



LUND  
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# EDAP15: Program Analysis

POLYMORPHIC TYPE ANALYSIS

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# Lecture Overview

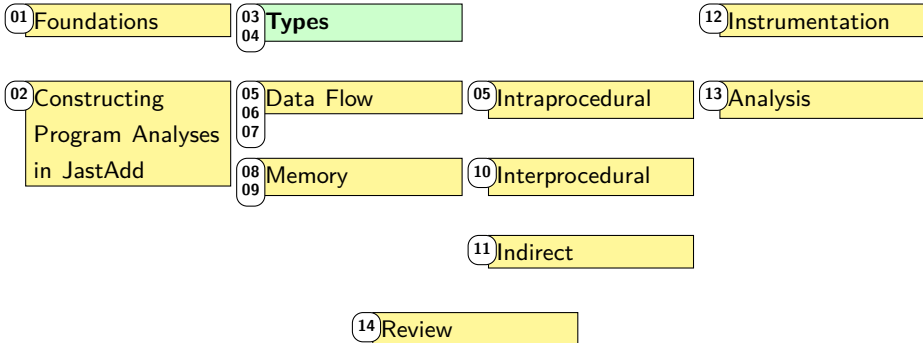
Foundations

Static Analysis

Dynamic  
Analysis

Properties

Control Flow



# Parametric Types and Principal Types

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

- ▶ Challenge:
  - ▶  $p : \tau$  allows infinitely many types
- ▶ To make practical: find **Principal Type**
  - ▶ *Single* type that summarises all other types
- ▶ Here: use **Parametric Types** with **Type Variables**:
  - ▶  $\text{LIST}[\alpha]$  summarises  $\text{LIST}[\text{INT}]$ ,  $\text{LIST}[\text{BOOL}]$ ,  $\text{LIST}[\text{LIST}[\dots]]$
- ▶ Difference  $\tau$ ,  $\alpha$  when computing type:
  - ▶  $\tau$ : must solve when we see AST node
  - ▶  $\alpha$ : is a valid type already
    - ▶ Can make it more concrete later

# Typing Rules: Parametric Types

— First attempt —

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

Originally  $\Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{LIST}[\alpha]$   
 Must merge  $\text{LIST}[\alpha] = \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]$   
 Analogous to variable types

$\Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{LIST}[\alpha] \quad \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]$

$\Delta(\alpha) = \text{INT}$

$\frac{}{\text{nil} : \text{LIST}[\alpha]} \quad (t\text{-nil})$	$\frac{1 \in \text{nat}}{1 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$	$\frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]}{\underline{x} : \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]}$
$\frac{}{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \text{LIST}[\alpha]} \quad (t\text{-let})$		$\frac{}{\text{cons}(1, \underline{x}) : \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]}$
$\text{let } \underline{x} = \text{nil} \text{ in } \text{cons}(1, \underline{x}) : \text{LIST}[\text{INT}]$		

# Typing Rules: Parametric Types

— First attempt —

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

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus}) \quad \frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 >= e_2 : \text{BOOL}} \quad (t\text{-ge}) \quad \frac{\Delta(x) = \tau}{x : \tau} \quad (t\text{-var})$$

$$\frac{e_1 : \text{BOOL} \quad e_2 : \tau \quad e_3 : \tau}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \tau} \quad (t\text{-if}) \quad \frac{e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Delta(x) = \tau_1 \quad e_2 : \tau_2}{\text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \quad (t\text{-let})$$

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

Circular type —  $t\text{-cons}$  requires:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &= \text{LIST}[\alpha] \\ \text{LIST}[\tau] &= \text{LIST}[\alpha] \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta(\alpha) = \text{LIST}[\alpha]$$

