

## Abstract

Notes on a formal semantics for GFX.

### 1. Judgements

In the rest of this paper we will assume give some fixed but unknown constraint system  $\mathcal{D}$ . We will assume that the program  $P$  is written using constraints from  $\mathcal{D}$ , and further that classes defined in  $P$  do not have a cyclic inheritance struture.

#### 1.1 The Object constraint system, $O$

From  $P$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  we also generate a new constraint system  $O$ , the constraint system of *objects* over  $P$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  as follows. Let  $C, D$  range over names of classes in  $P$ ,  $f$  over field names,  $m$  over method names,  $S, T$  over types,  $c$  over constraints in the underlying data constraint system  $\mathcal{D}$ . The constraints of  $O$  are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Const.}) \quad c, d &::= \text{class}(C) \mid S \trianglelefteq T \\ &\quad \mid \text{fields}(x) = \bar{f} : \bar{T} \\ &\quad \mid \text{mtype}(x, m, \bar{x}) = (\bar{T}, c \rightarrow T) \end{aligned}$$

The constraint system satisfies the following axioms and inference rules.

$$\frac{\text{class } C[\bar{X}](\bar{f} : \bar{T}) \text{ extends } D \dots \in P}{\vdash_O C \trianglelefteq D} \quad (\text{CLASS})$$

$$\frac{\bar{X}, \bar{f} : C\{\bar{e}\} \text{ type and value fields defined or inherited at class } D}{z : D\{d\} \vdash_O \text{fields}(z) = \bar{X}, \bar{f} : C\{e[z/\text{this}], \text{self} == z.f_i, d[z/\text{self}]\}} \quad (\text{FIELDS})$$

$$\vdash_O D[\bar{T}](\bar{t}).f_i = t_i \quad (\text{SEL-V})$$

$$\vdash_O D[\bar{T}](\bar{t}).x_i = t_i \quad (\text{SEL-T})$$

$$\frac{\begin{aligned} m(\bar{x} : \bar{E})\{c\} : F = \{\dots\} \text{ defined or inherited at } D \\ \theta = [z, \bar{z}/\text{this}, \bar{x}] \end{aligned}}{z : D\{d\} \vdash_O \text{mtype}(z, m, \bar{z}) = (\bar{E}, c \rightarrow F\{d[z/\text{self}]\})\theta} \quad (\text{MTYPE})$$

The constraint system  $C$  is the (disjoint) conjunction  $\mathcal{D}, O$  of the constraint systems  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $O$ . (This requires the assumption that  $\mathcal{D}$  does not have any constraints in common with  $O$ .)

*Note: Figure out whether consistency checks need to be added.*

## 2. Rules

### 2.1 Judgements

In the following  $\Gamma$  is a *well-typed context*, i.e. a (finite, possibly empty) sequence of formulas  $x : T$ ,  $T$  **type** and constraints  $c$  satisfying:

1. for any formula  $\phi$  in the sequence all variables  $x$  ( $X$ ) occuring in  $\phi$  are defined by a declaration  $x : T$  ( $X$  **type**) in the sequence to the left of  $\phi$ .
2. for any variable  $x$  ( $X$ ), there is at most one formula  $x : T$  ( $X$  **type**) in  $\Gamma$ .

The judgements of interest are:

**Type well-formedness**  $\Gamma \vdash T$  **type**

**Subtyping**  $\Gamma \vdash S <: T$

**Typing**  $\Gamma \vdash e : T$

**Method ok**  $\Gamma \vdash M$  **OK** in  $C$  (method  $M$  is well-defined for the class  $C$ ).

**Field ok**  $\Gamma \vdash f : T$  **OK** in  $C$  (field  $f : T$  is well-defined for the class  $C$ ).

**Class ok**  $\Gamma \vdash C1$  **OK** (class definition  $C1$  is ok).

In defining these judgements we will use  $\Gamma \vdash_C c$ , the judgement corresponding to the underlying constraint system. For simplicity, we define  $\Gamma \vdash c$  to mean  $\sigma(\Gamma) \vdash_C c$ , where the *constraint projection*,  $\sigma(\Gamma)$  is defined thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\varepsilon) &= \text{true} \\ \sigma(x : C\{c\}, \Gamma) &= c[x/\text{self}], \sigma(\Gamma) \\ \sigma(c, \Gamma) &= c, \sigma(\Gamma) \end{aligned}$$

### 2.2 Well formedness rules

We posit a special type  $o$  (traditionally the type of propositions), and regard constraints as expressions of type  $o$ . See Figure ??.

