

CS 565

Programming Languages (graduate)
Spring 2025

Week 6

A Core Language - IMP

Defining a Language

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One “recipe” for defining a language:

1. Syntax:

What are the valid sentences?

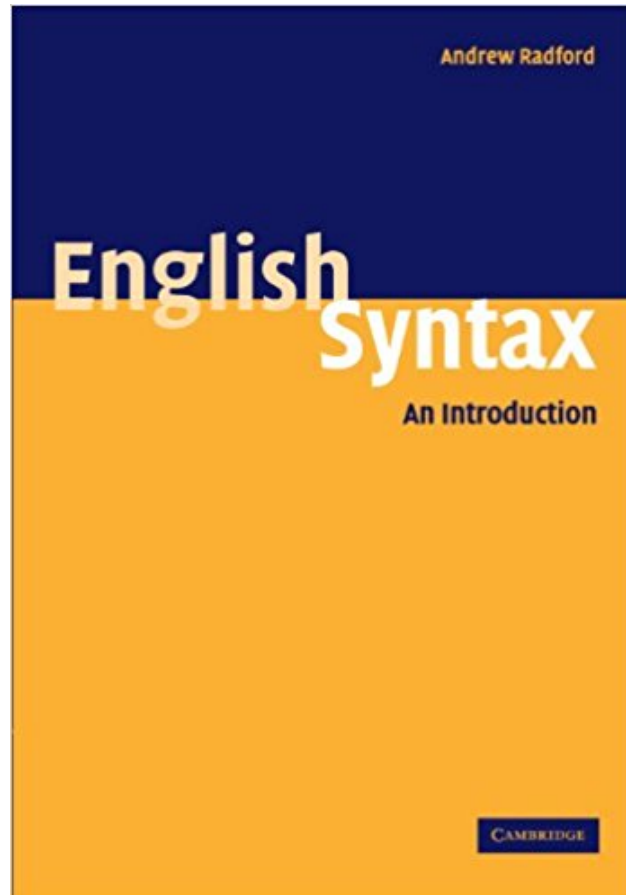
2. Semantics (Dynamic Semantics):

How do I evaluate valid sentences?

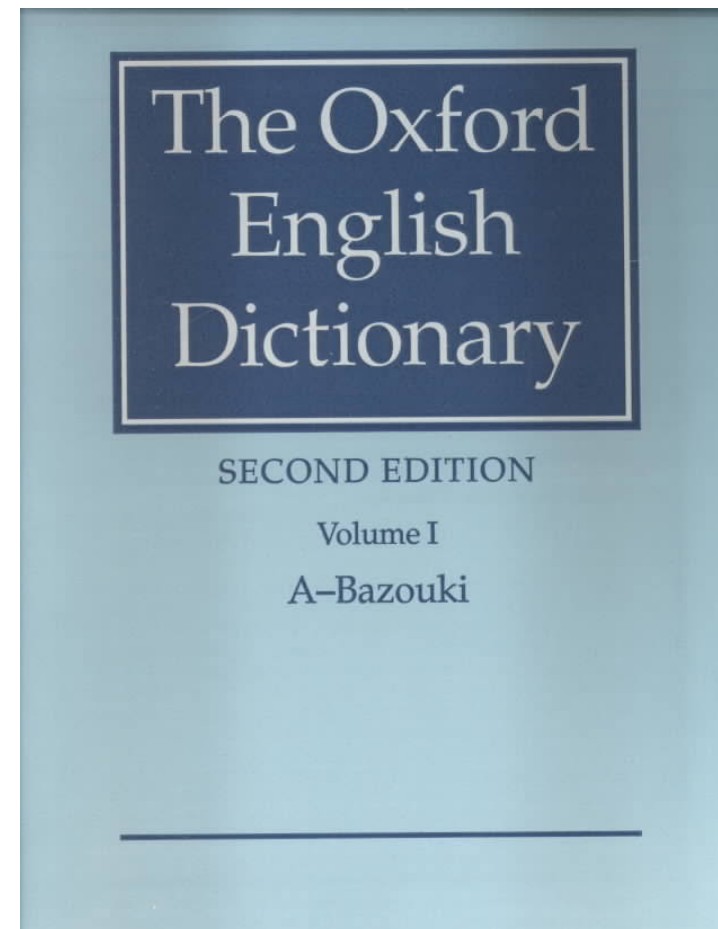
Defining English

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1. Syntax:



2. Semantics



Defining Haskell

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1. Syntax:

```

topdecl → type simpletype = type
| data [context =>] simpletype [= constrs] [deriving]
| newtype [context =>] simpletype = newconstr [deriving]
| class [scontext =>] tycls tyvar [where cdecls]
| instance [scontext =>] qtycls inst [where idecls]
| default (type1 , ... , typen) (n ≥ 0)
| foreign fdecl
| decl

decls → { decl1 ; ... ; decln }   (n ≥ 0)
decl → gendcl
| (funlhs | pat) rhs

...

```

2. Semantics

$(\Lambda a.e) \varphi$	$\longrightarrow [\varphi/a]e$
$(\lambda x.e) e'$	$\longrightarrow [e'/x]e$
$\text{case } (K \bar{\sigma} \bar{\varphi} \bar{e}) \text{ of } \dots K \bar{b} \bar{x} \rightarrow e' \dots$	$\longrightarrow [\varphi/\bar{b}, e'/\bar{x}]e'$
$(v \blacktriangleright \gamma_1) \blacktriangleright \gamma_2$	$\longrightarrow v \blacktriangleright (\gamma_1 \circ \gamma_2)$
$((\Lambda a:\kappa.e) \blacktriangleright \gamma) \varphi$	$\longrightarrow (\Lambda a:\kappa.(e \blacktriangleright \gamma@a)) \varphi$ where $\gamma : (\forall a:\kappa.\sigma_1) \sim (\forall b:\kappa.\sigma_2)$
$((\Lambda a:\kappa.e) \blacktriangleright \gamma) \varphi$	$\longrightarrow (\Lambda a':\kappa'.(([(a' \blacktriangleright \gamma_1)/a]e) \blacktriangleright \gamma_2)) \varphi$ where $\gamma : (\kappa \Rightarrow \sigma) \sim (\kappa' \Rightarrow \sigma')$ $\gamma_1 = \text{sym}(\text{leftc } \gamma)$ – coercion for argument $\gamma_2 = \text{rightc } \gamma$ – coercion for result
$((\lambda x.e) \blacktriangleright \gamma) e'$	$\longrightarrow (\lambda y.([(y \blacktriangleright \gamma_1)/x]e) \blacktriangleright \gamma_2) e'$ where $\gamma_1 = \text{sym}(\text{right}(\text{left } \gamma))$ – coercion for argument $\gamma_2 = \text{right } \gamma$ – coercion for result
$\text{case } (K \bar{\sigma} \bar{\varphi} \bar{e} \blacktriangleright \gamma) \text{ of } \overline{p \rightarrow rhs}$	$\longrightarrow \text{case } (K \bar{\tau} \bar{\varphi}' \bar{e}') \text{ of } \overline{p \rightarrow rhs}$ where $\gamma : T \bar{\sigma} \sim T \bar{\tau}$ $K : \forall \bar{a}:\bar{\kappa}.\forall \bar{b}:\bar{\iota}.\bar{p} \rightarrow T \bar{a}^n$ $\varphi'_i = \begin{cases} \varphi_i \blacktriangleright \theta(v_1 \sim v_2) & \text{if } b_i : v_1 \sim v_2 \\ \varphi_i & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ $e'_i = e_i \blacktriangleright \theta(\rho_i)$ $\theta = [\gamma_i/a_i, \varphi_i/b_i]$ $\gamma_i = \text{right}(\underbrace{\text{left} \dots \text{left}}_{n-i} \gamma)$

Syntax

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(OF IMP COMMANDS)

```
C := skip  
| X := A  
| C ; C  
| if B then C  
    else C end  
| while B do C end
```

Imp Program

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★ Key Feature: State*

```
C := skip  
| x := A  
| C ; C  
| if B then C  
    else C end  
| while B do C end
```

```
X := 5;  
Z := X;  
Y := 1
```

