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# EDAP15: Program Analysis

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MONOMORPHIC TYPE ANALYSIS

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# Lecture Overview

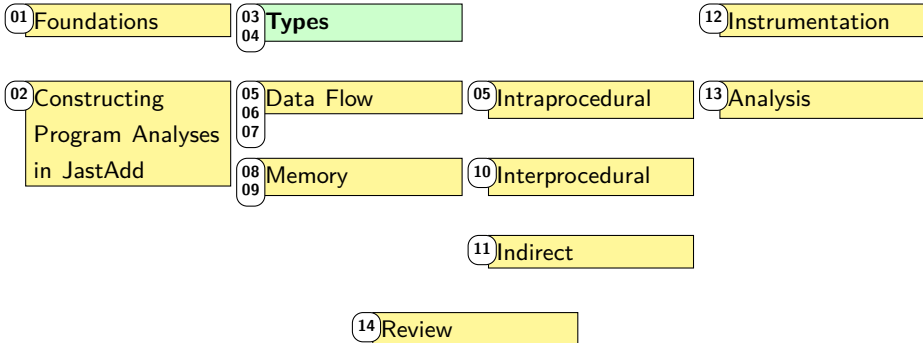
Foundations

Static Analysis

Dynamic  
Analysis

Properties

Control Flow



# Notation Warning

## JastAdd BNF Grammar

```
// start symbol:  
Program ::= Expr;  
  
abstract Expr;  
IntConstant : Expr ::= <Val:int>;  
NullConstant : Expr;  
AddExpr : Expr ::= L:Expr R:Expr;  
SubExpr : Expr ::= L:Expr R:Expr;
```

## Compact BNF Grammar

```
expr ::= <int>  
      | null  
      | <expr> + <expr>  
      | <expr> - <expr>  
  
int ::= 0  
      | 1 | -1  
      | 2 | -2  
      | ...
```

- ▶ For brevity, we will also use the compact BNF notation above
  - ▶ Equivalent to JastAdd Abstract Grammar notation
  - ▶ No production names
  - ▶ Instead, use **terminal symbols** to distinguish production rules

# Types

## Java

```
int v;
```

## Haskell

```
v :: Int
```

## ML

```
val v : int
```

- ▶ Types describe:
  - ▶ Set of possible results
  - ▶ Possible *side effects*  
(e.g., Java's `f()` **throws** `IOException`, Haskell's **IO** monad)
- ▶ *Type analysis* deals with:
  - ▶ *Checking*: Do the types agree?
  - ▶ *Inference*: What types are possible?
- ▶ We focus on *static type analysis*

# Types and Programs: Two Languages

Language  $\mathcal{V}$ :

```
val ::= true
      | false
      |  $\langle nat \rangle$ 
```

Language  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{V}}$ :

```
type ::= BOOL
       | INT
```

```
nat ::= 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | ...
```

- ▶ For program analysis, best to consider types and programs *separate* languages
  - ▶ Target language's type system may not match our needs
  - ▶ Language  $\mathcal{V}$  entirely lacks type system
- ▶ Abstract over  $\mathcal{V}$  with  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{V}}$ :

23 : INT

true : BOOL

- ▶ “has-type-of” is a binary relation:

$$(\cdot) \subseteq \mathcal{V} \times \mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{V}}$$

# Uses of Type Analysis

- ▶ Types abstractly model program behaviour
- ▶ “Traditionally”:
  - ▶ Set of possible computational results
  - ▶ Set of possible behaviours of computational result
- ▶ We can model other behaviour as types:
  - ▶ Uncaught exceptions
  - ▶ Use of shared memory regions
  - ▶ File or network access
  - ▶ Dependencies
  - ▶ Race conditions in concurrent memory access
  - ▶ ...

# Two Types of Applications

Given program  $p$ : analyse  $p : \tau$

## Type Checking

- ▶ Assume  $\tau$  is *given*
- ▶ Test: **Is  $p : \tau$  true?**
- ▶ Can *use* type inference

## Type Inference

- ▶ Assume  $\tau$  is *not given*
- ▶ Find all  $\tau$  s.th.  $p : \tau$ 
  - ▶ Found None: *Type Error* (?)
  - ▶ Found Multiple: *Type Error* (?)

