

Abstract

Notes on a formal semantics for GFX.

1. Semantics

We now describe the semantics of languages in the FX family.

Each language \mathcal{L} in the family is defined over a given input constraint system \mathcal{X} . Given a program P , we now show how to build a larger constraint system $O(\mathcal{X})$ on top of \mathcal{X} which captures constraints related to the object-oriented structure of P . O is sensitive to \mathcal{X} only in that O depends on the types defined by \mathcal{L} , and these may depend on \mathcal{X} .

The static and dynamic semantics of \mathcal{L} rests on $O(\mathcal{X})$.

1.1 The Object constraint system, O

Given \mathcal{L} , its input constraint system \mathcal{X} we now show how to define O . The inference relation for O depends on the object-oriented structure of the input program P in \mathcal{L} . For some members of \mathcal{L} , viz. the generic languages, \mathcal{X} itself may use some of the constraints defined by O . Thus we should think of \mathcal{X} and O as being defined simultaneously and recursively.

The constraints of O are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Member}) \quad M &::= m(\bar{x} : \bar{V})\{c\} : T = e \mid f : V \\ (\text{Const.}) \quad c, d &::= S \leq T \mid S <: T \\ &\quad \mid \text{fields}(x) = \bar{f} : \bar{V} \\ &\quad \mid x \text{ has } M \end{aligned}$$

Intuitively, $S \leq T$ is intended to hold if it can be established that S is extends T . For a variable x , $\text{fields}(x)$ is intended to specify the (complete) set of typed fields available to x . $x \text{ has } M$ is intended to specify that the member M (field or method) is available to x .

O satisfies the following axioms and inference rules:

$$\frac{\text{class } C(\bar{f} : \bar{V}) \text{ extends } D \dots \in P}{\vdash_O \text{class}(C), C \leq D} \quad (\text{CLASS})$$

$$\vdash_O T \leq T \quad (\text{V-ID})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_O T_1 <: T_2, T_2 <: T_3}{\Gamma \vdash_O T_1 <: T_3} \quad (\text{S-TRANS})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_O t \leq T}{\Gamma \vdash_O t <: T} \quad (\text{Sub-X})$$

$$x : \text{Object} \vdash_O \text{fields}(x) = \bullet \quad (\text{FIELDS-B})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : D \vdash_O \text{fields}(x) = \bar{g} : \bar{V} \quad \text{class } C(\bar{f} : \bar{U})\{c\} \text{ extends } D\{\bar{M}\} \in C}{\Gamma, x : C \vdash \text{fields}(x) = \bar{g} : \bar{V}, \bar{f} : \bar{U}[x/\text{this}]} \quad (\text{FIELDS-I})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : S \vdash_O \text{fields}(x) = \bar{f} : \bar{V}}{\Gamma, x : S\{d\} \vdash_O \text{fields}(x) = \bar{f} : \bar{V}\{d[x/\text{self}]\}} \quad (\text{FIELDS-C,E})$$

$$\Gamma, x : (y : U; S) \vdash_O \text{fields}(x) = \bar{f} : (y : U; \bar{V})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_O \text{fields}(x) = \bar{f} : \bar{V}}{\Gamma \vdash_O x \text{ has } f_i : V_i} \quad (\text{has-F})$$

$$\vdash_O \text{new } D(\bar{t}).f_i = t_i \quad (\text{SEL})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : C \vdash_O \text{class}(C) \quad \theta = [x/\text{this}] \quad \text{def } m(\bar{z} : \bar{V})\{c\} : T = e \in P}{\Gamma, x : C \vdash_O x \text{ has } (m(\bar{z} : \bar{V})\{c\}) : T\theta = e} \quad (\text{METHOD-B})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : D \vdash_O x \text{ has } m(\bar{z} : \bar{V})\{c\} : T = e \quad \text{class } C(\dots) \text{ extends } D\{\bar{M}\} \quad m \notin \bar{M}}{\Gamma, x : C \vdash_O x \text{ has } m(\bar{z} : \bar{V})\{c\} : T = e} \quad (\text{METHOD-I})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : S \vdash_O x \text{ has } m(\bar{z} : \bar{V})\{c\} : T = e}{\Gamma, x : S\{d\} \vdash_O x \text{ has } m(\bar{z} : \bar{V})\{c\} : T\{d[x/\text{self}]\} = e} \quad (\text{METHOD-C,E})$$

$$\Gamma, x : (y : U; S) \vdash_O x \text{ has } m(\bar{z} : \bar{V})\{c\} : (y : U; T) = e$$