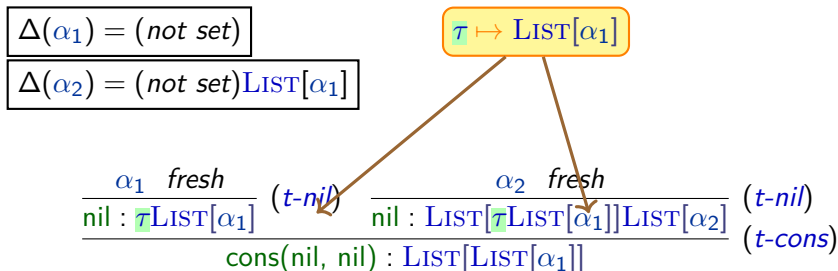
$$\frac{\text{nil} : \text{LIST}[\alpha]}{\text{cons}(\text{nil}, \text{nil}) : ?} \quad (t\text{-nil}) \quad \frac{}{\text{nil} : \text{LIST}[\alpha]} \quad (t\text{-nil}) \quad \frac{}{\text{cons}(\text{nil}, \text{nil}) : ?} \quad (t\text{-cons})$$

# Type Variable Freshness

- ▶ Our typing rule for `nil` doesn't work as intended:  
All `nil` use the same  $\alpha$  in their type  
 $\implies$  all lists must have the same type

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

- ▶ Fix: We create a *fresh* type variable for every `nil` (specific to AST node, different from all others)



# Summary

- ▶ Some expressions may have an unbounded number of types
- ▶ We can usually use **type variables** to present these types compactly
- ▶ This produces **principal types** if we can summarise *all* types
- ▶ **Parametric types** (or *parametrically polymorphic*) types arise frequently
- ▶ Correctly using expressions with type variables may require us to produce **fresh type variables**
- ▶ Still need to solve:  
How *do* we merge type variables in equations?

$$\text{LIST}[\alpha_1] = \text{LIST}[\text{LIST}[\alpha_2]]$$

# Parametric Types in Practice

- ▶ Widely used today, e.g. *Generics* in Java:

<b>Java</b>	<b>Scala</b>
List<E>	List[A]
Set<E>	Set[A]
Map<K, V>	Map[K, V]

- ▶ Also used as the type of *functions*:

<b>Java</b>	<b>Scala</b>	<b>Common</b>
Function<T, R>	A => B	$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$

- ▶ Scala and others also support parametric *tuple types*:

<b>Scala</b>	<b>Ocaml/SML</b>	<b>Common</b>
(A, B, C)	'a * 'b * 'c	$\alpha \times \beta \times \gamma$

- ▶ We often combine tuple and function types when inferring types of functions:

`countOccurrencesInList` : LIST[ $\alpha$ ]  $\times$   $\alpha \rightarrow$  INT



# Typing Challenge 1

- ▶ Let's try to do (static) type inference for Python (No typing rules, focus on intuition)
- ▶ What should the type of `f` be:

Python

```
def f(x:int) :  
    return [x]
```

- ▶ `f`: ... `INT`  $\rightarrow$  ... `LIST[INT]`
- ▶ `x` has no initialiser, but `x:int` makes type clear

## Typing Challenge 2

- ▶ Let's try to do (static) type inference for Python (No typing rules, focus on intuition)
- ▶ What should the type of `g` be:

Python

```
def g(y) :  
    return [y]
```

- ▶ `g`:  $\dots \alpha \rightarrow \dots \text{LIST}[\alpha]$
- ▶ No information that helps us find type of `y`!
- ▶ Using type variable captures idea:  
input type determines output type

# Solving Typing Challenge 2

## Python

```
def g(y) :  
    return [y]
```

- ▶ Can we apply *t-var* for *g*'s *y*?

