

# Modes of Bar Recursion

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
  - Bar recursion
  - Overview of talk
  
- 2 Modes of bar recursion
  - PS / Finite bar recursion
  - EPS / Spector's bar recursion
  - IPS / Modified bar recursion
  - UR / Berardi-Bezem-Coquand functional
  
- 3 Interdefinability results
  - Relationship between EPS and IPS
  - Relationship between IPS and UR

# Bar recursion

**Primitive recursion:** Recursion over the natural numbers. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ :

$$R(n) := \begin{cases} y & \text{if } n = 0 \\ z_{n-1}(R(n-1)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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**Bar recursion:** Recursion over well-founded trees. For  $s \in T$ :

$$B(s^{X^*}) := \begin{cases} Y_s & \text{if } s \text{ is a leaf} \\ Z_s(\lambda x. B(s * x)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Bar recursion is the wrong way round:  $B(s)$  looks at the values of  $B(s * x)$  for *extensions* of  $s$ !

- **Gödel 1958** Dialectica interpretation of arithmetic

Arithmetic (induction)  $\mapsto$  System T (primitive recursion)

**Spector 1962** Dialectica interpretation of analysis

Arithmetic + Countable choice  $\mapsto$  System T + Bar recursion

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- **Escardó/Oliva 2010-** Product of selection functions. Interdefinability results. Links with game theory made precise.

# Theme of talk

## Computational aspects of bar recursion

- ① Key computational features of different modes of bar recursion.
- ② The relative strength of these modes of bar recursion.

To a lesser extent: The semantics of bar recursion (links with language of sequential games).

## Why is this important?

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## Computational aspects of bar recursion

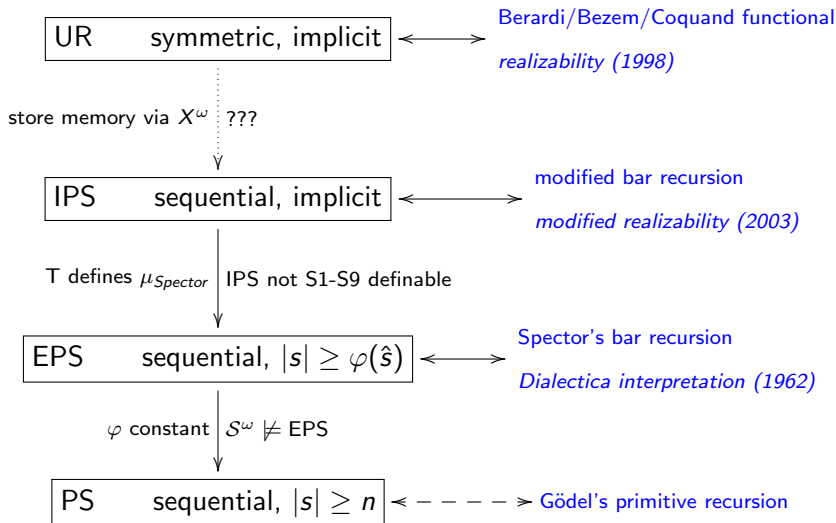
- 1 Key computational features of different modes of bar recursion.
- 2 The relative strength of these modes of bar recursion.

To a lesser extent: The semantics of bar recursion (links with language of sequential games).

## Why is this important?

- Open questions about an important class of non-primitive recursive functionals.
- Better understand computational content of classical proofs.
- Interesting mathematical problem.

# Modes of bar recursion



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# The finite product of selection functions

Idea: Sequential game with  $n$  rounds. Moves of type  $X$ , outcome of type  $R$ .