## 3. Type inference rules

### 3.1 Expression typing judgement

Now we consider the rule for method invocation. Assume that in a type environment  $\Gamma$  the expressions  $\bar{e}$  have the types  $\bar{T}$ . Since the actual values of these expressions are not known, we shall assume that they take on some fixed but unknown values  $\bar{z}$  of type  $\bar{T}$ . Now for  $z$  as receiver, let us assume that the type  $T \equiv C\{d\}$  has a method named  $m$  with signature  $\bar{z} : \bar{Z}, c \rightarrow U$ . If there is no method named  $m$  for the class  $C$  then this method invocation cannot be type-checked. Without loss of generality we may assume that the parameters of this method are named  $\bar{z}$ , since we are free to choose variable names as we wish because of  $\alpha$ -equivalence. Now in order for the method to be invocable, it must be the case that the types  $\bar{T}$  are subtypes of  $\bar{Z}$ . (Note that there are no occurrences of **this** in  $\bar{Z}$ ; they have been replaced by  $z$  – see Section 1.1) Further, it must be the case that for these parameter values, the constraint  $c$  is entailed. Given all these assumptions it must be the case that the return type is  $U$  — with all the parameters  $\bar{z}$  existentially quantified.

**FX productions:**

(Class)	$L ::= \text{class } C(\bar{f}:\bar{V})\{c\} \text{ extends } N\{\bar{M}\}$	(Type)	$T ::= N \mid T\{c\}$
(Method)	$M ::= \text{def } m(\bar{x}:\bar{V})\{c\}:V=e;$	(N Type)	$N ::= C \mid N\{c\}$
(Exp.)	$e ::= x \mid e.f \mid e.m(\bar{e}) \mid \text{new } C(\bar{e}) \mid e \text{ as } T$	(C Term)	$t ::= \text{self}$
(Par Type)	$V ::= T$	(Const.)	$c,d ::= \text{true} \mid c,c \mid x:V;c$

**FX well-formedness rules:**

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{true} : o} \text{ (true)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash c_0 : o \quad \Gamma \vdash c_1 : o}{\Gamma \vdash (c_0, c_1) : o} \text{ (AND)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : T \quad \Gamma \vdash c[t/x] : o}{\Gamma \vdash x : T; c : o} \text{ (EXISTS)} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \text{class}(C)}{\Gamma \vdash C \text{ type}} \text{ (CLASS)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash T \text{ type} \quad \Gamma, \text{self} : T \vdash c : o}{\Gamma \vdash T\{c\} \text{ type}} \text{ (DEP)}
\end{array}$$

**FX sub-typing and type-equivalence rules:**

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma, c \vdash S \leq T}{\Gamma \vdash S\{c\} \leq T} \text{ (S-CONST-L)} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \text{self} : S \vdash c \quad \Gamma \vdash S \leq T}{\Gamma \vdash S \leq T\{c\}} \text{ (S-CONST-R)} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash U \text{ type} \quad \Gamma \vdash S \leq T \quad (x \text{ fresh})}{\Gamma \vdash x : U; S \leq T} \text{ (S-EXISTS-L)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash t : U \quad \Gamma \vdash S \leq T[t/x]}{\Gamma \vdash S \leq x; U : T} \text{ (S-EXISTS-R)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash S \leq T \quad \Gamma \vdash T \leq S}{\Gamma \vdash S \equiv T} \text{ (TYPE-EQUIV)}
\end{array}$$

**Type judgement rules:**

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\Gamma, x : T \vdash x : T\{\text{self} == x\}} \text{ (T-VAR)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : U \quad \Gamma \vdash T \text{ type}}{\Gamma \vdash e \text{ as } T : T} \text{ (T-CAST)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : S \quad \Gamma, z : S \vdash z \text{ has } f : T \quad (z \text{ fresh})}{\Gamma \vdash e.f : (z : S; T)} \text{ (T-FIELD)} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : T, \bar{e} : \bar{T} \quad \Gamma, v : T, \bar{v} : \bar{T} \vdash m\text{type}(v, m, \bar{v}) = (\bar{V}, c \rightarrow U), \bar{T} <: \bar{V}, c \quad (v, \bar{v} \text{ fresh})}{\Gamma \vdash e.m(\bar{e}) : (v : T; \bar{v} : \bar{T}; U)} \text{ (T-INVK)} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \bar{e} : \bar{T} \quad \Gamma, v : C \vdash \text{fields}(v) = \bar{f} : \bar{V} \quad (v, \bar{v} \text{ fresh}) \quad \Gamma, v : C, \bar{v} : \bar{T}, v.f = \bar{v} \vdash \bar{T} <: \bar{V}, \text{inv}(C, v)}{\Gamma \vdash \text{new } C(\bar{e}) : C\{\bar{v} : \bar{T}; \text{self}.f = \bar{v}, \text{inv}(C, \text{self})\}} \text{ (T-NEW)} \\
\\
\frac{\text{this} : C, \bar{x} : \bar{V}, c \vdash T \text{ type}, \bar{V} \text{ type}, e : U, U <: T}{\text{def } m(\bar{x} : \bar{V})\{c\} : T = e; \text{ OK in } C} \text{ (METHOD OK)} \quad \frac{\bar{M} \text{ OK in } C \quad \text{this} : C, c \vdash \bar{V} \text{ type}, N \text{ type}}{\text{class } C(\bar{f} : \bar{V})\{c\} \text{ extends } N\{\bar{M}\} \text{ OK}} \text{ (CLASS OK)}
\end{array}$$

