

# 4 Types



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Types, Type Errors, Type Systems

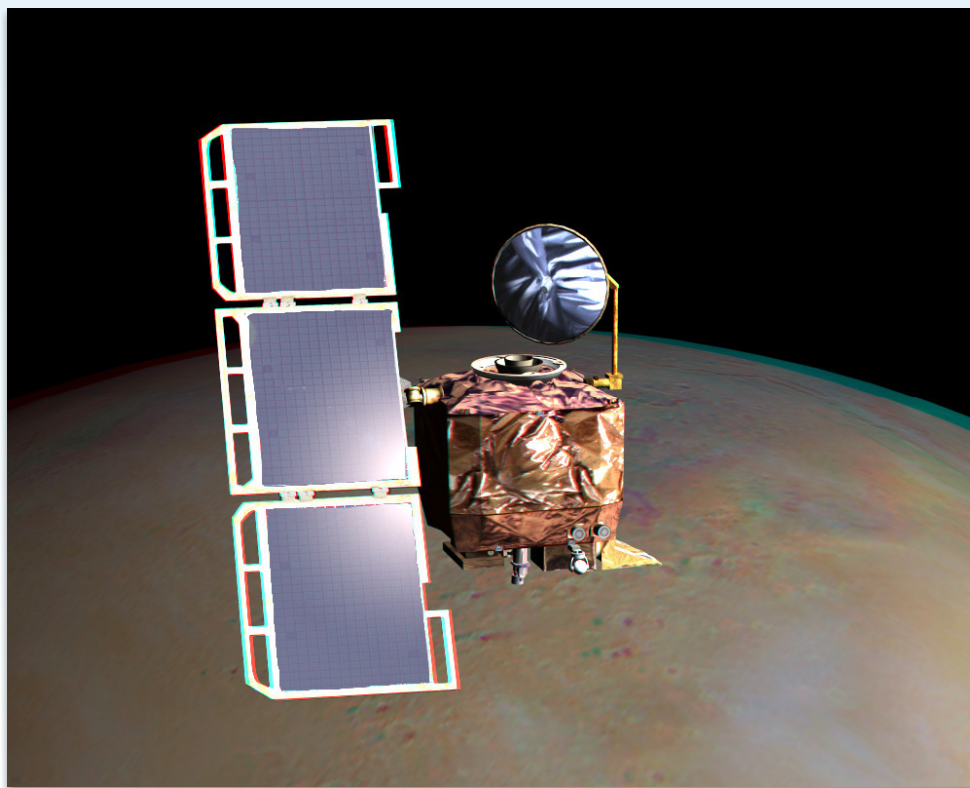
Why Type Checking?

Static vs. Dynamic Typing

Polymorphism

Parametric Polymorphism

# Lost ...



[mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msp98/orbiter/](http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msp98/orbiter/)

Typing

Wednesday, May 1, 13

# No Sugar ...



[www.gcn.com/print/17\\_17/33727-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/print/17_17/33727-1.html)

Typing

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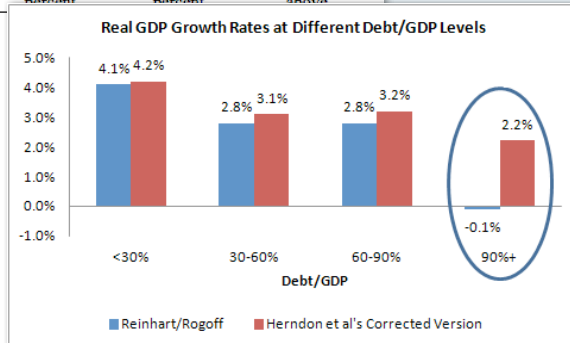
# How to not Excel ...

Table 1. Real GDP Growth as the Level of Government Debt Varies:  
Selected Advanced Economies, 1790-2009  
(annual percent change)