- $q: X^n \rightarrow R$  determines the *outcome* of a play of type  $X^n$  (by instead considering  $q: X^\omega \rightarrow R$  type independent of  $n$ ).
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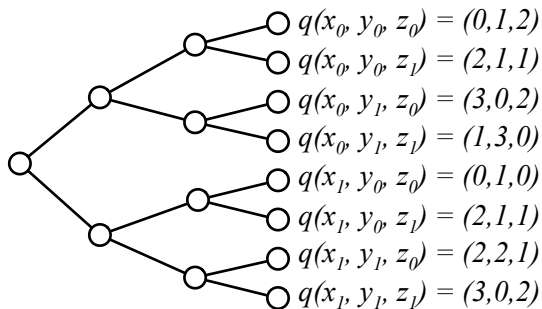
$$\text{PS}^{\varepsilon, q, n}(s^{X^*}) \stackrel{X^*}{:=} \begin{cases} \langle \rangle & \text{if } |s| \geq n \\ a_s * \text{PS}(s * a_s) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $a_s := \varepsilon_s(\lambda x . q(s * x * \text{PS}(s * x)))$ .

- For  $|s| < n$ ,  $\text{PS}(s)$  is the optimal continuation of (of length  $n - |s|$ ) of the play  $s$ .
- $\text{PS}(\langle \rangle)$  is an optimal strategy for the game.

## Example 1

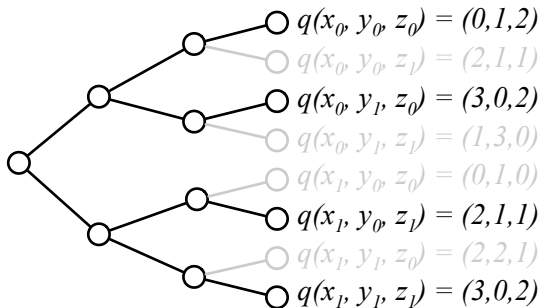
$$X = [2] \ ; \ R = \mathbb{N} \ ; \ n = 3 \ ; \ q: [2]^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^3 \ ; \\ \varepsilon_i(p^{[2] \rightarrow \mathbb{N}}) = x \text{ maximising } p(x)_i$$





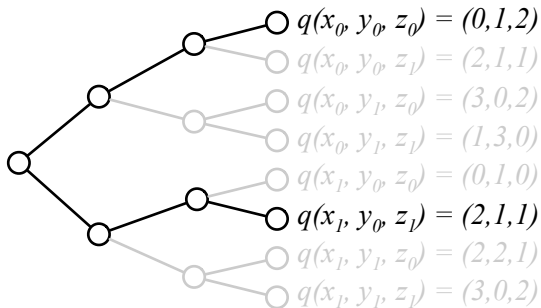
## Example 1

$$\text{PS}(x_1, y_0) = \langle \varepsilon_2(z_0 \mapsto 0, z_1 \mapsto 1) \rangle * \text{PS}(x_1, y_0, z_i) = \langle z_1 \rangle * \langle \rangle = \langle z_1 \rangle$$



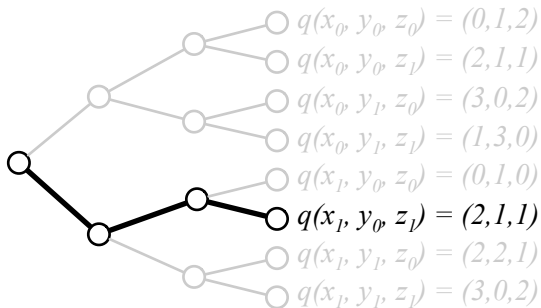
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- $\varepsilon_{2i}(p^{X \rightarrow R}) / \varepsilon_{2i+1}(p)$  selects  $x$  maximising/minimising  $p(x)$ .
- $\text{PS}^{\varepsilon, q, n}(\langle \rangle)$  returns an 'optimal' play, resulting in a draw.

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**Remark.** PS is equivalent over a weak base theory to Gödel's primitive recursion in all finite types.

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**Semantics.** Operation that computes optimal strategies in finite sequential games.

# Modes of bar recursion

PS    sequential,  $|s| \geq n$   $\Leftarrow - \Rightarrow$  Gödel's primitive recursion

# Explicitly iterated product of selection functions (EPS)

Idea: Sequential game with unbounded number of rounds.

