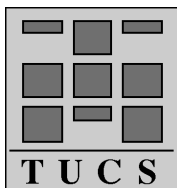


# Refinement of recursive procedures with parameters in PVS

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## Abstract

We present a shallow embedding in PVS of a predicate transformer semantics of an imperative language suitable for reasoning about recursive procedures with parameters and local variables. We use the PVS dependent type mechanism for implementing program variables of different types. We use an uninterpreted state space and define the program variables behavior by means of certain tree functions that are supposed to satisfy some axioms. Unlike in the implementations mentioned in the literature, we do not need to change the state space when adding local variables or procedure parameters.

# 1 Introduction

Refinement calculus developed by Back [1] and later by Morris [14], and Morgan [13], is a generalization of the predicate transformer semantics introduced by Dijkstra [8]. Mechanizations of programming logics, in general, and refinement calculus, in particular, have been widely studied [9, 18, 19, 10, 11, 12, 6].

An important issue when mechanizing a programming logic is how to implement the state. For the mechanization to be of any use the program variables should be able to be of different types. Many implementations [5, 12, 6] solve this problem by representing states as tuples, with one component for each program variable. However, since program variables are identified with the projection functions of the tuple, manipulating programs with many variables becomes very inefficient due to the terms becoming very large. Perhaps a more important drawback of such a representation is the need to add or remove components from the tuple whenever local variables are added or deleted. As a result, when the programming language has recursive procedures with parameters, recursive calls need to be made in a different state space; this adds much complexity to the calculus. In some mechanizations [19] this problem is solved by considering the predicates transformers over all possible state spaces. Others avoid the problem altogether by handling only parameterless procedures [11, 20].

We provide a PVS [17] implementation based on the theory developed in [2] where the state model allows the handling of recursive procedures with parameters without requiring any state changes. As a result, the procedure semantics and refinement rules become quite simple. In particular, the rule for introducing recursive procedures has no side conditions and does not involve the parameters or local variables. The rules for local variables and procedure parameters are almost as simple as the ordinary assignment rule, and their side conditions are decidable.

We consider the state space to be an uninterpreted type **State** and define the behavior of the program variables using tree primitive functions **val(x)**, **set(x)**, and **del(x)**, where **x** is a program variable. The term **val(x)(s)** gives the value of **x** in the state **s**, **set(x)(a)(s)** gives the state obtained from **s** by setting the value of **x** to **a**, and **del(x)(s)** gives the state obtained from **s** by deleting the local variable **x**. The function **del(x)** pops a value from the computation stack and assigns it to **x**. The behavior of these functions is introduced by a set of axioms, which are proved consistent using the theory interpretation mechanism of PVS [16]. The program variables themselves can have different types (among those listed in a customized **ProgVar** datatype).

The resulting mechanized theory is very general: adding new types for program variables requires few changes (related to **ProgVar**); the rest can be

reused without additional proofs. For example we can easily add program variables ranging over bounded integers, floating point numbers, or have a rich algebra of data types.

In Section 2 we present some facts about PVS. Sections 3 and 4 introduce the program variables representation and the program expressions. In Section 5 the theory of complete lattices is introduced, and in Section 6 we build the complete lattice of monotonic predicate transformers. We introduce the assignment and local variables rule in Section 7. Section 8 presents the semantics for procedures and introduces the refinement rule for recursive procedures. In Section 9 we show how this theory can be used to refine a recursive procedure with parameters from its specification. Section 10 contains concluding remarks and comments on future work.

## 2 Preliminaries PVS

PVS is a specification and verification system whose language is based on classical, typed higher-order logic [7]. The base types include uninterpreted types that may be introduced by the user, and built-in types such as the booleans (**bool**), naturals (**nat**), integers (**int**), and reals (**real**); the type-constructors include functions, sets, tuples, disjoint unions, records, and abstract data types [15], such as lists and binary trees.

PVS specifications are organized into parameterized theories that may contain assumptions, definitions, axioms, and theorems. Definitions are guaranteed to provide conservative extension. PVS also provides a theory interpretation mechanism that can be used to prove consistency of theories that contains axioms.

The PVS theorem prover provides a collection of powerful primitive inference procedures that are applied interactively under user guidance within a sequent calculus framework. The primitive inferences include propositional and quantifier rules, induction, rewriting, and decision procedures for linear arithmetic. User-defined procedures can combine these primitive inferences to yield higher-level proof strategies.

We use some mathematical simplified notations and symbols instead of the PVS syntax. We use  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$ ,  $\forall$ ,  $\exists$ ,  $\Rightarrow$ ,  $\leq$ ,  $\rightarrow$ ,  $\emptyset$  instead of **and**, **or**, **not**, **forall**, **exists**,  $\Rightarrow$ ,  $\leq$ ,  $\rightarrow$ , **emptyset**. We also write  $\forall x : T \bullet b$  instead of the PVS syntax **forall**  $(x : T) : b$ . We use a **sanserif** font for identifiers.

PVS language supports predicate subtypes that increase the expressivity of specifications. For a PVS type  $T$  the type of predicates (sets) over  $T$  is denoted by **set**[ $T$ ] or **pred**[ $T$ ] and is equal with the type of all functions from  $T$  to **bool**. For a predicate  $P : \mathbf{pred}[T]$  over some type  $T$ , PVS has primitives

to create a subtype of  $T$  based on the predicate  $P$ . The new type is denoted by  $(P)$  and PVS knows that the elements of  $(P)$  are elements of  $T$  too. If we assert that some element of  $T$  has the type  $(P)$  than a type condition constrain is generated. PVS tries to automatically prove such constrains using built-in tactics; if the attempt fails, the user needs to prove them interactively.

