

- Another approach to specify the meaning of a programming language
- More\* widely used method.  
\* if it is used.

IDEA:

For each syntactic entity in a programming language, define a function that maps entity to a known mathematical object.

$M$ : syntactic entity  $\rightarrow$  known Mathematical Object.

◆ Example

Alphabet (Terminals)  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \cdot \vdots \vdots \vdots \vdots \mid \parallel \parallel \parallel \textcircled{\bullet} \ a \ b \ c \ d \ e \ \dots \ z \ , \\ \leftarrow \ \Delta \ \nabla \ \blacktriangle \ \textcircled{\bullet} \ \sqcup \ \sqcap \ \textcircled{\bullet} \ \textcircled{\bullet} \ \textcircled{\bullet} \ \textcircled{\bullet} \end{array} \right.$

- Constants (Literals)

Grammar

$DI \rightarrow \cdot \mid \vdots \mid \parallel \mid \vdots \vdots$

$DV \rightarrow \parallel \parallel \parallel \parallel$

$C \rightarrow DI \mid DV \mid DI \ DV \mid \textcircled{\bullet}$

E.G strings from C

" $\vdots \parallel$ "  $\textcircled{\bullet}$  " $\parallel$ " " $\cdot \parallel \parallel$ "  
13                      8                      5                      16

$$M_C(\vdots \parallel) = M_{DI}(\vdots) + M_{DV}(\parallel) = 3 + 10 = 13$$

$$M_C(\cdot \parallel \parallel) = M_{DI}(\cdot) + M_{DV}(\parallel \parallel) = 1 + 15 = 16$$

Meaning:

$M_{DI}(\cdot) = 1$        $M_{DV}(\parallel) = 5$   
 $M_{DI}(\vdots) = 2$        $M_{DV}(\parallel \parallel) = 10$   
 $M_{DI}(\vdots \vdots) = 3$        $M_{DV}(\parallel \parallel \parallel) = 15$   
 $M_{DI}(\vdots \vdots \vdots) = 4$

$M_C(DI) = M_{DI}(DI)$        $M_C(DI \ DV) = M_{DI}(DI) + M_{DV}(DV)$   
 $M_C(DV) = M_{DV}(DV)$        $M_C(\textcircled{\bullet}) = 8$

Grammar

$Num \rightarrow C \mid Num, C$

E.G strings from Num

" $\parallel$ " " $\vdots \parallel, \textcircled{\bullet}$ " " $\cdot, \parallel, \vdots$ " " $\cdot, \textcircled{\bullet}, \textcircled{\bullet}$ "  
10                      260                      507                      400

Meaning:

$M_{Num}(C) = M_C(C)$

$M_{Num}(Num, C) = M_C(C) + 20 * M_{Num}(Num)$

$$M_{Num}(\cdot, \parallel, \vdots) = M_C(\vdots) + 20 * M_{Num}(\cdot, \parallel) = 7 + 20 * (M_C(\parallel) + 20 * M_{Num}(\cdot)) = 7 + 20 * 5 + 20 * 20 * M_C(\cdot) = 7 + 20 * 5 + 20^2 * 1 = 507$$

Base 20, "Vigesimal"

• Variables:

Grammar:

$Var\text{-name} \rightarrow a \mid b \mid c \mid d \mid e \mid \dots \mid z$

the meaning of a variable is dependent on STATE  
 STATE: a set of (var-name, value) pairs

the meaning of a variable is dependant on STATE

STATE: a set of  $\langle \text{var-name}, \text{value} \rangle$  pairs

Where var-name is unique: "mapping"  
(Let the domain be integers)

$$s = \{ \langle a, 8 \rangle \langle b, 13 \rangle \langle x, 9 \rangle \}$$

Meaning:

$$M_{\text{var}}(\text{var-name}, s: \text{state}) = \text{val s.t. } \langle \text{var-name}, \text{val} \rangle \in s$$

e.g

$$M_{\text{var}}(r, \{ \langle p, 8 \rangle \langle r, 9 \rangle \langle q, 10 \rangle \}) = 9$$

• Expressions:

Grammar:

$$\text{Expr} \rightarrow \text{var-name} \mid \text{Num} \mid \text{Expr} \Delta \text{Expr} \mid \text{Expr} \nabla \text{Expr} \mid \text{Expr} \blacktriangle \text{Expr}$$

Expr. Strings:

"a" "1" ".1Δ." "11∇c" ":1▲:"

÷ ||  
% &&  
a \* b  
a \*\* b a^b

Meaning:

$$M_{\text{Expr}}(\text{var-name}, s) = M_{\text{var}}(\text{var-name}, s)$$

$$M_{\text{Expr}}(\text{Num}, s) = M_{\text{Num}}(\text{Num})$$

$$M_{\text{Expr}}(\text{Expr}_1 \Delta \text{Expr}_2, s) = M_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Expr}_1, s) + M_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Expr}_2, s)$$

$$M_{\text{Expr}}(\text{Expr}_1 \nabla \text{Expr}_2, s) = M_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Expr}_1, s) - M_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Expr}_2, s)$$

$$M_{\text{Expr}}(\text{Expr}_1 \blacktriangle \text{Expr}_2, s) = M_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Expr}_1, s) \cdot M_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Expr}_2, s)$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\text{Expr}}(11 \nabla c, s_2) & \quad s_2 = \{ \langle a, 3 \rangle \langle c, 2 \rangle \langle x, 7 \rangle \} \\ &= M_{\text{Exp}}(11, s_2) - M_{\text{Exp}}(c, s_2) \\ &= M_{\text{Num}}(11) - M_{\text{var}}(c, s_2) \\ &= 10 - 2 \\ &= 8 \end{aligned}$$

