

# Theories for Feasible Set Functions

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Recent proposals for restrictions of primitive recursive set functions to feasible computation:

[Safe Recursive Set Functions](#) [B., Buss, Sy Friedman, accepted JSL 2015, revision on webpages]

[Predicatively Computable Set Functions](#) [Arai, AML vol. 54 (2015), pp. 471–485]

[Cobham Recursive Set Functions](#) [B., Buss, Sy Friedman, Müller, Thapen, work in progress]

# Theories for feasible computation

*Kripke-Platek set theory* KP consists of axioms Extensionality, Pair, Union, Set Foundation, along with schemas of  $\Delta_0$ -Collection,  $\Delta_0$ -Separation, and Foundation for definable classes.

*M.Rathjen: A Proof-Theoretic Characterization of the Primitive Recursive Set Functions. JSL 57(3), 1992* asked and answered:

*Is there, by analogy with PA, a neat subsystem of ZF which characterises the primitive recursive set functions?*

## Theorem (Rathjen'92)

*Let  $KP^-$  be KP without Foundation for definable classes. The  $\Sigma_1$ -definable functions in  $KP^- + \Sigma_1$ - $\epsilon$ -Induction are exactly the primitive recursive set functions.*

$\Sigma_1$ - $\epsilon$ -Induction:  $\forall x(\forall y \in x \varphi(y) \rightarrow \varphi(x)) \rightarrow \forall x \varphi(x)$  for  $\varphi \in \Sigma_1$ .

Inspired by this we will consider the question:

*Is there, by analogy with Bounded Arithmetic, a neat subsystem of ZF which characterises feasible set functions?*

Analogy to bounded arithmetic: In bounded arithmetic a la Buss:

bounded quantifiers:  $\forall x \leq t, \exists x \leq t$

sharply bounded quantifiers:  $\forall x \leq |t|, \exists x \leq |t|$  ( $|t| \approx \log t$ )

In set theory:

bounded quantifiers:  $\forall x \in y, \exists x \in y$

## Hypothesis

*Bounded set quantification corresponds to sharply bounded arithmetic quantification.*

Reason: For feasible set functions like SRSF, rank on sets plays role of binary length in arithmetic.

For ordinals, bounded set quantification thus behaves like sharply bounded quantification.

# New Bounded Set Quantification

Add a new relation to set theory,  $x \preceq y$ , for *rank comparison*:

$$x \preceq y \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{rank}(x) \leq \text{rank}(y)$$

Define *rank bounded quantification*:

$$\forall x \preceq t \varphi(x) \text{ abbreviates } \forall x(x \preceq t \rightarrow \varphi(x))$$

$$\exists x \preceq t \varphi(x) \text{ abbreviates } \exists x(x \preceq t \wedge \varphi(x))$$

## Definition

$\Sigma_1^b$  set formulas are of the form  $\exists x \preceq t \varphi(x)$  for  $\varphi \in \Delta_0$ .

# Bounded Set Theories

Expand language with some function symbols to support bootstrapping (otherwise rank bounded quantification is too weak to define e.g. polynomials).

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  expand  $L_{\in}$  by  $0, \text{Succ}, +, \times, \text{rank} \dots$

Let  $\text{KP}^-$  be  $\text{KP}$  without Foundation.

Let  $\text{KP}_1^b$  be  $\text{KP}^-$  plus  $\Sigma_1^b$ - $\in$ -Induction.

## Theorem

*The  $\Sigma_1$  definable set functions of  $\text{KP}_1^b$  are exactly those in SRSF.*

# Outline of talk

- 1 Safe Recursive Set Functions
  - Safe Recursive Set Functions SRSF
  - Definability Characterisations of SRSF
- 2 Set Theories for SRSF
  - Set Theories for SRSF
- 3 Characterizing SRSF
  - Defining SRSF in  $KP_1^b$
  - Applications
- 4 Conclusion

(Inspired by *S.Bellantoni and S.A.Cook: A new recursion-theoretic characterization of the polytime functions. Comput. Complexity, 2(2):97-110, 1992.*)

Safe Set Functions:

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_k / a_1, \dots, a_\ell)$$

denotes a function on sets, whose arguments are typed into **normal positions**  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ , and **safe positions**  $a_1, \dots, a_\ell$ .

**Idea:** The **Safe Recursive Set Functions** are obtained by imposing the above typing scheme onto **Primitive Recursive Set Functions**.



# Safe Recursive Set Functions

The **Safe Recursive Set Functions (SRSF)** are the smallest class containing i) – iii), and being closed under iv) – vi).

