

Unified type system (UTS) for the modern general-purpose programming language



Alexey Kanatov



Eugene Zouev

Innopolis University, Innopolis, Tatarstan, Russia

Agenda for 20 min

- Personal introduction (5 sec 😊) – use Facebook or LinkedIn
- UTS Introduction - from dust to heaven (from atoms to molecules) (3 min)
- Type kinds (9 min)
- Compatibility = conformance + convertibility (2 min)
- Type test
 - Duck typing (1 min)
- Summary (5 sec 😊)

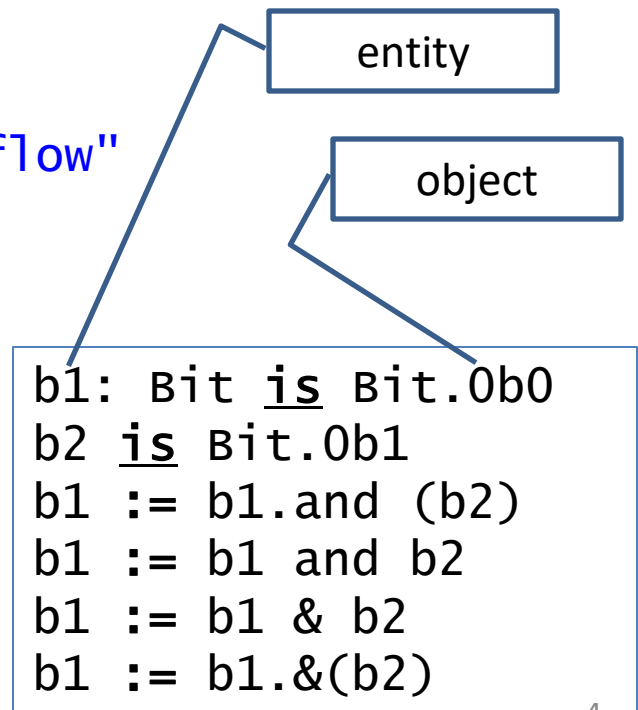
You could have 4 min 50 sec for Q&A 😊 at the end please!

UTS Introduction: from atoms to molecules

- **I think OOP:** there is nothing except concurrent interacting objects in the world 😊 Others think only functions exist 😊
- **Object:** region(s) in the computer memory where attributes and routines are stored. At compile time it has the name (entity placeholder), offset and size at runtime
- **Objects' hierarchy:** Real world object => abstraction => computer object => description of the object (another abstraction) => type (values+operations). Implication => there are no types at runtime (only type descriptions as objects)
- **2 fundamental objects** – 0 and 1, 0b and 1b, 0b0 and 0b1. All other objects are built from these 2.
- What is their type => **Bit**. Type Bit has 2 constant objects Bit.0b0 and Bit.0b1; For bits name and value are the same³

UTS Introduction: from atoms to molecules

```
val unit Bit const: 0b0, 0b1 end  
  pure & alias and (other: Bit): Bit => if this = 0b0 do 0b0  
elsif other = 0b0 do 0b0 else 0b1  
  pure | alias or (other: Bit): Bit => if this = 0b1 do 0b1 elsif  
other = 0b1 do 0b1 else 0b0  
  pure ^ alias xor (other: Bit): Bit => if this = other do 0b0  
else 0b1  
  pure ~ alias not (): Bit => if this = 0b0 do 0b1 else 0b0  
  pure + (other: Bit): Bit do  
    if this = 0b0 do return other  
    elsif other = 0b1 do raise "Bit overflow"  
    else return 0b1 end // if  
  end // +  
  pure - (other: Bit): Bit do  
    if this = other do return 0b0  
    elsif this = 0b1 do return 0b1  
    else raise "Bit underflow" end // if  
  end // -  
end // Bit
```



UTS Introduction: from atoms to molecules

```
val unit Integer extend Integer [Platform.IntegerBitsCount]
...
end
val unit Integer [BitsNumber: Integer] extend Numeric,
Enumeration
    const minInteger is - (2 ^ (BitsNumber - 1))
    const maxInteger is 2 ^ (BitsNumber - 1) - 1
    const: /* That is ordered set defined as range of all Integer
constant values (objects) */
        minInteger .. maxInteger
    end
    init do
        data is Bit [BitsNumber]
    end
    {this} data: Bit [BitsNumber] // private
require
    BitsNumber > 0 /* Number of bits in Integer must be greater
than zero! */
end
```

Type kinds (7+1)

1. **Unit-based**: the type which has a full textual description of all its members => **unit A ... end**
2. **Anchored**: the type which is the same **as** the other entity type
3. **Multi-type (ADT +)**: entity of this type may be of type T_1 or T_2 or ... => **T1 | T2 | ... Tn**
4. **Tuple type (ADT *)**: group => **(T1, T2, ... Tn)**
5. **Range type**: explicitly name values => **1..6** or **1 | 17 | 2..3** or **a .. b** or **a | b .. c**
6. **Routine(function) type**: signature is essential here => **rtn (T1, T2): T3**
7. **Unit**: type as 1st class citizen => **Type: unit ... end**
attr: Type
8. **Detachable type**: the entity has no value but its static type is known at compiler time => **?Integer** or **?AnyType**

Type kinds: unit-based

unit UnitNameIsTheTypeName

const constant1: Type is someExpression

const constant2 is someExpression

 attribute: Type

 methodProcedure do

 methodConstant1: Type is someExpression

 methodConstant2 is someExpression

var methodVariable1: Type is someExpression

var methodVariable2 is someExpression

end

init do

 attribute is someExpression

end

end

virtual unit Any use const Integer, Real, Boolean, Character,
Bit, String

...