Imp Program

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★ Key Feature: Control Flow

```
C := skip  
| x := A  
| C ; C  
| if B then C  
    else C end  
| while B do C end
```

```
X := 2;  
if (X ≤ 1)  
    then Y := 3;  
        X := 5 - Y  
    else Z := 4  
end;  
Y := 4
```

Imp Program

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★ Key Feature: Control Flow

```
C := skip  
| x := A  
| C ; C  
| if B then C  
    else C end  
| while B do C end
```

```
X := 2;  
Z := Y;  
while (0 ≤ X) do  
    X := X - 1;  
    Y := Y + Z  
end
```

Imp Program

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★ Key Feature: Control Flow

```
C := skip  
| x := A  
| C ; C  
| if B then C  
  else C end  
| while B do C end
```

```
X := 2;  
Z := X;  
Y := 1;  
while (0 ≤ Y) do  
  X := X - 1;  
  Y := Y + Z  
end
```

Semantics

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```
Fixpoint aeval (a : aexp) (st : var -> int): int =  
  match a with  
  | ANum n => n  
  | APlus a1 a2 => (aeval a1) + (aeval a2)  
  | AMinus a1 a2 => (aeval a1) - (aeval a2)  
  | AMult a1 a2 => (aeval a1) * (aeval a2)  
  | AId x => st x  
end.
```

Semantics

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```
Fixpoint ceval (c : com) (st : var -> int) :=  
  match c with  
  | Skip => st  
  | Assn x a => update st x (aeval st a)  
  | Seq c1 c2 => let st' = ceval st c1 in ceval st' c2  
  | If b c1 c2 => if (beval st b) then ceval st c1  
    else ceval st c2  
  | While b c => st (* bogus *)  
end.
```

Not so clear what to do here: suppose the while loop does not terminate. Then, our formulation of the semantics as an interpreter won't be well-defined either

AS A RELATION

Key Idea: Define evaluation as a Inductive Relation

$\text{aevalR}: \text{total_map} \rightarrow A \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Proposition}$

- ★ Ternary relation on states, expressions and values
- ★ Read ' $\sigma, a \Downarrow n$ ' as 'a evaluates to n in state σ '
- ★ Relation precisely spells out what values program can evaluate to
- ★ Put another way, rules define an 'abstract machine' for executing expression

AS A RELATION

Key Idea: Define evaluation as a Inductive Relation ($\Downarrow$)

Inference Rules for $\Downarrow$

$$\frac{}{\sigma, n \Downarrow n} \text{ENUM}$$

$$\frac{}{\sigma, x \Downarrow \sigma(x)} \text{EVAR}$$

$$\frac{\sigma, e_n \Downarrow v_n \quad \sigma, e_m \Downarrow v_m}{\sigma, e_n + e_m \Downarrow v_n +_{\mathbb{N}} v_m} \text{EADD}$$

$$\frac{\sigma, e_n \Downarrow v_n \quad \sigma, e_m \Downarrow v_m}{\sigma, e_n - e_m \Downarrow v_n -_{\mathbb{N}} v_m} \text{ESUB}$$

$$\frac{\sigma, e_n \Downarrow v_n \quad \sigma, e_m \Downarrow v_m}{\sigma, e_n * e_m \Downarrow v_n *_{\mathbb{N}} v_m} \text{EMULT}$$

Reduction

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} & \text{ENUM} & \text{ENUM} \\ \hline \sigma, 5 \Downarrow 5 & \sigma, 2 \Downarrow 2 & \\ \hline & \text{ESUB} & \\ \sigma, 5-2 \Downarrow 5-\mathbb{N} 2 & & \\ \hline & \sigma, 5-2+3 \Downarrow 6 & \\ & & \text{EADD} \\ & & \hline & & \sigma, 3 \Downarrow 3 \\ & & \text{ENUM} \end{array}$$

Semantics

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$\text{cevalR}: (\text{Id} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow C \rightarrow (\text{Id} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Proposition}$

- ★ Ternary relation on initial states, commands and final state
- ★ Read ' $\sigma, c \Downarrow \sigma'$ ' as 'when run in initial state σ , c produces (i.e. evaluates to) final state σ' '

