# COMP 302: In Class Notes

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# 1 03 February

## Regular Expression Matching

Typical patterns:

- Singleton: matching a specific character
- Alternation: choice between two patterns
- Concatenation: succession of patterns
- Iteration: repeat a certain pattern (indefinite)

### Regular expressions;

- 0 and 1 are regular expressions.
- If  $a \in \Sigma$  where  $\Sigma$  is an alphabet, then a is a regular expression.
- If  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are regular expressions, then  $r_1 + r_2$  (choice) and  $r_1r_2$  (concatenation) are regular expressions.
- If r is a regular expression, then  $r^*$  is a regular expression (repetition).

### Examples;

- a(p\*)1(e+y) matches against "apple", "apply", "ale"
- g(1+r)(e+a)y matches against "grey", "gray", "gey", "gay" (1 means you can either have something there or not)
- g(1+o)\*gle matches "google", "ggle"

Our goal is to implement a regex matcher in SML.

Regular expression algorithm:

```
s matches 1
  iff s is empty
s matches a
  iff s = a
s matches r1+r2
  iff either s matches r1
          or s matches r2
s matches r1r2
  iff s = s1s2 and s1 matches r1
               and s2 matches r2
s matches r*
  iff either s is empty
          or s = s1s2 where s1 matches r
                and s2 matches r*
Remember that continuations tell us what to do once an initial segment of the input
char list has been matched.
In SML, using continuations:
datatype regexp = Zero | One | Char of char | Plus of regexp * regexp
                | Times of regexp*regexp | Star of regexp
fun accept r s =
(* acc r s cont = bool *)
(* acc: regexp -> char list -> (char list -> bool) -> bool *)
(* ex: a(p*)l(e+y) on [a,p,p,l,e] *)
fun acc (Char c) [] cont = false
  | acc (Char c) (c1::s) cont =
        c = c1 andalso (cont s)
  \mid acc (Times (r1,r2)) s cont =
        acc r1 s (fn s2 => acc r2 s2 cont)
  \mid acc (Plus (r1,r2) s cont =
        acc r1 s cont orelse acc r2 s cont
  | acc One s cont = cont s
  | acc (Star r) s cont =
        (* remove (1*) case - s must shrink *)
        (cont s) orelse
      acc r s (fn s' => not (s = s') orelse
                         acc (Star r) s' cont)
```

# 2 6 February

### 2.1 Exceptions

We use exceptions to quit out from the runtime stack. We have already seen some built-in exceptions - for example, SML will throw a Div exception if you try to divide by zero (like 3 div 0). Exceptions like this are used to abort a program safely whenever invalid input is given.

```
(* define the exception *)
exception Error of String;
fun fact n =
    let fun fact' n =
        if n = 0 then 1
        else n * fact'(n-1)
    in
        if n < 0 then raise Error "Invalid Input"
        else fact' n
    end;
(* non-exhaustive warning *)
fun head (h::_) = h;
(* uncaught exception Match *)
head [];
Sometimes we want to handle exceptions:
(* runFact: int -> unit *)
fun runFact n =
    let val r = fact n
    in print ("Factorial of " \hat{} Int.toString n \hat{} " is " \hat{} "Int.toString r)
    handle Error msg => print ("Error: " ^ msg)
```

To sequentialize expressions, use the ; operator. exp1; exp2 first executes exp1 then executes exp2. This is equivalent to  $(fn \ x \Rightarrow exp2)$  exp1. This will be expanded upon in the next lecture.

We can pattern match on error codes:

```
(* define the exception *)
exception Error of int;
```

```
fun fact n =
   let fun fact' n =
        if n = 0 then 1
   else n * fact'(n-1)
    in
        if n < 0 then raise Error 00
        else fact' n
    end:
fun runFact n =
   let val r = fact n
    in
      print ("Factorial of " ^ Int.toString n ^ " is " ^ "Int.toString r)
    end
   handle Error 00 => print ("invalid input")
         | Error 11 => print ("blah")
         | Error _ => print ("Something else")
```

Exceptions cannot be polymorphic, e.g. it cannot be of type 'a list but can be of type int list.

Exceptions are usually pretty powerful in managing runtime stacks, but usually continuations are more powerful.

There are some situations where we cannot give change at all, but change does not handle these situations. Below, we handle this situation - change might not be able to do anything but raise Change, so this must be caught.

```
fun change_top coins amt =
   let val r = change coins amt
   in print ("Change:" ^ ListToString r)
   end
   handle Change => print "Sorry, can't give change."

change [5,2] 8
=>* if 5>8 then ... else (5::change[5,2] 3 handle Change change [2] 8)

change [2] 3
=>* 2::(change [2] 1 handle Change change [] 1)

change [2] 1 => change [] 1 => raise Change
(* goes to handle Change change [] 1 *)
(* then goes to handle Change change [2] 8, which succeeds *)
```

# 3 8 February

# 3.1 References (State)

Recall the binding/scope rules from the beginning of the class:

```
let
    val pi = 3.14
    val area = fn r => pi * r * r
val a2 = area 2.0 (*a2 = 12.56 *)
val pi = 6.0
in
    area (2.0) (* a2 = 12.56 *)
end;
```

So far, we have only seen bindings like the one above. For bindings, remember we have a variable name bound to some value. Today we will look at references, which are a form of mutable storage. References allow us to to imperative programming.