## Program Analysis Designer's View

- ▶ *Checking*  $\tau$  requires specification
  - ▶ *Inferring*  $\tau$  may yield 0, 1, or more results
    - ▶ Some analyses allow this
    - ▶ Example:  $\tau$  describes type of exception that might be raised
- ▶ Examples:
    - ▶ User spec: “no exceptions”
    - ▶ Language spec: “no side effects allowed here”

# Summary

- ▶ Types abstractly *model* some aspect of a program
- ▶ For a given analysis, the language of *types* and *programs* might be distinct
- ▶ Type analysis examines:
  - ▶ **Type Checking** Does this program have some specific type?
  - ▶ **Type Inference** Which types can this program have?
- ▶ Standard notation: the binary **typing relation** ( $:$ ) relates programs  $p$  and their types  $\tau$ :

$p : \tau$



# A Simple Language: IGA

$$\begin{aligned} \text{expr} & ::= \langle \text{val} \rangle \\ & \quad | \langle \text{expr} \rangle \text{ plus } \langle \text{expr} \rangle \\ & \quad | \langle \text{expr} \rangle \text{ } \geq \text{ } \langle \text{expr} \rangle \\ & \quad | \text{if } \langle \text{expr} \rangle \text{ then } \langle \text{expr} \rangle \text{ else } \langle \text{expr} \rangle \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \text{val} & ::= \langle \text{nat} \rangle \\ & \quad | \text{true} \quad | \quad \text{false} \end{aligned}$$
$$\text{nat} ::= 0 \quad | \quad 1 \quad | \quad 2 \quad | \quad 3 \quad | \quad 4 \quad | \quad \dots$$

- ▶ Semantics mostly straightforward:
- ▶ **plus** operates only on *nat*
- ▶ **>=** requires *nat* arguments and returns **true** or **false**
- ▶ **if  $e_1$  then  $e_2$  else  $e_3$** :
  - ▶ If  **$e_1$**  evaluates to **true**: computes  **$e_2$**
  - ▶ If  **$e_1$**  evaluates to **false**: computes  **$e_3$**

# The Typing Relation

- ▶ We the set of types of IGA,  $\mathbb{T}_{iga} = \{\text{BOOL}, \text{INT}\}$ :
  - ▶ **BOOL**: Type of booleans (`true`, `false`)
  - ▶ **INT**: Type of natural numbers (`0`, `1`, `2`, ...)
- ▶ We can now type values:

`true` : **BOOL**  
`23` : **INT**

- ▶ Thus:

$$(\cdot) \subseteq \text{val} \times \mathbb{T}_{iga}$$

# Types for Values

- ▶ To analyse all of IGA, we extend  $(:)$  to expressions:

$$(:) \subseteq \text{expr} \times \mathbb{T}_{iga}$$

- ▶ We want to type e.g.:

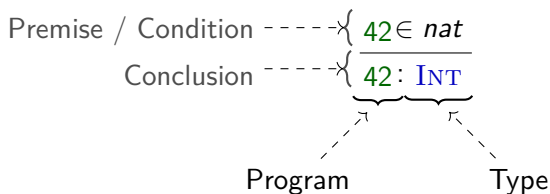
39 plus 3 : INT

**For clarity, we will write this formally**

# Types for Expressions

$$\frac{}{\text{true} : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-true})$$
$$\frac{}{\text{false} : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-false})$$
$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$

# Conditional Typing Rules



If  $42 \in \text{nat}$  holds, then so does  $42 : \text{INT}$

- ▶  $v$  is a *Metavariable*
  - ▶ We can replace  $v$  by *anything*
    - ▶ One restriction: we must do so *everywhere in the rule at once*
- ⇒ “*Substitution*”

# Types for Expressions

$$\frac{}{\text{true} : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-true})$$

$$\frac{}{\text{false} : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-false})$$

$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

# Recursive Typing Rules

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$



$$\boxed{\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})} \left[ \begin{array}{l} e_1 \mapsto 1 \\ e_2 \mapsto 2 \text{ plus } 3 \end{array} \right]$$

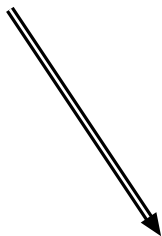
$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$

1 plus 2 plus 3 : INT

# Recursive Typing Rules

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$



$$\frac{1 : \text{INT} \quad 2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}}{1 \text{ plus } 2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$



