

# Operational semantics for disintegration

Chung-chieh Shan (Indiana University)

Norman Ramsey (Tufts University)

Mathematical Foundations of Programming Semantics

2016-05-25

# What is semantics for?

1. Language for composing generative stories

**normal** 0 10

(monadic bind, unit)

2. Guarantee that terms denote distributions

(product measure *tricky*)

# What is semantics for?

1. Language for composing generative stories

```
do {x ~ normal 0 10;  
    normal x 1}
```

(monadic bind, unit)

2. Guarantee that terms denote distributions

(product measure *tricky*)

# What is semantics for?

1. Language for composing generative stories

```
do {x ~ normal 0 10;  
    return ex}
```

(monadic bind, unit)

2. Guarantee that terms denote distributions

(product measure *tricky*)

# What is semantics for?

1. Language for composing generative stories

```
do { $x \leftarrow \text{normal} \ 0 \ 10;$   
return  $e^x\}$ 
```

(monadic bind, unit)

2. Guarantee that terms denote distributions

```
do { $x \leftarrow m;$   
do { $y \leftarrow n;$   
return  $(x,y)\}}$ }
```

(product measure *tricky*)

# What is semantics for?

1. Language for composing generative stories

```
do { $x \leftarrow \text{normal} \ 0 \ 10;$   
return  $e^x\}$ 
```

(monadic bind, unit)

2. Guarantee that terms denote distributions

```
do { $x \leftarrow m;$   
do { $y \leftarrow n;$   
return  $(x,y)\}}$ } = do { $x \leftarrow m;$   
 $y \leftarrow n;$   
return  $(x,y)\}$ }
```

(product measure *tricky*)

# What is semantics for?

3. Equational reasoning by semantics-preserving rewriting!

Fubini

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{do} \{x \leftarrow m; & = & \mathbf{do} \{y \leftarrow n; \\ y \leftarrow n; & & x \leftarrow m; \\ \mathbf{return} (x,y)\} & & \mathbf{return} (x,y)\} \end{array}$$

Conjugacy

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{do} \{x \leftarrow \mathbf{normal} 0 1; & = & \mathbf{do} \{\mathbf{factor} (1/\sqrt{3}); \\ \mathbf{factor} e^{-x^2}; & & x \leftarrow \mathbf{normal} 0 \sqrt{3}; \\ \mathbf{return} x\} & & \mathbf{return} x\} \end{array}$$

# What is semantics for?

3. Equational reasoning by semantics-preserving rewriting!

Fubini

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{do} \{x \leftarrow m; & = & \mathbf{do} \{y \leftarrow n; \\ y \leftarrow n; & & x \leftarrow m; \\ \mathbf{return} (x,y)\} & & \mathbf{return} (x,y)\} \end{array}$$

Conjugacy

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{do} \{x \leftarrow \mathbf{normal} 0 1; & = & \mathbf{do} \{\mathbf{factor} (1/\sqrt{3}); \\ \mathbf{factor} e^{-x^2}; & & x \leftarrow \mathbf{normal} 0 \sqrt{3}; \\ \mathbf{return} x\} & & \mathbf{return} x\} \end{array}$$

# What is semantics for?

3. Equational reasoning by semantics-preserving rewriting!

Fubini

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{do} \{x \leftarrow m; & = & \mathbf{do} \{y \leftarrow n; \\ y \leftarrow n; & & x \leftarrow m; \\ \mathbf{return} (x,y)\} & & \mathbf{return} (x,y)\} \end{array}$$

Conjugacy

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{do} \{x \leftarrow \mathbf{normal} 0 1; & = & \mathbf{do} \{\mathbf{factor} (1/\sqrt{3}); \\ \mathbf{factor} e^{-x^2}; & & x \leftarrow \mathbf{normal} 0 \sqrt{3}; \\ \mathbf{return} x\} & & \mathbf{return} x\} \end{array}$$

(convenient **factor** expresses non-(sub)probability measures)

## Two program transformations specified semantically

### 1. Simplification

$$m = m'$$

### 2. Disintegration

$$m = \mathbf{do} \{ t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \mathbf{return} (t, x) \}$$

(typically  $t$  appears free in  $m_2$ )

