

Contextual Types for Multi-Staged Programming

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¹Joint work with Brigitte Pientka at McGill University

A bunch of inferences

« A bunch of inferences » is a noun phrase.

For any noun n ,
« A bunch of \sim (pluraled n) » is a noun phrase.

« For any noun n ,
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is valid a grammar rule.

For some part of speech P , « For any $\sim P$ n ,
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This talk is about typing such metalanguages
in a *principled* way.

Motivation 1: Macros

In ML, **if** is syntactic sugar:

$$(\mathbf{if} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{then} \ e_2 \ \mathbf{else} \ e_3) \stackrel{\Delta}{=} (\mathbf{match} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{with} \ \mathbf{true} \ \rightarrow e_2 \mid \ \mathbf{false} \ \rightarrow e_3)$$

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Problem

We can't define it in CBV:

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let if_ e1 e2 e3 = match e1 with true → e2 | false → e3
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if_ false (raise Exit) (print_string "Hello")
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Hello Exception: Pervasives.Exit.           (* fail *)
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Hello Exception: Pervasives.Exit.           (* fail *)
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↔ How to define syntactic sugar in the language?

Motivation 2: Program specialization

```
let rec pow x n =  
  if n = 0 then 1  
  else if n mod 2 = 0 then square (pow x (n/2))  
  else x * pow x (n-1)
```

Motivation 2: Program specialization

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Problem

For performance, we want to derive specialized programs:

```
let pow13 x = pow x 13           (* a closure of pow *)
```

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let pow13 x = pow x 13 (* a closure of pow *)  
let pow13s x = x * square (square (x * square (x * 1)))  
(* 6x faster *)
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↔ How to specialize a function on a statically known argument?

Motivation 3: Full evaluation

Evaluation stops at λ s:

```
let f = fun x → ((fun y → y + 1) x);;  
val f : int → int = <fun>
```

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let f = fun x → ((fun y → y + 1) x);;  
val f : int → int = <fun>
```

Problem

We sometimes need to syntactically compare normal forms.

↪ How to evaluate under λ s?

One-size-fits-all solution: Staging

*A multi-staged functional programming language provides
a finer control over evaluation.*

One-size-fits-all solution: Staging

A multi-staged functional programming language provides a finer control over evaluation.

The method

Organizes evaluation into ordered **stages** (level):

- each redex belongs to a stage n ,
- redex n fired only if no redex $m < n$

One-size-fits-all solution: Staging

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The abstraction

Generating, grafting and running pieces of **code** (AST).

Multi-staged languages

Syntax:

$$e ::= \dots \mid \ll e \gg \mid \sim e \mid \text{run } e$$

Operational semantics:

$$\sim \ll e \gg \longrightarrow e \qquad \text{run } \ll e \gg \longrightarrow e$$
$$C ::= \dots \mid \ll \dots \sim C \dots \gg$$

Examples

Macros

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let if_ e1 e2 e3 =  
  « match ~e1 with true → ~e2 | false → ~e3 »
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let if_ e1 e2 e3 =  
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let e = « ~(if_ « false »  
              « raise Exit »  
              « print_string "Hello" ») »
```

Examples

Macros

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val e =  
  « match false with  
    | true → raise Exit  
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Examples

Macros

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val e =  
  « match false with  
    | true → raise Exit  
    | false → print_string "Hello" » ;;
```

```
run e
```

Examples

Macros

```
let if_ e1 e2 e3 =  
  « match ~e1 with true → ~e2 | false → ~e3 » ;;
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```
let e = « ~(if_ « false »  
              « raise Exit »  
              « print_string "Hello" ») »;;
```

```
val e =  
  « match false with  
    | true  → raise Exit  
    | false → print_string "Hello" » ;;
```

```
run e ;;  
Hello - : unit = ()
```

Examples

Program specialization

```
let rec pow x n =  
  if n = 0 then «1»  
  else if n mod 2 = 0 then «square ~ (pow x (n/2))»  
  else «~x * ~(pow x (n-1))»
```

Examples

Program specialization

```
let rec pow x n =  
  if n = 0 then «1»  
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  else «~x * ~(pow x (n-1))» ;;  
  
let pow13 = « fun x → ~(pow «x» 13) »
```

Examples

Program specialization

```
let rec pow x n =  
  if n = 0 then «1»  
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let pow13 = « fun x → ~(pow «x» 13) » ;;  
val pow13 =  
  « fun x → x * square (square (x * square (x * 1))) »
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Examples

