

# THE COMPUTATIONAL STRENGTH OF FIXED POINTS

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## KNASTER-TARSKI FIXED POINT THEOREM



For  $(L, \leq)$  a complete lattice &  $F : L \rightarrow L$  monotone:

**Theorem (Tarski '55)**

*The fixed points of  $F$  form a complete lattice under  $\leq$ .*

*$\rightsquigarrow F$  has a **least fixed point**  $\mu F$  and  
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### Applications across Computer Science:

- Game Theory.
- (Finite) Model Theory.
- Automata Theory.
- *Typed Programming Languages.*

- 1 Types with fixed points
- 2 Circular proofs
- 3 Main results
- 4 Conclusions

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**Sequents:**  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n \Rightarrow \tau$  (interpret as  $\sigma_1 \times \dots \times \sigma_n \rightarrow \tau$ )

Each type can be **constructed** and **deconstructed**. E.g.

$$\rightarrow_r \frac{\Gamma, \sigma \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \sigma \rightarrow \tau} \quad \rightarrow_l \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \rho \quad \Gamma, \sigma \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma, \rho \rightarrow \sigma \Rightarrow \tau}$$

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**Fixed point rules:**

$$\mu_r \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \sigma(\mu X \sigma(X))}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \mu X \sigma(X)} \quad \mu_l \frac{\Gamma, \sigma(\tau) \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma, \mu X \sigma(X) \Rightarrow \tau} \quad \nu_r \frac{\Gamma, \tau \Rightarrow \sigma(\tau)}{\Gamma, \tau \Rightarrow \nu X \sigma(X)} \quad \nu_l \frac{\Gamma, \sigma(\nu X \sigma(X)) \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma, \nu X \sigma(X) \Rightarrow \tau}$$

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**Definition ([Cla09])**

$\mu$ LJ is the extension of usual LJ by the fixed point rules above.

Computational model given by cut-reduction.

## EXAMPLES: NATURAL NUMBERS AND STREAMS

$$\underline{N := \mu X(1 + X)}$$

$$\underline{0} := \frac{\frac{\overline{\quad}}{\Rightarrow 1}}{\Rightarrow 1 + N} \quad \mu_r \frac{\quad}{\Rightarrow N}$$

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$$\underline{S := \nu Y(N \times Y)}$$

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$$\underline{f : n \mapsto [n, n + 1, \dots]}$$

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$$\left( f(n) = n :: f(n + 1) \right)$$

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simple types	Extended Polynomials	Pure FO Logic
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## What do fixed point types **compute**?

1 Types with fixed points

**2 Circular proofs**

3 Main results

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- Derivations may be **non-wellfounded** but **regular**.
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### **Landscape:**

- *Algebra*. E.g., [San02, FS13, DP17, DD24].
- *Type systems*. E.g., [Cla09, BDS16, DP18, KPP21, BDKS22].
- *Modal logics*. E.g., [NW96, Lan03, Stu08, Sha14, AL17].
- *Predicate logic*: E.g. [Sim17, BT17a, BT17b, Das20, DG22].

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- A **coderivation** is generated *coinductively* from rules of  $\mu'$ LJ.
- It is **progressing** if every infinite branch has an **infinite progressing thread**.  
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### Definition

$C\mu$ LJ is the class of **regular** progressing coderivations.

Computational model again given by cut-reduction.