# Recursive Typing Rules

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$

$$\boxed{\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})} \left[ \begin{array}{l} e_1 \mapsto 2 \\ e_2 \mapsto 3 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\frac{1 : \text{INT} \qquad 2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}}{1 \text{ plus } 2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

# Recursive Typing Rules

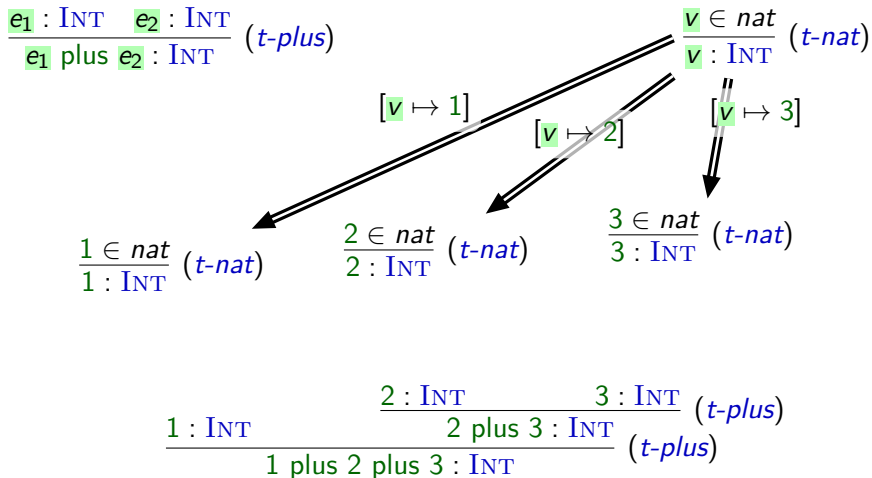
$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$



$$\frac{1 : \text{INT} \quad \frac{2 : \text{INT} \quad 3 : \text{INT}}{2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})}{1 \text{ plus } 2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

# Recursive Typing Rules



# Recursive Typing Rules

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$

$$\frac{\frac{1 \in \text{nat}}{1 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat}) \quad \frac{\frac{2 \in \text{nat}}{2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat}) \quad \frac{3 \in \text{nat}}{3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})}{2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})}{1 \text{ plus } 2 \text{ plus } 3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

# Types for Expressions

$$\frac{}{\text{true} : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-true}) \quad \frac{}{\text{false} : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-false}) \quad \frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus}) \quad \frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \geq e_2 : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-ge})$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \quad (t\text{-if})$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \text{INT} \quad e_3 : \text{INT}}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-if-nat})$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_3 : \text{BOOL}}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-if-bool})$$

**(*t-if*)** rule summarises (*t-if-nat*) and (*t-if-bool*) via *metavariable*

# Checking Types

► With  $e : \tau$ , we can have:

1 Exactly one  $\tau$  fits (we've computed a type):

2 plus 3 : INT

2 No  $\tau$  fits (type error):

true plus 0 *has type error*

3 Multiple  $\tau$  fit: can't happen in this type system

# Inferring Types

- ▶ Checking explores “*is everything consistent?*”
- ▶ Inferring explores “*what is possible?*”
- ▶ In program analysis, we often want the latter. Recall:

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \quad (t\text{-if})$$

# Summary

- ▶ *Type systems* relate expressions to types:

$$(\cdot) \subseteq \text{expr} \times \mathbb{T}_{iga}$$

- ▶ We use *inference rules* to compactly describe the type system

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \quad (t\text{-if})$$

- ▶ No type matches  $\Rightarrow$  type error
- ▶ We will focus on type *checking* for now



# Question

How would we implement this kind of type analysis in JastAdd?

$$\frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat}) \qquad \frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \quad (t\text{-if})$$

## JastAdd BNF Grammar

```
// start symbol:  
Program ::= Expr;  
  
abstract Expr;  
IntConstant : Expr ::= <Val:int>;  
TrueConstant : Expr;  
FalseConstant : Expr;  
IfThenElseExpr : Expr ::= Cond:Expr True:Expr False:Expr;
```

