

V Syntax and Documentation

Arthur Giesel Vedana

July 4, 2017

e	$::=$	n	
		x	
		$(e_1, \dots e_n)$	$(n \geq 2)$
		$\{l_1 : e_1, \dots l_n : e_n\}$	$(n \geq 1)$
		$\#l$	
		get	
		$\text{let } p = e_1 \text{ in } e_2$	
		$\text{fn } p \Rightarrow e$	
		$e_1 e_2$	
		$raise$	
		$\text{match } e \text{ with } match_1, \dots match_n$	$(n \geq 1)$
$match$	$::=$	$p \rightarrow e$	
		$p \text{ when } e_1 \rightarrow e_2$	
l	$::=$	$\{l_1, l_2, \dots\}$	
p	$::=$	x	
		$-$	
		n	
		$(p_1, \dots p_n)$	$(n \geq 2)$
		$\{l_1 : p_1, \dots l_n : p_n\}$	$(n \geq 1)$
		$\{l_1 : p_1, \dots l_n : p_n, \dots\}$	(partial record, $n \geq 1$)
x	$::=$	$\{x_0, x_1, \dots\}$	
n	$::=$	\mathbb{Z}	

T	$::=$	Int	
	$ $	$T_1 \rightarrow T_2$	
	$ $	$(T_1, \dots T_n)$	$(n \geq 2)$
	$ $	$\{l_1 : T_1, \dots l_n : T_n\}$	$(n \geq 1)$
	$ $	X^{Traits}	
X	$::=$	X_1, X_2, \dots	
$Traits$	$::=$	\emptyset	
	$ $	$\{Trait\} \cup Traits$	
$Trait$	$::=$	$\{l : Type\}$	$(RecordLabel)$

Record Label A record label trait specifies a type T that a record must have associated to a label l . No bounds are placed on the size of the record, since records are unordered sets of label-type pairs.

To define the set of types that belong to a record label $\{l : T\}$, the following rules are used:

$$\begin{aligned} \{l_1 : T_1, \dots l_n : T_n, \dots T_k\} \in \{l : T\} &\iff l_n = l \wedge T_n = T \quad (1 \leq n \leq k) \\ X^{Traits} \in \{l : T\} &\implies \{l : T\} \in Traits \end{aligned}$$

1 Evaluation

env	$::=$	$\{\} \mid \{x \rightarrow v\} \cup env$
v	$::=$	n
	$ $	$raise$
	$ $	$(v_1, \dots v_n)$ $(n \geq 2)$
	$ $	$\{l_1 : v_1, \dots l_n : v_n\}$ $(n \geq 1)$
	$ $	$\langle p, e, env \rangle$
	$ $	$\#l$
	$ $	$[\#l \ v]$
	$ $	get
	$ $	$[get \ v]$

2 Pattern Matching

$$match(x, v) = true, \{x \rightarrow v\}$$

$$match(_, v) = true, \{\}$$

$$\frac{\|n_1\| = \|n_2\|}{match(n_1, n_2) = true, \{\}}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\|n_1\| \neq \|n_2\|}{\text{match}(n_1, n_2) = \text{false}, \{\}} \\
\\
\frac{\exists i \in [1, n] \quad \text{match}(p_i, v_i) = \text{false}, \text{env}_i}{\text{match}((p_1, \dots, p_n), (v_1, \dots, v_n)) = \text{false}, \{\}} \\
\\
\frac{\forall i \in [1, n] \quad \text{match}(p_i, v_i) = \text{true}, \text{env}_i}{\text{match}((p_1, \dots, p_n), (v_1, \dots, v_n)) = \text{true}, \bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{env}_i} \\
\\
\frac{k \geq n \quad \exists i \in [1, n] \quad \exists j \in [1, k] \quad l_i^1 = l_j^2 \wedge \text{match}(p_i, v_j) = \text{false}, \text{env}_i}{\text{match}(\{l_1^1 : p_1, \dots, l_n^1 : p_n, \dots\}, \{l_1^2 : v_1, \dots, l_k^2 : v_k\}) = \text{false}, \{\}} \\
\\
\frac{k \geq n \quad \forall i \in [1, n] \quad \exists j \in [1, k] \quad l_i^1 = l_j^2 \wedge \text{match}(p_i, v_j) = \text{true}, \text{env}_i}{\text{match}(\{l_1^1 : p_1, \dots, l_n^1 : p_n, \dots\}, \{l_1^2 : v_1, \dots, l_k^2 : v_k\}) = \text{true}, \bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{env}_i} \\
\\
\frac{\exists i \in [1, n] \quad l_i^1 = l_i^2 \wedge \text{match}(p_i, v_i) = \text{false}, \text{env}_i}{\text{match}(\{l_1^1 : p_1, \dots, l_n^1 : p_n\}, \{l_1^2 : v_1, \dots, l_n^2 : v_n\}) = \text{false}, \{\}} \\
\\
\frac{\forall i \in [1, n] \quad l_i^1 = l_i^2 \wedge \text{match}(p_i, v_i) = \text{true}, \text{env}_i}{\text{match}(\{l_1^1 : p_1, \dots, l_n^1 : p_n\}, \{l_1^2 : v_1, \dots, l_n^2 : v_n\}) = \text{true}, \bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{env}_i}
\end{array}$$