end // Any

Type kinds: anchored

```
virtual unit Any ...
```

```
  /// shallow equality test
```

```
  = (that: as this): Boolean foreign
```

```
  final /= (that: as this): Boolean => not ( this =  
that)
```

```
  ...  
end // Any
```

```
unit System
```

```
  clone (object: Any): as object foreign ///  
version of the object clone operation */
```

```
  deepClone (object: Any): as object foreign ///  
version of the object clone operation */
```

```
end // System
```

1. The same as the current object – same as this
2. The same as some entity – same as entity_name

Type kinds: Multi-type (ADT *)

```
var v: Integer | Real is Integer.5  
v := v + 5.5
```

```
FileOpen (fn: String): (File | Error) do  
  if ... do  
    return FileDerivedType (...)  
  else  
    return ErrorDerivedType (...)  
  end  
end
```

```
fo is FileOpen (SomePath)  
if fo is  
  File: // Process fo as File type entity  
  Error: // Process fo as Error type entity  
end
```

Type kinds: Tuple type (ADT +)

t: (Integer, Real, String) is (5, 5.5, "Str")

SE (a, b, c: Real): (x1, x2: Real)

require a /= 0

do

 d is b*b-4*a*c

if d >= 0 do

return ((b+Math.sqrt(d))/2/a, (b-
Math.sqrt(d))/2/a)

else

 ...

end

end

anArray: Array [Integer] is (10, 12, 33)

anArray(1) := anArray (3)

Type kinds: Range type

```
v1: 1..6 is 3
v2: 1 | 3 | 5 is 7 // compile-time error
v3: 1 | 3 | 5 .. 17 is 7
var v3: co1 | co2 | co3 .. co12 is co7
v3 := co13 // compile-time error
```

1. Range is a combination of constant objects of some unit-based type
2. If the unit-based type has declared constant objects in it range types may be constructed and their usage checked at compile time

Type kinds: routine(function) type

Nothing new – routines are 1st class citizens...

v1: rtn is rtn do ... end

v2: rtn (T1, T2): T3 is rtn(p1: U1; p2: U2): U3
do ... end

Type kinds: unit

Types (units) are 1st class citizens...

```
Type: unit ... end /* entity called Type has the  
unit-type */  
attr: Type /* attr has type -> Type*/
```

```
Type1: unit  
    function (T1): T2  
    procedure (T3)  
end is LoadTypeDescriptionFromFile (...)
```

```
attr1 is Type1  
attr1.procedure (new T3)  
x is attr1.function (new T1)
```

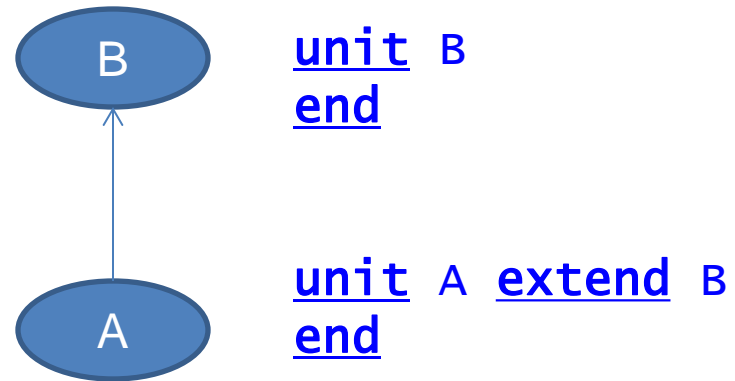
Type kinds: Detachable type

It is not a unique type kind it is a kind of an entity: entity can be of the always attached to the object kind and potentially not attached to the object kind

```
alwaysAttachedEntity: Type
detachableEntity: ? Type
detachableEntity := alwaysAttachedEntity // OK
alwaysAttachedEntity := detachableEntity
// Compile-time error
if detachableEntity is Type do
    alwaysAttachedEntity := detachableEntity
    /* OK as dynamic type of detachableEntity
    conforms to Type */
    ? detachableEntity // detach
end
```

Compatibility = conformance + convertibility

1. Unit A conform to unit B if there is a path in inheritance graph from A to B
2. Signature foo conforms to signature goo if every type of signature foo conforms to corresponding type of signature goo



goo ($T_1, T_2, \dots T_n$)

foo ($U_1, U_2, \dots U_n$)

if for i in $1 \dots N$
 U_i conforms to T_i

Compatibility = conformance + convertibility

```
val unit Integer  
[BitsNumber: Integer] ...  
  
  override := (other: Real)  
do ... end  
  
  override := (other:  
String) do ... end  
  
    := (): Real do ... end  
  
    := (): String do ... end  
  ...  
end
```

1. From-conversion
=> := procedure
with 1 parameter
 2. To-conversion =>
:= function
- ```
i: Integer
i := 5.5
i := "a string"
foo_real (i)
foo_string (i)
```



# Type test - Duck typing

```
unit Duck // It can fly
 fly do StandardIO.print("Duck is flying") end
end
```

```
unit Sparrow // It flies too
 fly do StandardIO.print("Sparrow is flying") end
end
```

```
unit whale // It does not fly but swims
 swim do StandardIO.print("whale is swimming") end
end
```

```
while animal in (new Duck(), new Sparrow(), new whale()) do
 /* Now it is necessary to check if the object 'animal'
 conforms to the type which is described as the anonymous unit-
 based type which has only one routine - fly with no arguments.
 Routines are specified using their signatures only */
 if animal is unit fly () end do
 animal.fly
 end
end
```

# Summary

Everything for the language is defined using the language

0 and 1 are 2 atoms

7+1 kinds of types (complete, sound, expressive, readable, etc. bla-bla-bla 😊)

Type compatibility = conformance + convertibility

Duck typing in place

# THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!