

9561074

科技资料

1991 IEEE 6th Annual Symposium on Logic in Computer Science



11302-55
L832
1991
9561074

Proceedings

Sixth Annual IEEE Symposium on LOGIC IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

July 15-18, 1991

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Sponsored by
IEEE Technical Committee on
Mathematical Foundations of Computing
CWI, Amsterdam
Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

In cooperation with
Association for Computing Machinery
Association for Symbolic Logic
European Association for Theoretical Computer Science



1951-1991



IEEE Computer Society Press
Los Alamitos, California

Washington • Brussels • Tokyo



E9561074

4701832

The papers in this book comprise the proceedings of the meeting mentioned on the cover and title page. They reflect the authors' opinions and, in the interests of timely dissemination, are published as presented and without change. Their inclusion in this publication does not necessarily constitute endorsement by the editors, the IEEE Computer Society Press, or the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.



Published by the
IEEE Computer Society Press
10662 Los Vaqueros Circle
PO Box 3014
Los Alamitos, CA 90720-1264

© 1991 by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. All rights reserved.

Copyright and Reprint Permissions: Abstracting is permitted with credit to the source. Libraries are permitted to photocopy beyond the limits of US copyright law, for private use of patrons, those articles in this volume that carry a code at the bottom of the first page, provided that the per-copy fee indicated in the code is paid through the Copyright Clearance Center, 29 Congress Street, Salem, MA 01970. Instructors are permitted to photocopy, without fee, isolated articles for noncommercial classroom use. For other copying, reprint, or republication permission, write to the Director of Publishing Services, IEEE, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017.

IEEE Computer Society Press Order Number 2230
Library of Congress Number 89-641304
IEEE Catalog Number 91CH3025-4
ISBN 0-8186-2230-X (paper)
ISBN 0-8186-2231-8 (microfiche)
ISBN 0-8186-2232-6 (case)

Additional copies can be ordered from

IEEE Computer Society Press
Customer Service Center
10662 Los Vaqueros Circle
PO Box 3014
Los Alamitos, CA 90720-1264

IEEE Service Center
445 Hoes Lane
PO Box 1331
Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331

IEEE Computer Society
13, avenue de l'Aquilon
B-1200 Brussels
BELGIUM

IEEE Computer Society
Ooshima Building
2-19-1 Minami-Aoyama
Minato-ku, Tokyo 107
JAPAN

Editorial production: Wally Hutchins
Printed in the United States of America by Braun-Brumfield, Inc.
Cover graphic by Alvy Ray Smith



THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS, INC.

These Proceedings are dedicated to the memory of

David M.R. Park, 1935-1990

**a deep and original thinker in programming theory,
and a faithful friend.**

Foreword

This volume is the Proceedings of the Sixth Annual IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS). The symposium encourages international participation of Computer Scientists influenced by mathematical logic and of Logicians influenced by computer science. Previous LICS symposia were held in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Ithaca, New York; Edinburgh, Scotland; Asilomar, California; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania—each time attracting several hundred enthusiastic participants. The Seventh LICS is scheduled for June 22-25, 1992, on the campus of the University of California, Santa Cruz.

LICS'91 is cosponsored by the IEEE-TC on Mathematical Foundations of Computing, CWI, Amsterdam, and the Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, in cooperation with the Association for Computing Machinery—SIGACT, the Association for Symbolic Logic, and the European Association for Theoretical Computer Science.

LICS'91 has been subsidized by

Institutional Sponsors

Institut National de Recherche
en Informatique et en Automatique (INRIA)
Dutch National Facility for Informatics (NFI)
Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences (KNAW)
The Free University of Amsterdam (VU)
The University of Amsterdam
The City of Amsterdam
European Research Consortium
for Informatics and Mathematics (ERCIM)
KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

Donations by these Sponsors make it possible for the LICS Organizers to subsidize student attendance, student author awards, invited speakers, and attendance by researchers without other travel grants.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee and all the LICS'91 participants, I sincerely thank these sponsors for their donations. I also thank the Program Chair, Gilles Kahn, the Conference Co-Chairs, Jan Willem Klop and Roel de Vrijer, and the Publicity Chair, Daniel Leivant, for their many months of effort. We look forward to another fruitful symposium.

Albert R. Meyer
LICS General Chair

Cambridge, Massachusetts
April 1991

Preface

The LICS Symposium aims for wide coverage of theoretical and practical issues in computer science that relate to logic in a broad sense, including algebraic, categorical and topological approaches.

