

# A Denotational Engineering of Programming Languages

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Part 4: Lingua-A – Expressions  
(Sections 4.4 – 4.9 of the book)

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# Values and states

## Preliminaries

$\text{val} : \text{Value} = \{(dat, typ) \mid dat : \text{CLAN-Ty.typ}\}$

$\text{val} : \text{PsValue} = \{(\Omega, typ) \mid typ : \text{Type}\}$

A pseudo-data

$\text{val} = (dat, typ) = (dat, (bod, yok)) = ((dat, bod), yok) = (\text{com}, yok)$

type

com

$\text{sta} : \text{State} = \text{Env} \times \text{Store}$

$\text{env} : \text{Env} = \text{TypEnv} \times \text{ProEnv}$  environments

$\text{sto} : \text{Store} = \text{Valuation} \times (\text{Error} \mid \{\text{'OK}'\})$

$\text{vat} : \text{Valuation} = \text{Identifier} \Rightarrow (\text{Value} \mid \text{PsValue})$

$\text{tye} : \text{TypEnv} = \text{Identifier} \Rightarrow (\text{Type} \mid \text{Body})$  type environments

$\text{pre} : \text{ProEnv} = \text{Identifier} \Rightarrow \text{Procedure}$  procedure environments

Variable identifiers

Type constant identifiers

$\text{sta} = ((\text{tye}, \text{pre}), (\text{vat}, \text{err})) \quad \text{err} : \text{Error} \mid \{\text{'OK}'\}$

this structure is not accidental

# States

## Auxiliary functions

$\text{error} : \text{State} \rightarrow \text{Error} \mid \{\text{'OK'}\}$   
 $\text{error.}(\text{env}, (\text{vat}, \text{err})) = \text{err}$

error-selection operator for states

$\text{is-error} : \text{State} \rightarrow \text{Boolean}$   
 $\text{is-error.}(\text{sta}) =$   
   $\text{error.}(\text{sta} \neq \text{'OK'}) \rightarrow \text{tt}$   
   $\text{true} \rightarrow \text{ff}$

error-detection predicate for states

$\text{is-error} : \text{Store} \rightarrow \text{Boolean}$   
 $\text{is-error.}(\text{vat}, \text{err}) =$   
   $\text{err} \neq \text{'OK'} \rightarrow \text{tt}$   
   $\text{true} \rightarrow \text{ff}$

error-detection predicate for stores

$\blacktriangleleft : \text{State} \times \text{Error} \rightarrow \text{State}$   
 $(\text{env}, (\text{vat}, \text{err})) \blacktriangleleft \text{err-1} =$   
   $(\text{env}, (\text{vat}, \text{err-1}))$

error-insertion operator for states

# Carriers of the algebra of expression denotations

## Carriers of AlgExpDen:

ide : Identifier = ...  
ded : DatExpDen = State  $\rightarrow$  ValueE  
bed : BodExpDen = State  $\mapsto$  BodyE  
tra : TraExpDen = Transfer  
yok : YokExpDen = Yoke  
ted : TypExpDen = State  $\mapsto$  TypeE

data-expression denotations  
body-expression denotations  
transfer-expression denotations  
yoke-expression denotations  
type-expression denotations

Here no functions on states since transfers and yokes are not storable; (an engineering decision).

# Data-expression denotations

$\text{ded} : \text{DatExpDen} = \text{State} \rightarrow \text{ValueE}$

Partial functions due to functional procedures!

Transparent denotations

$\text{ded}(\text{env}, (\text{vat}, \text{err})) = \text{err}$  whenever  $\text{err} \neq \text{'OK'}$ .

DEF A constructor of denotations is called **diligent** if it builds transparent denotations.

rzetelny

All constructors of expression denotations will be diligent.

All reachable expression denotations will be transparent.

Four groups of constructors of expression denotations

- 1) one constructor of variables,
- 2) constructors derived from (non-Boolean) value constructors (one for each),
- 3) Boolean constructors,
- 4) one constructor for conditional expressions.