#### Commands:

• Initialize a cell in memory

 $val\ r$ : int  $ref = ref\ 0$  where r is the name of the cell and 0 is the content of the cell

val s : int ref = ref 0 where s and r do not point to the same cell in memory

• Read what is stored in a cell

```
val x = !r will read from location r the value 0
r : int ref and !r : int
```

• Write some value into a cell (i.e update the content)

```
r := 5 + 3 \text{ where } r : \text{int ref and } 5+3 : \text{int}
```

Previous content of cell r is erased when we store 8.

Evaluating r:=3 returns unit and as an effect updates the content of the cell with 3.

```
val x = !s + !r binds x to 3.
```

val t = r essentially makes two names for the same cell in memory. Calling val y = !t binds y to the value of r. This is called *aliasing*.

We can rewrite our beginning function:

```
let
```

```
val pi = ref 3.14
val area = fn r => !pi * r * r
val a2 = area 2.0 (* a2 = 12.56 *)
val _ = (pi := 6.0)
in
    area (2.0) (* 24.00*)
end
```

Now we can program mutable data structures like Linked Lists:

```
datatype 'a rlist = Empty | RCons of 'a * ('a rlist) ref;
val l1 = ref (RCons(4, ref Empty));
```

For 11, we now have a value 4 with a reference to some place in memory with an Empty list.

```
val 12 = ref(RCons(5,11));
```

For 12 we have a value 5 with a reference to 11 defined above.

```
11 := !12;
```

The above will remove the value of 11, change it to 5 (12's value) and create a reference back to this element. Here, we've created a circular list.

```
type 'a reflist = ('a rlist) ref;
(* rapp: 'a reflist * 'a reflist -> unit *)
```

```
(* returns unit as all we're doing is updating space in memory *)
fun rapp (r1 as ref Empty, r2) = r1 := !r2
  | rapp (ref (RCons (x,t)), r2) = rapp t r2

Now we can check this with some examples:
val rlist1 = ref (RCons(1,ref Empty))
val rlist2 = ref (RCons(2,ref Empty))
rapp rlist1 rlist2
```

# 4 10 February

### 4.1 References and the environment diagram

### 4.1.1 References for modelling closures and objects

```
local
   val counter = ref 0
in
   (* tick: unit -> unit *)
   fun tick () = counter := !counter + 1
   (* reset: unit -> unit *)
   fun reset () = counter := 0
   (* read: unit -> int *)
   fun read () = !counter
end
We can use this to create a counter program:
fun newCounter () =
    let
   val counter = ref 0
   fun tick () = counter := !counter + 1
   fun reset () = counter := 0
   fun read () = !counter
   {tick = tick; reset = reset; read = read}
end
val c1 = newCounter ();
val c2 = newCounter ();
```

```
#tick c1 (); (* increments c1's counter *)
#tick c2 ();
#tick c1 ();
#read c1 (); (* returns 2 *)
#read c2 (); (* returns 1 *)
```

In essence, we've created an object - every time we create a new counter, we create an instance of the object. We can now program in the object-oriented paradigm using ML (although the syntax isn't quite as built for OOP).

### 4.1.2 The Environment Diagram

let val x = 5+3 in x+7 end: will replace x by 8 then compute 8+7.

So far, evaluation is driven by substitution. We substitute the value of  $\mathbf{x}$  into the body. Unfortunately, the substitution model fails when we have references because substitutions cannot capture global effects.

We have three different kinds of bindings we'd like to track using the environment diagram. A binding is an association between a variable and a value.

- 1. val x = 3+2 creates a "box" with the variable name x and its value 5.
- 2. val x = ref (8+2) creates a box with the variable name and a location pointing to another box with the value 10.
- 3. val  $f = fn x \Rightarrow x + 3$  creates a box with the function name and a location pointing to a box with the input and the function body, where this box points back to the original box.

```
val f = let val y = 8+2 in fn y => y + x end adds another box (an extra step) with the local body.
```

# 5 13 February

### 5.1 Lazy Evaluation

So far, we've had an *eager evaluation* strategy. For example, let x = e1 in e2 end will evaluate e1 to some value v1 and bind x to the value v1, then evaluate e2. This is also known as a *call-by-value* strategy. Why should we evaluate e1 if we never use it at all.

This is especially relevant with "harder" computations.

```
let val y = horribleComp(522)
in 3*2 end
```

With the call-by-value strategy, we always compute horribleComp(322), even if we never use it.

We also have the *call-by-name* strategy. In the original example, it will bind x to the expression e1, then evaluate e2. However, if we use x multiple times in e2, we are evaluating e1 multiple times.

There's a "best of both worlds" strategy we can also use - call-by-need. With this strategy in the original example, it will bind x to the expression e1, then evaluate e2, but memorize the result of evaluating e1.