For two PVS types  $T, T'$  the type of all function from  $T$  to  $T'$  is denoted by  $T \rightarrow T'$ , the type of the disjoint union is denoted by  $[T + T']$ , and the type of the cartesian product is denoted  $[T, T']$ . For the cartesian product type the functions  $\text{proj1} : [[T, T'] \rightarrow T]$  and  $\text{proj2} : [[T, T'] \rightarrow T']$  are the projection functions. For the disjoint union type the function  $\text{in1} : [T \rightarrow [T + T']]$  is the inclusion function, and  $\text{in?1}$  is a predicate on  $[T + T']$ , which is true for the elements in the first component of the union.  $\text{out1} : [(\text{in?1}) \rightarrow T]$  is a bijective function and its inverse is  $\text{in1}$  co-restricted to  $(\text{in?1})$ . Similarly the functions  $\text{in?2}, \text{in2}$ , and  $\text{out2}$  correspond to the second component of the union.

PVS also supports dependent types, i.e. functions can have the type of the result depend on their arguments or the argument types can depend on the previous arguments. However the dependent types can only be subtypes a given common type or user defined uninterpreted types. As an example of a dependent type, consider the function that computes the binomial coefficient “ $n$  choose  $k$ ”. Its second argument  $k$  depends on  $n$ ,  $k \leq n$ :

$\text{comb}(n : \text{nat}, k : \text{upto}(n)) = \dots$

We also use in this paper the PVS abstract data type of lists over a type  $T$ ,  $\text{list}[T]$ . The empty list is  $\text{null} : \text{list}[T]$ , and if  $a : T$  and  $x : \text{list}[T]$  then  $\text{cons}(a, x) : \text{list}[T]$  is the list that has head  $a$  and tail  $x$ .

Instead of using the PVS style for writing recursive definitions we use a mathematical notation that can be straightforwardly translated to PVS. For example we define the sum of the elements of a list of numbers by:

$\text{sum}(\text{null}) : \text{nat} = 0$   
 $\text{sum}(\text{cons}(a, x)) : \text{nat} = a + \text{sum}(x)$

instead of

$\text{sum}(x : \text{list}[\text{nat}]) : \text{recursive nat} =$   
 cases  $x$  of  
    $\text{null} : 0,$   
    $\text{cons}(a, y) : a + \text{sum}(y)$   
 endcases  
 measure  $\text{length}(x)$

If  $f : [T \rightarrow T']$  and  $X : \text{pred}[T]$  then  $\text{image}(f, X)$  is a predicate on  $T'$  and is true on the elements of  $T'$  that are in the image of  $X$ .

## 3 Program variables representation

### 3.1 Program variables types

Our program variables can be of type `real`, `int`, `nat`, or `bool`. The behavior of program variables is defined using the tree functions `set`, `val`, and `del` which, in turn, are defined using the PVS dependent type mechanism. In order to be able to define them we need to create our own types `Real`, `Int`, `Nat`, and `Bool`, so that they are all subtypes of a given type. So we define in PVS:

```
ProgType : type+ = [real + bool]
Bool? : [ProgType → bool] = in?2
Bool : type+ = (Bool?)
```

`ProgType` is the type of the disjoint union of the PVS types `real` and `bool`. `Bool?` is a predicate on `ProgType` which is true only for elements of the second component of `ProgType`. In a similar manner we define the predicates `Nat?`, `Int?` and `Real?` and the corresponding types

$$\text{Nat} \subseteq \text{Int} \subseteq \text{Real} \subseteq \text{ProgType}.$$

We also lift some operations on `bool`, `real`, `int`, and `nat` to our `Bool`, `Real`, `Int`, and `Nat`, for example:

```
false : Bool = in2(false)
(x - y) : Real = in2(out1(x) - out1(y))
minus_nat : judgment - (k, n : Nat) has_type Int
```

### 3.2 Program variables

We define the type of all program variables as:

```
ProgVar : datatype
begin
  b(name : string) : BoolVar?
  r(name : string) : RealVar?
  i(name : string) : IntVar?
  n(name : string) : NatVar?
end
```

For a program variable  $x : \text{ProgVar}$  we define the predicate  $T?(x)$  on  $\text{ProgType}$  to be  $\text{Bool?}$ ,  $\text{Real?}$ ,  $\text{Int?}$ , or  $\text{Nat?}$  depending on  $x$  being from  $(\text{BoolVar?})$ ,  $(\text{RealVar?})$ ,  $(\text{IntVar?})$ , or  $(\text{NatVar?})$ . We define the type of the program variable  $x$ ,  $T(x)$  as the PVS type corresponding to the predicate  $T?(x)$ . For two program variables  $x$  and  $y$  we define the predicate  $\text{SameType}(x)(y)$  to be true if and only if  $T?(x) = T?(y)$ . We denote by  $\text{elem}(x)$  some arbitrary but fixed element of type  $T(x)$ .