# Data-expression denotations

Constructors derived from value constructors

## A constructor of variables

ded-variable : Identifier  $\mapsto$  DatExpDen

A metaconstructor (creates constructors of data-expression denotations)

Cdd : Constructors of Values  $\mapsto$  Constructors of DatExpDen

## Zero-argument constructors

Cdd.[va-create-id.ide]	:	$\mapsto$ Identifier for ide : Identifier
Cdd.[va-create-bo.boo]	:	$\mapsto$ DatExpDen for boo : Boolean
Cdd.[va-create-in.int]	:	$\mapsto$ DatExpDen for int : IntegerS
Cdd.[va-create-wo.wor]	:	$\mapsto$ DatExpDen for wor : WordS

## Comparison constructors

Cdd.[ded-equal]	:	DatExpDen x DatExpDen $\mapsto$ DatExpDen
Cdd.[ded-less]	:	DatExpDen x DatExpDen $\mapsto$ DatExpDen

## Arithmetic constructors

Cdd.[va-add-in]	:	DatExpDen x DatExpDen $\mapsto$ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-divide-in]	:	DatExpDen x DatExpDen $\mapsto$ DatExpDen

etc. for integers and reals

## Word constructors

Cdd.[va-glue]	:	DatExpDen x DatExpDen $\mapsto$ DatExpDen
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# Data-expression denotations

Constructors derived from value constructors

## List constructors

Cdd.[va-create-li]	: DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-push]	: DatExpDen x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-top]	: DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-pop]	: DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen

## Array constructors

Cdd.[va-create-ar]	: DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-put-to-ar]	: DatExpDen x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-change-in-ar]	: DatExpDen x DatExpDen x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-get-from-ar]	: DatExpDen x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen

## Record constructors

Cdd.[va-create-re]	: Identifier x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-put-to-re]	: DatExpDen x DatExpDen x Identifier	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-get-from-re]	: DatExpDen x Identifier	→ DatExpDen
Cdd.[va-change-in-re]	: DatExpDen x Identifier x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen

# Data-expression denotations

## Constructors

### Boolean constructors

ded-and : DatExpDen x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
ded-or : DatExpDen x DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen
ded-not : DatExpDen	→ DatExpDen

### Conditional-expression constructor

when : DatExpDen x DatExpDen x DatExpDen → DatExpDen

# Data-expression denotations

## Data-variable constructor

dat-variable : Identifier  $\mapsto$  DatExpDen

dat-variable.ide.sta =

is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta

**let**

(env, (vat, 'OK')) = sta

vat.ide = ?  $\rightarrow$  'undeclared-variable'

**let**

(dat, typ) = vat.ide

dat =  $\Omega$   $\rightarrow$  'uninitialized-variable'

**true**  $\rightarrow$  (dat, typ)

diligence of  
dat-variable

rzetelność

We eliminate a possible pseudo values from further computations which means that they are never “sent” to a composite constructor as an arguments.

# Data-expression denotations

Constructors derived from composite-constructors

vco : Val<sup>lde-1</sup> × ... × Val<sup>lde-n</sup> → ValueE  
Cdd[vco] : DatExpDen<sup>lde-1</sup> × ... × DatExpDen<sup>lde-n</sup> → DatExpDen  
Cdd – metaconstructor of constructors of data-expression denotations

Cdd[vco].(arg-1,...,arg-n).sta =  $n \geq 0$   
is-error.sta → error.sta  
**for** i = 1;n  
**do**  
(arg-i !: Identifier) **and** arg-i.sta = ? → ?  
**let**  
val-i =  
arg-i : Identifier → arg-i  
true → arg-i.sta  
**od**  
**true** → vco.(val-1,...,val-n)

diligence of  
Cdd[cva]

Performs further error-analysis

This scheme is not applicable to boolean constructors, since they are not transparent.

