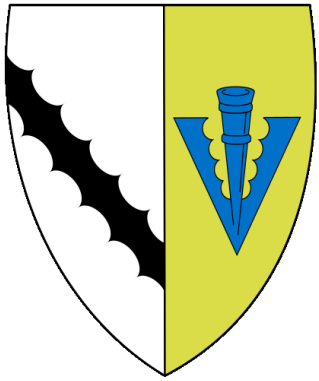
Max Carroll

Type Error Debugging in Hazel

Computer Science Tripos, Part II



Sidney Sussex College College
University of Cambridge
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A dissertation submitted to the University of Cambridge in partial fulfilment for a Bachelor of Arts

Declaration of Originality

Declaration Here.

Proforma

Candidate Number:	**Candidate Number Here**
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Original Aims of the Project

Aims Here. Concise summary of proposal description.

Work Completed

Work completed by deadline.

[1] *Calculated by* `texcount`*. Including: tables and footnotes. Excluding: the front matter, bibliography, and appendices*

[2] *Calculation method here*

Special Difficulties

Any Special Difficulties encountered

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements Here.

Contents

Chapter 1

Introduction

Software bugs are an inherent part of programming, often leading to unexpected behaviour and system failures. Debugging these errors is a *time-consuming process* taking between 20-60% of active work time [19], with programmers spending a *highly skewed* proportion of their time identifying and resolving a small proportion of *difficult* bugs [12].

Type systems aim to alleviate some of this burden by classifying expressions and operations that are allowed to work on them. This may be done *statically* at compile time or *dynamically* during runtime. The expressions not conforming to the type system manifest themselves as *type errors*.

In static typing, blame for type errors are typically localised to a *single* location in the code. However, this localisation may be misleading, as the actual cause of the error might be rooted in a broader context, for example in OCaml 65% of type errors related to *multiple* locations [21]. This is a particularly prevalent issue in *type inferred* languages.

In dynamic typing, type errors are often missed as they only appear during runtime with specific inputs. Additionally, they don't generally specify any source code context which caused them. Instead, a dynamic type error is accompanied by an

evaluation trace, which can be *more intuitive* [35] by demonstrating concretely why values are *not* consistent with their expected type as required by a *runtime cast*.

This project seeks to improve user understanding of type errors by localising static type errors *more completely*, and *combining* the benefits of static and dynamic type errors.

I consider three research problems and implement three features to solve them in the Hazel language [2]:[1]

1. Can we statically highlight code which explains *static type errors* more *completely*, including all code that *contributes* to the error?

   This would alleviate the issue of static errors being *incorrectly localised*, and help give a *greater context* to static type errors.

   Solution: I devise a *novel* method of **type slicing** including formal mathematical foundations built upon the formal *Hazel calculus* [18]. Additionally, it generalises to highlight all code relevant to typing *any* expressions (not just erroneous expressions).

2. Can we dynamically highlight source code which contributes to a *dynamic type error*?

   This would provide missing source code context to understand how types involved in a dynamic type error originate from the source code.

   Solution: I devise a *novel* method of **cast slicing**, also with formal mathematical foundations. Additionally, it generalises to highlight source code relevant to requiring any specific *runtime casts*.

[1] The answers may differ greatly for other languages. Hazel provides a good balance between complexity and usefulness.

3. Can we provide dynamic *evaluation traces* to explain *static type errors*?

   This would provide an *intuitive* concrete explanation for static type errors.

   Solution: I implement a **type error witness search procedure**, which discovers inputs (witnesses) to expressions which cause a *dynamic type error*. This is based on research by Seidel et al. [24] which devised a similar procedure for a subset of OCaml.

Hazel [2] is a functional locally inferred and gradually typed research language allowing the writing of *incomplete programs* under active development at the University of Michigan.

INTRODUCE HAZEL & IT'S VISION HERE WITH IT'S BASIC UNUSUAL FEATURES & Show why it is a good choice to answer the research questions for.

(i.e. a notebook environment, easy teaching language for students, teaching language to understand complex type systems... All are situations where better error explanations are useful (**cite that students struggle more with type errors**))

These three features *work well together* in Hazel to allow *both* static and dynamic type errors to be explained to a *greater extent* than in any existing languages. Arguably, these explanations are *intuitive*, and should help reduce debugging times and aid in students understanding type systems.[2]

For example, here is a basic walk-through for how a static type error could be diagnosed using the three features.

MAP function? show a static error version Reference to detailed analysis in the evaluation section.

[2]Proving this would require a user study.

Figure 1.1: A Static Type Error

1.1 Related Work

There has been extensive research into attempting to understand *what* is needed [29], *how* developers fix bugs [15], and a plethora of compiler *improvements* and *tools* **add citations here, primarily functional language tools**. This project builds upon this body of research in new ways focusing on the Hazel language, which is itself a research project being taken in various directions (**cite the directions**) but generally as a *teaching language* (**cite the explainthis paper**) for students.

To my knowledge the ideas of *type slicing* and *cast slicing* are novel. However, they do output *program slices* which were originally explored by Weiser [66], though my definition of program slices matches more with functional program slices [33]. The properties I explore are more similar to *dynamic program slicing* [64] but with type characteristics rather than evaluation characteristics, in a sense similar *type error slicing* [51].

The *type witness search procedure* is based upon Seidel et al. [24], though there are significant differences in workings due to my use of Hazel and various extensions as compared to the subset of OCaml used by Seidel et al.

1.2 Dissertation Outline

Chapter 2 introduces the *type theories* (section 2.1.1) underpinning the *Hazel core calculus* (section 2.1.2), followed by basic background on the *Hazel implementation* (section 2.1.3). Additionally, methods of non-deterministic programming are introduced (section 2.1.4).

Section 3.1 and section 3.2 formalise and prove[3] the ideas of *type slices* and *cast slices* in the Hazel core calculus.

An implementation (section 3.3-3.4) of these has been created covering *most*[4] of the Hazel language, including a user interface.

A *type witness search procedure* was successfully implemented. This involved creating a *hole instantiation* and a simplified *hole substitution* method (section 3.6.4); there is currently no full hole substitution feature in Hazel despite it's presence in the core calculus (section 2.1.2). Additionally, a customisable instantiation method was implemented (section 3.7) controllable via a UI.[5]

The slicing features and search procedure met all goals, **list eval goals briefly**, showing *effectiveness* (section 5.4) and being reasonably *performant* (section 5.5) over a corpus of *well-typed* and *ill-typed* Hazel programs respectively (section 5.3). Further, considered deviations from the slicing theories and strengths and weaknesses of the search procedure were evaluated in detail (section 5.6). A cognitive walk-through is performed in section 5.7 considering the use of all the features in debugging the static type error presented in the introduction in **??**.

Finally, further directions and improvements have been presented along with discussion on the applicability of these features, slicing in particular, to real world debugging situations in chapter 6.

[3] TODO

[4] Except for type substitution.

[5] TODO

Chapter 2

Preparation

In this chapter I present the technical background knowledge for this project: an introduction to the type theory for understanding Hazel's core semantics, an overview of Hazel implementation, and notes on non-determinism (as the type witness search procedure is non-deterministic). Following this, I present my software engineering methodology.

2.1 Background Knowledge

2.1.1 Static Type Systems

A *type system* is a lightweight formal mathematical method which categorises values into *types* and expressions into types that evaluate to values of the same type. It is effectively a static *approximation* to the runtime behaviour of a language.

Syntax

Trivial, probably not needed? Cite BNF grammars etc. All Ib stuff. Maybe briefly show examples of Lambda calculus-like syntax?

Judgements & Inference Rules

A *judgement*, J, is an assertion about *expressions* in a language [23]. For example:

- Exp e – e is an *expression*
- n : `int` – n has type `int`
- $e \Downarrow v$ – e evaluates to *value* v

While an *inference rule* is a collection of judgements $J, J_1, \ldots, J_n$:

$$\frac{J_1 \quad J_2 \quad \ldots \quad J_n}{J}$$

Representing the *rule* that if the *premises*, $J_1, \ldots, J_n$ are true then the conclusion, J, is true. When the collection of premises is empty, it is an *axiom* stating that the judgement is *always* true. Truth of a judgement J can be assessed by constructing a *derivation*, a tree of rules where it's leaves are axioms. It is then possible to define a judgement as the largest judgement that is *closed* under a collection of rules. This gives the result that a judgement J is true *if and only if* it has a derivation.

Properties on expressions can be proved using *rule induction*, if a property is *preserved* by every rule for a judgement, and true for it's axioms, then the property holds whenever the judgement is derivable.

A *hypothetical judgement* is a judgement written as:

$$J_1, \ldots, J_n \vdash J$$

is true if J is derivable when additionally assuming each J_i are axioms. Often written $\Gamma \vdash J$ and read J *holds under context* Γ. Hypothetical judgements can be similarly defined inductively via *rules*.

Defining a Type System

A typical type system can be expressed by defining the following hypothetical judgement form $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ read as *the expression e has type τ under typing context Γ* and referred as a *typing judgement*. Here, $e : \tau$ means that expression e has type τ. A *typing context*, Γ, is a list of types for variables $x_1 : \tau_1, \ldots, x_n : \tau_2$. For example the SLTC[1] [48, ch. 9] has a typing rule for lambda expression and application as follows:

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.\ e : \tau_1 \to \tau_2} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) : \tau_2}$$

Meaning, $\lambda x.e$ has type $\tau_1 \to \tau_2$ if e has type τ_2 under the extended context additionally assuming that x has type τ_1. And, $e_1(e_2)$ has type τ_2 if e_1 is a function of type $\tau_1 \to \tau_2$ and it's argument e_2 has type τ_1.

Product & Labelled Sum Types

Briefly demonstrate. Link to TAPL *Variants* and products

Dynamic Type Systems

Dynamic Typing has purported strengths allowing rapid development and flexibility, evidenced by their popularity [41, 7]. Of particular relevance to this project, execution traces are known to help provide insight to errors [35], yet statically typed languages remove the ability to execute programs with type errors, whereas dynamically typed languages do not.

A *dynamically typed system* can be implemented and represented semantically by use of dynamic *type tags* and a *dynamic*

[1] Simply typed lambda calculus.

type[2] [62]. Then, runtime values can have their type checked at runtime and *cast* between types. This suggests a way to encode dynamic typing via *first-class*[3] cast expressions which maintain and enforce runtime type constraints alongside a dynamic type written `?`.

Cast expressions can be represented in the syntax of expression by $e\langle\tau_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2\rangle$ for expression e and types τ_1, τ_2, encoding that e has type τ_1 and is cast to new type τ_2. An intuitive way to think about these is to consider two classes of casts:

- *Injections* – Casts *to* the dynamic type $e\langle\tau \Rightarrow ?\rangle$. These are effectively equivalent to type tags, they say that e has type τ but that it should be treat dynamically.
- *Projections* – Casts *from* the dynamic type $e\langle? \Rightarrow \tau\rangle$. These are type requirements, for example the add operator could require inputs to be of type `int`, and such a projection would force any dynamic value input to be cast to `int`.

Then when *injections* meet *projections* meet, $v\langle\tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \Rightarrow \tau_2\rangle$, representing an attempt to perform a cast $\langle\tau_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2\rangle$ on v. We check the cast is valid and perform if so:

$$\frac{\tau_1 \text{ is castable to } \tau_2}{v\langle\tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \Rightarrow \tau_2\rangle \mapsto v'} \qquad \frac{\tau_1 \text{ is not castable to } \tau_2}{v\langle\tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \Rightarrow \tau_2\rangle \mapsto v\langle\tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau_2\rangle}$$

Compound type casts can be broken down during evaluation upon usage of such constructs. For example, applying v to a *wrapped*[4] functions could decompose the cast to separately cast the applied argument and then the result. Inspired by,

[2] Not necessarily needed for implementation, but is useful when reasoning about dynamic types within a formal type system or when considering types within a *static* context.

[3] Directly represented in the language syntax as expressions.

[4] Wrapped in a cast between function types.

semantic casts [44] in *contract* systems [47]:

$$(f\langle \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \Rightarrow \tau_1' \to \tau_2' \rangle)(v) \mapsto (f(v\langle \tau_1' \Rightarrow \tau_1 \rangle)\langle \tau_2 \Rightarrow \tau_2' \rangle)$$

Or if f has the dynamic type:

$$(f\langle ? \Rightarrow \tau_1' \to \tau_2' \rangle)(v) \mapsto (f(v\langle \tau_1' \Rightarrow ? \rangle)\langle ? \Rightarrow \tau_2' \rangle)$$

Then direction of the casts reflects the *contravariance* [61, ch. 2] of functions[5] in their argument. See that the cast $\langle \tau_1' \Rightarrow \tau_1 \rangle$ on the argument is *reversed* with respect to the original cast on f. This makes sense as we must first cast the applied input to match the actual input type of the function f.

Hence, casts around functions (type information) will be moved to the actual arguments at runtime, meeting with casts casts on the argument, resulting in a cast error or a successful casts.

Gradual Type Systems

A *gradual type system* [26, 43] combines static and dynamic typing. Terms may be annotated as dynamic, marking regions of code omitted from type-checking but still *interoperable* with static code. For example, the following type checks:

```
let x : ? = 10;  // Dynamically typed
x ++ "str"       // Statically typed
```

Where `++` is string concatenation expecting inputs to be `string`. But would then cause a runtime *cast error* when attempting to calculate `10 ++ "str"`.

It does this by representing casts as expressed previously. The language is split into two parts:

[5] A bifunctor.

- The *external language* – where static type checking is performed which allows annotating expressions with the dynamic type.
- The *internal language* – where evaluation and runtime type checking is performed via cast expressions.[6] The example above would reduce to a *cast error*[7]:

$$10\langle \texttt{int} \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \texttt{string} \rangle \texttt{ ++ "str"}$$

For type checking, a *consistency* relation $\tau_1 \sim \tau_2$ is introduced meaning *types* τ_1, τ_2 *are consistent*. This is a weakening of the type equality requirements in normal static type checking, allowing consistent types to be used additionally.

Consistency must satisfy a few properties: that the dynamic type is consistent with every type, $\tau \sim ?$ for all types τ, that $\sim$ is reflexive and symmetric, and two concrete types[8] are consistent iff they are equal[9]. A typical definition would be like:

$$\frac{}{\tau \sim ?} \qquad \frac{}{\tau \sim \tau} \qquad \frac{\tau_1 \sim \tau_2}{\tau_2 \sim \tau_1} \qquad \frac{\tau_1 \sim \tau_1' \qquad \tau_2 \sim \tau_2}{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \sim \tau_1' \to \tau_2'}$$

This is very similar to the notion of *subtyping* [48, ch. 15] with a *top* type $\top$, but with symmetry instead of transitivity.

Then typing rules can be written to use consistency instead of equality. For example, application typing:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_2' \qquad \tau_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_2 \to \tau \qquad \tau_2 \sim \tau_2'}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) : \tau_2'}$$

[6] i.e. the proposed *dynamic type system* above.

[7] Cast errors now represented with a strike-through and in red. From here-on they are considered as first-class constructs.

[8] No sub-parts are dynamic.

[9] e.g. $\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \sim \tau_1' \to \tau_2'$ iff $\tau_1 = \tau_1'$ and $\tau_2 = \tau_2'$ when $\tau_1, \tau_1', \tau_2, \tau_2'$ don't contain $?$.

Where $\blacktriangleright_{\to}$ is a pattern matching function to extract the argument and return types from a function type.[10] Intuitively, $e_1(e_2)$ has type τ_2' if e_1 has type $\tau_1' \to \tau_2'$ or $?$ and e_2 has type τ_1 which is consistent with τ_1' and hence is assumed that it can be passed into the function.

But, for evaluation to work the static type information needs to be encoded into casts to be used in the dynamic internal language, for which the evaluation semantics are defined. This is done via *elaboration*, similarly to Harper and Stone's approach to defining (globally inferred) Standard ML [53] by elaboration to an explicitly typed internal language XML [60]. The *elaboration judgement* $\Gamma \vdash e \rightsquigarrow e' : \tau$ read as: external expression e is elaborated to internal expression d with type τ under typing context Γ. For example we need to insert casts around function applications:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \rightsquigarrow d_1 : \tau_1 \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_2 \rightsquigarrow d_2 : \tau_2' \qquad \tau_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_2 \to \tau \qquad \tau_2 \sim \tau_2'}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) : \tau \rightsquigarrow (d_1\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2 \to \tau \rangle)(d_2\langle \tau_2' \Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle) : \tau}$$

If, e_1 elaborates to d_1 with type $\tau_1 \sim \tau_2 \to \tau$ and e_2 elaborates to τ_2' with $\tau_2 \sim \tau_2$ then we place a cast[11] on the function d_1 to $\tau_2 \to \tau$ and on the argument d_2 to the function's expected argument type τ_2 to perform runtime type checking of arguments. Intuitively, casts must be inserted whenever type consistency is used, though the casts to insert are non-trivial [22].

The runtime semantics of the internal expression is that of the *dynamic type system* discussed above (2.1.1). A cast is determined to succeed iff the types are *consistent*.

The *refined criteria* for gradual typing [26] also provides an additional property for such systems to satisfy, the *gradual*

[10] This makes explicit the implicit pattern matching used normally.

[11] This cast is required, as if $\tau_1 = ?$ then we need a cast to realise that it is even a function. Otherwise $\tau_1 = \tau_2 \to \tau$ and the cast is redundant.

guarantee, formalising the intuition that adding and removing annotations should *not* change the *behaviour* of the program except for catching errors either dynamically or statically.

Bidirectional Type Systems

A *bidirectional type system* [27] takes on a more algorithmic definition of typing judgements, being more intuitive to implement. They also allow some amount of local type inference [55], allowing programmers to omit *type annotations*, instead type information. Global type inference systems [48, ch. 22] can be *difficult to implement*, often via constraint solving [8, ch. 10], and difficult or impossible to *balance* with complex language features, for example global inference in System F (2.1.1) is undecidable [56].

This is done in a similar way to annotating logic programming [67, p. 123], by specifying the *mode* of the type parameter in a typing judgement, distinguishing when it is an *input* (type checking) and when it is an *output* (type synthesis).

We express this with two judgements:

$$\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$$

Read as: *e synthesises a type* τ *under typing context* Γ. Type τ is an *output*.

$$\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau$$

Read as: *e analyses against a type* τ *under typing context* Γ. Type τ is an *input*

When designing such a system care must be taken to ensure *mode correctness* [65]. Mode correctness ensures that input-output dataflow is consistent such that an input never needs to be *guessed*. For example the following function application rule is *not* mode correct:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Leftarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Leftarrow \tau_2}$$

We try to *check* e_2 with input τ_1[12] which is *not known* from either an *output* of any premise nor from the *input* to the conclusion, τ_2. On the other hand, the following *is* mode correct:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Leftarrow \tau_2}$$

Where τ_1 is now known, being *synthesised* from the premise $\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2$. As before, τ_2 is known as it is an input in the conclusion $\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Leftarrow \tau_2$.

Such languages will typically have three obvious rules. First, we should have that variables can synthesise their type, after all it is accessible from the typing context Γ:

$$\text{Var}\frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau}$$

And annotated terms can synthesise their type by just looking at the annotation $e : \tau$ and checking the annotation is valid:

$$\text{Annot}\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \tau}$$

Finally, when we check against a type that we can synthesise a type for, variables for example. It would make sense to be able to *check* e against this same type τ; we can synthesise it, so must be able to check it. This leads to the subsumption rule:

$$\text{Subsumption}\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau' \qquad \tau = \tau'}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}$$

Contextual Modal Type Theory

Not *hugely* relevant really...

System F

Very brief explanation with less/no maths

[12] Highlighted in red as an error.

Recursive Types

Very brief explanation with less/no maths

2.1.2 The Hazel Calculus

Hazel is a language that allows the writing of incomplete programs, evaluating them, and evaluating around static & dynamic errors.[13]

It does this via adding *expression holes*, which can both be typed and have evaluation proceed around them seamlessly. This allows the evaluation around errors by placing them in holes.

The core calculus [18] is a gradually and bidirectionally typed lambda calculus. Therefore it has a locally inferred bidirectional *external language* with the dynamic type ? elaborated to an explicitly typed *internal language* including cast expressions.

The full semantics are documented in the Hazel Formal Semantics appendix A, but only rules relevant to addition of *holes* are discussed in this section. The combination of gradual and bidirectional typing system is itself non-trivial, but only particularly notable consequences are mentioned here. The intuition should be clear from the previous gradual and bidirectional typing sections.[14]

Syntax

The syntax, in Fig. 2.1, consists of *types* τ including the dynamic type ?, *external expressions* e including (optional) annotations, *internal expressions* d including cast expressions. The

[13] Among other features, like an structure editor with syntactically meaningless states, and various learning aids.

[14] The difficulties combining gradual and bidirectional typing are largely orthogonal to adding holes.

external language is *bidirectionally typed*, and therefore is a locally inferred surface syntax for the language, and is statically elaborated to (explicitly typed) *internal expressions*.