### 3.3 Program variables axioms

Now we are able to introduce the functions for handling program variables and the axioms that define their properties. We define them in a parametric theory  $\text{ProgVarAxiom}(\text{State} : \text{type+})$  whose parameter is the uninterpreted type  $\text{State}$ .

```

set : [x : ProgVar → [T(x) → [State → State]]]
val : [x : ProgVar → [State → T(x)]]
del : [x : ProgVar → [State → State]]

```

The function  $\text{set}$  takes as parameters a program variable  $x$ , a value  $a : T(x)$  and a state  $s$  and returns a state where the variables  $x$  is set to  $a$ .  $\text{val}(x)(s)$  returns the value of  $x$  in state  $s$ , and  $\text{del}(x)(s)$  deletes a value from the stack in state  $s$  and assigns it to  $x$ .

Instead of defining the type  $\text{State}$  and defining the functions  $\text{set}$ ,  $\text{val}$  and  $\text{del}$  as operations on this type, we introduce the behavior of  $\text{set}$ ,  $\text{val}$  and  $\text{del}$  with a collection of axioms:

```

var_a : axiom ∀a : T(x) • val(x)(set(x)(a)(s)) = a
var_b : axiom ∀a : T(x) • x ≠ y ⇒ val(y)(set(x)(a)(s)) = val(y)(s)
var_c : axiom ∀a, b : T(x) • set(x)(b) ◦ set(x)(a) = set(x)(b)
var_d : axiom ∀a : T(x), b : T(y) • x ≠ y ⇒
    set.(x)(a) ◦ set(y)(b) = set(y)(b) ◦ set(x)(a)
var_e : axiom set(x)(val(x)(s))(s) = s
var_f : axiom del(x) is surjective
var_g : axiom x ≠ y ⇒ val(x) ◦ del(x) = val(x)
var_h : axiom del(x) ◦ set(x)(a) = del(x)
var_i : axiom ∀a : T(x) • x ≠ y ⇒
    del(y) ◦ set(x)(a) = set(x)(a) ◦ del(y)

```

In order to show that these axioms are consistent we use the PVS theory interpretation mechanism [16]. In a new theory `prog_var_model` we define the type `State` as

$$\text{State} = [[x : \text{ProgVar} \rightarrow T(x)], \text{list}[\text{ProgType}]]$$

The first component of the tuple stores the values of the program variables and the second component is the stack of the computation. We denote by  $\text{stack}(s) = \text{proj2}(s)$  and define `set_m`, `val_m`, and `del_m` by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{val\_m}(x)(s) &= \text{proj1}(s)(x) \\ \text{set\_m}(x)(a)(s) &= (\lambda y \bullet \text{if } x = y \text{ then } a \text{ else } \text{val}(y)(s) \text{ fi, } \text{stack}(s)) \\ \text{del\_m}(x)(s) &= (\lambda y \bullet \text{if } x = y \text{ then } a_0 \text{ else } \text{val}(y)(s) \text{ fi, } \text{st}_0) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(a_0, \text{st}_0) = \begin{cases} (a, t) & \text{if } \text{stack}(s) = \text{cons}(a, t) \wedge T?(x)(a) \\ (\text{elem}(x), \text{stack}(s)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We import in this theory the theory of program variables axioms instantiating `val`, `set`, and `del` with `set_m`, `val_m`, and `del_m`, and all the axioms are proved valid in this model.

### 3.4 List of program variables

In order to reason about procedures with parameters we need to introduce lists of program variables. We introduce the type `ProgVarList` as `list[ProgVar]` and we inductively extend all elements defined on program variables to lists of program variables. For example we extend `T?` and `val` to lists of program variables with:

$$\begin{aligned} T?(\text{null})(\text{null}) &= \text{true} \\ T?(\text{cons}(x, y))(\text{cons}(a, b)) &= T?(x)(a) \wedge T?(y)(b) \\ \text{val}(\text{null})(s) &= \text{null} \\ \text{val}(\text{cons}(x, y))(s) &= \text{cons}(\text{val}(x)(s), \text{val}(y)(s)) \end{aligned}$$

We also need some additional operations on lists of program variables. We define a predicate `variable : ProgVarList  $\rightarrow$  bool` such that `variable(x)` is true if and only if all variables in `x` are distinct:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{variable}(\text{null}) &= \text{true} \\ \text{variable}(\text{cons}(x, y)) &= \neg \text{member}(x, y) \wedge \text{variable}(y) \end{aligned}$$



If  $x, y \in \text{ProgVarList}$  then the predicate  $x \cap y$  on  $\text{ProgVar}$ , and the list  $x - y : \text{ProgVarList}$  are defined by

$$x \cap y = \lambda z : \text{ProgVar} \bullet \text{member}(z, x) \wedge \text{member}(z, y)$$

$$x - y = \begin{cases} \text{null} & \text{if } x = \text{null} \\ \text{cons}(u, z - y) & \text{if } x = \text{cons}(u, z) \wedge \neg \text{member}(u, y) \\ z - y & \text{if } x = \text{cons}(u, z) \wedge \text{member}(u, y) \end{cases}$$