2.0.1 Big-Step Rules

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\text{env} \vdash n \Downarrow n & \text{(BS-Num)} \\
\\
\text{env} \vdash \#l \Downarrow \#l & \text{(BS-Access)} \\
\\
\text{env} \vdash \text{get} \Downarrow \text{get} & \text{(BS-Get)} \\
\\
\frac{\text{env}(x) = v}{\text{env} \vdash x \Downarrow v} & \text{(BS-Ident)} \\
\\
\frac{\forall k \in [1, n] \quad \text{env} \vdash e_k \Downarrow v_k}{\text{env} \vdash (e_1, \dots, e_n) \Downarrow (v_1, \dots, v_n)} & \text{(BS-Tuple)}
\end{array}$$

Records A record construction expression $\{l_1 : e_1, \dots, l_n : e_n\}$ evaluates each of its sub-expressions individually, resulting in a record value.

$$\frac{\forall k \in [1, n] \quad \text{env} \vdash e_k \Downarrow v_k}{\text{env} \vdash \{l_1 : e_1, \dots, l_n : e_n\} \Downarrow \{l_1 : v_1, \dots, l_n : v_n\}} \quad \text{(BS-Record)}$$

$$\text{env} \vdash \text{fn } p \Rightarrow e \Downarrow \langle p, e, \text{env} \rangle \quad (\text{BS-FN})$$

Application An application expression requires either a closure or a recursive closure for its left-hand operand. The right-hand operand (argument) is always evaluated using the current environment, resulting in a value v_2 .

In the case of a simple closure, the body of the function (e) is evaluated using the stored closure, matching the parameter pattern (p) with the argument (v_2).

$$\frac{\text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow \#l \quad \text{env} \vdash e_2 \Downarrow v}{\text{env} \vdash e_1 e_2 \Downarrow [\#l v]} \quad (\text{BS-APPACCESS})$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow [\#l v] \quad \text{env} \vdash e_2 \Downarrow \{l_1 : v_1, \dots, l_n : v_n\} \\ l = l_k \quad 1 \leq \|k\| \leq \|n\| \quad r = \{l_1 : v_1, \dots, l_k : v, \dots, l_n : v_n\} \end{array}}{\text{env} \vdash e_1 e_2 \Downarrow (v_k, r)} \quad (\text{BS-APPACCESS2})$$

$$\frac{\text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow \text{get} \quad \text{env} \vdash e_2 \Downarrow v}{\text{env} \vdash e_1 e_2 \Downarrow [\text{get } v]} \quad (\text{BS-APPGET})$$

$$\frac{\text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow [\text{get } \langle p, e, \text{env} \rangle]}{\text{env} \vdash e_1 e_2 \Downarrow \text{raise}} \quad (\text{BS-APPGETRAISE})$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow [\text{get } \#l] \quad \text{env} \vdash e_2 \Downarrow \{l_1 : v_1, \dots, l_n : v_n\} \\ l = l_k \quad 1 \leq \|k\| \leq \|n\| \end{array}}{\text{env} \vdash e_1 e_2 \Downarrow v_k} \quad (\text{BS-APPGET2})$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow \langle p, e, \text{env} \rangle \quad \text{env} \vdash e_2 \Downarrow v_2 \\ \text{match}(p, v_2) = \text{true}, \text{env}_1 \\ \text{env}_1 \cup \text{env} \vdash e \Downarrow v \end{array}}{\text{env} \vdash e_1 e_2 \Downarrow v} \quad (\text{BS-APPFN})$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow \langle p, e, \text{env} \rangle \quad \text{env} \vdash e_2 \Downarrow v_2 \\ \text{match}(p, v_2) = \text{false}, \text{env}_1 \end{array}}{\text{env} \vdash e_1 e_2 \Downarrow \text{raise}} \quad (\text{BS-APPFN2})$$

Let Expressions These expressions are used to associate an identifier with a specific value, allowing the value to be reused throughout the program. Since V is a functional language, these are not variables, and the values assigned to an identifier will be constant (unless the same identifier is used in a new *let* expression).

