
Ch 13 Semantic Analysis III

(Static Semantics)

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Static Semantics

- Can describe the types used in a program
- How to describe type checking
- **Static semantics:** Formal description for the programming language
- Is to type checking:
 - As grammar is to syntax analysis
 - As regular expression is to lexical analysis
- **Static semantics defines types for legal ASTs in the language**

Type Judgments or Relations

- **Static semantics = formal notation which describes type judgments:**
 - $E : T$
 - means “E is a well-typed expression of type T”
 - E is typable if there is some type T such that $E : T$
- **Type judgment examples:**
 - $2 : \text{int}$
 - $\text{true} : \text{bool}$
 - $2 * (3 + 4) : \text{int}$
 - $\text{“Hello”} : \text{string}$

Type Judgments for Statements

- Statements may be expressions (i.e., represent values)
- Use type judgments for statements:
 - `if (b) 2 else 3 : int`
 - `x == 10 : bool`
 - `b = true, y = 2 : int` (result of comma operator is the value of the rightmost expression)
- For statements which are not expressions: use a special unit type (void or empty type)
 - `S : unit`
 - means “S is a well-typed statement with no result type”

Class Problem

Whats the type of the following statements?

Assume i^* are int variables, f^* are float variables

$f1 [3]$

$i = i1 [i2]$

while ($i < 10$) do S1

$(i \neq 0) \ 4.0 : 1.0$

Deriving a Judgment

- Consider the judgment
 - if (b) 2 else 3 : int
- What do we need to decide that this is a well-typed expression of type int?
 - b must be a bool (b : bool)
 - 2 must be an int (2 : int)
 - 3 must be an int (3 : int)

Type Judgements

- **Type judgment notation: $A \vdash E : T$**
 - Means “In the context A, the expression E is a well-typed expression with type T”
- **Type context is a set of type bindings: $id : T$**
 - (i.e. type context = symbol table)
 - $b: \text{bool}, x: \text{int} \vdash b: \text{bool}$
 - $b: \text{bool}, x: \text{int} \vdash \text{if } (b) \ 2 \text{ else } x : \text{int}$
 - $\vdash 2 + 2 : \text{int}$

Deriving a Judgment

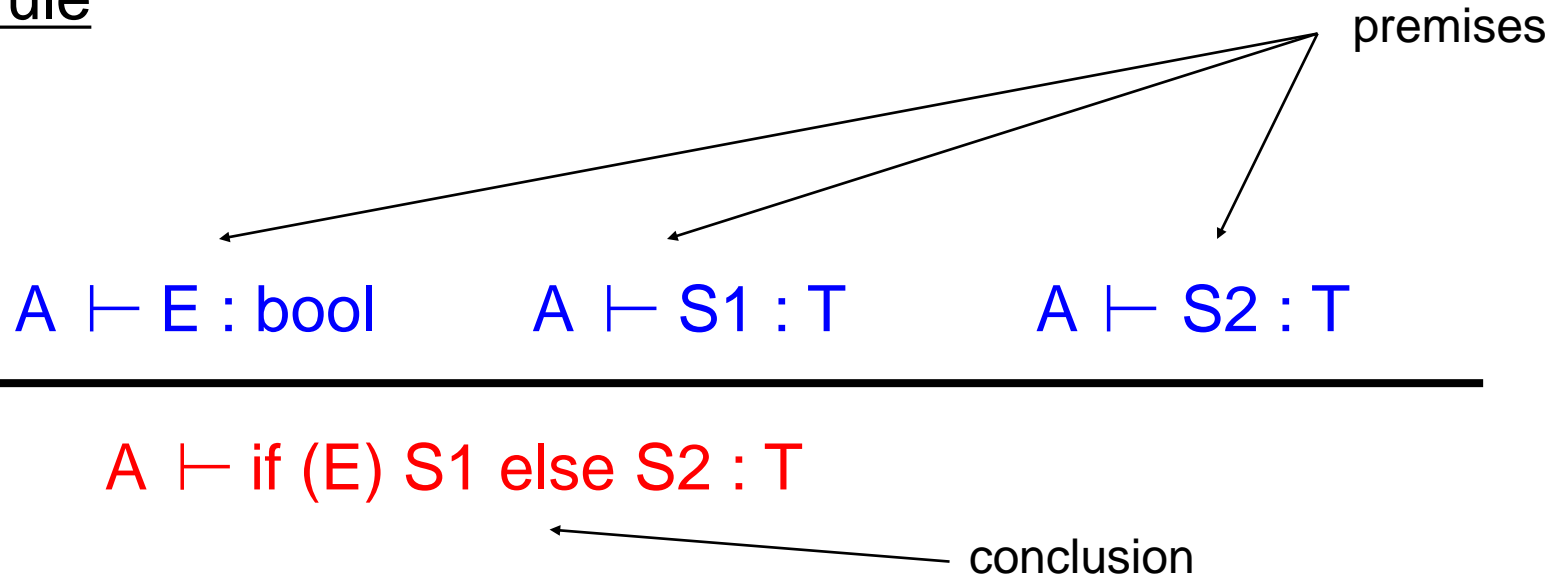
- To show
 - $b: \text{bool}, x: \text{int} \vdash \text{if } (b) \ 2 \ \text{else } x : \text{int}$
- Need to show
 - $b: \text{bool}, x: \text{int} \vdash b : \text{bool}$
 - $b: \text{bool}, x: \text{int} \vdash 2 : \text{int}$
 - $b: \text{bool}, x: \text{int} \vdash x : \text{int}$