All program variables axioms can be extended to lists of program variables. If  $x, y$  are lists of program variables of appropriate types then:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var\_list\_a} &: \text{lemma } \forall a : T(x) \bullet \text{variable}(x) \Rightarrow \text{val}(x)(\text{set}(x)(a)(s)) = a \\ \text{var\_list\_b} &: \text{lemma } \forall a : T(x) \bullet x \cap y = \emptyset \Rightarrow \text{val}(y)(\text{set}(x)(a)(s)) = \text{val}(y)(s) \\ \text{var\_list\_c} &: \text{lemma } \forall a, b : T(x) \bullet \text{set}(x)(b) \circ \text{set}(x)(a) = \text{set}(x)(b) \\ \text{var\_list\_d} &: \text{lemma } \forall a : T(x), b : T(y) \bullet x \cap y = \emptyset \Rightarrow \\ &\quad \text{set}(x)(a) \circ \text{set}(y)(b) = \text{set}(y)(b) \circ \text{set}(x)(a) \\ \text{var\_list\_e} &: \text{lemma } \text{set}(x)(\text{val}(x)(s))(s) = s \\ \text{var\_list\_f} &: \text{lemma } \text{del}(x) \text{ is surjective} \\ \text{var\_list\_g} &: \text{lemma } x \cap y = \emptyset \Rightarrow \text{val}(x) \circ \text{del}(x) = \text{val}(x) \\ \text{var\_list\_h} &: \text{lemma } \text{del}(x) \circ \text{set}(x)(a) = \text{del}(x) \\ \text{var\_list\_i} &: \text{lemma } \forall a : T(x) \bullet x \cap y = \emptyset \Rightarrow \\ &\quad \text{del}(y) \circ \text{set}(x)(a) = \text{set}(x)(a) \circ \text{del}(y) \end{aligned}$$

The proofs of these lemmas are done by induction on  $x$  and  $y$  and using some additional lemmas.

In the rest of the implementation we mainly work with lists of program variables.

## 4 Program expressions

Because we give a shallow embedding of a predicate transformer semantics of imperative program constructs we need to solve some problems that would be straightforward if we had access to the syntax. We define program expressions of some type  $E$  as the functions from  $\text{State}$  to  $E$ .

$$\text{ProgExp} : \text{type}^+ = [\text{State} \rightarrow E]$$

We also define substitution and freeness. Assuming  $x : \text{ProgVar}$ ,  $e' : [\text{State} \rightarrow T(x)]$ ,  $e : \text{ProgExp}$ , and  $s : \text{State}$  we define:

$$\text{subst}(x, e', e)(s) : \text{ProgExp} = e(\text{set}(x)(e'(x))(s))$$

We also need to specify when a variable does not occur free in an expression. We define a more general concept of freeness. If  $f : \text{State} \rightarrow \text{State}$  then

$$\text{free}(f)(e) : \text{bool} = (e \circ f = e)$$

i.e.  $e$  is  $f$  free if the state transformer  $f$  does not change  $e$ . We also define:

$$\text{freeset}(x)(e) = \forall a : T(x) \bullet \text{free}(\text{set}(x)(a))(e)$$

i.e. the expression  $e$  remains unchanged when the variable  $x$  changes.

The expressions defined so far depend not only on the values of the program variables, but also on the stack. We define a special form of program expressions that only depend on the current values of the program variables. If  $s, s' : \text{State}$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{valeq}(s, s') : \text{bool} &= (\forall y \bullet \text{val}(y)(s) = \text{val}(y)(s')) \\ \text{valdet}(e) : \text{bool} &= (\forall s, s' \bullet \text{valeq}(s, s') \Rightarrow e(s) = e(s')) \end{aligned}$$

## 5 Complete lattices, least fixpoints

We introduce some theories about complete lattices and use them to give semantics to recursive procedures.

We first introduce a theory for partial orders in which we define least upper bounds and greatest lower bounds.

```

po[A : type+] : theory
  importing orders[A]
  po : type = (partial_order?)
  ≤ : var po
  p : var pred[A]
  x, y : var A

```

We define the upper bound  $\text{ub}^?(≤)(p)$ , and least upper bound  $\text{lub}^?(≤)(p)$  as predicates on  $A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ub}^?(≤)(p)(x) : \text{bool} &= (\forall y : (p) \bullet y \leq x) \\ \text{lub}^?(≤)(p)(x) : \text{bool} &= \text{ub}^?(≤)(p)(x) \wedge (\forall y : (p) \bullet \text{ub}^?(≤)(p)(y) \Rightarrow x \leq y) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly we define the predicates  $\text{lb}^?( \leq )(p)$  – lower bound,  $\text{glb}^?( \leq )(p)$  – greatest lower bound,  $\text{top}^?( \leq )$  – top element, and  $\text{bottom}^?( \leq )$  – bottom element. We also prove properties of these predicates. For example we prove that if a partial order  $\leq$  has least upper bounds than it has greatest lower bounds, top, and bottom. We prove that the least upper bound, greatest lower bound, top, and bottom are unique. We also define the predicates  $\text{exists\_glb}^?$ ,  $\text{exists\_lub}^?$ ,  $\text{exists\_top}^?$ , and  $\text{exists\_bottom}^?$  on partial orders

$$\text{exists\_lub}^?( \leq ) : \text{bool} = (\forall p : \text{exists1}(\text{lub}^?( \leq )(p))$$

