

# A Logic for Secure Memory Access of ASMs

**Stanislas Nanchen  
Robert F. Stärk**

Institute of Theoretical Computer Science, ETH Zurich

# Overview

- Motivations
- Access and access sets
- A logic for secure memory access of ASMs
- Implementation in ASMKeY
- Conclusion

# Abstract State Machines (ASMs)

A formal method for specification and verification

- specification of hardware and software
- specification of algorithms
- semantics of programming languages

ASM Archive: <http://www.eecs.umich.edu/gasm/>

Gurevich's thesis:

*For each algorithm, one can build an ASM so that one step in the algorithm corresponds to one step on the ASM*

# ASMs in a Nutshell

- State = abstract algebraic structure.
- Dynamic functions vs static functions.
- Semantic via update sets (firing a rule).
- Transition rules :

**if** *Condition* **then**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f_1(s_1) := t_1 \\ f_2(s_2) := t_2 \\ \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\ f_n(s_n) := t_n \end{array} \right\} \text{parallel}$$

# ASM rules

Name	Syntax	Semantics
<i>Skip Rule</i>	<b>skip</b>	[do nothing]
<i>Update Rule</i>	$f(t) := s$	[update $f$ at argument $t$ to $s$ ]
<i>Block Rule</i>	$R \mathbf{par} S$	[parallel execution]
<i>Conditional</i>	<b>if</b> $\varphi$ <b>then</b> $R$ <b>else</b> $S$	[conditional execution]
<i>Let Rule</i>	<b>let</b> $x = t$ <b>in</b> $R$	[call by value]
<i>Forall Rule</i>	<b>forall</b> $x$ <b>with</b> $\varphi$ <b>do</b> $R$	[parallel for each $x$ satisfying $\varphi$ ]
<i>Sequence</i>	$R \mathbf{seq} S$	[sequential execution]
<i>Try Rule</i>	<b>try</b> $R$ <b>else</b> $S$	[if $R$ is inconsistent, then $S$ ]
<i>Call Rule</i>	$\rho(t)$	[call $\rho$ with parameter $t$ ]

# Motivations: Security

- In the world of ASMs

- The states are global states
- Focus on the updates of ASMs

- Access are equally important

- Applet isolation on smart cards
- Secure information flow

- Some properties

- ‘The program  $P$  does not read the location  $f(x)$ ’
- ‘Whenever program  $P$  reads location  $f(x)$ , then  $0 \leq x < 10$ ’

# Motivations: Sequentialization

- Sequentialization

$$P \text{ par } Q \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad P \text{ seq } Q$$

- $Q$  does not override locations updated by  $P$

$$\text{not\_over}(P, Q) \triangleq$$

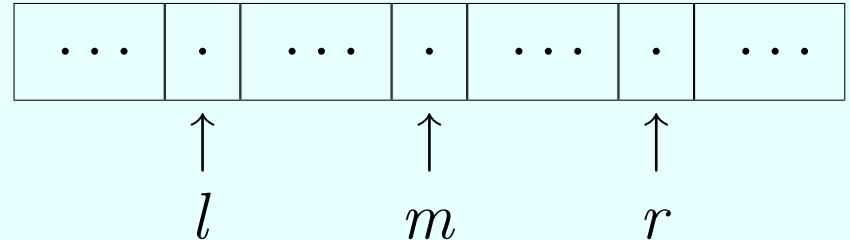
$$\bigwedge_{f \text{ dyn.}} \forall x, y (\text{upd}(P, f, x, y) \rightarrow \text{inv}(Q, f, x) \vee \text{upd}(Q, f, x, y))$$

- $Q$  does not read locations updated by  $P$

$$\text{not\_read}(P, Q) \triangleq ???$$

# Motivations: Avoiding Exceptions

Use a unary dynamic function  $f$ :



$\text{MERGESORT}(l, r) =$

**if**  $l < r$  **then**

**let**  $m = \lfloor (l + r)/2 \rfloor$  **in**

$(\text{MERGESORT}(l, m) \text{ par } \text{MERGESORT}(m + 1, r))$  **seq**

$\text{MERGE}(l, m, r)$

$\text{MERGE}(l, m, r) =$

**(forall**  $i$  **with**  $l \leq i \leq r$  **do**  $g(i) := f(i)$ ) **seq**

$\text{MERGECOPY}(l, m, m + 1, r, l)$

## Motivations: Avoiding Exceptions (cont.)

$\text{MERGECOPY}(i, m, j, r, k) =$

**if**  $k \leq r$  **then**

**if**  $(i \leq m \wedge j \leq r \wedge g(i) \leq g(j)) \vee (r < j)$  **then**

$f(k) := g(i)$  **par**  $\text{MERGECOPY}(i + 1, m, j, r, k + 1)$

**else**

$f(k) := g(j)$  **par**  $\text{MERGECOPY}(i, m, j + 1, r, k + 1)$

‘In the absence of short-circuit boolean operators, if the greatest element is in the first half of the array, then MERGECOPY makes an access at  $g(r + 1)$ .’

