



LUND
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EDAP15: Program Analysis

MONOMORPHIC TYPE ANALYSIS

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Lecture Overview

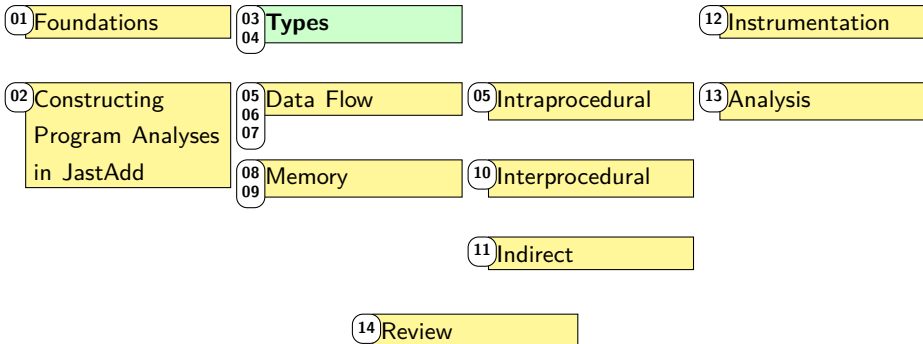
Foundations

Static Analysis

Dynamic
Analysis

Properties

Control Flow



Announcements

- ▶ Quizzes for Lecture 2 were hidden by accident

⇒ now optional

- ▶ Still strongly recommended, especially if you have not taken EDAN65

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

Program ::= $\langle Expr \rangle$

Expr ::= 0 | 1 | -1 | ...
 | null
 | $\langle Expr \rangle + \langle Expr \rangle$
 | $\langle Expr \rangle - \langle Expr \rangle$

- ▶ For brevity, we also use the compact BNF notation above
 - ▶ Equivalent to JastAdd Abstract Grammar notation
 - ▶ No production names:
 - ▶ Less verbose
 - ▶ 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 $\mathcal{V}$:

$Val ::= \text{true}$
 | false
 | $\langle Nat \rangle$

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

$Type ::= \text{BOOL}$
 | INT

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

- ▶ 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 $\mathbb{T}_{\mathcal{V}}$:

$23 : \text{INT}$

$\text{true} : \text{BOOL}$

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

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

Uses of Type Analysis

- ▶ Types abstractly model program behaviour
- ▶ “Traditionally”:
 - ▶ Set of permitted inputs
 - ▶ Set of possible outputs
- ▶ Advanced type analyses can model *side effects*:
 - ▶ File or network access
 - ▶ Exceptions
 - ▶ Software tools also use type analysis to find:
 - ▶ Dependencies
 - ▶ Use of shared memory regions
 - ▶ Race conditions in concurrent memory access
 - ▶ ...

Two Types of Applications

Given program p : analyse $p : \tau$

Type Checking

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

Type Inference

- ▶ Assume τ is *not given*
- ▶ Find all τ s.th. $p : \tau$

Program Analysis Designer's View

- ▶ *Checking* τ requires specification
- ▶ *Inferring* τ may yield 0, 1, or more results
 - ▶ Some analyses allow this
 - ▶ Example: τ 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* are usually distinct
- ▶ Type analysis examines:
 - ▶ **Type Inference** Which types can this program have?
 - ▶ **Type Checking** Does this program have some specific type?
 - ▶ Often *uses* type inference
- ▶ Standard notation: the binary **typing relation** ($:$) relates programs p and their types τ :

$$p : \tau$$

A Simple Language: IGA

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Expr} &::= \langle \text{Val} \rangle \\ &| \langle \text{Expr} \rangle \text{ plus } \langle \text{Expr} \rangle \\ &| \langle \text{Expr} \rangle \text{ } \geq \text{ } \langle \text{Expr} \rangle \\ &| \text{ if } \langle \text{Expr} \rangle \text{ then } \langle \text{Expr} \rangle \text{ else } \langle \text{Expr} \rangle \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Val} &::= \langle \text{Nat} \rangle \\ &| \text{ true } | \text{ false} \end{aligned}$$
$$\text{Nat} ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid \dots$$

- ▶ Semantics mostly straightforward:
- ▶ **plus** operates only on *nat*
- ▶ **$\geq$** 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:

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

Types for Values

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

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

- We want to type e.g.:

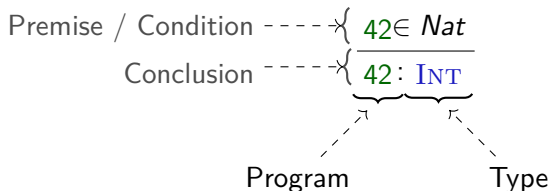
39 plus 3 : INT

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 $42 \in Nat$ holds, then so does $42 : INT$

- ▶ 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

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



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

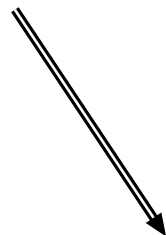
$$\frac{v \in \text{Nat}}{v : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-nat})$$