We define the predicate  $\text{cl}^?$  on partial orders over  $L$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cl}^?( \leq ) : \text{bool} = & \text{exists\_glb}^?( \leq ) \wedge \text{exists\_lub}^?( \leq ) \wedge \\ & \text{exists\_bottom}^?( \leq ) \wedge \text{exists\_top}^?( \leq ) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

and we take  $\text{cl} = (\text{cl}^?)$  the corresponding type. Although it is sufficient to define that a partial order is a complete lattice if it has least upper bounds, we prefer definition (1) because we want all properties listed in (1) when we expand the definition of  $\text{cl}^?$ . When proving that some partial order is a complete lattice we use the following judgment:

$$\text{lub\_is\_cl} : \text{judgment } (\text{exists\_lub}^?) \text{ subtype\_of } \text{cl}$$

and prove only that the order has least upper bounds. If  $\leq : \text{cl}$  and  $p : \text{set}[L]$  then we define

$$\begin{aligned} \text{inf}( \leq )(p) & : (\text{glb}^?( \leq )(p)) \\ \text{sup}( \leq )(p) & : (\text{lub}^?( \leq )(p)) \\ \text{bottom}( \leq ) & : (\text{bottom}^?( \leq )) \\ \text{top}( \leq ) & : (\text{top}^?( \leq )) \end{aligned}$$

Very often it is more convenient to work with an operation from an indexed family of elements from  $A$  to  $A$  instead of an operation from  $\text{set}[A]$  to  $A$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{op} & : \text{var } [\text{set}[A] \rightarrow A] \\ \text{f} & : \text{var } [[I \rightarrow A] \rightarrow A] \\ \text{family}(\text{op})(\text{f}) & = \text{op}(\text{image}(\text{f}, \lambda x : A \bullet \text{true})) \\ & \text{conversion family} \end{aligned}$$

We define predicates by lifting the order on the boolean algebra with two elements to predicates; then we lift the complete lattice of predicates to predicate transformers. For this purpose we lift the complete lattice order  $\leq$  on  $L$  to a complete lattice order on  $T \rightarrow L$  where  $T$  is a nonempty type.

$$\text{lift}(\leq) : \text{cl}[[\mathbf{T} \rightarrow \mathbf{L}]] = \lambda f, g \bullet \forall x \bullet f(x) \leq g(x)$$

We prove as a type constrain condition that  $\text{lift}(\leq)$  is a complete lattice partial order.

If  $\leq$  is a complete lattice partial order on  $\mathbf{L}$  then we define the predicate  $\text{monotonic}?( \leq )$  on  $[\mathbf{L} \rightarrow \mathbf{L}]$ ; and the predicates  $\text{fixpoint}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})$ , and least fixpoint  $\text{lfp}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})$  on  $\mathbf{L}$  given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{monotonic}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f}) : \text{bool} &= \forall x, y \bullet x \leq y \Rightarrow \mathbf{f}(x) \leq \mathbf{f}(y) \\ \text{fixpoint}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})(x) : \text{bool} &= \mathbf{f}(x) = x \\ \text{lfp}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})(x) : \text{bool} &= \text{fixpoint}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})(x) \wedge \forall y \bullet \\ &\quad \text{fixpoint}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})(y) \Rightarrow x \leq y \end{aligned}$$

We are able now to introduce and prove the Knaster Tarski theorem about the existence of a least fixpoint of a monotonic function on a complete lattice.

$$\text{KnasterTarski} : \text{theorem } \text{monotonic}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f}) \Rightarrow \exists x \bullet \text{lfp}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})(x)$$

Using this theorem we define  $\text{mu}(\leq)(\mathbf{f}) : \mathbf{L}$ , the least fixpoint of the monotonic function  $\mathbf{f}$  by

$$\text{mu}(\leq)(\mathbf{f}) : \text{lfp}?( \leq )(\mathbf{f})$$

## 6 Predicates, relations, functions, and monotonic predicate transformers

We introduce a complete lattice order on  $\text{bool}$ , and define  $\text{inf}$  and  $\text{sup}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} \leq : \text{cl}[\text{bool}] &= \lambda x, y \bullet x \Rightarrow y \\ \text{inf}(a : [\text{bool} \rightarrow \text{bool}]) : (\text{glb}?( \leq )(a)) &= \neg a(\text{false}) \\ \text{sup}(a : [\text{bool} \rightarrow \text{bool}]) : (\text{lub}?( \leq )(a)) &= a(\text{true}) \end{aligned}$$

and prove as type constrain conditions that  $\leq$ ,  $\text{inf}$ , and  $\text{sup}$  have the postulated properties.

The complete lattice of predicates over  $\text{State}$  is obtained by lifting the complete lattice on  $\text{bool}$  to  $\text{State} \rightarrow \text{bool}$ . We also extend some operations from  $\text{bool}$  to  $\text{Pred}[\text{bool}]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \leq : \text{cl}[\text{Pred}[\text{bool}]] &= \lambda p, q \bullet \forall s \bullet p(s) \Rightarrow q(s) \\ \wedge(p, q : \text{Pred}[\text{bool}]) : \text{Pred}[\text{bool}] &= \lambda s \bullet p(s) \wedge q(s) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{union}(t : \text{set}[\text{Pred}[\text{bool}]]) : \text{Pred}[\text{bool}] &= \lambda s \bullet \exists p : (t) \bullet p(s) \\ \text{intersection}(t : \text{set}[\text{Pred}[\text{bool}]]) : \text{Pred}[\text{bool}] &= \lambda s \bullet \forall p : (t) \bullet p(s) \end{aligned}$$