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

- ▶ **No:** Type of *y* never defined in this code

⇒ no  $\underline{\tau}$  exists for  $\Delta(\underline{x}) = \underline{\tau}$

⇒ Cannot satisfy premise of rule *t-var*

- ▶ If we don't know the concrete type, anything is possible
- ▶ So let's assign a fresh type variable as type of each variable:

$$\frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \underline{\alpha} \quad \underline{\alpha} \text{ fresh}}{\underline{x} : \underline{\alpha}} \text{ (t-var')}$$

# Typing Variables with Type Variables

$$\frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \alpha \quad \alpha \text{ fresh}}{\underline{x} : \alpha} \text{ (t-var')}$$

## Python

```
x = 1
```

$\Delta(\underline{x}) = \alpha$

$1 : \text{INT}$

$\alpha = \text{INT}$

```
x = "foo"
```

$\Delta(\underline{x}) = \beta$

$"\text{foo}" : \text{STRING}$

$\beta = \text{STRING}$

- ▶ Each assignment involves variable  $\underline{x}$
- ▶ Create one type variable per use of  $\underline{x}$
- ▶ Observe that  $\alpha = \text{INT}$
- ▶ Observe that  $\beta = \text{STRING}$
- ▶ Note that  $\alpha = \Delta(\underline{x}) = \beta$ :  
Found type error
- ▶ Simplification: attach type variable to *declaration* of  $\underline{x}$ , so we only need  $\alpha$

# Simplified use of Type Variables

$$\frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \alpha \quad \alpha \text{ fresh}}{\underline{x} : \alpha} \quad (t\text{-var}' )$$

## Python

```
x = 1
```

```
 $\underline{x} : \alpha$   
 $1 : \text{INT}$   
 $\alpha = \text{INT}$ 
```

```
x = "foo"
```

```
 $\underline{x} : \alpha$   
 $"\text{foo}" : \text{STRING}$   
 $\alpha = \text{STRING}$ 
```

## Simplified Notation

- ▶ Only one type variable per variable declaration
- ▶ Write  $\underline{x} : \alpha$  instead of  $\Delta(\underline{x}) = \alpha$
- ▶ Observe: two kinds of “constraints” from code:
  - ▶ Typings:  $\underline{v} : \tau$
  - ▶ Equalities:  $\tau_1 = \tau_2$

# Type Inference with Variables: Example

## Python

```
def gen(a:map, b:set):  
1  m = {}  
2  for v in b:  
3      if v in a.keys():  
4          x = a[v]  
5          m[x] = x  
6  return m
```

Extract *typings*:

$y : \tau$

Extract *equality constraints*:

$\tau_1 = \tau_2$

$a : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2]$   
 $b : \text{set}[\gamma]$   
 $\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\gamma] \rightarrow \xi$   
1  $m : \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$   
2  $v : \gamma$   
3  $v : \beta_1$   
 $\gamma = \beta_1$   
4  $x : \alpha_3$   
 $a : \text{map}[\gamma, \alpha_3]$   
 $\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\gamma, \alpha_3]$   
5  $m : \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$   
 $\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$   
6  $m : \xi$   
 $\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$

How do we solve this automatically?

# Summary

- ▶ Identifiers may not make their type conveniently accessible:
  - ▶ Identifier is “under-constrained” (generic)
  - ▶ Type of identifier depends on itself (e.g., identifier is name of a recursive function)
- ▶ Side-step by adding indirection: Type variables  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$
- ▶ With this approach, analysing code produces two kinds of *constraints*:
  - 1 Typings:  $x : \tau$
  - 2 Equality constraints:  $\tau_1 = \tau_2$
- ▶ Completing type analysis requires solving these constraints

# Type Inference: Constraints

## Typings:

a :  $\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2]$   
b :  $\text{set}[\gamma]$   
gen :  $\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\gamma] \rightarrow \xi$   
m :  $\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$   
v :  $\gamma$   
v :  $\beta_1$   
x :  $\alpha_3$   
a :  $\text{map}[\gamma, \alpha_3]$   
m :  $\text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$   
m :  $\xi$

## Type Equality Constraints:

$\gamma = \beta_1$   
 $\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\gamma, \alpha_3]$   
 $\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$   
 $\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$