## Two program transformations specified semantically

### 1. Simplification

$$m = m'$$

### 2. Disintegration

$$m = \mathbf{do} \{ t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \mathbf{return} (t, x) \}$$

(typically  $t$  appears free in  $m_2$ )

# Two program transformations specified semantically

## 1. Simplification

$$m = m'$$

## 2. Disintegration

$$m = \mathbf{do} \{ t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \mathbf{return} (t, x) \}$$

(typically  $t$  appears free in  $m_2$ )

## Two program transformations specified semantically

### 1. Simplification

$$m = m'$$

### 2. Disintegration

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \textbf{do } \{ t \leftarrow m_1; \\ &\quad x \leftarrow m_2; \\ &\quad \textbf{return } (t, x) \} \\ &= \textbf{do } \{ t \star m_1; \\ &\quad m_2 \} \end{aligned}$$

(typically  $t$  appears free in  $m_2$ )

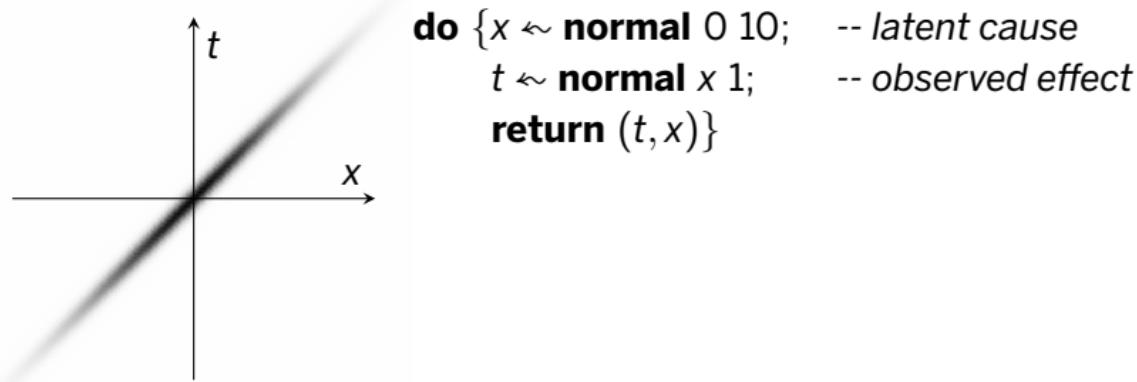
## What is disintegration for?

$$m = \mathbf{do} \{ t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \mathbf{return} (t, x) \} = \mathbf{do} \{ t \star m_1; \\ m_2 \}$$

# What is disintegration for?

$$m = \text{do } \{t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \text{return } (t, x)\} = \text{do } \{t \star m_1; \\ m_2\}$$

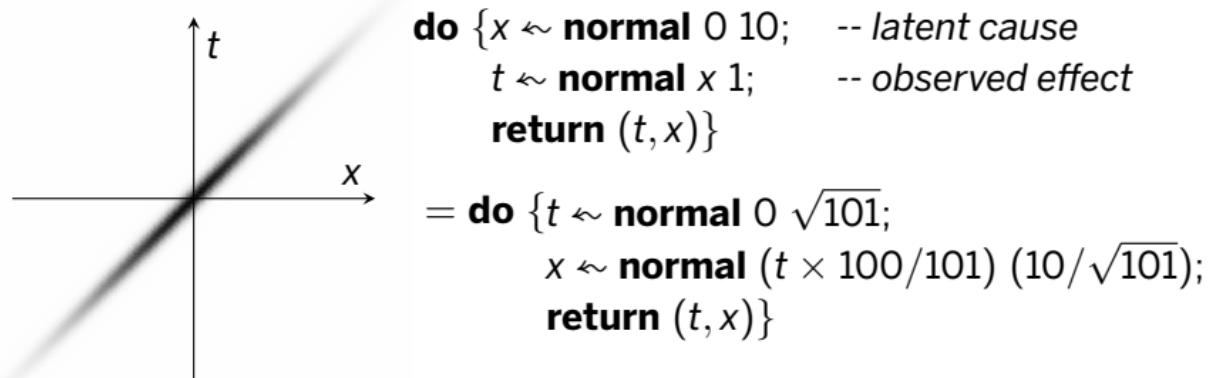
Disintegration defines conditional distributions



