

# Logical Relations

Andrzej Murawski  
University of Leicester

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**Definition 1.** An  $n$ -ary logical relation is a family  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_\theta\}_{\theta \in \text{Types}}$  of  $n$ -ary relations such that  $R_\theta \subseteq \underbrace{[[\theta]] \times \cdots \times [[\theta]]}_n$  for any  $\theta$  and

$$R_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2}(f_1, \cdots, f_n)$$

$$\iff$$

for all  $(d_1, \cdots, d_n) \in [[\theta_1]]^n$ ,  
if  $R_{\theta_1}(d_1, \cdots, d_n)$  then  $R_{\theta_2}(f_1(d_1), \cdots, f_n(d_n))$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\{R_\theta\}$  be a logical relation. For any closed  $\lambda$ -term  $\vdash M : \theta$ ,  $R_\theta([[ \vdash M : \theta ]], \cdots, [[ \vdash M : \theta ]])$ .

# Types and Constants

Let us start with a collection  $B$  of base types. Let  $o$  range over  $B$ .

Types

$$\theta ::= o \mid \theta \rightarrow \theta$$

Let us also assume a set of typed constants  $C$

Constants

$$c : \theta_c$$

# Applicative Structures

A general setting for interpreting  $\lambda$ -terms.

**Definition 3.** A (typed) applicative structure  $\mathcal{A}$  is a triple

$$\langle \{A_\theta\}, \{App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}\}, Const \rangle$$

such that

- $A_\theta$  is a set,
- $App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}$  is a function  $App_{\theta_1, \theta_2} : A_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2} \rightarrow A_{\theta_1} \rightarrow A_{\theta_2}$ ,
- $Const : C \rightarrow \bigcup_{\theta \in Types} A_\theta$  satisfies  $Const(c) \in A_{\theta_c}$  if  $c : \theta_c$ .

## Examples

- $\mathcal{A} = \langle \{A_\theta\}, \{App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}\}, Const \rangle$ , where each  $A_\theta$  is a set and

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2} &= \text{the set of functions from } A_{\theta_1} \text{ to } A_{\theta_2}, \\ App_{\theta_1, \theta_2} f x &= f(x). \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathcal{A} = \langle \{A_\theta\}, \{App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}\}, Const \rangle$ , where each  $A_\theta$  is a cpo and

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2} &= \text{the cpo of continuous functions from } A_{\theta_1} \text{ to } A_{\theta_2}, \\ App_{\theta_1, \theta_2} f x &= f(x). \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathcal{T} = \langle \{T_\theta\}, \{App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}\}, Const \rangle$ , where  $T_\theta$  is the set of simply-typed  $\lambda$ -terms  $M$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash M : \theta$  for some finite  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ , where  $\mathcal{V}$  is a set of typed variables, and

$$\begin{aligned} App_{\theta_1, \theta_2} MN &= MN, \\ Const(c) &= c. \end{aligned}$$

# Logical Relation

**Definition 4.** *Let*

$$\mathcal{A} = \langle \{A_\theta\}, \{App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}^A\}, \{Const^A\} \rangle,$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \langle \{B_\theta\}, \{App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}^B\}, \{Const^B\} \rangle$$

*be applicative structures. A (binary) **logical relation** over  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a family  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_\theta\}$  such that*

- $R_\theta \subseteq A_\theta \times B_\theta$ ,
- $R_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2}(f, g)$  iff, for all  $(x, y) \in A_{\theta_1} \times B_{\theta_1}$ , if  $R_{\theta_1}(x, y)$  then  $R_{\theta_2}(App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}^A f x, App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}^A g y)$ ,
- $R_{\theta_c}(Const_{\mathcal{A}}(c), Const_{\mathcal{B}}(c))$  for every constant  $c : \theta_c$ .

# Environments

**Definition 5.** Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be the set of variables.

- An environment is a function  $\rho : \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \bigcup_{\theta} A_{\theta}$ .
- If  $\Gamma$  is a context (finite type assignment), we say that  $\rho$  satisfies  $\Gamma$  (written  $\rho \models \Gamma$ ) if  $\rho(x) \in A_{\theta}$  whenever  $(x : \theta) \in \Gamma$ .
- $\rho[x \mapsto d]$  stands for the environment mapping  $x$  to  $d$ , and  $y$  to  $\rho(y)$  for  $y$  different from  $x$ .

**Definition 6.** Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  be applicative structures,  $\Gamma$  a context and  $\rho_{\mathcal{A}}, \rho_{\mathcal{B}}$  be environments satisfying  $\Gamma$ . Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a logical relation over  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ .  $\rho_{\mathcal{A}}, \rho_{\mathcal{B}}$  are **related** if  $R_{\theta}(\rho_{\mathcal{A}}(x), \rho_{\mathcal{B}}(x))$  for all  $(x : \theta) \in \Gamma$ .

