

# Revision 2 of CoLiS language: formal syntax, semantics, concrete and symbolic interpreters

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# CoLiS project

http://colis.irif.fr/

# Deliverable 3.3 - Revision 2 of CoLiS language: formal syntax, semantics, concrete and symbolic interpreters

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This report aims at providing the detailed technical informations about the second version of the CoLiS language, designed in the context of the CoLiS project.

The first version was presented in 2017 [3]. This second version extends the language by some constructs that were identified as missing for the analysis of installation shell scripts of Debian packages. Moreover, a few important fix were made in the formal semantics. Section 1 summarizes the changes made with respect to the first version of the language.

As for the first version, the second version of the CoLiS language is formalized using the Why3 environment for formal design and verification [2]. Section 2 details the formalisation and the proof of a *concrete interpreter* for CoLiS, which is used for executing CoLiS scripts in a concrete state of a file system. Section 3 is dedicated to the formalisation of a *symbolic interpreter*, aiming at executing a script in a *symbolic* state, which represents a (possibly infite) set of concrete states by a symbolic formula. The symbolic interpreter is a basic block for a static analysis of the execution of a script.

The implementation of this version 2 of the CoLiS language is available in the repository https://github.com/colis-anr/colis-language. The implementation is heavily used in current experimentations of analysis of Debian installation scripts. Data and conclusions of those experimentations are reported in a separate document (under preparation).

For completeness, the appendix of this document presents the complete syntax of the CoLiS language and the complete set of its semantic rules. It is worth to notice that the set of semantics rules is in fact automatically generated from the Why3 implementation, so as to guarantee that the present documentation is accurate. Technically this is obtain by the Why3 command

```
why3 pp --output=latex --kind=inductive
```

which was implemented in Why3 for this precise purpose, and is now distributed with Why3 itself for convenience of other users of Why3.

#### 1 Summary of Changes and Fixes

We detail the additions and changes with respect to the first CoLiS version.

#### 1.1 Changes and Additions in the syntax

The new complete syntax is given in Appendix A.

**Distinction between function calls and utility** The syntax now makes an explicit distinction between a call to a function in the script, and a call to a utility (e.g., mkdir, rmdir, mv, cp). Syntactically, a function call is marked by the keyword call, whereas a utility is called just by its name and arguments. For example:

```
call f "a" "b" # a function call
rm "-f" "*.log" # a call to "rm" utility
```

In other words, when writing a CoLiS script the user must explicitly tell when they intend to call a function or a system's utility.

Exporting variables As in the POSIX shell, an explicit instruction of the form

```
export VAR
```

can be used to export variable VAR, that is to transmit it to sub-shells or utilities.

**Built-in instruction for changing current directory** Due to the specific nature of cd, we added a instruction in the CoLiS language

```
cd "/new/path"
```

**Discarding standard output** For the purpose of translating a shell script that redirects standard output to /dev/null or standard error, we added the construct

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```
nooutput <instruction>; ...; <instruction> endnooutput
```

to discard the output of the given instructions.

**Result states** The exit and return instructions now receive as argument one of three possible values: success, failure or previous, grosso-modo corresponding to exit 0, exit 1 and exit \$?.

Last but not least, we reconsidered the distinction between string expressions and list expressions. The keyword split was introduced to explicitly ask for the splitting of a string expression when used as a list fragment.

#### 1.2 Changes and Additions in the Semantics

Several modifications to the semantics were required to support the syntactic changes described above. This update to the CoLiS language makes two major changes in the semantics:

**Strict mode** The first important change is a correction of the behaviour of a failing instructions and utilities when inside or outside of a test of an if statement or a loop. The first version of the semantics did not correspond to the shell semantics in the so-called strict mode (invoked by set -e). For example, for the code below

```
set -e
foo () {
  false;
  echo 'here'
}
if foo; then
  echo 'yes'
else
  echo 'no'
fi
```

the shell semantics produces the output