**Transition Rules:**

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\text{fields}(C) = \bar{C} \bar{f}}{(\text{new } C(\bar{e})).f_i \rightarrow e_i} \text{ (R-FIELD)} \quad \frac{mbody(\text{new } C(\bar{e}), m, \bar{d}) = e}{(\text{new } C(\bar{e})).m(\bar{d}) \rightarrow e} \text{ (R-INVK)} \\
\\
\frac{\vdash C <: T[\text{new } C(\bar{d})/\text{self}]}{(T)(\text{new } C(\bar{d})) \rightarrow \text{new } C(\bar{d})} \text{ (R-CAST)} \quad \frac{e \rightarrow e'}{e.m(\bar{e}) \rightarrow e'.m(\bar{e})} \text{ (RC-INVK-RECV)} \\
\\
\frac{e \rightarrow e'}{e.f_i \rightarrow e'.f_i} \text{ (RC-FIELD)} \quad \frac{e_i \rightarrow e'_i}{e.m(\dots, e_i, \dots) \rightarrow e.m(\dots, e'_i, \dots)} \text{ (RC-INVK-ARG)} \\
\\
\frac{e \rightarrow e'}{(T)e \rightarrow (T)e'} \text{ (RC-CAST)} \quad \frac{e_i \rightarrow e'_i}{\text{new } C(\dots, e_i, \dots) \rightarrow \text{new } C(\dots, e'_i, \dots)} \text{ (RC-NEW-ARG)}
\end{array}$$

**Figure 1.** Semantics of FX

**Additional rules for  $\text{FX}(\text{G})$ :** No additional rules for sub-typing, type-equivalence, expression typing or dynamic semantics.

$\text{FX}(\text{G}) = \text{FX} + \text{these productions:}$

(Par Type)  $\text{V} ::= \text{type}$   
 (Type)  $\text{T} ::= \text{X}$   
 (Const.)  $\text{c} ::= \text{X} \leq \text{N}$

**Additional  $\text{FX}(\text{G})$  well-formedness rule:**

$\Gamma, \text{X} : \text{type} \vdash \text{X type (Type Var)}$

**Additional rules for  $\text{FX}(\text{D}(\text{C}))$ :** Only the following rules are needed; no additional rules are needed for sub-typing, type-equivalence, expression typing or dynamic semantics.

$\text{FX}(\text{D}(\text{C})) = \text{FX} + \text{these productions:}$

$\text{C}$  specifies predicates  $\text{q}$  and functions  $\text{f}$ .

(Type)  $\text{T} ::= \text{new base types, e.g. int, boolean}$   
 (Const.)  $\text{c} ::= \text{t} == \text{t} \mid \text{q}(\bar{\text{t}})$   
 (C Term)  $\text{t} ::= \text{x} \mid \text{f}(\bar{\text{t}}) \mid \text{t.f} \mid \text{new C}(\bar{\text{t}})$

**Additional  $\text{FX}(\text{D}(\text{C}))$  well-formedness rule:**

$$\frac{\text{p}(\bar{\text{T}}) : \text{o} \in \text{C} \quad \Gamma \vdash \bar{\text{t}} : \bar{\text{T}}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{p}(\bar{\text{T}}) : \text{o}} \quad (\text{PRED}) \qquad \frac{\text{f}(\bar{\text{T}}) : \text{T} \in \text{C} \quad \Gamma \vdash \bar{\text{t}} : \bar{\text{T}}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{f}(\bar{\text{T}}) : \text{T}} \quad (\text{FUN}) \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \text{t}_0 : \text{T}_0 \quad \Gamma \vdash \text{t}_1 : \text{T}_1}{(\Gamma \vdash \text{T}_0 <: \text{T}_1 \vee \Gamma \vdash \text{T}_1 <: \text{T}_0)} \quad (\text{EQUALS})$$

**Additional rules for  $\text{FX}(\text{G})$ :** None.

**Additional rules for  $\text{FX}(\text{G}, \text{D}(\text{C}), \text{P})$ :** Only the following rules are needed; no additional rules are needed for sub-typing, type-equivalence, expression typing or dynamic semantics.

(Path)  $\text{p} ::= \text{x} \mid \text{p.f}$   
 (Type)  $\text{T} ::= \text{p}$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \text{p} : \text{T} \quad \Gamma, \text{x} : \text{T} \vdash \text{x has X : type}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{p.X type}} \quad (\text{PATH})$$

**Figure 2.** Semantics for  $\text{FX}(\text{G}), \text{FX}(\text{D}(\text{C})), \text{FX}(\text{G}, \text{D}(\text{C})), \text{FX}(\text{G}, \text{D}(\text{C}), \text{P})$