After evaluating the expression that is to be associated to the identifier (that is, e_1), resulting in v , the *let* expression evaluates e_2 . For this evaluation, the association of p

to v is added to the environment. The result of this evaluation (that is, v_2) is the final result of the evaluation of the entire *let* expression.

$$\frac{\text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow v \quad \text{match}(p, v) = \text{true}, \text{env}_1}{\text{env}_1 \cup \text{env} \vdash e_2 \Downarrow v_2} \quad (\text{BS-LET})$$

$$\frac{\text{env} \vdash e_1 \Downarrow v \quad \text{match}(p, v) = \text{false}, \text{env}_1}{\text{env} \vdash \text{let } p = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \Downarrow \text{raise}} \quad (\text{BS-LET2})$$

Match Expression The match expression receives an input value and a list of *match*, attempting to pattern match against each one. The first *match* which returns a positive result is considered valid, and its corresponding expression is evaluated as the result of the whole expression.

If no *match* returns a positive result, the whole expression evaluates to *raise*.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{env} \vdash e \Downarrow v \\ \exists j \in [1..n] \text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, \text{match}_j) = \text{true}, v_j \\ \forall k \in [1..j] \text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, \text{match}_k) = \text{false}, v_k \end{array}}{\text{env} \vdash \text{match } e \text{ with } \text{match}_1, \dots, \text{match}_n \Downarrow v_j} \quad (\text{BS-MATCH})$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{env} \vdash e \Downarrow v \\ \forall j \in [1..n] \text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, \text{match}_j) = \text{false}, v_j \end{array}}{\text{env} \vdash \text{match } e \text{ with } \text{match}_1, \dots, \text{match}_n \Downarrow \text{raise}} \quad (\text{BS-MATCH2})$$

In order to properly evaluate a match expression, it is necessary to define an auxiliary function, here called *multiMatch*. This function receives an input value, an environment and a *match*.

If the *match* has a conditional expression, it must evaluate to *true* for the match to be considered valid.

$$\frac{\text{match}(p, v) = \text{false}, \text{env}_1}{\text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, p \rightarrow e) = \text{false}, v}$$

$$\frac{\text{match}(p, v) = \text{true}, \text{env}_1 \quad \text{env} \cup \text{env}_1 \vdash e \Downarrow v_2}{\text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, p \rightarrow e) = \text{true}, v_2}$$

$$\frac{\text{match}(p, v) = \text{false}, \text{env}_1}{\text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, p \text{ when } e_1 \rightarrow e_2) = \text{false}, v}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\text{match}(p, v) = \text{true}, \text{env}_1 \quad \text{env} \cup \text{env}_1 \vdash e_1 \Downarrow \text{false}}{\text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, p \text{ when } e_1 \rightarrow e_2) = \text{false}, v} \\
\\
\frac{\text{match}(p, v) = \text{true}, \text{env}_1 \quad \text{env} \cup \text{env}_1 \vdash e_1 \Downarrow \text{true} \quad \text{env} \cup \text{env}_1 \vdash e_2 \Downarrow v_2}{\text{multiMatch}(v, \text{env}, p \text{ when } e_1 \rightarrow e_2) = \text{true}, v_2}
\end{array}$$

Exceptions Some programs can be syntactically correct but still violate the semantics of the V language, such as a dividing by zero or trying to access the head of an empty list. In these scenarios, the expression is evaluated as the *raise* value.

Besides violation of semantic rules, the only other expression that evaluates to the *raise* value is the *raise* expression, using the following rule:

$$\text{env} \vdash \text{raise} \Downarrow \text{raise} \quad (\text{BS-RAISE})$$

3 Type Inference

The type inference algorithm is divided into 3 parts:

1. Constraint Collection
Collects constraints (defined below) for types in the program. This is a recursive operation, traversing the syntax tree and collecting constraints from the bottom up.
2. Constraint Unification
Validates the collected constraints, resulting in a set of type and trait substitutions. If the constraints cannot be unified (i.e they are invalid), the type inference algorithm ends here.
3. Unification Application
Applies the substitutions to the type of the program. This guarantees that the result of the type inference is a base type (or variable types if the result is a polymorphic function).