We introduce the monotonic predicate transformers **MTran** as a subtype of  $[\text{Pred}[\text{State}] \rightarrow \text{Pred}[\text{State}]]$  and define the complete lattice partial order on **MTran** together with some operations:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MTran?} : \text{Set}[[\text{Pred}[\text{State}] \rightarrow \text{Pred}[\text{State}]]] &= \text{monotonic?}(\leq) \\ \text{MTran} : \text{type+} &= (\text{MTran?}) \\ \leq : \text{cl}[\text{MTran}] &= \lambda S, S' \bullet \lambda q \bullet S(q) \leq S'(q) \\ \text{union}(X : \text{Set}[\text{MTran}]) : (\text{lub?}[\text{MTran}](\leq)(X)) &= \\ &\lambda q \bullet \text{union}(\lambda S : (X) \bullet S(q)) \\ \text{intersection}(X : \text{Set}[\text{MTran}]) : (\text{lub?}[\text{MTran}](\leq)(X)) &= \\ &\lambda q \bullet \text{intersection}(\lambda S : (X) \bullet S(q)) \\ \text{Magic} : (\text{top?}[\text{MTran}](\leq)) &= \lambda q \bullet \text{true} \\ \text{Abort} : (\text{bottom?}[\text{MTran}](\leq)) &= \lambda q \bullet \text{false} \\ \wedge(S, T : \text{MTran}) : \text{MTran} &= \lambda q \bullet S(q) \wedge T(q) \\ \vee(S, T : \text{MTran}) : \text{MTran} &= \lambda q \bullet S(q) \vee T(q) \end{aligned}$$

The partial order  $\leq$  on **MTran** is the *refinement relation*. The predicate transformer  $S \wedge T$  models *demonic* choice – the choice between executing  $S$  or  $T$  is arbitrary;  $S \vee T$  models *angelic* choice – the choice is resolved so that the postcondition is established, if possible. The program *sequential composition* is modeled by the functional composition  $\circ$  of monotonic predicate transformers.

Often we work with predicate transformers based on functions or relations. We introduce the types **Func** and **Rel** by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Func} : \text{type+} &= [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{State}] \\ \text{Rel} : \text{type+} &= [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{Pred}] \end{aligned}$$

and define the identity function  $\text{id} : \text{Func} = \lambda s : \text{State} \bullet s$ .

If  $p, q : \text{Pred}$ ,  $R : \text{Rel}$ ,  $f : \text{Func}$ ,  $s, s' : \text{State}$ , and  $S, T : \text{MTran}$  then we define

$$\begin{aligned} \text{f\_update}(f) : \text{MTran} &= \lambda q, s \bullet q(f(s)) \\ \text{d\_update}(R) : \text{MTran} &= \lambda q, s \bullet \forall s' \bullet R(s)(s') \Rightarrow q(s') \\ \text{Assert}(p) : \text{MTran} &= \lambda q \bullet p \wedge q \\ \text{Assume}(p) : \text{MTran} &= \lambda q \bullet p \Rightarrow q \\ \text{If}(p)(S)(T) : \text{MTran} &= (\text{Assume}(p) \circ S) \wedge (\text{Assume}(\neg p) \circ T) \end{aligned}$$

We also prove the following property:

$$\text{assert\_union} : \text{lemma } \text{Assert}(\text{union}(X)) = \text{union}(\text{image}(\text{Assert}, X))$$

where  $X : \text{Set}[\text{Pred}]$ .

## 7 Assignment and local variables statements

Now we are able to introduce the program statements for handling program variables. We define two versions of the assignment statement. The *deterministic multiple assignment* statement  $\text{Assign}(x, e)$  where  $x$  is a list of program variables and  $e$  is a program expression of type  $T(x)$  is given by:

$$\text{Assign}(x, e) : \text{MTran} = \text{f\_update}(\lambda s \bullet \text{set}(x)(e(s))(s))$$

The *nondeterministic assignment* statement [3],  $\text{Assign}(x, b)$ , where  $x$  is a list of program variable and  $[b : T(x) \rightarrow [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{bool}]]$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Assign}(x, b) : \text{MTran} = \\ \text{d\_update}(\lambda s, s' \bullet \exists a : T(x) \bullet b(a)(s) \wedge s' = \text{set}(x)(a)(s)) \end{aligned}$$

The interpretation of this statement is that  $x$  is assigned a value  $a$  such that  $b(a)$  is true in the initial state.

We introduce four program constructs for handling introduction and deletion of local program variables.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Del}(x) : \text{MTran} &= \text{f\_update}(\text{del}(x)) \\ \text{Add}(x) : \text{MTran} &= \text{d\_update}(\lambda s, s' \bullet s = \text{del}(x)(s')) \\ \text{Add}(x, e) : \text{MTran} &= \text{d\_update}(\lambda s, s' \bullet s = \text{del}(x)(s') \wedge \text{val}(x)(s') = e(s)) \\ \text{Del}(x, y) : \text{MTran} &= \text{f\_update}(\lambda s \bullet \text{set}(y)(\text{val}(x)(s))(\text{del}(x)(s))) \end{aligned}$$

where  $e : \text{State} \rightarrow T(x)$  and  $y : \text{SameType}(x)$ . The statement  $\text{Del}(x)$  deletes the local variables  $x$ , i.e., according to the model presented above, it pops up the top value from the stack and assigns it to  $x$ . The statement  $\text{Add}(x)$  is the inverse of  $\text{Del}(x)$ , i.e., according to the model, it pushes the value of  $x$  into the stack and makes  $x$  undefined.  $\text{Add}(x, e)$  is similar to  $\text{Add}(x)$ , but it also initializes  $x$  with the value of the program expression  $e$  in the initial state. The statement  $\text{Del}(x, y)$ , deletes the local program variables  $x$ , but saves their values in  $y$ . We have proved the following refinement rules for the program statements we introduced.