Operational Semantics

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Inference Rules for $\Downarrow$ (commands)

$$\frac{}{\sigma, \text{skip} \Downarrow \sigma} \text{ESKIP}$$

$$\frac{\sigma, C_1 \Downarrow \sigma_1 \quad \sigma_1, C_2 \Downarrow \sigma_2}{\sigma, C_1; C_2 \Downarrow \sigma_2} \text{ESEQ}$$

$$\frac{\sigma, a \Downarrow v}{\sigma, x := a \Downarrow [x \mapsto v] \sigma} \text{EASSN}$$

Operational Semantics

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Inference Rules for $\Downarrow$ (commands)

ElFT

$$\frac{\sigma, b \Downarrow \mathbf{true} \qquad \sigma, c_1 \Downarrow \sigma_1}{\sigma, \mathbf{if } b \mathbf{ then } c_1 \mathbf{ else } c_2 \Downarrow \sigma_1}$$

ElFF

$$\frac{\sigma, b \Downarrow \mathbf{false} \qquad \sigma, c_2 \Downarrow \sigma_1}{\sigma, \mathbf{if } b \mathbf{ then } c_1 \mathbf{ else } c_2 \Downarrow \sigma_1}$$

Semantics

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Inference Rules for $\Downarrow$ (commands)

EWHILET

$$\frac{\sigma_1, b \Downarrow \text{true} \quad \sigma_1, c \Downarrow \sigma_2 \quad \sigma_2, \text{while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end} \Downarrow \sigma_3}{\sigma_1, \text{while } b \text{ do } c \text{ end} \Downarrow \sigma_3}$$

EWHILEF

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

Why is this a better formulation than the definition of ceval ?

Imp Program

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$\sigma,$ $\boxed{\begin{array}{l} X := 5; \\ Z := X; \\ Z := 3; \\ Y := 1 \end{array}} \Downarrow [Y \mapsto 1][Z \mapsto 3][Z \mapsto 5][X \mapsto 5]\sigma$

Imp Program

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$\sigma,$ $X := 2;$
 $\text{if } (X \leq 1)$
 $\text{then } Y := 3$
 $\text{else } Z := 4$
 end $\Downarrow [X \mapsto 2]\sigma$

