

# Bar Recursion: A Survey

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Logic (LEM)

$$A \vee \neg A$$

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$$\forall N \exists s^{\mathbb{B}^N} \forall n < N (s_n \Leftrightarrow A(n))$$

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Analysis (comprehension)

$$\exists \alpha^{\mathbb{B}^{\mathbb{N}}} \forall n (\alpha(n) \Leftrightarrow A(n))$$

# Outline

1. Bar Recursion: Early History
2. Bar Recursion and Selection Functions
  - Monads and Products
  - Interdefinability
3. Bar Recursion and Games
  - Selection functions and players
  - Iterated product and optimal strategies
4. Bar Recursion: Current and Future Work

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## From 1960's to 1985

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- (1962) Spector extends Gödel's interpretation to **analysis**  
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(1971) Scarpellini model  $\mathcal{C}$  of **continuous functionals**

$$\forall \varphi^{X^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}}, \alpha^{X^{\mathbb{N}}} \exists n^{\mathbb{N}} \forall \beta (\alpha[n] = \beta[n] \rightarrow \varphi \alpha = \varphi \beta)$$

(1985) Bezem model  $\mathcal{M}$  of **majorizable functionals**

$$\forall \varphi^{X^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}}, \alpha^{X^{\mathbb{N}}} \exists n^{\mathbb{N}} \forall \beta (\alpha[n] = \beta[n] \rightarrow \varphi \beta \leq n)$$

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Novel bar recursion and **realizability** interp. of analysis
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Defined **modified bar recursion**  
Use of standard (modified) realizability

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- (2006) Escardó rediscovers (variant of) modified bar recursion  
Defining searchable sets and their countable products  
Computational counterpart of compactness

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$T$  is a **strong monad** if for a family of closed terms

$$\eta_X : X \rightarrow TX$$

$$(\cdot)^\dagger : (X \rightarrow TY) \rightarrow (TX \rightarrow TY)$$

we have ( $f: X \rightarrow TY$  and  $g: Y \rightarrow TZ$ )

$$(i) (\eta_X)^\dagger = \text{id}_{TX}$$

$$(ii) f^\dagger \circ \eta_X = f$$

$$(iii) (g^\dagger \circ f)^\dagger = g^\dagger \circ f^\dagger$$



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E.g.  $TX = X$

(*identity monad*)

$TX = (X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow R$

(*continuation monad,  $KX$* )

$TX = (X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow X$

(*selection monad,  $JX$* )

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For  $TX = KX$  and  $\phi: KX$  and  $\psi: X \rightarrow KY$

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For  $TX = JX$  and  $\varepsilon: JX$  and  $\delta: X \rightarrow JY$  we have

$$(\varepsilon \otimes \delta)(q) = (a, f(a))$$

where  $f(x) = \delta(x)(\lambda y. q(x, y))$  and  $a = \varepsilon(\lambda x. q(x, f(x)))$

# Finite Product

Given

$$f : X^* \rightarrow TX$$

Define (for  $|s| \leq n$ )

$$\bigotimes_s^n f = f(s) \otimes (\lambda x. \bigotimes_{s*x}^n f)$$

with  $\bigotimes_s^{|s|} f = \eta(1)$

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**Theorem (Escardó/Powell/O.'2011).**

For all three monads  $TX = X$ ,  $TX = KX$  and  $TX = JX$   
the finite product is equivalent to Gödel primitive recursion

# Unbounded Product (Implicitly Controlled)

Given

$$\phi_s : (X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow R \quad (\text{quantifiers})$$

$$\varepsilon_s : (X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow X \quad (\text{selection functions})$$

Define

$$\text{IPQ}_s : (X^* \rightarrow KX)^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow K(X^{\mathbb{N}})$$

$$\text{IPQ}_s = \phi_s \otimes (\lambda x. \text{IPQ}_{s*x})$$

$$\text{IPS}_s : (X^* \rightarrow JX)^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow J(X^{\mathbb{N}})$$

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IPQ is inconsistent

For discrete  $R$ , IPS exists in  $\mathcal{C}$  and (not uniquely) in  $\mathcal{M}$