# Data-expression denotations

An example of a derived constructor

va-divide-in : ValueE  $\times$  ValueE  $\mapsto$  ValueE  
Cdd[va-divide-re] : DatExpDen  $\times$  DatExpDen  $\mapsto$  DatExpDen

Cdd[va-divide-re].[ded-1, ded-2].sta =  
is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta  
ded-i.sta = ?  $\rightarrow$  ? for i = 1,2  
**let**  
  val-i = ded-i.sta for i = 1,2  
**true**  $\rightarrow$  va-divide-re.(val-1, val-2)

Here all further  
error analysis

# Data-expression denotations

Boolean constructors (McCarthy's laziness)

$\text{ded-and} : \text{DatExpDen} \times \text{DatExpDen} \rightarrow \text{DatExpDen}$

$\text{ded-and.(ded-1, ded-2).sta} =$

$\text{is-error.sta} \rightarrow \text{error.sta}$

$\text{ded-1.sta} = ? \rightarrow ?$

**let**

$\text{val-1} = \text{ded-1.sta}$

$\text{val-1} : \text{Error} \rightarrow \text{val-1}$

**let**

$(\text{dat-1}, \text{bod-1}, \text{yok-1}) = \text{val-1}$

$\text{dat-1} = \text{ff} \rightarrow \text{ff}$

$\text{bod-1} \neq (\text{'Boolean'}) \rightarrow \text{'Boolean-expected'}$

$\text{ded-2.sta} = ? \rightarrow ?$

ded-or and ded-not are defined in an analogous way

**let**

$\text{val-2} = \text{ded-2.sta}$

$\text{val-2} : \text{Error} \rightarrow \text{val-2}$

**let**

$(\text{dat-2}, \text{bod-2}, \text{yok-2}) = \text{val-2}$

$\text{bod-2} \neq (\text{'Boolean'}) \rightarrow \text{'Boolean-expected'}$

**true**  $\rightarrow (\text{dat-2}, (\text{'Boolean'}), \text{TT})$

Here we possibly avoid an infinite evaluation or an error from ded-2

# Data-expression denotations

## A conditional expression

when : DatExpDen x DatExpDen x DatExpDen  $\mapsto$  DatExpDen

when.(ded-1, ded-2, ded-3).sta =

is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta

ded-1.sta = ?  $\rightarrow$  ?

**let**

val-1 = ded-1.sta

val-1 : Error  $\rightarrow$  val-1

**let**

(dat-1, bod-1, yok-1) = val-1

bod-1  $\neq$  ('Boolean')  $\rightarrow$  'Boolean-expected'

dat-1 = tt  $\rightarrow$  ded-2.sta

dat-1 = ff  $\rightarrow$  ded-3.sta

Lazy evaluation

The type of the result  
is not fixed!

**Future syntax:**

**if** x > 0 **then** x+2 **else** 'abcd' **fi**

**if** x > 0 **then** sqrt(x) **else** sqrt(-x) **fi**

Transparency would  
cause a problem for  
all x  $\neq$  0.

# Body-expression denotations

## Constructors

bod-constant : Identifier  $\rightarrow$  BodExpDen

bod-constant.ide.sta =

is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta

**let**

((tye, pre), sto) = sta

tye.ide = ?  $\rightarrow$  'body-constant-undefined'

**not** tye.ide : Body  $\rightarrow$  'body-expected'

true  $\rightarrow$  tye.ide

Body constants retrieve bodies from type environments.

Body, once assigned to a body constant is never changed.