## EXAMPLES OF PROGRESSING CODERIVATIONS

$\frac{\text{add} : N \times N \rightarrow N}{\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \mu'_1 \frac{\quad}{N, N \Rightarrow N} \bullet \\ \text{id} \frac{N \Rightarrow N}{1, N \Rightarrow N} \quad \mu_r \frac{N, N \Rightarrow 1 + N}{N, N \Rightarrow N} \\ \hline \mu'_1 \frac{1 + N, N \Rightarrow N}{N, N \Rightarrow N} \bullet \end{array}}$	$\frac{[n_0, n_1, \dots]}{\begin{array}{c} \text{trapezoid } n_1 \\ \Rightarrow N \quad \vdots \\ \text{trapezoid } n_0 \\ \Rightarrow N \quad \Rightarrow N \times S \\ \hline \nu_r \frac{\Rightarrow N \times S}{\Rightarrow S} \end{array}}$	$\frac{n \mapsto [n, n + 1, \dots]}{\begin{array}{c} \text{id} \frac{\quad}{N \Rightarrow N} \\ \hline \mu_r \frac{N \Rightarrow 1 + N}{N \Rightarrow N} \quad \vdots \\ \hline \text{id} \frac{N \Rightarrow N}{N \Rightarrow N} \quad \text{cut} \frac{\quad}{N \Rightarrow S} \bullet \\ \hline \nu'_r \frac{N \Rightarrow N \times S}{N \Rightarrow S} \bullet \end{array}}$
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**Recursion to cycles:**

$$\mu'_1 \frac{\Gamma, \sigma(\tau) \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma, \mu X \sigma(X) \Rightarrow \tau} \rightsquigarrow \frac{\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \mu'_1 \frac{\quad}{\Gamma, \mu X \sigma(X) \Rightarrow \tau} \bullet \\ \sigma \frac{\quad}{\Gamma, \sigma(\mu X \sigma(X)) \Rightarrow \sigma(\tau)} \quad \Gamma, \sigma(\tau) \Rightarrow \tau \\ \text{cut} \frac{\quad}{\Gamma, \sigma(\mu X \sigma(X)) \Rightarrow \tau} \bullet \\ \hline \mu'_1 \frac{\Gamma, \sigma(\mu X \sigma(X)) \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma, \mu X \sigma(X) \Rightarrow \tau} \bullet \end{array}}$$

# ACKERMANN FUNCTION



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 \frac{1}{\Rightarrow N} \quad \frac{\vdots}{N, N \Rightarrow N} \bullet \\
 \text{cut} \frac{\quad}{\Rightarrow N} \\
 \frac{\text{wk} \frac{N \Rightarrow N}{N, N \Rightarrow N}}{\mu'_1} \quad \frac{\vdots \quad \frac{\vdots}{N, N \Rightarrow N} \bullet}{\text{cut} \frac{N, N \Rightarrow N \quad N, N \Rightarrow N}{N, N, N \Rightarrow N}} \bullet \\
 \frac{\mu'_1, s \frac{N, N, N \Rightarrow N}{N, N, N \Rightarrow N}}{c \frac{N, N, N \Rightarrow N}{N, N \Rightarrow N}} \bullet
 \end{array}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} A(0, n) = n + 1 \\ A(m + 1, 0) = A(m, 1) \\ A(m + 1, n + 1) = A(m, A(n + 1, m)) \end{array} \right)$$

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### THE CASE OF $N$

Write  $(C)T$  for restriction of  $(C)\mu LJ$  to just the fixed point  $N$ :

**Theorem** ([KPP21, Das21b])

$CT$  and  $T$  define the same (type 1) functions.

**Theorem** ([Das21a])

$CT$  and  $T$  define the same functionals (at all types).

**NB:** further results on **affinity** [KPP21] and **type levels** [Das21b].

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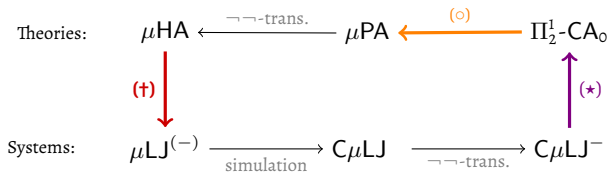
Theorem ([CD23])

$\mu\text{LJ}$  and  $\text{C}\mu\text{LJ}$  define just the functions *provably recursive in  $\Pi_2^1\text{-CA}_0$* .