# What is disintegration for?

$$m = \text{do } \{t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \text{return } (t, x)\} = \text{do } \{t * m_1; \\ m_2\}$$

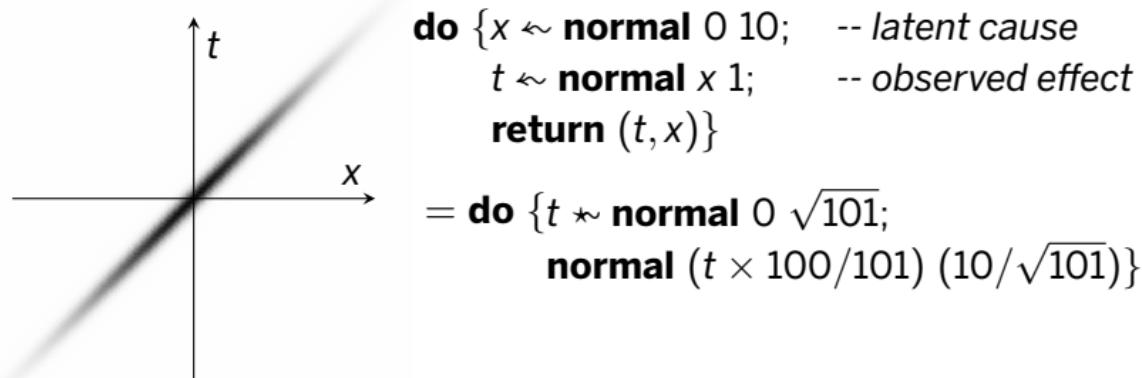
Disintegration defines conditional distributions



# What is disintegration for?

$$m = \text{do } \{t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \text{return } (t, x)\} = \text{do } \{t * m_1; \\ m_2\}$$

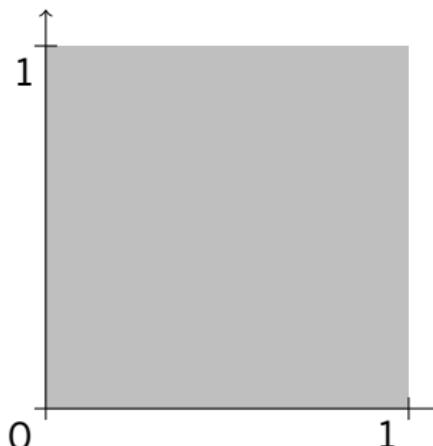
Disintegration defines conditional distributions



# What is disintegration for?

$$m = \text{do } \{t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \text{return } (t, x)\} = \text{do } \{t \star m_1; \\ m_2\}$$

Disintegration allows an uncountable space of observations

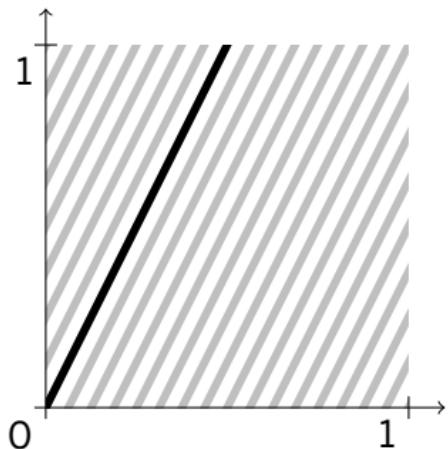


**do** { $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0 \ 1;$   
 $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0 \ 1;$   
 $t \leftarrow$  ;  
**return**  $(t, (x, y))\}$

# What is disintegration for?

$$m = \text{do } \{t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \text{return } (t, x)\} = \text{do } \{t \star m_1; \\ m_2\}$$