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

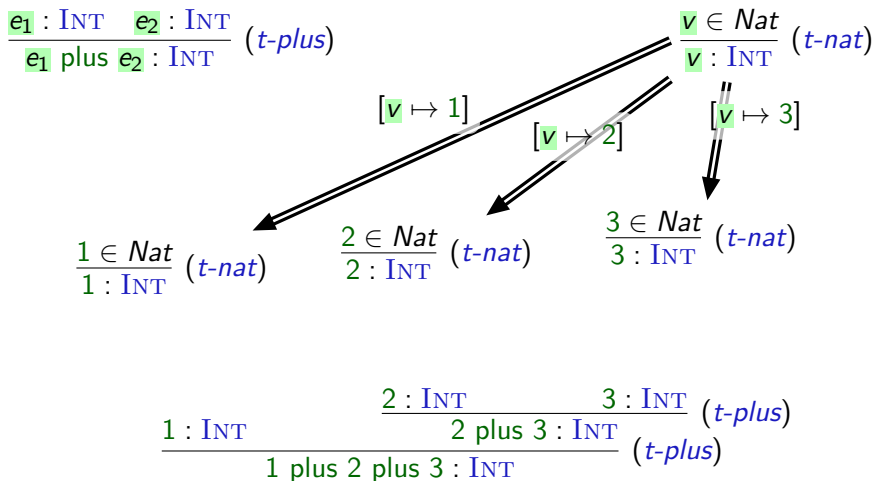
$$\frac{e_1 : \text{INT} \quad e_2 : \text{INT}}{e_1 \text{ plus } e_2 : \text{INT}} \quad (t\text{-plus})$$

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Checking Types

► With $e : \tau$, we can have:

1 Exactly one τ fits (we've computed a type):

2 plus 3 : INT

2 No τ fits (type error):

true plus 0 *has type error*

3 Multiple τ 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:

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

- ▶ 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?

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

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

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!**
 | $\langle Expr \rangle \text{ plus } \langle Expr \rangle$
 | $\langle Expr \rangle \geq \langle Expr \rangle$
 | $\text{if } \langle Expr \rangle \text{ then } \langle Expr \rangle \text{ else } \langle Expr \rangle$

$Val ::= nat$
 | true | 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
- ▶ $\text{let } \underline{x} = 1 \text{ plus } 2 \text{ in } \underline{x} + \underline{x}$ 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

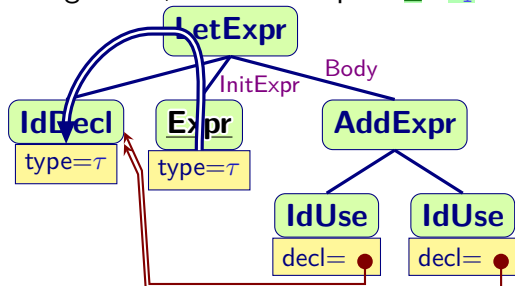
How do we connect τ_1 and τ and τ_2 ?

Connecting Variables and Types

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

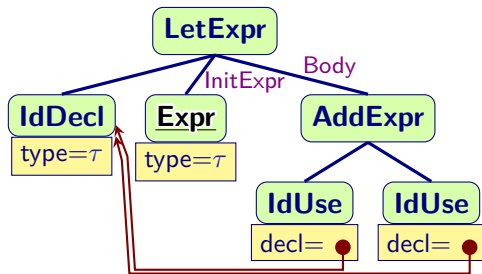
Example: `let  $\underline{x} = 1$  in  $\underline{x} + \underline{x}$`

- 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**
 - Always true for C, Pascal, Teal-0, ...
 - *Not always true* for Java, C++, ...
 - Requires *mutual recursion* ($\Rightarrow$ “circular attributes”, later...)
 - **Expr**’s type must not depend on **IdDecl**’s type
 - No recursive definitions allowed!
 - Not guaranteed for most modern languages
 - We want to support this!

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 $\boxed{\Delta(\underline{x}) = \tau}$ 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 τ

$\implies$ *Collection Attribute*, cf. prep video for next lecture

Typing INGA

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

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

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

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

Example

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

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

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

Summary

- ▶ Type analysis of realistic programs requires name analysis
- ▶ Distinguish if name analysis $\leftrightarrow$ type analysis dependency and/or recursive definitions allowed:
 - 1 name $\nleftrightarrow$ type analysis, forbid recursive definitions:
 - $\implies$ Straightforward (see earlier slides)
 - 2 name $\nleftrightarrow$ type analysis, allow recursive definitions:
 - $\implies$ Requires *collecting constraints*, using Δ
 - 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 $\Delta(\underline{x}) = \tau$: collect arbitrarily complex constraints
 - ▶ Instead of Δ , can use *environments* Γ
 - ▶ Original formalisation (Hindley/Damas/Milner)
 - ▶ More complex: must recursively “thread” Γ through typing rules
 - ▶ solves name analysis $\leftrightarrow$ type analysis dependency
 - ▶ supports some more advanced type analyses

Adding Lists: The Language LINGA

```
Expr ::= <Val>
      | id
      | let id = <Expr> in <Expr>
      | nil new!
      | cons (<Expr>, <Expr>) new!
      | <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:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} Ty & ::= & \text{INT} \\ & | & \text{BOOL} \\ & | & \text{LIST } [\langle Ty \rangle] \end{array}$$

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 τ , can't process all
- ▶ General approach: Find **Principal Type**
 - == One *single* type that subsumes all possible types
- ▶ May need to extend *type language* to express such principal types
- ▶ 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

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

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

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

- ▶ 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** α to express that we know the type only *partially*
- ▶ **Principal Types:**
 - ▶ τ is *principal* for e if it *subsumes* all τ' 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: α in

LIST[α]

Meta-Variables Can Reference Object-Language Variables

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

Outlook

- ▶ Thursday: Polymorphic Type Analysis
 - ▶ Partly flipped lecture, make sure to prepare!
 - ▶ Videos up on Moodle
- ▶ Optionally available:
 - ▶ Refresher on formal notation
 - ▶ Review of “Meta-languages”: languages for describing languages

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