# Unification

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma &= \beta_1 \\ \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] &= \text{map}[\gamma, \alpha_3] \\ \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] &= \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3] \\ \xi &= \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ *Unification* describes the problem of solving such equations
- ▶ Some unification problems are undecidable
  - ▶ *Subtyping* in particular usually leads to undecidability
- ▶ Our problem has an efficient (near-linear) solution:
  - ▶ Given a *worklist* of equality constraints:
  - ▶ Remove and process one constraint at a time
  - ▶ If constraint has form  $\alpha = \tau$ : replace  $\alpha \mapsto \tau$
  - ▶ Otherwise, break equation into smaller equalities, add to worklist
  - ▶ ... plus some minor tweaks

**First, let us simplify our representation**

# Type Constructors

- ▶ Recall Parametric Types:
  - ▶  $\text{Set}[\alpha]$
  - ▶  $\text{Map}[\alpha, \beta]$
- ▶ Type constructors: things like  $\text{Set}$ ,  $\text{Map}$ 
  - ▶ Take type parameters  $\alpha, \beta$
  - ▶ Build new type
- ▶ Other type constructors:
  - ▶  $\dots \times \dots \times \dots$ : constructs product types
  - ▶  $\rightarrow$ : constructs function types
- ▶ General notation:  $C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$ 
  - ▶ E.g.:  $\text{int} \rightarrow \text{string} = C_{\rightarrow}^2(C_{\text{int}}^0, C_{\text{string}}^0)$
  - ▶ E.g.:  $\text{Set}[\text{Set}[\text{int}]] = C_{\text{Set}}^1(C_{\text{Set}}^1(C_{\text{int}}^0))$
- ▶  $k$ : arity of type constructor
- ▶  $i$ : globally unique identifier for constructor

# Type Unification

- ▶ Each equation has one of these forms:

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

2  $\alpha = \beta$

- ▶ Solution: Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$  everywhere

3  $C_i^k(\tau_1^a, \dots, \tau_k^a) = C_j^l(\tau_1^b, \dots, \tau_l^b)$

- ▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

- ▶ Otherwise: Replace by equations:

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \tau_1^a & = & \tau_1^b \\ \dots & & \dots \\ \tau_k^a & = & \tau_k^b \end{array}$$

4  $\alpha = C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

- ▶ Solution: Replace  $\alpha \mapsto C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$  everywhere

- ▶ **Except:**  $\alpha = C_i^k(\dots, \alpha, \dots) \Rightarrow$  **Type Error** (“Occurs Check”)

(Martelli and Montanari, 1982, based on Robinson, 1965)

# Example (Continued)

$$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\gamma] \rightarrow \xi$$

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

2  $\alpha = \beta$

▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

3  $C_i^k(\tau_1^a, \dots, \tau_k^a) = C_j^l(\tau_1^b, \dots, \tau_l^b)$

▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

▶ Otherwise: Replace by:

$$\tau_1^a = \tau_1^b$$

$$\dots = \dots$$

$$\tau_k^a = \tau_k^b$$

4  $\alpha = C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ Replace  $\alpha \mapsto C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ **Except:**  $\alpha = C_i^k(\dots, \alpha, \dots)$

⇒ **Type Error**

$$\gamma = \beta_1$$

$$\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\gamma, \alpha_3]$$

$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$

$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$

# Example (Continued)

$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \xi$

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

2  $\alpha = \beta$

▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

3  $C_i^k(\tau_1^a, \dots, \tau_k^a) = C_j^l(\tau_1^b, \dots, \tau_l^b)$

▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

▶ Otherwise: Replace by:

$$\tau_1^a = \tau_1^b$$

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▶ Replace  $\alpha \mapsto C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ **Except:**  $\alpha = C_i^k(\dots, \alpha, \dots)$