Lazy evaluation is not only useful for saving computation time, but it also useful for evaluating infinite data structures. A stream of numbers online or interactive input/output from users would not be possible to deal with without infinite data structures.

Remember that continuations delay computation within functions. We can wrap functions around things we wish to delay.

```
datatype 'a susp = Susp of (unit -> 'a)
(* takes in a continuation and wraps it in a suspension to delay computation *)
(* delay: (unit -> 'a) -> 'a susp *)
fun delay c = Susp c
(* forces computation of inner function *)
fun force (Susp c) = c ()
Now we can use lazy evaluation with the horribleComp example.
(* original *)
let val x = horribleCom(522)
in x+x end
(* call-by-name model *)
let val x = Susp(fun () => horribleComp(522))
in force x + force x end
(* call-by-need*)
val memo = ref None
val x = Susp (fun () => case memo of None =>
    let val y = horribleComp(522) in memo := (*MISSED*) end
| Some y \Rightarrow y
```

```
(* infinite stream of 'a *)
datatype 'a stream' = Cons of 'a * 'a stream
withtype 'a stream = ('a stream') susp
(* stream' shows the first element, hides the rest, while stream hides all *)
(* create an infinite stream of, say, 1's *)
fun ones () = Susp (fun () => Cons (1, ones ()))
val o = ones() (* returns a Susp of a function *)
(* take: int -> 'a stream -> 'a list
   take': int -> 'a stream' -> 'a list
fun take 0 s = []
  | take n s = take' n (force s)
and take' 0 s' = []
  | take' n (Cons(x,s)) = x::(take (n-1) s)
val l = take 5 (ones ()) (*returns [1,1,1,1,1]*)
(* numsFrom: int -> int stream *)
fun numsFrom n = Susp(fn () => Cons(n, numsFrom (n-1))
take 5 (numsFrom 0); (* returns [0,1,2,3,4] *)
We can compute a stream of Finonnaci numbers:
val fibStream =
    let.
        fun fib a b = Cons(a, Susp(fn () => fib b, (a+b)))
    in
        Susp(fn () \Rightarrow fib 0 1)
    end
take 4 fibStream; (* [0,1,1,2] *)
```

# 6 15 February

### 6.1 Lazy programming continued

Recall from last class:

```
datatype 'a susp = Susp of (unit -> 'a)
datatype 'a stream' = Cons of 'a * 'a stream
withtype 'a stream = ('a stream') susp
Last class we saw how to create infinite streams of real numbers, natural numbers, etc...
(* shd: 'a stream -> 'a *)
fun shd (Susp s) = shd' (s ())
(* shd': 'a stream' -> 'a *)
and shd' (Cons (h,s)) = h
The first line is equivalent to fun shd s = shd' (force s).
(* ltail: 'a stream -> 'a stream *)
fun ltail s = ltail'
(* ltail': 'a stream' -> 'a stream *)
and Itail' (Cons (h,s)) = s
(* smap: ('a -> 'b) -> 'a stream -> 'b stream *)
(* mapStr: 'a stream -> 'b stream *)
(* mapStr': 'a stream' -> 'b stream *)
fun smap f s =
let fun mapStr s = mapStr' (force s)
    and mapStr' (Cons (x, xs)) = Cons(f x, Susp (fn () => mapStr xs))
in mapStr s
end
(* addStreams: int stream * int stream -> int stream *)
fun addStreams (s1, s2) = addStreams' (force s1, force s2)
(* addStreams': int stream' * int stream' -> int stream *)
and addStreams' (Cons (x,xs), Cons (y,ys)) = Susp(fn () => Cons(x+y, addStreams (xs,ys)))
(* zipStreams: 'a stream * 'a stream -> 'a stream *)
fun zipStreams (s1, s2) = zipStream' (force s1, s2)
(* zipStreams': 'a stream' * ['a stream] -> 'a stream *)
and zipStreams' (Cons (x,xs), s2) =
    Susp(fn () => Cons (x, zipStreams (s2, xs)))
We don't need to force both streams for the zipStreams function to save work.
(* filter: ('a->bool)*'a stream -> 'a stream *)
fun filter (p, s) = filter' (p, foce s)
(* filter': ('a -> bool) * 'a stream' -> 'a stream *)
and filter' (p, (Cons(x,xs))) =
```

```
if p x then
Susp(fn () => Cons (x, filter (p,xs)))
else
   filter (p, xs)
```

# 7 27 February

### 7.1 Midterm Review

Midterm exam – Wednesday, 29 February in Leacock 26.

Crib sheet allowed – one page, back and front.

Three questions – proofs, programs, covering all material up until the break.

No continuation, lazy evaluation, exceptions, or environment diagram questions.

### 7.1.1 Example 1: Proofs

```
fun sum [] = 0
   | sum (h::t) = h + sum t

fun sum_tl [] acc = acc
   | sum_tl (h::t) acc = sum_tl t (h + acc)
```

For the above code, we wish to prove that sum 1 = sum\_tl 1 0. We can do this using structural induction on 1.