Program specialization

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let rec pow x n =  
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  else «~x * ~(pow x (n-1))» ;;  
  
let pow13 = « fun x → ~(pow «x» 13) » ;;  
val pow13 =  
  « fun x → x * square (square (x * square (x * 1))) »  
  
run pow13 2
```


Examples

Program specialization

```
let rec pow x n =  
  if n = 0 then «1»  
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  else «~x * ~(pow x (n-1))» ;;  
  
let pow13 = « fun x → ~(pow «x» 13) » ;;  
val pow13 =  
  « fun x → x * square (square (x * square (x * 1))) »  
  
run pow13 2 ;;  
- : int = 8192
```

Examples

Full evaluation

let e = «**fun** x → ~((**fun** y → « ~y + 1 ») «x»）」

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Full evaluation

```
let e = «fun x → ~((fun y → « ~y + 1 ») «x»）」;
```

```
val e = «fun x → x + 1»
```

```
run e 42
```

Examples

Full evaluation

```
let e = «fun x → ~((fun y → « ~y + 1 ») «x»）」;;
```

```
val e = «fun x → x + 1»
```

```
run e 42 ;;
```

```
- : int = 43
```

A type system for staged computations?

It must now ensure:

- lexical scoping (variables used in their binding context...)
- congruence (...at their binding stage) = “staged lexical scoping”
ex: $\not\vdash \ll \mathbf{fun} \ x \rightarrow \sim(x + 1) \gg$
- evaluation of closed code
ex: $\not\vdash \ll \mathbf{fun} \ x \rightarrow \sim(\mathbf{run} \ \ll x \gg) \gg$

Outline

Contents

- ✓ Multi-staged programming by example
 - Contextual types ($S4 \rightarrow \lambda \square \rightarrow \lambda^{ctx} \rightarrow \lambda_I^{ctx}$)
 - Embedding environment classifiers (λ^α)
 - Consequences

Modal logic of necessity

$\Box A$ *A necessarily true*
(under no hypothesis)

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Example

- $\Box A \supset A$
- $\Box A \supset \Box \Box A$
- $\Box(A \supset B) \supset (\Box A \supset \Box B)$

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Question

What is it in Curry-Howard correspondence with?

Modal logic of necessity

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Example

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Question

What is it in Curry-Howard correspondence with?

\rightsquigarrow multi-staging (Davies & Pfenning, 1995)

$$\Box A \approx \langle\langle A \rangle\rangle$$

The λ -calculus

 $\lambda \rightarrow$

(Church, 1940)

$$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B$$
$$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x. M \mid MN$$

| |
|-----------------------|
| $\Gamma \vdash M : A$ |
|-----------------------|

The modal λ -calculus

 $\lambda\Box$

(Davies & Pfenning, 1995)

$$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B \mid \Box A$$
$$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x. M \mid MN \mid [M] \mid \text{let}_{\Box} u = M \text{ in } N \mid u$$

$\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : A$

$$\frac{\text{BOX} \quad \Delta; \cdot \vdash M : A}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash [M] : \Box A}$$
$$\frac{\text{LETBOX} \quad \Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : \Box A \quad \Delta, u :: \Box A ; \Gamma \vdash N : C}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \text{let}_{\Box} u = M \text{ in } N : C}$$
$$\frac{\text{META} \quad u :: \Box A \in \Delta}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash u : A}$$

The contextual λ -calculus

 λ^{\square}

(Nanevski, Pfenning & Pientka, 2008)

$$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B \mid [\Psi.A]$$

$$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x.M \mid MN \mid [\Psi.M] \mid \text{let}_{\square} u = M \text{ in } N \mid u\{\sigma\}$$

$$\boxed{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : A}$$

BOX

$$\frac{\Delta; \Psi \vdash M : A}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash [\Psi.M] : [\Psi.A]}$$

LETBOX