⇒ **Type Error**

2

~~$$\alpha = \beta_1$$~~

$$\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\beta_1, \alpha_3]$$

$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$

$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$

# Example (Continued)

$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \xi$

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

2  $\alpha = \beta$

▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

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▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

▶ Otherwise: Replace by:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_1^a &= \tau_1^b \\ \dots &= \dots \\ \tau_k^a &= \tau_k^b\end{aligned}$$

4  $\alpha = C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ Replace  $\alpha \mapsto C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

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~~$$\gamma = \beta_1$$~~

3  ~~$\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\beta_1, \alpha_3]$~~

$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$

$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$

$$\beta_1 = \beta_1$$

$$\beta_2 = \alpha_3$$

# Example (Continued)

$$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \xi$$

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⇒ **Type Error**

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$$\gamma = \beta_1$$

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~~$$\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\beta_1, \alpha_3]$$~~

3

~~$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$~~

$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$

$$\beta_1 = \beta_1$$

$$\beta_2 = \alpha_3$$

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_3$$

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# Example (Continued)

$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$

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▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

3  $C_i^k(\tau_1^a, \dots, \tau_k^a) = C_j^l(\tau_1^b, \dots, \tau_l^b)$

▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

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4

~~$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$~~

$$\beta_1 = \beta_1$$

$$\beta_2 = \alpha_3$$

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_3$$

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# Example (Continued)

$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

2  $\alpha = \beta$

▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

3  $C_i^k(\tau_1^a, \dots, \tau_k^a) = C_j^l(\tau_1^b, \dots, \tau_l^b)$

▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

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▶ Replace  $\alpha \mapsto C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ **Except:**  $\alpha = C_i^k(\dots, \alpha, \dots)$

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3

~~$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$~~

4

~~$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$~~

1

~~$$\beta_1 = \beta_1$$~~

$$\beta_2 = \alpha_3$$

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_3$$

$$\alpha_2 = \alpha_3$$

# Example (Continued)

$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

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▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

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3

~~$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$~~

4

~~$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$~~

1

~~$$\beta_1 = \beta_1$$~~

2

~~$$\beta_2 = \alpha_3$$~~

$$\alpha_1 = \beta_2$$

$$\alpha_2 = \beta_2$$

# Example (Continued)

$$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \text{map}[\beta_2, \alpha_2]$$

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

2  $\alpha = \beta$

▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

3  $C_i^k(\tau_1^a, \dots, \tau_k^a) = C_j^l(\tau_1^b, \dots, \tau_l^b)$

▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

▶ Otherwise: Replace by:

$$\begin{array}{l} \tau_1^a = \tau_1^b \\ \dots \\ \tau_k^a = \tau_k^b \end{array}$$

4  $\alpha = C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ Replace  $\alpha \mapsto C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ **Except:**  $\alpha = C_i^k(\dots, \alpha, \dots)$

⇒ **Type Error**

2

~~$$\gamma = \beta_1$$~~

3

~~$$\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\beta_1, \alpha_3]$$~~

3

~~$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$~~

4

~~$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$~~

1

~~$$\beta_1 = \beta_1$$~~

2

~~$$\beta_2 = \alpha_3$$~~

2

~~$$\alpha_1 = \beta_2$$~~

$$\alpha_2 = \beta_2$$

# Example (Continued)

$$\text{gen} : \text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] \times \text{set}[\beta_1] \rightarrow \text{map}[\beta_2, \beta_2]$$

1  $\alpha = \alpha$  (trivial)

2  $\alpha = \beta$

▶ Replace  $\beta \mapsto \alpha$

3  $C_i^k(\tau_1^a, \dots, \tau_k^a) = C_j^l(\tau_1^b, \dots, \tau_l^b)$

▶ **Type Error** if  $i \neq j$  or  $k \neq l$

▶ Otherwise: Replace by:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_1^a &= \tau_1^b \\ \dots &= \dots \\ \tau_k^a &= \tau_k^b\end{aligned}$$