# Interpretation

**Definition 7.** A partial mapping  $\llbracket \cdot \cdot \cdot \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}$  from terms and environments  $(\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M : \theta \rrbracket(\rho))$  is an **acceptable meaning function** if

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M : \theta \rrbracket(\rho) \in A_{\theta} \text{ whenever } \rho \models \Gamma$$

and the following conditions are satisfied.

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash x : \theta \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}(\rho) = \rho(x)$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash c : \theta_c \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}(\rho) = \text{Const}(c)$$

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash MN : \theta_2 \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}(\rho) = (\text{App}_{\theta_1, \theta_2}(\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}))(\llbracket \Gamma \vdash N \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}})$$



## Examples

- Interpretations using sets/functions and cpo's/continuous functions.
- Recall the applicative structure  $\mathcal{T}$  based on  $\lambda$ -terms.  $T_\theta$  is the set of simply-typed  $\lambda$ -terms  $M$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash M : \theta$  for some finite  $\Gamma \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} App_{\theta_1, \theta_2} MN &= MN \\ Const(c) &= c \end{aligned}$$

Consider

$$\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}(\rho) = M[\overline{\rho(x)}/x].$$

Note that

$$(MN)[Q/x] \equiv M[Q/x] N[Q/x].$$

# Fundamental Theorem

**Theorem 8** (Mitchell). *Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  be applicative structures, let  $[[\cdots]]_{\mathcal{A}}, [[\cdots]]_{\mathcal{B}}$  be acceptable meaning functions, let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a logical relation over  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ . Suppose  $\rho_{\mathcal{A}}, \rho_{\mathcal{B}}$  are related environments satisfying  $\Gamma$ . Then*

$$R_{\theta}([[\Gamma \vdash M]]_{\mathcal{A}}(\rho_{\mathcal{A}}), [[\Gamma \vdash M]]_{\mathcal{B}}(\rho_{\mathcal{B}}))$$

*for every  $\Gamma \vdash M : \theta$ .*

Proof by structural induction. Not yet! More constraints are needed.

# Admissible Relations

**Definition 9.** Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  be applicative structures, let  $[\![\cdot\cdot\cdot]\!]_{\mathcal{A}}, [\![\cdot\cdot\cdot]\!]_{\mathcal{B}}$  be acceptable meaning functions, let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a logical relation over  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$ . Suppose  $\rho_{\mathcal{A}}, \rho_{\mathcal{B}}$  are related environments satisfying  $\Gamma$ .  $\mathcal{R}$  is called **admissible** if, for all  $\Gamma, x : \tau \vdash M : \theta$  and  $\Gamma, x : \tau \vdash N : \theta$ .

$$\forall_{a,b} \text{ if } R_{\tau}(a, b) \text{ then} \\ R_{\theta} \left( \begin{array}{l} [\![\Gamma, x \vdash M]\!]_{\mathcal{A}} (\rho_{\mathcal{A}}[x \mapsto a]), \\ [\![\Gamma, x \vdash N]\!]_{\mathcal{B}} (\rho_{\mathcal{B}}[x \mapsto b]) \end{array} \right)$$

*implies*

$$\forall_{a,b} \text{ if } R_{\tau}(a, b) \text{ then} \\ R_{\theta} \left( \begin{array}{l} App^{\mathcal{A}}([\![\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.M]\!]_{\mathcal{A}}(\rho_{\mathcal{A}})) a, \\ App^{\mathcal{B}}([\![\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.N]\!]_{\mathcal{B}}(\rho_{\mathcal{B}})) b \end{array} \right).$$

## Logical predicates

**Definition 10.** Let  $\mathcal{A} = \langle \{A_\theta\}, \{App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}^{\mathcal{A}}\}, \{Const^{\mathcal{A}}\} \rangle$  be an applicative structure. A **logical predicate** over  $\mathcal{A}$  is a family  $\mathcal{R} = \{R_\theta\}$  such that

- $R_\theta \subseteq A_\theta$ ,
- $R_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2}(f)$  iff, for all  $x \in A_{\theta_1}$ , if  $R_{\theta_1}(x)$  then  $R_{\theta_2}(App_{\theta_1, \theta_2}^{\mathcal{A}} f x)$ ,
- $R_{\theta_c}(Const_{\mathcal{A}}(c))$  for every constant  $c : \theta_c$ .

**Theorem 11** (Mitchell). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an applicative structure, let  $\llbracket \dots \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}$  be an acceptable meaning function, let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a logical predicate over  $\mathcal{A}$ . Suppose  $\rho_{\mathcal{A}}$  satisfies  $\Gamma$ . Then  $R_\theta(\llbracket \Gamma \vdash M \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}(\rho_{\mathcal{A}}))$  for every  $\Gamma \vdash M : \theta$ .

## Strong Normalisability

Let us write  $SN(M)$  for “ $M$  is strongly normalising”.

**Theorem 12 (Tait).** *Every typable  $\lambda$ -term is strongly normalising.*

Let us prove the result through the Fundamental Theorem.

1. Define a logical predicate  $\mathcal{P} = \{P_\theta\}$  on  $\mathcal{T}$ .
2. Show that  $P_\theta(M)$  implies  $SN(M)$ .
3. Show that  $\mathcal{P}$  is admissible.