General Rule

- For any environment A , expression E , statements $S1$ and $S2$, the judgement:
 - $A \vdash \text{if } (E) S1 \text{ else } S2 : T$
- Is true if:
 - $A \vdash E : \text{bool}$
 - $A \vdash S1 : T$
 - $A \vdash S2 : T$

Inference Rules

if-rule



- Read as, “if we have established the statements in the premises listed above the line, then we may derive the conclusion below the line”
- Holds for any choice of E , $S1$, $S2$, T

Why Inference Rules?

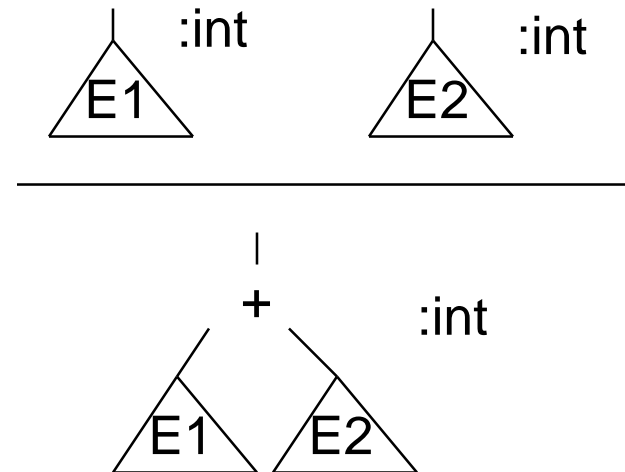
- Inference rules: compact, precise language for specifying static semantics
- Inference rules correspond directly to recursive AST traversal that implements them
- Type checking is the attempt to prove type judgments $A \vdash E : T$ true by walking backward through the rules

Meaning of Inference Rule

- Inference rule says:

- Given the premises are true (with some substitutions for A, E1, E2)
- Then, the conclusion is true (with consistent substitution)

$$\frac{A \vdash E1 : \text{int} \quad A \vdash E2 : \text{int}}{A \vdash E1 + E2 : \text{int}} \quad (+)$$



Proof Tree

- Expression is well-typed if there exists a type derivation for a type judgment
- Type derivation is a proof tree
- Example: **if $A1 = b : \text{bool}$, $x : \text{int}$, then:**

$$\frac{\frac{A1 \vdash b : \text{bool}}{A1 \vdash !b : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{A1 \vdash 2 : \text{int} \quad A1 \vdash 3 : \text{int}}{A1 \vdash 2 + 3 : \text{int}} \quad A1 \vdash x : \text{int}}{b : \text{bool}, x : \text{int} \vdash \text{if } (!b) \ 2 + 3 \text{ else } x : \text{int}}$$

More About Inference Rules

- No premises = axiom

$$\frac{}{A \vdash \text{true} : \text{bool}}$$

- A goal judgment may be proved in more than one way

$$A \vdash E1 : \text{float}$$
$$A \vdash E2 : \text{float}$$
$$\frac{}{A \vdash E1 + E2 : \text{float}}$$
$$A \vdash E1 : \text{float}$$
$$A \vdash E2 : \text{int}$$
$$\frac{}{A \vdash E1 + E2 : \text{float}}$$

- No need to search for rules to apply – they correspond to nodes in the AST

Class Problem

Given the following syntax for arithmetic expressions:

$t ::=$

true
false
if t then t else t
0
succ t
pred t
iszero t

And the following typing rules for the language:

true : bool
false : bool
 $\frac{t1 : \text{bool} \quad t2 : T \quad t3 : T}{\text{if } t1 \text{ then } t2 \text{ else } t3 : T}$
 $\frac{t1 : \text{int}}{\text{succ } t1 : \text{int}}$
 $\frac{t1 : \text{int}}{\text{pred } t1 : \text{int}}$
 $\frac{t1 : \text{int}}{\text{iszero } t1 : \text{bool}}$

Construct a type derivations to show

(1) if iszero 0 then 0 else pred 0 : int

(2) pred(succ(iszero(succ(pred(0)))) : int

Assignment Statements

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{id} : T \in A \\ A \vdash E : T \end{array}}{A \vdash \text{id} = E : T} \quad \text{(variable-assign)}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} A \vdash E3 : T \\ A \vdash E2 : \text{int} \\ A \vdash E1 : \text{array}[T] \end{array}}{A \vdash E1[E2] = E3 : T} \quad \text{(array-assign)}$$