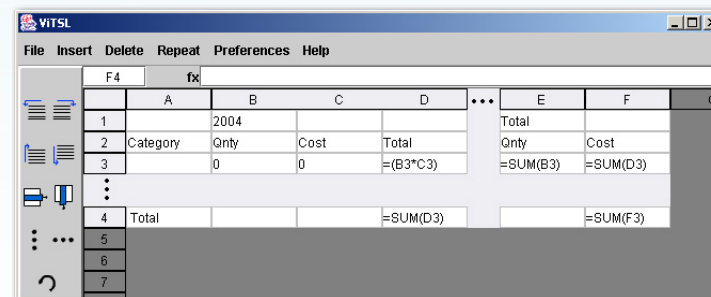
Country	Period	Central (Federal) government debt/ GDP			
		Below 30 percent	30 to 60 percent	60 to 90 percent	90 percent and above
Australia	1902-2009	3.1			
Austria	1880-2009	4.3			
Belgium	1835-2009	3.0			
Canada	1925-2009	2.0			
Denmark	1880-2009	3.1			
Finland	1913-2009	3.2			
France	1880-2009	4.9			
Germany	1880-2009	3.6			
Greece	1884-2009	4.0			
Ireland	1949-2009	4.4			
Italy	1880-2009	<b>5.4</b>			
Japan	1885-2009	4.9			
Netherlands	1880-2009	4.0			
New Zealand	1932-2009	2.5			
Norway	1880-2009	2.9			
Portugal	1851-2009	4.8			
Spain	1850-2009	<b>1.6</b>			
Sweden	1880-2009	2.9	2.9	2.7	1.8
United Kingdom	1830-2009	2.5	2.2	2.1	<b>1.8</b>
United States	1790-2009	4.0	3.4	3.3	<b>-1.8</b>
Average		3.7	3.0	3.4	1.7
Median		3.9	3.1	2.8	1.9
Number of observations =	2,317	866	654	445	352

Notes: An n.a. denotes no observations were recorded for that particular debt range. There are missing observations, most notably during World War I and II years; further details are provided in the data appendices to Reinhart and Rogoff (2009) and are available from the authors. Minimum and maximum values for each debt range are shown in **bolded italics**.

Sources: There are many sources, among the more prominent are: International Monetary Fund, *World Economic Outlook*, OECD, World Bank, *Global Development Finance*. Extensive other sources are cited Reinhart and Rogoff (2009).



[eecs.oregonstate.edu/~erwig/UCheck/](http://eecs.oregonstate.edu/~erwig/UCheck/)



[eecs.oregonstate.edu/~erwig/Gencel/](http://eecs.oregonstate.edu/~erwig/Gencel/)

Typing

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# More Motivation ...

*Video clip*

*More examples of non-CS use of types ... next class*

# What is a Type (System) ?

- *Type*  
Collection of PL elements that share the same behavior
- *Type System*  
Formal system to determine the types of PL elements and to prove the absence of type errors
- *Purpose of Type Systems*  
Prevent programming errors, i.e. type errors



# Type Errors

- *Type Error*  
Illegal combination of PL elements  
(typically: applying an operation to a value of the wrong type)
- *Why are type errors bad?*  
Lead to program crashes  
Cause incorrect computations

# Why Types are a Good Thing

- (1) Types provide *precise documentation* of programs
- (2) Types *summarize* a program on an abstract level
- (3) Type correctness means *partial correctness* of programs;  
a type checker delivers partial *correctness proofs*
- (4) Type systems can *prevent* runtime *errors* and  
can save a lot of debugging
- (5) Type information can be exploited for *optimization*

# Things to Know About Type Systems

- (1) Notion of Type Safety
- (2) Strong vs. Weak Typing
- (3) Static vs. Dynamic Typing
- (4) Approximation & Undecidability of Static Typing
- (5) Type Checking vs. Type Inference
- (6) Polymorphism (*parametric*, subtype, ad hoc)

# Example: Expression Language with 2 Types

Expr2.hs

# Type Safety

## Type Safety

A programming language is called *type safe* if all type errors are detected

### Type Safe Languages

Lisp (*ridiculous type system*)

Java

Haskell

Expr + eval

Expr + evalDynTC

### Unsafe Languages

(*type casts, pointers*)

C

C++

# Exercises

(1) Implement an unsafe `eval` function for the language `Expr`

(a) Use `Int` as the semantic domain

(b) Map boolean values to `0` and `1`

```
data Expr = N Int
          | Plus Expr Expr
          | Equal Expr Expr
          | Not Expr
```

(2) Evaluate unsafe expressions

Expr2Unsafe.hs

# Strong vs. Weak Typing

## *Strong Typing*

Each value has one precisely determined type

## *Weak Typing*

Values can be interpreted in different types  
(e.g. “17” can be used as a string or number,  
or 0 can be used as a number or boolean)

*In practice: Only strongly typed languages are safe  
(although strong typing does not guarantee safety)*

# A Type Checker for the Expression Language

Expr2.hs  
TypeCheck.hs



# Dynamic vs. Static Typing

## *Dynamic Typing*

Types are checked during runtime

## *Static Typing*

Types and type errors are found during compile time

### *Statically Typed*

Haskell

(Java)

Expr + evalStatTC

### *Dynamically Typed*

Lisp

Expr + evalDynTC

# Static Typing is Conservative

What is the type of the following expression?

```
if 3>4 then "hello" else 17
```

Under dynamic typing: **Int**

Under static typing: **type error**

How about:

```
f x = if test x then x+1 else False
```

Under dynamic typing: **?**

Under static typing: **type error**

# Exercises

(1) What is the type of the following function under static and dynamic typing?

```
f x = if not x then x+1 else x
```

(2) What is the type of the following function under static and dynamic typing?

```
f x = f (x+1) * 2
```

# Undecidability of Static Typing

```
mayLoop :: Int -> Bool
f x = if mayLoop x then x+1 else not x
```

`f` is *type correct* if `mayLoop x` yields `True`  
`f` contains a *type error* if `mayLoop x` yields `False`

Since `mayLoop x` might not terminate, we cannot determinate the value statically because of the undecidability of the halting problem.