- i)  $\pi_j^{n,m}(x_1, \dots, x_n / x_{n+1}, \dots, x_{n+m}) = x_j$ , for  $1 \leq j \leq n + m$ .
- ii)  $\text{diff}(/ a, b) = a \setminus b$
- iii)  $\text{pair}(/ a, b) = \{a, b\}$
- iv) **(Rudimentary Union Scheme)**  
 $f(\vec{x} / \vec{a}, b) = \bigcup_{z \in b} g(\vec{x} / \vec{a}, z)$
- v) **(Safe Composition Scheme)**  
 $f(\vec{x} / \vec{a}) = h(\vec{r}(\vec{x} /) / \vec{t}(\vec{x} / \vec{a}))$
- vi) **(Safe Set Recursion Scheme)**  
 $f(x, \vec{y} / \vec{a}) = h(x, \vec{y} / \vec{a}, \{f(z, \vec{y} / \vec{a}) : z \in x\})$

## Examples

Successor, addition and multiplication on ordinals

$\text{Succ}(/ \alpha) = \alpha + 1$ ,  $\text{Add}(\beta / \alpha) = \alpha + \beta$ ,  $\text{Mult}(\alpha, \beta /) = \alpha \cdot \beta$   
are in SRSF.

But ordinal exponentiation is *not* safe recursive:

## Theorem

Let  $f$  be a safe recursive set function. There is a polynomial  $q_f$  such that

$$\text{rank}(f(\vec{x} / \vec{a})) \leq \max(\text{rank}(\vec{a})) + q_f(\text{rank}(\vec{x}))$$

for all sets  $\vec{x}$ ,  $\vec{a}$ .

# SRSF and the $M$ -Hierarchy

$\vec{x}$  tuples of sets encoded as set sequences,  $\star$  sequence concatenation

Let  $\text{Succ}(T) = T \cup \{T\}$ ;

$G_1, \dots, G_{10}$  functions used by Gödel to define  $L$ .

## Definition

$$M_0^T = T$$

$$M_{\alpha+1}^T = \text{Succ}(M_\alpha^T) \cup \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq 10} \text{range}(G_i(\text{Succ}(M_\alpha^T)) \times G_i(\text{Succ}(M_\alpha^T)))$$

$$M_\lambda^T = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} M_\alpha^T \quad \text{for limit } \lambda$$

## Definition

For sets  $\vec{x}, \vec{y}$  and  $0 < n < \omega$  define  $\text{SR}_n^*(\vec{x} / \vec{y}) := M_{n+\text{rank}(\vec{x})}^{\text{tc}(\vec{x} \star \vec{y})}$

## Theorem (Sy Friedman, '11)

SRSF functions are exactly the  $f(\vec{x} / \vec{y})$  which are uniformly definable in  $SR_n^*(\vec{x} / \vec{y})$  for some finite  $n$ .

## Corollary

The SR functions on  $\omega$ -strings coincide with those computable by an infinite-time Turing machine in time  $\omega^n$  for some finite  $n$ , and were considered by Deolalikar, Hamkins, Schindler, Welch and others.

# Bounded Set Theories

*rank comparison:*  $x \preceq y$  iff  $\text{rank}(x) \leq \text{rank}(y)$

*Rank bounded quantification:*  $\forall x \preceq t \varphi(x)$  and  $\exists x \preceq t \varphi(x)$

$\Sigma_1^b$  formulas of form  $\exists x \preceq t \varphi(x)$  for  $\varphi \in \Delta_0$ .

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  expand  $L_\in$  by  $0, \text{Succ}, +, \times, \text{rank} \dots$

Let  $\text{KP}^-$  be KP without Foundation, and define

$\text{KP}_1^b$  to be  $\text{KP}^-$  plus  $\Sigma_1^b$ - $\in$ -Induction.

Let  $\text{KP}^{--}$  be KP without  $\Delta_0$ -Collection and Foundation, and define

$T_1$  to be  $\text{KP}^{--}$  plus  $\Delta_0$ -b-Collection plus  $\Sigma_1^b$ - $\in$ -Induction.

$\Delta_0$ -b-Collection is

$$\forall x \in a \exists y \preceq t(x) \varphi(x, y) \rightarrow \exists z \forall x \in a \exists y \in z \varphi(x, y)$$

with  $\varphi(x, y) \in \Delta_0$ .

The first chapters of Barwise *Admissible Sets and Structures* can be adapted to  $\mathcal{T}_1$  for  $\Sigma_1^b$  and  $\Pi_1^b$  instead of  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Pi_1$ :

## Definition

$\Sigma^b$  smallest class containing  $\Delta_0$  and closed under conjunction, disjunction, bounded quantification and existential rank bounded quantification.  
 $\Pi^b$  dually defined.