Notating $(\!|\,|\!)^u$ or $(\!|e|\!)^u$ for empty and non-empty holes respectively, where u is the *metavariable* or name for a hole. Internal expression holes, $(\!|\,|\!)^u_\sigma$ or $(\!|e|\!)^u_\sigma$, also maintain an environment σ mapping variables x to internal expressions d. These internal holes act as *closures*, recording which variables have been substituted during evaluation.[15]

$$
\begin{aligned}
\tau &::= b \mid \tau \to \tau \mid ? \\
e &::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x : \tau . e \mid \lambda x . e \mid e(e) \mid (\!|\,|\!)^u \mid (\!|e|\!)^u \mid e : \tau \\
d &::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x : \tau d \mid d(d) \mid (\!|\,|\!)^u_\sigma \mid (\!|d|\!)^u_\sigma \mid d\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \mid d\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau \rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

Figure 2.1: Syntax: *types* τ, *external expressions* e, *internal expressions* d. With x ranging over variables, u over hole names, σ over $x \to d$ *internal language* substitutions/environments, b over base types and c over constants.

External Language

We have a bidirectionally static semantics for the *external language*, giving the bidirectional typing judgements: $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$ and $\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau$. Holes synthesise the *dynamic type*, a natural choice made possible by the use of gradual types:

$$
\text{SNEHole}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \Rightarrow ?} \qquad \text{SEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Rightarrow ?}
$$

One notable consequence of combining gradual and bidirectional typing is that the *subsumption rule* in bidirectional typ-

[15] This is required, as holes may later be substituted, with variables then receiving their values from the closure environment.

ing is naturally extended to allow subsuming any terms of *consistent* types:

$$\text{ASubsume}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau' \qquad \tau \sim \tau'}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}$$

Of course e should type check against τ if it can synthesise a consistent type as the goal of type consistency is that we may type check terms as if they were of the consistent type.

The remaining rules are detailed in Fig. A.2, with *consistency* relation $\sim$ in Fig. A.3 and (fun) type matching relation, $\blacktriangleright_{\rightarrow}$ in Fig. A.4.

Internal Language

The internal language is non-bidirectionally typed and requires an extra *hole context* Δ mapping each hole *metavariables* u to it's *checked type* τ [16] and the type context Γ under which the hole was typed. Each metavariable context notated as $u :: \tau[\Gamma]$, notation borrowed from contextual modal type theory (CMTT) [39].[17]

The type assignment judgement $\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d : \tau$ means that d has type τ under typing and hole contexts Γ, Δ. The rules for holes take their types from the hole context and ensure that the hole environment substitutions σ are well-typed[18]:

$$\text{TAEHole}\ \frac{u :: \tau[\Gamma'] \in \Delta \qquad \Delta; \Gamma \vdash \sigma : \Gamma'}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^{u}_{\sigma} : \tau}$$

Hazel is proven to preserve typing; a well-typed external expression will elaborate to a well-typed internal expression

[16] Originally required when typing the external language expression. See Elaboration section.

[17] Hole contexts corresponding to *modal contexts*, hole names with *metavariables*, and holes with *metavariable closures* (on environments σ).

[18] With respect to the original typing context captured by the hole.

which is consistent to the external type. Hence, there is no need for an algorithmic definition of the internal language typing.

Full rules in Fig. A.6. Formally speaking these define categorical judgements [50]. Additionally, ground types and a matching function are defined in Figs. A.8 & A.11, and typing of hole environments/substitution in Fig. A.7

Elaboration

Cast insertion requires an elaboration to the *internal language*, so must output an additional context for holes Δ. The judgements are notated:

$$\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d \dashv \Delta$$

external expression e which synthesises type τ under type context Γ is elaborated to internal expression d producing hole context Δ.

$$\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d : \tau' \dashv \Delta$$

external expression e which type checks against type τ under type context Γ is elaborated to internal expression d of consistent type τ' producing hole context Δ.

The elaboration judgements for holes must add the hole to the output hole context. And they will elaborate to holes with the default empty environment $\sigma =$ $mathrmid(\Gamma)$, i.e. no substitutions.

$$\text{ESEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Rightarrow ? \rightsquigarrow (\!|\,|\!)^u_{\mathrm{id}(\Gamma)} \dashv u :: (\!|\,|\!)[\Gamma]}$$

$$\text{EAEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow (\!|\,|\!)^u_{\mathrm{id}(\Gamma)} : \tau \dashv u :: \tau[\Gamma]}$$

When elaborating a *type checked* hole, this checked type is used. Typing them instead as ? would imply type information being lost.[19]

The remaining elaboration rules are stated in Fig. A.5.

[19] Potentially leading to incorrect cast insertion.

Final Forms

The primary addition of Hazel is the addition of a new kind of *final forms* and *values*. This is what allows evaluation to proceed around holes and errors. There are three types of final forms:

- *Values* – Constants and functions.
- *Boxed Values* – Values wrapped in *injection* casts, or *function*[20] casts.
- *Indeterminate Final Forms* – Terms containing holes that cannot be directly evaluated, e.g. holes or function applications where the function is indeterminate, e.g. $(\!|\,|\!)^u(1)$.

Importantly, *any* final form can be treated as a value (in a *call-by-value* context). For example, they can be passed inside a (determinate) function: $(\lambda x.x)((\!|\,|\!)^u)$ can evaluate to $(\!|\,|\!)^u$.

Full rules are present in Fig. A.9.

Dynamics

A small-step contextual dynamics [23, ch. 5] is defined on the internal expressions to define a *call-by-value*[21] **ENSURE THIS** evaluation order.

Like the *refined criteria* [26], Hazel presents a rather different cast semantics designed around *ground types*, that is *base types*[22] and least specific[23] compound types associated via a ground matching relation mapping compound types to their corresponding ground type, e.g. $\texttt{int} \to \texttt{int} \blacktriangleright_{\text{ground}} \texttt{?} \to \texttt{?}$.

[20] Between function types

[21] Values in this sense are *final forms*.

[22] Like `int` or `bool`.

[23] In the sense that `?` is more general than any concrete type.

This formalisation more closely represents common dynamically typed language implementations which only use generic type tags like *fun*, corresponding to the ground type $? \to ?$. However, the idea of type consistency checking when *injections* meet *projections* remains the same.[24]

The cast calculus is more complex as discussed previously, due to being based around *ground types*. However, the fundamental logic is similar to the dynamic type system described previously in section 2.1.1.

Evaluation proceeds by *capture avoiding variable substitution* $[d'/x]d$ (substitute d' for x in d). Additionally, substitutions are recorded in each hole's environment σ by substituting all occurences of x for d in each σ **Add figure for this**.

The instruction transitions are in Fig. A.10 and the contextual dynamics defining a small-step semantics in A.12. **SWAP DYNAMICS BACK TO DETERMINISTIC**

A contextual dynamics is defined via an Evaluation context... *(TODO, explain evaluation contexts as will be relevant to the Stepper EV_MODE explanation)*

Hole Substitutions

Holes are indexed by *metavariables* u, and can hence also be substituted. Hole substitution is a *meta* action $[\![d/u]\!]d'$ meaning substituting each hole named u for expression d in some term d' with the holes environment. Importantly, the substitutions d can contain variables, whose values are found by checking the holes *environment*, effectively making a *delayed substitution*. See the following rule:

$$[\![d/u]\!](\!|)^u_\sigma = [[\![d/u]\!]\sigma]d$$

[24] With projections/injections now being to/fro *ground types*.

When substituting a matching hole u, we replace it with d and *apply substitutions from the environment σ of u* to d.[25] This corresponds to *contextual substitution* in CMTT. The remaining rules can be found in A.13

This can be thought of as a *fill-and-resume* functionality, allowing incomplete program parts to be filled *during evaluation* rather than only before evaluation.

As Hazel is a *pure language*[26] and as holes act as closures, then performing hole substitution is *commutative* with respect to evaluation. That is, filling incomplete parts of a program *before* evaluation gives the same result as filling *after* evaluation then resuming evaluation. Formalised in **ref theorems**.

2.1.3 The Hazel Implementation

The Hazel implementation [3] is written primarily in ReasonML and OCaml with approx. 65,000 lines of code. It implements the Hazel core calculus along with many additional features. Relevant features and important abstractions are discussed here.

Discuss why the main branch was chosen over THI, hole substitution one etc. (main point being better documentation, sum types, though still very lacking

Language Features

- **Lists** –
- **Tuples** –
- **Labelled Sums** –
- **Type Aliases** –

[25] After first substituting any occurrences of u in the environment σ

[26] Having no side effects.

- **Pattern Matching** –
- **Explicit Polymorphism** – System F style
- **Recursive Types** –

Monadic Evaluator

This is extremely hard to explain concisely!! or at all... Ask on Slack?

Move most of this to implementation, give vague description/motivation and emphasise it's complexity

The transition semantics are defined on an intricate *monadic* **is this is actually a monad...?** evaluator which is discussed in depth in the Implementation section **REF**. It is equipped with custom `let.` and `and.` binding operators[27] [9], and a `otherwise` and `req_final` function. Allowing transition rules to be simply written (simplified):

```
...
| Seq(d1, d2) =>
        let. _ = otherwise(d1 => Seq(d1, d2))
        and. d1' =
          req_final(req(state, env), d1 => Seq1(d1, d2), d1);
        Step({expr: d2, state});
...
| Int(i) =>
      let. _ = otherwise(env, Int(i));
      Value;
...
 | EmptyHole =>
      let. _ = otherwise(env, EmptyHole);
      Indet;
...
```

Representing rules by a `let. _ = otherwise(env, r)` determining how to rewrap an expression if it is unevaluable. A

[27] Which allow a convenient for writing code with binding functions.

term may be unevaluable if it requires some subterms to be *final*, but that this is not the case.

The `req_final(req(state, env), _, d)` function will pass a reference the recursive evaluation abstraction `req`, which the abstraction may choose to recursively evaluate, and bind a resulting value for use in calculating the next step.

Explain the middle EvalCtx arg to `req_final`...

Each transition returns either a possible step `Step({expr})`, or states that the term is indeterminate `Indet`, or a value `Value`.[28]

The results that these 'evaluate' to are abstract, they do not necessarily have to be terms, as demonstrated by the following implementations:

- **Final Form Checker** – Returns whether a term is one of each of the final form. Using the evaluator abstraction with this means there is no need to maintain a separate syntactic value checker, instead it is derived directly from the evaluation transitions. Yet, it is still syntactic since the abstraction does not actually perform evaluation steps and continue evaluation, instead it just makes the step accessible[29] to the implementation.

- **Evaluator** – Maintains a stack machine and actually performs the reduction steps.

- **Stepper** – Returns a list of possible evaluation steps in terms of *evaluation contexts* under a non-deterministic evaluation method **Explain how `EvalCtx.t => EvalCtx.t` in `req_final` allows this**. The evaluation order can then be user-controlled.

[28] Or a constructor, discussed more in the Implementation section.

[29] And the final form checker will just classify such an expression immediately as non-final.

Each evaluation method module is transformed into an evaluator module by being passed into an OCaml *functor*. The resulting module produces a `transition` method that takes terms to evaluation results in an environment[30].

UI Architecture

Model View Update model.

2.1.4 Non-Determinism

The search procedure [24] is effectively a *dynamic type-directed* test generator, attempting to find dynamic type errors. In Hazel, dynamic type errors will manifest themselves as *cast errors*.

Type-directed generation of inputs and searching for one which manifests an error is a *non-deterministic* algorithm [68].

High Level

Non-determinism can be declaratively represented by two ideas:

- *Choice (`|||`):* Determines the search space, flipping a coin will return heads *or* tails.
- *Failure (`fail`):* The *empty* result, no solutions to the algorithm.

Suppose the result of the algorithm has type τ. These can be represented by operations:

$$||| : \tau \to \tau \to \tau$$

$$\texttt{fail} : \tau$$

[30] Mapping variable bindings.

Where `|||` should be *associative* and `fail` should be a *zero element*, forming a *monoid*:

$$x \texttt{|||} (y \texttt{|||} z) = (x \texttt{|||} y) \texttt{|||} z \qquad \texttt{fail|||}x = x = x \texttt{|||fail}$$

That is, the order of making binary choices does not matter, and there is no reason to choose failure.

There are many proposed ways to manage programs with choice:

Logic Programming: Languages like Prolog **(cite)** and Curry **(cite)** express non-determinism by directly implementing *choice* with non-deterministic evaluation. Prolog searches via backtracking, while Curry abstracts the search procedure.

There are ways to embed this within OCaml. Inspired by Curry, Kiselyov [16] created a tagless final style [32] domain specific language within OCaml. This fully abstracts the search procedure from the non-deterministic algorithm definition.

Continuations:

Effect Handlers: Effect handlers allow the description of effects and factors out the handling of those effects. Non-determinism can be represented by an effect consisting of the choice and fail operators [5, 28], while handlers can flexibly define the search procedure and accounting logic, e.g. storing solutions in a list.

In order to enumerate try multiple solutions, *multiple continuations* must be used. JSOO[31] does not (at time of writing) allow these.

[31] Javascript of OCaml. A dependency of Hazel.

Monadic: The non-determinism effect can be expressed as a monad. A monad is a parametric type $m(\alpha)$ equipped with two operations, `return` and `bind`, where `bind` is associative and `return` acts as an identity with respect to `bind`: A monad

A monad m, is a parameterised type with operations:

$$\texttt{bind} : \forall \alpha, \beta.\ m(\alpha) \to (a \to m(\beta)) \to m(beta)$$

$$\texttt{return} : \forall \alpha.\ a \to m(\alpha)$$

Satisfying the monad laws:

$$\texttt{bind}(\texttt{return}(x))(f) = f(x)$$

$$\texttt{bind}(m)(\texttt{return}) = m$$

$$\texttt{bind}(\texttt{bind}(m)(f))(g) = \texttt{bind}(m)(\texttt{fun}x \to \texttt{bind}(f(x))(g))$$

Figure 2.2: Monad Definition

can then be extended to represent nondeterminism by adding a `choice` and `fail` operator satisfying the usual laws:

$$\texttt{choice} : \forall \alpha.\ m(\alpha) \to m(\alpha) \to m(\alpha)$$

$$\texttt{fail} : \forall \alpha.\ m(\alpha)$$

Where `bind` distributes over `choice`, and `fail` is a left-identity for `bind`.

$$\texttt{bind}(m_1 \texttt{|||} m_2)(f) = \texttt{bind}(m_1)(f) \texttt{|||} \texttt{bind}(m_2)(f)$$

$$\texttt{bind}(\texttt{fail})(f) = \texttt{fail}$$

In this context, bind takes a non-deterministic choice and a function which maps each *guess* in the state space to another choice, returning this choice of all the possible resulting choices

after applying the function to the possible input choices. See how distributivity represents this interpretation. `fail` being the left identity of `bind` states that you cannot make any guesses from the no choice (`fail`). If a potential guess does not solve the problem, then just return `fail` (hence the name). For example:

Figure 2.3: Non-determinism Monad Example

While the `bind` and `return` operators are *not* required to represent non-determinism, they are a *familiar*[32] way to represent a large class of effects in general way.

Low Level

Which may abstract over different search/backtracking procedures. Writing these directly can be complex, unintuitive, and require much code, but is very flexible. **(cite evidence/reasoning)**:

Depth First Search: Generate options where choice is possible, and backtrack once each option has been fully tested.

Breadth First Search:

Iterative Deepening:

2.2 Starting Point

Concepts

The foundations of most concepts in understanding Hazel from Part IB Semantics of Programming (and Part II Types later).

[32]For OCaml developers and functional programmers.

The concept of gradual typing briefly appeared in Part IB Concepts of Programming Languages, but was not formalised. Dynamic typing, gradual typing, holes, and contextual modal type theory were not covered in Part IB, so were partially researched leading up to the project, then researched further in greater depth during the early stages. Similarly, Part IB Artificial Integlligence provided some context for search procedures. Primarily, the OCaml search procedure for ill-typed witnesses Seidel et al. [24] and the Hazel core language [18] were researched over the preceding summer.

Tools and Source Code

My only experience in OCaml was from the Part IA Foundations of Computer Science course. The Hazel source code had not been inspected in any detail until after starting the project.

2.3 Requirement Analysis

2.4 Software Engineering Methodology

Do the theory first.

Git. Merging from dev frequently (many of which were very difficult, as my code touches all of type checking and much of dynamics; and some massive changes, i.e. UI update).

Talking with devs over slack.

Using existing unit tests & tests in web documentation to ensure typing is not broken.

2.5 Legality

MIT licence for Hazel.

Chapter 3

Implementation

This project was conducted in two major phases:

First, I constructed a core mathematical theory for *type slicing* and *cast slicing* formalising what these ideas actually were and considered the changes to the system presented by Seidel et al. for the *type error witnesses search procedure* to work in Hazel.

Then, I implemented the theories, making it suitable for implementation and extending it to the majority of the Hazel language. Further, suitable deviations from the theory were made upon critical evaluation and are detailed throughout.

Annotate the above with the relevant section links!

3.1 Type Slicing Theory

Might be worth deferring even more mathematical definitions to the appendices in favour shorter worded definitions in this section

Replace all occurrences of 'typing context' with 'typing assumptions' to avoid name clash with expression/program contexts.

I develop a novel method I term *type slicing* as a mechanism to aid programmers in understanding *why* a term has a given type via static means. Three slicing mechanism have been devised with differing characteristics, all of which associate terms with their typing derivation to produce a *typing slices*.

The first two criteria attempt to give insight on the structure of the typing derivations, and hence how types are decided. While the third criterion gives a complete picture of the regions of code which contribute to the a term's type.

I would like to stress that the second and third criterion were *very challenging* to formalise, requiring extensive mathematical machinery: *context slices* (section 3.1.2), *type flows* (**ref appendix**), *checking context* (definition 3), *type-indexed slices* (section 3.1.3).

Clarify on and ensure terminology is consistent (typing vs checking/analysis vs synthesis)

Make some brief arguments into why the first two criteria are still useful.

PLACE ALL IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS INSIDE DEFINITION ENVIRONMENTS

3.1.1 Expression Typing slices

A *expression typing slice* ρ, is a pair ς^{γ}, consisting of an *expression slice* ς and *typing context slice* γ which are calculated based on some typing *criterion*[1] based on the typability of the slice ς under context γ.

Intuitively, an expression slice is a Hazel external expression highlighting the sub-terms of relevance to the *typing criterion*. For example if my criterion is to *omit terms which are typed as* `Int`, then the following expressions highlights as:

[1] One of the three slicing mechanisms.

$$(\lambda x : \texttt{Int}.\ \lambda y : \texttt{Bool}.\ x\ )(\ 1\ )$$

Formally, I represent this by specifying which sub-terms are omitted in the highlighted expression. So, Replace each omitted sub-term with a *gap*, notated $\square$. This is the same definition of a slice as presented in [33].[2] i.e. representing the above highlighting we get slice:

$$(\lambda x : \texttt{Int}.\ \lambda y : \texttt{Bool}.\ \square)(\square)$$

Additionally, it is useful to omit variable names. For this I introduce *patterns* p for variable bindings:

$$p ::= \square \mid x$$

This gives the following extended syntax of expression slices, ς, extending fig. 2.1:

$$\varsigma ::= \square \mid c \mid x \mid \lambda p : \upsilon.\ \varsigma \mid \lambda x.\ \varsigma \mid \varsigma(\varsigma) \mid (\!|\,|\!)^u \mid (\!|\varsigma|\!)^u \mid \varsigma : \upsilon$$

Where υ are types, similarly with potential omitted sub-term gaps:

$$\upsilon ::= \square \mid ? \mid b \mid \upsilon \to \upsilon$$

These slices are then allowed to be *typed* by representing gaps $\square$ by holes of fresh metavariables $(\!|\,|\!)^u$ in *expressions*, fresh variables in *patterns*, and the dynamic type in *types*, see **(fig APPENDIX)**. From here-on consider $\square$ as interchangeable with a hole $(\!|\,|\!)^u$ of fresh metavariable u or the dynamic type.

We then have a *precision* relation on expression slices, $\varsigma_1 \sqsubseteq \varsigma_2$ meaning ς_1 is less or equally precise than ς_2, that is ς_1 matches ς_2 structurally except that some subterms may be gaps, see **ref appendix**. For example, see this precision chain:

$$\square \sqsubseteq \square + \square \sqsubseteq 1 + \square \sqsubseteq 1 + 2$$

[2] With their 'holes' equating with my 'gaps'. Different terminology used to distinguish with Hazel's holes

We have that $\sqsubseteq$ is a partial order (**cite**), that is, satisfies relexivity, antisymmetry, and transitivity. Respectively:

$$\frac{}{\varsigma \sqsubseteq \varsigma} \qquad \frac{\varsigma_1 \sqsubseteq \varsigma_2 \quad \varsigma_2 \sqsubseteq \varsigma_1}{\varsigma_1 = \varsigma_2} \qquad \frac{\varsigma_1 \sqsubseteq \varsigma_2 \quad \varsigma_2 \sqsubseteq \varsigma_3}{\varsigma_1 \sqsubseteq \varsigma_3}$$

We also have a *bottom* (least) element, $\square \sqsubseteq \varsigma$ (for all ς). This relation is trivially extended to include complete expressions e which satisfy that: if $e \sqsubseteq \varsigma$ then $e = \varsigma$, i.e. complete terms are always upper bounds of precision chains.