3.1 Constraint Collection

Constraints are equations between type expressions, which can have both constant types and variable types. To infer the type of a program, the type system recursively collects a set of constraints for every subexpression in that program. This is done in a static way across the expression tree from the nodes to the root, without having to evaluate any of the expressions. To create a valid set of constraints, the system must contain an environment, built from the root to the nodes, to ensure identifiers are properly typed.

Environment Just like the operational semantics, the type system also uses an environment to store information about identifiers. In this case, the environment maps identifiers to type associations. These can be either simple associations or universal associations, which are used for polymorphic functions.

Simple Associations These associate an identifier with a unique type, which can be either constant or a variable type. When the association is called, the type is returned as-is, even if it is a variable type.

Universal Associations This association, also called a type scheme, stores a type which contains at least one variable type bound by a “for all” quantifier (\forall). When called, this association creates a new variable type for each bound variable and returns a new instance of the type scheme. Universal associations are used exclusively for polymorphic functions.

To create this type of association, the type system must generate a list of “free variables” present in the type that is to be universalized. These are the variable types that are not present in the environment when the identifier is declared. When these free variables are found, they are universally bound. This ensures that only those variable types that are unbound in the environment become universally bound in the resulting association.

Environment Application If an identifier is bound to a simple association, its value is returned directly from the environment.

If, on the other hand, an identifier is bound to a universal association, some work must be done for the new type. For every free variable in the association, a fresh variable type is declared and substituted in the resulting type.

3.1.1 Pattern Matching Rules

$$match(x, T) = \{\}, \{x \rightarrow T\}$$

$$match(n, T) = \{T = Int\}, \{\}$$

$$match(T) = \{\}, \{\}$$

$$\frac{\forall i \in [1, n] \quad X_i \text{ is new} \wedge match(p_i, X_i) = c_i, env_i}{match((p_1, \dots, p_n), T) = \{(X_i, \dots, X_n) = T\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^n c_i, \bigcup_{i=1}^n env_i}$$

$$\frac{\forall i \in [1, n] \quad X_i \text{ is new} \wedge match(p_i, X_i) = c_i, env_i \quad X_0^{\{\{l_i : X_i\} \mid \forall i \in [1, n]\}}}{match(\{l_1 : p_1, \dots, l_n : p_n, \dots\}, T) = \{X_0 = T\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^n c_i, \bigcup_{i=1}^n env_i}$$

$$\frac{\forall i \in [1, n] \quad X_i \text{ is new} \wedge \text{match}(p_i, X_i) = c_i, \text{env}_i}{\text{match}(\{l_1 : p_1, \dots, l_n : p_n\}, T) = \{\{l_1 : X_1, \dots, l_n : X_n\} = T\} \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^n c_i, \bigcup_{i=1}^n \text{env}_i}$$

3.1.2 Constraint Collection Rules

Every expression in V has a rule for constraint collection, similar to how every expression has a rule for its semantic evaluation.

$$\Gamma \vdash n : \text{Int} \mid \{\} \quad (\text{T-Num})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(x) = T}{\Gamma \vdash x : T \mid \{\}} \quad (\text{T-IDENT})$$

$$\frac{\forall k \in [1, n] \quad \Gamma \vdash e_k : T_k \mid C_k}{\Gamma \vdash (e_1, \dots, e_n) : (T_1, \dots, T_n) \mid C_1 \cup \dots \cup C_n} \quad (\text{T-TUPLE})$$

$$\frac{\forall k \in [1, n] \quad \Gamma \vdash e_k : T_k \mid C_k}{\Gamma \vdash \{l_1 : e_1, \dots, l_n : e_n\} : \{l_1 : T_1, \dots, l_n : T_n\} \mid C_1 \cup \dots \cup C_n} \quad (\text{T-RECORD})$$

$$\frac{X_1 \text{ is new} \quad X_2^{\{\{l:X_1\}\}} \text{ is new}}{\Gamma \vdash \#l : X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow (X_1, X_2) \mid \{\}} \quad (\text{T-ACCESS})$$

$$\frac{X_1 \text{ is new} \quad X_2 \text{ is new}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{get} : (X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow (X_1, X_2)) \rightarrow X_2 \rightarrow X_1 \mid \{\}} \quad (\text{T-GET})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : T_1 \mid C_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : T_2 \mid C_2 \quad X_1 \text{ is new}}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \ e_2 : X \mid C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \{T_1 = T_2 \rightarrow X\}} \quad (\text{T-APP})$$