$$\frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : [\Psi.A] \quad \Delta, u :: [\Psi.A]; \Gamma \vdash N : C}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \text{let}_{\square} u = M \text{ in } N : C}$$

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$$\frac{u :: [\Psi.A] \in \Delta \quad \Delta; \Gamma \vdash \sigma : \Psi}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash u\{\sigma\} : A}$$

The contextual λ -calculus with first-class envs. λ^{ctx}

(Puech, 2016?)

$$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B \mid [\Psi.A] \mid \forall \alpha. A$$
$$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x. M \mid MN \mid [\Psi.M] \mid \text{let}_{\square} u = M \text{ in } N \mid u\{\sigma\} \mid \Lambda \alpha. M \mid M\Psi$$

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GEN

$$\frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : A \quad \alpha \notin \text{FV}(\Delta, \Gamma)}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \Lambda \alpha. M : \forall \alpha. A}$$

INST

$$\frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : \forall \alpha. A}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M\Psi : A\{\alpha/\Psi\}}$$

The contextual λ -calculus with first-class envs. λ^{ctx}

(Puech, 2016?)

$$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B \mid [\Psi.A] \mid \forall \alpha. A$$
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$$\Gamma, \Psi ::= \alpha \mid \Gamma, x : A$$
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Programming in λ^{ctx}

Expressive types

ex: $\forall \alpha. [\alpha.p \rightarrow q] \rightarrow [\alpha, p. \forall \beta. [\beta.q]]$

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$$\frac{M \downarrow \Lambda\alpha. [\alpha.N] \quad N \downarrow V}{\text{run } M \downarrow \Lambda\alpha.V}$$

Programming in λ^{ctx}

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- $\text{subst} : \forall\alpha. [\alpha, x : A.B] \rightarrow [\alpha.A] \rightarrow [\alpha.B]$

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 $= \Lambda\alpha. \lambda xy. \text{let}_{\square} u = x \text{ in}$
 $\text{let}_{\square} v = y \text{ in } u\{\text{id}_{\alpha}, v\{\text{id}_{\alpha}\}\}$

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But heavy syntax

The contextual λ -calculus w/ first-class envs. λ^{ctx}

$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B \mid [\Psi.A] \mid \forall \alpha. A$

$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x. M \mid MN \mid [\Psi.M] \mid \text{let}_{\square} u = M \text{ in } N \mid u\{\sigma\} \mid \Lambda \alpha. M \mid M \Psi$

$\Gamma, \Psi ::= \alpha \mid \Gamma, x : A$

$\sigma ::= \text{id}_{\alpha} \mid \sigma, x/M$

Example

$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. \text{let}_{\square} u = f(\alpha, x : p)[\alpha, x.x] \text{ in } [\alpha. \lambda x. u\{\text{id}_{\alpha}, x/x\}]$

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Example

$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. [\alpha. \lambda x. \sim(f(\alpha, x : p)[\alpha, x.x])\{\text{id}_{\alpha}, x/x\}]$

The contextual λ -calculus w/ first-class envs. λ^{ctx}

$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B \mid [\Psi.A] \mid \forall \alpha. A$

$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x. M \mid MN \mid [\Psi.M] \mid \sim M\{\sigma\} \quad \mid \Lambda \alpha. M \mid M\Psi$

$\Gamma, \Psi ::= \alpha \mid \Gamma, x : A$

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Example

$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. [\alpha. \lambda x. \sim(f(\alpha, x : p)[\alpha, x.x])\{\text{id}_{\alpha, x/x}\}]$

The implicit contextual λ -calculus w/ first-class envs. λ_I^{ctx}

$A, B ::= p \mid A \rightarrow B \mid [\Psi.A] \mid \forall \alpha. A$

$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x. M \mid MN \mid [\Psi.M] \mid \sim M\{\sigma\} \quad \mid \Lambda \alpha. M \mid M\Psi$

