**)

# Semantics Solution



- Small-step semantics addresses these problems
  - Execution is modeled as a (possible infinite) **sequence of states**
- Not quite as easy as large-step natural semantics, though
- Contextual semantics is a small-step semantics where the atomic execution step is a rewrite of the program

# Contextual Semantics

- We will define a relation  $\langle c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c', \sigma' \rangle$ 
  - $c'$  is obtained from  $c$  via an **atomic rewrite step**
  - Evaluation terminates when the program has been rewritten to a **terminal program**
    - one from which we cannot make further progress
  - For IMP the terminal command is “skip”
  - As long as the command is not “skip” we can make further progress
    - some commands **never** reduce to skip (e.g., “while true do skip”)

# Contextual Derivations

- In small-step contextual semantics, derivations are not tree-structured
- A contextual semantics derivation is a sequence (or list) of atomic rewrites:

$$\langle x+(7-3), \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle x+(4), \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle 5+4, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle 9, \sigma \rangle$$

$\sigma(x)=5$

# What is an Atomic Reduction?

- What is an atomic reduction step?
  - Granularity is a choice of the semantics designer
- How to select the next reduction step, when several are possible?
  - This is the **order of evaluation** issue



# Redexes

- A redex is a syntactic expression or command that **can be reduced** (transformed) **in one atomic step**
- Redexes are defined via a grammar:

$r ::= x \quad (x \in L)$

|  $n_1 + n_2$

|  $x := n$

| skip; c

| if true then  $c_1$  else  $c_2$

| if false then  $c_1$  else  $c_2$

| while b do c

- For brevity, we mix exp and command redexes
- Note that  **$(1 + 3) + 2$**  is **not** a redex, but  **$1 + 3$**  is

# Local Reduction Rules for IMP

- One for each redex:  $\langle r, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle e, \sigma' \rangle$ 
  - means that in state  $\sigma$ , the redex  $r$  can be *replaced in one step* with the expression  $e$

$$\langle x, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \sigma(x), \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle n_1 + n_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle n, \sigma \rangle \quad \text{where } n = n_1 \text{ plus } n_2$$

$$\langle n_1 = n_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{true}, \sigma \rangle \quad \text{if } n_1 = n_2$$

$$\langle x := n, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{skip}, \sigma[x := n] \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{skip}; c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{if true then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c_1, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{if false then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle c_2, \sigma \rangle$$

$$\langle \text{while } b \text{ do } c, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow$$

$$\langle \text{if } b \text{ then } c; \text{ while } b \text{ do } c \text{ else skip}, \sigma \rangle$$

# The Global Reduction Rule

- General idea of contextual semantics
  - **Decompose** the current expression into the **redex**-to-reduce-next and the remaining program
    - The remaining program is called a context
  - Reduce the redex “r” to some other expression “e”
  - The resulting (reduced) expression consists of “e” with the original context

# As A Picture (1)

(Context)

...

$x := 2+2$

...

Step 1: Find The Redex

# As A Picture (2)

(Context)

...