```
here
ves
```

with exit code 0, whereas the first version of CoLiS semantics was producing no output and exit code 1. The mistake was to evaluate false always as an equivalent to exit 1, whereas in the shell that "strict" mode is disabled when under conditions.

The semantics of CoLiS was changed to match the behavior of the shell by adding a boolean flag in the evaluation context to tell whether the evaluation must be done in strict mode or not. Failing utilities (including false) only trigger an error when in strict mode and not when the failure happend within a test.

**Bound on the number of loop iterations** The second important change in the semantics was required for modelling the symbolic execution. In that context, we have to limit a priori the number of loop iterations to make symbolic execution terminating. This was realised by an additional parameter in the execution judgement: the desired bound on the number of iterations, that may be either a non-negative number, or  $\infty$  to denote unbounded execution.

The principle of using a bound on the number of loop iterations is described in more detail in a paper showing a formalization of a symbolic interpreter for a basic IMP language [1]. In the case of the CoLiS language, which accepts recursive functions, we also added a bound on the number of nested (recursive) function calls. The resulting semantic judgements and rules are given in Appendix B.

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Prover	VCs	Fastest	Slowest	Average
CVC4 1.6	230	0.10	0.68	0.26
Alt-Ergo 2.2.0	13	0.12	2.45	0.54
Z3 4.6.0	2	0.12	0.25	0.18

Table 1: The use of different automatic theorem provers in the verification conditions (VCs) of the concrete interpreter with processing time in seconds.

#### **2** Concrete Interpreter

A concrete interpreter of CoLiS script was already formalized and proved for the first version of Co-LiS [3]. With the multiple changes in the syntax and semantics, this interpreter must have been change accordingly, but also its formal specification had to be updated, and the formal proof updated too.

We give below the formal contract for main function of that interpreter, as is written in the programming language of Why3. The correctness of that interpreter is expressed as formal post-conditions as follows.

```
let ghost ref s=0 let rec interp_instruction (\mathcal{I}:input) (sta:concrete_state) (i:instruction) : unit requires { \mathcal{I}.loop-limit = \infty \land \mathcal{I}.stack-size = \infty } ensures { s=(\text{old }s) } ensures { (\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C}(\text{old }sta),\mathcal{S}(\text{old }sta)),i \psi^{\text{l}}_{\text{old }s} (\mathcal{S}(sta),\mathcal{C}(sta),\text{Normal})) } raises { Exit|Return as \xi \to (\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C}(\text{old }sta),\mathcal{S}(\text{old }sta)),i \psi^{\text{l}}_{\text{old }s} (\mathcal{S}(sta),\mathcal{C}(sta),\mathcal{E}(sta),\mathcal{E}(sta)) } diverges
```

The main thing to note is that for the concrete interpreter, we don't set limits to the number of loop iterations and functions calls (as shown in the precondition). In essence, the normal post-condition expresses that the instruction evaluates normally, that is produces a normal behaviour in the sense of the formal semantics, and moreover the relation between the initial and the final states are allowed by the formal semantics. The interpret may also raise exceptions Exit or Return, and they are associated with exceptional post-conditions which tells that in that case the formal semantics accordingly says that the instruction produces an abnormal behaviour, and again the initial and final state are correctly related by the formal semantics.

Notice however that this specification says nothing about termination, indeed the interpreter will loop in presence of infinite loop or infinite recursion, and in that case the contract says nothing.

The proofs had to be updated accordingly, and Table 1 summarizes the VCs and with which prover they are discharged.

# 3 Symbolic Interpreter

The design and formalization of the symbolic interpreter follows as general approach that was described on a simple IMP language [1]. We reused from that other work all the ideas about bounding the number of loop iterations, and also the usage of ghost code so as to express the important expected properties *over-approximation* and *under-approximation*. In essence, over-approximation is the property that tells that a symbolic execution from a given symbolic state  $\Sigma$  covers all concrete execution that start from a concrete state instance of  $\Sigma$ , where the under-approximation property tells that ni spurious concrete execution is covered by symbolic execution.

First one should notice that CoLiS proposes significantly more control structures than IMP which has only sequence, if and while [1]. Yet, the extension to other control structures could be done routinely: they pose no specific issues that where not already consider for supporting if statements or while loops. Hence, the major difference between the symbolic interpreter for CoLiS and the symbolic interpreter for IMP in relies on the data types: for IMP we only considered integer variables. In CoLiS the variables are holding string values or list of strings value, but they are not the major source of

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Prover	VCs	Fastest	Slowest	Average
CVC4 1.6	702	0.13	1.92	0.48
Alt-Ergo 2.2.0	65	0.13	43.26	2.60
Z3 4.6.0	13	0.07	1.14	0.31

Table 2: The use of different automatic theorem provers in the verification conditions of the symbolic interpreter functions with processing time in seconds.

novelty: the novelty is that a script is operating on a mutable program state that contain all the file system.

In a symbolic interpreter engine, the data types must be supported by the constraint language that expresses the set of possible values for variables. A specificity of the context of analysing Debian installation scripts is that we know concretely the values of the variables. It is only the file sysmtem which is not known concretely, so the file system is the only part that must be treated symbolically. For that purpose, we had to use a contraint language dedicated to tree structures [5].

To summarize, our symbolic engine for CoLiS relies on a constraint engine dedicated to the file system. The semantics of utility is encoded in tree constraints as described in another CoLiS deliverable [4]. The handling of the control structures is then done in a similar way as for the IMP language. It should be noted that the symbolic engine is highly generic with respect to the specification of utilities.

The formal contract for the main function of interpreting CoLiS instructions is as follows

