A Constraint Language for Static Semantic Analysis Based on Scope Graphs

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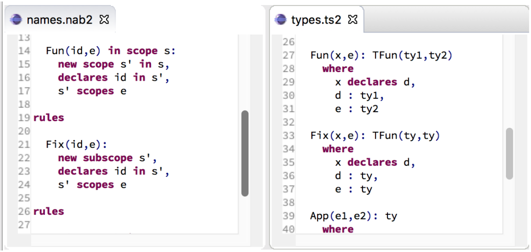
PEPM, January 19, 2016

Motivation



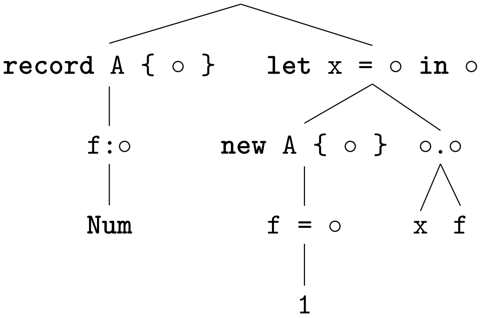
- Language engineering with language workbench
- Language-dependent specification, using language-independent framework
- Separate language aspects
- Today: framework for static semantic analysis, based on
  - scope graphs
  - constraints

Example

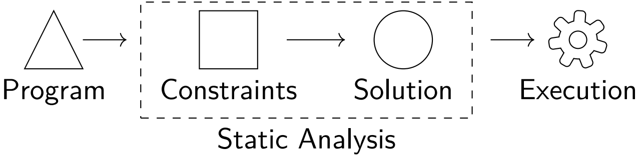
Program

```
record A {
  f:Num
}

let
  x = new A {
    f = 1
  }
in x.f
```

Abstract Syntax Tree



Constraint-based Type Analysis



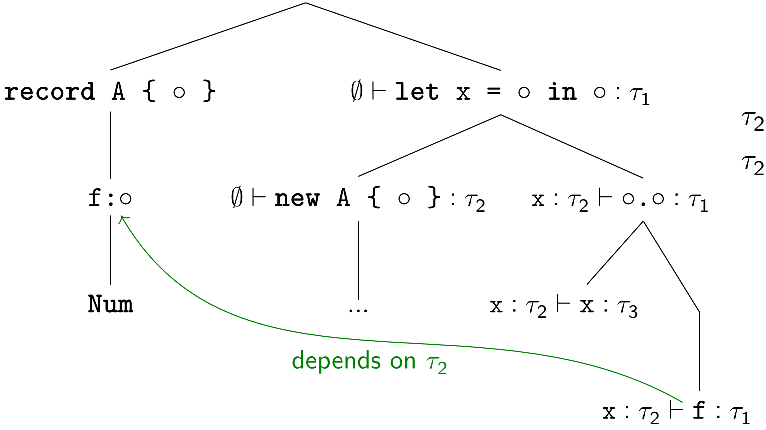
- Language-dependent constraint generation
- Language-independent constraint solving
- Freedom in order of solving
- Potential for inference

$$\Gamma \vdash e : t \longrightarrow C$$

Constraint-based Type Analysis

Generation

Constraints



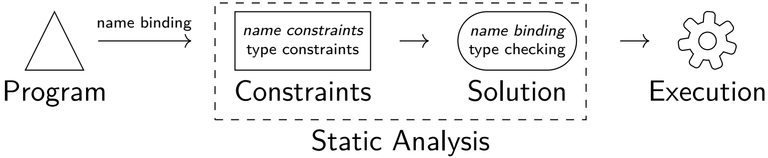
$\vdots$

$\tau_2 \stackrel{?}{=} \mathtt{Rec(A)}$

$\tau_2 \stackrel{?}{=} \tau_3$

Requires additional, ad hoc data structures (e.g. class table)

Constraint-based Name and Type Analysis



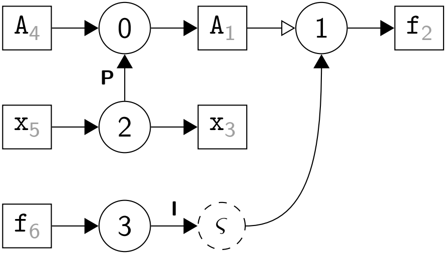
- Existing approaches: name binding during constraint generation
- Goal: name binding during constraint solving
- Use scope graphs for language independent name resolution

Intermezzo: Scope Graphs

Program

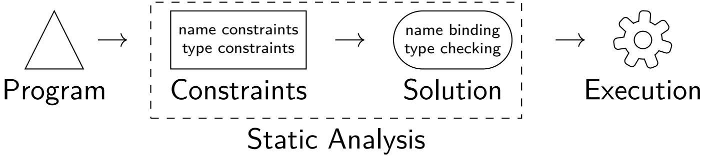
```
record A_1 {
  f_2 : Num
}

let
  x_3 = new A_4 {
    ...
  }
in x_5 . f_6
```