An expression slice ς *of* e is a slice such that $e \sqsubseteq e$.

Typing context slices are simply a typing context Γ, which is used to represent the notion of *relevant typing assumption*. Typing contexts are just functions mapping variables to types notated $x : \tau$ (see section 2.1.1). Functions are sets, so they also have a partial order of subset inclusion, $\subseteq$. Again, we have a bottom element, $\emptyset$. These are notated γ and if $\gamma \subseteq \Gamma$ then γ is a slice *of* Γ.

The precision relation and subset inclusion can be extended pointwise to give a partial order, $\sqsubseteq$, on expression typing slices:

$$[\varsigma_1 \mid \gamma_1] \sqsubseteq [\varsigma_2 \mid \gamma_2] \iff \varsigma_1 \sqsubseteq \varsigma_2 \text{ and } \gamma_1 \subseteq \gamma_2$$

expression typing slices will often be grouped and indexed upon expressions and typing contexts, P_e^Γ which contains all slices $\rho \sqsubseteq (e, \Gamma)$. So, the set P_e^Γ forms a lattice (**cite**) with unique least upper bound $[e, \Gamma]$ and greatest lower bound $[\square, \emptyset]$. Similarly, an element ρ in P_e^Γ can referred to as a expression typing slice *of* e under Γ.

3.1.2 Context Typing Slices

add pattern context.

Formally, an *expression context* $\mathcal{C}$ is an expressions with *exactly one* sub-term marked as $\bigcirc$:[3]

$$\mathcal{C} ::= \bigcirc \mid \lambda x : \tau.\ \mathcal{C} \mid \lambda x.\ \mathcal{C} \mid \mathcal{C}(e) \mid e(\mathcal{C}) \mid \mathcal{C} : \tau$$

Where $\mathcal{C}\{e\}$ substitutes expression e for the mark $\bigcirc$ in $\mathcal{C}$, the result of this is necessarily an expression. Additionally, contexts are composable: substituting a context into a context, $\mathcal{C}_1\{\mathcal{C}_2\}$ produces another valid context, notate this by $\mathcal{C}_1 \circ \mathcal{C}_2$[4].

Similarly to expressions, contexts can be extended to *context slices* by allowing slices within:

$$c ::= \bigcirc \mid \lambda p : \upsilon.c \mid c(\varsigma) \mid \varsigma(c) \mid c : \upsilon$$

However, the precision relation $\sqsubseteq$ is defined differently, requiring that the mark $\bigcirc$ must remain in the same position in the context structurally speaking. For example $\bigcirc(\square) \sqsubseteq \bigcirc(1)$, but $\bigcirc \not\sqsubseteq \bigcirc(1)$. This can be concisely defined by *extensionality* (**cite**):

Definition 1 (Context Precision) *If c' and c are context slices, then $c' \sqsubseteq c$ if and only if, for all expressions e, that $c'\{e\} \sqsubseteq c\{e\}$.*

Again, we refer to a context slice c of $\mathcal{C}$ as one satisfying that $c' \sqsubseteq \mathcal{C}$.

We also get that filling contexts preserves the precision relations both on expression slices *and* context slices:

Conjecture 1 (Context Filling Preserves Precision) *For expression slice ς and context slice c. Then if we have slices $\varsigma' \sqsubseteq \varsigma$, $c' \sqsubseteq c$ then also $c'\{\varsigma'\} \sqsubseteq c\{\varsigma\}$.*

[3]The two separate syntax definition for application allow a *mark* to be in either the left or right expression, but *not both*.

[4]Context can alternatively be though of as functions from expressions to expressions.

Therefore, context slices c can be though of as monotone function (**cite**)...

Show that composition is also preserved over precision, i.e. it is a functor.

Make some references to category theory, i.e. category of slices with morphisms being context slices. Or that slices form categories on expression e and contexts are a functor between expression typing slice categories. i.e. contexts are monotonic functions

rewrite The accompanying notion of a *typing assumption slice* can be extended to *functions on typing assumptions*. This function can represent what typing assumptions need to be **added**, or can be *removed* when placing e in it's context slice.

Functions can be composed and a precision partial order can also be defined via extensionality:

Definition 2 (Function Precision) *If f' and f are functions, then $f' \sqsubseteq f$ if and only if, for all typing contexts Γ, that $f'(\Gamma) \subseteq f(\Gamma)$.*

Again, such functions are monotone **(find the name of this mathematical property... sorta an extended monotonicity)**:

Conjecture 2 (Function Application Preserves Precision) *For typing context Γ and function f. Then if we have slices $\Gamma' \subseteq \Gamma$, $f' \sqsubseteq f$ then also $f'(\Gamma') \sqsubseteq f(\Gamma)$.*

This pair of context slice and function f will be referred to as a *context slice* and notated ρ^f, should f be the identity it may be omitted in shorthand.

Extend composition to program contexts and substitution of expression typing slices. Again as slices are a superset of expressions, then this extends to expression etc.

When

3.1.3 Type-Indexed Slices

Do type-indexed expressions slices actually need contexts on the sub-slices? Are these every not claculable from the rule they are being used in

Have context i.e. contexts with a _ and let the syntax write it directly as a *type-indexed context slice*, i.e. a type-indexed slice, but with the slice ρs replaced with ρs. Then allow easy syntax to create from a type indexed slice i.e.

$$(p\{? \mid \rho\})(\bigcirc) = p\{? \mid \rho(\bigcirc)\}$$

Reverse composition order for this?? Also, syntax for going from indexed context to indexed expression i.e. {}

For *criteria 3 and cast slicing*, there is a need to decompose slices to find sub-slices which contribute to specific portions of a compound type. For example, which part of the expression typing slice was related to the argument type of a function specifically.

Give EXAMPLE

A *type(-indexed) slice* s consists of: a expression typing slice, a context slice, and a *type index* i. This index is either an *atomic* type label or is *compound*, consisting of type slices conforming to the structure of types:

$$i ::= ? \mid b \mid s \to s$$

$$s ::= p\{i \mid \rho\}$$

The type that a type slice s *represents* is the slice retaining only it's type labels. This will be notated by $[\![s]\!]$, defined inductively:

$$[\![p\{? \mid \rho\}]\!] = ? \quad [\![p\{b \mid \rho\}]\!] = b$$

$$[\![p\{s_1 \to s_2 \mid \rho\}]\!] = [\![s_1]\!] \to [\![s_2]\!]$$

This same notation will also be used to extract the type of a type index i, similarly defined.

A term e in some context $\mathcal{C}$ will be associated with a *type slice* with the meaning that ρ contains a expression typing slice for typing e and $\mathcal{p}$ contains a context slice for typing e in context $\mathcal{C}$ according to some criterion. Typically the context slice would correspond to type analysis and the expression typing slice would correspond to type synthesis.

The compound type slices must satisfy the crucial property that the sub-terms are sub-*slices* of ρ. That is:

$$\mathcal{p}\{\mathcal{p}_1\{i_1 \mid \rho_1\} \to \mathcal{p}_2\{i_2 \mid \rho_2\} \mid \rho\} \implies \mathcal{p}_1\{\rho_1\} \sqsubseteq \rho \text{ and } \mathcal{p}_2\{\rho_2\} \sqsubseteq \rho$$

The precision relation can be extended to slices pointwise upon the expression typing slice and context slice for atomic types a (i.e. $a ::= ? \mid b$):

$$\mathcal{p}'\{a \mid \rho'\} \sqsubseteq \mathcal{p}\{a \mid \rho\} \iff \mathcal{p}' \sqsubseteq \mathcal{p} \text{ and } \rho' \sqsubseteq \rho$$

And recursively for compound slices:[5]

$$\mathcal{p}'\{s'_1 \to s'_2 \mid \rho'\} \sqsubseteq \mathcal{p}\{s_1 \to s_2 \mid \rho\} \iff \mathcal{p}' \sqsubseteq \mathcal{p},\ \rho' \sqsubseteq \rho,\ s'_1 \sqsubseteq s_1,\ \text{and } s'_2 \sqsubseteq s_2$$

Composition of expression typing slices to the outer context is possible, $(\mathcal{p}' \circ \mathcal{p})\{i \mid \rho\}$, and is notated shorthand as $\mathcal{p}'\{s\}$ for $s = \mathcal{p}\{i \mid \rho\}$.

Additionally, if $\mathcal{p}$ is empty, $\bigcirc^{\emptyset}$, a type slice may be notated without it: $i \mid \rho$. Equally, when ρ is empty, $\square^{\emptyset}$, then notate $\mathcal{p}'\{i\}$. This means that if both $\mathcal{p}, \rho$ are both empty then we have i which is syntactically identical to types τ, so we can trivially treat types as *empty type slices*.

Then function matching $\blacktriangleright_{\to}$ can be extended to slices in multiple different ways with different uses depending on the context, see the appendix **ref**.

[5]Note, function arguments are *covariant* for this.

3.1.4 Criterion 1: Synthesis Slices

For *synthesis type slices* we consider an expression synthesising a type τ under some context Γ:

$$\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$$

And consider the slices in P_e^Γ and attempt to find the minimum slice $\rho = [\varsigma \mid \gamma]$ constraining that ρ also synthesises the same type τ under the restricted context γ:

$$\gamma \vdash \varsigma \Rightarrow \tau$$

Where minimality requires that no other (strictly) less precise slice satisfies the criterion. That is: for any slice $\rho' = [\varsigma' \mid \gamma']$, if $\gamma' \vdash \varsigma' \Rightarrow \tau$ and $\rho' \sqsubseteq \rho$, then $\rho' = \rho$.

GIVE CONCRETE EXAMPLE HERE, use highlighting

I conjecture that, under the Hazel type system, there exists a unique minimum slice for each $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$:[6]

Conjecture 3 (Uniqueness) *If ρ and ρ' are minimum synthesis slices for $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$, then $\rho = \rho'$.*

These slices can be found by omitting portions of the program which are *type checked*. If, $\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau$, then by use of the subsumption rule we also have that $\Gamma \vdash \square \Leftarrow \tau$:

$$\text{Subsumption}\frac{\Gamma \vdash \square \Rightarrow ? \qquad \tau \sim ?}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}$$

As the dynamic type is consistent with any type: $? \sim \tau$.

Then, to find the *minimum synthesis slice*, we can mimic the Hazel type synthesis rules (see fig. A.2), replacing uses of type analysis with gaps. Creating a judgement $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \dashv \rho$

[6] Would follow from uniqueness of typing derivations in Hazel.

meaning: *e that synthesises type τ under context Γ produces minimum synthesis slice ρ.*

To demonstrate, the expression slice of a variable x can only be either x, requiring the use of $x : \tau$ from the context:

$$\text{SVar}\frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma \qquad \tau \neq ?}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau \dashv [x \mid x : \tau]}$$

But if $x : ?$, then the (empty) slice $[\Box, \emptyset]$ also synthesises $?$, so instead use this.

For functions, we can recursively find the slice of the function body (which synthesises it's type in the original rules, hence having a minimum synthesis slice) and place inside a function. If the assumption $x : \tau_1$ was *required* in synthesising that type, then this name must be present in the expression slice and the context slice no longer requires this assumption to type check the sliced function:

$$\text{SFun}\frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau_2 \dashv [\varsigma \mid \gamma, x : \tau_1]}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \dashv [\lambda x : \tau_1.\ \varsigma \mid \gamma]}$$

Otherwise, if γ does not use variable x then this binding may be omitted:

$$\text{SFunConst}\frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau_2 \dashv [\varsigma \mid \gamma] \qquad x \notin \text{dom}(\gamma)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \dashv [\lambda \Box : \tau_1.\ \varsigma \mid \gamma]}$$

For function applications we can simply omit the argument, while the slice for the function can be obtained as it synthesises it's type.

$$\text{SApp}\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \dashv [\varsigma_1 \mid \gamma_1]}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Rightarrow \tau \dashv [\varsigma_1(\Box) \mid \gamma_1]}$$

The remaining rules are in fig. B.1.

It is *expected* **(Proof TODO)** that these rules do indeed always produce a slice for any expression which synthesises a type, and that this slice is minimal:

Conjecture 4 (Correctness) *If* $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$ *then:*

- $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \dashv \rho$ *where* $\rho = [\varsigma \mid \gamma]$ *with* $\gamma \vdash \varsigma \Rightarrow \tau$.
- *For any* $\rho' = [\varsigma' \mid \gamma'] \sqsubseteq [e \mid \Gamma]$ *such that* $\gamma' \vdash \varsigma' \Rightarrow \tau$ *then* $\rho \sqsubseteq \rho'$.

Extension to Type-Indexed Slices

This mechanism can be trivially extended to type-indexed slices, where types being synthesised can be replaced by slices directly, i.e. *slice synthesis*. See the appendix **ref AND FIX**.

The only interesting case is the fact that slices for argument types to functions can now be accessed, so must be represented:

3.1.5 Criterion 2: Analysis Slices

A similar idea can be devised for analysis slices. Essentially, we do the opposite of *criterion 1* and omit sub-terms where *synthesis* was used. The objective is to show *why* a term is required to be checking against a type.

The useful notion to represent these are *context slices*. It is the terms immediately *around* the sub-term where the type checking is enforced:

For example, when checking this annotated term:

$$(\lambda x.(\!|\,|\!)^u) : \texttt{Bool} \to \texttt{Int}$$

The *inner hole term* $(\!|\,|\!)^u$ (underlined from now on) is required to be consistent with `Int` due to the annotation. The context slice will then be:

$$(\lambda\, x\, .\, \underline{(\!|\,|\!)^u}\,) : \texttt{Bool} \to \texttt{Int}$$

Intuitively, this means that the *contextual* reason for $(\!|\,|\!)^u$ to be required to be an `Int` is: that it is within a function which the

annotation enforced to check against `Bool` → `Int`, of which only the return type (`Int`) is relevant.

In other words, if the slice was type synthesised, then the hole term would still be *required* to check against `Int`.

For this criterion we consider only the smallest context that resulted in a term being type checked, for example in the following term:

$$\underline{1} : \texttt{Int} : \texttt{?} : \texttt{Bool}$$

The context that enforced 1 to be checked against an `Int` was *only* the inner annotation. We refer to this as the *checking context*. The term when inside it's checking context will always synthesis a type.[7]

These definitions below are verbose and it might be better to just leave it intuitive for this, with definition deferred to appendix.

To represent this, we use a notion of a types *flowing* from other types inside a derivation, i.e. if a type is decomposed, then it's parts *flow* from the complete type. This can be formalised by creating a *type flow* rules **(Ref to appendix)**.[8] Under this flow, every checked type τ' in a derivation has an *origin* synthesis rule producing *first* type which τ' flows from.

Maybe give example?

Then, the *checking context* we want to consider is that of the conclusion of the rule containing the source of the type:

Definition 3 (Checking Context) *For a derivation* $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$ *containing a sub-derivation* $\Gamma'' \vdash e'' \Leftarrow \tau''$ *and where the origin of* τ'' *is another sub-derivation* $\Gamma' \vdash e' \Rightarrow \tau'$*. Then either:*

- e'' *is a sub-term of* e'*: the checking context of* e'' *is* $\mathcal{C}$ *such that* $e' = \mathcal{C}\{e''\}$.

[7] If it analysed against a type, then this would have it's own checking context. We merge these contexts.

[8] This type flow is closely related to mode correctness.

- *Otherwise,* $\Gamma'' \vdash e'' \Rightarrow \tau''$ *must be a premise in another rule whose conclusion is a synthesis* $\Gamma''' \vdash e''' \Rightarrow \tau'''$ *where* e' *is a sub-term of* e'''*. The checking context is* $\mathcal{C}$ *such that* $e''' = \mathcal{C}\{e''\}$

It is clear that this must then be the smallest context containing derivations of both the *checked expression* and it's *origin*. This checking context can be defined more intuitively using rules (**see appendix**) and proven to coincide with the definition above.

An *analysis slice* is a slice of a checked term's *checking context*:

Definition 4 (Analysis Slice) *For a derivation* $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$*, containing a sub-derivation* $\Gamma' \vdash e' \Leftarrow \tau'$ *with checking context* $\mathcal{C}$*. Then we have that* $\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{C}\{e'\} \Rightarrow \tau''$*.*

An analysis slice of e' *is a program context slice* c^f *such that:*

- c *is a slice of* $\mathcal{C}$*, that is,* $c \sqsubseteq \mathcal{C}$*.*
- f *is a slice of* $\Gamma' \mapsto \Gamma$*.* ***Formalise this better...***
- $c\{e\}$ *synthesises a type consistent*[9] *with* τ'' *under typing context* $f(\Gamma')$ *and still contains the sub-derivation checking* e' *against* τ' *in checking context* c*:*

$$f(\Gamma') \vdash c\{e'\} \Rightarrow \tau''', \quad \tau''' \sim \tau'', \quad \Gamma' \vdash e' \Leftarrow \tau'$$

The *minimum analysis slice* is just the minimum under the precision ordering $\sqsubseteq$. And it must be unique:

Conjecture 5 (Uniqueness) *If* ρ *and* ρ' *are minimum analysis slices for sub-terms* e' *of* e *where* $\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau$*, then* $\rho = \rho'$*.*

[9] e' within the sliced context might now synthesise a *less precise* type.

This can again be represented by a judgement read as, e *which type checks against* τ *in checking context* $\mathcal{C}$ *has analysis slice* $\boldsymbol{p}$:

$$\Gamma; \mathcal{C} \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \dashv \boldsymbol{p}$$

There are two situations which enforce *checking contexts*, annotations:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}{\Gamma; \bigcirc : \tau \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \dashv \bigcirc : \tau}$$

And applications, for which we need a slice of the application for the *argument* type of the function, which has previously been devised for *type-indexed synthesis slices* (**ref**):

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \dashv\!\!\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{p}\{c_1^{f_1}\{i_1 \mid \varsigma_1^{\gamma_1}\} \to s_2 \mid \rho\} \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow [\![i_1]\!]}{\Gamma; e_1(\bigcirc) \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow [\![i_1]\!] \dashv (c_1\{\varsigma_1\})(\bigcirc)^{f_1}}$$

That is, if e_1 synthesises some type $\tau_1 \to \tau_2$ (i.e. $[\![i_1]\!] \to [\![s_2]\!]$), then the slice for τ_1 in the context as a slice e_1 is $c_1\{\varsigma_1\}$.

Finally, type analysis rules pass the context down (i.e. subterms have the same checking context) and also records that the context now needs to remove the $x : \tau_1$ assumption:

$$\frac{\Gamma; \mathcal{C} \vdash \lambda x.\ e \Leftarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \dashv \boldsymbol{p}}{\Gamma, x : \tau_1; \mathcal{C} \circ (\lambda x.\ \bigcirc) \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau_2 \dashv \mathrm{ret}(\boldsymbol{p}) \circ (\lambda x.\ \bigcirc)^{(-)\setminus x:\tau_1}}$$

Todo, case for if x is not needed...

Where $\mathrm{ret}(\boldsymbol{p})$ takes the part of the slice that was required in synthesising τ_2, defined in **appendix**. This direct definition is quite complex; checking against *type-indexed slices* representing the synthesis of $\tau_1 \to \tau_2$ is *much easier*.

This definition does indeed find the minimum analysis slice:

Conjecture 6 (Correctness) *If* $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$ *with sub-derivation* $\Gamma \vdash e' \Leftarrow \tau'$ *in checking context* $\mathcal{C}$ *then we also have that* $\Gamma; \mathcal{C} \vdash e' \Leftarrow \tau' \dashv \boldsymbol{p}$ *and:*

- p *is an analysis slice for* e'.
- *For any* $p' = [c' \mid \gamma'] \sqsubseteq [\mathcal{C} \mid \Gamma]$ *such that* p' *is an analysis slice of* e' *then* $p \sqsubseteq p'$.

Extension to Type-Indexed Slices

As mentioned previously, using *type-indexed synthesis slices* calculated via *criterion 1* as input makes analysis slices much easier to calculate.

Additionally, the rules in this form end up being more closely tied to the Hazel typing rules and hence easier to formalise.

See appendix

3.1.6 Criterion 3: Contribution Slices

This criterion aims to highlight all regions of code which *contribute* to the given type (either synthesised or analysed). Where *contribute* means that if the sub-term changed it's type, then the overall term would[10] also, or would become ill-typed. Importantly, we also consider *contexts* for expression which are analysed, again considering any component terms which having their type changed would result in an error when trying to analyse against the type. For example in the following term:

$$(\lambda f : \texttt{Int} \to \texttt{?}.\ f(1))(\lambda x : \texttt{Int}.\ x)$$

The terms which *contribute* to the *second*[11] lambda term checking successfully against $\texttt{Int} \to \texttt{?}$ is everything *except* the x term, while context slice is just the annotation (and required

[10] No matter which type it was changed to specifically.

[11] Underlined below from now on.

structural constructs). Highlighting related to synthesis will be a darker shade:

$$(\lambda\, f : \texttt{Int} \to \texttt{?}.\ f(1)\ )\ \underline{(\lambda\, x : \texttt{Int}.\ x\ )}$$

Notice that, in any typing derivation the only sub-terms which *can* have their type changed without causing the rule to no longer apply are those which use type *consistency*.[12] The only such rule is *subsumption*. Further, the only time a term could be changed to *any* type and still remain valid is when it is checked for consistency with the dynamic type ?.