Representative topics mentioned in this year's call for papers include: *abstract data types, automated deduction, concurrency, constructive mathematics, data base theory, finite model theory, knowledge representation, lambda and combinatory calculi, logical aspects of computational complexity, logics in artificial intelligence, logic programming, modal and temporal logics, program logic and semantics, rewrite rules, software specification, type systems, verification.*

The 40 contributed papers in this volume were selected by the Program Committee from a total of 167 submissions; several additional submissions arrived too late to be considered. Selection criteria included originality, quality, relevance to Computer Science, and suitability for conference presentation. A brief synopsis of each extended abstract was mailed to every member of the program committee, with five members designated as primary readers. Some members of the committee chose to consult additional reviewers whose names are listed on the following page. Constructive reviews were sent to all submitting authors whenever available.

Although LICS submissions were read carefully, conference selection is not a formal refereeing process. Many of the papers describe ongoing research and it is anticipated that authors will publish more polished and complete versions in scientific journals.

On behalf of the Program Committee, I thank all authors who chose to submit their papers to LICS'91. Many excellent submissions could not be accepted because of size limitations on the symposium. I would also like to thank the members of the program committee and the additional reviewers for their untiring efforts in reading and evaluating the large number of excellent submissions received this year. I would like to thank Prof. Christine Paulin, who helped me in deciding who should be the primary reviewers. Further, I wish to thank Lydia Vergamini who managed the surprisingly large flow of information generated in evaluating so many papers.

Gilles Kahn
1991 Program Chair

Program Committee

Serge Abiteboul
Samson Abramsky
Krzysztof Apt
Jan Bergstra
Val Breazu-Tannen
Sam Buss
Robert Constable
Pierre-Louis Curien
Nachum Dershowitz
Peter Dybjer

Ursula Goltz
Gilles Kahn (Chair)
Giuseppe Longo
Grigori Mints
Andy Pitts
Simona Ronchi
Masahiko Sato
Ehud Shapiro
Bernhard Steffen

Additional Reviewers

Martin Abadi
 Michele Abrusci
 Luca Aceto
 Dieter Ackermann
 Hassan Ait-Kaci
 Roberto Amadio
 Pierre America
 Jean-Marc Andréoli
 Toshiyasu Arai
 Dennis Arnon
 Andrea Asperti
 Lennart Augustsson
 Leo Bachmair
 Jos Baeten
 von Bahel
 Franco Barbanera
 Erik Barendsen
 Stefano Berardi
 Gérard Berry
 B. Bertolino
 Alberto Bertoni
 Eike Best
 Marc Bezem
 Nicole Bidoit
 Bard Bloom
 Roland N. Bol
 Gérard Boudol
 Steve Brookes
 P.J. de Bruin
 Luca Cardelli
 Felice Cardone
 Ilaria Castellani
 Didier Caucal
 Serenella Cerrito
 Rance Cleaveland
 Eric de la Clergerie
 Philippe Codognet
 George Collins
 Loic Colson
 Mario Coppo
 Thierry Coquand
 Corradini
 Roberto di Cosmo
 Gerardo Costa
 Bruno Courcelle
 Guy Cousineau

Roy Crole
 Pierpaolo Degano
 Rocco de Nicola
 Joëlle Despeyroux
 Mariangiola Dezani
 Pietro Digianantonio
 Gilles Dowek
 Thomas Ehrard
 Allen Emerson
 Uffe Engberg
 Lars-Henrik Eriksson
 François Fages
 Luis Farinas Del Cerro
 Amy Felty
 Gian-Luigi Ferrari
 Nissim Francez
 Torkel Franzén
 Daniel Fredholm
 Laurent Fribourg
 Ulf Friedrichsdorf
 Ken-Etsu Fujita
 Jean Gallier
 Peter Gärdenfors
 Rob Gerth
 Giorgio Ghelli
 Paola Giannini
 P. Giovanetti
 Jean-Yves Girard
 Andreas Goerdit
 Wolfgang Goerick
 Robert Gold
 Rajeev Gore
 Shigeki Goto
 Norbert Gotz
 Ed Griffor
 Jan Friso Groote
 Carl Gunter
 Elsa Gunter
 Tatsuya Hagino
 Masami Hagiya
 Thomas Hallgren
 Bob Harper
 Takashi Hattori
 Ralf Heckmann
 Andreas Heise
 Leen Helmink

Matthew Hennessy
 Tom Henzinger
 Roger Hindley
 André Hirschowitz
 Jieh Hsiang
 Gérard Huet
 Richard Hull
 Hardi Hungar
 Heinrich Hussmann
 Martin Hyland
 Furio Honsell
 Klaus Indermark
 Bart Jacobs
 Barry Jay
 Thomas Jensen
 Herman Ruge Jervell
 Jean-Pierre Jouannaud
 L.V. Kale
 Yukio Kameyama
 Samuel Kamin
 Deepak Kapur
 Burghard von Karger
 Kent Karlsson
 Kasangian
 Astrid Kiehn
 Michael Kifer
 Jan Willem Klop
 Steven Klusener
 Jürgen Knoop
 Satoshi Kobayashi
 Henri Korver
 C.P.J. Koymans
 H. Kuchen
 Yves Lafont
 Kim Larsen
 C. Laneve
 Pierre Lescanne
 James Lipton
 Gabriele Lolli
 Rita Loogen
 Zhao Hui Luo
 Nancy Lynch
 Pasquale Malacaria
 Leo Marcus
 Alberto Martelli
 Maurizio Martelli