$\Gamma, \Psi ::= \alpha \mid \Gamma, x : A$

$\sigma ::= \text{id}_\alpha \mid \sigma, x/M$

$\Sigma ::= \cdot \mid \Sigma; \Gamma$

$\Sigma \vdash M : A$

$$\frac{\text{BOX} \quad \Sigma; \Psi \vdash M : A}{\Sigma \vdash [\Psi.M] : [\Psi.A]}$$

$$\frac{\text{UNBOX} \quad \Sigma \vdash M : [\Psi.A] \quad \Sigma; \Gamma \vdash \sigma : \Psi}{\Sigma; \Gamma \vdash \sim M\{\sigma\} : A}$$

Going explicit: from λ_I^{ctx} back to λ^{ctx}

Example (1)

From:

$$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. [\alpha. \lambda x. \sim(f(\alpha, x : p)[\alpha, x.x])\{\text{id}_{\alpha, x/x}\}]$$

Going explicit: from λ_I^{ctx} back to λ^{ctx}

Example (1)

From:

$$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. [\alpha. \lambda x. \sim(f(\alpha, x : p)[\alpha, x.x])\{\text{id}_{\alpha, x/x}\}]$$

to:

$$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. \text{let}_{\square} u = f(\alpha, x : p)[\alpha, x.x] \text{ in } [\alpha. \lambda x. u\{\text{id}_{\alpha, x/x}\}]$$

Going explicit: from λ_I^{ctx} back to λ^{ctx}

Example (2)

From:

$$[\alpha.f [\beta.g \sim(h \sim_x\{\text{id}_\alpha\})\{\text{id}_\beta\}]]$$

Going explicit: from λ_I^{ctx} back to λ^{ctx}

Example (2)

From:

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$$\text{let}_\square u = x \text{ in } [\alpha.f (\text{let}_\square v = h u\{\text{id}_\alpha\} \text{ in } [\beta.g v\{\text{id}_\beta\}])]$$

Going explicit: from λ_I^{ctx} back to λ^{ctx}

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Theorem

If $\Sigma; \Gamma \vdash P : A$ then there exists Δ and M such that $\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : A$.

Going explicit: from λ_I^{ctx} back to λ^{ctx}

Example (2)

From:

$$[\alpha.f [\beta.g \sim(h \sim x\{\text{id}_\alpha\})\{\text{id}_\beta\}]]$$

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$$\text{let}_\square u = x \text{ in } [\alpha.f (\text{let}_\square v = h u\{\text{id}_\alpha\} \text{ in } [\beta.g v\{\text{id}_\beta\}])]$$

Theorem

If $\Sigma; \Gamma \vdash P : A$ then there exists Δ and M such that $\Delta; \Gamma \vdash M : A$.

Proof.

Adapted from (Davies & Pfenning, 1995).

Multi-continuation one-pass monadic normal form. □

Outline

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- ✓ Multi-staged programming by example
- ✓ Contextual types ($S4 \rightarrow \lambda \square \rightarrow \lambda^{ctx} \rightarrow \lambda_I^{ctx}$)
 - Embedding environment classifiers (λ^α)
 - Consequences

State of the art: Environment Classifiers λ^α

(Taha & Nielsen, 2003)

lineage of $\lambda\circ$ (Davies, 1995)

$$T, U ::= p \mid T \rightarrow U \mid \langle T \rangle^\alpha \mid \forall \alpha. T$$

$$E, F ::= x \mid \lambda x. E \mid EF \mid \langle E \rangle^\alpha \mid \sim E \mid \Lambda \alpha. E \mid E \alpha$$

$$\Xi ::= \cdot \mid \Xi, x : \bar{\alpha} T$$

$$\boxed{\Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} E : T}$$

$$\frac{\text{VAR} \quad (x : \bar{\alpha} T) \in \Xi}{\Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} x : T}$$

$$\frac{\text{LAM} \quad \Xi, x : \bar{\alpha} T \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} E : U}{\Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} \lambda x. E : T \rightarrow U}$$

$$\frac{\text{QUOTE} \quad \Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}\alpha} E : T}{\Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} \langle E \rangle^\alpha : \langle T \rangle^\alpha}$$

$$\frac{\text{UNQUOTE} \quad \Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} E : \langle T \rangle^\alpha}{\Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}\alpha} \sim E : T}$$

$$\frac{\text{GEN} \quad \Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} E : T \quad \alpha \notin \text{FV}(\Xi, \bar{\alpha})}{\Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} \Lambda \alpha. E : \forall \alpha. T}$$