Therefore, this criterion just *omits all dynamically annotated regions* of the program.[13] And, the contextual part of the slices are just *analysis slices*.

Definition 5 (Contribution Slices) *For* $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$ *containing sub-derivation* $\Gamma' \vdash e' \Leftarrow \tau'$ *with checking context* $\mathcal{C}$.

A contribution slice of e' *is an analysis slice for* e' *in* $\mathcal{C}$ *paired with an expression typing slice* ς^{γ} *such that:*

- ς *is a slice of* e', *that* $\varsigma \sqsubseteq e'$.
- *Under restricted typing context* γ, *that* ς *checks against any* τ_2' *at least as precise as* τ'.[14]

$$\forall \tau_2'.\ \tau' \sqsubseteq \tau_2' \implies \gamma \vdash e' \Leftarrow \tau_2'$$

A contribution slice for a sub-term e'' *involved in sub-derivation* $\Gamma'' \vdash e'' \Rightarrow \tau''$ *where* $e'' \neq e'$ *is an expression typing slice* $\varsigma''^{\gamma''}$ *which also synthesises* τ'' *under* γ'', *that* $\gamma'' \vdash \varsigma'' \Rightarrow \tau''$. *Further, any sub-term of* e'' *which has a contribution slice of the*

[12] Note that this logic does *not* extend to globally inferred languages.

[13] But does not omit the dynamic annotations themselves.

[14] Essentially, sub-terms that check against ? also synthesise ?. Defined this way to include the case of unannotated lambdas (which do not synthesise).

above variety, is replaced inside ς by that corresponding expression typing slice.

This is most naturally calculated using *type-indexed slices* exactly replicating the Hazel typing rules:

Think more about type indexed context slices. Think how to reconstruct

Where $\text{map}(\rho, \tau)$ creates a type-indexed slice of type τ with the slice context $\bigcirc$ and expression typing slice ρ tagged on all components of τ. Annot is as defined in criterion 1 extended to type-indexed slices. $x \blacktriangleright_\gamma = p$ matches p with x if $x \in \text{dom}(\gamma)$, otherwise returns $\square$. $\blacktriangleright_\rightarrow$ is extended to slices as follows:

$$p\{s_1 \rightarrow s_2 \mid \rho\} \blacktriangleright_\rightarrow p \circ s_1 \rightarrow p \circ s_2$$

$$p\{? \mid \rho\} \blacktriangleright_\rightarrow p\{? \mid \rho\} \rightarrow p\{? \mid \rho\}$$

static replaces a (sub)slice term if it is in the position of a $?$ on the input. Reconstructing the term is just taking the join down one level **(PROVE This)**.

3.1.7 Join Types

The Hazel core calculus is very primitive, only consisting of *base types*, *annotations*, and *functions*. Extensions to gradual types [13], and Hazel [10][15]: *if* expressions, *pattern matching*, *sum types* etc. all require[16] *join types*.

A join of two types $\tau_1 \sqcup \tau_2$ (if one exists) is the least precise (most general) type that more precise than both τ_1, τ_2: that $\tau_1 \sqsubseteq \tau_1 \sqcup \tau_2$ and $\tau_1 \sqsubseteq \tau_1 \sqcup \tau_2$. Therefore, the join is therefore is consistent with both τ_1, τ_2. Type consistency can be reformulated in terms of joins: τ_1, τ_2 are consistent *if and only if* they have a join. This is the *order-theoretic* **(cite)** join with

[15] Here as the *meet* of the opposite of my *precision* order.

[16] Or are easiest formulated with.

$$\text{SConst}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash c \dashv_{\Rightarrow} b \mid c} \qquad \text{SVar}\ \frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \dashv_{\Rightarrow} \mathrm{map}(x^{\{x:\tau\}}, \tau)}$$

$$\text{SFun}\ \frac{\begin{array}{c} s_1 = (\square : \bigcirc) \circ \mathrm{annot}(\tau_1) \qquad \Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \dashv_{\Rightarrow} s_2 \\ s_2 = i_2 \mid \varsigma^{\gamma} \qquad\qquad x \blacktriangleright_{\gamma} p \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \dashv_{\Rightarrow} (\lambda \bigcirc.\ \square) \circ s_1 \to (\lambda p : \tau_1.\ \bigcirc) \circ s_2 \mid (\lambda p : \tau_1.\ \varsigma)^{\gamma \setminus x:\tau_1}}$$

TODO: fix SFun annotations for the argument slice, they need to remove unused requirements?

$$\text{SApp}\ \frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash e_1 \dashv_{\Rightarrow} s_1 \qquad s_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} s_2 \to s \\ \Gamma \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow s_2(\bigcirc) \dashv s_2' \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \dashv_{\Rightarrow} \mathrm{app}(s_2')}$$

$$\text{SEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \dashv_{\Rightarrow} ? \mid (\!|\,|\!)^u} \qquad \text{SNEHole}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \dashv_{\Rightarrow} p\{i \mid \varsigma^{\gamma}\}}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \dashv_{\Rightarrow} ? \mid (\!|\varsigma|\!)^{u^{\gamma}}}$$

$$\text{SAsc}\ \frac{c = \bigcirc : \mathrm{annot}(\tau) \qquad \Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \mathfrak{s} \dashv s}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \mathrm{app}(s)}$$

$$\text{AFun}\ \frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathfrak{s} \blacktriangleright_{\to} \mathfrak{s}_1 \to \mathfrak{s}_2 \\ \Gamma, x : [\![\mathfrak{s}_1]\!] \vdash e \Leftarrow \mathfrak{s}_2 \circ (\lambda x.\ \bigcirc) \dashv s_2 \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e \Leftarrow \mathfrak{s} \dashv \mathfrak{s}_1\{\lambda \square.\square\} \to s_2}$$

$$\text{ASubsume}\ \frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash e \dashv_{\Rightarrow} s \\ [\![s]\!] \sim [\![\mathfrak{s}]\!] \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \mathfrak{s} \dashv \bigsqcup \mathrm{static}([\![\mathfrak{s}]\!], s)}$$

Figure 3.1: Contribution Slices

respect to the precision partial order on types. For example, the type of an *if statement* would be the join of the types of it's branches.

These add an additional way to generate a *new type* other

than by synthesis or from annotations.

Hence, type flow needs to be extended to allow these. Equally, slices themselves can be joined if they have common contexts (though there is a decision whether to include both branches of a join).

3.1.8 Type-Indexed Slicing Context

It seems natural to extend the typing context to a type-indexed slicing context. Then, when accessing typing assumptions via variable references, the source information about the derivation for this type is revealed. But, the problem is, there is no context propagated, these slices are slices of the orignal term; propagating all this would be a big pain.

3.2 Cast Slicing Theory

Fairly trivial, just treat slices as types and decompose accordingly. The whole reason of indexing by type was to allow this.

The idea of it being a minimal expression typing slice producing the same cast doesn't really work here due to dynamics. Explore the maths of this. Either way, it is a useful construct in practice. Exploring this in more detail, looking at *dynamic program slicing* could be a good future direction.

Mention and compare with blame tracking

3.2.1 Indexing Slices by Types

3.2.2 Elaboration

All casts inserted come from type checking, so can be sliced

3.2.3 Dynamics

Ground type casts will be added, but their addition is purely technical and we can treat their reasoning to just be extracting the relevant portion of the original non-ground type.

3.2.4 Cast Dependence

This in combination with the indexed slices could have some nice mathematical properties.

Though, these would need to retrieve information about parts of slices that were lost when decomposing slices. i.e. when a slice $\tau_1 \to \tau_2$ extracts the argument type τ_2, the slicing criterions lose track of the original lambda binding. A way to reinsert these bindings such that we get a minimal term which *Evaluates to the same cast* e.g. But this will have lots of technicalities with correctly tracking the restricted contexts γ' for closures (i.e. functions returning functions which have been applied once). **TALK ABOUT THIS IN THE FURTHER DIRECTIONS SECTION.**

3.3 Type Slicing Implementation

Here I detail how the theories above were adapted to produce an implementation for Hazel.

3.3.1 Hazel Terms

Hazel represents its abstract syntax tree (AST) **(cite)** in a standard way by creating a mutually recursive algebraic datatype (**cite**).

Terms are classified into similar groups as described in the calculus (see section 2.1.2), though combining external and internal expressions, and adding *patterns*:

- **Expressions**: The primary encompassing term including: constructors[17], holes, operators, variables, let bindings, functions & closures, type functions, type aliases, pattern match expressions, casts, explicit fix[18] expression.

- **Types**: Unknown type[19], base types, function types, product types, record types, sum types, type variables, universal types, recursive types.

- **Patterns**: Destructuring constructs for bindings, used in functions, match statements, and let bindings, including: Holes, variables (to bind values to), wildcard, constructors, annotations (enforcing type requirements on bound variables).

- **Closure Environments**: a closure mapping variables to their assigned values in it's syntactic context.

For example fig. 3.2 shows a let binding expression whose binding is a tuple pattern (in blue) binding two variables `x`, `y` annotated with a type (in purple).

```
let (x, y) : (Int, Bool) = (1, true) in x
```

Figure 3.2: Let binding a tuple with a type annotation.

Every term (and sub-term) is annotated with an *identifier* (ID, `Id.t`) in the AST which refers back to the syntax structure tree. In a sense, this is the equivalent of *code locations*, but Hazel is edited via a structure editor.

[17]The basic language constructs: integers, lists, labelled tuples etc. Also, user-defined constructors via sum types.
[18]Fixed point combinator for recursion.
[19]Either dynamic type, or a type hole.

3.3.2 Type Slice Data-Type

I detail here *how* and *why* I implement type slices for Hazel.

Expression slices as ASTs

Actually the below might be inaccurate, check the structure of the typing system to see if we would ever need to re traverse an AST?

Either way, there is opportunity to speak about persistence with how type slices are combined and decomposed and how they overlap. etc.

Directly storing expression slices directly as ASTs is both *space and time inefficient*. The AST type is a persistent data structures [57, ch. 2], meaning that any update to the tree will retain both the old and updated tree. All nodes on the path to the updated sub-tree must be copied; for example, fig. 3.3 shows how a node G (in blue) can be sliced off from the tree while the old tree (in black) and the new tree (in red) both persist and share some unmodified nodes structurally. Expression slices do exactly this slicing operation extensively, so would require significant copying.

Maybe talk about a destructive version (always retain the original tree but from the perspective of various cursors

There are ways to partially avoid this, for example the *Zipper* data structure represents trees by from the perspective of a *cursor* node rather than the *root*. The part of the tree above the cursor is stored as an *upside-down*. This allows the cursor to be

We can derive an analogous *one-hole context* type for the AST by *differentiating* it's type [49, 38].

Zippers only useful if we need access to the parent node which cannot just be done by passing down info.

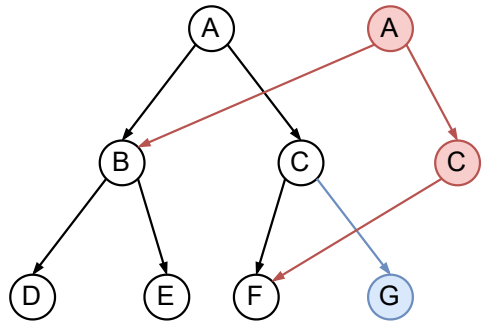

Figure 3.3: Persistent Tree

However, we still have to copy nodes when shifting the cursor; during type-checking all nodes will be visited by the cursor so we would get at least a *doubling* in space used. Additionally, converting a zipper back into a tree would take linear time[20] and still require copying the path to the cursor as before.[21]

Produce Tikz Diagram Here.

Figure 3.4: Tree Zipper

However, the biggest issue is that expressions slices have *multiple* gaps, so cannot be represented by a *one*-hole context. Further, the slices vary in their number of holes, so generalising one-hole contexts to two-hole contexts etc. is not an option as each would require it's own distinct type. There are extensions to zippers allowing multiple holes which would work, *multi-zippers* [6] for example, but has large constant overhead and

[20] In the depth of the cursor.

[21] Still advantageous as it delays the copying only for when the slice is actually *used* in a way that requires this conversion. UI for slices would still work directly on the zipper structure without copying.

would be very complicated to implement for such an extensive AST.

Unstructured Code Slices

With this in mind, given that the structure of expression slices does not actually matter for highlighting[22], I represent slices indirectly by these IDs in an *unstructured* list, referred to now as a *code slice* (`code_slice` type).

Additionally, this has the side effect of allowing more *granular* control over slices, as they now need not conform with the structure of expressions which is taken advantage of to reduce slice size, **(ref to section discussing this + evaluation)**.

Equally, the typing assumption slices are only required for formal type checking, however I maintain these is code slices to allow for different UI styling of slices originating from the use of the typing context (bold border).

Type-Indexed Slices

Cast slicing and contribution slices required *type-indexed* slices. I therefore tag type constructors with slices recursively, i.e.:

```
type typslice_typ_term =
  | Unknown
  | Arrow(slice_t, slice_t)  // Function type
  | ... // Type constructors
and typslice_term = (typslice_typ_term, code_slice)
and typslice_t = IdTagged.t(slice_term)
```

Figure 3.5: Initial Type Slice Data-Type

[22]Only matters for type checking slices, which always succeeds by design.

However, this did not model the structure of type slices particularly well. Slices are generally incrementally constructed. Synthesis slices build upon slices of sub-terms and analysis slices , demonstrated in fig. 3.6.

The original data-type works well for synthesis slices as the list data-type is persistent and sub-slices are never modified. But not for analysis slices, which require an id to be added to *all* sub-slices. Hence, analysis slices had *quadratic* space complexity in the depth of the type (**Get numbers in evaluation to show it being worse if possible**).

```
let f : Int -> Int = fun x -> x in f(0)
```

Synthesis slice for f(0) is just constructed incrementally from the slices for 0 and f.
Analysis slice for 0, f and all it's sub-slices all depend upon the annotation and binding etc.

Figure 3.6: Slicing is Incremental

Incremental Slices

Therefore, I explicitly represent slices incrementally, with two modes, for synthesis slice parts (termed *incremental slice tags*) and analysis slice parts (termed *global slice tags*).

I now tag each type constructor with incremental or global slices representing:

- Incremental Slice Tag: The slice of an expression is it's sub-slices adding it's incremental slice. But the sub-slices do not depend on the incremental slice.
- Global Slice Tag: All the sub-slices of this term depend on this slice.

So instead of tagging an id in an analysis slice to all subslices, I tag it only to the constructor as a *global slice*, and *lazily* tag it to sub-slices upon usage (during type destructuring).

We get the following type:

```
type typslice_typ_term =
  | Unknown
  | Arrow(slice_t, slice_t)  // Function type
  | ... // Type constructors
and typslice_term =
  | SliceGlobal(slice_t, code_slice)
  | SliceIncr(slice_t, code_slice)
and typslice_t = IdTagged.t(typslice_term)
```

Figure 3.7: Incremental Slice Data-Type

A key change when using this model is that when deconstructing types via function matching, list matching, etc. used throughout type checking and unboxing, the global slice must be pushed inside the resulting deconstructed types. This ensures that no part of the analysis slice context is lost **(compare to function matching in the type-indexed slice theory)**.

Usability & Efficiency

The type was further changed and many utility functions were added to enforce invariants and to ease development.

Empty Slices Many type constructors have no associated incremental slice part (**example**), especially during evaluation. Equally, when type slicing is turned off. A `TypSlice(typslice_typ_term)` constructor is added to represent this case.

Fully Empty Slices For the case when type slicing is turned off we also know that *all* sub-slices are empty, and we get an

isomorphism between slices and the original *type*. For convenience in integrating with existing code, a fourth slice type `Typ(typ_term)` is added allowing a trivial and *efficient*[23] injection from types to typeslices by tagging with `Typ`. Note that this means the empty slices `TypSlice` no longer needs to include atomic types.[24]

Slice Tag Duplicates The previous formulation allowed structures a type constructor with multiple global slices. For example:

The possibility of any permutation of slices makes programming awkward when conceptually all we need is *at most one* global and incremental slice tag. I enforce this invariant by refining the type to the actual type used in the final implementation:[25] **TODO: Refactor code to use empty type-slices**

```
...
and typslice_empty_term = [
  | `Typ(typ_term)
  | `TypSlice(typslice_typ_term)
]
and typslice_incr_term = [
  | `Typ(typ_term)
  | `TypSlice(typslice_typ_term)
  | `SliceIncr(typslice_typ_term, code_slice)
]
and typslice_term = [
  | `Typ(typ_term)
  | `TypSlice(typslice_typ_term)
```

[23] Conversion to the empty slice type would instead take linear time.
[24] These being equivalent to types, as no sub-slices exist.
[25] Modulo some insignificant refactorings.

```
  | `SliceIncr(typslice_empty_term)
  | `SliceGlobal(typslice_incr_term, code_slice)
]
and typslice_t = IdTagged.t(typslice_term)
...
```

Polymorphic Variants [30, ch. 7.4], notated `[ | ... ]` are used here for convenience in incrementally writing functions, explained for an example *apply* function below. These are variants which exhibit *row polymorphism* [59] [8, ch. 10.8] where these variants are related by a *structural subtyping* relation [63] where polymorphic variants of the same *structure*, with constructors of the same name and types, are subtypes.

We have that, `typslice_empty_term` is a subtype of `typslice_incr_term` which is a subtype of `typslice_term`. All other type constructors are either co-variant or contra-variant [61, ch. 2] with respect to the subtyping relation. For example, id tagging is covariant[26], so an `IdTagged.t(typslice_incr_term)` is a subtype of `IdTagged.t(typslice_incr_term) = typslice_t`.

Equally, a function of type `typslice_incr_term` $\rightarrow$ `typslice_incr_term` is a subtype of `typslice_empty_term` $\rightarrow$ `typslice_term`, being contravariant in it's argument and covariant in it's result. This function subtyping property significantly reduces work in defining functions on this type as seen below.

Utility Functions Functions on slices often do not concern the slices, but only the structure of it's underlying type, for example in unboxing[27] (**ref to sec**). In which case it is more convenient to just write a `typ_term` $\rightarrow' a$ and `typslice_term` $\rightarrow' a$ function directly on the possible empty slice types.

[26] It is just a labelled pair type.

[27] e.g. checking if a slice is a *list* type.

An `apply` function is provided to apply this onto the slice term. See how the bottom two branches can both be passed into the `apply` function even though they have different types (but are both subtypes of `typslice_term`).

```
let rec apply = (f_typ, f_slc, s) =>
  switch (s) {
  | `Typ(ty) => f_typ(ty)
  | `TypSlice(slc) => f_slc(slc)
  | `SliceIncr(s, _) => apply(f_typ, f_slc, s)
  | `SliceGlobal(s, _) => apply(f_typ, f_slc, s)
  }
```

Similarly, mapping function which map a `typ_term` → `typ_term` and similar functions onto slices are provided while maintaining the slice tags. Another particularly useful one is a mapping function that maps `typ_term` → `typslice_term` etc. and merges the slices around the input term and the output slice of the mapped function. Other utility functions include wrapping functions, unpacking functions, matching functions etc.

Type Slice Joins

Type joins are extensively used in the Hazel implementation for *branching statements*. The type of a branching statement is the *least specific* type which is still *at least as specific* as all the branches. This corresponds to the *lattice join* of the types of the branches with respect to the precision relation.

Previously in section 3.1.7, I stated how slices could be joined. To implement this, first any contextual code slices required to place the branches within a common context are wrapped onto the branch slices. Then the slices are joined, unioning the incremental code slices of branches.

For basic synthesis and analysis slices, I decide to take the code slices for each atomic type in the joined type from only

one branch. This retains a complete explanation of *why* the joined type is synthesised/checked, but does *not* constitute a valid contribution slice.

This slicing is not as easy as just taking the slice of a single branch, as the most specific sub-parts of the joined type may come from differing branches. For example in fig. 3.8, the *then* branch has a type `Int` → (`?`, `Int`) and the *else* branch has type `Int` → (`Int`, `?`) meaning the joined type is `Int` → (`Int`, `Int`). We can omit one[28] of the redundant annotations on the argument but still must retain a slice of the 0 term in both branches to get the `(Int, Int)` slice.

```
if ? then fun x : Int -¿ (?, 0) else fun x : Int -¿ (0, ?)
```

Figure 3.8: Type Slice Join

The unstructured nature of code slices also allows the type constructors to select only *one* branch to take the slice from. The given figure would *not* highlight the function constructor in the *then* branch. However, this is not be a valid expression slice in the theoretic sense and could be confusing for the user **(discuss in evaluation, missing info)**.

Contribution Slices

To create a *contribution slice* (definition and correctness reasoning in section 3.1.6) we will need to combine analysis and synthesis slices on the same term that:

- Matches compound type constructor slice tags are combined.
- Atomic *dynamic* type parts of the *analysis slice* are retained in preference to the synthesis slice part.

[28] The figure, and my implementation, omits the left branches.

- Other atomic type constructors have slices combined.