The base case is trivial. We'll start with the step case where l = h::t. Our induction hypothesis states that  $sum t = sum_t l t 0$ . We'll need to show that  $sum (h::t) = sum_t l (h::t) 0$ .

```
sum (h::t)
=> h + sum t

sum_tl (h::t) 0
=> sum_tl t (h+0)
=> sum_tl t h
```

This attempt will not work, since we want to use the IH. We'll need to generalize the theorem:

Lemma: For all lists t and for all accumulators acc, sum t + acc = sum\_tl t acc is true. We'll also need to prove this using structural induction on t.

```
Base case: where t = []:
sum [] + acc
=> 0 + acc
=> acc
sum_tl [] acc
=> acc
Both sides are equal, so our base case checks out.
Step case: where t = h::t':
IH: for all acc', sum t' + acc' = sum_tl t' acc'
sum (h::t') + acc'
=> (h + sum t') + acc' [by program]
=>* sum t' + (h + acc') [by associativity and commutativity]
sum_tl (h::t') acc'
=> sum_tl t' (h + acc') [by program]
By the induction hypothesis using (h + acc) for acc', we know these are equal.
Now that we've proved the lemma, we need to prove the main theorem.
By the lemma, using 1 for t and 0 for acc:
sum 1 + 0
=> sum 1
```

### 7.1.2 Example 2: Rewriting library functions

```
We have a library function:
```

```
tabulate f n returns [f0, f1, ..., fn]
We want to write this in a tail-recursive manner.
fun tabulate f 0 acc = (f 0)::acc
  | tabulate f n acc = tabulate f (n-1) ((f n)::acc)
Another example:
foldr f b [x1, ..., xn] returns f (x1, ..., f (xn, b))
```

Now, we want to write a list append function using foldr.

# 8 02 March - Post-Midterm

#### 8.1 Midterm review

### **8.1.1** Question 1

```
Dot product of two vectors a\dot{b} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_1 \times b_1 Use pair_foldr = f(x_n, y_n, f(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}, \dots, f(x_1, y_1, init)) \dots). (* pair_foldr ('a * 'b *'c -> 'c) -> 'c -> ('a list * 'b list) -> 'c *) fun prod_vect v w = pair_foldr (fn (a,b,c) => a*b + c) 0 (v, w)
```

### **8.1.2** Question 2

```
Matrices question:
[ [ 1,3,-5],
     [2, 0, 4]
]
fun emptyMatrix B =
     all (fn l => l = []) B

(* multiply a vector times a matrix *)
fun sm (v, B) =
   if emptyMatrix B then []
```

```
else let
   val c = map (fn (x::xs) => x) B
   val B' = map (fn (x::xs) => xs) B
in
   prod_vect (v,c)::sm(v,B')
end
```

### 8.1.3 Question 3

Proofs question: similar structure to past proofs

### 8.1.4 Question 4

References question:

```
(* mon_ref: 'a -> (unit -> int) * (unit -> 'a) * ('a -> unit) *)
fun mon_ref a =
let
   val r = ref a
   val c = ref 0
in
   (
      (fn () => !c),
      (fn () => (c := !c + 1; !r)),
      (fn a => (c := !c + 1; r := a)
   )
end
```

# 9 05 March – Post-Midterm Material

### 9.1 Introduction to Language Design

Homework 4 will be handed out on Friday, 09 March, to be due two weeks from then.

"A good designer must rely on experience, on precise, logical thinking, and on pedantic exactness. No magic will do." - N. Worth

Goal: a precise foundation for answering questions such as:

• How will a program execute?

- What is the meaning of a program?
- What are legal expressions?
  e.g. fun foo x x = x+2 and foo 3 5 returns 7 instead of 5
- What concept of a variable do we have?
- Where is a variable bound?
- When is an expression well-typed?
- Does every expression have a unique type?
- What exactly is an expression? Code -¿ Parser (syntax checker) -¿ Type Checker (static semantics) -¿ Interpreter (operational semantics)

In this class, we'll go through the different stages of running an ML program – parsing, type checking, and interpreting. To ensure a language will produce "correct" programs, we have to ensure that each of these stages produce correct results.

### 9.2 Nano ML

We'll start with a small subset of ML.

**Definition:** the set of expressions is inductively defined as follows:

- 1. A number is an expression.
- 2. The boolean true and false are expressions.
- 3. If e1 and e2 are expressions, then e1 op e2 is an expression, where op  $\in \{+, -, *, =, < \}$ .
- 4. If e0, e1 and e2 are expressions, then if e0 then e1 else e2 is an expression.

A more compact way of defining expressions is the BNF grammar (Backus-Naur-Form):

```
Operator op := + | - | * | = | < | orelse 
 Expression e := n | true | false | e1 op e2 | if e0 then e1 else e2 
 Value v := n | true | false
```

Examples of syntatically illegal expressions:

- true false
- +3
- 5-

This does not type check, however – for example, true + 3 is syntactically legal but ill-typed.