## ■ ASMs

Deterministic Turbo ASMs (with recursive rule definitions) with **forall** transition rules

## ■ Rule guards

New boolean connectives in rule guards : short-circuit `&&` and `||`

## ■ Logical equivalent of rule guards

$$\varphi \dashrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \&\& \rightsquigarrow \wedge \\ || \rightsquigarrow \vee \end{array} \right\} \dashrightarrow \hat{\varphi}$$

# Access Sets and Update Sets

## ■ Update and access (for a dynamic function $f$ )

- Update:  $\langle f, a, b \rangle$  with  $a, b \in |\mathfrak{A}|$
- Access:  $\langle f, a \rangle$  with  $a \in |\mathfrak{A}|$

## ■ Update sets and access sets

- Update sets yielded by transition rules;
- Access sets yielded by terms, formulas and transition rules.

## ■ Consistency

- Update sets:

$$\bigwedge_{f \text{ dyn.}} \forall x, y, z (\langle f, x, y \rangle \in U \wedge \langle f, x, z \rangle \in U \rightarrow y = z)$$

- Access sets: no consistency notion needed.

# Access Sets for Terms and Formulas

$$\text{AccSet}(x, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) = \emptyset$$

$$\text{AccSet}(f(t), \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) = \begin{cases} \{\langle f, \llbracket t \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} \rangle\} \cup \text{AccSet}(t, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta), \\ \text{if } f \text{ is dynamic;} \\ \text{AccSet}(t, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta), \\ \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{AccSet}(s = t, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) = \text{AccSet}(s, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) \cup \text{AccSet}(t, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta)$$

$$\text{AccSet}(\neg \varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) = \text{AccSet}(\varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta)$$

$$\text{AccSet}(\varphi \wedge \psi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) = \text{AccSet}(\varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) \cup \text{AccSet}(\psi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta)$$

$$\text{AccSet}(\varphi \& \& \psi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) = \begin{cases} \text{AccSet}(\varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) \cup \text{AccSet}(\psi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta), \\ \text{if } \llbracket \hat{\varphi} \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} = \text{true}; \\ \text{AccSet}(\varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta), \\ \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

## Access Sets and Update Sets (cont.)

$$\text{yields}(\text{skip}, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, \emptyset, \emptyset)$$

$$\text{yields}(f(s) := t, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, \{\langle f, [\![s]\!]_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}}, [\![t]\!]_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} \rangle\}, A)$$

where  $A = \text{AccSet}(s, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) \cup \text{AccSet}(t, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta)$

$$\frac{\text{yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A) \quad \text{yields}(Q, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, V, B)}{\text{yields}(P \text{ par } Q, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U \cup V, A \cup B)}$$

$$\frac{\text{yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A) \quad \text{yields}(Q, \mathfrak{A} + U, \zeta, V, B)}{\text{yields}(P \text{ seq } Q, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U \oplus V, A \cup B)} \text{ if } U \text{ is consistent}$$

$$\frac{\text{yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A)}{\text{yields}(P \text{ seq } Q, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A)} \text{ if } U \text{ is inconsistent}$$

# Basic Logic (Reminder)

## Modal formulas and basic predicates

$$\llbracket [P]\varphi \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} := \begin{cases} \text{true}, & \text{if } \llbracket \varphi \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}+U} = \text{true} \text{ for each consist. } U \text{ with} \\ & \text{yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A); \\ \text{false}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\llbracket \text{def}(P) \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} := \begin{cases} \text{true}, & \text{if there exists an (finite) update set } U \text{ with} \\ & \text{yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A); \\ \text{false}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\llbracket \text{upd}(P, f, s, t) \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} := \begin{cases} \text{true}, & \text{if yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A) \text{ and} \\ & \langle f, \llbracket s \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}}, \llbracket t \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} \rangle \in U; \\ \text{false}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

# Derived Predicates

## ■ Consistency

$$\text{con}(P) \triangleq \bigwedge_{\substack{f \text{ dyn.}}} \forall x, y, z (\text{upd}(P, f, x, y) \wedge \text{upd}(P, f, x, z) \rightarrow y = z)$$

$$\text{Con}(P) \triangleq \text{def}(P) \wedge \text{con}(P)$$

## ■ Invariance

$$\text{inv}(P, f, s) \triangleq \text{def}(P) \wedge \forall y \neg \text{upd}(P, f, s, y)$$