# MAIN RESULT

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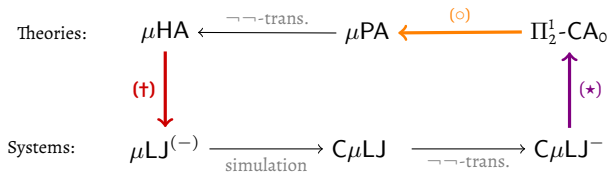
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( $\star$ ) **Formalisation of semantics** by *fixed points as fixed points*:

- **Novel reverse mathematics** of fixed point theorems, building on [Das21a, DM23].

( $\circ$ ) A complex **black box** result due to [Mö02].

( $\dagger$ ) **Realisability interpretation** by *fixed points as SO types*.

- (Considerable) specialisation of  $\text{HA}_2 \rightarrow \text{F}$ .



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**Axioms:**

(pre)  $\varphi(\mu\varphi) \subseteq \mu\varphi$ .

(ind)  $\varphi(\psi) \subseteq \psi \rightarrow (\mu\varphi \subseteq \psi)$

*Perspective:*  $\mu\varphi = \bigcap \{A \supseteq \varphi(A)\}$ .

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**Theorem (Essentially [Mö02])**

$\Pi_2^1$ -CA<sub>0</sub> is *arithmetically conservative* over  $\mu$ PA.

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## Proposition (Implicit in [Tup04])

$\mu$ PA is  $\Pi_2^0$ -*conservative* over an *intuitionistic variant*,  $\mu$ HA.

Idea: specialises  $\Pi_2^0$ -conservativity of PA2 over HA2.



Define a judgement  $\cdot \mathbf{r} \cdot \subseteq \langle \mu\mathbf{LJ}^- \rangle \times \text{Form}$  and a  $\mathbf{t} : \text{Form} \rightarrow \text{Type}$  s.t.:

### Theorem

If  $\mu\mathbf{HA} \vdash \varphi$  then there is  $P \mathbf{r} \varphi$  with  $\mu\mathbf{LJ}^- \vdash P : \mathbf{t}(\varphi)$ .



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### Theorem

*If  $\mu\text{HA} \vdash \varphi$  then there is  $P \mathbf{r} \varphi$  with  $\mu\text{LJ}^- \vdash P : \mathfrak{t}(\varphi)$ .*

### Corollary

*The provably total recursive functions of  $\mu\text{HA}$  are definable in  $\mu\text{LJ}^-$ .*

## Realisability candidates:

Binary relation  $\cdot \mathbf{r} \cdot \subseteq \langle \mu\mathbf{LJ}^- \rangle \times \mathbb{N}$  with nice properties.

- $t \mathbf{r} \underline{m} = \underline{n}$  if  $\underline{m} =_r t =_r \underline{n}$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1$  if  $p_0 t \mathbf{r} \varphi_0$  and  $p_1 t \mathbf{r} \varphi_1$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} A\underline{n}$  if  $tAn$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \exists x \varphi(x)$  if there is  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $p_0 t =_r \underline{n}$  and  $p_1 t \mathbf{r} \varphi(\underline{n})$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \varphi \rightarrow \psi$  if, whenever  $s \mathbf{r} \varphi$ , we have  $ts \mathbf{r} \psi$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \forall x(\varphi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))$  if whenever  $u \mathbf{r} (\underline{n} = \underline{n} \wedge \varphi(\underline{n}))$  we have  $tu \mathbf{r} \psi(\underline{n})$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \forall x \varphi(x)$ , where  $\varphi$  is not a  $\rightarrow$ -formula, if for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $t\underline{n} \mathbf{r} \varphi(\underline{n})$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \underline{n} \in \mu X \lambda x \varphi(X, x)$  if  $t \mathbf{r} \forall x(\varphi(A, x) \rightarrow A\underline{n})$  for all  $A$ .

$A$  varies over **realisability candidates**, subsets of  $\langle \mu\mathbf{LJ}^- \rangle \times \mathbb{N}$  with ‘nice’ properties.