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

1.2 Extensions of FX

1.2.1 FX(G)

Generics as in FGJ are supported by adding the following productions:

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Par Type}) \quad V &::= \text{type} \\ (\text{Path}) \quad p &::= x \mid p.f \\ (\text{Type}) \quad T &::= X \mid p \\ (\text{C Term}) \quad t &::= T \\ (\text{Const.}) \quad c &::= t \leq N \mid t == t \end{aligned}$$

and the following rule:

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

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

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_O p \leq T \quad \Gamma, x : T \vdash_O x \text{ has } M}{\Gamma, x : p \vdash_O x \text{ has } M} \quad (\text{Inh-p})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_O X \leq T \quad \Gamma, x : T \vdash_O x \text{ has } M}{\Gamma, x : X \vdash_O x \text{ has } M} \quad (\text{Inh-X})$$

1.2.2 FX(D(A))

Only the following rules are needed; no additional rules are needed for sub-typing, type-equivalence, expression typing or dynamic semantics. Below, q (f) ranges over all predicates (functions) specified by \mathcal{C} :

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

We need the following rules:

$$\frac{p(\bar{t}) : o \in \mathcal{C} \quad \Gamma \vdash \bar{t} : \bar{T}}{\Gamma \vdash p(\bar{t}) : o} \quad (\text{PRED})$$

$$\frac{f(\bar{t}) : T \in \mathcal{C} \quad \Gamma \vdash \bar{t} : \bar{T}}{\Gamma \vdash f(\bar{t}) : T} \quad (\text{FUN})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 : T_0 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \quad (\Gamma \vdash T_0 <: T_1 \vee \Gamma \vdash T_1 <: T_0)}{\Gamma \vdash t_0 = t_1 : o} \quad (\text{EQUALS})$$

1.2.3 FX(G,D(A),P)

Only the following rules are needed beyond those of FX(G) and FX(D(A)).

1.3 Judgements

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

- for any formula ϕ in the sequence all variables x (X) occurring in ϕ are defined by a declaration $x : T$ ($X \text{ type}$) in the sequence to the left of ϕ .

FX productions:

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

FX well-formedness rules:

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

FX sub-typing and type-equivalence rules:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\text{class } C(\dots) \text{ extends } D\{\dots\} \in P}{\vdash C <: D} (\text{S-EXTENDS}) \quad \frac{\Gamma, c \vdash S <: T}{\Gamma \vdash S\{c\} <: T} (\text{S-CONST-L}) \quad \frac{\Gamma, \text{self} : S \vdash c \quad \Gamma \vdash S <: T}{\Gamma \vdash S <: T\{c\}} (\text{S-CONST-R}) \\
 \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash U \text{ type} \quad \Gamma \vdash S <: T \quad (x \text{ fresh})}{\Gamma \vdash x : U; S <: T} (\text{S-EXISTS-L}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash U \text{ type} \quad \Gamma \vdash S <: T[t/x]}{\Gamma \vdash S <: x; U : T} (\text{S-EXISTS-R}) \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash S <: T \quad \Gamma \vdash T <: S}{\Gamma \vdash S \equiv T} (\text{TYPE-EQUIV})
 \end{array}$$

Type judgement rules:

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

Transition Rules:

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

Figure 1. Semantics of FX

2. for any variable x (X), there is at most one formula $x : T$ (X type) in Γ .

The judgements of interest are:

Type well-formedness $\Gamma \vdash T \text{ type}$

Subtyping $\Gamma \vdash S <: T$

Typing $\Gamma \vdash e : T$

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

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

Class ok $\Gamma \vdash C1 \text{ OK}$ (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:

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

1.4 Well formedness rules

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

2. Type inference rules

2.1 Expression typing judgement

Now we consider the rule for method invocation. Assume that in a type environment Γ 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 α -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.