Simone Martini
 Andrea Masini
 Michel Mauny
 G. Mauri
 Georges McNulty
 José Meseguer
 J-J.Ch. Meyer
 Dale Miller
 John Mitchell
 Subrata Mitra
 Eugenio Moggi
 Ugo Montanari
 Shinichi Morishita
 Yael Moskowitz
 Horst Müller
 Satoru Miyano
 Alan Mycroft
 Hayao Nakahara
 Hiroshi Nakagawa
 Tobias Nipkow
 Bengt Nordström
 Hiroshi Nunokawa
 Mitsuhiro Okada
 Ernst-Rüdiger Olderog
 Barbara Paech
 Valeria de Paiva
 Erik Palmgren
 Remo Pareschi
 Peter Padawitz
 Michel Parigot
 Christine Paulin
 Lawrence Paulson

Wojciech Penczek
 Leonard Pitt
 David Plaisted
 Amir Pnueli
 Axel Poigné
 A. Policriti
 Randy Pollack
 Alban Ponse
 I.V. Ramakrishnan
 Uday Reddy
 Wolfgang Reisig
 Jeff Remmel
 Peter Revesz
 Jon Riecke
 Edmund Robinson
 François Rouaix
 Gudula Rünger
 Michael Rusinowitch
 Jan Rutten
 Yehoshua Sagiv
 Takafumi Sakurai
 Hiroyuki Sato
 Taisuke Sato
 André Scedrov
 Richard Scherl
 Arno Schmitt
 Helmut Seidl
 Svetozar Serafimovski
 Juichi Shinoda
 Kurt Sieber
 Michael Siegel
 F. Simon

Robert de Simone
 Jan Smith
 Scott Smolka
 Ugo Solitro
 Eugene Stark
 Jacques Stern
 Thomas Streicher
 Alvaro Tasistro
 Makoto Tatsuta
 Satish Thatte
 Wolfgang Thomas
 Andrew Thomason
 Atsushi Togashi
 Christophe Tollu
 Yoshihiko Toyama
 Hideki Tsuiki
 Daniele Turi
 Silvio Valentini
 J. van de Wiele
 Peter Van Emde Boas
 Moshe Vardi
 Betty Venneri
 Victor Vianu
 Albert Visser
 Walter Vogler
 Fes-Jan de Vries
 Scott Weinstein
 Carsten Weise
 Glynn Winskel
 Marianne Winslett
 Akihiro Yamamoto
 Naoki Yonezaki

Conference Organization

General Chair

Prof. Albert R. Meyer
MIT Lab. for Computer Science

1991 Conference Co-chair

Prof. Roel de Vrijer
Free University of Amsterdam

1991 Program Chair

Gilles Kahn
INRIA, Sophia-Antipolis

1991 Conference Co-chair

Dr. Jan Willem Klop
CWI, Amsterdam

Publicity Chair

Prof. Daniel Leivant
Carnegie-Mellon University

Organizing Committee

Martin Abadi
Jon Barwise
Ashok Chandra
Robert Constable (General Chair Elect)
Erwin Engeler
Jean Gallier
Joseph Goguen
David Gries
Yuri Gurevich
Susumu Hayashi
David S. Johnson
Gilles Kahn
Jan Willem Klop
Dexter Kozen

Daniel Leivant
Zohar Manna
Albert R. Meyer (General Chair)
Grigori Mints
John C. Mitchell
Yiannis Moschovakis
Christos Papadimitriou
Rohit Parikh
Gordon D. Plotkin
Grzegorz Rozenberg
Dana Scott
Jerzy Tiuryn
Roel de Vrijer

Table of Contents

Foreword	vii
Preface	ix
Additional Reviewers	xi
Conference Organization	xiii

Session 1

Chair: G. Longo

A Foundational Delineation of Computational Feasibility	2
<i>D. Leivant</i>	
Toward a Semantics for the QUEST Language	12
<i>F. Alessi and F. Barbanera</i>	
Term Declaration Logic and Generalised Composita	22
<i>P. Aczel</i>	