- $q: X^\omega \rightarrow R$  determines outcome of each infinite play  $X^\omega$ .
- $\varepsilon_s: (X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow X$  dictates a *strategy* for  $|s|$ th round given any partial play  $s^{X^*}$ .
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**Stopping condition now depends on  $s$ !**

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$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(\widehat{[\lambda i.1]}(n)) &= \varphi(\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_{n \text{ times}}, 0, 0, \dots) \\ &= n + 1 > n.\end{aligned}$$



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By the principle of *bar induction*  $\text{EPS}(\langle \rangle)$  is well-defined.

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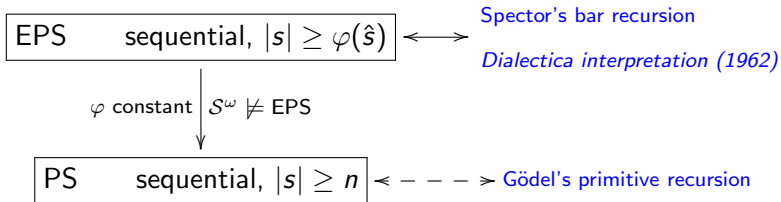
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**No longer a stopping condition!**

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 &\dots \\
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By bar induction  $\text{IPS}(\langle \rangle)$  is well-defined.

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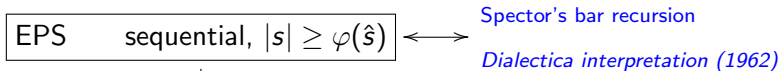
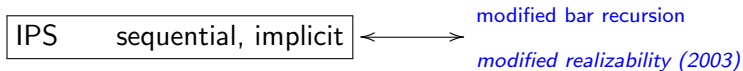
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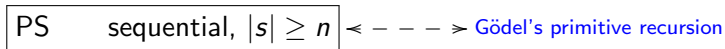
**Models.** Like EPS, well-foundedness of recursion not provable in T. IPS exists in  $\mathcal{C}^\omega$ , where we require additional condition that  $R$  has level 0.

**Semantics.** Operation that computes optimal strategies in unbounded sequential games, only finite part of a play considered by continuity of  $q$ .

# Modes of bar recursion



$\varphi$  constant  $\downarrow$   $\mathcal{S}^\omega \not\equiv$  EPS



# Update recursion (UR)

Idea: Compute a sequence, but not sequentially...

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**Recursion is no longer sequential!**

# Why is UR well defined?

$UR(u)$  requires us to know value of  $UR(u_k^x)$  for all *updates* of  $u$  (not just extension), so not clear how we can use bar induction to show that UR is total...

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An *open predicate* on sequences  $X^\omega$  is one of the form  $A(\alpha) = \exists N B([\alpha](N))$ .

**Definition.** Update induction is given by the schema

$$\forall u (\forall n \notin \text{dom}(u), x A(u_n^x) \rightarrow A(u)) \rightarrow \forall u A(u).$$

Update induction follows from dependent choice.

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**Well-foundedness.** Like IPS, exists in  $\mathcal{C}^\omega$  when outcome type  $R$  has level 0.

**Semantics.** Can be viewed as computing an optimal strategy in games where players ‘ignore’ the others. *Game theoretic semantics not properly formalised for UR!*

# Modes of bar recursion

UR symmetric, implicit



Berardi/Bezem/Coquand functional realizability (1998)

IPS sequential, implicit

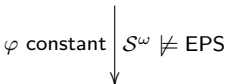


modified bar recursion  
modified realizability (2003)

EPS sequential,  $|s| \geq \varphi(\hat{s})$



Spector's bar recursion  
Dialectica interpretation (1962)



PS sequential,  $|s| \geq n$



Gödel's primitive recursion

# Outline

- 1 Introduction
  - Bar recursion
  - Overview of talk
  
- 2 Modes of bar recursion
  - PS / Finite bar recursion
  - EPS / Spector's bar recursion
  - IPS / Modified bar recursion
  - UR / Berardi-Bezem-Coquand functional
  
- 3 Interdefinability results
  - Relationship between EPS and IPS
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# T-definability

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In general our theory  $\mathcal{S}$  will be something like  $\text{HA}^{\omega} + \text{CONT} + \text{BI}$ .