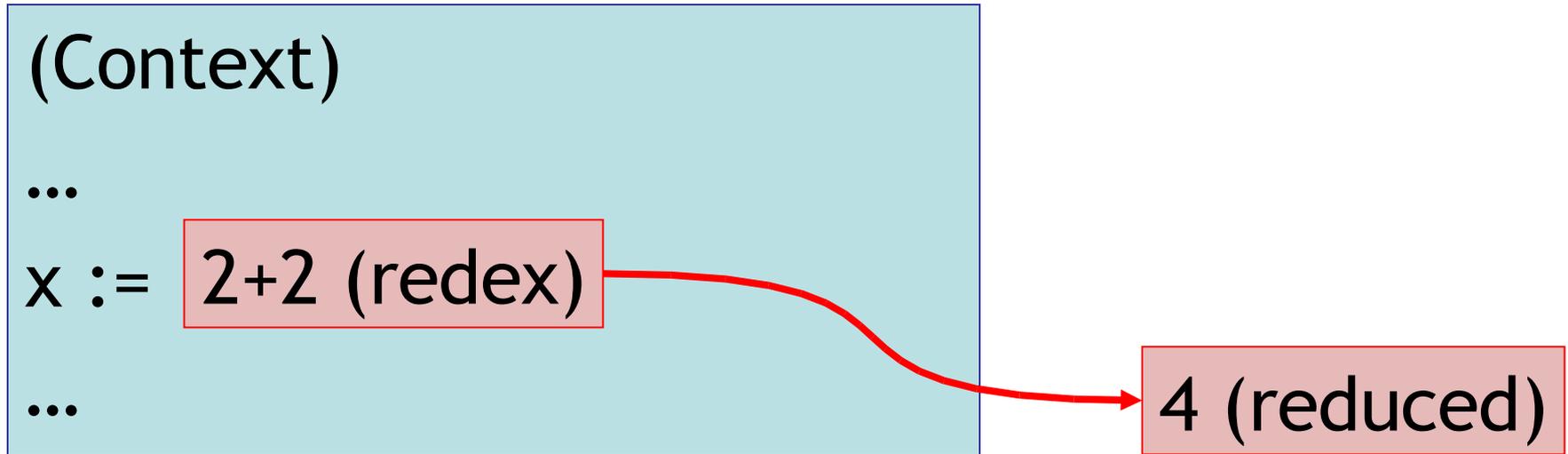
x := 2+2 (redex)

...

Step 1: Find The Redex

Step 2: Reduce The Redex

# As A Picture (3)



Step 1: Find The Redex

Step 2: Reduce The Redex

# As A Picture (4)

(Context)

...

$x := 4$

...

Step 1: Find The Redex

Step 2: Reduce The Redex

Step 3: Replace It In The Context

# Contextual Analysis

- We use  $H$  to range over **contexts**
- We write  $H[r]$  for the expression obtained by placing redex  $r$  in context  $H$
- Now we can define a small step

If  $\langle r, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle e, \sigma' \rangle$

then  $\langle H[r], \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle H[e], \sigma' \rangle$

# Contexts

- A context is like an expression (or command) with a marker  $\bullet$  in the place where the **redex** goes
- Examples:
  - To evaluate “ $(1 + 3) + 2$ ” we use the redex  **$1 + 3$**  and the context “ $\bullet + 2$ ”
  - To evaluate “if  $x > 2$  then  $c_1$  else  $c_2$ ” we use the redex  **$x$**  and the context “if  $\bullet > 2$  then  $c_1$  else  $c_2$ ”

# Context Terminology

- A context is also called an “expression with a hole”
- The marker  $\bullet$  is sometimes called a hole
- $H[r]$  is the expression obtained from  $H$  by replacing  $\bullet$  with the redex  $r$

“Avoid context and specifics; generalize and keep repeating the generalization.”  
-- Jack Schwartz

# Contextual Semantics Example

- $x := 1 ; x := x + 1$  with initial state  $[x:=0]$

<b>&lt;Comm, State&gt;</b>	<b>Redex •</b>	<b>Context</b>
<b>&lt;<math>x := 1 ; x := x+1, [x := 0]</math>&gt;</b>	$x := 1$	<b>•; <math>x := x+1</math></b>
<b>&lt;skip; <math>x := x+1, [x := 1]</math>&gt;</b>	skip; $x := x+1$	<b>•</b>
<b>&lt;<math>x := x+1, [x := 1]</math>&gt;</b>	$x$	<b><math>x := • + 1</math></b>

What happens next?

# Contextual Semantics Example

- $x := 1 ; x := x + 1$  with initial state  $[x:=0]$

<Comm, State>	Redex •	Context
< $x := 1 ; x := x+1, [x := 0]$ >	$x := 1$	•; $x := x+1$
< $\text{skip}; x := x+1, [x := 1]$ >	$\text{skip}; x := x+1$	•
< $x := x+1, [x := 1]$ >	$x$	$x := \bullet + 1$
< $x := 1 + 1, [x := 1]$ >	$1 + 1$	$x := \bullet$
< $x := 2, [x := 1]$ >	$x := 2$	•
< $\text{skip}, [x := 2]$ >		