Session 2

Chair: S. Abramsky

Logic Programming in a Fragment of Intuitionistic Linear Logic	32
<i>J.S. Hodas and D. Miller</i>	
Games Semantics for Linear Logic	43
<i>Y. Lafont and T. Streicher</i>	
Linearizing Intuitionistic Implication	51
<i>P. Lincoln, A. Scedrov, and N. Shankar</i>	
Some Results on the Interpretation of λ -calculus in	
Operator Algebras	63
<i>P. Malacaria and L. Regnier</i>	

Session 3

Chair: V. Breazu-Tannen

Unification and Anti-Unification in the Calculus of Constructions	74
<i>F. Pfenning</i>	
Partial Objects in the Calculus of Constructions	86
<i>P. Audebaud</i>	
An Evaluation Semantics for Classical Proofs	96
<i>C.R. Murthy</i>	

Session 4

Chair: B. Steffen

A Theory of Testing for Real-Time	110
<i>R. Cleaveland and A.E. Zwarico</i>	
Complexity Bounds of Hoare-style Proof Systems	120
<i>H. Hungar</i>	
Semantics of Pointers, Referencing and Dereferencing	
With Intensional Logic	127
<i>H.-K. Hung and J.I. Zucker</i>	

Session 5

Chair: *P.-L. Curien*

Sequentiality and Strong Stability	138
<i>A. Bucciarelli and T. Ehrhard</i>	
Parallel PCF has a Unique Extensional Model	146
<i>A. Stoughton</i>	
The Fixed Point Property in Synthetic Domain Theory	152
<i>P. Taylor</i>	

Session 6

Chair: *R. Constable*

On Computational Open-Endedness in Martin-Löf's Type Theory	162
<i>D.J. Howe</i>	
Predicative Type Universes and Primitive Recursion	173
<i>N.P. Mendler</i>	

Session 7

Chair: *S. Ronchi Della Rocca*

Freyd's Hierarchy of Combinator Monoids	186
<i>R. Statman</i>	
Equational Programming in λ -calculus	191
<i>E. Tronci</i>	
An Inverse of the Evaluation Functional for Typed λ -calculus	203
<i>U. Berger and H. Schwichtenberg</i>	

Session 8

Chair: *S. Abiteboul*

A Completeness Theorem for Kleene Algebras and the Algebra of Regular Events	214
<i>D. Kozen</i>	
On First Order Database Query Languages	226
<i>A. Avron and J. Hirshfeld</i>	
Specifying and Proving Serializability in Temporal Logic	232
<i>D. Peled, S. Katz, and A. Pnueli</i>	

Session 9

Chair: *J. Bergstra*

CCS with Priority Choice	246
<i>J. Camilleri and G. Winskel</i>	
Rabin Measures and Their Applications to Fairness and Automata Theory	256
<i>N. Klarlund and D. Kozen</i>	
Specification and Refinement of Probabilistic Processes	266
<i>B. Jonsson and K.G. Larsen</i>	

Session 10

Chair: *E. Shapiro*

On the 0-1 Law for the Class of Existential Second Order Minimal Gödel Sentences with Equality	280
<i>L. Pacholski and W. Szwast</i>	
On the Deduction Rule and the Number of Proof Lines	286
<i>M.L. Bonnet and S.R. Buss</i>	

Session 11

Chair: *K. Apt*

Logic Programs as Types for Logic Programs	300
<i>T. Frühwirth, E. Shapiro, M.Y. Vardi, and E. Yardeni</i>	
A First-Order Theory of Types and Polymorphism in Logic Programming	310
<i>M. Kifer and J. Wu</i>	
Prop revisited: Propositional Formula as Abstract Domain for Groundness Analysis	322
<i>A. Cortesi, G. Filé, and W. Winsborough</i>	
Constructive Negation for Constraint Logic Programming	328
<i>P.J. Stuckey</i>	

Session 12

Chair: *M. Sato*

Higher-Order Critical Pairs	342
<i>T. Nipkow</i>	
A Computation Model for Executable Higher-Order Algebraic Specification Languages	350
<i>J.-P. Jouannaud and M. Okada</i>	
Defaults and Revision in Structured Theories	362
<i>M. Ryan</i>	

Session 13

Chair: *U. Goltz*

Actions Speak Louder than Words: Proving Bisimilarity for Context-Free Processes	376
<i>H. Hüttel and C. Stirling</i>	
On the Relationship Between Process Algebra and Input/Output Automata	387
<i>F.W. Vaandrager</i>	
A Compositional Proof System for Dynamic Process Creation	399
<i>F. de Boer</i>	
A Partial Approach to Model Checking	406
<i>P. Godefroid and P. Wolper</i>	
Author Index	417

Session 1

Chair:
G. Longo

A Foundational Definition of Computational Possibility

Daniel J. Levy

Abstract. This paper presents a foundational definition of computational possibility. The definition is based on the concept of a *computational process*, which is a sequence of operations that can be performed by a physical system. The definition is then used to show that the set of all possible computational processes is countable. This result has important implications for the foundations of computer science and for the study of the limits of computation.