## Metaconstructor of constructors of body-expression denotations

Cbd : Constructors of bodies  $\rightarrow$  Constructors of body-expression denotations

## Constructors derived from body constructors

Cbd.[bo-create-bo]	:	$\rightarrow$ BodExpDen
Cbd.[bo-create-nu]	:	$\rightarrow$ BodExpDen
Cbd.[bo-create-wo]	:	$\rightarrow$ BodExpDen
Cbd.[bo-create-ar]	: BodExpDen	$\rightarrow$ BodExpDen
Cbd.[bo-create-re]	: BodExpDen x Identifier	$\rightarrow$ BodExpDen
Cbd.[bo-put-to-re]	: BodExpDen x Identifier x BodExpDen	$\rightarrow$ BodExpDen

# Body-expression denotations

Constructors derived from body constructors

bco : Bodlde-1 x ... x Bodlde-n  $\rightarrow$  BodyE

Cbd.[bco] : BodExpDenlde-1 x ... x BodExpDenlde-n  $\rightarrow$  BodExpDen

Cbd – metaconstructor of body-expression denotations

Cbd.[bco].(arg-1,...,arg-n).sta =

is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta

let

bod-i = for i = 1;n

arg-i : Identifier  $\rightarrow$  arg-i

true  $\rightarrow$  arg-i.sta

true  $\rightarrow$  bco.(bod-1,...,bod-n)

takes care  
for errors

# Body-expression denotations

Two examples of derived constructors

Cbd.[bo-create-in] :  $\rightarrow$  BodExpDen

Cbd.[bo-create-in].().sta =  
is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta  
**true**  $\rightarrow$  bo-create-in.()

Cbd.[bo-put-to-re] : BodExpDen  $\times$  Identifier  $\times$  BodExpDen  $\rightarrow$  BodExpDen

Cbd.[bo-put-to-re].(bed-e, ide, bed-r).sta = e for “element”, r for “record”

is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta

**let**

    bod-i = bed-i.sta                  for i = e, r  
    **true**                               $\rightarrow$  bo-put-to-re.(bod-e, ide, bod-r)

takes care  
for errors

# Type-expression denotations

## Two constructors only

typ-constant : Identifier  $\mapsto$  TypExpDen

typ-constant.ide.sta =

is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta

**let**

((tye, pre), sto) = sta

tye.ide = ?  $\rightarrow$  'type-constant-undefined'

tye.ide : Body  $\rightarrow$  'type-expected'

**true**  $\rightarrow$  tye.ide

create-ty : BodExpDen x YokExpDen  $\mapsto$  TypExpDen

create-ty.(bed, yok).sta =

is-error.sta  $\rightarrow$  error.sta

**let**

bod = bed.sta

bod : Error  $\rightarrow$  bod

**true**  $\rightarrow$  (bod, yok)

The mechanisms of creating values, and assigning them to variables, will raise error messages in cases of empty types.

A type expression may be either an identifier or a type-creating expression.

# Abstract syntax of Lingua-A denotational and syntactic domains



A – stands for "abstract"

denotations	syntaxes	description
Identifier	Identifier	identifiers
DatExpDen	DatExpA	abstract data expressions
BodExpDen	BodExpA	abstract body expressions
TraExpDen	TraExpA	abstract transfer expressions
YokExpDen	YokExpA	abstract yoke expressions
TypExpDen	TypExpA	abstract type expressions

For every carrier of AlgExpA one grammatical equation.

For every constructor of AlgExpA one component of an equation

# Abstract syntax of Lingua-A

## examples of syntactic clauses (equational grammar)

dae : DatExpA =

...

dat-variable . (Identifier)

...

and-ded . (DatExpA , DatExpA)

or-ded . (DatExpA , DatExpA)

Cdd [va-equal] . (DatExpA , DatExpA)

...

Cdd [va-glue] . (DatExpA, DatExpA)

...

Cdd [va-create-ar] . (DatExpA)

Cdd [va-put-to-ar] . (DatExpA, DatExp)

Cdd [va-get-from-ar] . (DatExpA, DatExpA)

...

green

black

— syntactic elements (words)

— metavariables

Boolean expressions

word expression

array expressions

tex : TypExpA =

type-constant . (Identifier)

create-type . (BodExpA, YokExpA)

type expressions

# Concrete syntax of Lingua-A

## examples of syntactic clauses (equational grammar)

dae : DatExp =

...