Disintegration allows an uncountable space of observations

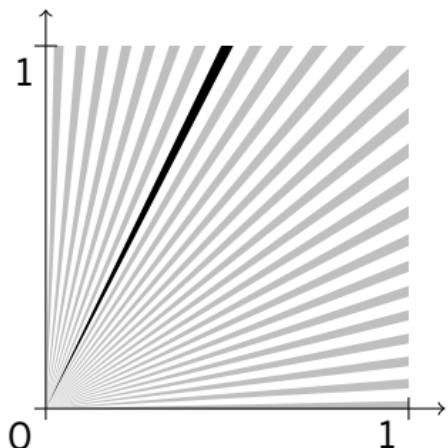


```
do {x ~ uniform 0 1;  
y ~ uniform 0 1;  
t ~ return (y - 2 * x);  
return (t, (x,y))}
```

# What is disintegration for?

$$m = \text{do } \{t \leftarrow m_1; \\ x \leftarrow m_2; \\ \text{return } (t, x)\} = \text{do } \{t \star m_1; \\ m_2\}$$

Disintegration allows an uncountable space of observations



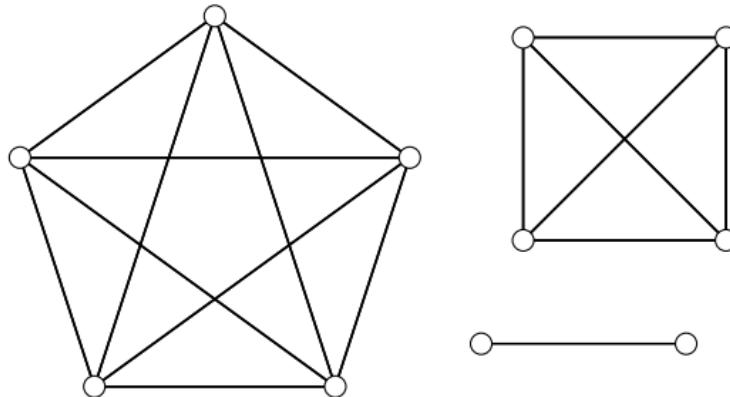
**do** { $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0 1;$   
 $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0 1;$   
 $t \leftarrow \text{return } (y/x);$   
**return**  $(t, (x, y))\}$

# From denotation to operation

Denotation: equivalence relation

Operation: directed graph

So denotation justifies soundness of operation

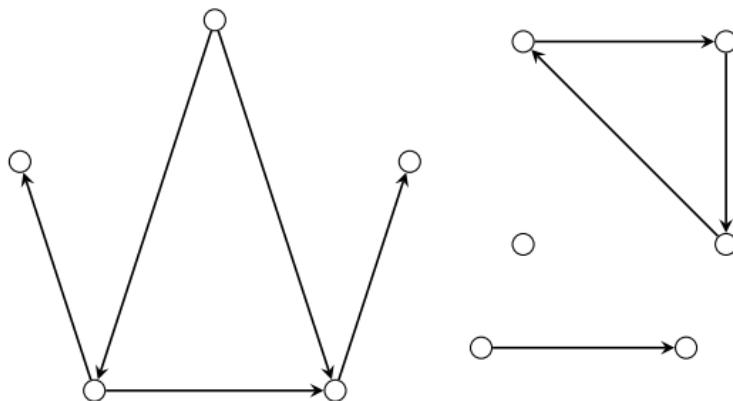


# From denotation to operation

Denotation: equivalence relation

Operation: directed graph

So denotation justifies soundness of operation

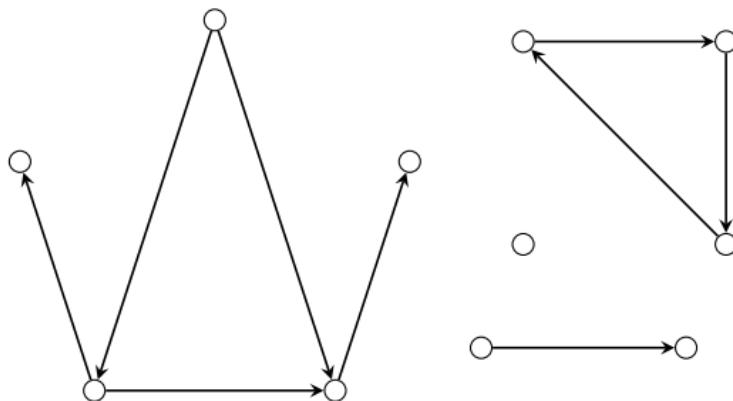


# From denotation to operation

Denotation: equivalence relation

Operation: directed graph

So denotation justifies soundness of operation



This setup is typical for execution, but what about disintegration?

