System F Language Specification

Syntax

Expressions

| e | := | lit | literals |
|------------------|----|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | eid | expression identifier |
| | | (e) | parenthesized |
| | | $e[\tau]$ | type application |
| | | e_1 e_2 | application |
| | | $e_1 op e_2$ | binary operation |
| | | $\lambda pat. e$ | lambda abstraction |
| | | $\Lambda \ tid. \ e$ | type abstraction |
| | | (e_1,\ldots,e_n) | n -tuples, $n \geq 2$ |
| | | let pat = e_1 in e_2 | let binding |
| | | $\mathtt{if}\ e_1\ \mathtt{then}\ e_2\ \mathtt{else}\ e_3$ | if expression |
| \overline{lit} | := | null | unit literal: Unit |
| | | true false | boolean literals: Bool |
| | | ~2 ~1 0 1 2 | 64-bit signed ints: Int |
| \overline{pat} | := | _: τ | discarded variable |
| | | eid: 	au | type-annotated variable |
| | | (pat_1, \ldots, pat_n) | n -tuple destructor, $n \geq 2$ |

Types

| au | := | tid | type identifier |
|----|----|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| | | (au) | parenthesized |
| | | $\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$ | arrow types |
| | | $\forall tid. \tau$ | universal types |
| | | $\tau_1 * \ldots * \tau_n$ | tuple types, $n \ge 2$ |
| | | Int Bool Unit | built-in types |

Declarations

| δ | := let pat = e | declaration |
|---|--------------------|-------------|
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Semantics:

Call-by-value big step semantics. When a bound variable is bound again, the new binding takes over. There is no one-type tuples Lexical scope.