# Adding Variables: The language INGA

$expr ::= \langle val \rangle$   
|  $id$  **new!**  
|  $\text{let } id = \langle expr \rangle \text{ in } \langle expr \rangle$  **new!**  
|  $\langle expr \rangle \text{ plus } \langle expr \rangle$   
|  $\langle expr \rangle \text{ } \geq \text{ } \langle expr \rangle$   
|  $\text{if } \langle expr \rangle \text{ then } \langle expr \rangle \text{ else } \langle expr \rangle$

$val ::= nat$   
|  $\text{true}$  |  $\text{false}$

$nat ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid \dots$

$id ::= \underline{x} \mid \underline{y} \mid \underline{z} \mid \dots$

- ▶ Adds (locally scoped) variable bindings
- ▶  $\text{let } \underline{x} = 1 \text{ plus } 2 \text{ in } \underline{x} + 3$  evaluates to 6
- ▶  $\text{let } \underline{x} = 1 \text{ in } (\text{let } \underline{x} = 2 \text{ in } \underline{x}) + \underline{x}$  evaluates to 3

# Typing Variables

$$\frac{}{\text{true} : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-true)} \quad \frac{}{\text{false} : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-false)} \quad \frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-nat)}$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-plus)} \quad \frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 >= e_2 : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-ge)} \quad \frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \text{ (t-if)}$$

- ▶ Same types as before:  $\mathbb{T}_{\text{inga}} = \{\text{BOOL}, \text{INT}\}$
- ▶ Need new typing rules for **let** and variables:

$$\frac{}{x : \tau} \text{ (t-var)}$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \tau_1 \quad e_2 : \tau_2}{\text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{ (t-let)}$$

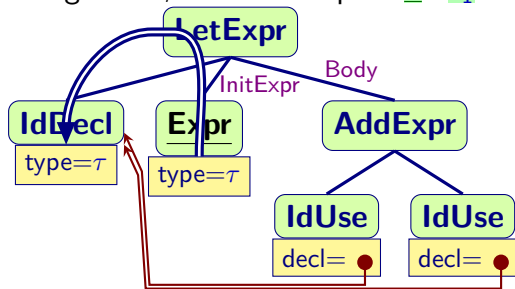
How do we connect  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau$  and  $\tau_2$  ?

# Connecting Variables and Types

$$\frac{e_1 : \tau_1 \quad e_2 : \tau_2}{\text{let } \underline{x} = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{ (t-let)} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \overline{x : \tau} \text{ t-var}$$

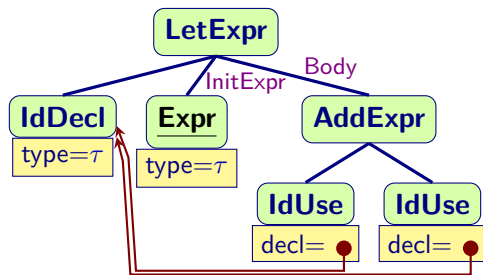
Example: `let x = 1 in 1 + 1`

- ▶ Using RAGs, we can compute  $\underline{x} : \tau_1$  before analysing  $e_2$ :



- 1 **LetExpr** requests type of **InitExpr**
- 2 Passes type to **IdDecl** (via inherited attribute)
- 3 Any **IdUse** can now obtain type via `decl().type()`

# Simple RAG Solution: Limitations



- 1 **LetExpr**: use `InitExpr.type()`
- 2 **IdDecl**: obtain `type()` from **LetExpr** via inherited attribute
- 3 **IdUse**: `decl().type()`

- Is this always well-defined? Limitations. We will only look at this case
- **Name analysis must not depend on type analysis**
    - True for C, Pascal, Teal-0, ...
    - *Not true* for Java, C++, ...
  - **Expr**'s type must not depend on **IdDecl**'s type
    - No recursive definitions allowed!
    - True for *let val* in SML/OCaml, ...
    - Not true for most imperative languages (neither for Haskell, nor for *let rec* in SML/OCaml, ...)