Identifier

...

(DatExp **and** DatExp)

(DatExp **or** DatExp)

(DatExp = DatExp)

...

(DatExp  $\odot$  DatExp)

**array** DatExp **ee**

**put-to-arr** DatExp **new** DatExp **ee**

**array** DatExp **at** DatExp **ee**

...

|

variables

|

Boolean expressions

|

word expressions

|

array expressions

tex : TypExp =

Identifier

**type** BodExp **with** YokExp **ee**

|

type expressions

# Colloquial syntax of Lingua-A

## examples of rules

instead of	we write
$(x + (y + z))$	$x + y + z$ : left association
$(x + (y * z))$	$x + y * z$ : priority of * over +
<b>put-to-arr</b> <b>put-to-arr</b> <b>array x ee</b> <b>new x+y ee</b> <b>new 3*y ee</b>	<b>array</b> [x, x+y, 3*y]

Syntactic sugar: spaces, tabulators, carriage returns, boldface and underlining do not affect denotations of syntax.

# Semantics of Lingua-A

$Cs : \underline{\text{AlgExp}} \rightarrow \underline{\text{AlgExpDen}}$

A homomorphism with six components:

Sid	: Identifier	$\rightarrow$	Identifier	— identity mapping
Sde	: DatExp	$\rightarrow$	DatExpDen	
Sbe	: BodExp	$\rightarrow$	BodExpDen	
Stre	: TraExp	$\rightarrow$	TraExpDen	
Syoe	: YokExp	$\rightarrow$	YokExpDen	
Ste	: TypExp	$\rightarrow$	TypExpDen	

## Examples

$Sde : \text{DatExp} \rightarrow \text{DatExpDen}$  i.e.

$Sde : \text{DatExp} \rightarrow \text{State} \rightarrow \text{ValueE}$

$Sde.[\text{true}] = \text{Cdd}[\text{co-create-bo.tt}].()$  — algebraic form

$Sde.[\text{true}].sta =$  — direct form

$\text{is-error}.sta \rightarrow \text{error}.sta$

$\text{true} \rightarrow (\text{tt}, ('Boolean'), \text{TT})$

# Semantics of Lingua-A

## Implementor's perspective

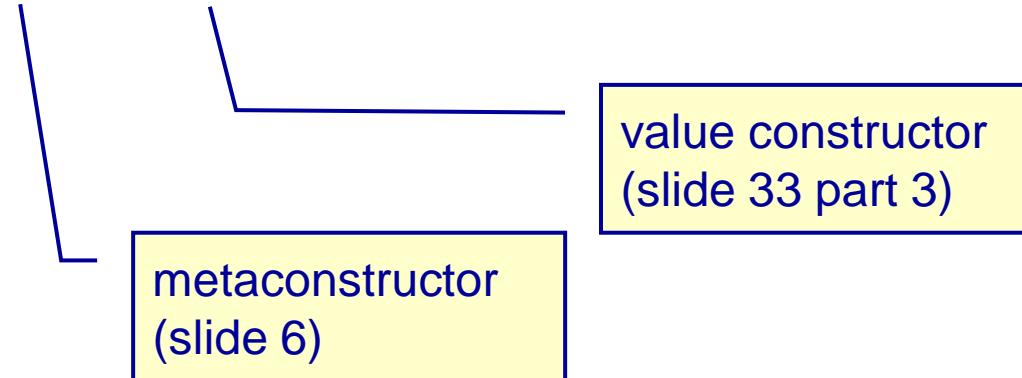
$Sde : \text{DatExp} \rightarrow \text{DatExpDen}$  i.e.

$Sde : \text{DatExp} \rightarrow \text{State} \rightarrow \text{ValueE}$

Algebraic form

$Sde.[(dae-1 / dae-2)] =$

$Cdd[\text{va-divide-re}].(Sde.[dae-1], Sde.[dae-2])$



# Semantics of Lingua-A

## User's perspective

$Sde : \text{DatExp} \mapsto \text{DatExpDen}$  i.e.