Scope Graph



Introduced by Neron e.a., *A Theory of Name Resolution*, ESOP, 2015

Constraint-based Name and Type Analysis

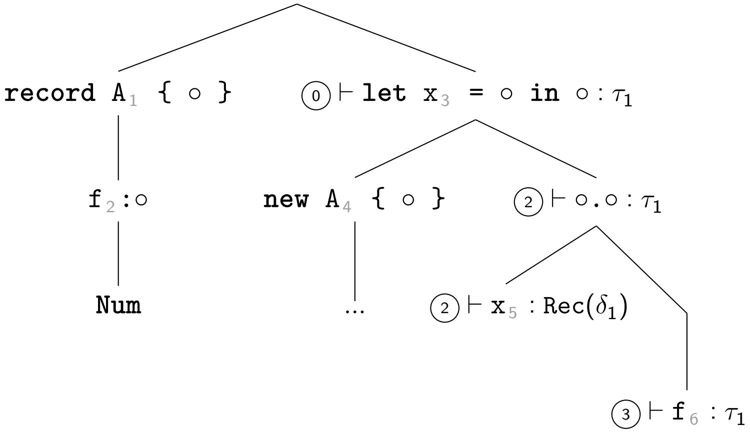


$$\mathsf{s} \vdash e : t \longrightarrow C$$

Constraint-based Name and Type Analysis

Generation

Constraints



$\vdots$

$\delta_1 \rightsquigarrow \varsigma$

$3 \longrightarrow \varsigma$

$\mathtt{f}_6 \longrightarrow 3$

$\mathtt{f}_6 \mapsto \delta_2$

$\delta_2 : \tau_1$

Constraint-based Name and Type Analysis

- Constraints for
  - Scope graph construction
  - Name resolution
  - Type checking
- Formal semantics for solution $\mathcal{G}, \psi, \varphi \models C$
  - Scope graph $\mathcal{G}$
  - Type environment ψ
  - Substitution φ
- Resolution algorithm $\textsc{Solve}(C) = \langle \mathcal{G}, \psi, \varphi \rangle$

Constraint-based Name and Type Analysis

Program

```
record A1 {
  f2:Num
}

let
  x3 = new A4 {
    ...
  }
in x5.f6
```

Constraints

$\vdots$

$\mathtt{A}_1 \rightsquigarrow \varsigma$

$(3) \xrightarrow{\mathrm{I}} \varsigma$

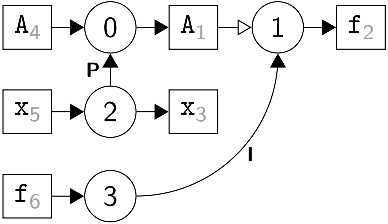
$\mathtt{f}_6 \longrightarrow (3)$

$\mathtt{f}_6 \mapsto \delta_2$

$\mathtt{f}_2 : \tau_1$

Solution

Scope graph



Type env

$\mathtt{f}_2 : \mathtt{Num}$

$\mathtt{x}_3 : \mathtt{Rec}(\mathtt{A}_1)$

Substitution

$\delta_1 \mapsto \mathtt{A}_1 \quad \delta_2 \mapsto \mathtt{f}_2$

$\varsigma \mapsto (1) \quad \tau_1 \mapsto \mathtt{Num}$

Constraint-based Name and Type Analysis

- Summary
  - Constraints to express name and type analysis
  - Language-specific constraint generation
  - Language-independent constraint solver
    - (modulo type vocabulary)
- Preliminary validation
  - Functional language: PCF
  - Object-oriented language: Featherweight Java
- Solve algorithm
  - Terminating and sound, $\textsc{Solve}(C) = \Delta \implies \Delta \models C$
  - Incomplete (conjecture: complete without $i \rightarrow \varsigma$)
  - Prototype implementation

More scope graph contributions in paper

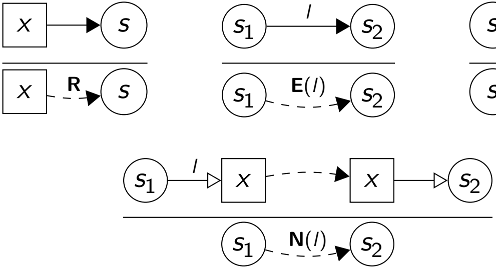
- Generalized parents and imports to arbitrary labels
- Parametrized name resolution algorithm
- Name disambiguation constraints
  - Uniqueness (e.g. prevent duplicate record definitions)
  - Inclusion (e.g. ensure all fields are initialized)

Future Work

- Scope graphs
  - High-level specification language based on scope graphs
  - Name resolution sensitive program transformations
  - Relate static scope graphs to dynamic semantics
- Constraint language
  - Support more advanced types, e.g. polymorphism
  - Factor out constraint domain X, cf. HM(X) and OutsideIn(X)
  - Constraint solver performance
- Mechanized language meta-theory based on this framework

Resolution Calculus

Reachability

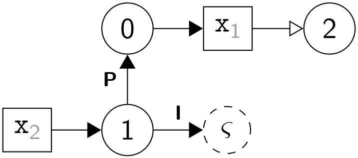


Visibility

Labels	$\mathcal{L}$	e.g.	$\{\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{I}\}$	
Ordering	$<$	e.g.	$\mathbf{I} < \mathbf{P}$	
Well-formedness	WF(p)	e.g.	$\mathbf{P}^* \cdot \mathbf{I}^* \cdot \mathbf{D}$	(transitive)
		or	$\mathbf{P}^* \cdot \mathbf{I}^? \cdot \mathbf{D}$	(non-transitive)

Incompleteness Example

Scope graph



Visibility: $\mathbf{I} < \mathbf{P}$

Constraints

$$\mathtt{x}_2{}^{\mathsf{R}} \mapsto \delta$$

$$\delta \leadsto \varsigma$$

Solution

$$\delta \mapsto \mathtt{x}_1{}^{\mathsf{D}}$$

$$\varsigma \mapsto 2$$

Type-dependent Path Ordering

```
class A {}
class B extends A {}

class X {
  void m(B b) {}
}
class Y extends X {
  void m(A a) {}
}

// new Y().m(new B())
```