# Variables and Types, Formally

$$\frac{e_1 : \tau_1 \quad e_2 : \tau_2}{\text{let } \underline{x} = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{ t-let} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \overline{\underline{x} : \tau} \text{ t-var}$$

- ▶ Assume: name analysis does not depend on type analysis  
     $\implies$  Can identify each name by its declaration (`decl()`)
  - ▶ Formalising
  - ▶ Write  $\Delta(\underline{x}) = \tau$  to *assert* type of  $\underline{x}$
  - ▶ Semantics:
    - ▶ Treat  $\Delta(\underline{x})$  as attribute on  $\underline{x}$
    - ▶ For each  $\underline{x}$ :
      - ▶ Must have at least one type assertion
      - ▶ Each  $\Delta(\underline{x}) = \tau$  must assert same type  $\tau$
- $\implies$  *Collection Attribute*, cf. upcoming videos

# Typing INGA

$$\frac{}{\text{true} : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-true)} \quad \frac{}{\text{false} : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-false)} \quad \frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-nat)}$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-plus)} \quad \frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \geq e_2 : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-ge)}$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \text{ (t-if)}$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Delta(x) = \tau_1 \quad e_2 : \tau_2}{\text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{ t-let} \quad \frac{\Delta(x) = \tau}{x : \tau} \text{ t-var}$$

# Example

$$\frac{}{\text{true} : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-true)} \quad \frac{}{\text{false} : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-false)} \quad \frac{v \in \text{nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-nat)}$$
$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-plus)} \quad \frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 >= e_2 : \text{BOOL}} \text{ (t-ge)} \quad \frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \tau}{\underline{x} : \tau} \text{ (t-var)}$$
$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \text{ (t-if)} \quad \frac{e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Delta(\underline{x}) = \tau_1 \quad e_2 : \tau_2}{\text{let } \underline{x} = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{ (t-let)}$$

$$\Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{INT}$$

$$\frac{\frac{1 \in \text{nat}}{1 : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-nat)} \quad \Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{INT}}{\text{let } \underline{x} = 1 \text{ in } \underline{x} \text{ plus } \underline{x} : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-let)} \quad \frac{\frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{INT}}{\underline{x} : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-var)} \quad \frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{INT}}{\underline{x} : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-var)}}{\underline{x} \text{ plus } \underline{x} : \text{INT}} \text{ (t-plus)}$$



# Summary

- ▶ Type analysis of realistic programs requires name analysis
- ▶ Distinguish if name analysis  $\leftrightarrow$  type analysis dependency and/or recursive definitions allowed:
  - 1 name  $\leftrightarrow$  type analysis, no recursive definitions:
    - $\implies$  Straightforward (see earlier slides)
  - 2 name  $\leftrightarrow$  type analysis, allow recursive definitions:
    - $\implies$  Requires *collecting constraints*, using  $\Delta$
  - 3 name  $\leftrightarrow$  type analysis:
    - $\implies$  More complex approaches (not covered here)
- ▶ General approach: for each name, collect all type constraints
  - ▶ For now: assume constraints on same variable must be identical
- ▶ Other approaches:
  - ▶ Instead of  $\Delta(\underline{x}) = \tau$ , can collect arbitrarily complex constraints
  - ▶ Instead of  $\Delta$ , can use *environments*  $\Gamma$ 
    - ▶ Original formalisation (Hindley/Damas/Milner)
    - ▶ More complex: must recursively “thread”  $\Gamma$  through typing rules
    - ▶ suitable for name analysis  $\leftrightarrow$  type analysis dependency

# Adding Lists: The Language LINGA

```
expr ::= <val>
      | id
      | let id = <expr> in <expr>
      | nil
      | cons (<expr>, <expr>)
      | <expr> plus <expr>
      | <expr> >= <expr>
      | if <expr> then <expr> else <expr>

val ::= nat
     | true | false
```

- ▶ `nil` is the empty list
- ▶ `cons(v, l)` takes list `l` and prepends `v`
- ▶ Can express list `[0, 1, 2]` as:

```
cons(0, cons(1, cons(2, nil)))
```

# The Type of Lists

The language of types

$\mathbb{T}_{linga}$  has one new  
production:

$$\begin{aligned} ty & ::= \text{INT} \\ & \quad | \text{BOOL} \\ & \quad | \text{LIST } [\langle ty \rangle] \end{aligned}$$