```
let rec sym_interp_instruction (s) (\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}) (i:instruction):set of (\mathcal{S}'\times\mathcal{C}')_{\beta} requires { s\leq \mathcal{I}.stack-size \neq \infty \land \mathcal{I}.loop-limit \neq \infty } variant { \mathcal{I}.stack-size -s, size(s), -1 } ensures { \forall \mathcal{S}',\mathcal{C}',\beta. (\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),i \psi^{\mathrm{I}}_{s} (\mathcal{S}',\mathcal{C}',\beta) \rightarrow (\mathcal{S}',\mathcal{C}')_{\beta} \in \text{result} } \equiv ...
```

The symbolic interpreter for instructions takes the current stack height, a triple of an evaluation input (comprising the maximal stack height and loop limit), context, and state, and an instruction as argument and returns a set of pairs of result context and state, indexed by a behavior. The limits have to be finite to ensure the termination of the symbolic interpreter, where in each recursive call the remaining stack size, the size of the instruction, or the remaining loop iterations decrease (as stated in the variant). The post-condition expresses the over-approximation property: any concrete execution is covered by the symbolic execution. This property ensures that if the symbolic interpreter tells that no undesired symbolic states can be reached, then it is also true that no undesired concrete states can be reached by any concrete execution.

Statistics about the proof of the symbolic engine are given on Table 2.

#### 4 Conclusions and Future Work

The version 2 of the CoLiS language, described in this report, is the one currently used for analysing installation scenarios of installation scripts.

It is likely that a few minor constructs will need to be added, such as the extension to parameter expansion (https://pubs.opengroup.org/onlinepubs/9699919799/utilities/V3\_chap02.html#tag\_18\_06\_02). Moreover the constraint language to model the filesystem will probably need to be modified. Though, these modifications are orthogonal to the current formalization of the semantics and only minor modifications are still expected, if any.

#### References

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#### A Syntax

```
\langle program \rangle ::=
       (function-definition)*
       begin
          \langle instr \rangle^*
       end \langle eof \rangle
\langle function-definition \rangle ::=
       function \langle identifier \rangle begin
                                                                                                                               — No argument names, use arg n
          \langle instr \rangle^*
       end
\langle instr \rangle ::=
                                                                                                                                            - Program instruction
     \langle identifier \rangle := \langle string-expr \rangle
                                                                                                                                            — Variable assignment
 | export \(\langle identifier \rangle \)
                                                                                                                                                  — Export variable
      cd \(\string-expr\)
                                                                                                                                     — Change working directory
      nooutput \langle instr \rangle^* endnooutput
                                                                                                                                                 — Suppress output
      begin \langle instr \rangle^* end
                                                                                                                                                     - Group instrs
      not \langle instr \rangle
                                                                                                                                               - Negation of result
      if \langle instr \rangle then \langle instr \rangle^* fi
                                                                                                                                                      — Conditional
      if \langle instr \rangle then \langle instr \rangle^* else \langle instr \rangle^* fi
     for \langle identifier \rangle in \langle list-expr \rangle do \langle instr \rangle^* done
                                                                                                                                                          — For loop
      while \langle instr \rangle do \langle instr \rangle^* done
                                                                                                                                                        — While loop
      process \langle instr \rangle^* endprocess
                                                                                                                                                          — Subscope
      pipe \langle instr \rangle (into \langle instr \rangle)* endpipe
                                                                                                                                                               — Pipe
      call (identifier) (list-expr)?
                                                                                                                                                     - Function call
      ⟨identifier⟩ ⟨list-expr⟩?
                                                                                                                                                       — Utility call
 exit \langle result \rangle
                                                                                                                                                     — Exit program
       return (result)