1.1. The ontology of numeric terms. The ontology of numeric terms is closely related to the ontology of computational processes. A numeric term is a term that can be used to represent a number. The ontology of numeric terms is then defined as the set of all possible numeric terms. This set is countable, and this result is used to show that the set of all possible computational processes is countable.

1.2. Predictability and potential infinity. The concept of potential infinity is closely related to the concept of computational possibility. A potential infinity is a process that can continue indefinitely. The concept of predictability is then defined as the property of a process that it can be predicted. The relationship between predictability and potential infinity is then explored.

Abstract. This paper presents a foundational definition of computational possibility. The definition is based on the concept of a *computational process*, which is a sequence of operations that can be performed by a physical system. The definition is then used to show that the set of all possible computational processes is countable. This result has important implications for the foundations of computer science and for the study of the limits of computation.

1.1. The ontology of numeric terms. The ontology of numeric terms is closely related to the ontology of computational processes. A numeric term is a term that can be used to represent a number. The ontology of numeric terms is then defined as the set of all possible numeric terms. This set is countable, and this result is used to show that the set of all possible computational processes is countable.

1.2. Predictability and potential infinity. The concept of potential infinity is closely related to the concept of computational possibility. A potential infinity is a process that can continue indefinitely. The concept of predictability is then defined as the property of a process that it can be predicted. The relationship between predictability and potential infinity is then explored.

A Foundational Delineation of Computational Feasibility

Daniel Leivant*

Abstract

A function over $\{0,1\}^$ is in P-Time iff it is computed by a program which can be proved correct in second-order logic with set-existence (comprehension) restricted to positive quantifier-free formulas. This set-existence principle captures formally the view of infinite totalities as evolving, not completed, entities.*

1 Introduction

1.1 Feasibility and P-Time

Feasible computing has been identified for long with computability within deterministic polynomial time, primarily on practical and circumstantial grounds: P-Time functions are easily defined and computed, and are closed under many natural operations; and most known worst-case lower-bounds are either bounded by polynomials of small degrees, which are clearly feasible, or are at least exponential, and clearly non-feasible. The central importance of P-Time has been contested as of late, notably because feasible probabilistic classes might subsume P-Time in their practical significance, and because bounds such as $n^{\log \log n}$ are more feasible in practice than say n^{1000} . At the same time, the fundamental nature of P-Time has been reaffirmed repeatedly by various characterizations and stability results. For example, relations computable in P-Time over enumerated finite structures are the same as the ones computable by recursion equations [Saz80, Gur83] or by pure uninterpreted logic programs [Pap85], or by alternating multi-head automata [CKS81, Gur87]; they are also the same as the relations defined by positive first-order fixpoints [Var82, Imm86], or by first-order inflationary fixpoints [GS86, Lei90a], or by alternating transitive-closure [Imm87]. The P-Time functions over \mathbb{N} have, among others, characterizations in terms of a subrecursive schema [Cob65], provability in a weak system

for arithmetic [Bus86], and typability in a bounded version of linear logic [GSS89].

These characterizations testify to the significance of P-Time, but they all seem to lack a principle directly pertinent to feasibility, one that would justify the identification of P-Time with feasible computing. Our aim here is to propose such a principle.

1.2 The ontology of numeric terms

Computational feasibility is closely related to the ontology of numeric terms. As soon as non-feasible functions are named, they take a life of their own, and ontologically problematic natural numbers become easily nameable, such as $3 \uparrow\uparrow 5 =_{df} 3^{3^{3^{3^3}}}$. In particular, once exponentiation is admitted, then very short terms exist whose numeric values exceeds not only human imagination, but also possible realization in the physical world: $3 \uparrow\uparrow 5$ could not be spelled out as a decimal numeral even by quark-size computers filling up the observable universe and working concurrently since the big bang at a speed that exceeds the limitations of quantum mechanics.

The abyss between the value and the notation-size of such terms has been addressed by a number of mathematicians and philosophers, including Bernays [Ber35], van Danzig [Dan56], Yessenin-Volpin [Yes70], Isles [Isl91], and Nelson [Nel86]. Gandy [Gan89] concludes that "very large numbers are abstract not concrete (not potentially concrete) objects: they are more akin to infinite sets than to concretely presented numbers."