Rest of this talk: a disintegrator that justifies its work, step by step

A contextual operational semantics, implemented in PLT Redex

# Syntax

Term  $e, m ::= \mathbf{do} \left\{ \mathbf{factor} \ e; m \right\} \mid \mathbf{do} \left\{ x \leftarrow m; m \right\} \mid \mathbf{do} \left\{ x \star m; m \right\}$   
 $\mid \mathbf{return} \ e \mid \mathbf{uniform} \ e \ e \mid \mathbf{normal} \ e \ e \mid \mathbf{lebesgue}$   
 $\mid (e, e) \mid \mathbf{fst} \ e \mid \mathbf{snd} \ e \mid \textit{number} \mid e - e \mid e/e \mid \dots \mid x$

(not shown: conditionals)

# Syntax

Stratified syntax during disintegration

State       $s ::= \mathbf{do} \{ \mathbf{factor} \ e; s \} \mid \mathbf{do} \{ x \leftarrow m; s \} \mid \mathbf{do} \{ \mathbf{delimit}; t \}$

Thread      $t ::= \mathbf{do} \{ \mathbf{factor} \ e; t \} \mid \mathbf{do} \{ x \leftarrow m; t \} \mid \mathbf{do} \{ x \star m; m \}$

Term     $e, m ::= \mathbf{do} \{ \mathbf{factor} \ e; m \} \mid \mathbf{do} \{ x \leftarrow m; m \}$   
          | **return** e | **uniform** e e | **normal** e e | **lebesgue**  
          | (e, e) | **fst** e | **snd** e | *number* |  $e - e$  |  $e/e$  |  $\dots$  |  $x$

(not shown: conditionals)

## Example disintegration

```
do {x ~ uniform 0 1;  
    y ~ uniform 0 1;  
    return (y/x, (x,y))}
```

Stage 1: Isolate (evaluate)

Stage 2: Invert (unevaluate)

## Example disintegration

```
do {delimit;  
  r  $\leftarrow$  do {x  $\leftarrow$  uniform 0 1;  
    y  $\leftarrow$  uniform 0 1;  
    return (y/x, (x,y))};  
  t  $\star$  return (fst r);  
  return (snd r)}
```

## Example disintegration (step 1)

```
do {delimit;  
     $r \leftarrow \text{do } \{x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
       $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
      return  $(y/x, (x,y))\};$   
     $t \leftarrow \text{return } (\text{fst } r);$   
    return  $(\text{snd } r)\}$                                 bind → do {delimit;  
       $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
       $r \leftarrow \text{do } \{y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
        return  $(y/x, (x,y))\};$   
       $t \leftarrow \text{return } (\text{fst } r);$   
      return  $(\text{snd } r)\}$ 
```

## Example disintegration (step 1)

**do** {**delimit**;  
     $r \leftarrow \text{do } \{x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
         $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
        **return**  $(y/x, (x,y))\};$   
     $t \star \text{return } (\text{fst } r);$   
    **return**  $(\text{snd } r)\}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{bind}}$

**do** {**delimit**;  
     $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $r \leftarrow \text{do } \{y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
        **return**  $(y/x, (x,y))\};$   
     $t \star \text{return } (\text{fst } r);$   
    **return**  $(\text{snd } r)\}$

**do** {**delimit**;  
     $H;$   
     $r \leftarrow \text{do } \{x \leftarrow m_1;$   
         $m_2\};$   
     $P[r]\}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{bind}}$

**do** {**delimit**;  
     $H;$   
     $x \leftarrow m_1;$   
     $r \leftarrow m_2;$   
     $P[r]\}$

$H$  is a heap of bindings

$P[r]$  is a program that demands  $r$

## Example disintegration (step 1)

```
do {delimit;  
     $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $r \leftarrow \text{do } \{y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
                  return  $(y/x, (x, y))\};$   
     $t \rightsquigarrow \text{return } (\text{fst } r);$   
    return  $(\text{snd } r)\}$ 
```