    Return from function

       shift \langle nat \rangle?
                                                                                                                                             — Shift arguments list
\langle result \rangle ::=
                                                                                                                                        — Result for exit/return
      success
       failure
       previous
                                                                                                                                        - Result of previous instr
\langle sfrag \rangle ::=
                                                                                                                                                 - String fragment
      (literal)
                                                                                                                                                     — String literal
       (identifier)
                                                                                                                                                           — Variable
      embed { \langle instr \rangle }
                                                                                                                                               — Output from instr
      arg \langle nat \rangle
                                                                                                                        - Program/function argument by index
\langle string-expr \rangle ::= \langle sfrag \rangle +
                                                                                                                                               - String expression
\langle lfrag \rangle ::= split? \langle string-expr \rangle
                                                                                                                                                    - List fragment
\langle list-expr \rangle ::= [ (\langle lfrag \rangle (, \langle lfrag \rangle)^*)? ]

    Non-empty, bracket-delimited,

                                                                                                                               comma-separated list of fragments
```

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#### B Semantic judgements and rules

```
Behaviour:
                                                            \beta = Normal
                                                                                                           — Behaviours of an instruction
                                                                    Return
                                                                    Exit
                                                                    Failure
                                                                                                            - Loop limit or stack exceeded
                      Result:
                                                 result \alpha = \text{Success } \alpha \mid \text{Error} - \text{Possibly failing result of type } \alpha
                      Option:
                                                option \alpha = \mathsf{Some} \ \alpha \mid \mathsf{None}
                                                                                                                — Optional value of type α
                      List:
                                                     list \alpha = \alpha :: (list \alpha) \mid []
                                                                                                                   — List of values of type α
Top-down context: \mathcal{I} = \{ \text{ under-condition } : \mathbb{B} ; \}
                                                                                                                            - Evaluation under test/condition
                                                     argument_0: S;

    First argument

                                                     loop-limit : \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\};
                                                                                                                                             - Maximal loop count
                                                      stack-size : \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\} }
                                                                                                                                               - Maximal stack size
Program context:
                                          \mathcal{C} = \{ \text{ vars} : var \rightarrow option \ \mathbb{S} \times \mathbb{B} ; \}
                                                                                                                                             – Variable environment
                                                      funs : var \rightarrow option instruction;
                                                                                                                                          - Function environment
                                                      arguments : list S;
                                                                                                                                                 — Other arguments
                                                      result : \mathbb{B};
                                                                                                                                                  — (Previous) result
                                                     cwd : cwd }
                                                                                                                     — Current working directory (abstract)
System state:
                                         S = \{ \text{ file-system} : file-system ; \}
                                                                                                                                            — File system (abstract)
                                                     stdin: stdin;
                                                                                                                                                    - Standard input
                                                     stdout : stdout }
                                                                                                                                                   — Standard output
                                                                                       (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i \Downarrow_{s}^{\mathsf{I}} (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \beta)
                           Instruction:
                                                                                      (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), le \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{L}} (\mathcal{S}', result (list \mathbb{S}))
                           List expression:
                                                                             s, b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), se \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}', result (\mathbb{S}, \mathbb{B}))
                           String expression:
                                                                  b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{while } i \downarrow_{S,n}^{W} (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \beta), b'

b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{ for } id \ le \ i \Downarrow_{S}^{F} (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \beta), b'