Imp Program

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$\sigma,$

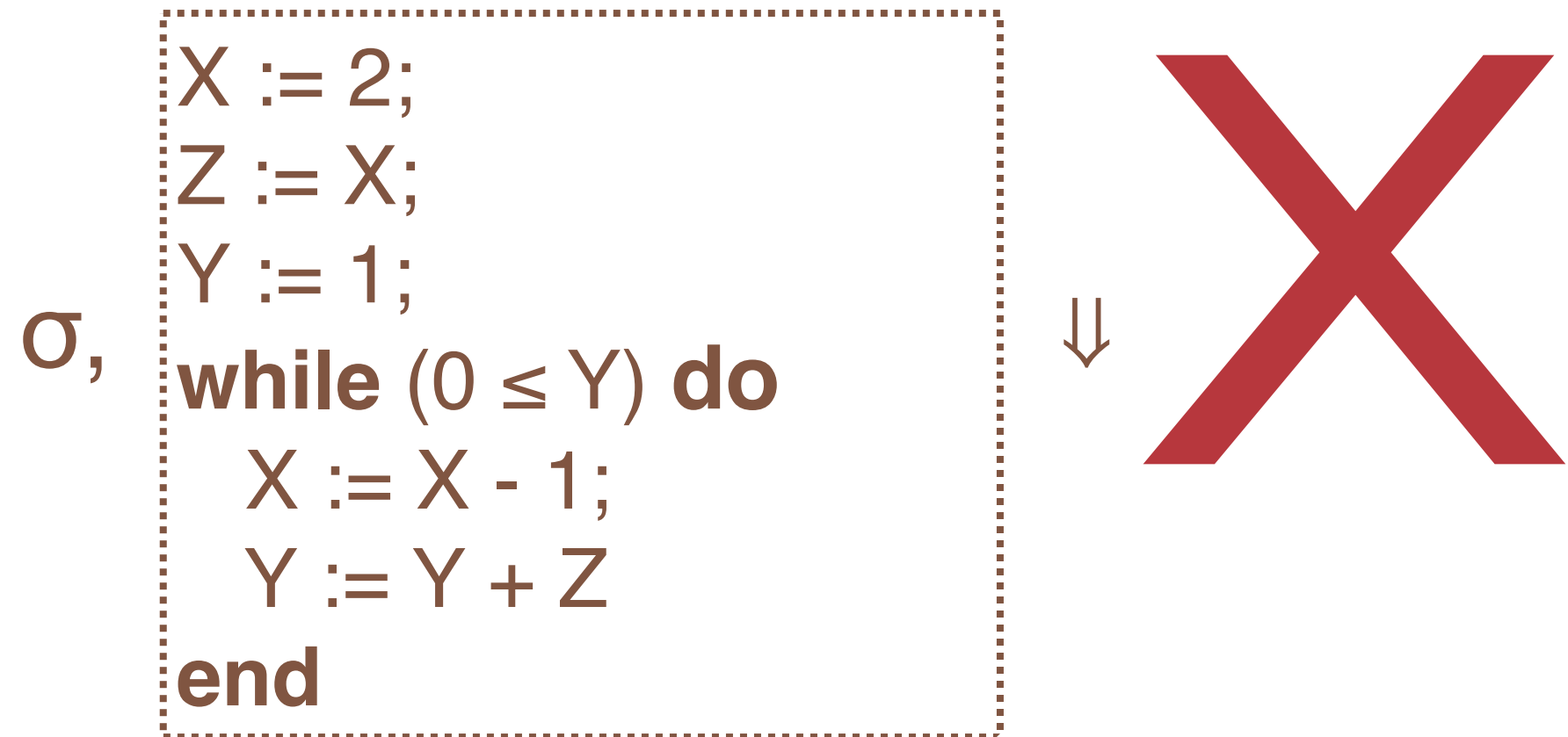
```
X := 2;  
Z := Y;  
while (0 ≤ X) do  
  X := X - 1;  
  Y := Y + Z  
end
```

$\Downarrow$

```
[Y ↦ σ(Y) + σ(Y)][X ↦ 0]  
[Y ↦ σ(Y) + σ(Y)][X ↦ 1]  
[Z ↦ σ(Y)][X ↦ 2]σ
```

Imp Program

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Defining IMP

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1. Syntax

```
C := skip
    | X := A
    | C ; C
    | if B then C
      else C end
    | while B do C end
```

2. Semantics

$$\frac{}{\sigma, \text{skip} \Downarrow \sigma} \text{ESKIP}$$
$$\frac{\sigma, a \Downarrow_A v}{\sigma, x := a \Downarrow [x \mapsto v] \sigma} \text{EASSN}$$

★ Theorem [IMP IS DETERMINISTIC]:

For any command c , from any starting state σ , c can evaluate to at most one unique final state:

If $\sigma, c \Downarrow \sigma_1$ and $\sigma, c \Downarrow \sigma_2$, then $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2$.

Defining IMP+FLIP

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1. Syntax

```
C ::= skip
    | X := A
    | C ; C
    | if B then C
      else C end
    | while B do C end
    | if flip C
```

2. Semantics

$$\frac{\sigma, a \Downarrow v}{\sigma, x := a \Downarrow [x \mapsto v] \sigma} \text{EASSN}$$
$$\frac{\sigma_1, C \Downarrow \sigma_2}{\sigma_1, \text{if flip } c \Downarrow \sigma_2} \text{EFLIPT}$$
$$\frac{}{\sigma, \text{if flip } c \Downarrow \sigma} \text{EFLIPF}$$

Concept Check

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Theorem [IMP+FLIP IS NOT DETERMINISTIC]:

For some commands c , from any starting state σ , c can evaluate to multiple final states:

$\exists \sigma \ c \ \Downarrow \ \sigma_1 \ \sigma_2$. If $\sigma, c \Downarrow \sigma_1$ and $\sigma, c \Downarrow \sigma_2$ and $\sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2$.

Can you write an IMP+Flip program that evaluates to different final states?

Can you write an IMP+Flip program that evaluates to an infinite number of final states?