We get a type slice whose type is equivalent to the analysis slice, but includes relevant parts of the synthesis slice.

Use same example here as in theory

Figure 3.9: Contribution Slice

Weak Head Normalisation

Describe where this is used and how slices do this. This subsection could be elided.

3.3.3 Static Type Checking

The Hazel implementation is *bidirectionally typed*. During type checking, the typing *mode* in which to check the term is specified with `Mode.t` type: *synthesising*[29] (`Syn`) or *analysing* (`Ana(Typ.t)`).

The type checker associates each term with a type information object `Info.t`, stored in a map by term id with efficient access. The *type information* stores the following info:

- The term itself and it's ancestors.
- **Mode**: Typing expectations enforced by the context.
- **Self**: Information derived independent from the *mode*, e.g. synthesised type, or type errors arising from inconsistent branch types, syntax errors.
- **Typing context and co-context**. A co-context

[29] Additionally split into synthesising functions and type functions, but this detail is elided here.

- Status: Is it an error, what type of error? For example, inconsistency between type expectations and synthesised/actual type.
- **Type**: The *actual* type of the expression after *accounting for errors*. Errors are placed in holes, so synthesise the dynamic type.
- Constraints: Patterns also store constraints to determine redundant branches and inexhaustive match statements, in the sense of [31, ch. 13][30]. Hazel-specific details in [11].

As suggested by my slicing theory, I augment the four bolded fields to refer to type slices, returning type slices from synthesis and analysing directly against type slices. This results in wide-changing code, but I only detail the general workings here.

Self

The *self* data-structure now returns *types slices* instead of *types*. Every expression construct which can be synthesised has a corresponding function in `Self.re` to construct the slice from it's sub-derivations (slices of synthesised types of sub-expressions). Hence, the synthesis slicing behaviour for each type of expression can be easily configured uniformly via editing these functions.

For example, the slice of a pattern matching statement, given slices of all it's branches (`tys`) is the join of it's branches wrapped in an incremental slice consisting of the ids of the match statement itself. Otherwise if the branches are inconsistent it returns a failure tagging the branch slices with ids of the branches:

[30] Only present in the *first* edition.

```
let of_match =
    (ids: list(Id.t), ctx: Ctx.t, tys: list(TypSlice.t),
    c_ids: list(Id.t)): t =>
  switch (
    TypSlice.join_all(
      ~empty=`Typ(Unknown(Internal)) |> TypSlice.fresh,
      ctx,
      tys,
    )
  ) {
  | None => NoJoin(Id, add_source(c_ids, tys))
  | Some(ty) => Just(ty |> TypSlice.(wrap_incr(slice_of_ids(ids))))
  };
```

Figure 3.10: Match Statement `Self.t`

This stage also included factoring out some expectation-independent code from the type checking function which had been missed by others.

Mode

The *mode* now analyses against *type slices* instead of *types*. Again, each construct which could deconstruct an analysing type has a corresponding function in `Mode.re` which outputs the mode(s) to check the inner expressions. The inner analysis slices are tagged with a *global*[31] slice tag describing *why* the slice was deconstructed. As mentioned before **(ref)**, deconstructing types retains the contextual (global) parts of the analysis slice.

For example, I can deconstruct a list slice with a list matching function `matched_list`. Using this, the mode to check a term inside a *list literal* is the matched inner list slice wrapped (globally) in the ids of list literal itself (`ids`) which enforced

[31] Being part of the analysis slice, relevant to all sub-slices.

```
let of_list = (ids: list(Id.t), ctx: Ctx.t, mode: t): t =>
  switch (mode) {
  | Syn
  | SynFun
  | SynTypFun => Syn
  | Ana(ty) =>
    Ana(TypSlice.(matched_list(ctx, ty)
    |> wrap_global(slice_of_ids(ids))))
  };
```

Figure 3.11: List Literal `Mode.t`

this matching. We use this mode to check each element in the list literal.

Typing (Co-)Context

The typing context and co-contexts are modified to use type slices, given that we now always have a slice to accompany a type in any situation.

Section 3.1.8 discusses one major consequence of allowing this. Slices for variables may now include the slice binding it's type.

This *deviates* from the theoretical notion of an expression slice: the structural context in which the variable is used is untracked when passing through the context. But, it is easy to implement using *unstructured* code slices and is a useful addition conceptually (**discuss in evaluation**).

Type

The *type* field is extended to a *type slice*. This has special behaviour for contribution slices and errors.

Basic Slices If there are no errors, just use the analysed type slice, or if in synthesis mode use the synthesis slice.

Contribution Slices: IMPL TODO When synthesis and analysis slices exist, they can be combined here. Section 3.3.2 defines and explains this combination.

Error Slices: IMPL TODO Type inconsistency error checking can be extended to type slices via using type slice joins. The analysed and synthesised type slices are inconsistent if and only if a join exists. We can show both conflicting slices in this situation to explain the error **(Implement)**. Additionally, syntax errors could have a slicing mechanism implemented here.[32]

3.3.4 Sum Types

Sum types are the hardest to work with, describe general design and difficulties in all the previous parts.

3.3.5 User Interface

Click on analysis or synthesis slices from context inspector

Show figures.

Implement UI from cursor inspector. Implement disabling of slicing.

3.4 Cast Slicing Implementation

To implement cast slicing, I replace casts between *types* by casts between *type slices*. The required type-indexed nature of type slices is already implemented, allowing these casts the be decomposed.

[32]Not within the scope of this project. Empty slices are given instead.

3.4.1 Elaboration

Cast insertion recursively traverses the unelaborated term, inserting casts to the term's statically determined type as stored in the `Info` data-structure and from the type as can be determined directly from the term.

For example, for list literals we can recursively elaborate the list's terms and join their static slices into `inner_type`. Then, intuitively we would know during dynamics from these elaborated sub-terms that the list has a list type of `List(inner_type)`:

Maybe a more diagrammatic option here

Figure 3.12: List Literal Elaboration

We can therefore construct the source type slices in these casts directly form the term during this traversal. **(TODO impl for atomic types like ints)**

Ensuring that all the type slice information from the `Info` map is retained and/or reconstructed during elaboration was a meticulous and error-prone process.

3.4.2 Cast Transitions

Section 2.1.2 gave an intuitive overview of how casts are treated at runtime. Type-indexed slices allows cast slices to be decomposed in exactly the same way.

However, as Hazel only checks consistency between casts between *ground types* (fig. A.8), there are two rules where new[33] casts are *inserted* ITGround, ITExpand (fig. A.10). The new types are both created via a *ground matching* relation (fig. A.11) which takes the topmost compound constructor.

[33] As opposed to being derived from decomposition.

list example

Figure 3.13: Ground Matching List

As we already store type slices incrementally, the part of the slice which corresponds *only* to the outer type constructor is just the outer slice tag.

3.4.3 Unboxing

When a final form (section 2.1.2) has a type, Hazel often needs to extract parts according to this type during evaluation. But due to casts and holes, this is not trivial.

For example, if a term is a final form of type list, then it could be either:

- A list literal.
- A list with casts wrapped around it.
- A list cons with indeterminate tail, e.g. `1::2::?`.

Additionally, when the input is not a list at all, it can return `DoesNotMatch`. Hence, allowing dynamic errors to be caught and also for use in pattern matching.

To allow for the varying outputs to unboxing depending on different patterns to match by, GADTs are used **(cite and explain)**.

Various helper functions for unpacking type slices into it's sub-slices to significantly simplify pattern matching.[34] A uniform function for this could be implemented with a GADT, in a similar way to unboxing, but is not required.

[34]These differ from matching functions, which also match the dynamic type to functions, lists etc.

Hazel Unboxing Bug

While writing the search procedure I found an unboxing *bug* which would always *indeterminately match* a cons with indeterminate tail with *any* list literal pattern (of *any* length), even when it is known that it could never match. For example a list cons `1::2::?` represents lists with length ≥ 2, but even when matching a list literal of length 0 or 1 it would indeterminately match rather than explicitly *not* match.

Pattern matching checks if each pattern matches the scrutinee with the following behaviour, starting from the first branch:

- *Branch matches?* Execute the branch.
- *Branch does not match?* Try the next branch.
- *Branch indeterminately matches?* Hazel cannot assume the branch doesn't match so cannot move on and must safely stop evaluation here classifying the entire match as an indeterminate term.

Figure 3.14 demonstrates a concrete example which would get stuck in Hazel, but does *not* need to.

See PR example

Figure 3.14: Pattern Matching Bug

I reported and fixed this bug and added additional tests to ensure the bug never reappears. A PR was merged into the dev branch **(pending)**.

3.4.4 User Interface

Mainly talk about the Model-view architecture and passing the cursor into the evaluator view to allow clicking on casts in evaluation result/stepper.

Difficulties in ensuring id tags for slices are not subtly aliased during elaboration and evaluation. This caused problems in selecting slices with UI. Look through commits to give example

3.5 EV_MODE Evaluation Abstraction

This section describes in detail the evaluator abstraction present in hazel, which allows ...

Very complex!!! The reader could skip this section, it is purely technical.

3.6 Indeterminate Evaluation

Dynamic type errors may only occur when an expression is given *specific* inputs. However, a dynamic error is accompanied by an evaluation trace, which is often a *useful debugging aid* [35]. When debugging static type errors, traces leading to a corresponding dynamic error are normally *unavailable*.[35] This section concerns the building blocks leading up to a search procedure that finds inputs which lead to dynamic errors *automatically*.

Seidel et al. [24] provides an algorithm for this in OCaml and provides evidence for the usefulness of traces via a *user study*. This algorithm *lazily* narrows hole terms non-deterministically to a *least specific* value based on it's expected type in the context it was used. For example, if a hole is used within the `(+)` operator, it is non-deterministically instantiated to an integer. **(give better example with lists)**

In Hazel, we already have a notion of hole terms and can already run program with static errors, with runtime type in-

[35] As an ill-typed program will not run.

formation being maintained by runtime casts. This section introduces *indeterminate evaluation* as a natural analogue to Seidel's idea: to *lazily* narrow holes during evaluation to *least specific* values by exploiting the runtime type information available within Hazel's runtime casts. My implementation extends Seidel's to consider more classes of expressions[36] and differs mechanically in many ways due to language differences and fundamental design differences.[37] Notably, indeterminate evaluation is a *generic* evaluation method, not specifically relating only to searching for cast errors, which is covered in section 3.8.

This section covers the following, answering each question:

3.6.1 First, how should we resolve the non-determinism in instantiating holes? Unlike Seidel's approach, my implementation exhaustively considers all possibilities – at least, for countable types.

3.6.2 Second, I give a generic algorithm for indeterminate evaluation. How is termination ensured? Is every possibility explored fairly? How can we abstract details of evaluation[38] and which classes of expressions[39] to consider?

3.6.4 Third I discuss hole instantiation and substitution. What does lazy instantiation actually entail, when exactly should a hole be instantiated? Which hole[40] should be instantiated in order to continue evaluation to make progress? How should holes be substituted with their narrowed values; the same hole may exist in multiple locations within the expression?

[36] Notably, sum types.

[37] Differences, and Hazel-specific challenges are noted throughout. **(ENSURE THIS!)**

[38] Differing evaluation methods, e.g. one giving up after some limit to avoid non-termination.

[39] e.g. those with cast errors.

[40] There may be multiple.

3.6.5 & 3.6.6 Finally, I consider Hazel-specific problems. Once we know which hole to instantiate, how can we get it's *expected type*? Hazel's lazy treatment of pushing casts into compound data types means not all such holes will be wrapped directly in casts. Additionally, the case of pattern matching is difficult, allowing holes to be *non-uniformly* cast to *differing types*. How can holes be instantiated in these situations?

As always, a UI is implemented in section 3.6.7.

3.6.1 Resolving Non-determinism

To model non-determinism I decide to use a *monadic* high-level representation. I choose this due to it's uniform and familiar workings for other developers in the codebase. Additionally, the Jane Street `Base` module (**CITE**) is industry-tested and contains a flexible lazy list/sequences module `Sequence`.

Section 2.1.4 considered multiple ways to represent non-determinism, I did not chose the other options as: multiple continuation effect handlers were not supported by JSOO **(cite)**, directly writing continuations is difficult and generally unfamiliar to OCaml developers **(cite)**, introducing a DSL [16] would introduce additional dependencies, is less industry-tested, and is non-standard.

Sequences may model infinite non-determinism completely by way of *interleaving* sequences. Letting each element in the sequence correspond to a possible choice, then two sequences of choices can be interleaved to get a new sequences of all choices. As this is done *lazily*, then no calculation is actually performed until the first element is *accessed*.

The `Sequence.t` data-type is a lazy (possible infinite) sequence. The relevant non-determinism related operations here as specified in section 2.1.4 are:

- `empty`, corresponding to `fail`. Represents no solution, no choices are possible.
- `append` or `(++)`, corresponding to `choice`. In this model, every possible choice will be retained in full in the sequence.
- `interleave`, corresponding to *fair choice*. The ordering of the choices will be interleaved in some way, with elements from each sequence still occurring in the same order. If we assume *commutativity* of choice,[41] then interleaving gives the same results as `choice`. Additionally, interleaving supports choice between an infinite sequences of sequences.
- `bind` or `(>>=)`, corresponding to `bind`. Intuitively represents guessing
- `singleton`, corresponding to `return`. Represents the identity... *explain...*

Additionally, to define sequences lazily in OCaml (which is strict), an `unfold` function is defined. This wraps sequence tails in closures

3.6.2 The Non-Deterministic Evaluation Algorithm

Factor out the evaluation code, to be replaced by evaluation which fails if there is no cast error, or evaluation which iteratively deepens etc..

Basically a DFS stuff

[41] Of course, append is *not commutative*. What I mean here is that any *sequence ordering* could be considered as an equally correct solution to a non-deterministic algorithm.

3.6.3 Threading Evaluation State

TODO IMPL, maybe unneeded. Add to introduction if needed

(Probably) Cannot use evaluator state for tracking trace lengths etc. because it is mutable (and IndetEval is non-deterministic). Instead thread through evaluation :(

3.6.4 Hole Instantiation & Substitution

Small Hole hypothesis, quick check

Choosing which Hole to Instantiate

Use EV_Mode to select next hole to instantiate

Synthesising Terms for Types

Difficulties instantiating strings... Functions with or without annotations?

Seems that there was actually a refine hole editor action that I didn't notice?

Substituting Holes

Detail that this was an unexpected extra task, and is therefore not exactly the same as hole substitution as detailed in Preparation (i.e. no metavars or contexts annotated on holes, but it is enough for the search procedure to work)

3.6.5 Cast Laziness

Is this actually a problem?

Ref the original cast slicing paper, which is not lazy apparently? Laziness sort of breaks the idea that runtime errors

evaluate to cast errors. There can be compound values of the wrong type being cast, but the error will only be found upon accessing parts of the compound type.

Making casts eager is a major change to the actual transitions.

Eager casts also catch 'spurious' errors (see Evaluation).

3.6.6 Pattern Matching

Hazel match expressions can be dynamic, allowing scrutinees to be of varying type:

`case ?  | 0 => 0 | [] => 1 end` etc.

This means that casts are placed on the *branches* rather than the scrutinee, meaning I need a special case for instantiating match scrutinees on a per-branch-type basis. This can be done by listing the possible types for the branches, then inserting a cast $\langle ?\Rightarrow T\Rightarrow ?\rangle$ on the scrutinee hole. Then re-running instantiation (which will use this inner cast to instantiate.

There was an *unboxing* bug which was discovered here.

Extended Match Expression Instantiation

One extension I attempted in order to improve code coverage was instantiating holes to fairly explore branches in a match statement (as opposed to just going by increasing length list etc.).

The *pattern-matching-instantiation* branch implements a way to instantiate sub-parts of an indet term such that the new term can be deconstructed by the the pattern in the most general way. **show example**

(note: bug was found here with matching 1::?)

Hence, we could try instantiating the match scrutinee with least specific versions which match the patterns on each branch, e.g. `?::?` for `x::xs`. i.e.

```
case ?::?  | [] => [] | x::xs => xs
```

However, this is not always enough to actually *allow* deconstruction in a match statement. The possibility that *more specific* patterns could be present above the current branch means this term is still an indeterminate match. For example, the following would be an indeterminate match:

```
case ?::?  | [] => [] | x::y::[] => [] | x::xs =>
xs
```

To solve this[42], I introduce the idea of a *not patterns*, and *or patterns*, *and patterns*, *truth patterns*, and *impossible patterns*. This is just a theory to transform pattern matching into equivalents with *no overlapping branches*, these patterns do not actually need to be implemented directly, except for not pattern instantiation on base types (though *or patterns* would be useful).

$$\overline{\overline{p}} = p \qquad \overline{[\,]} = \top :: \top \qquad \overline{p :: q} = [\,] \mid \overline{p} :: q \mid p :: \overline{q} \mid \overline{p} :: \overline{q}$$

$$\overline{\top} = \bot \qquad \bot :: p = q :: \bot = \bot \qquad p \mid \bot = p \qquad x = \top$$

$$p \mid \overline{p} = \top \qquad p :: q \mid \overline{p} :: q = \top :: q \qquad p :: q \mid p :: \overline{q} = p :: \top$$

Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{[1,2]} = \overline{1 :: 2 :: []} &= [] \mid \overline{1} :: 2 :: [] \mid 1 :: \overline{2 :: []} \mid \overline{1} :: \overline{2 :: []} \\
&= [] \mid \overline{1} :: 2 :: [] \mid 1 :: ([] \mid \overline{2} :: [] \mid 2 :: \overline{[]} \mid \overline{2} :: \overline{[]}) \\
&\quad \mid \overline{1} :: ([] \mid \overline{2} :: [] \mid 2 :: \overline{[]} \mid \overline{2} :: \overline{[]}) \\
&= [] \mid \overline{1} :: 2 :: [] \mid 1 :: [] \mid 1 :: \overline{2} :: [] \mid 1 :: 2 :: \overline{[]} \mid 1 :: \overline{2} :: \overline{[]} \\
&\quad \mid \overline{1} :: [] \mid \overline{1} :: \overline{2} :: [] \mid \overline{1} :: 2 :: \overline{[]} \mid \overline{1} :: \overline{2} :: \overline{[]} \\
&= [] \mid \overline{1} :: 2 :: [] \mid 1 :: [] \mid 1 :: \overline{2} :: [] \mid 1 :: 2 :: \top :: \top \\
&\quad \mid 1 :: \overline{2} :: \top :: \top \mid \overline{1} :: [] \mid \overline{1} :: \overline{2} :: [] \mid \overline{1} :: 2 :: \top :: \top \mid \overline{1} :: \overline{2} :: \top :: \top \\
&= [] \mid \top :: [] \mid 1 :: \overline{2} :: [] \mid \overline{1} :: 2 :: [] \mid \overline{1} :: \overline{2} :: [] \mid \top :: \top :: \top :: \top
\end{aligned}$$

[42] Also, having the side effect of allowing the representation of inequalities symbolically, i.e. *not 1* $\overline{1}$. This is useful for symbolic execution of if statements.

Basically, a boolean algebra... To ensure no overlapping branches we must disallow the Idempotent law in one direction ($p \to p \mid p$)...

Very closely related to *exhaustiveness checking*. Difference being is we don't allow idempotence. **See https://github.com/hazelgro**

Note: Or and As patterns are pending unimplemented tasks for Hazel

3.6.7 User Interface

3.7 Evaluation Stepper

Stepper and user defined instantiations. **All TODO IMPL**

3.7.1 Evaluation Contexts

3.7.2 Customisable Hole Instantiation

3.7.3 User Interface

3.8 Search Procedure

3.8.1 Detecting Relevant Cast Errors

i.e. failed cast at head of term

3.8.2 Filtering Indeterminate Evaluation

Done via EV_MODE similarly to finding which hole to instantiate.

3.8.3 Monad Transformers & Iterative Deepening

Required after evaluating that infinite loops break the thing

Use a monad transformer! https://okmij.org/ftp/Computation/LogicT

3.8.4 User Interface

Chapter 4

TEMPORARY: Implementation Plan

4.1 Cast Slicing

4.1.1 Theoretical Foundations and Context

Context: Why are casts elaborated

See The Gradualizer [22] for details on this terminology. It doesn't perfectly fit Hazel but is close. A cast is inserted at a point of either, for a subexpression $e : \tau$ if either:

- Pattern Matching $\tau \blacktriangleright \tau'$ – Wrap e in a cast $\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau'' \rangle$ where τ'' is the *cast destination of* τ'
- Flows $\tau \rightsquigarrow \tau'$ – Wrap e in a cast $\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau' \rangle$ – These correspond to uses of type consistency.

A *cast destination* for τ is the result of applying flows recursively on all positive type positions and reversed flows on negative type positions in τ.

Flows relate to invocations of consistency and joins, with direction dictated by type polarity and modality:

- Producers flow to their final type
- Final types flow to the consumers
- Input variables are replaced with the final type.

Where the final type is an annotated *type*, output consumers, or the join of all producers.[1]

Type slicing a term

A logical interpretation of this would be useful (see the relation of contexts slices and type slice decomposition in implications/functions). The below formulation feels quite ad-hoc.