**add\_del\_skip** : lemma  $\text{Add}(x) \circ \text{Del}(x) = \text{Skip}$   
**add\_exp\_del\_skip** : lemma  $\forall e : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{T}(x)] \bullet$   
 $\text{variable}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Add}(x, e) \circ \text{Del}(x) = \text{Skip}$   
**assign\_x\_del\_x** : lemma  $\forall e : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{T}(x)] \bullet$   
 $\text{Assign}(x, e) \circ \text{Del}(x) = \text{Del}(x)$   
**assign\_y\_del\_x** : lemma  $\forall e : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{T}(x)] \bullet$   
 $x \cap y = \emptyset \wedge \text{free}(\text{del}(y))(e) \Rightarrow$   
 $\text{Assign}(x, e) \circ \text{Del}(y) = \text{Del}(y) \circ \text{Assign}(x, e)$   
**assign\_x\_del\_x\_y** : lemma  $\forall y : \text{SameType}(x), e : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{T}(x)] \bullet$   
 $\text{variable}(x) \wedge \text{free}(\text{del}(x))(e) \Rightarrow$   
 $\text{Assign}(x, e) \circ \text{Del}(x, y) = \text{Del}(x) \circ \text{Assign}(y, e)$   

$p, q : \text{var Pred}$

**add\_x** : lemma  $\text{Add}(x)(q \circ \text{del}(x)) = q$   
**add\_x\_free** : lemma  $\text{free}(\text{del}(x))(q) \Rightarrow \text{Add}(x)(q) = q$   
**add\_x\_e** : lemma  $\forall e : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{T}(x)] \bullet$   
 $\text{variable}(x) \Rightarrow \text{Add}(x, e)(q \circ \text{del}(x)) = q$   
**add\_x\_e\_free** : lemma  $\forall e : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{T}(x)] \bullet$   
 $\text{variable}(x) \wedge \text{free}(\text{del}(x))(q) \Rightarrow \text{Add}(x, e)(q \circ \text{del}(x)) = q$   
**add\_x\_e\_subst** : lemma  $\forall e : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{T}(x)] \bullet$   
 $\text{variable}(x) \wedge \text{valdet}(q) \Rightarrow \text{Add}(x, e)(q) = \text{subst}(x, e, q)$   
**del\_x** : lemma  $\text{Del}(x)(q) = (q \circ \text{del}(x))$   
**del\_x\_free** : lemma  $\text{free}(\text{del}(x))(q) \Rightarrow \text{Del}(x)(q) = q$   
**del\_x\_y** : lemma  $\forall y : \text{SameType}(x) \bullet$   
 $\text{freeset}(y)(q) \Rightarrow \text{Del}(x, y)(q) = q \circ \text{del}(x)$   
**del\_x\_y\_free** : lemma  $\forall y : \text{SameType}(x) \bullet$   
 $\text{freeset}(y)(q) \wedge \text{free}(\text{del}(x))(q) \Rightarrow \text{Del}(x, y)(q) = q$   
**del\_x\_y\_subst** : lemma  $\forall y : \text{SameType}(x) \bullet$   
 $\text{valdet}(q) \wedge \text{freeset}(x - y)(q) \Rightarrow \text{Del}(x, y)(q) = \text{subst}(y, \text{val}(x), q)$

Lemma **add\_del\_skip** asserts that adding a local variable followed by deleting it is the same as skipping. Lemmas **add\_x\_e\_subst** and **del\_x\_y\_subst** state that under certain conditions the statements **Add(x)(e)** and **Del(x)(y)** behave as assignment statements.

All conditions of the rules presented above are decidable and one could write tactics that automatically prove them.

## 8 Procedures

A procedure with parameters from  $A$  or simply a procedure over  $A$ , is an element from  $A \rightarrow \text{MTran}$ . We define the type  $\text{Proc} : \text{type}^+ = A \rightarrow \text{MTran}$  the type of all procedures over  $A$ . The type  $A$  is the range of the procedure's actual parameters. For example, a procedure with a value parameter  $x$  and a result parameter  $y$ , both of type  $\text{Nat}$ , has  $A = \text{NatExp} \times \text{NatVar}$ . A call to a procedure  $P \in \text{Proc}[A]$  with the actual parameter  $a : A$  is the program  $P(a)$ .