(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \Downarrow^{P} (\mathcal{S}', result \ \mathbb{B})
                           While-loop:
                           For-loop:
                           Program:
                                                                                               C, defs \Downarrow^D C'
```

The semantic judgements define that an evaluation has behaviour  $\beta$  = Failure if the loop limit or stack height is exceeded. The variable environment maps identifiers to pairs composed of an optional string value of the variable and its export status, with default (None, False). The filesystem (and current working directory) is left abstract in the semantics because the changes to the filesystem are not introduced by language constructs but only by the utilities that are not covered by the semantics.

#### **Auxiliary definitions**

A number of auxiliary functions and notations are used in the formalisation of the semantic rules:

- $o \mid\mid x$ : get value from option o, or x by default
- $r \mid\mid b$ : result r as boolean or b if r = previous
- $f[id \leftarrow v]$ : Update function f for id by value v
- vars[id]': Get string value of identifier id in vars (and ignore its boolean export flag)
- $vars[id \leftarrow s]'$ : Update string value of id in vars to s, retaining the boolean export flag (or False)
- inject a return value into a behaviour

$$bhv_{\mathcal{I}}(b) = egin{cases} ext{Normal} & ext{when } \mathcal{I}. ext{under-condition} = ext{True} \lor b = ext{True} \ & ext{Exit} & ext{when } \mathcal{I}. ext{under-condition} = ext{False} \land b = ext{False} \end{cases}$$

• *filter(vars)*: Create a mapping of bindings in *vars* that are marked as export = True.

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#### Evaluation of instructions, $\downarrow^l$

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}' = \{\mathcal{C} \text{ with result=} c \mid\mid \mathcal{C}.\text{result}\}}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{exit } c \Downarrow_{s}^{\mathbf{I}} (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{C}', \text{Exit})}$$

RETURN
$$\frac{\mathcal{C}' = \{\mathcal{C} \text{ with result=} c \mid\mid \mathcal{C}.\text{result}\}}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{return } c \downarrow_{s}^{l} (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{C}', \text{Return})}$$

SHIFT

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}' = \{\mathcal{C} \text{ with arguments} = \mathsf{args} : \mathsf{result} = \mathsf{True}\} \qquad \beta = \mathit{bhv}_{\mathcal{I}}(\mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{result})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \mathsf{shift} \ \mathit{bn} \ \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{I}} (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{C}', \beta)}$$

SHIFT-ERROR

$$\frac{\mathsf{shift}(1 \mid\mid \mathit{bn}, \mathcal{C}.\mathsf{arguments}) = \mathsf{None} \qquad \mathcal{C}' = \{\mathcal{C} \; \mathsf{with} \; \mathsf{result=False}\} \qquad \beta = \mathit{bhv}_{\mathcal{I}}(\mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{result})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \, \mathsf{shift} \; \mathit{bn} \; \Downarrow_{\mathsf{S}}^{\mathsf{I}} \; (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{C}', \beta)}$$

EXPORT

$$\begin{split} & \textit{varval} = \{\mathcal{C}.\mathsf{vars}[\textit{id}] \text{ with export=True}\}\\ & \underbrace{\textit{vars} = \mathcal{C}.\mathsf{vars}[\textit{id} \leftarrow \textit{varval}] \quad \quad \mathcal{C}' = \{\mathcal{C} \text{ with vars=} \textit{vars}; \text{result=True}\}}_{\left(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}\right), \text{ export } \textit{id} \ \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{I}} \left(\mathcal{S},\mathcal{C}', \mathsf{Normal}\right)} \end{split}$$

CD-ARG-FAILURE 
$$s$$
, True,  $(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S})$ ,  $se \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}', \mathsf{Error})$   $(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S})$ , cd  $se \Downarrow^{\mathsf{I}}_{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}, \mathsf{Failure})$ 

CD-NO-DIR

CD

ASSIGNMENT

$$s, \mathsf{True}, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), e \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}', \mathsf{Success}\,(s, b)) \\ \underline{\mathcal{C}' = \{\mathcal{C} \; \mathsf{with} \; \mathsf{vars} = \mathcal{C}. \mathsf{vars}[id \leftarrow s]'; \mathsf{result} = b\} \qquad \beta = bhv_{\mathcal{I}}(\mathcal{C}'. \mathsf{result})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), id \; := e \Downarrow^{\mathsf{I}}_{s} (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \beta)}$$

ASSIGNMENT-FAILURE
$$s, \text{True}, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), e \Downarrow^{S} (\mathcal{S}', \text{Error})$$