Static typing *approximates* by assuming a type error when type correctness cannot be shown

# Advantages & Disadvantages of Static/Dynamic Typing

	<i>Advantage</i>	<i>Disadvantage</i>
<i>Static Typing</i>	prevents type errors smaller & faster code early error detection (saves debugging)	rejects some o.k. programs
<i>Dynamic Typing</i>	prevents type errors faster compilation (& development?)	slower execution released programs may stop unexpectedly with type errors

# A Type Checker for a Geometric Language

TypedGeoLang.hs

# Exercises

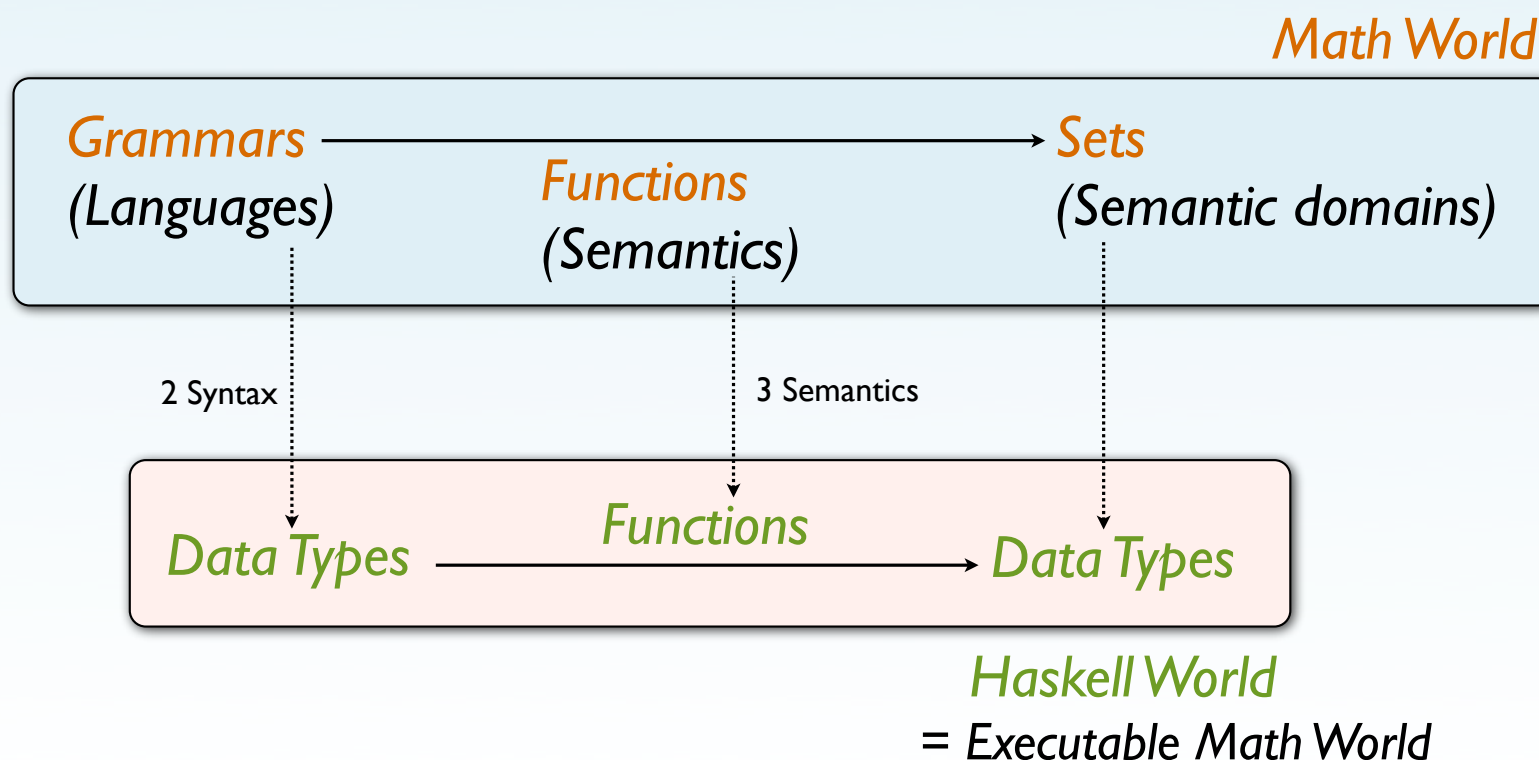
- (1) Extend the geometric language by a predicate `Inside` that determines whether one object is inside of another
- (2) Extend the data type `Type` and the type checker `tc` to typecheck the operation `Inside`