## Example disintegration (step 2)

```
do {delimit;
    x ~ uniform 0 1;
    r ~ do {y ~ uniform 0 1;
              return (y/x, (x,y))};
    t ∗~ return (fst r);
    return (snd r)}
```

## Example disintegration (step 2)

**do** {**delimit**;  
   $x \leftarrow \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1;$   
   $r \leftarrow \mathbf{do} \ \{y \leftarrow \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1;$   
    **return**  $(y/x, (x, y))\};$   
   $t \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{return} \ (\mathbf{fst} \ r);$   
  **return**  $(\mathbf{snd} \ r)\}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{bind}}$

**do** {**delimit**;  
   $x \leftarrow \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1;$   
   $y \leftarrow \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1;$   
   $r \leftarrow \mathbf{return} \ (y/x, (x, y));$   
   $t \rightsquigarrow \mathbf{return} \ (\mathbf{fst} \ r);$   
  **return**  $(\mathbf{snd} \ r)\}$

**do** {**delimit**;  
   $H;$   
   $r \leftarrow \mathbf{do} \ \{x \leftarrow m_1;$   
     $m_2\};$   
   $P[r]\}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{bind}}$

**do** {**delimit**;  
   $H;$   
   $x \leftarrow m_1;$   
   $r \leftarrow m_2;$   
   $P[r]\}$

## Example disintegration (step 3)

```
do {delimit;
    x ~ uniform 0 1;
    y ~ uniform 0 1;
    r ~ return (y/x, (x,y));
    t ~ return (fst r);
    return (snd r)} $\xrightarrow{\text{return}}$  do {delimit;
    x ~ uniform 0 1;
    y ~ uniform 0 1;
    r ~ return (y/x, (x,y));
    t ~ return (fst (y/x, (x,y)));
    return (snd r)}
```

```
do {delimit;
    H;
    r ~ return v;
    P[r]} $\xrightarrow{\text{return}}$  do {delimit;
    H;
    r ~ return v;
    P[v]}
```

$v$  is head normal form for lazy evaluation

## Example disintegration (step 4)

```
do {delimit;  
     $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $r \leftarrow \text{return } (y/x, (x,y));$   
     $t \rightsquigarrow \text{return } (\text{fst } (y/x, (x,y)),$   
    return (snd  $r$ )}
```

$\xrightarrow{\text{fst}}$

```
do {delimit;  
     $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $r \leftarrow \text{return } (y/x, (x,y));$   
     $t \rightsquigarrow \text{return } (y/x,$   
    return (snd  $r$ )}
```

```
do {delimit;  
     $P[\text{fst } (e_1, e_2)]$ }
```

$\xrightarrow{\text{fst}}$

```
do {delimit;  
     $P[e_1]$ }
```

## Example disintegration (step 5)

```
do {  
    delimit;  
     $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
     $r \leftarrow \text{return } (y/x, (x,y));$   
     $t \star \text{return } (y/x);$   
    return (snd  $r$ )}
```

$\xrightarrow{\text{Fubini}}$

```
do { $x' \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
delimit;  
 $x \leftarrow \text{return } x';$   
 $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
 $r \leftarrow \text{return } (y/x, (x,y));$   
 $t \star \text{return } (y/x);$   
return ( snd  $r$ )}
```

```
do {  
    delimit;  
     $H;$   
     $x \leftarrow \text{uniform } v_1\ v_2;$   
     $P[x]$ }
```

$\xrightarrow{\text{Fubini}}$

```
do { $x' \leftarrow \text{uniform } v_1\ v_2;$   
delimit;  
 $H;$   
 $x \leftarrow \text{return } x';$   
 $P[x]$ }
```

## Example disintegration (step 6)

```
do {  
    x' ~ uniform 0 1;  
    delimit;  
    x ~ return x';  
    y ~ uniform 0 1;  
    r ~ return (y/x, (x,y));  
    t ∗ return (y/x);  
    return (snd r)}
```

$\xrightarrow{\text{return}}$

```
do {  
    x' ~ uniform 0 1;  
    delimit;  
    x ~ return x';  
    y ~ uniform 0 1;  
    r ~ return (y/x, (x,y));  
    t ∗ return (y/x);  
    return (snd r)}
```

```
do {  
    delimit;  
    H;  
    r ~ return v;  
    P[r]}
```