$$\frac{X \text{ is new} \quad \text{match}(p, X) = C, \text{env} \quad \text{env} \cup \Gamma \vdash e : T_1 \mid C_1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fn } p \Rightarrow e : X \rightarrow T_1 \mid C \cup C_1} \quad (\text{T-FN})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : T \mid C \quad X_1 \text{ is new} \quad \forall j \in [1..n] \text{multiMatch}(T, X_1, \Gamma, \text{match}_j) = C_j}{\Gamma \vdash \text{match } e \text{ with } \text{match}_1, \dots, \text{match}_n : X_1 \mid C \cup \bigcup_{i=1}^n C_i} \quad (\text{T-MATCH})$$

$$\frac{\text{match}(p, T_1) = C, \Gamma_1 \quad \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma \vdash e : T_3 \mid C_3}{\text{multiMatch}(T_1, T_2, \Gamma, p \rightarrow e) = C \cup C_3 \cup \{T_3 = T_2\}}$$

$$\frac{\text{match}(p, T_1) = C, \Gamma_1 \quad \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma \vdash e_1 : T_3 \mid C_3 \quad \Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma \vdash e_2 : T_4 \mid C_4}{\text{multiMatch}(T_1, T_2, \Gamma, p \text{ when } e_1 \rightarrow e_2) = C \cup C_3 \cup C_4 \cup \{T_3 = \text{Bool}, T_4 = T_2\}}$$

$$\frac{X_1 \text{ is new}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{raise} : X_1 \mid \{\}} \quad (\text{T-RAISE})$$

The constraint collection rule for **let** is a little more complicated, as it involves calling the type inference algorithm recursively. The steps to collect constraints for a expression **let** $p = e_1$ **in** e_2 are as follow:

1. $\Gamma \vdash e_1 : T_1 \mid C_1$
2. $\text{unify}(C_1) = \sigma_1, \theta_1$
3. $\text{apply}(\sigma_1, \theta_1, T_1) = T'_1$
4. $\text{apply}(\sigma_1, \theta_1, \Gamma) = \Gamma'$
5. $\text{freeVars}(T'_1, \Gamma') = \text{free}$
6. **if** $\text{free} = \emptyset$ **then**
 - (a) $\text{match}(p, T_1) = C, \text{env}$
7. **else**
 - (a) $C = \emptyset$
 - (b) $\text{env} = \Gamma \cup \{x \rightarrow \forall X \in \text{free} . T'_1\}$
8. $\text{env} \cup \Gamma \vdash e_2 : T_2 \mid C_2$
9. **return** $T_2 \mid C \cup C_1 \cup C_2$

3.2 Constraint Unification

The unification algorithm recursively iterates through the list of constraints, matching

$$\text{unify}(\emptyset) = \emptyset, \emptyset$$

$$\frac{T_1 = T_2}{\text{unify}(\{T_1 = T_2\} \cup C) = \text{unify}(C)}$$

$$\frac{T_1 = T_1^1 \rightarrow T_2^1 \quad T_2 = T_1^2 \rightarrow T_2^2}{\text{unify}(\{T_1 = T_2\} \cup C) = \text{unify}(C \cup \{T_1^1 = T_1^2, T_2^1 = T_2^2\})}$$

$$\frac{T_1 = (T_1^1, \dots, T_n^1) \quad T_2 = (T_1^2, \dots, T_n^2)}{\text{unify}(\{T_1 = T_2\} \cup C) = \text{unify}(C \cup \{T_1^1 = T_1^2, \dots, T_n^1 = T_n^2\})}$$

$$\frac{T_1 = \{l_1 : T_1^1, \dots, l_n : T_n^1\} \quad T_2 = \{l_1 : T_1^2, \dots, l_n : T_n^2\}}{\text{unify}(\{T_1 = T_2\} \cup C) = \text{unify}(C \cup \{T_1^1 = T_1^2, \dots, T_n^1 = T_n^2\})}$$

$$\frac{T_1 = X^{tr} \quad X \notin \text{freeVars}(T_2, \emptyset) \quad T_2 \in tr \quad C' = [X \rightarrow T_2]C}{\text{unify}(\{T_1 = T_2\} \cup C) = \text{unify}(C')}$$

$$\frac{T_2 = X^{tr} \quad X \notin \text{freeVars}(T_1, \emptyset) \quad T_1 \in tr \quad C' = [X \rightarrow T_1]C}{\text{unify}(\{T_1 = T_2\} \cup C') = \text{unify}(C' \cup \{T'_1 = T'_2, T''_1 = T''_2\})}$$