"An expression e evaluates to a value v" is equivalent to a judgement "e  $\Downarrow$  v"

An expression if e0 then e1 else e2 evaluates to some value v if:

- 1. e0 evaluates to true and
- 2. e1 evaluates to v.

This is equivalent to:

```
premise1 .... premise2 == e0 evaluates to true e1 evaluates to v

conclusion == if e0 then e1 else e2 evaluates to v
```

# 10 07 March

### 10.1 Language Design and Nano ML continued

Today we want to add variables and let expressions to our BNF grammar.

```
Expression e := n | true | false | ... | x | let x = e in e' end
```

x here represents a class of variables  $x, y, z, \ldots$  For example:

The following is not well-formed:

```
let z = 302
in -z end;
let x = 3 in x
let x = 3 x+2 end
(* etc *)
```

When is a variable bound? When is a variable free?

Free variables: variables that are not bound. FV(e) is the set of free variable names.

•  $FV(n) = \{\}$  where n is a number.

- $FV(x) = \{x\}$
- FV(e1 op e2) = FV(e1) U FV(e2)
- FV(let x = e1 in e2 end) = FV(e1) U F(e2) \ {x}
  let x=5 in let y=x+2 in y+x end end
  let x=x+2 in x+3 end

Bound variable names don't matter - let y=x+2 in y+3 end.

### 10.2 Substitution:

```
e evalsto v0 [v / x] e' evalsto v
-----
let x=e in e' end evalsto v
```

To evaluate let x=e in e' end:

- 1. Evaluate e to v0.
- 2. Substitute v0 for x in e'.
- 3. Evaluate [v0/x]e, to v.

Substitution: [e/x]e' = e'' - in e', replace every free occurence of x with e.

Examples:

- [e/x] n = n
- $\lceil e/x \rceil x = e$
- [e/x] y = y
- [e/x] (e1 op e2) = [e/x] e1 op [e/x] e2
- [e/x] (let y=e1 in e2 end) = let y = [e/x] e1 in [e/x] e2 end if y ∉ FV(e)

A problem: free variables in **e** may be bound **y** (captured) if we don't guarantee that the free variables of **e** and the bound variable **y** don't clash or overlap.

Renaming is a special case of substitution - [y1/y] e = e'

Our substitution has to be capture-avoiding.

We can also add functions to our BNF grammar:

Expression  $e := ... \mid fn x \Rightarrow e$ 

Substitution for (nameless) functions: (MISSED)

Evaluating functions:  $(fn x \Rightarrow e)$ 

Functions are themselves values – we can extend our values definition:

Values v := n | true | false | fn x => e

 $(fn x \Rightarrow e) evalsto (fn x \Rightarrow e)$ 

e1 e2 evalsto v

# 11 09 March

- 1. Evaluating expressions (recursion)
- 2. Turing theory into code
- 3. Modules

#### 11.1 Evaluation

Expression e := ... | fn x => | e1 e2 | rec f => e Values v := ... | fn x => e

Evaluation rules:

-----

 $(fn x \Rightarrow e) evalsto (fn x \Rightarrow e)$ 

e1 evalsto (fn x => e) e2 evalsto v2 [v2/x] e evalsto v
-----e1 e2 evalsto v

In SML, you might write:

```
fun f (x) = if x=0 then 0
              else x + f(x-1)
(* equivalent to in Nano ML *)
rec f \Rightarrow fn x \Rightarrow if x=0 then 0
                    else x + f(x-1)
f 3
\Rightarrow if 3=0 then 0
   else 3 + f (3-1)
(* instead *)
( rec f \Rightarrow fn x \Rightarrow if x=0 then 0
          else x + f(x-1)) 3
(rec f \Rightarrow fn x \Rightarrow if x=0 then 0
      else x + (rec f \Rightarrow fn x ....)) 3
\Rightarrow if 3=0 then 0
   else 3 + (rec f => fn x ...) (3-1)
=> ...
[e'/x] (fn y => e) = fn y => [e'/x] e
provided y is not in FV(e')
[e'/x] (rec f => e) = rec f => [e'/x] e
where f is not in FV(e)
```

### 11.2 Modules

ML: Core language and the Module Language

Modules: two parts – signature and structure

Signature: interface of a structure

Structure: program consisting of declarations

When does a structure implement a signature?

:> makes the implementation of the structure opaque.

A structure can provide more components, but it cannot have fewer.

Structures may provide more general types (e.g. using 'a instead of int).

Structures may also implement concrete datatypes (e.g. in Queues, lists, etc.), but the signature keeps the type abstract. This is important for information hiding.

The order of declarations does not matter.

# 12 12 March

### **12.1** Types

Many ill-typed expressions will get "stuck". For example:

```
if 0 then 3 else 3+2
```

0+2

```
(fn x \Rightarrow x+1) true
```

Our evaluator will accept these expressions, but typing should rule out these ill-formed expressions. These should lead to run-time errors. Typing will ensure that we never evaluate these expressions. There will be fewer run-time errors as a consequence.

Typing approximates what happens during run-time. Typing allows us to detect errors early and gives us precise error messages. As a consequence, programmers can spend more time developing and less time testing their programs.