4  $\alpha = C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ Replace  $\alpha \mapsto C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$

▶ **Except:**  $\alpha = C_i^k(\dots, \alpha, \dots)$

⇒ **Type Error**

2

~~$$\gamma = \beta_1$$~~

3

~~$$\text{map}[\beta_1, \beta_2] = \text{map}[\beta_1, \alpha_3]$$~~

3

~~$$\text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2] = \text{map}[\alpha_3, \alpha_3]$$~~

4

~~$$\xi = \text{map}[\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$~~

1

~~$$\beta_1 = \beta_1$$~~

2

~~$$\beta_2 = \alpha_3$$~~

2

~~$$\alpha_1 = \beta_2$$~~

1

~~$$\alpha_2 = \beta_2$$~~

# Substituting “Everywhere”?

- ▶ The Martelli/Montanari algorithm asks us to “replace type variables everywhere”:
  - ▶ “Solution: Replace  $\beta$  with  $\alpha$  everywhere”
  - ▶ “Solution: Replace  $C_i^k(\tau_1, \dots, \tau_k)$  for  $\alpha$  everywhere”
- ▶ Implementation strategies?:
  - ▶ **Substitute systematically:**
    - ▶ Replace everywhere in worklist
    - ▶ Replace everywhere in solutions (e.g., symbol table)
  - ▶ **Update Lists:**
    - ▶ ‘Substitute systematically’, but on demand, storing pending updates
  - ▶ **Stateful type variables:** (*my recommendation*)
    - ▶ Type variables remember their bindings, e.g. in  $\Delta(\alpha)$
    - ▶ Some challenges with nontrivial merges

# Summary

- ▶ During type analysis, we often encounter nontrivial equations over types
- ▶ To check these and extract relevant equalities, we use **Unification**
- ▶ The **Martelli/Montanari algorithm** is efficient for the types we have discussed so far
- ▶ Input:
  - ▶ A list of equations over types
- ▶ Output:
  - ▶ Bindings to type variables
  - ▶ Type variables such as  $\alpha$  may be:
    - ▶ Replaced by a concrete type, such as `INT`
    - ▶ Replaced by another type variable, such as  $\beta$
    - ▶ Replaced by a partially abstract type, such as `LIST[ $\gamma$ ]`

# Merging Variables

- ▶ Consider solving:

$$\alpha = \beta$$

$$\beta = \gamma$$

$$\gamma = \delta$$

$$\delta = \xi$$

- ▶ Implementing unification with stateful variables naively can make it costly to figure out the “real” type of  $\alpha$ :

$\Delta(\alpha) = \beta$
$\Delta(\beta) = \gamma$
$\Delta(\gamma) = \delta$
$\Delta(\delta) = \xi$

- ▶ Fast unification implementations instead use UNION-FIND datastructures

# Union-Find Datastructures

## Java

```
public class UFSet {
    UFSet repr = null;

    // Find & update representative
    public UFSet find() {
        UFSet r = this;
        while (r.repr != null) {
            r = r.repr;
        }
        this.repr = r;
        return r;
    }

    public void union(UFSet other) {
        other = other.find();
        UFSet r = this.find();
        // we can update r or other
        if (r != other) {
            other.repr = r;
        }
    }

    public boolean equals(UFSet o) {
        return this.find() == o.find();
    }
}
```



# Summary

- ▶ UNION-FIND datastructure can speed up type variable merging
- ▶ Type variables represent a set of equivalent variables
- ▶ Each set has one representative
- ▶ *find* operation finds that representative
  - ▶ updates cached references to it
- ▶ *union*( $v_1, v_2$ ) operation finds representatives  $r_1, r_2$  of two variables
  - ▶ If  $r_1 \neq r_2$ ,  $v_1, v_2$  in different set
  - ▶ Then, update either representative of  $v_1$  to now be  $v_2$ , or vice-versa
  - ▶ High-performance implementations make this decision based on:
    - ▶ set size
    - ▶ estimated “depth” of representative chains (*rank*)

# Unification, Types, and Re-use

## Teal-0

```
fun id(x: $\alpha_1$ ): $\alpha_2$  = return x: $\alpha_1$ ;  
var b: $\beta_1$  := id("foo":string): $\beta_2$   
var c: $\gamma_1$  := id(15:int): $\gamma_2$ 
```

- ▶ What are the types here?
- ▶ We have  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \text{string} = \text{int}$ : type error!