# Access Predicates

## New Predicates

$$\llbracket \text{acc}(s, f, t) \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} := \begin{cases} \text{true}, & \text{if } \langle f, \llbracket t \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} \rangle \in \text{AccSet}(t, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta); \\ \text{false}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\llbracket \text{acc}(\varphi, f, t) \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} := \begin{cases} \text{true}, & \text{if } \langle f, \llbracket t \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} \rangle \in \text{AccSet}(\varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta); \\ \text{false}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\llbracket \text{acc}(P, f, t) \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} := \begin{cases} \text{true}, & \text{if } \text{yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A) \text{ and} \\ & \langle f, \llbracket t \rrbracket_{\zeta}^{\mathfrak{A}} \rangle \in A; \\ \text{false}, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

# Why only dynamic functions ?

- Static functions are “built-in” (or “hard-wired”) operations.
- Substitution principle

$$\forall x \forall y (\text{acc}(h(x) < 0, h, y) \rightarrow y = x)$$

$$\forall y (\text{acc}(h(h(0)), h, y) \rightarrow y = h(0)) \quad \textcolor{red}{WRONG!}$$

$$\forall x (x = 0 \rightarrow [f(0) := 1]x = 0)$$

$$f(0) = 0 \rightarrow [f(0) := 1]f(0) = 0 \quad \textcolor{red}{WRONG!}$$

# Derived Predicates

- $Q$  does not read locations updated by  $P$

$$\text{not\_read}(P, Q) \triangleq \bigwedge_{f \text{ dyn.}} \forall x (\text{acc}(Q, f, x) \rightarrow \text{inv}(P, f, x))$$

- $Q$  does not change after firing  $P$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{same\_after}(P, Q) \triangleq \\ \bigwedge_{f \text{ dyn.}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x, y (\text{upd}(Q, f, x, y) \leftrightarrow [P]\text{upd}(Q, f, x, y)) \\ \forall x (\text{acc}(Q, f, x) \leftrightarrow [P]\text{acc}(Q, f, x)) \end{array} \right. \end{aligned}$$

- $P$  and  $Q$  are equivalent

$$\begin{aligned} (P \equiv Q) \triangleq \text{def}(P) \wedge \text{def}(Q) \wedge \\ \bigwedge_{f \text{ dyn.}} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \forall x, y (\text{upd}(P, f, x, y) \leftrightarrow \text{upd}(Q, f, x, y)) \wedge \\ \forall x (\text{acc}(P, f, x) \leftrightarrow \text{acc}(Q, f, x)) \end{array} \right. \end{aligned}$$

## I.- IX. Axioms of the basic logic

## X. Axioms for the acc predicates

1. Axioms for the new predicates
2.  $\text{acc}(P, f, x) \rightarrow \text{def}(P)$
3.  $\text{Con}(P) \wedge \text{def}(Q) \wedge \text{not\_read}(P, Q) \rightarrow$   
 $\text{same\_after}(P, Q) \wedge [P]\text{def}(Q)$

## Axioms (cont.)

- An axiom for the acc predicate for terms.

$$\text{AT2. } \text{acc}(f(t), f, x) \leftrightarrow x = t \vee \text{acc}(t, f, x)$$

- Some axioms for the acc predicate for formulas.

$$\text{AF3. } \text{acc}(\varphi \wedge \psi, f, x) \leftrightarrow \text{acc}(\varphi, f, x) \vee \text{acc}(\psi, f, x)$$

$$\text{AF4. } \text{acc}(\varphi \And \psi, f, x) \leftrightarrow \text{acc}(\varphi, f, x) \vee (\hat{\varphi} \wedge \text{acc}(\psi, f, x))$$

- Some axioms for the acc predicate for rules.

$$\text{AR2. } \text{acc}(g(s) := t, f, x) \leftrightarrow \text{acc}(s, f, x) \vee \text{acc}(t, f, x)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{AR3. } \text{acc}(P \text{ par } Q, f, x) \leftrightarrow \\ \text{def}(P \text{ par } Q) \wedge (\text{acc}(P, f, x) \vee \text{acc}(Q, f, x))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{AR7. } \text{acc}(P \text{ seq } Q, f, x) \leftrightarrow \\ (\text{acc}(P, f, x) \wedge [P]\text{def}(Q)) \vee (\text{Con}(P) \wedge [P]\text{acc}(Q, f, x))\end{aligned}$$