A *type slice* of an e in a context is an expression that has sub-expressions of e replaced with holes or type annotations replaced with the dynamic type but still type synthesises or analyses to the same type.[2]

An alternative formalisation could be: Instead of type synthesises or analyses the same type, it could contain all code that could be changed in order to NO LONGER synthesise/analyse to the type.

However, as typing often depends on the context, for which code involved may be outside the scope of the current term, an additional notion of a context slice will be attached. A context slice will contain all the variable bindings (lambdas or let bindings) and, importantly, their annotations. It is important to notice that this only works because Hazel is explicitly typed at variable bindings. *An implicitly type language, like ML, could be translated to an explicitly typed internal language, for example CoreXML [60]. Then, 'constraint slices' could track code*

[1] Therefore types generally have output mode.

[2] Additionally they contain other info for use decomposing slices and the encompassing. Discussed throughout.

which is required for the constraint system to derive each annotation; this idea is similar to that used in type error slicing for higher-order functional languages [51, 45].

Slices for compound types will need to be split into slices for component types (as casts are decomposed), a suitable extension of this needs to be produced that allows slices to be decomposed into the slices of component types.

Compound types generally involve type checking sub-terms are of the component types, so these component slices can be obtained during this. But, for types involving variable binding, e.g. function types $\tau = \tau_1 \to \tau_2$, the slice of the argument τ_1 should simply be the binding annotation, in a sense this is the extension of the context slices between τ and τ_2[3].

Importantly, a hole analyses against any type, so any expressions analysed against can be replaced by holes[4].

On the other hand, synthesis rules may require expanding a slice. Mostly, by composing component slices as discussed above.

A formal definition of this is given below. Treating a slice ς of e, τ as a pair of a context slice and expression slice (γ, ε) indexed by τ. The context slice γ is simply a subset of the typing context Γ and the slice ε is a term e' which is less precise[5] than e and synthesises τ under the context slice. For simplicity adding the notion of unsubstitutable, unnamed holes ⦇⦈:

[3] A logical interpretation or analogy of this would be useful

[4] **FIX**: if using analysis on a non-subsumable type then maybe all non-subsumption rules should also construct slices.

[5] Ideally, least precise

Syntax:

$$\varsigma ::= \tau[\gamma, \varepsilon] \mid (\varsigma \to \varsigma)[\gamma, \varepsilon]$$

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \parallel \varsigma}$ e synthesises type τ under context Γ and produces slice ς)

$$\text{SSConst}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash c \Rightarrow b \parallel b[\cdot, b]} \qquad \text{SSVar}\ \frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau \parallel \tau[x : \tau, x]}$$

$$\text{SSFun}\ \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau_2 \parallel s[\gamma, \varepsilon]}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1 . e \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \parallel (\tau_1[x : \tau_1, (\!|\,|\!)] \to s[\gamma, \varepsilon])[\gamma \backslash \{x : \tau_1\}, \lambda x : \tau_1 . \varepsilon]}$$

$$\text{SSApp}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \parallel \varsigma_1 \qquad \tau_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_2 \to \tau \qquad \varsigma_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} (\varsigma_2 \to s[\gamma, \varepsilon])[\gamma_1, \varepsilon_1] \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Rightarrow \tau \parallel s[\gamma_1, \varepsilon_1((\!|\,|\!))]} \qquad \text{SSEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Rightarrow ? \parallel ?[\cdot, (\!|\,|\!)]}$$

$$\text{SSNEHole}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \Rightarrow ? \parallel ?[\cdot, (\!|\,|\!)]} \qquad \text{SAsc}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \tau \parallel \tau[\cdot, (\!|\,|\!) : \tau]}$$

Figure 4.1: Bidirectional typing judgements for *sliced* external expressions

Defining a slice matching relation analogously to type matching $\blacktriangleright_{\to}$.

Notice that for types involved with the typing context, like function arguments, where no such term with type τ_1 actually exists in code; the context slice gives required all info and the expression slice is filled with a dummy hole. **Formalise this better: could consider a term of type $\tau_1 \to ?$. Alternatively this may be better expressed as a transformation of DERIVATIONS themselves.**

For implementation and user purposes, the assumptions in the context slice γ derive from annotations, whose location in code would be tracked. This could be formalised in the above rules by annotating type assumptions with locations, or by considering a context slice could as a term with holes at every subterm except for the relevant bindings.

Analysis Contexts

Every type that is analysed must have been synthesised by some expression. This expression will be used as an 'analysis context' to allow proving formal properties and for use in determining the 'scopes of types' and in the search procedure. **Consider the weird cases like a synthesised function type; what is the expression of the argument??**

Slicing of Casts

Casts always go from expression types (for which a type slice exists) to either final types or consumers.

Producer types correspond to synthesised types. Consumer types correspond to analysed types. Final types are one of the above or additionally, joins of (producer) types.

Hence, as producer and consumers originate from type checking, their type slices can be obtained. The only remaining possibility is joins of types, so joins of type slices must be created.

First, I show how slices can be applied to elaboration rules, with casts now being between type slices $\langle \varsigma_1 \Rightarrow \varsigma_2 \rangle$. Notably, additional slicing is required in analysis mode, but not in synthesis mode. When in analysis mode, the slice for τ', that is the actual internal type of the elaborated expression, is required. When in synthesis mode, the slice for τ can simply be obtained via the external type slicing.

Formal definition below. Omitting the trivial synthesis cases not involving casts.

Redefining elaboration synthesis:

$$\text{ESApp}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \parallel \varsigma_1 \qquad \tau_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_2 \to \tau \qquad \varsigma_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} (\varsigma_2 \to \varsigma)[\gamma_1, \varepsilon_1] \quad \Gamma \vdash e_1 \Leftarrow \tau_2 \rightsquigarrow d_1 : \tau_1' \dashv \Delta_1 \parallel \varsigma_1' \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_1 \Leftarrow \tau_2 \rightsquigarrow d_2 : \tau_2' \dashv \Delta_2 \parallel \varsigma_2'}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow (d_1\langle \varsigma_1' \Rightarrow \varsigma_1 \rangle)(d_2\langle \varsigma_2' \Rightarrow \varsigma_2 \rangle) \dashv \Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2}$$

$$\text{ESAsc}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \parallel \varsigma \qquad \Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d : \tau' \dashv \Delta \parallel \varsigma'}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d\langle \varsigma' \Rightarrow \varsigma \rangle \dashv \Delta}$$

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d : \tau' \dashv \Delta \parallel \varsigma'}$ e analyses against type τ and elaborates to d of consistent type τ' with slice ς'

$$\text{SEAFun}\ \frac{\tau \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \qquad \Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau_2 \rightsquigarrow d : \tau_2' \dashv \Delta \parallel s[\gamma, \epsilon]}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow \lambda x : \tau_1.d : \tau_1 \to \tau_2' \dashv \Delta \parallel (\tau_1[x : \tau_1, (\!|\,|\!)] \to s[\gamma, \varepsilon])[\gamma \backslash \{x : \tau_1\}, \lambda x.\varepsilon]}$$

$$\text{SEASubsume}\ \frac{e \neq (\!|\,|\!)^u \qquad e \neq (\!|e'|\!)^u \qquad \Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau' \parallel \varsigma' \quad \Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau' \rightsquigarrow d \dashv \Delta \qquad \tau \sim \tau'}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d : \tau' \dashv \Delta \parallel \varsigma'}$$

SEAEHole, SEANEHole are simply analogues of the synthesis slicing rules.

Figure 4.2: Elaboration judgements with slicing

Second, I describe how to calculate joins of slices. This depends on the formalisation of type slicing. If only a minimal code slice to produce the same type is required, then some branches with matching type may be replaced by holes. If we include any code that can cause type checking to change, a join of slices is just the union of the code they point at[6].

Semantically, in the above formulation it is a bit tedious to define and doesn't quite fit the pattern that the type slice actually corresponds to a term, here it corresponds to a union of branches. **The idea of a type slice should be refined to accept function argument types and joined types more intuitively**[7].

[6] Prove.

[7] Consider having join types be explicit. The lack of a link between these types and an expression is the issue.

Implementation-wise, slices will probably be code locations, and will be more granular than expressions.[8] Granularity at the level of annotations, and could potentially have special cases to distinguish cases where the slicing semantics inserts holes more clearly: for example, highlighting the brackets/hole being applied to a function in SSFun to make it clear that the type derives from *application* rather than just the function which has a very similar slice. *The hole based approach does have the benefit of automatically closing away irrelevant branches of code that is not highlighted, this could be a nice interaction design feature to implement.*

Context: How are casts evaluated

The Hazel cast calculus has two primary types of casts:

- Injections – Casts to the dynamic type from a ground type
- Projections – Casts from the dynamic type to the dynamic type

These types of casts can be eliminated upon meeting or transformed into a cast error if the two involved ground types are inconsistent.

Inserted casts don't necessarily fall into either of these two classes. If the cast is a non-ground injection/projection then they can be transformed by matching to a least specific ground type, e.g. $\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \blacktriangleright_{\text{ground}} ? \to ?$. This ground type can be inserted in the middle of such a cast (ITGround, ITExpand). If the cast is between compound types and reducible by a suitable elimination rule (if casts were ignored), then these casts will be decomposed.

See [20] for in depth intuition.

[8] Hence, the issues above are irrelevant to implementation.

Cast Splitting

There are only 3 rules that non-trivially modify casts: ITAppCast, ITGround, ITExpand. For ITGround and ITExpand, it makes sense to keep the cast slices for τ' the same as τ.[9] ITAppCast requires decomposing the function cast, luckily slices recursively include type slices of their type components.

$$\text{ITAppCast}\ \frac{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \neq \tau_1' \to \tau_2'}{d_1\langle \varsigma_1 \to \varsigma_2 \Rightarrow \varsigma_1' \to \varsigma_2' \rangle(d_2) \to (d_1(d_2\langle \varsigma_1' \Rightarrow \varsigma_1 \rangle)\langle \varsigma_2 \Rightarrow \varsigma_2' \rangle)}$$

Recording dependencies between casts from this might be useful. This allows a user to see how a cast was formed.

Random notes and refs

Consider options of: annotating typing derivations, annotating casts (and splitting in evaluation), or reverse unevaluating casts [33].

See constraint free error slicing [34].

See the gradualizer to understand how casts work [22].

See Blame tracking to see how common type location transfer is handled [37].

Casting:

Casting goes from the terms actual type to coerce it into a new type. Casts are inserted by elaboration at appropriate points (where the type system uses consistency or pattern matching[10]). Casts between compound types may be decomposed by the cast calculus. See gradualizer dynamic semantics

[9] Justify this. Maybe casting to ground type was not in code so the cast should not highlight anything, but instead record it's *dependencies*?

[10] See the gradualizer for intuition and direction of consistency casts

[20] for intuition and [37] for intuition on polarity affecting blame.

Consider deeply type constructor polarities [48, pg. 473]. Covariant types give positive blame (blame value) and contravariant give negative (blame context).

4.1.2 Implementation Details and Optimisations

Slices – Location based

Location based slices would could be represented by intervals.

Due to the recursive nature of slices (component type slices must be available), then there will be a significant number of interval trees. Therefore, a persistent structure [57, chapter 2] MUST be used for space efficiency.

Efficiently displaying overlapping intervals is ideal. A sorted list achieves this, so a sorted tree structure of some sort could be used to maintain efficient insertion.

Hash consing may be similarly useful.

Displaying a slice here does need to be more efficient as there may be many intervals that aren't actually merged vs just walking a tree with holes.

Slices – Hole Based

Slices can be stored immutably as ASTs and splitting of slices will be handled in a space efficient way by default by OCaml's persistent nature.

Overlapping slices can appear, most notably from joining slices. Therefore, joins should be implemented to preserve space. Speed of merging and splitting is also relatively important.

Displaying a slice is a relatively uncommon procedure compared to joining and splitting. Hence, retrieving and aggregating locations from the slice does not need to be fast, nor space efficient.

A regular persistent tree is likely sufficient, but lazy joining and/or hash consing [42] might be useful.

4.2 Search Procedure

Look into Zippers [58], and other functional data structures that may be useful here.

4.2.1 Hole Refinement

A suitable notion of *type hole* should be used for this. These will differ from regular holes in that they will maintain runtime type information[11]. In particular they will be annotated by a dynamically inferred type variable, which would be progressively refined.

In particular the type given to a hole will be *entirely* determined by the dynamics, and not the static type checking, which may not be well-typed or may be unspecific (using dynamic types).

Look into Gradual type inference [25], Gradual dynamic type inference [17], Seidel et al. [24], OLEG [54, chapter 2] & Idris for ideas. Look into how Hazel may support type-driven code completion.

4.2.2 Hole Instantiation

Substitution semantics via CMTT contextual substitution.

[11] Or the evaluation environment will track these.

Generating of values to substitute will match the required type as annotated on the hole. These should be the most general partial values to meet the type, see OLEG refinement [54, chapter 2].

Generation of suitable concrete values of any type should be informed by ideas like the 'small scope hypothesis' [46][12] or just could be random as in QuickCheck [52], SmallCheck [40]. Allowing some meta-programming of the value generation algorithms would be an interesting idea, especially for user-defined types.

The idea of instantiating in order to effectively explore branches is a good idea. This is essentially symbolic execution, and exploring branches space-time-efficiently without overlap is the goal.[13]

Some heuristics may help with this search. But this project is unlikely to consider any in detail.

Note, both hole refinement and instantiation can be handled as a search procedure wrapper around the stepper.

4.2.3 Witness Generality

A witness is a hole instantiation that evaluates to a final form containing a cast error(s). *Witness generality* should ensure that generating a witness via the search procedure implies that for any type, a witness exists of this type.

To achieve this, holes should only be instantiated when absolutely required, i.e. lazily as in SmallCheck [40]. For example, even if a function has a cast requiring integer arguments, the hole instantiation should be delayed, as passing a hole is

[12]This is evaluated for bugs in general in OOP, not necessarily type bugs in FP.

[13]This is the main idea to think about, probably more important than user control of value generation.

still safe. When the hole passes into the function it will accumulate a cast to int, but the inferred type should remain ambiguous until evaluation gets stuck (such as at a case analysis). If this inferred type conflicts with the casts, hole instantiation to the inferred type may still be useful, and Hazel still supports evaluation.

Alternatively, annotations could be treated as correct, meaning casts would refine the inferred type, and thereby treat any value instantiation at this point as a witness. Note that the use of dynamic types still allows the procedure to find general witnesses.

4.2.4 Instruction Transitions

Lazy hole instantiation and generation can be formalised with a *non-deterministic* step semantics in Fig. **??**.

The below semantics treat casts as correct, and use them to refine types.

$$d ::= \ldots \mid (\!|\tau|\!)^u_\sigma$$

$$\text{GenConst}\ \frac{\text{primitive op } p}{p((\!|b|\!)^u_\sigma) \longrightarrow p(c)} \qquad \text{GenFun}\ \frac{\text{fresh } x}{(\!|\tau_1 \to \tau_2|\!)^u_\sigma(d) \longrightarrow (\lambda x : \tau_1.(\!|\tau_2|\!)^u_{\sigma,x/x})(d)}$$

$$\text{Refine}\ \frac{}{(\!|\tau|\!)^u_\sigma\langle\tau \Rightarrow \tau'\rangle \longrightarrow (\!|\tau'|\!)^u_\sigma\langle\tau \Rightarrow \tau'\rangle}$$

Figure 4.3: Search Procedure Instruction Transitions

Upcasting causes the holes to *lose* type information. This shouldn't be a problem because the only time values are actually generated, the required type can be inferred from the primitive operation, or by generating a dynamic typed function.

4.2.5 Backtracking & Non-determinism

If a particular instantiation does not result in a witness, then some form of backtracking is required. This is the primary addition to the small-step evaluator that needs to be added.

A simple way to do this would be wrapping the evaluator in a choice-pointing system – like in Prolog.

Doing this space-efficiently (saving choice points) would be the goal.

Look into non-deterministic evaluation from a logic programming perspective. Also backtracking in general. See the Warren Abstract Machine [36].

A *semi-persistent* data structure [1] will be needed for this.

In order to find witnesses that are shorter in trace length (and hence easier for the user to understand), it may be useful to perform iterative deepening. Otherwise, trace compression and input simplification (as in QuickCheck [52])

For efficiency reasons, it may be desirable to use some amount of immutability here.[14]

Also, `call/cc` or `shift/reset` could be useful (or maybe even effect handlers [14]) for managing the desired control flow.

4.2.6 Cast Dependence

A cast error for associated with a witness should depend upon the value instantiated. Unrelated cast errors are not proof that the witness is valid.

This notion of dependence can be modelled by counting only casts that are attached to sub-terms of an instantiated value. *If an unrelated cast error causes evaluation to get stuck, this could be reported in some way to the user.*

[14] Hazel code-base rules seem to not allow this though!

4.2.7 Evaluation Order

Making this work for multiple search holes in arbitrary position might be too difficult. The other option is to only support this attached to functions.

It is inefficient to evaluate the whole program in order to perform the search procedure. Instead evaluation should be directed first around search procedure holes[15].

The evaluation order could be formalised by adapting the evaluation context to have *multiple* markers, and define inserting several terms into those marks with *strong*[16] non-deterministic semantics, Fig. 4.4. Then constructing the context would put markers for each redex involving a search hole and evaluation would expand around them[17].

$$
\begin{aligned}
&E_0 ::= d \\
&E_1 ::= E \\
&E_n ::= E_k(E_{n-k}) \mid (\!|E_n|\!)^u_\sigma \mid E_n\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \mid E_n\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau \rangle \qquad \text{for } n > 1 \text{ and } k \leq n
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\text{Step}\ \frac{d = E_n(d_1, \cdots, d_i, \cdots, d_n) \qquad d_i \longrightarrow d_i' \qquad d' = E_n(d_1, \cdots, d_i', \cdots, d_n)}{d \mapsto d'}
$$

Figure 4.4: Search Procedure Evaluation Context

Some form of *concurrent zipper* via delimited continuations [4, 6] for constant (or fast) access to the term context around each search hole would be ideal.

Finally, two search holes may meet. What to do in this case?

[15] Of course, only possible because Hazel is pure.

[16] allowing reductions inside functions

[17] This ordering seems hard to display in maths, but the implementation should be straightforward

4.2.8 Curried Functions & Attached Search Holes

For functions, it is useful to get a witness for multiple arguments. But, for curried functions, each application has extra syntax and is not instantiable by a single hole. In this case, if a general witness has not already been found and the final form is a function, then more search holes could be created. See saturaion in Seidel et al. [24].

A nice way to represent this would be to thinking of this would be *attaching the function to a search hole*[18], which instantiates to the function with n applications (then n may change during backtracking). Besides using application onto search holes, attaching functions could just use the existing non-empty hole machanism. Further, in a sense a regular search hole is the above but for $n = 0$; however, operationally it does not make sense to combine the two[19]. **Think about user interaction for this to guide this design.**[20]

4.2.9 Witness Result

A witness will be an initial instantiation leading to a final form containing a cast error(s). Or potentially a trace containing a cast error (if annotations are treated as correct), for which stopping evaluation before the cast error is removed is ideal.

A manner in which to get the execution of the actually found witness result will be needed. So, whole traces would

[18] Alternatively thought of as applying the function to the hole and instantiating accordingly

[19] Fundamentally, there is a difference between asking for a witness of the 1st arg of a function vs. the whole function.

[20] e.g. make clear the distinction between saturated witnesses and regular witnesses. Maybe directly annotate a term with a special application: `{hole}` as syntactic sugar for applying n remaining arguments for witness

need to be stored/accumulated. Consider the space considerations of this. Look into Hazel's stepper and history functionality.

The trace should ideally be presented in the standard call-by-value evaluation order, rather than the search procedure evaluation order.

Consider trace reduction and/or witness reduction (see quickcheck).

4.2.10 How do search holes react upon meeting?

Multiple holes can meet, and this is where this method can find witnesses that were NOT possible in Seidel. But, a way of choosing values to instantiate in these cases must be devised AND the backtracking must be devised to recalculate too much information.

4.2.11 Coverage & Time Limit

Due to this problem being undecidable and with potential infinite loops, a trace length limit will be imposed. Further, by using coverage metrics via symbolic evaluation, possible values to generate could be fully exhausted, showing that the code is actually safe.

4.2.12 Hazel Implementation

It appears the main branch of Hazel has not actually implemented fill-and-resume. However, an earlier branch has – haz3l-fill-and-resume.

This old branch does NOT include all features required by my core goal – missing *sum types* and *type aliases*. And advanced features like polymorphism are not all implemented

with fill-and-resume. To reach my extension goal I must implement some form of fill-and-resume for the dev branch. And the core goal requires adding *at least* sum types and type aliases to the old branch. **This is an unforseen extra task.**

Maybe a hacky fill-and-resume that works just well enough for the search procedure could be implemented.

4.3 Type Error Witnesses Interaction in General

There are various classes of type errors, and witnesses will be evaluation traces to cast errors directly witnessing the type error.[21]:

4.3.1 Static Error Witnesses & Type Witnesses

Each expression synthesises a type. A witness (evaluation to a value) can be provided for (some) of these. **Do this.**

Some expressions analyse against a type. The witness of the origin of the analysed type will have a type witness derived from synthesis type witnesses of it's components?