When we type-check an expression, we prove the absense of certain program behaviors.

**Safety:** If a program is well-typed, then every intermediate state during evaluation is defined and well-typed.

Types classify expressions according to their value. If we know what values there are in a language, we know what types there are.

```
Recall Values v := n | true | false. So, for now:
```

```
Types T := int | bool
```

The shorthand e: T can be read as "expression e has type T".

#### **Axioms:**

• n : int

• false : bool

• true : bool

For if-expression if e then e1 else e2:

• e : bool

• e1 : T

• e2 : T

We need to check that e1: T and e2: T.

e1 : int e2 : int

e1 + e2 : int

e1 : T e2 : T

e1=e2 : bool

We can add tuples to our expressions: Expressions  $e := ... \mid (e1, e2) \mid fst e \mid snd e$ . We can then add tuples to possible values:

Values  $v := n \mid false \mid true \mid (v1, v2)$ 

Types  $T := int \mid bool \mid T1 \times T2$ 

e1 : T1 e2 : T2

(e1, e2) : T1 x T2

e T1 x T2 (ditto)

-----

fst e : T1 snd e : T2

Now for let-expressions:

let x=5 in x+3 end : int

as 5:int

and (assuming x : int) x+3 : int

Note that we need to reason about the type of variables.

 $\Gamma \vdash e : T$  reads "Given assumtion  $\Gamma$ , expression **e** has type **T**". I'm going to replace Gamma with **G** in any verbatim blocks.

Context G := | G1 x T

Each assumption is unique implies that each variable has a unique type! We'll come back to let expressions with assumptions later.

Typing rules lend themselves to be interpreted as type-inference rules. They will infer a unique type.

# 13 14 March

# 13.1 Typing rules continued

When is an expression well-typed?

```
e := n | true | false | e1 op e1
```

For every expression, we can infer a type. Every expression has a unique type.

#### 13.2 Extensions

Today we will look at extensions – functions, applications, recursion, and references.

Without type annotations,  $fn x \Rightarrow x$  has infinitely many types. With type annotations, we can infer a unique type.

What is the most general type of an expression? 'a "principle type"

Extremely important rule:

 $G \mid - ref f \Rightarrow e : T$ 

-----

rec sum => fn x => if x=0 then 0 else sum (x-1) + x : int -> int

# 14 16 March

# 14.1 Type inference and polymorphism

Can we infer a type for an expression?

Recall that we needed type annotations on functions. fn x : int => x

Does an expression have a unique type? fn x => x could have the type int->int or bool->bool, etc., however this function does have one principle type 'a->'a.

**The question:** how can we infer the principle type of an expression *without* given type annotations?

Example:

double = fn f => fn x => 
$$f(f(x))$$
  
: ('a -> 'a) -> 'a -> 'a

Intuitively, we can now use this function in multiple ways.

double (fn 
$$x \Rightarrow x+2$$
) 3 : int

Because of this contradiction, we cannot pass a  $\beta$  to a function which expects an  $\alpha$ .

double (fn 
$$x \Rightarrow x$$
) false : bool

Crucial in this: type variables

$$T := int \mid bool \mid T1 \times T2 \mid T1 \rightarrow T2 \mid 'a$$

How do we instantiate type variables? Substitution!

#### Two views:

- 1. Are all substitution instances of e well-typed? If e has some type T and constraints some type variables  $\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n$ , then e has type [T1/'a1 ... Tn/'an] T for every  $T_1, \ldots T_n$ ?
- 2. Does there exist some substitution instance such that e has type T?

For example: fn x => x+1 has type  $\beta$ ? Choose for  $\beta$  = int->int.

fn x => x has type  $\beta$ ? Choose for  $\beta$  =int->int or bool->bool or, most generally, 'a->'a.

Will fn  $x \Rightarrow x+1$  have type 'b->bool? No. there is instantiation for 'b.

### 14.1.1 Type inference

(1) use typing rules to generate constraints.  $\leftarrow$ will always succeed (2) solve constraints.  $\leftarrow$ will sometimes fail

What is a constraint? For example, T=bool.

Constraint  $C := T=T' \mid tt \mid C1 \cap C2$ 

How do we collect constraints? Informally, to infer a type for if e then e1 else e2, we do the following:

- 1. Infer a type T for e (and C).
- 2. Infer a type  $T_1$  for  $e_1$  (and  $C_1$ ).
- 3. Infer a type  $T_2$  for  $e_2$  (and  $C_2$ ).

Constraints:  $T = bool ^T1 = T2$ .

To infer a type for  $fn x \Rightarrow e$ :

- 1. Assume x has type  $\alpha_1$ .
- 2. Infer a type  $T_24$  (provided the constraints C can be solved).
- 3. We then know that  $fn x \Rightarrow e$  has type 'a1  $\rightarrow$  T2 (provided the constraints C).

G |-e| > T C means "given the assumptions  $\Gamma$  for an expression e, the type T, and the constraints C", or "the expression e has type T provided I can solve C".