# Applications: Sequentialization

- $Q$  does not read locations updated by  $P$

$$\text{not\_read}(P, Q) \triangleq \bigwedge_{f \text{ dyn.}} \forall x (\text{acc}(Q, f, x) \rightarrow \text{inv}(P, f, x))$$

- $Q$  does not overwrite updates of  $P$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{not\_over}(P, Q) \triangleq \\ \bigwedge_{f \text{ dyn.}} \forall x, y (\text{upd}(P, f, x, y) \rightarrow \text{inv}(Q, f, x) \vee \text{upd}(Q, f, x, y)) \end{aligned}$$

- $P \text{ par } Q \equiv P \text{ seq } Q$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Con}(P) \wedge \text{def}(Q) \wedge \text{not\_read}(P, Q) \wedge \text{not\_over}(P, Q) \rightarrow \\ P \text{ par } Q \equiv P \text{ seq } Q \end{aligned}$$

# Applications: MERGESORT

## ■ Index overflow

$$\begin{aligned} \forall l, r, m \ (l < r \wedge m = (l + r)/2 \\ \wedge \exists i \ (l \leq i \leq m \wedge \forall j \ (m + 1 \leq j \leq r \rightarrow f(j) < f(i)))) \\ \rightarrow \text{acc}(\text{MERGESORTV}(l, r), g, r + 1)) \end{aligned}$$