# More On Contexts

- **Contexts** are defined by a grammar:

$H ::= \bullet \mid n + H$

$\mid H + e$

$\mid x := H$

$\mid \text{if } H \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2$

$\mid H; c$

- A context has **exactly one**  $\bullet$  marker
- A redex is never a value

# What's In A Context?

- Contexts specify precisely how to find the next redex
  - Consider  $e_1 + e_2$  and its decomposition as  $H[r]$
  - If  $e_1$  is  $n_1$  and  $e_2$  is  $n_2$  then  $H = \bullet$  and  $r = n_1 + n_2$
  - If  $e_1$  is  $n_1$  and  $e_2$  is not  $n_2$  then  $H = n_1 + H_2$  and  $e_2 = H_2[r]$
  - If  $e_1$  is not  $n_1$  then  $H = H_1 + e_2$  and  $e_1 = H_1[r]$
  - In the last two cases the decomposition is done recursively
  - Check that in each case the solution is unique

# Unique Next Redex:

## Proof By Handwaving Examples

- e.g.  $c = "c_1; c_2"$  - either
  - $c_1 = \text{skip}$  and then  $c = H[\text{skip}; c_2]$  with  $H = \bullet$
  - or  $c_1 \neq \text{skip}$  and then  $c_1 = H[r]$ ; so  $c = H'[r]$  with  $H' = H; c_2$
- e.g.  $c = "if\ b\ \text{then}\ c_1\ \text{else}\ c_2"$ 
  - either  $b = \text{true}$  or  $b = \text{false}$  and then  $c = H[r]$  with  $H = \bullet$
  - or  $b$  is not a value and  $b = H[r]$ ; so  $c = H'[r]$  with  $H' = \text{if } H \text{ then } c_1 \text{ else } c_2$

# Context Decomposition

- Decomposition theorem:

If **c** is not “skip” then there exist unique **H** and **r** such that **c** is **H[r]**

- “Exist” means progress
- “Unique” means determinism



# Short-Circuit Evaluation

- What if we want to express **short-circuit** evaluation of  $\wedge$  ?

- Define the following **contexts**, **redexes** and **local reduction rules**

$$H ::= \dots \mid H \wedge b_2$$
$$r ::= \dots \mid \text{true} \wedge b \mid \text{false} \wedge b$$
$$\langle \text{true} \wedge b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle b, \sigma \rangle$$
$$\langle \text{false} \wedge b, \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{false}, \sigma \rangle$$

- the local reduction kicks in **before**  $b_2$  is **evaluated**

# Contextual Semantics Summary

- Can view • as representing the **program counter**
- The advancement rules for • are non-trivial
  - At each step the **entire command** is decomposed
  - This makes contextual semantics **inefficient to implement directly**
- The major advantage of contextual semantics: it allows a mix of local and global reduction rules
  - For IMP we have only local reduction rules: only the redex is reduced
  - Sometimes it is useful to work on the context too
  - We'll do that when we study **memory allocation**, etc.

# Reading Real-World Examples

- Cobbe and Felleisen, POPL 2005
- Small-step contextual opsem for Java
- Their rule for object field access:

$$\frac{P \vdash \langle E[obj.fd], S \rangle \hookrightarrow \langle E[\mathcal{F}(fd)], S \rangle}{\text{where } \mathcal{F} = \text{fields}(S(obj)) \text{ and } fd \in \text{dom}(\mathcal{F})}$$

$$P \vdash \langle E[obj.fd], S \rangle \rightarrow \langle E[F(fd)], S \rangle$$

- where  $F = \text{fields}(S(obj))$  and  $fd \in \text{dom}(F)$

- They use “E” for context, we use “H”
- They use “S” for state, we use “ $\sigma$ ”