If Statements

- If statement as an expression: its value is the value of the clause that is executed

$$\frac{A \vdash E : \text{bool} \quad A \vdash S1 : T \quad A \vdash S2 : T}{A \vdash \text{if } (E) S1 \text{ else } S2 : T} \text{ (if-then-else)}$$

- If with no else clause, no value, why??

$$\frac{A \vdash E : \text{bool} \quad A \vdash S : T}{A \vdash \text{if } (E) S : \text{unit}} \text{ (if-then)}$$

Class Problem

1. Show the inference rule for a while statement, while (E) S
2. Show the inference rule for a variable declaration with initializer, Type id = E
3. Show the inference rule for a question mark/colon operator, E1 ? S1 : S2

Sequence Statements

- Rule: A sequence of statements is well-typed if the first statement is well-typed, and the remaining are well-typed as well:

$$A \vdash S1 : T1$$
$$A \vdash (S2; \dots ; S_n) : T_n$$

$$A \vdash (S1; S2; \dots ; S_n) : T_n$$

(sequence)

Declarations

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} A \vdash \text{id} : T [= E] : T_1 \\ A, \text{id} : T \vdash (S_2; \dots; S_n) : T_n \end{array}}{A \vdash (\text{id} : T [= E]; S_2; \dots; S_n) : T_n}$$

= unit if no E

(declaration)

Declarations add entries to the environment
(e.g., the symbol table)

Function Calls

- If expression E is a function value, it has a type $T_1 \times T_2 \times \dots \times T_n \rightarrow Tr$
- T_i are argument types; Tr is the return type
- How to type-check a function call?
 - $E(E_1, \dots, E_n)$

$$A \vdash E : T_1 \times T_2 \times \dots \times T_n \rightarrow Tr$$
$$A \vdash E_i : T_i \quad (i \in 1 \dots n)$$

(function-call)

$$A \vdash E(E_1, \dots, E_n) : Tr$$

Function Declarations

- **Consider a function declaration of the form:**
 - $\text{Tr fun } (T1\ a1, \dots, Tn\ an) = E$
 - Equivalent to:
 - $\text{Tr fun } (T1\ a1, \dots, Tn\ an) \{ \text{return } E; \}$
- **Type of function body S must match declared return type of function, i.e., $E : \text{Tr}$**
- **But, in what type context?**

Add Arguments to Environment

- **Let A be the context surrounding the function declaration.**
 - The function declaration:
 - $\text{Tr fun } (T1 \ a1, \dots, Tn \ an) = E$
 - Is well-formed if
 - $A, a1 : T1, \dots, an : Tn \quad E : \text{Tr}$
- **What about recursion?**
 - Need: $\text{fun} : T1 \times T2 \times \dots \times Tn \rightarrow \text{Tr} \in A$

Class Problem

Recursive function – factorial

```
int fact(int x) = if (x == 0) 1 else x * fact(x-1);
```

Is this well-formed?, if so construct the type derivation

Mutual Recursion

- **Example**

- `int f(int x) = g(x) + 1;`
- `int g(int x) = f(x) - 1;`

- **Need environment containing at least**

- $f: \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}, g: \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}$
- when checking both f and g

- **Two-pass approach:**

- Scan top level of AST picking up all function signatures and creating an environment binding all global identifiers
- Type-check each function individually using this global environment

How to Check Return?

$$\frac{A \vdash E : T}{A \vdash \text{return } E : \text{unit}} \quad (\text{return})$$

- A return statement produces no value for its containing context to use
- Does not return control to containing context
- **Suppose we use type unit ...**
 - Then how to make sure the return type of the current function is T??

Put Return in the Symbol Table

- Add a special entry {return_fun : T} when we start checking the function “fun”, look up this entry when we hit a return statement
- To check $\text{Tr fun } (T1 \ a1, \dots, Tn \ an) \{ S \}$ in environment A , need to check:

$A, a1 : T1, \dots, an : Tn, \text{return_fun} : T \vdash A : T$

$$\frac{A \vdash E : T \quad \text{return_fun} : T \in A}{A \vdash \text{return } E : \text{unit}} \quad (\text{return})$$



Static Semantics Summary

- **Static semantics = formal specification of type-checking rules**
- **Concise form of static semantics: typing rules expressed as inference rules**
- **Expression and statements are well-formed (or well-typed) if a typing derivation (proof tree) can be constructed using the inference rules**



Review of Semantic Analysis

- **Check errors not detected by lexical or syntax analysis**
- **Scope errors**
 - Variables not defined
 - Multiple declarations
- **Type errors**
 - Assignment of values of different types
 - Invocation of functions with different number of parameters or parameters of incorrect type
 - Incorrect use of return statements



Other Forms of Semantic Analysis

- One more category that we have not discussed
- Control flow errors
 - Must verify that a **break** or **continue** statements are always enclosed by a while (or for) stmt
 - Java: must verify that a **break X** statement is enclosed by a for loop with label X
 - **Goto labels** exist in the proper function
 - Can easily check control-flow errors by recursively traversing the AST

Where We Are...