By 1. and 3. we can apply the Fundamental Theorem to deduce that  $P_\theta(M)$  for any  $M \in T_\theta$ . By 2.  $SN(M)$  holds for any  $M$ .

## Finding $\mathcal{P}$

$$\begin{aligned} P_o(M) &\iff SN(M) \\ P_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2}(M) &\iff P_{\theta_2}(MN) \text{ for all } N \in T_{\theta_1} \text{ such that } P_{\theta_1}(N) \end{aligned}$$

Strong normalisability is a consequence (point 2.)

### **Lemma 13.**

(i) If  $xM_1 \cdots M_k \in T_\theta$  and  $SN(M_1), \dots, SN(M_k)$  then  $P_\theta(xM_1 \cdots M_k)$ .

(ii) If  $P_\theta(M)$  then  $SN(M)$ .

## Proving 2.

(i) If  $xM_1 \cdots M_k \in T_\theta$  and  $SN(M_i)$  then  $P_\theta(xM_1 \cdots M_k)$ .

(ii) If  $P_\theta(M)$  then  $SN(M)$ .

Case  $\theta \equiv o$ .

(i) Because  $SN(M_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , we also have  $SN(xM_1 \cdots M_k)$ . Hence,  $P_o(xM_1 \cdots M_k)$  by definition of  $P_o$ .

(ii) Follows from the definition of  $P_o$ .

## Proving 2. (ii)

(i) If  $xM_1 \cdots M_k \in T_\theta$  and  $SN(M_i)$  then  $P_\theta(xM_1 \cdots M_k)$ .

(ii) If  $P_\theta(M)$  then  $SN(M)$ .

Case  $\theta \equiv \theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2$ .

(i) Take  $N \in T_{\theta_1}$  such that  $P_{\theta_1}(N)$ . By (ii) for  $\theta_1$  we have  $SN(N)$  and, by (i) for  $\theta_2$ , we get  $P_{\theta_2}(xM_1 \cdots M_k N)$ . So  $P_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2}(xM_1 \cdots M_k)$ , as required.

(ii) Suppose  $P_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2}(M)$ . By (i) for  $x : \theta_1$ ,  $P_{\theta_1}(x)$ , so  $P_{\theta_2}(Mx)$ . By (ii) for  $\theta_2$ ,  $SN(Mx)$ . If  $SN(Mx)$  then  $SN(M)$ .



## Admissibility

**Lemma 14.** *Suppose  $M[N/x]N_1 \cdots N_k \in T_o$ . If  $SN(N)$  and  $SN(M[N/x]N_1 \cdots N_k)$  then  $SN((\lambda x.M)NN_1 \cdots N_k)$ .*

Since  $SN(M[N/x]N_1 \cdots N_k)$ , we have  $SN(M), SN(N_1), \dots, SN(N_k)$ . Suppose  $(\lambda x.M)NN_1 \cdots N_k$  is not strongly normalising. Then the  $\lambda$  must be reduced at some point.

$$(\lambda x.M)NN_1 \cdots N_k \rightarrow_{\beta\eta}^* (\lambda x.M')N'N'_1 \cdots N'_k \rightarrow_{\beta\eta} Q$$

- $\beta$ -reduction:  $Q \equiv M'[N'/x]N'_1 \cdots N'_k$ . Then we also have  $M[N/x]N_1 \cdots N_k \rightarrow_{\beta\eta}^* M'[N'/x]N'_1 \cdots N'_k$ , which contradicts  $SN(M[N/x]N_1 \cdots N_k)$ .
- $\eta$ -reduction:  $M' \equiv M''x$  ( $x$  does not occur in  $M''$ ) and  $Q \equiv M'N'N'_1 \cdots N'_k$ . Then  $Q$  can also be reached via a  $\beta$ -reduction, so this case reduces to the one above.

# Adequacy for PCF and the cpo interpretation

For  $\vdash M : \text{nat}$ , if  $\llbracket M \rrbracket = n$  then  $M \Downarrow n$ .

$$R_\theta \subseteq \llbracket \theta \rrbracket \times \text{PCF}_\theta$$

$$R_{\text{nat}}(d, M) \iff \text{if } d = n \text{ then } M \Downarrow n$$

$$R_{\theta_1 \rightarrow \theta_2}(d, M) \iff \forall d_1, M_1 (R_{\theta_1}(d_1, M_1) \Rightarrow R_{\theta_2}(dd_1, MM_1))$$

The Fundamental Theorem yields  $R_\theta(\llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathcal{A}}, \llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathcal{B}})$  for closed terms. This amounts to  $R_\theta(\llbracket M \rrbracket, M)$ , which is exactly the Adequacy result.

Admissibility needs to be proved, but it is not too difficult.

## References

More details can be found in [1, 2].

[1] C. A. Gunter. *Semantics of Programming Languages: Structures and Techniques*. MIT Press, 1992.

[2] J. C. Mitchell. *Foundations for Programming Languages*. MIT Press, 2000.