$\xrightarrow{\text{return}}$

```
do {  
    delimit;  
    H;  
    r ~ return v;  
    P[v]}
```

## Example disintegration (step 7)

**do** { $x' \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
**delimit**;  
 $x \leftarrow \text{return } x';$   
 $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
 $r \leftarrow \text{return } (y/x, (x, y));$   
 $t \star \text{return } (y/x');$   
**return** (**snd**  $r$ )}

$\xrightarrow{\text{un/}}$  **do** { $x' \leftarrow \text{uniform } 0\ 1;$   
**delimit**;  
 $z \leftarrow \text{uniform } (0/x')\ (1/x');$   
 $y \leftarrow \text{return } (z \times x');$   
 $x \leftarrow \text{return } x';$   
 $r \leftarrow \text{return } (y/x, (x, y));$   
 $t \star \text{return } (z);$   
**return** (**snd**  $r$ )}

**do** {**delimit**;  
 $H_1;$   
 $y \leftarrow \text{uniform } v_1\ v_2;$   
 $H_2;$   
 $t \star \text{return } E[y/v];$   
 $m\}$

$\xrightarrow{\text{un/}}$  **do** {**delimit**;  
 $z \leftarrow \text{uniform } (v_1/v)\ (v_2/v);$   
 $y \leftarrow \text{return } (z \times v);$   
 $H_1;$   
 $H_2;$   
 $t \star \text{return } E[z];$   
 $m\}$

## Example disintegration (step 8)

**do** {**x'**  $\leftarrow$  **uniform** 0 1;  
**delimit**;  
**z**  $\leftarrow$  **uniform** (**0/x'**) (**1/x'**);  
**y**  $\leftarrow$  **return** (**z**  $\times$  **x'**);  
**x**  $\leftarrow$  **return** **x'**;  
**r**  $\leftarrow$  **return** (**y/x**, (**x**, **y**));  
**t**  $\star$  **return** **z**;  
**return** (**snd r**)}

$\xrightarrow{\text{unreturn}}$  **do** {**x'**  $\leftarrow$  **uniform** 0 1;  
**delimit**;  
**t**  $\star$  **uniform** (**0/x'**) (**1/x'**);  
**z**  $\leftarrow$  **return** **t**;  
**y**  $\leftarrow$  **return** (**z**  $\times$  **x'**);  
**x**  $\leftarrow$  **return** **x'**;  
**r**  $\leftarrow$  **return** (**y/x**, (**x**, **y**));  
**return** (**snd r**)}

**do** {**delimit**;  
**H**<sub>1</sub>;  
**z**  $\leftarrow$  **m**<sub>1</sub>;  
**H**<sub>2</sub>;  
**t**  $\star$  **return** **z**;  
**m**<sub>2</sub>}

$\xrightarrow{\text{unreturn}}$  **do** {**delimit**;  
**H**<sub>1</sub>;  
**t**  $\star$  **m**<sub>1</sub>;  
**z**  $\leftarrow$  **return** **t**;  
**H**<sub>2</sub>;  
**m**<sub>2</sub>}

## Example disintegration (step 9)

```
do {  
    x' ~ uniform 0 1;  
    delimit;  
    t ~ uniform (0/x') (1/x');  
    z ~ return t;  
    y ~ return (z × x');  
    x ~ return x';  
    r ~ return (y/x, (x,y));  
    return (snd r)}  
  
done → do {t ~ lebesgue;  
    x' ~ uniform 0 1;  
    factor if t is between 0/x' and 1/x'  
        then |x| else 0;  
    z ~ return t;  
    y ~ return (z × x');  
    x ~ return x';  
    r ~ return (y/x, (x,y));  
    return (snd r)}
```

# Summary

Disintegration is useful:

- ▶ defines conditional distributions
- ▶ allows an uncountable space of observations

Disintegrator is useful:

- ▶ generates steps by operational semantics
- ▶ justifies steps by denotational semantics
- ▶ resembles lazy evaluator + change of variables
- ▶ leaves verification conditions behind for exchanging integrals