$Sde : \text{DatExp} \mapsto \text{State} \rightarrow \text{ValueE}$

Direct form – user oriented (cf. part 3 slide 28)

**Sde.[(dae-1 / dae-2)].sta =**  
is-error.sta → error.sta  
**Sde.[dae-i].sta = ?** → ? for  $i = 1, 2$

**let**  
val-i = Sde.[dae-i].sta for  $i = 1, 2$   
val-i : Error → val-i for  $i = 1, 2$

**let**  
(dat-i, bod-i, yok-i) = Sde.[dae-i].sta for  $i = 1, 2$   
bod-i ≠ ('real') → 'real-expected' for  $i = 1, 2$

**let**  
rea = divide-re.(dat-1, dat-2)  
rea : Error → rea  
true → (rea, ('real'), TT)

primitive operation

# A manual of a programming language based on denotational semantics

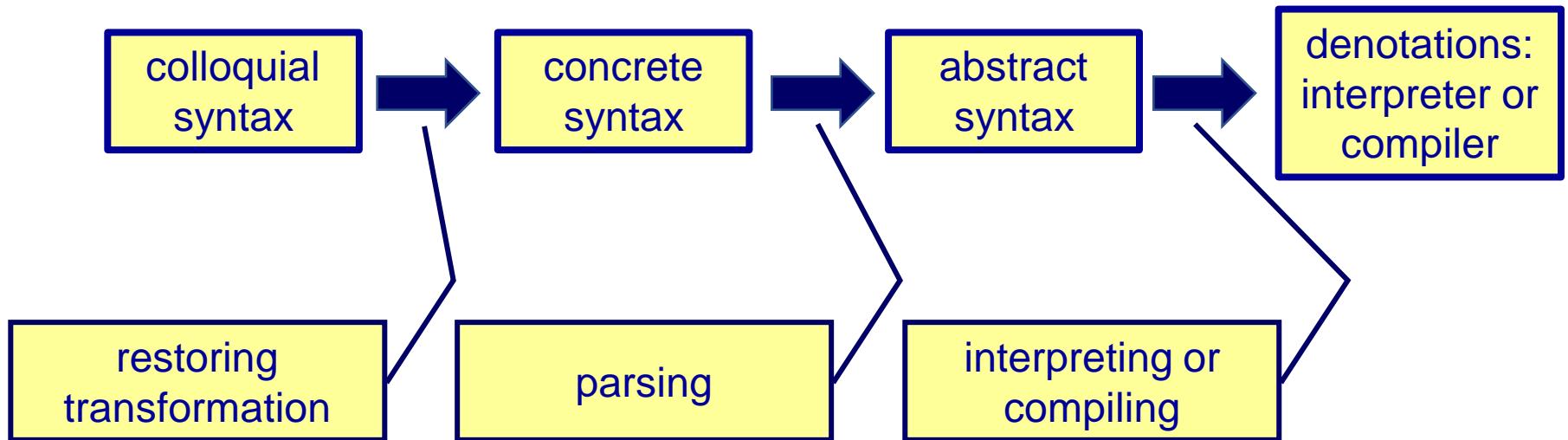
## Three parts of a manual

1. concrete syntax described by equational grammar and illustrated by examples,
2. colloquial syntax illustrated by examples of restoring transformations (e.g. as in Sec. 4.4.3),
3. the semantics of concrete syntax, i.e. the association of concrete programs to their denotations without referring to abstract syntax.

## Two forms of a manual

- A. definitions that refer to (“call”) denotation-algebra constructors defined earlier such definitions will be called algebraic (for implementors)
- B. definitions that describe constructors explicitly, such definitions will be called direct. (for users)

# Major milestones on a way to program execution



A photograph of a large tree from a low angle, looking up through its dense canopy of dark green leaves. The trunk is thick and textured. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text "Thank you for your attention" in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Thank you for  
your attention