When does a program typecheck?

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In a statically typed language

- Does typecheck:

$$(\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}) 0$$

- Does not typecheck:

$$0 (x \rightarrow x)$$

Topics

- Introduction
- Formalizing type systems
- Type soundness

Type systems are not arbitrary

- Guarantee "good behavior" by ruling out certain classes of runtime errors
- Provide safety

Formalizing type systems

Formalizing type systems

- Typing judgement

$$\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$$

Formalizing type systems

- Typing judgement

$$\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$$

- Typing rule

$$\Gamma_1 \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \qquad \dots \qquad \Gamma_n \vdash e_n : \tau_n$$

$$\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$$

$$e ::= x \\ \lambda x : \tau \cdot e \\ e \cdot e \\ \tau ::= \tau \rightarrow \tau$$

$$e ::= x \\ \lambda x : \tau \in \Gamma \\ \Gamma \vdash x : \tau \\ e e \\ \tau ::= \tau \rightarrow \tau$$

$$e ::= \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} x : \tau \in \Gamma \\ \lambda x : \tau \cdot e \end{array}}_{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash x : \tau \end{array}}$$

$$\tau ::= \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} x : \tau \in \Gamma \\ \Gamma \vdash x : \tau \end{array}}_{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash x : \tau \end{array}}$$

$$\tau := \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma, \ x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2 \\ \hline \Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1 \cdot e : \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \end{array}}_{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1 \cdot e : \tau_1 \to \tau_2 \end{array}}$$

$$e ::= \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} x \\ \lambda x : \tau \in \Gamma \\ \lambda x : \tau \cdot e \end{array}}_{ \begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash x : \tau \end{array} } \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} x : \tau \in \Gamma \\ \Gamma \vdash x : \tau \end{array}}_{ \begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash x : \tau \end{array}}$$

Example

$$\frac{x: \tau \in x: \tau}{x: \tau \vdash x: \tau} \\
\vdash \lambda x: \tau \cdot x: \tau \to \tau \\
\vdash (\lambda x: \tau \cdot x) 0: Int$$

Type soundness

Type soundness

- Progress: a well-typed term will either be a value, or can be stepped
- **Preservation:** a well-typed term is still well-typed and has the same type after a single evaluation step

Type soundness

- Can be proved given a formal type system and a semantics
- The program will never behave in an unspecified way

Conclusion

A program typechecks when the formal type system can guarantee that it will be well-behaved.

Questions?