1.3 Predicativity and potential infinities

Basic infinite sets, such as the set \mathbb{N} of the natural numbers or the first inaccessible cardinal, are conceptualized as being generated by a process. To be admitted as legitimate, we must assume that some "universe" exists within which that process can be applied "indefinitely". Similarly, our belief that $3 \uparrow\uparrow 5$ denotes a natural number is based on the conviction that the calculation of that term will be completed eventually. Of course, we can support that conviction with a proof

*Author's current address: SCS, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Address effective Fall 1991: Computer Science Department, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405.

by induction, but, as we shall see, for that proof to make sense we must admit that *infinite sets exist as complete totalities*.

Less than a century ago, the legitimacy of infinite sets as completed totalities was not as universally taken for granted as it is today, under the influence of Cantorian set theory. Hilbert had hoped to shelter Mathematics from the potential dangers of actual infinities by reducing it to its finitistic fragment. An important aspect of Brouwer's intuitionistic foundations is the insistence that infinite totalities are only unbounded constructions: "The natural numbers, though treated, constitute only a potential totality in constructive mathematics" [Kre61].

Recall that a definition of a set X is *impredicative* if it refers to a collection of which X is an element. Uncontrolled impredicativity leads to contradictions, as in Russell's Paradox. However, impredicative definitions abound in Mathematical Analysis, where real numbers (i.e. subsets of \mathbb{N} or functions over \mathbb{N} , depending on the representation) are defined in terms of quantification over all reals. We normally expect no contradiction to arise, because we implicitly assume that the power set of \mathbb{N} , $\mathcal{P}\mathbb{N}$, is given as a completed totality prior to the definition of any particular members thereof.¹ In predicative systems of analysis² one refrains from assuming the power set of \mathbb{N} as given, albeit \mathbb{N} is assumed as a completed totality. This implies that a subset of \mathbb{N} cannot be defined in terms of quantification over $\mathcal{P}\mathbb{N}$, and circular definitions are thereby excluded.

An argument raised by Nelson [1986] is that the definitions of \mathbb{N} are also circular: the generative (inductive) definition, as a set constructed by repeated application of the successor function, presupposes an understanding of \mathbb{N} itself (specifically when Induction is proposed as the formal justification of the process). The definition of \mathbb{N} as the intersection of all sets containing 0 and closed under successor presupposes that such a set exists, and moreover uses a blatantly impredicative quantification over sets.³

¹Impredicative definitions of this form are captured by the Subset (Separation) axiom schema of Zermelo's Set Theory.

²Predicative Analysis goes back to Borel and the semi-intuitionists of the turn of the century, and has been revived by Kreisel, Feferman, Wang, Schütte, and many others.

³Shoenfield and Wang (in conversation with Kreisel, reported in [Kre61, fn. 1]) have made the interesting dual observation that if the generative justification of \mathbb{N} were to be taken as "predicative", then one should also accept as predicative the set W of all well-founded countably-branching trees, which is complete- Π_1^1 and not "predicative" in the sense of being hyperarithmetical.

Nelson point is, then, that the culprit in generating ontologically dubious terms is the impredicative justification of the set \mathbb{N} , and therefore the impredicativity of proof by Induction. Nelson observes that induction presupposes that \mathbb{N} is given as a completed totality, and so using induction to justify that the values of certain terms are in \mathbb{N} is an impredicative argument. He goes on to develop a system of Predicative Arithmetic, in which exponentiation is not provably correct. A problem with Nelson's development is that no clear cut rationale is given for admitting addition and multiplication, but not exponentiation, as primitives. Isles [1991] brings out the impredicative nature of the proof that the exponentiation function is well defined, but he too does not provide a foundational delination of feasibility.

1.4 Strictly Predicative Comprehension

Levels of impredicativity can be precisely calibrated by comprehension (set existence) principles, i.e. the admittance as legitimate of sets $\{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi\}$ for certain formulas φ . Much progress has been made in the last decade in calibrating the strength of formalisms for second-order arithmetic with weak forms of comprehension (notably by H. Friedman, Mints, Sieg, Simpson, and Smith). However, all formalisms considered are built on top of Primitive Recursive Arithmetic, so these studies are of no help in delineating the impredicativity involved in the primitive recursive (PR) functions, let alone in smaller classes.

A framework for calibrating the impredicativity of sub-PR functions was proposed in [Lei83, Lei90], with second-order *logic* used in place of second-order arithmetic. Contrary to weak systems for second-order arithmetic, the set of natural numbers is here *not* assumed as a completed totality. The method does not depend on any choice of basic numeric functions (such as addition and multiplication) or of axioms for them, and is therefore suitable for calibrating the logical nature of "small" functions. Moreover, it applies as easily to any term algebra as to \mathbb{N} .