Approach doesn't allow `id` on both `string` and `int`

# Type Schemes

- ▶ We had the same issue before:

$$\frac{}{\text{nil} : \text{LIST}[\alpha]} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \frac{\alpha \text{ fresh}}{\text{nil} : \text{LIST}[\alpha]}$$

- ▶ We want a similar scheme for `id`: *create fresh type variables*
- ▶ However, we can't write custom rules for all user-defined functions!
- ▶ Polymorphism with user-defined functions:
  - ▶ *Type Schemes (or Polytypes)*:
    - (1) "normal" polymorphic type:  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
    - (2) variables to replace by fresh ones:  $\{ \alpha \}$short notation for (1)+(2):  $\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
  - ▶ `id`:  $\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
  - ▶ *Instantiate* type schemes with fresh type variables on demand:

`id`:  $\alpha_2 \rightarrow \alpha_2$   
`var b := id("foo");`

`id`:  $\alpha_3 \rightarrow \alpha_3$   
`var b := id(255);`

# Using Type Schemes

- ▶ If we have a type scheme: *instantiate* scheme to use it
- ▶ Instantiating type schemes: (formalises of the last slide):

$$\frac{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \forall \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n. \tau \quad \beta_i \text{ fresh, } i \in \{1, \dots, n\}}{\underline{x} : \tau[\alpha_1 \mapsto \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n \mapsto \beta_n]} \quad (t\text{-var-inst})$$

- ▶ If we *want* a type scheme: *abstract* type into type scheme
- ▶ Abstracting type schemes:

- 1 Infer type via unification:  $f : \tau$
- 2 Figure out which set of type variables to abstract:  $\mathcal{T}$
- 3 **Update** type schema:  $\Delta(f) = \forall \mathcal{T}. \tau$

How do we find  $\mathcal{T}$ ?

# Summary

- ▶ Represent polymorphic types as type **Schemes**
- ▶ Abstract over free type variables ( $\forall$ ) to introduce schemes
- ▶ *Instantiate* schemes into types when referenced

# Finding Type Schemes (1/3)

## Teal-0

```
fun id(x) = return x;  
  
var b = id("foo");  
var c = id(17);
```

- ▶ When should we build the schema for `id`?
  - ▶ **After all unification:**  
Too late: have already run into type error (cf. earlier)
  - ▶ **Before all unification:**  
Too early:
    - ▶ Our first type constraint was:  $\text{id} : \alpha_1 \rightarrow \alpha_2$
    - ▶ However,  $\text{id} : \forall \alpha_1, \alpha_2. \alpha_1 \rightarrow \alpha_2$  would be wrong:  
Tells us nothing about connection between  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$
  - ▶ **During Unification:**
    - ▶ Must abstract *after* unifying all variables that “matter” to `id`
    - ▶ Must abstract *before* we use `id`'s type

# Finding Type Schemes (2/3)

## Teal-0

```
fun f(x0, x1, x2) = return g(x0 - 1, x1, x2);

fun g(y0, y1, y2) =
  if y0 == y1 {
    return y1;
  } else {
    return f(y1, y0, y2);
  }
```

- ▶ Can't build schema of `f` without analysing `g`
- ▶ Can't build schema of `g` without analysing `f`

