

# Evaluation Contexts

(Yet another way to avoid search rules)

$$e ::= x \mid () \mid \lambda x. e \mid e e \mid (e, e) \mid \text{fst } e \mid \text{snd } e \quad v ::= () \mid \lambda x. e \mid (v, v)$$

$$\tau ::= \text{unit} \mid \tau \rightarrow \tau \mid \tau \times \tau$$

$$\varepsilon ::= () \mid \varepsilon e \mid v \varepsilon \mid (\varepsilon, e) \mid (v, \varepsilon) \mid \text{fst } \varepsilon \mid \text{snd } \varepsilon$$

$$(\varepsilon, ((), (\lambda x. x) (\text{fst } ((), 8))))$$

the part that  
can step

Evaluation Contexts  
- Exprs w/ one "hole"

everything else

$$\varepsilon[\text{fst } ((), 8)]$$

$\varepsilon[e]$  - fill the hole w/  $e$

$$\varepsilon[e] = e$$

$$(\varepsilon e)[e'] = (\varepsilon[e']) e$$

$$(v \varepsilon)[e] = v \varepsilon[e]$$

$$(\varepsilon, e)[e'] = (\varepsilon[e'], e)$$

$$(v, \varepsilon)[e'] = (v, \varepsilon[e'])$$

$$(\text{fst } \varepsilon)[e] = \text{fst } (\varepsilon[e])$$

$$(\text{snd } \varepsilon)[e] = \text{snd } (\varepsilon[e])$$

$$(\varepsilon, ((), (\lambda x. x) \bullet))[\text{fst } ((), 8)] = (\varepsilon, ((), (\lambda x. x) (\text{fst } ((), 8))))$$

$$\frac{e \mapsto e'}{\varepsilon[e] \mapsto \varepsilon[e']}$$

- One big rule!

(still need to define this judgment)

$$\frac{}{(\lambda x. e) v \rightarrow (v[x]e)}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{fst } (v_1, v_2) \rightarrow v_1}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{snd } (v_1, v_2) \rightarrow v_2}$$

Contexts ("Expression contexts" / "Program contexts")

$C ::= () \mid \lambda x. C \mid e \mid C e \mid (C, e) \mid (e, C) \mid \text{fst } C \mid \text{snd } C$

- Any expression w/ a hole; hole doesn't need to be where we're evaluating

$((), ((), (\lambda x. x) (\text{fst} (7, 8)))) [9] = (9, ((), (\lambda x. x) (\text{fst} (7, 8))))$

Type of a context?

First guess:  $\tau \rightarrow \tau'$

But:

$\lambda x. ()$  exp can have free  $x$ !

Need a context

$(\lambda x. () / (y))$  Can also use in a diff. context!

$C : (\Gamma \triangleright \tau) \rightarrow (\Gamma' \triangleright \tau') \Leftrightarrow \text{If } \Gamma \vdash e : \tau, \text{ then } \Gamma' \vdash C[e] : \tau'$

$\lambda x. () : (\Gamma, x : \tau \triangleright \tau') \rightarrow (\Gamma \triangleright \tau \rightarrow \tau')$

Program context: Complete program w/ a hole

$C : (\Gamma \triangleright \tau) \rightarrow (\bullet \triangleright \beta)$

Base type: unit, int, bool, ...

Take a base type, say int.

Suppose  $\bullet \vdash e : \text{int}$  and  $\bullet \vdash e' : \text{int}$ .  $e$  and  $e'$  are equal if  $\exists n$

s.t.  $e \mapsto^* \bar{n}$  and  $e' \mapsto^* \bar{n}$ .

What does it mean for exprs of other types to be equal?

$\lambda x. x \stackrel{?}{=} \lambda y. \text{fst}(y, y)$

$x \stackrel{?}{=} \text{fst}(x, x)$

# Observational Contextual Equivalence

Suppose  $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$  and  $\Gamma \vdash e' : \tau'$ .  $\Gamma \vdash e \approx e' : \tau$  if  
for all  $C : (\Gamma \circ \tau) \rightarrow (\bullet \circ \text{nat})$ ,  $C[e] \approx C[e']$

$\lambda x.x \approx \lambda y.\text{fst}(y,y)$ ? Yes.

Consider a context  $C$ .

If it doesn't use  $\circ$  in an interesting way (e.g.  $\text{fst}(7,0)$ )

then  $C[\lambda x.x] \approx C[\lambda y.\text{fst}(y,y)]$

If it does, it must use it by applying it to an (eventual) int.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \dots (\lambda x.x) \bar{n} \dots &\approx \dots (\lambda y.\text{fst}(y,y)) \bar{n} \dots \\ &\approx \dots \text{fst}(\bar{n}, \bar{n}) \dots \\ &\approx \dots \bar{n} \dots \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Formal proof: more complicated, usually don't use ctx. eq. directly  
But based on the above intuition