## Definition

Given formula  $\varphi$  and variable  $a$  not occurring in  $\varphi$ , write  $\varphi^{(a)}$  for result of replacing each *unbounded* quantifier (this includes rank bounded quantifiers) by *bounded* quantifier; that is replace  $\exists x$  by  $\exists x \in a$ , and  $\forall x$  by  $\forall x \in a$ .

We observe that  $\varphi^{(a)}$  is a  $\Delta_0$ -formula. If  $\varphi$  is  $\Delta_0$  then  $\varphi^{(a)} = \varphi$ .

The following statements are already logically valid for  $\Sigma^b$ -formulas  $\varphi$ .

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \varphi^{(a)} \wedge a \subseteq b \rightarrow \varphi^{(b)}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \varphi^{(a)} \rightarrow \varphi$$

where  $a \subseteq b$  abbreviates the formula  $\forall x \in a (x \in b)$ .

### Theorem (The $\Sigma^b$ Reflection Principle)

*For every  $\Sigma^b$  formula  $\varphi$  there exists an  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$ -term  $t$  whose variables are amongst the free variables of  $\varphi$  such that:*

$$T_1 \vdash \varphi \leftrightarrow \exists x \preceq t \varphi^{(x)} .$$

*In particular, any  $\Sigma^b$  formula is equivalent to some  $\Sigma_1^b$  formula in  $T_1$ .*

### Theorem (The $\Sigma^b$ Bounded Collection Principle)

*For any  $\Sigma^b$  formula  $\varphi$  the following is a theorem of  $T_1$ :*

*If  $\forall x \in a \exists y \preceq b \varphi(x, y)$ , then there is a set  $c$  such that  $c \preceq \text{rank}(b) + 1$ ,  $\forall x \in a \exists y \in c \varphi(x, y)$  and  $\forall y \in c \exists x \in a \varphi(x, y)$ .*

## Theorem ( $\Delta^b$ Separation)

For any  $\Sigma^b$  formula  $\varphi(x)$  and  $\Pi^b$  formula  $\psi(x)$ , the following is a theorem of  $T_1$ :

If for all  $x \in a$ ,  $\varphi(x) \leftrightarrow \psi(x)$ , then there is a set  $b = \{x \in a : \varphi(x)\}$ .

## Theorem ( $\Sigma^b$ Replacement)

For each  $\Sigma^b$  formula  $\varphi(x, y)$  the following is a theorem of  $T_1$ :

If  $\forall x \in a \exists! y \preceq b \varphi(x, y)$ , then there is a function  $f$ , with  $\text{dom}(f) = a$ , such that  $\forall x \in a \varphi(x, f(x))$ .

## Theorem (Strong $\Sigma^b$ Replacement)

For each  $\Sigma^b$  formula  $\varphi(x, y)$  the following is a theorem of  $T_1$ :

If  $\forall x \in a \exists! y \preceq b \varphi(x, y)$ , then there is a function  $f$ , with  $\text{dom}(f) = a$ , such that

- 1  $\forall x \in a f(x) \neq \emptyset$  ;
- 2  $\forall x \in a \forall y \in f(x) \varphi(x, y)$  .



## Definition

Let  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a  $\Sigma^b$  formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  and  $\psi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a  $\Pi^b$  formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  such that  $T_1 \vdash \varphi \leftrightarrow \psi$ . Let  $R$  be a new  $n$ -ary relation symbol and define  $R$  by

$$\forall x_1 \dots \forall x_n [R(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leftrightarrow \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)] \quad (R)$$

$R$  is then called a  $\Delta^b$  relation symbol of  $T_1$ .

## Lemma

Let  $T_1$  be formulated in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  and let  $R$  be a  $\Delta^b$  relation symbol of  $T_1$ . Let  $T'_1$  be  $T_1$  as formulated in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(R)$ , plus the defining axiom  $(R)$  above.

- 1 For every formula  $\theta(\vec{x}, R)$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(R)$ , there is a formula  $\theta_0(\vec{x})$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  such that

$$T_1 + (R) \vdash \theta(\vec{x}, R) \leftrightarrow \theta_0(\vec{x})$$

Moreover, if  $\theta$  is a  $\Sigma^b$  formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(R)$  then  $\theta_0$  is a  $\Sigma^b$ -formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$ .