Consider now the question of what instances of comprehension can be justified on strictly predicative grounds. Since the existence of infinite sets as completed totality cannot be so justified, we must stipulate that relational variables range over finite or potentially-infinite sets, i.e. sets that are "coming into being". Over a given structure we use comprehension to delineate new sets that are finite or potentially infinite, from the structure functions and relations, and from relational variables which denote already-defined finite or potentially infinite sets. Specifically,

if R is a relational variable, and \bar{t} are terms (where $\text{arity}(\bar{t}) = \text{arity}(R)$), we admit $\{x \mid R(\bar{t})\}$. We must also admit finite unions and intersections of admitted sets. However, we can not admit the complement of an admitted set S , since this is tantamount to accepting S as an actual infinity, for which non-members can be identified. Also, the use of quantifiers is suspect, because they refer to exhaustive inspection of the structure universe.⁴ We are thus led to accept, on strictly predicative grounds, comprehension over exactly the positive quantifier-free formulas (i.e. without negation or implication).

The main result of this paper states that the computable functions justified on the basis of positive quantifier-free comprehension are precisely the functions computable in deterministic polynomial time. This shows that the class P-Time arises naturally from a foundational analysis of feasibility, and that terms using exponentiation can be justified as meaningful only under the admission of infinite sets as completed totalities. Specific terms, such as $3 \uparrow\uparrow 5$, have their own complete computation as direct justification, but since no such computation can ever be exhibited, such terms can be feasibly justified only via the general justification of exponentiation, i.e. via implicit reference to completed infinite sets.

2 Functional programs

2.1 Herbrand-Gödel programs

Our canonical computation model is functional programs, in the Herbrand-Gödel style (See [Kle52] or [Lei90] App. 1 for expositions). The original Herbrand-Gödel definition is for \mathbb{N} , the free term algebra generated from a constant 0 and a unary function s . We use such programs over arbitrary free algebras, in particular the term algebra generated from a constant ϵ and unary functions 0 and 1, i.e. simply the set $W = \{0, 1\}^*$ (e.g. the word 011 is identified with the term $011\epsilon = 0(1(1(\epsilon)))$). We can assume, without loss of generality, that functional programs are coherent, i.e. that they define a partial function, and not a multiple-valued function.⁵

For example, the following program (over W) computes the function \odot , which on input v, w returns

⁴ We comment on this in the list of research directions below.

⁵ Kleene [1952] showed this for numeric functions. A proof for the general case can be obtained either by generalizing Kleene's proof for a computation model with fixpoint, or by generalizing the simulation used in Lemma 3.2 below for Turing machine computability. Details will be given elsewhere.

$w^n = w \cdots w$ (n factors in concatenation) where $n = \text{length}(v)$. We use c to range over $\{0, 1\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon \oplus w &= w & (cv) \oplus w &= c(v \oplus w) \\ w \odot \epsilon &= \epsilon & w \odot (cv) &= w \oplus (w \odot v) \end{aligned}$$

2.2 Convergence

To formally state the convergence of a functional program for some or for all input one needs to refer to potentially non-terminating computations. An approach common in Proof Theory, and due to Kleene [Kle52, Kle69], is to explicitly describe operational convergence, in a formalism sufficiently rich to code (Gödelize) the operational machinery. In logics of programs one expresses convergence using modal operators (as in Dynamic Logic, see e.g. [Pra80]) or using potentially non-denoting terms (see e.g. [Gol82]).

We continue here the alternative approach of [Lei83, Lei90], where programs are considered not as definitions of partial functions over the term-algebra A in hand, but as definitions of total functions over any structure whose vocabulary contains the generators of A . The key connection between such structures and convergence of programs over the intended term-algebra is given by the following observation [Lei83, Lei90]. Fix a term algebra A . For a functional program P (over A) let $[P]$ be the conjunction of the universal closures of the equations in P .

Theorem 2.1 *Let P be a functional program with principal function identifier f . The following conditions are equivalent: (1) P converges (over A) for input $\bar{t} \in A$; (2) for every model \mathcal{S} of $[P]$, there is some $r \in A$ such that $\mathcal{S} \models f(\bar{t}) = r$; (3) there is some $r \in A$ such that for every model \mathcal{S} of $[P]$ $\mathcal{S} \models f(\bar{t}) = r$.*

The entailment relation \models refers here to all structures of the appropriate vocabulary.