We use again the lifting mechanism we used to obtain a complete lattice over predicates to lift the complete lattice structure from monotonic predicate transformers to procedures over  $A$ . We also extend sequential composition to procedures by

$$P \circ P' : \text{Proc} = \lambda x \bullet P(x) \circ P'(x)$$

Moreover we lift the algebraic structure on predicates to parametric predicates,  $\text{ParamPred} : \text{type}^+ = A \rightarrow \text{Pred}$  and define

$$\text{Assert}(p : \text{ParamPred}) : \text{Proc} = \lambda x \bullet \text{Assert}(p(x))$$

Recursive procedures are defined as the least fixpoint of a monotonic function from  $\text{Proc}$  to  $\text{Proc}$ . To introduce the theorem for refining recursive procedures we need a well founded partial order on a set  $W$ ,  $<$ : (`well_founded?`[ $W$ ]). For  $w : W$  and  $p : [W \rightarrow \text{ParamPred}]$  we define

$$\begin{aligned} \text{below}(p)(w) : \text{ParamPred} = \\ \text{union}(\lambda x : \text{ParamPred} \bullet \exists v : W \bullet v < w \wedge p(v) = x) \end{aligned}$$

and the theorem is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rec\_proc\_rule} : \text{theorem} \\ (\forall w \bullet \text{Assert}(p(w)) \circ P \leq f(\text{Assert}(\text{below}(p)(w)) \circ P)) \Rightarrow \\ \text{Assert}(\text{union}(p)) \circ P \leq \text{mu}(\leq)(f) \end{aligned}$$

## 9 Example

All the elements introduced so far are sufficient to define and reason about recursive procedures with value, value-result parameters and local variables. We give a recursive procedure that computes the binomial coefficient

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k! \cdot (n-k)!}$$



using the recursive formula

$$\binom{n}{k} = \binom{n-1}{k-1} + \binom{n-1}{k}$$

when  $0 < k < n$ .

The specification of this computation is:

```

fact(n : nat) : recursive nat =
  if n = 0 then 1 else n * fact(n - 1)
  measure n
comb(n : nat, k : upto(n)) : nat = fact(n)/(fact(k) * fact(n - k))
comp_proc_spec : Proc[[NatExp, NatExp, NatVar]] =
  λ (e, f, u) • Assign(u, comb(e, f))

```

where  $u$  is a variable of type `NatVar`,  $e, f$  are variables of type `NatExp`, and  $\text{comb}(e, f)(s) : \text{Nat} = \text{if } f.s \leq e.s \text{ then } \text{comb}(f.s, e.s) \text{ else } 0$ . The type of the parameters of this specification procedure is  $A = [\text{NatExp}, \text{NatExp}, \text{NatVar}]$ .

To define the procedure for computing the binomial coefficient we need some program variables for the formal procedure parameters and for the local variables:

```

k : NatVar = n("k")
n : NatVar = n("n")
c : NatVar = n("c")
x : NatVar = n("x")
y : NatVar = n("y")

```

Assuming the following definitions

```

eq(e, f : [State → E])(s) : bool = e(s) = f(s)
conversion λx : ProgVarList • cons(x, null)
& (x : ProgVar, y : ProgVarList) : ProgVarList = cons(x, y)
conversion val
conversion λe : [State → ProgType] • λs • cons(e(s), null)
conversion λa : ProgType • λs • cons(a, null)
conversion λx • λs • cons(val(x)(s), null)
a : var [State → ProgType]
b : var [State → list[ProgType]]

```

$\& (a, b) : [\text{State} \rightarrow \text{list}[\text{ProgType}]] = \lambda s \bullet \text{cons}(a(s), b(s))$

We introduce the function that defines the procedure by taking its fix-point:

```

comb_body : monotonic[Proc[A]]( $\leq$ ) =  $\lambda$  comb  $\bullet$   $\lambda$  (e, f, u)  $\bullet$ 
  Add (n & k & c, e & f & u)  $\circ$ 
  Add (x & y)  $\circ$ 
  If eq (k, 0)  $\vee$  eq (k, n) then
    Assign (c, 1)
  else
    comb (k - 1, n - 1, x)  $\circ$ 
    comb (k, n - 1, y)  $\circ$ 
    Assign (c, x + y)
  endif  $\circ$ 
  Del (x & y)  $\circ$ 
  Del (n & k)  $\circ$ 
  Del (c, u)

```

and the procedure definition is:

$\text{comb\_proc} : \text{Proc}[A] = \text{mu}(\text{comb\_body})$

We are able to prove now that the specification  $\text{comb\_proc\_spec}$  is refined by the procedure  $\text{comb\_proc}$  under the assertion  $e \leq f$ .

$\text{comb\_refin} : \text{theorem}$

$\text{Assert}(\lambda (e, f, u) \bullet e \leq f) \circ \text{comb\_proc\_spec} \leq \text{comb\_proc}$

## 10 Conclusions, future work

We have presented a PVS implementation of a predicate transformer semantics suitable for refinement of recursive procedures with parameters and local variables. Since in our approach the state space does not change when adding local variables or using procedure parameters, the refinement rule for introduction of recursive procedure calls does not have (syntactic) side conditions and does not involve the procedure parameters or the local variables. The refinement rules for local variables and procedure parameters have decidable

side conditions and are almost as simple as the assignment rules. Moreover, the theory is general and we can plug in without additional proofs any “algebra” of program variables types.

Although mutually recursive procedures are not mentioned in this paper, they can be easily included by lifting the structure of complete lattices on procedure types to their cartesian product. More concretely, if  $P : \text{Proc}[A]$  and  $P' : \text{Proc}[B]$  are two mutually recursive procedures, then their semantics is the least fixpoint of a monotonic function from  $[\text{Proc}[A], \text{Proc}[B]]$  to itself.

In future work we intend to improve the handling of program expressions so that lifting properties from the PVS basic types to program expressions becomes seamless and can exploit better the power of the theorem prover. Another interesting direction would be to extend the program variables data types with pointer structures [4].

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