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- $t \mathbf{r} A\underline{n}$  if  $tA\underline{n}$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \exists x \varphi(x)$  if there is  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $p_0 t =_r \underline{n}$  and  $p_1 t \mathbf{r} \varphi(\underline{n})$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \varphi \rightarrow \psi$  if, whenever  $s \mathbf{r} \varphi$ , we have  $ts \mathbf{r} \psi$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \forall x (\varphi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))$  if whenever  $u \mathbf{r} (\underline{n} = \underline{n} \wedge \varphi(\underline{n}))$  we have  $tu \mathbf{r} \psi(\underline{n})$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \forall x \varphi(x)$ , where  $\varphi$  is not a  $\rightarrow$ -formula, if for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $t\underline{n} \mathbf{r} \varphi(\underline{n})$ .
- $t \mathbf{r} \underline{n} \in \mu X \lambda x \varphi(X, x)$  if  $t \mathbf{r} \forall x (\varphi(A, x) \rightarrow A\underline{n})$  for all  $A$ .

$A$  varies over **realisability candidates**, subsets of  $\langle \mu\mathbf{LJ}^- \rangle \times \mathbb{N}$  with ‘nice’ properties.

## Perspectives:

- $\mu, \nu$  viewed under their **SO encodings** (unlike [BT21]).
- ... a (considerable) specialisation of  $\mathbf{HA2} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}$ .
- Must inline **relativisation to  $N$**  (unlike [BT21]).



## Definition (Type structure)

$A$  varies over sets of coterms with ‘nice’ properties.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\sigma \rightarrow \tau\| &:= \{t \mid \forall s \in \|\sigma\|. ts \in \|\tau\|\} & \|A\| &:= A \\
 \|\mu X \sigma(X)\| &:= \mu[A \mapsto \|\sigma(A)\|] & \|N\| &:= \{t \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N}. t =_{r'}^{\eta} n\} \\
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If  $\text{C}\mu\text{LJ}^- \vdash P : \tau$  then  $P \in \|\tau\|$ .

## Proof idea.

- Otherwise, iteratively construct an *infinite branch* and  $\|\cdot\|$ -inputs witnessing  $\|\cdot\|$ -non-membership. Need ‘general inputs’ for two-sided sequents.
- The progressing condition induces from this an infinite *descending sequence of ordinals* approximating  $\|\cdot\|$ -non-membership.  $\square$

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## Corollary

if  $C\mu LJ^- \vdash P : N \rightarrow N$  then  $P$  defines a total function  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ .





- Model  $\| \cdot \|$  and totality argument can be formalised (non-uniformly) in  $\Pi_2^1$ -CA<sub>0</sub>.
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- Model  $\| \cdot \|$  and totality argument can be **formalised** (non-uniformly) in  $\Pi_2^1\text{-CA}_0$ .
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### Theorem ( $\Pi_2^1\text{-CA}_0$ )

If  $\varphi(X, x) \in \Delta_2^{1,+}(X, \vec{X})$  then  $\mu X \lambda x \varphi(X, x) \in \Delta_2^{1,+}(\vec{X})$ .

Can be seen as a partial arithmetisation of [Lub93].

Proof crucially relies on  $\mu\varphi = \bigcap \{A \supseteq \varphi(A)\} = \bigcup_{\alpha} \varphi^\alpha$ .

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$\|\sigma\| \in \Delta_2^1$ .

- 1 Types with fixed points
- 2 Circular proofs
- 3 Main results
- 4 Conclusions**

We settled both questions we started with!

**Theorem** ([CD23])

$\mu\text{LJ}$  and  $\text{C}\mu\text{LJ}$  define just the functions provably recursive in  $\Pi_2^1\text{-CA}_0$ .

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*... and so does  $\mu$ MALL and  $C\mu$ MALL.*

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**Emerging consensus:** circularity and (co)recursion are *equally powerful*.

... but circular proofs may be more **succinct**, cf. [Das20, Das21b].



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# THANK YOU.



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