2.3 Second-order statement of convergence

We consider a second-order extension of first-order logic with new variables ranging over relations, and quantification over such variables. Let A be a free term algebra. Writing A also for the predicate "is $\in A$ ", we have

$$A(x) \equiv_{\text{df}} \forall Q \, C1_A[Q] \rightarrow Q(x)$$

where $Cl_A[Q]$ is a formula stating that Q is closed under the generators of A . For instance,

$$Cl_W[Q] \equiv_{df} Q(\epsilon) \wedge \forall u (Q(u) \rightarrow (Q(0u) \wedge Q(1u)))$$

From Theorem 2.1 we then conclude:

Theorem 2.2 *Let P be a functional program with principal function identifier f . P converges (over A) for all input iff*

$$[P] \models A(\bar{x}) \rightarrow A(f(\bar{x}))$$

Here $arity(\bar{x}) = arity(f)$, $A(x_1 \dots x_k)$ abbreviates $A(x_1) \wedge \dots \wedge A(x_k)$, and the relational quantifiers have their standard interpretation.

2.4 Provable convergence

By Theorem 2.2 there is a natural, axiom-independent, way of formulating in formalisms for second-order logic the provable convergence of functions.

Let L be a formalism for second (or higher) order logic. We say that a function f over A is **provable in L** iff it is computed by some functional program P (with principal function identifier f) such that

$$[P] \vdash_L A(\bar{x}) \rightarrow A(f(\bar{x}))$$

Given a collection C of formulas, let $L_2(C)$ be a formalism for second-order logic with comprehension for formulas in C (for example, the natural deduction formalism of [Pra65]). The interpretation in [Pra65] of second-order arithmetic implies that the provable functions (over \mathbb{N}) of L_2 (all second-order formulas) are precisely the provably-recursive functions of second-order arithmetic.⁶ In particular, from $N(x)$ one gets induction with respect to x for all formulas.

To obtain from $N(x)$ induction for a first-order arithmetic formula φ we need comprehension for the interpretation φ' of φ , which in general is not first-order, because quantifiers in φ are interpreted in φ' as quantifiers relativized to N . In [Lei90b, Lei91] it is shown that the provably recursive functions of first-order arithmetic are precisely the provably recursive functions of $L_2(\text{strict-}\Pi_1^1)$, and that the primitive-recursive functions are precisely the provably recursive functions of $L_2(\text{strict-}\Pi_1^1)$ without relational parameters.⁷

⁶ A simple method for dealing with Peano's third and fourth axioms is given in [Lei90].

⁷ A formula is $\text{strict-}\Pi_1^1$ if it is of the form $\forall \bar{Q} \exists \bar{x} \psi$, with ψ quantifier-free. In [Lei91] we gave an overview of the concept's significance.

2.5 S-provable convergence

We shall refer here to a notion of provable convergence formally weaker than the one defined above. Let S be a structure in the vocabulary $V_A = \{f_0 \dots f_k\}$ of A , where $arity(f_i) = r_i \geq 0$. We say that S is **surjective** if its universe $|S|$ is covered by the range of the structure functions and constants, i.e. if

$$S \models Surj_A$$

where

$$Surj_A \equiv_{df} \forall u \bigvee_{i=0 \dots k} \exists v_1 \dots v_{r_i} u = f_i(v_1 \dots v_{r_i}).$$

For example

$$Surj_W \equiv \forall u (u = \epsilon \vee \exists v (u = 0v) \vee \exists v (u = 1v))$$

The surjective structures include not only the free algebra A itself, but also most natural examples of non-standard models for the theory of A . For example, the flat A domain is surjective because $\perp = f(\perp, \dots)$ for any non 0-ary $f \in V_A$ (we assume that A is non-trivial).

Since every term algebra A is surjective, Theorem 2.2 holds trivially when validity is restricted to validity in surjective structures; i.e. P converges over A for all input iff

$$[P], Surj_A \models A(\bar{x}) \rightarrow A(f(\bar{x})).$$

Given a formalism L as above, we say that a function f over A is **s-provable in L** iff it is computed by some functional program P (with principal function identifier f) such that

$$[P], Surj_A \vdash_L A(\bar{x}) \rightarrow A(f(\bar{x})).$$

Every function provable in L is trivially s-provable in L . The next theorem states that the converse holds when L has enough comprehension. Let $\alpha \equiv \alpha[x]$ be a formula with some single free variable x . If φ is a second-order formula, its *relativization to α* , φ^α , is obtained by restricting first-order quantification to elements satisfying α , and restricting second-order quantification to subsets of the the extension of α . I.e., φ^α is defined by recurrence on φ as follows, where, for k -ary Q , $Q \subseteq \alpha$ abbreviates $\forall v_1 \dots v_k Q(\bar{v}) \rightarrow \alpha[v_1] \wedge \dots \wedge \alpha[v_k]$.

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi^\alpha &\equiv_{df} (\varphi \text{ quantifier free}) \\ (\neg \varphi)^\alpha &\equiv_{df} \neg(\varphi^\alpha) \\ (\varphi * \psi)^\alpha &\equiv_{df} \varphi^\alpha * \psi^\alpha \quad (* \text{ a binary connective}) \end{aligned}$$