$$\overline{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S})}, id := e \Downarrow^{l}_{s} (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}, \text{Failure})$$

SEQUENCE

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i_1 \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{I}} (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathsf{Normal}) \qquad (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{S}_1), i_2 \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{I}} (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \beta_2)}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i_1 \ ; \ i_2 \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{I}} (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \beta_2)}$$

SEQUENCE-ABORT

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i_1 \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{I}} (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \beta) \qquad \beta \neq \mathsf{Normal}}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i_1 \ ; \ i_2 \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{I}} (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \beta)}$$

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SUBSHITL.
$$(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i \ \psi_s \ (S', \mathcal{C}', \beta) \qquad \beta \neq \mathsf{Failure} \qquad \mathcal{C}'' = \{\mathcal{C} \ \mathsf{with result=} \mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{result}\} \qquad \beta' = \mathit{bhv}_{\mathcal{I}}(\mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{result})$$

$$(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i \ \psi_s \ (S', \mathcal{C}', \beta) \qquad \mathcal{C}'' = \{\mathcal{C} \ \mathsf{with result=} \mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{result}\} \qquad \mathcal{C}''.\mathsf{prime}$$

$$(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i \ \psi_s \ (S', \mathcal{C}', \beta) \qquad \mathcal{C}'' = \{\mathcal{C} \ \mathsf{with result=} \mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{result}\} \qquad \mathcal{C}''.\mathsf{prime} \qquad \mathcal{C}'' = \{\mathcal{C} \ \mathsf{with result=} \mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{prime}\} \qquad \mathcal{C}''.\mathsf{prime} \qquad \mathcal{C}''.\mathsf{pr$$

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 $(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S})$ , id le  $\Downarrow_{c}^{l} (\mathcal{S}'', \mathcal{C}', \beta)$ 



$$\frac{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathsf{Error})}{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathcal{E}_1\mathsf{Error})}}{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathcal{E}_1\mathsf{Error})}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}',\mathsf{Success}\,\mathsf{ss})}{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}',\mathcal{S}',\mathcal{S})}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}',\mathsf{Success}\,\mathsf{ss}\,\mathsf{sg})}{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{Success}\,\mathsf{args})}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{Success}\,\mathsf{args})}{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),le\; \Downarrow_s^L\; (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{cuces}\,\mathsf{args})}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_1 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{argument}_0 = id\}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_2 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{argument}_0 = id\}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_3 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{argument}_0 = id\}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_4 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{argument}_0 = id\}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_5 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{argument}_0 = id\}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_7 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{with}_0 = id\}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_7 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{with}_0 = id\}$$

$$\mathcal{I}_7 = \{\mathcal{I}\; \mathsf{with}\; \mathsf{with}_0 = id$$

# B.2 Evaluation of list expressions, $\downarrow^L$

LIST-EXPR-NIL

$$\overline{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}), [\,] \Downarrow^{\mathbf{L}}_{s} (\mathcal{S},\mathsf{Success}\,[\,])}$$

 $(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S})$ , while  $i_1$  do  $i_2$  done  $\psi_s^{\mathsf{I}}(\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \beta)$ 

LIST-EXPR-FAILURE-HEAD  $\frac{s, \text{True}, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), se \Downarrow^{S} (\mathcal{S}_{1}, \text{Error})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), (se, sp) :: le \Downarrow^{L}_{s} (\mathcal{S}_{1}, \text{Error})}$ 