# A Type Checker for Arithmetic Language with Pairs

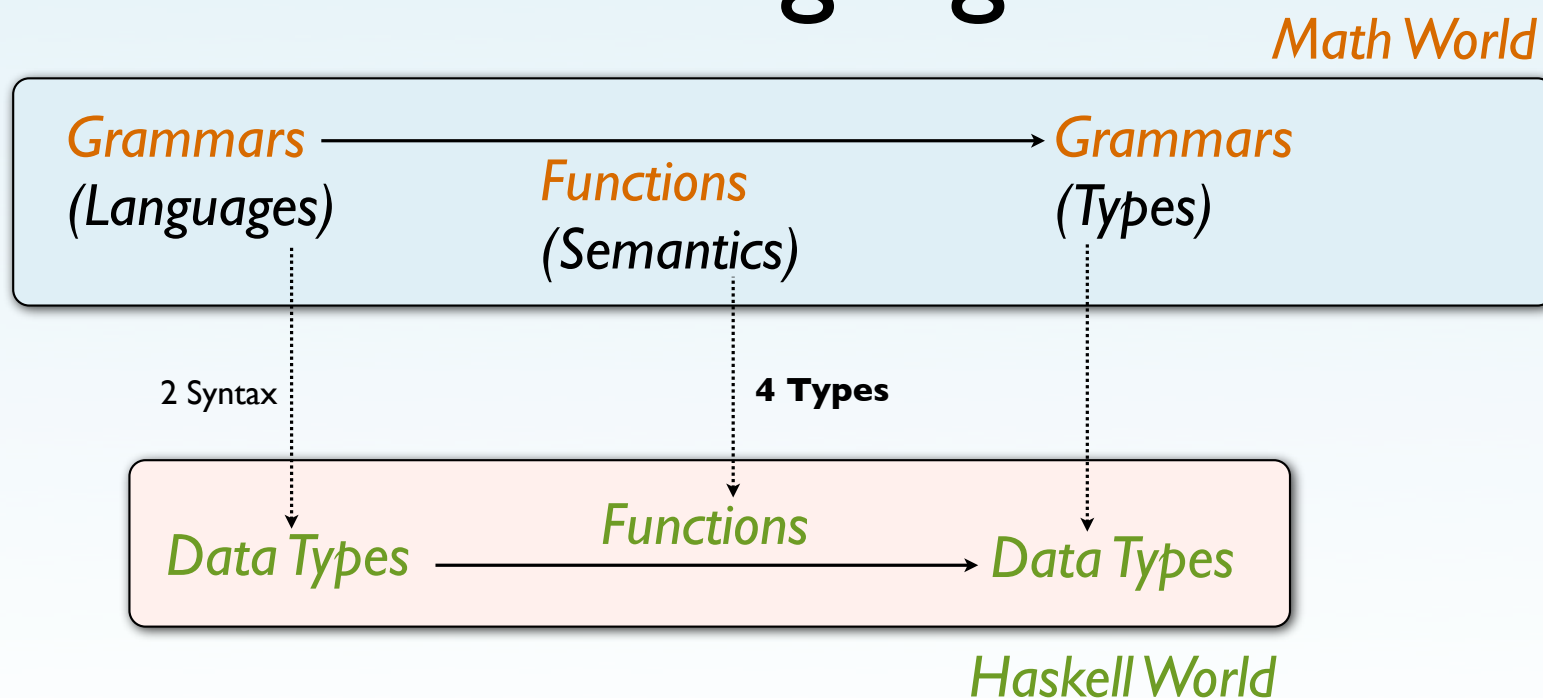
ExprPair.hs  
ExprNPair.hs



# Haskell as a Mathematical Metalanguage



# Haskell as a Mathematical Metalanguage



**Typing** = **Static Semantics**  
**Semantics** = **Dynamic Semantics**

# Polymorphism

A value (function, method, ...) is *polymorphic* if it has more than one type

Different forms of polymorphism can be distinguished based on:

- (a) relationship between types
- (b) implementation of functions

# Forms of Polymorphism

## *Parametric Polymorphism*

- (a) All types match a common “type pattern”
- (b) One implementation, i.e., there is only one function

## *Ad Hoc Polymorphism (aka Overloading)*

- (a) Types are unrelated
- (b) Implementation differs for each type, i.e., different functions are referred to by the same name

## *Subtype Polymorphism*

- (a) Types are related by a subtype relation
- (b) One implementation (methods can be applied to objects of any subtype)

# Parametric Polymorphism

Haskell demo