

# Big Step Semantics

- $e \mapsto e'$  "e steps to e'" (one step)
- $e \mapsto^* e'$  "e steps to e'" (many steps)
- $e \mapsto^* v$  and  $v$  val "e evaluates to v"
- $e \Downarrow v$  "e evaluates to v"

$e ::= x \mid () \mid \lambda x. e \mid e e \mid (e, e) \mid \text{fst } e \mid \text{snd } e \mid \text{inl } c \mid \text{inr } c$   
 in case e of  $\{x.e_i; y.e_j\}$  / fix  $x=e$

$\tau ::= \text{unit} \mid \tau \rightarrow \tau \mid \tau \times \tau \mid \tau + \tau$   
 $v ::= () \mid \lambda x. e \mid (v, v) \mid \text{inl } v \mid \text{inr } v$

Combines 3 step rules for application

$$\frac{}{v \Downarrow v} \text{ (E-1)} \quad \frac{e_1 \Downarrow \lambda x. e \quad e_2 \Downarrow v \quad [v/x]e \Downarrow v'}{e_1 e_2 \Downarrow v'} \text{ (E-2)}$$

$$\frac{e_1 \Downarrow v_1 \quad e_2 \Downarrow v_2}{(e_1, e_2) \Downarrow (v_1, v_2)} \text{ (E-3)}$$

$$\frac{e \Downarrow (v_1, v_2)}{\text{fst } e \Downarrow v_1} \text{ (E-4)}$$

$$\frac{e \Downarrow (v_1, v_2)}{\text{snd } e \Downarrow v_2} \text{ (E-5)}$$

$$\frac{e \Downarrow v}{\text{inl } e \Downarrow \text{inl } v} \text{ (E-6)}$$

$$\frac{e \Downarrow v}{\text{inr } e \Downarrow \text{inr } v} \text{ (E-7)}$$

$$\frac{e \Downarrow \text{inl } v \quad [v/x]e_2 \Downarrow v'}{\text{case } e \text{ of } \{x.e_2; y.e_3\} \Downarrow v'} \text{ (E-8)}$$

$$\frac{e_1 \Downarrow \text{inr } v \quad [v/x]e_3 \Downarrow v'}{\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \{x.e_2; y.e_3\} \Downarrow v'} \text{ (E-9)}$$

Way less rules!

$$\frac{[\text{fix } x=e/x]e \Downarrow v}{\text{fix } x=e \Downarrow v} \text{ (E-10)}$$

Preservation: If  $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$  and  $e \Downarrow v$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash v : \tau$ .

Pf

(E-1) ✓

(E-2) Then  $e = e_1 e_2$  and  $e_1 \Downarrow \lambda x e$  and  $e_2 \Downarrow v'$  and  $[v/x]e \Downarrow v$ .

By inversion,  $\tau = \tau_2$  and  $\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$  and  $\Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_1$ .

By induction,  $\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$  and  $\Gamma \vdash v' : \tau_1$ .

By inversion,  $\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2$ .

By substitution,  $\Gamma \vdash [v/x]e : \tau_2$ . By induction,  $\Gamma \vdash v : \tau_2$ .

(E-3) Then  $e = (e_1, e_2)$  and  $e_1 \Downarrow v_1$  and  $e_2 \Downarrow v_2$  and  $v = (v_1, v_2)$ .

By inversion,  $\tau = \tau_1 \times \tau_2$  and  $\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1$  and  $\Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_2$ .

By induction,  $\Gamma \vdash v_1 : \tau_1$  and  $\Gamma \vdash v_2 : \tau_2$ .

By typing rules,  $\Gamma \vdash v : \tau_1 \times \tau_2$ .

(E-4) Then  $e = \text{fst } e_0$  and  $e_0 \Downarrow (v_1, v_2)$ .

By inversion,  $\Gamma \vdash e_0 : \tau_1 \times \tau_2$ . By induction,  $\Gamma \vdash (v_1, v_2) : \tau_1 \times \tau_2$ .

By inversion,  $\Gamma \vdash v : \tau_1$ .

(E-6) Then  $e = \text{inl } e_0$  and  $e_0 \Downarrow v'$  and  $v = \text{inl } v'$ .

By inversion,  $\tau = \tau_1 + \tau_2$  and  $\Gamma \vdash e_0 : \tau_1$ .

By induction,  $\Gamma \vdash v' : \tau_1$ . By typing rules,  $\Gamma \vdash v : \tau_1 + \tau_2$ .

(E-8) Then  $e = \text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \{x. e_2, y. e_3\}$  and  $e_1 \Downarrow \text{inl } v'$  and  $[v'/x]e_2 \Downarrow v$ .

By inversion,  $\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 + \tau_2$  and  $\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e_2 : \tau$ .

By induction,  $\Gamma \vdash \text{inl } v' : \tau_1 + \tau_2$ . By inversion,  $\Gamma \vdash v' : \tau_1$ .

By subst,  $\Gamma \vdash [v'/x]e_2 : \tau$ . By induction,  $\Gamma \vdash v : \tau$ .

(E-10) Then  $e = \text{fix } x = e_0$  and  $[\text{fix } x = e_0/x]e_0 \Downarrow v$ .

By inv,  $\Gamma, x : \tau \vdash e : \tau$ . By subst and ind,  $\Gamma \vdash v : \tau$ .

Progress: ...

One option: If  $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ , then  $\exists v$  s.t.  $e \Downarrow v$   
True in STLC w/o fix but not in most real languages.

$\exists v$ . fix  $x = x \Downarrow v$ .

Big-step can't talk about non-terminating expressions  
No real way to talk about progress ( $\Rightarrow$  type safety).

But: - Don't need to worry about evaluation order  
- Don't need all the search rules

Thm.  $e \mapsto^* v \Leftrightarrow e \Downarrow v$

$\Leftarrow$  Fairly straight forward with a couple annoying lemmas

$\Rightarrow$  Suffices to show

Lemma: If  $e \mapsto e'$  and  $e' \Downarrow v$  then  $e \Downarrow v$ .