- 2 For every  $\Delta_0$  formula  $\theta(\vec{x}, R)$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(R)$ , there are  $\Sigma^b$  and  $\Pi^b$  formulas  $\theta_0(\vec{x}), \theta_1(\vec{x})$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  such that

$$T_1 + (R) \vdash \theta(\vec{x}, R) \leftrightarrow \theta_0(\vec{x}) \quad \text{and} \quad T_1 + (R) \vdash \theta(\vec{x}, R) \leftrightarrow \theta_1(\vec{x})$$

- 3  $T'_1$  is a conservative extension of  $T_1$ .

## Definition

Let  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$  be a  $\Sigma^b$  formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  and  $t(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  a term of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  such that

$$T_1 \vdash \forall x_1, \dots, x_n \exists! y \preceq t(x_1, \dots, x_n) \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) .$$

Let  $F$  be a new  $n$ -ary function symbol and define  $F$  by

$$\forall x_1 \dots x_n, y [F(x_1, \dots, x_n) = y \leftrightarrow \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)] \quad (\text{F})$$

$F$  is then called a  $\Sigma^b$  *function symbol* of  $T_1$ .

## Lemma

Let  $T_1$  be formulated in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  and let  $F$  be a  $\Sigma^b$  function symbol of  $T_1$ . Let  $T'_1$  be  $T_1$  as formulated in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(F)$ , plus the defining axiom (F) above.

- 1 For every formula  $\theta(\vec{x}, F)$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(F)$ , there is a formula  $\theta_0(\vec{x})$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  such that

$$T_1 + (F) \vdash \theta(\vec{x}, F) \leftrightarrow \theta_0(\vec{x})$$

Moreover, if  $\theta$  is a  $\Sigma^b$  formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(F)$  then  $\theta_0$  is a  $\Sigma^b$ -formula of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$ .

- 2 For every  $\Delta_0$  formula  $\theta(\vec{x}, F)$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}(F)$ , there are  $\Sigma^b$  and  $\Pi^b$  formulas  $\theta_0(\vec{x}), \theta_1(\vec{x})$  of  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{FST}}$  such that

$$T_1 + (F) \vdash \theta(\vec{x}, F) \leftrightarrow \theta_0(\vec{x}) \quad \text{and} \quad T_1 + (F) \vdash \theta(\vec{x}, F) \leftrightarrow \theta_1(\vec{x})$$

- 3  $T'_1$  is a conservative extension of  $T_1$ .

# $T_1$ characterises SRSF

## Definition

$T_1$   $\Sigma_1$ -defines a set function  $f$  if there is a  $\Sigma_1$  formula  $\varphi$  such that  $\forall x \models \forall x \varphi(x, f(x))$  and  $T_1 \vdash \forall x \exists! y \varphi(x, y)$ .

$T_1$   $\Sigma_1^b$ -defines a set function  $f$  if  $\varphi \in \Sigma_1^b$ .

## Theorem (B.14)

*The  $\Sigma_1$ -definable functions of  $T_1$  are exactly the safe recursive set functions.*

Proof utilises characterisation of SRSF as those functions uniformly definable in  $SR^*$  using the  $M$ -hierarchy.

## Corollary

*The  $\Delta_1$  definable predicates of  $T_1$  are exactly the predicates in SRSF.*

# Defining SRSF in $T_1$

We show that all SRSF functions are  $\Sigma_1^b$ -definable in  $T_1$

Let  $\psi_n$  be  $\Sigma_1^b$ -definition of  $x \mapsto \text{SR}_n^*(x /)$  in  $T_1$ .

$f(x /) \in \text{SRSF} \Rightarrow$  (uniformly definable in  $\text{SR}^*$ )  
 $f(x /) = z$  iff  $\text{SR}_n^*(x /) \models \varphi(x, z)$  by some  $\varphi$

Hence  $f(x /) = \bigcup \{z \in \text{SR}_n^*(x /) : \varphi(x, z)^{\text{SR}_n^*(x /)}\}$

Let  $\chi(x, u, v)$  be the  $\Delta_0$ -formula

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_n(x, u) \wedge \forall y \in v (y \in u \wedge \varphi^u(x, y)) \\ \wedge \forall y \in u (\varphi^u(x, y) \rightarrow y \in v) \end{aligned}$$

and let  $\chi(x, z)$  be  $\exists u, v (\chi(x, u, v) \wedge z = \bigcup v)$ . Then

$$V \models \forall x \chi(x, f(x /)) \text{ and } V \models \forall x \exists! z \chi(x, z)$$

$$T_1 \vdash \forall x, u, u', v, v' (\chi(x, u, v) \wedge \chi(x, u', v') \rightarrow u = u' \wedge v = v')$$

using  $\Sigma_1$ -definability of  $\text{SR}_n^*$  and Extensionality, and

$$T_1 \vdash \forall x \exists u, v \chi(x, u, v)$$

using  $\Sigma_1$ -definability of  $\text{SR}_n^*$  and  $\Delta_0$ -Separation.