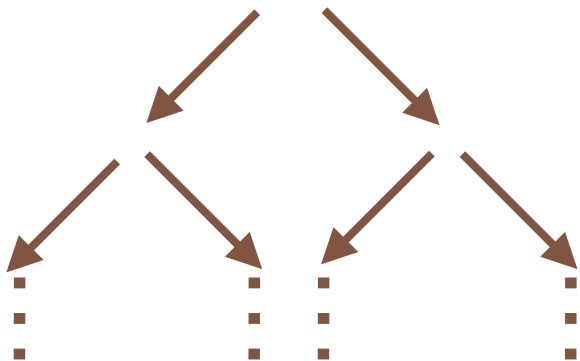
Defining IMP + RAND

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1. Syntax

```
C ::= skip
    | X := A
    | C ; C
    | if B then C
      else C end
    | while B do C end
    | X := Any
```

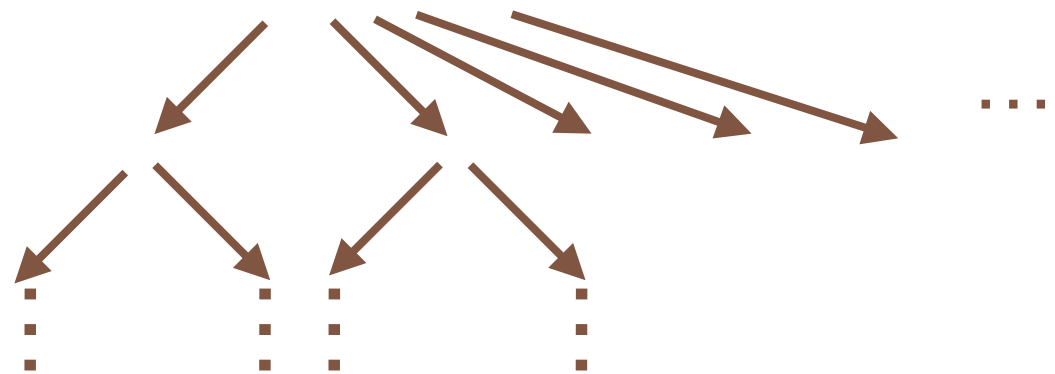
IMP+Flip: finite number of branches
infinite final states



2. Semantics

$V \in \mathbb{N}$	ERAND
$\sigma, X := \text{Any} \Downarrow [X \mapsto V]\sigma$	

IMP+Rand: infinite number of branches
infinite final states



1. Syntax

```
C := skip
| X := A
| C ; C
| if B then C
    else C end
| while B do C end
| X := F(A) —
```

$F \in \mathbb{F}$

$FD := F(X) \{C; \text{return } a\}$

```
Double(Y) {
  skip;
  return Y + Y}
```

```
Double(Y) {
  Z := Y + Y;
  return Z}
```

```
X := Double(5)
```

```
Y := 5;
X := Double(Y)
```

```
C := skip
| X := A
| C ; C
| if B then C
    else C end
| while B do C end
| X := F(A)
```

$F \in \mathbb{F}$

$FD := F(X) \{C; \text{return } a\}$

- How to model set of function calls?
- Update the judgement!

$$\Delta \vdash \sigma_1, c \Downarrow \sigma_2$$

$$\Delta : F \rightarrow FD$$

Read as ‘When run in initial state σ_1 and using the function definitions in Δ , c produces (i.e. evaluates to) final state σ_2 ’

$$\frac{\Delta \vdash \sigma, a \Downarrow v}{\Delta \vdash \sigma, x := a \Downarrow [x \mapsto v] \sigma} \text{EASSN}$$

$$\frac{\Delta(F) = F(y) \{c; \text{return } a_2\} \quad \Delta \vdash \sigma_1, \bar{a} \Downarrow \bar{v} \quad \Delta \vdash [\bar{y} \mapsto \bar{v}], c \Downarrow \sigma_2 \quad \Delta \vdash \sigma_2, a_2 \Downarrow v_2}{\Delta \vdash \sigma_1, x := F(\bar{a}) \Downarrow [x \mapsto v_2] \sigma} \text{ECALL}$$