 $\frac{s,\mathsf{True},(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),se \ \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{Success}\,(s,b_1))}{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),(se,sp) :: le \ \Downarrow^{\mathsf{L}}_s (\mathcal{S}_2,\mathsf{Error})}$ 

$$\frac{s, \mathsf{True}, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), se \ \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathsf{Success}\,(s, b_1))}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), (se, sp) :: le \ \Downarrow^{\mathsf{L}}_s (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathsf{Success}\,l_2)}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), (se, sp) :: le \ \Downarrow^{\mathsf{L}}_s (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathsf{Success}\,l_3)}$$

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# B.3 Evaluation of string expressions, $\Downarrow^S$

$$\frac{str\text{-Literal}}{res = Success(str, b)}$$
$$\frac{s, b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), str \, \Downarrow^{S} (\mathcal{S}, res)}{str \, \Downarrow^{S} (\mathcal{S}, res)}$$

$$\frac{str\text{-VARIABLE}}{str = \mathcal{C}.\text{vars}[id]'} res = \text{Success}(str, b)}{s, b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), id \Downarrow^{\mathbf{S}} (\mathcal{S}, res)}$$

STR-ARG

$$\frac{\mathit{str} = \mathit{nth-arg}(\mathcal{I}.\mathsf{argument}_0 :: \mathcal{C}.\mathsf{arguments}, n) \quad \mathit{res} = \mathsf{Success}\left(\mathit{str}, b\right)}{\mathit{s}, b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \mathit{arg}\ n \Downarrow^\mathsf{S} (\mathcal{S}, \mathit{res})}$$

STR-SUBSHELL-FAILURE

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\{\mathcal{S} \text{ with stdout}=\mathcal{E}\}), i \ \psi_s^{\mathsf{I}} \ (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathcal{C}_1,\mathsf{Failure})}{s,b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}), \mathsf{embed} \ \{\ i\ \} \ \psi^{\mathsf{S}} \ (\mathcal{S}_1',\mathsf{Error})}{s,b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}), \mathsf{embed} \ \{\ i\ \} \ \psi^{\mathsf{S}} \ (\mathcal{S}_1',\mathsf{Error})}$$

STR-SUBSHELL

$$\begin{split} \beta_1 \neq & \mathsf{Failure} \qquad (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \{\mathcal{S} \; \mathsf{with} \; \mathsf{stdout} = \varepsilon\}), i \; \psi_s^\mathsf{I} \; (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \beta_1) \\ \mathcal{S}_1' &= \{\mathcal{S}_1 \; \mathsf{with} \; \mathsf{stdout} = \mathcal{S}.\mathsf{stdout}\} \qquad \mathit{res} = \mathsf{Success} \; (\mathcal{S}_1.\mathsf{stdout}, \mathcal{C}_1.\mathsf{result}) \\ & s, b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \mathsf{embed} \; \{\; i \; \} \; \psi^\mathsf{S} \; (\mathcal{S}_1', \mathit{res}) \end{split}$$

$$\frac{s.b.(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),e_1 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{Error})}{s.b.(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),e_1 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{Error})}$$

STR-CONCAT-FAILURE2

$$\frac{s,b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),e_1 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{Success}\,(str_1,b_1))}{s,b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),e_1 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_2,\mathsf{Error})}{s,b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),e_1 e_2 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_2,\mathsf{Error})}$$

STR-CONCAT

$$s,b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),e_1 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_1,\mathsf{Success}\,(str_1,b_1)) \\ s,b_1,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}_1),e_2 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_2,\mathsf{Success}\,(str_2,b_2)) \qquad res = \mathsf{Success}\,(str_1\hat{}\,str_2,b_2) \\ s,b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S}),e_1 e_2 \Downarrow^{\mathsf{S}} (\mathcal{S}_2,res)$$

# **B.4** Evaluation of for loops, $\Downarrow^F$

FOREACH-DONE

$$\overline{b,(\mathcal{I},\mathcal{C},\mathcal{S})}$$
, for  $id$  []  $i \Downarrow_s^{\mathsf{F}} (\mathcal{S},\mathcal{C},\mathsf{Normal}),b$ 

FOREACH-ABORT

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}' = \{\mathcal{C} \text{ with vars=} \mathcal{C}. \text{vars}[id \leftarrow s]'\}}{b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{for } id \ s :: ss' \ i \ \psi_s^{\text{F}} \ (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \beta_1), \mathcal{C}_1. \text{result}}$$

FOREACH-STEP

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}' &= \{\mathcal{C} \text{ with vars=} \mathcal{C}. \text{vars}[id \leftarrow s]'\} \\ &\underbrace{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}', \mathcal{S}), i \Downarrow_s^{\text{I}} (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \text{Normal}) \quad \mathcal{C}_1. \text{result}, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{S}_1), \text{for } id \; ss' \; i \Downarrow_s^{\text{F}} (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \beta_2), b_2} \\ &\underbrace{b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{for } id \; s :: ss' \; i \Downarrow_s^{\text{F}} (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \beta_2), b_2} \end{aligned}$$

