letExpressions.md 2024-04-09

Let Expressions

Let expressions allows us to introduce the concept of local variables. Let expressions can be more efficient, its important to use them when they are needed.

Syntax: uses 3 keywords let, in, end Between the let and the in you can put any number of bindings.

- let b1 b2 b3 ... bn in e end
- each bi is any binding and e is any expression

Type-Checking: Type check each bi and e in a static environment that includes the previous binding the type of the let expression type is the type of e

Evaluation: Evaluate each (binding) bi in order and e in a dynamic environment, the bindings are available to each binding that follows it. All bindings are available in e the body. The result of the whole let expression is the result of evaluating e

Scoping

Let expressions introduces the idea of scopes, using let expressions allows you to define where a binding is in the environment. Anywhere an expression can be used a new scope aka a let expression can be used.