Then for each class of type errors:

- Inconsistent against analysis type – Use the type witness of the expression which imposed the analysis.
- Inconsistent branches – Compare synthesised type witnesses of the inconsistent branches.
- Bad application –

[21] Come up with a formal way of saying this.

Type Synthesis Witnesses

Consider:

```
let sqsum = fun xs -> case xs
  | [] => 0
  | h :: t => sqsum(t) @ (h * h) end
in ?
```

and also with `sqsum` annotated with `[?] -> ?` or `[String] -> ?`.

How to treat vars?

Treat them as instances to use the search procedure on. There are various instances for free vars:

- Let binding – These always have a direct definition *(even recursive bindings, via fix)*, and hence can be substituted directly.
- Fun binding – Use of such a binding implies the current expression is a component part of the function itself. This function can be searched using the search procedure. Essentially, this is taking the variable as an input to the procedure.
- Pattern binding – These can be desugared into a one of the above bindings followed by deconstructing the bound value. i.e. in a fun binding it is a restriction on possible instantiations.

Note that the values by the above may NOT be possible in practice. i.e. if they do not result from a witness of the variable. Highlight these?

Static Error Witnesses

Essentially when putting errors into holes at compile time, tag the holes with their analysed type and original expression and context.

Then a search procedure stage can be added which performs the search on each hole treating free vars as above. For each type error we do:

- Inconsistent type between synthesised and analysed:

  We can get a type witness of it's synthesised type, instantiating any holes within appropriately (make this very clear in the visualisation[22]).

  The witness of this hole is then the analysis context using this witness (and any other required witnesses).

- Inconsistent branches: Get a type witness of each branch and compare.

- Bad function position (inconsistent with arrow): Get witness of the expected arrow. The result will be a something applied to a non-function (also make sure the cast slice error produced here works).

- No type: e.g. bad application, bad token, free constructor – Treat as holes.

Treatment of holes:

Treat as search procedure inputs and instantiate accordingly if progress is not being made.

[22] e.g. an error hole containing an int 1 could be instantiated to a string "str" if required

On the interaction of multiple errors

Think about cases where error holes may be dependent? Or where recursion may result in a hole depending on itself?

4.3.2 Treatment of dynamic typed regions:

There may still be traces leading to a cast error that are not statically caught due to presence of dynamically typed regions.

Selecting functions and searching for type errors (not linked to static errors) could be conducted as in Seidel. This could be generalised to selection any binding, with nullary functions (constants) just being evaluated directly with no inputs.

4.3.3 Interaction

There are 3 modes of use that I can envisage:

1. Searching in a selected expression:
    - Select an expression (via cursor)
    - Start search procedure on this expression, instantiating lazily all holes in the expression.
    - Evaluate as far as possible/up until a limit to collect all cast errors. Or alternatively stop at the first.
2. Searching for witnesses of a specific, statically caught, type error.
    - Click on static errors to obtain witness.
    - Allow checking any dynamic/partially dynamic function for potential type errors via search procedure. This could be a button when selecting such a function.

- Allow getting a type witness of any expression. Again, could be a button. This is essentially just evaluating at the cursor, but with lazy function input instantiation.

3. Searching in a selected expression, around holes:

   Same interaction as (1), but evaluates around holes using a multi-zipper structure. This approach has the following benefits:

   - Avoids evaluating regions without holes (unless necessary).
   - Finds errors in (some) dead code.
   - Is a more principled way to attempt to find instantiations of *every* hole involved. Each trace around each hole is evaluated to similar depths.

   And downsides:

   - Implementation difficulty.
   - Higher constant factor in evaluation.
   - Unusual evaluation order, making reasoning more difficult. This could be remedied by creating a system to replay the evaluation in a more standard ordering than the search procedure used.

4.3.4 Proofs

The ideal proofs here would be, alongside the expected ones for evaluation of search procedure holes (generality, progress):

That cast errors should relate directly to the source static type error. The witness of a static type error will contain a cast attached directly to this term (or one of it's evaluated derivatives).

4.3.5 Actual Plan of Action

- Implement hole substitution.
- Implement lazy hole instantiation: First when inside casts. Then also upon reaching operation when no wrapped in a cast. **This is nondeterministic. Represent with lazy lists and enumerations of all instances of a type (see smallcheck).**
- Implement a evaluation viewer for this evaluation semantics, similar to the stepper.
- Explaining holes: Clicking each hole instantiation gives a reason why it was instantiated. Importantly, it will also link back to the ids of the original hole in the code AND make it clear why this term is a hole (i.e. due to being an error)[23].
- Search for witnesses of statically caught type errors. For the three cases: Inconsistent types using an analysis context; Inconsistent branches, which will produce a list of evaluation traces *(note: no cast errors here)*[24]; Inconsistent with arrow type.
- UI: Click on static type errors to obtain this.
- Implement a multi-zipper data structure. [6]
- Add a 'composition' function that given a cursor on a hole in the zipper, can compose the hole with it's context to find the smallest reduction involving it.

[23] Error holes which involve instantiated free variables may be somewhat confusing (they will be instantiated to a different type to the value within the hole)

[24] Consider how to link these errors back to code

- Implement the multi-zipper search procedure evaluation using this.

Chapter 5

Evaluation

Should I put proposed implementation plans and improvements here or in implementation??

Evaluation Here.

Evaluate small scope hypothesis for this problem. Note that small inputs don't necessarily correlate with small evaluation traces.

5.1 Goals

i.e. Project Proposal. But make it with more clarity, i.e. 'Most Type Errors Admit Witnesses' Completeness etc. most of Hazel...

5.2 Hypotheses

Various hypotheses for results, mentioned below.

5.3 Program Corpus Collection

I need a corpus of programs with type errors and a corpus of programs with annotations (which may be well-typed). Currently have neither!! Think I might need help with this...

Both the above could be transpiled from OCaml, ill-typed ones by just ignoring all types (though this adds some bias to the search procedure, by ignoring partially annotated examples or annotated but ill-typed situations, but it *should* be roughly ok). But sum types etc. may be harder to transpile.

5.3.1 Methodology

5.3.2 Alternatives

OCaml $\rightarrow$ Hazel transpiler

5.4 Effectiveness Analysis

5.4.1 Search Procedure

Witness Coverage

Describe reasons for failure in next section

Code Coverage

Were some branches not taken? 'Solvable' via symbolic execution

Trace Size

Larger trace sizes are harder to comprehend? Cite...

Cast Slice Size

Common complaints on error slices are large slice sizes. cite... Does this correlate with trace size?

5.4.2 Type Slicing

Correctness

?

Code Slice Size

Compare large theory slices with the 'simplified' slices.

5.5 Performance Analysis

5.5.1 Search Procedure

Time

Space

Lazy list stuff in particular...

5.5.2 Slices

Time

Very slice when used continuously... This might be due to bad design or bugs?

Space

Compare with using using 'Typ (slices turned off). Compare with old implementation (if possible)

Cast slices should be small as they only use sub-parts of terms and mostly exist at the leaves, or are incremental parts (i.e. to [?]). Compare the slice size of *casts* vs *type* slices.

5.6 Critical Analysis

5.6.1 Slicing

Which constructs are ignored in simplified slices? Why? Do they have the biggest impact on size?

Discuss the usability aspects of the 4 different type slicing ideas. Discuss

5.6.2 Structure Editing

Statics are recalculated upon edits and even cursor movement in Hazel. The previous results show that slicing is a *relatively expensive* operation, and not so suitable for such a rapid use case. In this section I discuss ideas for reducing the recalculation during local edits. **Check out Hazel's incrementalisation efforts too to see if they help**

The Hazel structure editor allows efficient[1] updating of the external syntax tree via the use of a zipper. It would make sense to extend this zipper idea into the abstract syntax tree and it's statics (typing information), allowing allow local changes to propagate to local changes (and type changes) in the AST zipper. Some local changes can propagate type changes *non-locally* (e.g. inserting a new binding) which would require extensive recalculation of the typed AST, but these would be relatively rare (**provide evidence for this?**).

This would require an entire rewrite of the Hazel statics.

[1] Constant time.

5.6.3 Cast Laziness

Annotations will create casts, but in many cases these annotations will never actually be used. i.e. on a product where only the 2nd element is ever used, a cast error on the 1st element is still caught. Eager casts catch these errors, lazy casts do NOT.

5.6.4 Cast Errors during Evaluation

Cast errors may appear during evaluation, but subsequently ignored as they may be discarded upon further evaluation. i.e. we get to a safe result, even though a cast error appeared on the way. It is debatable if this should count as an error. Should be easy to implement a version which catches this and do some tests?

5.6.5 Static-Dynamic Error Correspondence

How to find dynamic errors for specific chosen static errors. Works well for some types of errors (inconsistency ones). But not for ones like inconsistent branches, show how this could be extended. Indet evaluation still allows these to be witnessed, but they just don't actually go to a cast error.

5.6.6 Categorising Programs Lacking Type Error Witnesses

Non-Termination

The original procedure would get stuck on programs that loop forever. (To) Fix with iterative deepening

Repeated Instantiations

A hole being instantiated to a hole. Does this ever happen??

Dead Code

Search proc cannot reach, and failed cast detection would never find one there even if it existed (i.e. statically found).

Dynamically Safe Code

Code that is safe to run in all situations, but still exhibits a static type error.

Needle in a Haystack

Very specific input required from multiple hole instantiations. Combinatorial explosion makes this very hard to find (solve with coverage directed search, but this requires SMT solvers at least).

5.6.7 Non-Local Errors

Useful when type correct code written but used in the wrong way, i.e. write the wrong map function with @ still has a valid type. Especially prevalent with global inference.

5.6.8 Bidirectional Type Error Localisation

It is generally good. Find some cases where bidirectional type error localisation is wrong.

5.6.9 Improving Hole Instantiation

To improve code coverage. i.e. Strings and Floats are annoying, SMT solvers could be used to help explore branches... Equality

solvers in particular would be very useful and quite easy to implement, in particular for strings which are generally used via equality as opposed to lists which are used incrementally via pattern matching.

5.6.10 Combinatorial Explosion

State space gets very large as more holes are instantiated from other holes, i.e. $[] \to [?] \to [?, ?] \to [?, ?, ?]$...

5.7 Cognitive Walkthrough: Debugging a Type Error

This actually answers the question of how this helps debugging a type error.

Demonstrate how a static error would arise, and be debugged by either using slicing or finding a dynamic error for the expression and using cast slicing.

Could do a cognitive walk-through for this?

Chapter 6

Conclusions

6.1 Conclusion

Conclusions Here.

6.2 Further Directions

Further directions here, referencing unsatisfactory results from Evaluation. Also various extensions.

6.2.1 Extension to Full Hazel Language

Type functions, recursive types, deferrals

User Studies

Effectiveness gauge in the real world

6.2.2 Cast Slicing

Cast slicing here doesn't extend the nice properties I have with type slicing: that a program slice will synthesise/analyse the

same type. It might be possible to have a system that does?

The implementation differs by storing slices directly in the context, making analysis slices.

Also, the fact that cast slices are manipulated in evaluation is completely opaque to the user *unless* they step through manually. Ways to better represent this information exist (cast dependency graphs etc.)

Proofs

PRimarily about the search procedure & casts.

Also about creating a *stronger* link between static type errors and runtime errors, what Hazel considers as a runtime error is somewhat unintuitive, see the points made in evaluation. A formal property of what exactly a type error witness *is* which actually matches with the implementation would be nice.

6.2.3 Indeterminate Evaluation & Logic Programming

The idea of allowing holes to evaluate indeterministically allows for nondeterminism in evaluation. This could be harnessed to write non-deterministic algorithms themselves.

Consider adding a new construct which filters indet terms. Hazel already has a construct for testing expressions which exposes the success/failure to the user directly in the editor. A similar construct could filter all indet evaluations which result in the test being true. **Give an example for calculating permutations.**

Such programs would want extensive improvements to the efficiency of indeterminate evaluation and would probably want ways to customise the instantiation ordering/search direction via code.

This idea is basically similar to the idea behind Curry, with these holes being like free variables in Curry. The narrowing evaluation strategies would perhaps work for Hazel.

So we could have incomplete programs using holes. Then we could write constraints on these programs. Then we could run the program to synthesise results for these holes, i.e. generating programs by running the program! *Maybe find some research concerning program synthesis using logic programming? 'Logic programming and program synthesis'*

Of course, the current instantiation method only generates constant functions, so would be useless for general program synthesis, e.g. one asserting that $f(x) = x$, but could be extended. Also, if x here has infinite number of values, again it would fail (would need to reason by SMT or extensionality etc).

Maybe even dependent types could add more fine grained specifications to instantiate by.

6.2.4 Search Procedure

Jump Trace Compression

Symbolic Execution & SMT Solvers

More details in appendix Pattern matching in particular already has discussion on integration with SMT solving in the Live Pattern Matching paper.

Ad-Hoc Polymophism

Not in Hazel, but the search procedure can't deal well with it

Formal Semantics & Proofs

Was an uncompleted extension goal

6.2.5 Let Polymorphism & Global Inference

Errors with global inference errors are often more subtle, where trace visualisation really shines.

Constraint Slicing

To allow slices to work with constraint solvers. One error slicing paper already does this.

Gradual Type Inference

Miyazaki has a good paper on this. Seems like it could work well in Hazel, though at the loss of parametricity.

Localisation

Bidirectional typing localisation is good, but global inference is bad. The search procedure could improve localisation and also give more meaning (traces, slices) to localisations.

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Appendix A

Hazel Formal Semantics

This is the complete formal semantics for the Hazel *core calculus*. It is *gradually typed* so consists of both an *external language* and *internal language*.

ADD THE USEFUL THEOREMS AND REF THROUGHOUT TEXT. Add brief notes pointing out unusual features.

A.1 Syntax

$$\tau ::= b \mid \tau \to \tau \mid ?$$
$$e ::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x : \tau.e \mid \lambda x.e \mid e(e) \mid (\!|\,|\!)^u \mid (\!|e|\!)^u \mid e : \tau$$
$$d ::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x : \tau d \mid d(d) \mid (\!|\,|\!)^u_\sigma \mid (\!|d|\!)^u_\sigma \mid d\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \mid d\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau \rangle$$

Figure A.1: Syntax: *types* τ, *external expressions* e, *internal expressions* d. With x ranging over variables, u over hole names, σ over $x \to d$ *internal language* substitutions/environments, b over base types and c over constants.

A.2 Static Type System

A.2.1 External Language

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau}$ e synthesises type τ under context Γ

$$\text{SConst}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash c \Rightarrow b} \qquad \text{SVar}\ \frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau} \qquad \text{SFun}\ \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2}$$

$$\text{SApp}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \qquad \tau_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_2 \to \tau \qquad \Gamma \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Rightarrow \tau} \qquad \text{SEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Rightarrow ?}$$

$$\text{SNEHole}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \Rightarrow ?} \qquad \text{SAsc}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \tau}$$

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}$ e analyses against type τ under context Γ

$$\text{AFun}\ \frac{\tau \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \qquad \Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e \Leftarrow \tau} \qquad \text{ASubsume}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \qquad \tau \sim \tau'}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau'}$$

Figure A.2: Bidirectional typing judgements for *external expressions*

$\boxed{\tau_1 \sim \tau_2}$ τ_1 is consistent with τ_2

$$\text{TCDyn1}\ \frac{}{? \sim \tau} \qquad \text{TCDyn2}\ \frac{}{\tau \sim ?} \qquad \text{TCRfl}\ \frac{}{\tau \sim \tau} \qquad \text{TCFun}\ \frac{\tau_1 \sim \tau_1' \qquad \tau_2 \sim \tau_2'}{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \sim \tau_1' \to \tau_2'}$$

Figure A.3: Type consistency

$\boxed{\tau \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_1 \to \tau_2}$ τ has arrow type $\tau_1 \to \tau_2$

$$\text{MADyn}\ \frac{}{? \blacktriangleright_{\to} ? \to ?} \qquad \text{MAFun}\ \frac{}{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_1 \to \tau_2}$$

Figure A.4: Type Matching

A.2.2 Elaboration

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d \dashv \Delta}$ e syntheses type τ and elaborates to d

$$\textsc{ESConst}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash c \Rightarrow b \rightsquigarrow c \dashv \emptyset} \qquad \textsc{ESVar}\ \frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow x \dashv \emptyset}$$

$$\textsc{ESFun}\ \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau_2 \rightsquigarrow d \dashv \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1 . e \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \rightsquigarrow \lambda x : \tau_1 . d \dashv \Delta}$$

$$\textsc{ESApp}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \quad \tau_1 \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_2 \to \tau \quad \Gamma \vdash e_1 \Leftarrow \tau_2 \to \tau \rightsquigarrow d_1 : \tau_1' \dashv \Delta_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_1 \Leftarrow \tau_2 \rightsquigarrow d_2 : \tau_2' \dashv \Delta_2}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow (d_1\langle \tau_1' \Rightarrow \tau_2 \to \tau \rangle)(d_2\langle \tau_2' \Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle) \dashv \Delta_1 \cup \Delta_2}$$

$$\textsc{ESEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Rightarrow ? \rightsquigarrow (\!|\,|\!)^u_{\mathrm{id}(\Gamma)} \dashv u :: (\!|\,|\!)[\Gamma]}$$

$$\textsc{ESNEHole}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d \dashv \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \Rightarrow ? \rightsquigarrow (\!|d|\!)^u_{\mathrm{id}(\Gamma)} \dashv \Delta, u :: (\!|\,|\!)[\Gamma]}$$

$$\textsc{ESAsc}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d : \tau' \dashv \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d\langle \tau' \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \dashv \Delta}$$

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d : \tau' \dashv \Delta}$ e analyses against type τ and elaborates to d of consistent type τ'

$$\textsc{EAFun}\ \frac{\tau \blacktriangleright_{\to} \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \quad \Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau_2 \rightsquigarrow d : \tau_2' \dashv \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x . e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow \lambda x : \tau_1 . d : \tau_1 \to \tau_2' \dashv \Delta}$$

$$\textsc{EASubsume}\ \frac{e \neq (\!|\,|\!)^u \quad e \neq (\!|e'|\!)^u \quad \Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau' \rightsquigarrow d \dashv \Delta \quad \tau \sim \tau'}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow d : \tau' \dashv \Delta}$$

$$\textsc{EAEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow (\!|\,|\!)^u_{\mathrm{id}(\Gamma)} : \tau \dashv u :: \tau[\Gamma]}$$

$$\textsc{EANEHole}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau' \rightsquigarrow d \dashv \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \Leftarrow \tau \rightsquigarrow (\!|d|\!)^u_{\mathrm{id}(\Gamma)} : \tau \dashv u :: \tau[\Gamma]}$$

Figure A.5: Elaboration judgements

$$id(x_1 : \tau_1, \ldots, x_n : \tau_n) := [x_1/x_1, \ldots, x_n/x_n]$$

$\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \sigma : \Gamma'$ iff $\mathrm{dom}(\sigma) = \mathrm{dom}(\Gamma')$ and for every $x : \tau \in \Gamma'$ then: $\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \sigma(x) : \tau$

Figure A.7: Identity substitution and substitution typing

A.2.3 Internal Language

$\boxed{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d : \tau}$ d is assigned type τ

$$\text{TACons}\frac{}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash c : b} \qquad \text{TAVar}\frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash x : \tau} \qquad \text{TAFun}\frac{\Delta; \Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash d : \tau_2}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1 . d : \tau_1 \to \tau_2}$$

$$\text{TAApp}\frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d_1 : \tau_2 \to \tau \quad \Delta; \Gamma \vdash d_2 : \tau_2}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d_1(d_2) : \tau} \qquad \text{TAEHole}\frac{u :: \tau[\Gamma'] \in \Delta \quad \Delta; \Gamma \vdash \sigma : \Gamma'}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash (\!|)^u_\sigma : \tau}$$

$$\text{TANEHole}\frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d : \tau' \quad u :: \tau[\Gamma'] \in \Delta \quad \Delta; \Gamma \vdash \sigma : \Gamma'}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash (\!|d|\!)^u_\sigma : \tau} \qquad \text{TACast}\frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d : \tau_1 \quad \tau_1 \sim \tau_2}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle : \tau_2}$$

$$\text{TACastError}\frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d : \tau_1 \quad \tau_1 \text{ ground} \quad \tau_2 \text{ ground} \quad \tau_1 \neq \tau_2}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash d\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle : \tau_2}$$

Figure A.6: Type assignment judgement for *internal expressions*

$\boxed{\tau \text{ ground}}$ τ is a ground type

$$\text{GBase}\frac{}{b \text{ ground}} \qquad \text{GDynFun}\frac{}{? \to ? \text{ ground}}$$

Figure A.8: Ground types

A.3 Dynamics

A.3.1 Final Forms

$\boxed{d \text{ final}}$ d is final

$$\text{FBoxedVal}\ \frac{d \text{ boxedval}}{d \text{ final}} \qquad \text{FIndex}\ \frac{d \text{ indet}}{d \text{ final}}$$