***Mutual dependency: Can't fully analyse one before the other***

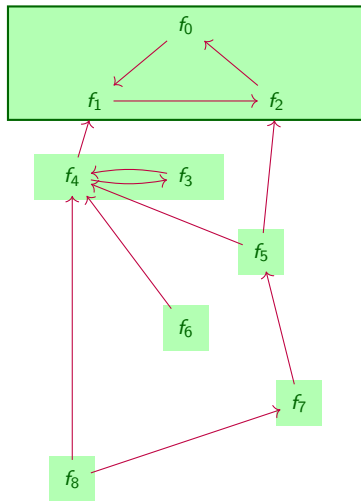
# Finding Type Schemes (3/3)

- ▶ When functions call each other: must analyse them together
  - ▶ Generalises to indirect calls
  - ▶ Find *dependencies*:
    - ▶ if  $f$  calls  $g$ :
      - ▶  $f$  depends (*directly*) on  $g$
      - ▶ if  $f$  depends on  $g$  and  $g$  depends on  $h$ :
        - ▶  $f$  depends on  $h$
    - ▶  $f$  depends on  $g$ : Can't build schema for  $f$  before analysing  $g$
- ⇒ Analyse such  $f$  and  $g$  together



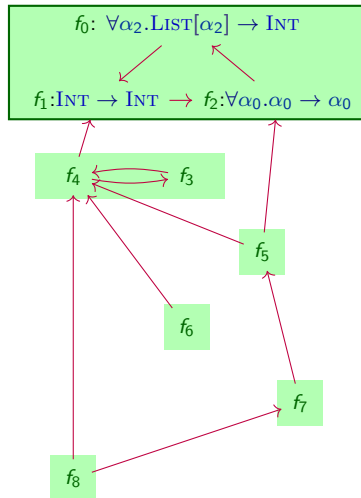
# Polymorphic Type Inference Procedure

- 1 Determine dependencies
- 2 Cluster mutual dependencies
- 3 Mark clusters: untyped
- 4 While there are untyped clusters:
  - 5 Pick cluster that has no untyped dependencies



# Polymorphic Type Inference Procedure

- 1 Determine dependencies
- 2 Cluster mutual dependencies
- 3 Mark clusters: untyped
- 4 While there are untyped clusters:
  - 5 Pick cluster that has no untyped dependencies
  - 6 Analyse all definitions in cluster:
    - ▶ Create fresh type variables as needed
    - ▶ Record typings:  $x : \alpha$
    - ▶ Collect type equalities:  $\tau_a = \tau_b$
  - 7 Run Unification
  - 8 For all definitions  $f : \tau$  in cluster:
    - ▶ Let  $\mathcal{T}$  = all type variables in  $\tau$
    - ▶ Set  $f : \forall \mathcal{T}. \tau$



# Summary

- ▶ **Polymorphic Type Inference:** generalise types with **Schemes**
- ▶ Algorithm:
  - ▶ Introduce type variables
  - ▶ Systematically apply typing rules to:
    - ▶ Generate typings
    - ▶ Generate type equality constraints
  - ▶ Unify equality constraints ‘at the right time’
  - ▶ Abstract over free type variables ( $\forall$ ) to introduce schemes
- ▶ Must analyse **Dependencies** between definitions
- ▶ Unify / abstract when:
  - ▶ Finished all dependencies
- ▶ Limitations:
  - ▶ Does not handle “inner functions”  
(See Damas-Hindley-Milner, Algorithms  $\mathcal{W}$  /  $\mathcal{J}$  if interested)
  - ▶ Type schemes over mutable objects (arrays etc.) unsound
  - ▶ Does not handle subtypes
    - ▶ Adding subtypes: see Dolan & Mycroft’s “MLsub”, 2017

# Outlook

- ▶ **Remember:**

- ▶ Exercise 1 will be released today
- ▶ Exercise 0 still has lab priority for presenting this week

- ▶ **Next Week:**

- ▶ Data Flow Analysis

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