## Example types:

- ▶  $\text{cons}(\text{true}, \text{nil}) : \text{LIST}[\text{BOOL}]$
- ▶  $\text{cons}(1, \text{cons}(2, \text{nil})) : \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]$
- ▶  $\text{cons}(1, \text{cons}(\text{false}, \text{nil})) : \text{type error}$
- ▶  $\text{cons}(\text{cons}(1, \text{nil}), \text{nil}) : \text{LIST}[\text{LIST}[\text{INT}]]$
- ▶  $\text{nil} : \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]$   
 $\text{LIST}[\text{BOOL}]$   
 $\text{LIST}[\text{LIST}[\text{INT}]]$   
 $\text{LIST}[\dots, \text{LIST}[\text{BOOL}], \dots]$

**First attempt at typing rules:**

$$\frac{\tau \in \mathbb{T}_{linga}}{\text{nil} : \text{LIST}[\tau]} \quad (t\text{-nil})$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \tau \quad e_2 : \text{LIST}[\tau]}{\text{cons}(e_1, e_2) : \text{LIST}[\tau]} \quad (t\text{-cons})$$

**nil** has infinitely many of the types in  $\mathbb{T}_{linga}$

# Principal Types

- ▶  $p : \tau$  may have infinitely many  $\tau$ , can't process all
- ▶ One instance of more general problem:  
Having too many such  $\tau$  makes analysis inefficient
- ▶ General approach: Find **Principal Type**
  - ▶ *Single* type that subsumes all other possible
- ▶ Various approaches:
  - ▶ *Parametric Polymorphism*, using parametric types
  - ▶ Subtype Polymorphism
  - ▶ Type Classes
  - ▶ ...
- ▶ Here: use **Parametric Types** with **Type Variables**:
  - ▶  $\text{LIST}[\alpha]$  summarises  $\text{LIST}[\text{INT}]$ ,  $\text{LIST}[\text{BOOL}]$ ,  $\text{LIST}[\text{LIST}[\dots]]$

# Type Variables

$$\begin{array}{l} ty \quad ::= \quad \text{INT} \\ \quad \quad | \quad \text{BOOL} \\ \quad \quad | \quad \text{LIST } [\langle ty \rangle] \\ \quad \quad | \quad tyvar \end{array}$$
$$tyvar \quad ::= \quad \alpha \mid \beta \mid \gamma \mid \dots$$

- ▶ Working with infinitely many types is impractical
- ▶ Summarise types by introducing **type variables** into  $\mathbb{T}_{linga}$
- ▶ Can now define **parametric type** of `nil`:

$$\frac{}{nil : \text{LIST}[\alpha]} \quad (t\text{-nil})$$

- ▶ Still needs some tweaking, as we will see in the next lecture

**Parametric Types can compactly summarise infinitely many types**

# Summary

- ▶ Precise analyses often need to know parameterise types with other types
  - ▶ `LIST[LIST[INT]]`
- ▶ Naïve *Recursive Types* are difficult to work with:
  - ▶ If we *don't* know a 'component type', we have potentially infinitely many types to remember
- ▶ **Parametric Types:**
  - ▶ `LIST[ $\alpha$ ]`
  - ▶ Use **Type Variable**  $\alpha$  to express that we know the type only *partially*
- ▶ **Principal Types:**
  - ▶  $\tau$  is *principal* for  $e$  if it *subsumes* all  $\tau'$  with  $e : \tau'$  (meaning of "subsumes" varies by type system/analysis)

# Three Languages With Variables

## Meta-Language

- ▶ Describes *Object Language(s)*
- ▶ Variables refer to object language concepts:
  - ▶ LINGA programs
  - ▶  $\mathbb{T}_{linga}$  types

## Programs: LINGA

- ▶ “Object Language” #1
- ▶ Variables refer to input programs
- ▶ Example:  $\underline{x}$  in

let  $\underline{x} = 1$  in  $\underline{x}$

## Types: $\mathbb{T}_{linga}$

- ▶ “Object Language” #2
- ▶ Variables refer to unknown types
- ▶ Example:  $\alpha$  in

LIST[ $\alpha$ ]

Meta-Variables Can Reference Object-Language Variables

Meta-Variable references	Example	Meta-Variable Notation
Program	1 plus 2	$e$
Type	LIST[BOOL]	$\tau$
Program variable	$\underline{foo}$	$x$
Type Variable	$\alpha$	$\alpha$

# Outlook

- ▶ Wednesday: Polymorphic Type Analysis
- ▶ Partly flipped lecture, videos up soon

<http://cs.lth.se/EDAP15>