## Unbounded Product (Explicitly Controlled)

Given

$\phi_s : (X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow R$  (quantifiers)

$\varepsilon_s : (X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow X$  (selection functions)

$\varphi : X^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  (control function)

Define ( $\hat{s} = \text{infinite extension of finite sequence } s$ )

$$\text{EPQ}_s = \begin{cases} \mathbf{0} & \text{if } \varphi(\hat{s}) < |s| \\ \phi_s \otimes (\lambda x. \text{EPQ}_{s*x}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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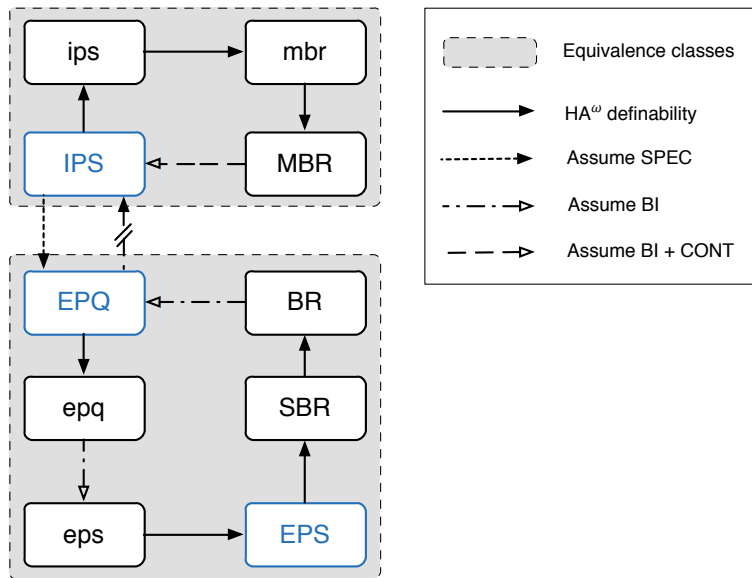
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Both exist (uniquely) in  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$ , for arbitrary  $R$

# Interdefinability (Escardó/O.'2014)



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Selection functions describe **players**

$$(X \rightarrow R) \rightarrow X$$

by determining the **optimal move** for each game context



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**Theorem (Escardó/O.'2010).**

Given  $n$  players, finite product  $\otimes$  calculates optimal play

When selection functions are maximisation functions

finite product implements **backward induction**

(sub-game perfect equilibrium)

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## Bar Recursion and Games

- (2012) Infinite product IPS extends backward induction to **unbounded** games (Escardó/O.)
- (2013) Selection function generalisation of Nash's theorem on the existence of **mixed equilibrium** (Hedges)
- (2014) Application of selection functions and quantifiers to **“classical” game theory** (Hedges/O./Meinheim)  
Novel equilibrium (multi-valued selection functions)

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- (2014) Application of selection functions and quantifiers to “**classical**” **game theory** (Hedges/O./Meinheim)  
Novel equilibrium (multi-valued selection functions)
- (??) Selection function/bar recursion for mixed strategies
- (??) Consider repeated games and approximate equilibria

## Bar Recursion and Monads

(2013) Selection + State monad for DPLL (Hedges)

(2014) Multi-valued selection functions and the  
**Herbrand interpretation** of DNS (Escardó/O.)

Equivalence of bar recursion and “monadic” bar recursion

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Equivalence of bar recursion and “monadic” bar recursion

(??) Combination of selection functions and probability monad  
Implication to games and mixed equilibrium

(??) Combination of selection functions with searchable  
set monad (Hedges)  
Novel variant of functional interpretation



## Applied Bar Recursion

- (2013) Selection function (game-theoretic) interpretation of **Bolzano-Weierstrass and Ramsey thms** (Powell/O.)
- (2014) Optimised variant of Spector bar recursion (Powell/O.)  
Better use of the control function
- (2014) Bar recursive interpretation of **“termination” theorem**  
Based on analysis of transitive Ramsey theorem for pairs (Berardi/Steila/O.)

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- (??) Game-theoretic interpretation of Analysis  
E.g. Fixed point theory, Approximation theory,  
Diophantine approximation, Ergodic theory

THE END