# Lost In Translation

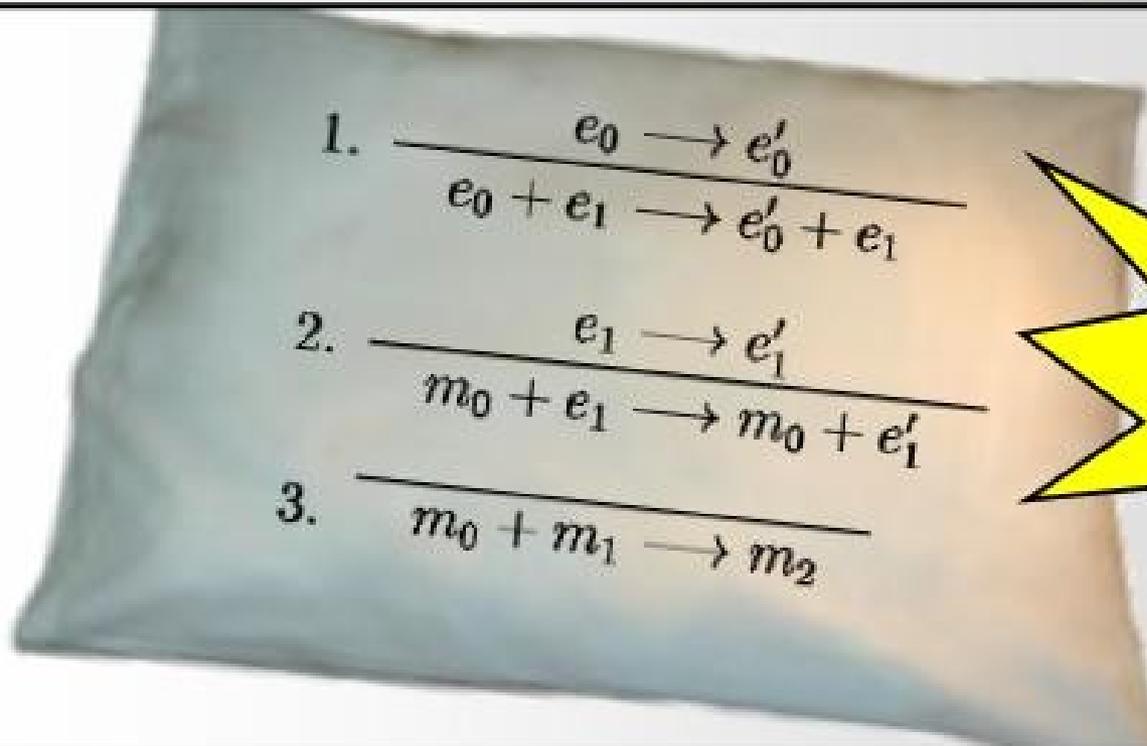
- $P \vdash \langle H[\text{obj.fd}], \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle H[F(\text{fd})], \sigma \rangle$ 
  - Where  $F = \text{fields}(\sigma(\text{obj}))$  and  $\text{fd} \in \text{dom}(F)$
- They have “ $P \vdash$ ”, but that just means “it can be proved in our system given  $P$ ”
- $\langle H[\text{obj.fd}], \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle H[F(\text{fd})], \sigma \rangle$ 
  - Where  $F = \text{fields}(\sigma(\text{obj}))$  and  $\text{fd} \in \text{dom}(F)$

# Lost In Translation 2

- $\langle H[\mathbf{obj}.fd], \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle H[F(fd)], \sigma \rangle$ 
  - Where  $F = \text{fields}(\sigma(\mathbf{obj}))$  and  $fd \in \text{dom}(F)$
- They model objects (like  $\mathbf{obj}$ ), but we do not (yet) - let's just make  $fd$  a variable:
- $\langle H[fd], \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle H[F(fd)], \sigma \rangle$ 
  - Where  $F = \sigma$  and  $fd \in L$
- Which is just our variable-lookup rule:
- $\langle H[fd], \sigma \rangle \rightarrow \langle H[\sigma(fd)], \sigma \rangle$  (when  $fd \in L$ )

# “Sleep On It”

***“The Semantics Pillow”***



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***“Learn while you sleep!”***

# Homework

- Homework 2 Out Today
  - Due Next Week
- Read Winskel Chapter 3
- Want an extra opsem review?
  - *Natural deduction* article
  - Plotkin Chapter 2
- Optional Philosophy of Science article