### 14.1.2 Solving constraints

```
G \mid -e \Rightarrow T/C \qquad G \mid -e1 \Rightarrow T1/C1 \qquad G \mid -e2 \Rightarrow T2/C2
G |- if e then e1 else e2 => T2 / T=book \hat{} T1=t2 \hat{} C \hat{} C1 \hat{} C2
G1 x: 'a1 | - e => T2/C
_____
G \mid - fn x => e => a1 -> T2 / C
input: left of =>
output: right of =>
x:'a1 means 'a1 is new
fn x \Rightarrow if 3=1 then 55 else x : 'a1 \Rightarrow
assuming x:'a1
constraint: int = 'a1 ^ bool=bool
Solving the constraints, we learn that 'a1 = int, and therefore
fn x \Rightarrow if 3=1 then 55 else x : int->int
_____
G |- n => int / tt
_____
G |- true => bool / tt
G(x) = T
_____
G \mid -x \Rightarrow T / tt
```

# 15 19 March

Some small mistakes on HW4 – see WebCT for more details.

# 15.1 Type inference

Examples:

```
fn f => fn x => f (x) + 1
    : 'a1 -> 'a2 -> int
f: 'a1, x: 'a2 | - f(x) + 1 : int
f(x): int
'a1 = 'a2 -> int
.: the type of the fn is ('a2->int) -> 'a2 -> int
    as f : 'a2 \rightarrow int
A slightly more complicated example:
fn f \Rightarrow fn g \Rightarrow fn x \Rightarrow f(g x) + g x
    : 'a1 -> 'a2 -> 'a3 -> int
f: 'a1, g: 'a2, x: 'a3 |-f(g(x)) + g(x): int
Constraints to solve:
a2 = a3 \rightarrow int (from last g(x))
a2 = a3 \rightarrow a4 \text{ (from first } g(x))
'a1 = 'a4 -> int
'a2 = 'a3 \rightarrow 'a4, 'a2 = 'a3 \rightarrow int (intuitively)
'a1 = 'a4 -> int
.: 'a4 = int, 'a1 = int -> int
No constraint on 'a3
.: the type we infer is:
    (int -> int) -> ('a3->int) -> 'a3 -> int
                            g
                                       Х
Third example:
fn f \Rightarrow fn x \Rightarrow f x + x f
f: 'a1, x: 'a2 \mid -f x + x f
'a1 = 'a2 -> int
a2 = a1 \rightarrow int
'a1 = ('a1 -> int) -> int
Does there exist an instantiation for 'a1 such that
    'a1 = ('a1 -> int) -> int ?
There is no solution to make both sides equal.
```

Reason: variable on the LHS occurs embedded on the RHS (circular).

### 15.2 Unification Algorithm

in

```
Input: set of constraints
Question: Does there exist an instantiation such that all constraints are true?
C := tt \mid C1 \land C2 \mid T = T'
C ====> C' until we reach our goal where C =>* tt.
C ^ tt => C
C \cap int = int => C
C ^ bool = bool => C
C ^ T1->T2 = S1->S2 => C ^ T1=S2 ^ T2=S2
C^{\circ} 'a = T => [T/'a] C (provided 'a is not in FV(T)) (occurs check -- prevents circular terms
C \hat{T} = a \Rightarrow [T/a] C \text{ (same provisions)}
unify (T1, T2) =
    (* pattern match on T1, T2 *)
    (* return bool *)
15.3
       Examples (part 2)
double = fn f \Rightarrow fn x \Rightarrow f (f x)
    : 'a1 -> 'a2 -> 'a3
f:'a1, x:'a2 |- f (fx) : 'a3
inter (f x) ---> 'a1 = 'a2 -> 'a4
outer f (f x) \rightarrow 'a1 = 'a4 \rightarrow 'a3
'a4 -> 'a3 => 'a2 -> 'a1
'a4 = 'a2, 'a3 = 'a4
.: 'a2 = 'a3 = 'a4
.: we infer:
     ('a2 -> 'a2) -> 'a2 -> 'a2
double (fn x => x+1) 5;
double (fn x => x) true;
let
    d = fn f \Rightarrow fn x \Rightarrow f (f x)
    x = d (fn x => x+1) 5
    y = d (fn x \Rightarrow x) true
```

```
(y, x)
end
(* this will type-check in SML, but would not type check in our definition so far,
 * as we don't have a way to reuse a function with different types as we've
 * given it a type. SML will abstract over polymorphic type variables, i.e.
 * it can reuse the type over multiple types by saying "for all 'a2:('a2->'a2)->'a2->'a"
 *)
```

### 16 21 March

### 16.1 Type inference continued

### 16.1.1 Warm-up examples

#### Example 1:

```
fn f => fn g => fn x => if gx then f(g x) else f(f(g x))
f : 'a1, g : 'a2, x : 'a3 |- if (g x) then f(g x) else f(f(g x)) : 'a4
'a1 -> 'a2 -> 'a3 -> 'a4
```

We are looking for instantiations for 'a1, 'a2, 'a3, 'a4 such that the expression is well-typed.

```
(g x) == 'a2 = 'a3 -> bool
f(g x) == 'a1 = bool -> 'a4
f(f(g x)) == 'a1 = 'a4 -> 'a4
.: 'a4 = bool
```

This given function will have type (bool->bool)->('a3->bool)->'a3->bool.