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Can encode stopping condition  $|s| \geq \varphi(\hat{s})$  into  $\tilde{\varepsilon}, \tilde{q}$  such that  
IPS $^{\tilde{\varepsilon}, \tilde{q}}$  T-defines EPS.

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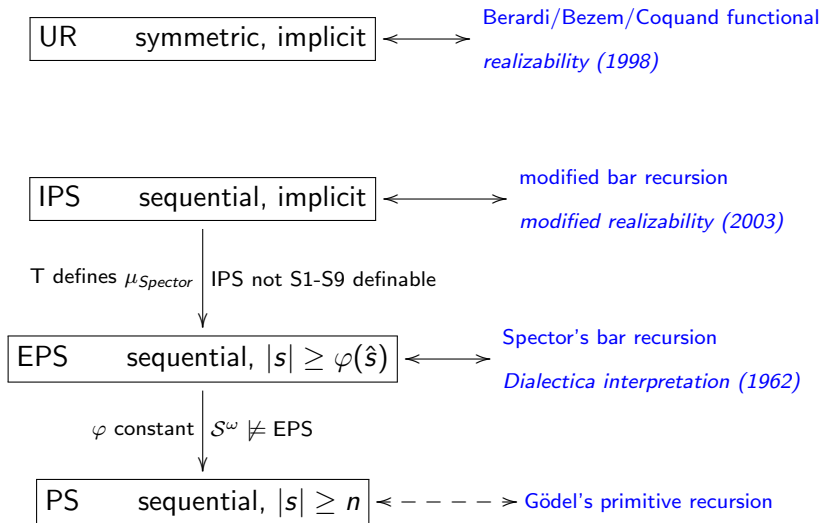
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FAN is S1-S9 + IPS computable in  $\mathcal{C}^\omega$

⇒ IPS is not S1-S9 computable in  $\mathcal{C}^\omega$

⇒ IPS is not T-definable from EPS in any theory that has a model in  $\mathcal{C}^\omega$ .

# Modes of bar recursion



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**Key idea:** Use UR to compute a sequence of *sequences*, i.e. moves of type  $X^\omega$ . Entries may be computed independently, but using sequence types allows us to store recursive calls.

*A fairly complex construction with a long and tedious verification.  
Won't go into any more detail!*



# Does IPS T-define UR?

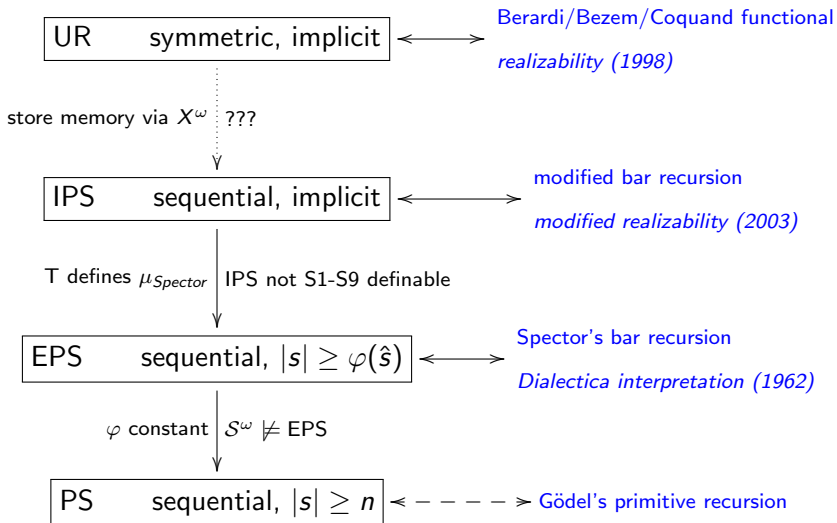
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**Unknown!**

# Modes of bar recursion



# Further questions

The key difference between UR and IPS...

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Can we generalise this to associate a form of bar recursion to an arbitrary tree  $\prec$ ?

How is this family of bar recursion functionals related?

New realisers for program extraction?

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- Develop some new results and machinery in theory of higher-type computability.

# References

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