$$\frac{\text{INST} \quad \Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} E : \forall \beta. T}{\Xi \vdash^{\bar{\alpha}} E \alpha : T\{\alpha/\beta\}}$$

The environment classifiers λ -calculus λ^α

Example (Two-level η -expansion)

$$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. \langle \lambda x. \sim (f \alpha \langle x \rangle^\alpha) \rangle^\alpha$$
$$: (\forall \alpha. \langle p \rangle^\alpha \rightarrow \langle q \rangle^\alpha) \rightarrow \forall \alpha. \langle p \rightarrow q \rangle^\alpha$$

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Issues

- what is the logical meaning of λ^α ?
- complex operational semantics
 - ▶ syntax of value is context-sensitive (no BNF)
 $V^0 ::= \lambda x. V^0 \mid \langle V^1 \rangle^\alpha$
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Question

Is it comparable to λ^{ctx} ?

Going contextual: from λ^α to λ_I^{ctx}

Example

From:

$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. \langle \lambda x. \sim(f \alpha \langle x \rangle^\alpha) \rangle^\alpha$

$: (\forall \alpha. \langle p \rangle^\alpha \rightarrow \langle q \rangle^\alpha) \rightarrow \forall \alpha. \langle p \rightarrow q \rangle^\alpha$

To:

Properties

- translates terms *and* types $\langle A \rangle^\alpha \rightsquigarrow [\Gamma.A]$

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To:

$$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. [\alpha. \lambda x. \sim(f(\alpha, x : p)[\alpha, x.x])\{\text{id}_\alpha, x\}]$$
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Properties

- translates terms *and* types $\langle A \rangle^\alpha \rightsquigarrow [\Gamma.A]$
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$$\lambda f. \Lambda \alpha. [\alpha. \lambda x. \sim(f \mathbf{g}_3(\alpha) [\alpha, x.x]) \{ \text{id}_\alpha, x \}] :$$
$$(\forall \alpha. [g_1(\alpha).p] \rightarrow [g_2(\alpha).q]) \rightarrow \forall \alpha. [\alpha.p \rightarrow q] /$$
$$(g_1(g_3(\alpha)) = \alpha, x : p) \wedge (g_2(g_3(\alpha)) = \alpha, x : p)$$

Properties

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- environment information in target term/type
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Going contextual: from λ^α to λ_I^{ctx}

Definition (Type translation)

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket p \rrbracket &= p \\ \llbracket T \rightarrow U \rrbracket &= \llbracket T \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket U \rrbracket \\ \llbracket \forall \alpha. T \rrbracket &= \forall \alpha. \llbracket T \rrbracket \\ \llbracket \langle T \rangle^\alpha \rrbracket &= [g(\alpha). \llbracket T \rrbracket] \quad g \text{ fresh} \end{aligned}$$

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Definition (Environment translation)

$$\begin{aligned}(\Xi, x :^X T)|_X^\alpha &= \Xi|_{X, x :'}^\alpha \llbracket T \rrbracket & \llbracket \Xi \rrbracket. &= \Xi|_{.}^{\alpha_0} \\ (\Xi, x :^Y T)|_X^\alpha &= \Xi|_X^\alpha \quad \text{if } X \neq Y & \llbracket \Xi \rrbracket_{X\alpha} &= \llbracket \Xi \rrbracket_X; \Xi|_{X\alpha}^\alpha \\ (\cdot)|_X^\alpha &= \alpha\end{aligned}$$

Going contextual: from λ^α to λ_I^{ctx}

Definition (Derivation transformation)

$$\boxed{\llbracket \Xi \vdash^X E : T \rrbracket = \Sigma \vdash M : A / C}$$

$$\frac{\text{VAR} \quad \llbracket \Xi \rrbracket_x = \Sigma; \Gamma \quad x : A \in \Gamma}{\llbracket \Xi \vdash^X x : T \rrbracket = \Sigma; \Gamma \vdash x : A / \top}$$

$$\frac{\text{APP} \quad \llbracket \Xi \vdash^X E : T \rightarrow U \rrbracket = \Sigma \vdash P : A \rightarrow B / C \quad \llbracket \Xi \vdash^X F : T \rrbracket = \Sigma' \vdash Q : A' / C'}{\llbracket \Xi \vdash^X EF : U \rrbracket = \Sigma \vdash PQ : B / C \wedge C' \wedge A = A' \wedge \Sigma = \Sigma'}$$

$$\frac{\text{BOX} \quad \llbracket \Xi \vdash^{X\alpha} E : T \rrbracket = \Sigma; \Gamma \vdash P : A / C}{\llbracket \Xi \vdash^X \langle E \rangle^\alpha : \langle T \rangle^\alpha \rrbracket = \Sigma \vdash [\hat{\Gamma}.P] : [\tilde{\Gamma}.A] / C}$$