### Example 2:

```
fn f => if f true then f 5 else f 4
f:'a1 |- if f true then f 5 else f 4 : 'a2
f true == 'a1 = bool -> bool
f 5, f 4 == 'a1 = int -> 'a2
bool->bool != int -> 'a2
```

```
(* won't type check? *)

(* in SML *)
let val f = fn x => x
in if (f true) then (f 5) else (f 4)
end
(* will type int -- why? *)
In our algorithm:

f : 'a -> 'a |- if (f true) then f 5 else f 4
(f true) == 'a -> 'a = bool -> bool

f 4 == 'a -> 'a = int -> int
f 5 == ""

'a = int
'a = bool
```

Our algorithm does not do what SML does – it cannot truly reuse f in multiple ways.

To make this function type check in our language, we'll need different copies of f.

Observation: if (fn x => x) true then (fn x => x) 5 then (fn x => x) 4 will type check – each "sub-function" will be assigned its own relevant type. By writing this function three times, we will type check it three times, however we will have no constraints to carry over, so our language will type check this correctly.

#### 16.1.2 Modifying our typing rules

As a solution to this problem, we can modify our old rule, which is not suitable to handle polymorphic functions. Our new rule is as follows:

```
G|-[e1/x]e2 : T
------
G |- let x=e1 in e2 : T
```

Note: type checks  $e_1$  multiple times – not very efficient, but at least this will work for polymorphism. In practical languages, this is not what happens. Instead, we'll need to make the assumption  $\forall \alpha - > \alpha$ , so whenever we look up the type of f, we get a "fresh", unique copy of its type.

In ML: (generalize – abstract over the free variables and quantify over them, so we can reuse them as often as we'd like)

In example 2, (forall 'a, 'a -> 'a) -> int - full polymorphism. In ML, we have parametric polymorphism, where all quantification over type variables is at the outside. Some languages are slowly moving towards allowing full polymorphism.

### 16.1.3 More examples

```
let val r = ref (fn x \Rightarrow x)
in r := (fn x \Rightarrow x+1); !r true
end
```

In SML, this will not type check; however, from the rules we have, it will.

```
ref (fn x => x) == ('a -> 'a) ref
ref (fn x => x) := (fn x => x+1); (ref (fn x => x))! true
'a = int
then
'a = bool
```

# "happy" but WRONG

In general, we can reuse functions and values in a polymorphic way, but we cannot make any general polymorphic assumptions about expressions which are not values! Recall that references are not values, so we cannot make any general polymorphic assumptions about references.

This is called *value restriction* – we can only reuse values in a polymorphic way. If something is not a value, we cannot make any polymorphic assumptions about it, since there can be side effects and such.

```
let val r = ref (fn x => x)
in r
end
```

#### (\* SML \*)

Warning: type variables are not generalized because of value restriction are instantiated

### 17 23 March

HW 5 out – due 11 April, 2012

## 17.1 Bi-directional type checking

So far, we have type inference rules.

**Hindley-Milner** (type inference) – *Goal:* infer the most general type of an expression without declaring any types.

### Disadvantages of not writing type annotations:

- Gives better error messages (programmer communicates his or her intent)
- High-grade (high-quality) documentation does not get out of sync with the code
- I can refuse types to force programs to be used in a specific way
- Hindley-Milner type inference does not scale to richer types such as sub-typing, full polymorphism, and dependent types.
- Hindley-Milner type inference is complicated and difficult to implement (unification is needed).

Basic idea behind bi-directional type checking – instead of inferring a type:

$$\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$$

 $\forall e$  where  $\tau$  is the output, we'll use two judgements (functions), "check" and "synthesize". First, check  $\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau$  for inputs  $\Gamma, e, \tau$  (check that expression e has type  $\tau$  under the assumptions  $\Gamma$ ). Then, synthesize  $\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau$  (synthesize a type  $\tau$  for expression e under the assumptions  $\Gamma$  for some e). Synthesize basically means infer.

This algorithm is based on two observations. First, we can't use information that we don't have. Second, we should try to use information that we do have.

Type variables:

$$\overline{\Gamma_i x : \tau \vdash x \Rightarrow \tau}$$

Functions

$$\frac{\tau_i x : \tau_1 \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \mathtt{fn} \ \mathtt{x} \Rightarrow \mathtt{e} \Rightarrow \tau_1 \to \tau_2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \Rightarrow \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 \Leftarrow \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2}$$

# Example:

.: int

Conversion:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \tau' \quad \tau' = \tau}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \tau}$$

Example:

$$\frac{\vdash 3 \Rightarrow \mathtt{int} \quad \mathtt{int} = \mathtt{int}}{\vdash 3 \Leftarrow \mathtt{int}} \ by conversion$$