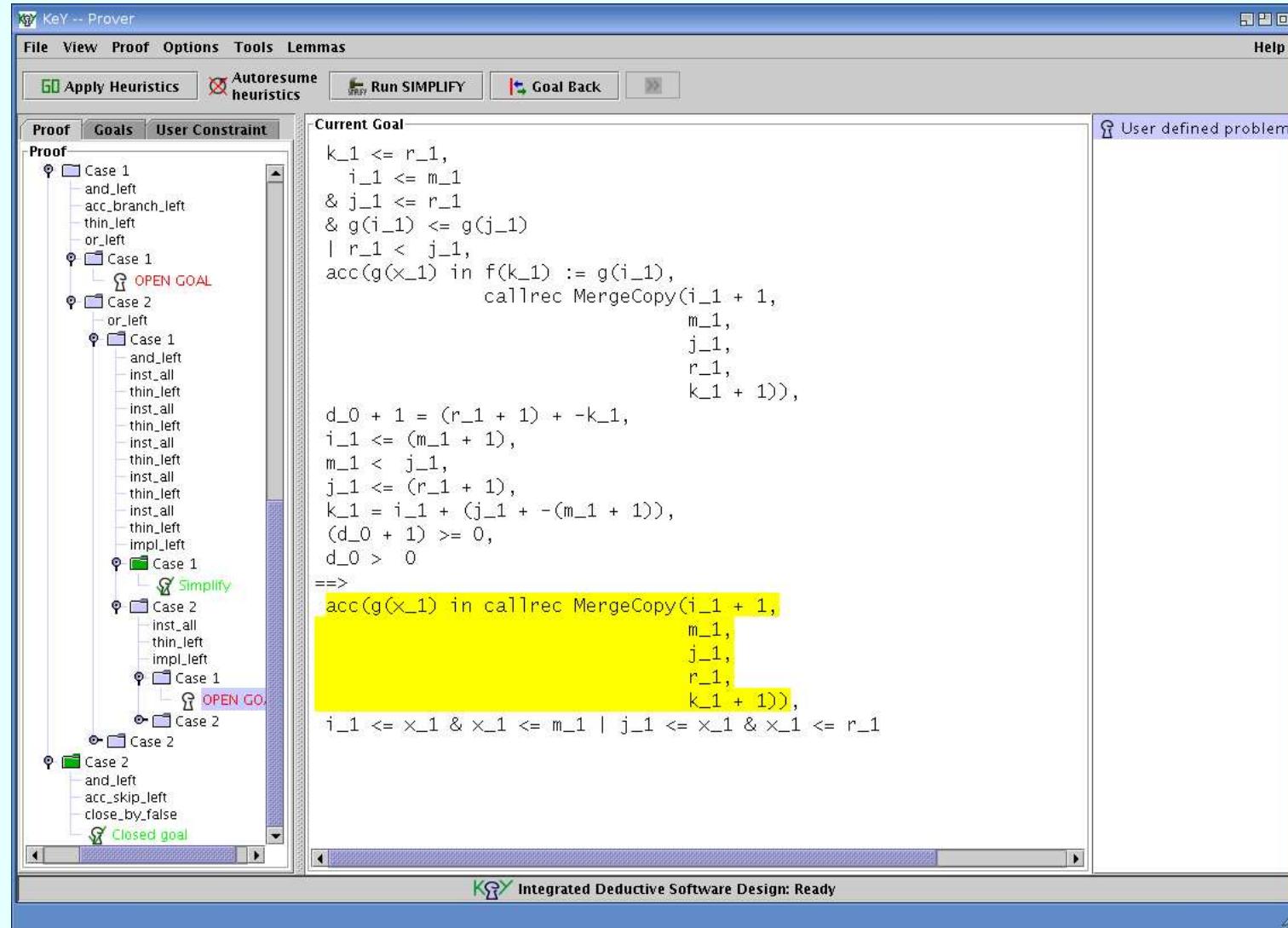
## ■ Correct accesses

$$\forall l, r \ (\forall x \ (\text{acc}(\text{MERGESORT}(l, r), g, x) \rightarrow (l \leq x \wedge x \leq r)))$$

## ■ Sequentialization

$$\forall l, r \ (\text{MERGESORT}(l, r) \equiv \text{SEQMERGESORT}(l, r))$$

# ASMKeY



## ■ Work in Progress

- Step logic
- Static analysis

## ■ Future Work

- Strategies
- Cases studies: LiftControler, Shortest Path Algorithm, (C# Thread Model)
- Source Code: create a 'real' ASMK<sub>e</sub>Y distribution

# Conclusion

## ■ Summary

- New predicates:  $\text{acc}(t, f, s)$ ,  $\text{acc}(\varphi, f, s)$  and  $\text{acc}(R, f, s)$
- Allows to express secure access properties
- Gives a criterion for sequentialization of parallel ASMs
- Implemented in ASMKeY

## ■ Future Work

- Extend the logic for ASMs with the **choose** rule
- ASMKeY

# Access Sets and Update Sets (cont.)

## The problem of **forall**

$$\frac{\text{yields}(P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta[x \mapsto v], U_v, A_v) \quad \text{for each } v \in I = \text{range}(x, \varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta)}{\text{yields}(\mathbf{forall } x \mathbf{ with } \varphi \mathbf{ do } P, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, \bigcup_{v \in I} U_v, \bigcup_{v \in I} A_v \cup \Phi)}$$

where

- $\text{range}(x, \varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta) \triangleq \{v \in |\mathfrak{A}| : [\![\varphi]\!]_{\zeta[x \mapsto v]}^{\mathfrak{A}} = \text{true}\}$
- $\Phi = \bigcup_{v \in |\mathfrak{A}|} \text{AccSet}(\varphi, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta[x \mapsto v])$

Example:

**forall**  $x$  **with**  $0 \leq x \ \&\& \ x \leq 10 \ \&\& \ f(x) < 0$  **do**  $f(x) := 0$   
Access set:  $\{\langle f, 0 \rangle, \langle f, 1 \rangle, \dots, \langle f, 10 \rangle\}$

# Access Sets and Observable Terms (Critical Terms)

(For a non-recursive ASM  $P$  without **forall** rules)

$$A \triangleq \{\langle f, a \rangle \mid P \text{ reads the location } \langle f, a \rangle\}$$

$$D \triangleq \{\langle f, a \rangle \mid P \text{ depends on the location } \langle f, a \rangle\}$$

$$O \triangleq \{\langle f, a \rangle \mid \langle f, a \rangle \text{ is the location of an observable term of } P\}$$

- $A \not\subseteq O$ , Example:

```
if  $f(0) := 0$  then  $f(1) := 1$  else  $f(1) := 1$ 
Observable terms: {1}
```

- $D \not\subseteq O$ , Example:

```
if  $f(f(0)) = 0$  then  $f(0) := 1$ 
Observable terms: {0, 1,  $f(f(0))$ }
```

- $D \subseteq \{\langle f, a \rangle \mid \langle f, a \rangle \text{ is the location of a subterm of an observable term of } M\}$

# Theorems

- Soundness of the logic

If  $\Psi \vdash_M \varphi$ , then  $\Psi \models_M \varphi$ .

- Independence lemma

For an ASM  $Q$ , if  $\text{yields}(Q, \mathfrak{A}, \zeta, U, A)$  and  $W$  is a consistent update set that does not contain updates for locations in  $A$ , then  $\text{yields}(Q, \mathfrak{A} + W, \zeta, U, A)$ .

- Completeness of the logic for hierarchical ASMs.

Let  $M$  be a hierarchical ASM. If  $\Psi \models_M \varphi$ , then  $\Psi \vdash_M \varphi$ .