$$\frac{\text{UNBOX} \quad \llbracket \Xi \vdash^X E : \langle T \rangle^\alpha \rrbracket = \Sigma \vdash P : [\tilde{G}(\alpha).A] / C \quad \Xi|_{X\alpha}^\alpha = \Gamma}{\llbracket \Xi \vdash^{X\alpha} \sim E : T \rrbracket = \Sigma; \Gamma \vdash \sim P\{\text{id}(\hat{\Gamma})\} : A / C \wedge G(\alpha) = \Gamma}$$

Going contextual: from λ^α to λ_I^{ctx}

Theorem (Type soundness)

If $\llbracket \exists \vdash^X E : T \rrbracket = \Sigma \vdash P : A / C$ and $C\rho$ holds for some instantiation ρ , then $(\Sigma \vdash P : A)\rho$.

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Theorem (Correctness)

If $\Xi \vdash^X E : T$ and $\llbracket \Xi \vdash^X E : T \rrbracket = \Sigma \vdash P : A / C$ then there exists ρ such that $\llbracket T \rrbracket \rho = A$ and $\llbracket \Xi \rrbracket_X \rho = \Sigma$.

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Theorem (Decidability)

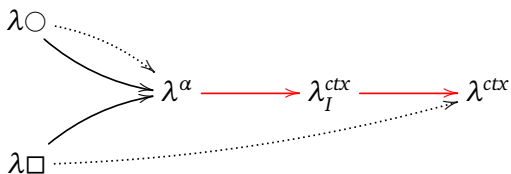
If $\Xi \vdash^X E : T$ then there exists Γ, P, A, C and ρ such that $\llbracket \Xi \vdash^X E : T \rrbracket = \Gamma \vdash P : A / C$ and $C\rho$ holds.

To sum up...

λ^α variables annotated with stage $> \lambda_\circ$

λ_I^{ctx} a stack of environments

λ^{ctx} two-zone presentation (validity & truth) $> \lambda_\square$



Outline

Contents

- ✓ Multi-staged programming by example
- ✓ Contextual types ($S4 \rightarrow \lambda \square \rightarrow \lambda^{ctx} \rightarrow \lambda_I^{ctx}$)
- ✓ Embedding environment classifiers (λ^α)
 - Consequences

Towards Contextual OCaml?

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let f t = «y. fun x → ~t (x+y)»
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Future work

- type inference for environment variables and code type

Pattern-matching on code

- useful for code generation, optimization (e.g., Camlp4):

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let rec wrap e = match e with
```

```
| «x» → x
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| «~e1 ~e2» → «apply ~(wrap e1) ~(wrap e2)»
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- typing well-understood in Beluga:
 - ▶ patterns variables carry environments
 - ▶ exhaustiveness decidable

A new look at Normalization

Normalization is evaluation of an annotated program:

$$\lambda x. ((\lambda y. (y + 1)) x) : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}$$

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$$\langle \lambda x. \sim((\lambda y. \langle \sim y + 1 \rangle^\alpha) \langle x \rangle^\alpha) \rangle^\alpha : \langle \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat} \rangle^\alpha$$

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$$[\alpha. \lambda x. \sim((\lambda y. [\alpha, x. \sim y\{\text{id}_\alpha, x/x\} + 1])[\alpha, x.x])\{\text{id}_\alpha, x/x\}] \\ : [\alpha. \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}]$$

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$$\text{let}_{\square} u = (\lambda y. \text{let}_{\square} v = y \text{ in } [\alpha, x. v\{\text{id}_{\alpha}, x/x\} + 1]) [\alpha, x. x] \text{ in} \\ [\alpha. \lambda x. u\{\text{id}_{\alpha}, x/x\}] : [\alpha. \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}]$$

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Conjecture (Staging/Binding-time Analysis)

If $M \longrightarrow^* V$ and V a normal form, then there is E s.t. $\text{run } E \Downarrow V$.

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Conjecture (Normalization by staged evaluation)

Staged evaluation “decomposes” normalization:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \lambda^{\rightarrow} & \xrightarrow{\text{stage}} & \lambda^{\alpha} & \xrightarrow{\text{embed}} & \lambda^{\text{ctx}} \\ \text{norm} \downarrow & & \text{eval} \downarrow & & \text{eval} \downarrow \\ nf & \xlongequal{\quad} & vl_0 & \xlongequal{\quad} & vl \end{array}$$