$\boxed{d \text{ val}}$ d is a value

$$\text{VConst}\ \frac{}{c \text{ val}} \qquad \text{VFun}\ \frac{}{\lambda x : \tau.d \text{ val}}$$

$\boxed{d \text{ boxedval}}$ d is a boxed value

$$\text{BVVal}\ \frac{d \text{ val}}{d \text{ boxedval}} \qquad \text{BVFunCast}\ \frac{\tau \to \tau_2 \neq \tau_3 \to \tau_4 \qquad d \text{ boxedval}}{d\langle \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \Rightarrow \tau_3 \to \tau_4 \rangle \text{ boxedval}}$$

$$\text{BVDynCast}\ \frac{d \text{ boxedval} \qquad \tau \text{ ground}}{d\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \rangle \text{ boxedval}}$$

$\boxed{d \text{ indet}}$ d is indeterminate

$$\text{IEHole}\ \frac{}{(\!|\,|\!)^u_\sigma \text{ indet}} \qquad \text{INEHole}\ \frac{d \text{ final}}{(\!|d|\!)^u_\sigma \text{ indet}} \qquad \text{IAp}\ \frac{d_1 \neq d_1' \langle \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \Rightarrow \tau_3 \to \tau_4 \rangle \qquad d_1 \text{ indet} \qquad d_2 \text{ final}}{d_1(d_2) \text{ indet}}$$

$$\text{ICastGD}\ \frac{d \text{ indet} \qquad \tau \text{ ground}}{d\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \rangle \text{ indet}} \qquad \text{ICastDG}\ \frac{d \neq d' \langle \tau' \Rightarrow ? \rangle \qquad d \text{ indet} \qquad \tau \text{ ground}}{d\langle ? \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \text{ indet}}$$

$$\text{ICastFun}\ \frac{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \neq \tau_3 \to \tau_4 \qquad d \text{ indet}}{d\langle \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \Rightarrow \tau_3 \to \tau_4 \rangle \text{ indet}} \qquad \text{ICastError}\ \frac{d \text{ final} \qquad \tau_1 \text{ ground} \qquad \tau_2 \text{ ground} \qquad \tau_1 \neq \tau_2}{d\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle \text{ indet}}$$

Figure A.9: Final forms

A.3.2 Instructions

$\boxed{d \longrightarrow d'}$ d takes and instruction transition to d'

$$\text{ITFun}\ \frac{}{(\lambda x : \tau.d_1)(d_2) \longrightarrow [d_2/x]d_1} \qquad \text{ITCastId}\ \frac{}{d\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \longrightarrow d}$$

$$\text{ITAppCast}\ \frac{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \neq \tau_1' \to \tau_2'}{d_1\langle \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \Rightarrow \tau_1' \to \tau_2' \rangle(d) \longrightarrow (d_1(d_2\langle \tau_1' \Rightarrow \tau_1 \rangle))\langle \tau_2 \Rightarrow \tau_2' \rangle}$$

$$\text{ITCast}\ \frac{\tau\ \text{ground}}{d\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \longrightarrow d} \qquad \text{ITCastError}\ \frac{\tau_1 \neq \tau_2 \quad \tau_1\ \text{ground} \quad \tau_2\ \text{ground}}{d\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \Rightarrow ? \rangle \tau_2 \longrightarrow d\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow ? \rangle \tau_2}$$

$$\text{ITGround}\ \frac{\tau \blacktriangleright_{\text{ground}} \tau'}{d\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \rangle \longrightarrow d\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau' \Rightarrow ? \rangle} \qquad \text{ITExpand}\ \frac{\tau \blacktriangleright_{\text{ground}} \tau'}{d\langle ? \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \longrightarrow d\langle ? \Rightarrow \tau' \Rightarrow \tau \rangle}$$

Figure A.10: Instruction transitions

A.3.3 Contextual Dynamics

$\boxed{\tau \blacktriangleright_{\text{ground}} \tau'}$ τ matches ground type τ'

$$\frac{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \neq ? \to ?}{\tau_1 \to \tau_2 \blacktriangleright_{\text{ground}} ? \to ?}$$

Figure A.11: Ground type matching

Context syntax:

$$E ::= \circ \mid E(d) \mid d(E) \mid (\!|E|\!)^u_\sigma \mid E\langle \tau \Rightarrow \tau \rangle \mid E\langle \tau \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau \rangle$$

$\boxed{d = E[d]}$ d is the context E filled with d' in place of $\circ$

$$\text{ECOuter}\frac{}{d = \circ[d]} \qquad \text{ECApp1}\frac{d_1 = E[d_1']}{d_1(d_2) = E(d_2)[d_1]} \qquad \text{ECApp2}\frac{d_2 = E[d_2]}{d_1(d_2) = d_1(E)[d_2']}$$

$$\text{ECNEHole}\frac{d = E[d']}{(\!|d|\!)^u_\sigma = (\!|E|\!)^u_\sigma[d']} \qquad \text{ECCast}\frac{d = E[d']}{d\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle = E\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle[d']}$$

$$\text{ECCastError}\frac{d = E[d']}{d\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle = E\langle \tau_1 \Rightarrow ? \not\Rightarrow \tau_2 \rangle[d']}$$

$\boxed{d \mapsto d'}$ d steps to d'

$$\text{Step}\frac{d_1 = E[d_2] \qquad d_2 \longrightarrow d_2' \qquad d_1' = E[d_2']}{d_1 \mapsto d_1'}$$

Figure A.12: Contextual dynamics of the internal language

A.3.4 Hole Substitution

$\boxed{[\![d/u]\!]d' = d''}$ d'' is d' with each hole u substituted with d in the respective hole's environment σ.

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
[\![d/u]\!]c & = c & \\
[\![d/u]\!]x & = x & \\
[\![d/u]\!]\lambda x : \tau.d' & = \lambda x : \tau.[\![d/u]\!]d' & \\
[\![d/u]\!]d_1(d_2) & = ([\![d/u]\!]d_1)([\![d/u]\!]d_2) & \\
[\![d/u]\!](\!|)^u_\sigma & = [[\![d/u]\!]\sigma]d & \\
[\![d/u]\!](\!|)^v_\sigma & = (\!|)^b_{[\![d/u]\!]\sigma} & \text{if } u \neq v \\
[\![d/u]\!](\!|d'|\!)^u_\sigma & = [[\![d/u]\!]\sigma]d & \\
[\![d/u]\!](\!|d'|\!)^v_\sigma & = (\!|[\![d/u]\!]d'|\!)^b_{[\![d/u]\!]\sigma} & \text{if } u \neq v \\
[\![d/u]\!]d'\langle\tau\Rightarrow\tau'\rangle & = ([\![d/u]\!]d')\langle\tau\Rightarrow\tau'\rangle & \\
[\![d/u]\!]d'\langle\tau\Rightarrow?\not\Rightarrow\tau'\rangle & = ([\![d/u]\!]d')\langle\tau\Rightarrow?\not\Rightarrow\tau'\rangle &
\end{array}
$$

$\boxed{[\![d/u]\!]\sigma = \sigma'}$ σ' is σ with each hole u in σ substituted with d in the respective hole's environment.

$$
\begin{array}{c}
[\![d/u]\!]\cdot = \cdot \\
[\![d/u]\!]\sigma, d'/x = [\![d/u]\!]\sigma, ([\![d/u]\!]d')/x
\end{array}
$$

Figure A.13: Hole substitution

Appendix B

Slicing Theory

B.1 Precision Relations

B.1.1 Patterns

B.1.2 Types

B.1.3 Expressions

B.2 Program Slices

B.2.1 Syntax

Including simplified syntaxes

B.2.2 Typing

B.3 Program Context Slices

B.3.1 Syntax

Include pattern contexts

B.3.2 Typing

B.4 Type Indexed Slices

B.4.1 Syntax

Including simplified syntaxes

B.4.2 Properties

B.5 Criterion 1: Synthesis Slices

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \dashv \rho}$ e synthesising type τ under context Γ produces minimum synthesis slice ρ

$$\textsc{SConst}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash c \Rightarrow b \dashv [c \mid \emptyset]} \qquad \textsc{SVar}\ \frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau \dashv [x \mid x : \tau]} \qquad \textsc{SVar?}\ \frac{x : ? \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau \dashv [\Box \mid \emptyset]}$$

$$\textsc{SFun}\ \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau_2 \dashv [\varsigma \mid \gamma, x : \tau_1]}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \dashv [\lambda x : \tau_1.\ \varsigma \mid \gamma]}$$

$$\textsc{SFunConst}\ \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau_2 \dashv [\varsigma \mid \gamma] \qquad x \notin \mathrm{dom}(\gamma)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \dashv [\lambda \Box : \tau_1.\ \varsigma \mid \gamma]}$$

$$\textsc{SApp}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_1 \dashv [\varsigma_1 \mid \gamma_1]}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \Rightarrow \tau[\varsigma_1(\Box) \mid \gamma_1]} \qquad \textsc{SEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|\,|\!)^u \Rightarrow ? \dashv [\Box \mid \emptyset]}$$

$$\textsc{SNEHole}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau \dashv}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \Rightarrow ?[\Box, \emptyset]} \qquad \textsc{SAsc}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \tau \dashv [\Box : \tau \mid \emptyset]}$$

Figure B.1: *Minimum synthesis slice* calculation

$\boxed{\Gamma \vdash e \dashv\!\Rightarrow \upsilon[\rho]}$ e synthesising type υ $\blacktriangleright_{\text{type}}$ τ under context Γ produces minimum type-indexed synthesis slice(s) $\upsilon[\rho]$

$$\text{SConst}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash c \dashv\!\Rightarrow b[c \mid \emptyset]} \qquad \text{SVar}\ \frac{x : \tau \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \dashv\!\Rightarrow \tau[x \mid x : \tau]}$$

$$\text{SFun}\ \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \dashv\!\Rightarrow \upsilon_2[\varsigma \mid \gamma, x : \tau_1]}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \dashv\!\Rightarrow (\tau_1[\square : \tau_1 \mid \emptyset] \to \upsilon_2[e \mid \gamma])[\lambda x : \tau_1.\ \varsigma \mid \gamma]}$$

$$\text{SFunConst}\ \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e \dashv\!\Rightarrow \upsilon_2[\varsigma \mid \gamma] \qquad x \notin \mathrm{dom}(\gamma)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1.\ e \dashv\!\Rightarrow (\tau_1[\square : \tau_1 \mid \emptyset] \to \upsilon_2[e \mid \gamma])[\lambda \square : \tau_1.\ \varsigma \mid \gamma]}$$

$$\text{SApp}\ \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \dashv\!\Rightarrow \upsilon_1[\varsigma_1 \mid \gamma_1]}{\Gamma \vdash e_1(e_2) \dashv\!\Rightarrow \upsilon[\varsigma_1(\square) \mid \gamma_1]} \qquad \text{SEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|)^u \dashv\!\Rightarrow ?[\square \mid \emptyset]}$$

$$\text{SNEHole}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash (\!|e|\!)^u \dashv\!\Rightarrow ?[\square \mid \emptyset]} \qquad \text{SAsc}\ \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau \Rightarrow \tau[\square : \tau \mid \emptyset]}$$

Figure B.2: *Minimum synthesis slice* calculation retaining subslices indexed on types

B.6 Criterion 2: Analysis Slices

B.7 Criterion 3: ...

B.8 Elaboration

Appendix C

Category Theoretic Description of Type Slices

Appendix D

Hazel Term Types

Could be merged into Hazel architecture

Appendix E

Hazel Architecture

More full description of the Hazel code-base architecture.

Appendix F

Code-base Addition Clarification

Clarification on which areas of the Hazel code-base were affected by my code, and what it did

Appendix G

Merges

List of merges performed during development which had overlap with my work.

Appendix H

Selected Results

H.1 Type Slicing

Selected examples from the corpus demonstrating each of the slicing techniques

H.2 Search Procedure

Selected examples for search procedure corpus, demonstrate examples which fail due to each class of difficulty discussed in evaluation. Plus some general examples which work.

Appendix I

Symbolic Execution & SMT Solvers

Discuss this further extension and feasibility. Especially for pattern matching. Does the code coverage percentage suggest that it is even needed?

Look at books for index structure reference. List key concepts, e.g. Core Hazel, Zipper, CMTT, Gradual Types.

Make sure the use of terms is consistent throughout dissertation.

Index

Project Proposal

Description

This project will add some features to the Hazel language [2]. Hazel is a functional research language that makes use of gradual types to support unusual features such as: holes (code placeholders) to give type meaning to incomplete programs. Importantly for this project, all Hazel programs, even ill-typed or incomplete programs, are evaluable. This allows dynamic reasoning about ill-typed programs via evaluation traces with the potential to improve the user's understanding of *why ill-typed programs go wrong*. See example below:

```
let rec sum : Int -> Int = fun n ->
  if n == 0 then
    true    // Type error statically caught and correctly loc
  else
    n + sum(n - 1)
in sum(2)
```

But evaluation is still possible; see below a (compressed) trace to a stuck value exhibiting a cast error:

$$\texttt{sum(2)} \mapsto^* \texttt{2 + sum(1)} \mapsto^* \texttt{2 + (1 + true}^{\langle \texttt{Bool} \Rightarrow \texttt{Int} \rangle}\texttt{)}$$

This project aims to exploit further this potential by providing some extra features to both: aid with finding values/inputs

that demonstrate why type-errors were found (type-error witnesses) and linking the evaluation traces back to source code. But is not expected to directly measure the usefulness of such evaluation traces themselves in debugging, nor is the design space for a Hazel debugger inspecting and interacting with traces to be explored.

Searching for type-error witnesses automatically is the main feature provided by this project, inspired by Seidel et al. [24]. The intended use of this is to automatically generate values (for example, function arguments) that cause ill-typed programs to 'go wrong' (lead to a cast error). More specifically, the search procedure can be thought of as evaluating a *special hole* which refines its type dynamically and non-deterministically instantiates itself to values of this type to find a value whose evaluation leads to a *general* cast error – 'general' meaning excluding trivial cast errors such as generating a value that doesn't actually have the refined expected type.

Such a search procedure is undecidable and subject to path explosion, hence the success criteria (detailed below) does not expect witnesses to be provided in general, even if they do exist. Sophisticated heuristics and methods to limit path explosion to support large code samples is not a core goal.

Formal semantics of this procedure and associated proofs is an extension goal, consisting of preservation proofs and witness generality proofs (formalising the notion of generality mentioned previously).

Secondly, *cast slicing* will track source code that contributed to any cast throughout the cast elaboration and evaluation phases. In particular, this allows a cast involved in a cast error relating to a type-error witness to point back to offending code. This is expected in some sense to be similar to blame tracking [37], error and dynamic program slicing [51, 64], although these are not directly relevant for this project.

Work required for the creation of an evaluation corpus of

ill-typed hazel programs, requiring manual work or creation of automated translation and/or fuzzing tools, is timetabled.

Starting Point

Only background research and exploration has been conducted. This consists of reading the Hazel research papers [2] and various other related research topics including: gradual types, bidirectional types, symbolic evaluation, OCaml error localisation and visualisation techniques.

More research, into the Hazel codebase in particular, and concrete planning is required and is timetabled accordingly.

Success Criteria

Core goals are the minimum expected goals that must be completed to consider this project a success. This corresponds to a working tool for a large portion of Hazel.

Extension goals will be timetabled in, but are relatively more difficult and not required for the project to be considered a success.

First, I give some definitions of terms:

- **Core Calculus** – The formal semantics core of Hazel as referred to by the Hazel research papers [18].
- **Basic Hazel** – A Hazel subset consisting of the core calculus, product and sum types, type aliases, bindings, (parametric) lists, bools, int, floats, strings, and their corresponding standard operations.
- **Full Hazel** – Hazel, including **Basic Hazel** plus pattern matching, explicit impredicative system-F style polymorphism and explicitly recursive types.

- **Core Corpus** – A corpus of ill-typed Hazel programs that are similar in complexity and size to student programs being taught a functional language, *e.g. (incorrect) solutions to the ticks in FoCS*. This will include examples in **Basic** or **Full Hazel** as required.
- **Extended Corpus** – A corpus of ill-typed Hazel programs that are larger in size, more akin to real-world code.
- **Evaluation Criteria** – Conditions for the search procedure to meet upon evaluation:
    1. Must have reasonable coverage – success in finding an *existing* witness which is correct and general.
    2. Must find witnesses in an amount of time suitable for interactive debugging – in-line with build-times for a debug build of existing languages.

Core Goals

- Success criteria for Cast Slicing – Cast slicing must be *correct* (slices must include all code involved in the cast) and work for *all casts*, including casts involved in cast errors. Informal reasoning in evidence of satisfying these conditions is all that will be required.
- Success criteria for the Search Procedure – The procedure must work for **Basic Hazel**, meeting the **Evaluation Criteria** over the **Core Corpus**. Analysis of some classes of programs for which witnesses could not be generated is also expected.

Extension Goals

- Search Procedure Extensions – Support for **Full Hazel** under the same criteria as above.
- Search Procedure Performance Extensions – Meeting of the **Evaluation Criteria** over an **Extended Corpus**
- Formal Semantics – The specification of a formal evaluation semantics for the search procedure over the **Core Calculus**. Additionally, a preservation and witness generality proof should be provided.

Work Plan

21st Oct *(Proposal Deadline)* – 3rd Nov

Background research & research into the Hazel semantics, cast elaboration, type system, and codebase. Produce implementation plan for cast slicing and the search procedure for the **Core Calculus**. This includes an interaction design plan, expected to be very minimal.

Milestone 1: Plan Confirmed with Supervisors

4th Nov – 17th Nov

Complete implementation of Cast Slicing for the **Core Calculus**. Write detailed reasoning for correctness, including plan for **Basic Hazel**. Add unit testing.

*Milestone 2: Cast slicing is complete for the **Core Calculus**.*

18th Nov – 1st Dec *(End of Full Michaelmas Term)*

Complete implementation of the search procedure for the **Core Calculus**.

*Milestone 3: Search Procedure is complete for the **Core Calculus**.*

2nd Dec – 20th Dec

Extension of both cast slicing and the search procedure to **Basic Hazel**.

*Milestone 4: Cast slicing & search procedure are complete for **Basic Hazel***

21st Dec – 24th Jan *(Full Lent Term starting 16th Jan)*

Basic UI interaction for the project. Drafts of Implementation chapter. Slack time. Expecting holiday, exam revision, and module exam revision. Should time be available, the **Formal Semantics** extension will be attempted.

Milestone 5: Implementation chapter draft complete.

25th Jan – 7th Feb *(Progress Report Deadline)*

Writing of Progress Report. Planning of evaluation, primarily including decisions and design of tools to be used to collect/create the **Core Corpus** and planning the specific statistical tests to conduct on the corpus. Collected corpus and translation method will be one of:

1. Manual translation of a small ill-typed OCaml program corpus into ill-typed Hazel.

2. Manual insertion of type-errors into a well-typed Hazel corpus.

3. Collection of a well-typed Hazel corpus.
   Tools: A Hazel type fuzzer to make the corpus ill-typed.

4. Collection of a well-typed OCaml corpus.
   Tools: OCaml -¿ Hazel translator/annotator which works with well-typed OCaml. A Hazel type fuzzer.

5. Collection of an ill-typed OCaml corpus.
   Tools: OCaml -¿ Hazel translator which works with ill-typed OCaml. *This would NOT be expected to be an implicitly typed Hazel front-end which maintains desireable properties like parametricity.*

Milestone 6: Evaluation plan and corpus creation method confirmed with supervisors.
Milestone 7: Underlying corpus (critical resource) collected.

8th Feb – 28th Feb

Implementation of the required tools for evaluation as planned. Some existing code or tools may be re-used, such as the OCaml type-checker.

Milestone 8: ***Core Corpus*** *has been collected.*

1st Mar – 15th Mar *(End of Full Lent Term)*

Conducting of evaluation tests and write-up of evaluation draft including results.

Milestone 9: Evaluation results documented.
Milestone 10: Evaluation draft complete.

16th Mar – 30th Mar

Drafts of remaining dissertation chapters. If possible, collection and evaluation of **Extended Corpus** using the same tools as the **Core Corpus**.

Milestone 11: Full dissertation draft complete and sent to supervisors for feedback.

31st Mar – 13th Apr

Act upon dissertation feedback. Exam revision.

Milestone 12: Second dissertation draft complete and send to supervisors for feedback.

14th Apr – 23rd Apr *(Start of Full Easter Term)*

Act upon feedback. Final dissertation complete. Exam revision.

Milestone 13: Dissertation submitted.

24th Apr – 16th May *(Final Deadline)*

Exam revision.

Milestone 14: Source code submitted.

Resource Declaration

- Underlying Corpus of either: Well-typed OCaml programs, Ill-typed OCaml programs, Hazel programs. For

use in evaluation. The required tools or manual translation to convert these into the ill-typed Hazel **Core Corpus** are detailed and allocated time in the timetable.

- Hazel source code. Openly available with MIT licence on GitHub [3].
- My personal laptop will be used for development, using GitHub for version control and backup of both code and dissertation. I accept full responsibility for this machine and I have made contingency plans to protect myself against hardware and/or software failure. A backup pc is available in case of such failure.