Adapt M.Rathjen's argument:

$f(x)$   $\Sigma_1$ -definable in  $T_1$

$\Rightarrow$  exists  $\varphi(x, y, z) \in \Delta_0$  such that  $V \models \forall x \exists z \varphi(x, f(x), z)$  and  
 $T_1 \vdash \forall x \exists! y \exists z \varphi(x, y, z)$

$\Rightarrow T_1 \vdash \forall x \exists u \psi(x, u)$  for  $\psi(x, u)$  denoting  $\varphi(x, (u)_0, (u)_1)$ .

Interpretation Theorem (next slide) shows that there exists finite  $n$  such that

$V \models \exists u \in M_{n+\text{rank}(x)}^{\text{tc}(\{x\})} \psi(x, u)$  for any  $x \in V$

$\Rightarrow \text{SR}_m^*(x /) \models \exists y \exists z \varphi(x, y, z)$  for some  $m \geq n$  independent of  $x$

$\Rightarrow f(x) = y$  iff  $\text{SR}_m^*(x /) \models \exists z \varphi(x, y, z)$

$\Rightarrow f \in \text{SRSF}$

# Interpretation Theorem

For formula  $\psi$  (which may contain unbounded quantifiers) write  $\psi_v^{\alpha,\beta}$  for replacing each *unbounded* quantifier (this includes range bounded quantifiers)  $\forall x$  and  $\exists x$  in  $\psi$  by  $\forall x \in M_\alpha^{\text{tc}(v)}$  and  $\exists x \in M_\beta^{\text{tc}(v)}$ , respectively.

## Theorem (Interpretation Theorem, B.14)

Let  $\Gamma(\vec{a})$  be set of  $\Delta_0(\Sigma_1)$  formulas with free variables amongst  $\vec{a}$ .  
If  $T_1 \vdash \Gamma(\vec{a})$ , then there exists polynomial  $p$   
such that

$$V \models \bigvee \Gamma(\vec{u})_v^{\alpha, \alpha+p(\text{rank}(\vec{u}))} \text{ for all } \alpha \text{ and } \vec{u}, v \text{ such that } \vec{u} \in M_\alpha^v.$$

Conclusion can be strengthened to be provable in  $T_0$



# Collection Rule

$$\Delta_0 \text{ Collection Rule: } \frac{\Gamma, b \notin t, \exists y \varphi(b, y)}{\Gamma, \exists z \forall x \in t \exists y \in z \varphi(x, y)}$$

with  $b$  Eigenvariable,  $\varphi \in \Delta_0$  and  $\Gamma \subset \Sigma_1 \cup \Pi_1$

## Theorem (B.'15)

$T_1$  is closed under above  $\Delta_0$  Collection Rule.

## Corollary

$KP_1^b$  is  $\forall \Sigma_1$  conservative over  $T_1$ .

## Corollary

The  $\Sigma_1$  definable functions of  $KP_1^b$  are exactly SRSF.

## Corollary

The  $\Delta_1$  definable predicates of  $KP_1^b$  are exactly the predicates in SRSF.

- Can  $KP_1^b$  be interpreted in some fragment of Bounded Arithmetic (in analogy to fact that  $KP^- + \Sigma_1\text{-}\epsilon\text{-Induction}$  can be interpreted in  $I\Sigma_1$  )
- What is the “right” definition for theory for CRSF? Perform bootstrapping.
- Once the right definitions have been settled, study bounded set theory hierarchy  $KP_i^b$  and characterise their  $\Sigma_1$ -definable functions. Links to “usual” complexity theory?

# Summary

- Defined a restriction of Kripke-Platek set theory  $KP_1^b$  by defining new “rank” bounded quantifier  $\exists x \preceq y$  to define  $\Sigma_1^b$ , and restricting class foundation to  $\Sigma_1^b$ - $\in$ -induction.
- Showed that the  $\Sigma_1$  definable functions in  $KP_1^b$  are exactly the SRSF functions.
- Main proof theoretic tool: the interpretation theorem, that showed that in proofs of  $\Sigma_1 \cup \Pi_1$  statements in (a fragment of)  $KP_1^b$ , witnesses for existential quantifiers can be found polynomially above given witnesses to universal quantifiers in the  $M$ -hierarchy.

## Take Away Message:

Combining set theory and complexity theory is fruitful and fun!