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### B.5 Evaluation of while loops, $\Downarrow^{\mathsf{W}}$

$$\frac{\text{WHILE-LOOP-LIMIT}}{0 \leq n} \frac{\mathcal{I}.\text{loop-limit} = n}{b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{while } i_1 \ i_2 \Downarrow_{s,n}^{\mathsf{W}} (\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{C}, \mathsf{Failure}), b}$$

WHILE-ABORT-CONDITION

$$\frac{0 \leq n \qquad \mathcal{I}.\mathsf{loop\text{-}limit} \neq n \qquad (\{\mathcal{I} \text{ with under-condition=True}\}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i_1 \Downarrow_s^\mathsf{I} (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \beta_1) \qquad \beta_1 \neq \mathsf{Normal}}{b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \mathsf{while} \ i_1 \ i_2 \Downarrow_{s,n}^\mathsf{W} (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \beta_1), b}$$

WHILE-FALSE

WHILE-ABORT-BODY

$$\frac{0 \leq n \qquad \mathcal{I}.\mathsf{loop\text{-}limit} \neq n \qquad (\{\mathcal{I} \; \mathsf{with} \; \mathsf{under\text{-}condition\text{=}True}\}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i_1 \; \Downarrow_s^\mathsf{I} \; (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathsf{Normal}) }{\mathcal{C}_1.\mathsf{result} = \mathsf{True} \qquad (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{S}_1), i_2 \; \Downarrow_s^\mathsf{I} \; (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \beta_2) \qquad \beta_2 \neq \mathsf{Normal} } \\ b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \mathsf{while} \; i_1 \; i_2 \; \Downarrow_{s,n}^\mathsf{W} \; (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \beta_2), b }$$

WHILE-LOOP

$$\mathcal{I}. \text{loop-limit} \neq n \qquad (\{\mathcal{I} \text{ with under-condition=True}\}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), i_1 \Downarrow_s^l (\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{C}_1, \text{Normal}) \qquad \mathcal{C}_1. \text{result} = \text{True} \}$$

$$\frac{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{S}_1), i_2 \Downarrow_s^l (\mathcal{S}_2, \mathcal{C}_2, \text{Normal}) \qquad \mathcal{C}_2. \text{result}, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}_2, \mathcal{S}_2), \text{while } i_1 \ i_2 \Downarrow_{s,n+1}^{\mathsf{W}} (\mathcal{S}_3, \mathcal{C}_3, \beta_3), b_3}{b, (\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), \text{while } i_1 \ i_2 \Downarrow_{s,n}^{\mathsf{W}} (\mathcal{S}_3, \mathcal{C}_3, \beta_3), b_3}$$

# **B.6** Evaluation of function definitions, $\psi^D$

FUNCTION-DEFINITIONS-DONE

funs, [] 
$$\Downarrow^D$$
 funs

FUNCTION-DEFINITION
 $e[id \leftarrow \text{Some } i], defs \Downarrow^D e'$ 
 $e, (id, i) :: defs \Downarrow^D e'$ 

# B.7 Evaluation of programs, $\downarrow^P$

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}.\mathsf{funs}, p.\mathsf{funs} \ \mathbb{D}^\mathsf{D} \ \mathsf{funs}}{\mathcal{C}.\mathsf{funs}, p.\mathsf{funs}} \ \frac{(\mathcal{I}, \{\mathcal{C} \ \mathsf{with} \ \mathsf{funs} = \mathit{funs}\}, \mathcal{S}), p.\mathsf{instruction} \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{I}_0 \ (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \beta) \qquad \beta \neq \mathsf{Failure}}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}} \ \frac{(\mathcal{S}', \mathsf{Success} \ \mathcal{C}'.\mathsf{result})}{(\mathcal{I}, \{\mathcal{C} \ \mathsf{with} \ \mathsf{funs} = \mathit{funs}\}, \mathcal{S}), p.\mathsf{instruction} \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{I}_0 \ (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \mathsf{Failure})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}} \ \frac{(\mathcal{I}, \{\mathcal{C} \ \mathsf{with} \ \mathsf{funs} = \mathit{funs}\}, \mathcal{S}), p.\mathsf{instruction} \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{I}_0 \ (\mathcal{S}', \mathcal{C}', \mathsf{Failure})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}} \ \frac{(\mathcal{I}, \{\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}\}, p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}, \mathcal{S}', \mathsf{Error})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}} \ \frac{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}, \mathcal{S}', \mathsf{Error})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}} \ \frac{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}, \mathcal{S}', \mathsf{Error})}{(\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{S}), p \ \mathbb{U}^\mathsf{P}, \mathcal{S}', \mathsf{Error})}$$

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