• ASSIGNMENT

Grammar:

$$A \rightarrow \text{var-name} \leftarrow \text{Expr.}$$

assignment strings:

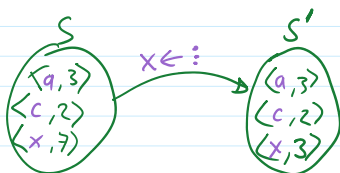
"x ← :"  
"y ← :▲ x Δ :||"  
"e ← :|∇ | Δ y"

Meaning:

$$M_A(\text{var-name} \leftarrow \text{Expr}, s) = s'$$

$$s' = (s - \{ \langle \text{var-name}, v \rangle \}) \cup \{ \langle \text{var-name}, M_{\text{Exp}}(\text{Expr}, s) \rangle \}$$

E.g.



E.g.

$$M_A(x \leftarrow y \triangleleft :, s_1) = s' \quad s_1 = \{ \langle x, 7 \rangle \langle y, 4 \rangle \langle z, 9 \rangle \}$$

$$s' = (s - \{ \langle x, 7 \rangle \}) \cup \{ \langle x, M_{Exp}(y \triangleleft :, s_1) \rangle \}$$

$$= \{ \langle y, 4 \rangle \langle z, 9 \rangle \} \cup \{ \langle x, \underbrace{M_{Exp}(y, s_1)}_4 \cdot \underbrace{M_{Exp}(\triangleleft :, s_1)}_3 \rangle \}$$

$$\cup \{ \langle x, 12 \rangle \}$$

$$= \{ \langle y, 4 \rangle \langle z, 9 \rangle \langle x, 12 \rangle \}$$



### CONDITIONALS

Grammar:

$$If \rightarrow \text{Expr} \sqcup a_1 \sqcup a_2 \quad \text{Expr} \sqcup x \triangleright | \sqcup x \leftarrow : \triangleleft : | \sqcup x \leftarrow \emptyset''$$

Meaning Function:

$$M_{If}(\text{Expr} \sqcup a_1 \sqcup a_2, s) = s'$$

$$s' = \begin{cases} M_A(a_2, s) & \text{if } M_{Expr}(Expr, s) \neq \emptyset \\ M_A(a_1, s) & \end{cases}$$

Example:

$$M_{If}(\text{Expr} \sqcup x \triangleright | \sqcup x \leftarrow : \triangleleft : | \sqcup x \leftarrow \emptyset'', s) \quad s = \{ \langle x, 6 \rangle \langle y, 9 \rangle \}$$

$$M_{Expr}(x \triangleright |, s)$$

$$= M_{Expr}(x, s) - M_{Exp}(|, s)$$

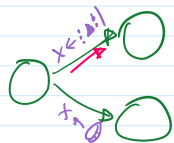
$$= 6 - 5$$

$$= 1$$

$$s' = M_A(x \leftarrow : \triangleleft :, s) \quad \text{which depends on } M_{Exp}(: \triangleleft : |, s)$$

$$= 21$$

$$s' = \{ \langle x, 21 \rangle, \langle y, 9 \rangle \}$$



### ITERATION

Grammar:

$$W \rightarrow \text{Expr} \cup a$$

Meaning:

" $\text{Expr} \cup y \cup y \leftarrow y \triangleright \cdot$ "

Meaning:

$$M_w(\text{Expr } a, s) = s'$$

$$s' = \begin{cases} s & M_{\text{Expr}}(\text{Expr}) = \emptyset \\ M_w(\text{Expr } a, M_A(a, s)) \end{cases}$$

Example:

$$M_w(\text{Expr } y \text{ or } y \leftarrow y \nabla \cdot, \{(y, 2)\})$$

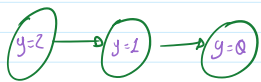
$$M_{\text{Expr}}(y, \{(y, 2)\}) = 2 = M_w(\text{Expr } y \text{ or } y \leftarrow y \nabla \cdot, \underbrace{M_A(y \leftarrow y \nabla \cdot, \{(y, 2)\})}_{\{(y, 1)\}})$$

$$M_{\text{Expr}}(y, \{(y, 1)\}) = 1$$

$$= M_w(\text{Expr } y \text{ or } y \leftarrow y \nabla \cdot, \underbrace{M_A(y \leftarrow y \nabla \cdot, \{(y, 1)\})}_{\{(y, 0)\}})$$

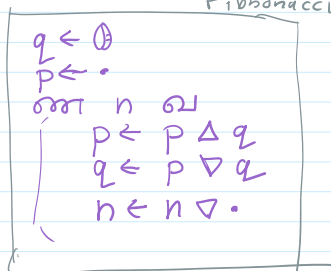
$$M_{\text{Expr}}(y, \{(y, 0)\}) = \emptyset$$

$$= \{\underline{\{(y, 0)\}}\}$$



while (y)  
y = y - 1

Fibonacci n



— 0 — EOL