

# CS143: Semantic Analysis II

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# Semantic Analysis II

- Subtyping
- Recursive Traversal
- Method Context and Dispatch
- SELF\_TYPE

Subtyping

Subtyping

Partial order for inheritance

$T \leq T$  (reflexive)

$T \leq T'$  if  $T$  inherits from  $T'$

$T \leq T''$  if  $T \leq T'$  and  $T' \leq T''$   
(transitive)

$$\emptyset \vdash e_0 : T_0$$
$$\emptyset[T/x] \vdash e_1 : T_1$$
$$T_0 \leq T$$

---

$$\emptyset \vdash \text{let } x : T \leftarrow e_0 \text{ in } e_1 : T_1$$

Allows  $e_0$  to have any subtype of declared type of  $x$ .

# Assignment

$$O(x) = T_0$$

$$O \vdash e_1 : T_1$$

$$T_1 \leq T_0$$

---

$$O \vdash x \leftarrow e_1 : T_1$$



Allows  $e_1$  to be any subtype  
of declared type of  $x$

# Assignment

$$O(x) = T_0$$

$$O \vdash e_1 : T_1$$

$$T_1 \leq T_0$$

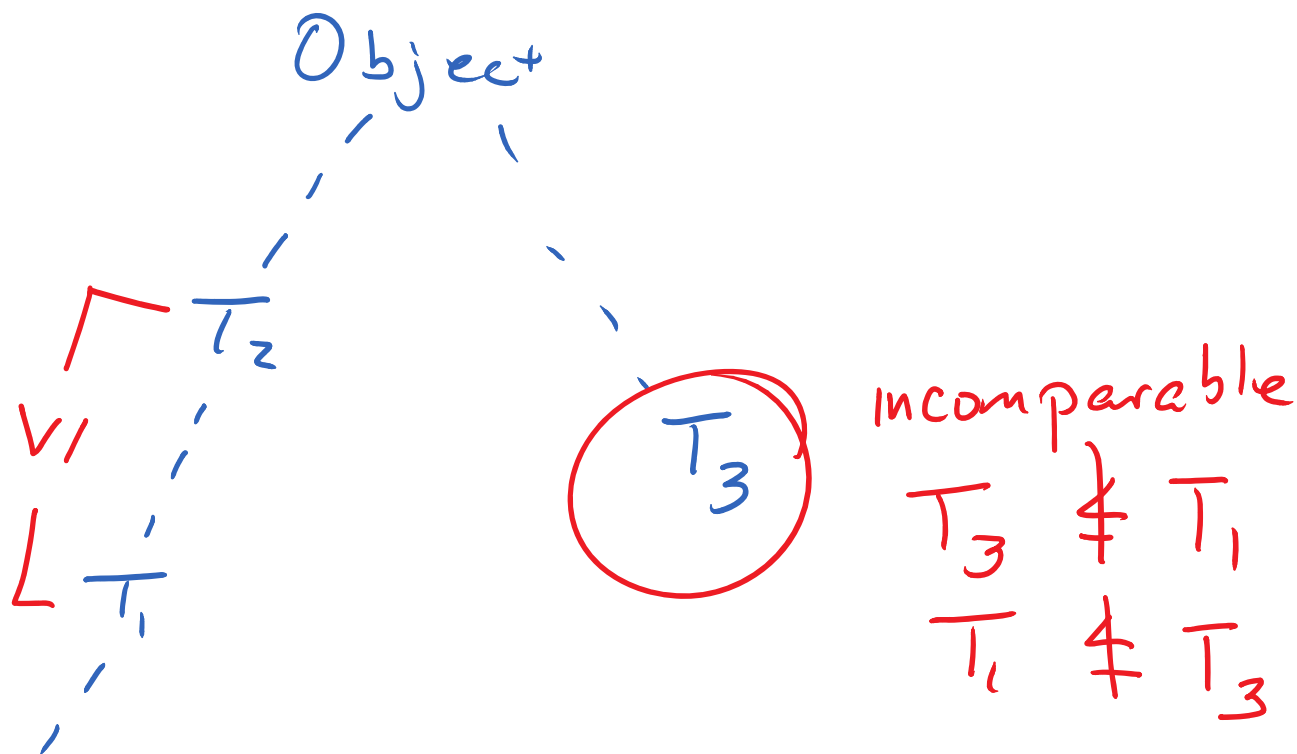
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$$O \vdash x \leftarrow e_1 : T_1$$

← assignment returns  
value of  $e_1$ , which  
has type  $T_1$ .

Project

$T_1 \leq T_2$  iff  $T_2$  is above  $T_1$  in inheritance tree





If-then-else

if  $e_0$  then  $e_1$  else  $e_2$

A + compile-time, don't know which of  $e_1, e_2$  will be returned.

$e_1: T_1$ ,  $e_2: T_2$  — need a type that is  $T_1$  OR  $T_2$

## Least Upper Bound

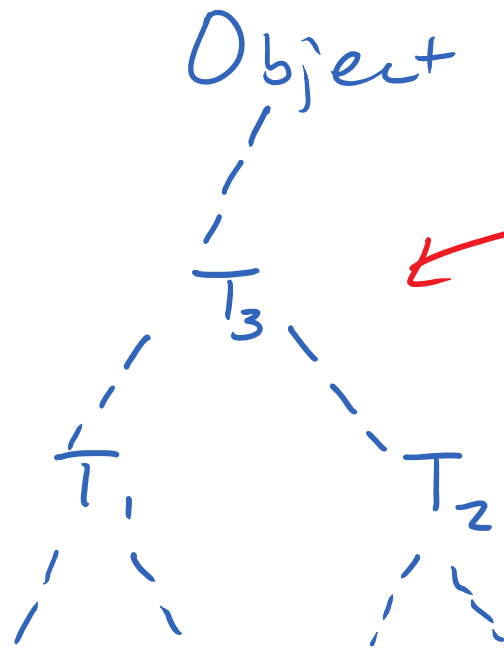
$\text{lub}(T_1, T_2) = \underline{\text{least}}$  type  $T_3$  such that  
 $T_1 \leq T_3$  and  $T_2 \leq T_3$

"least":  $\forall T_4 (T_1 \leq T_4 \wedge T_2 \leq T_4 \rightarrow T_3 \leq T_4)$

Notation  $T_1 \sqcup T_2$  ("join" of  $T_1, T_2$ )

# Implementation

$T_1 \sqcup T_2$  is least common ancestor of  $T_1, T_2$



← lowest node that  
is ancestor of  
both  $T_1, T_2$

$$T_3 = T_1 \sqcup T_2$$

# Method Context and Dispatch

# Method Dispatch

$$O \vdash e_0 : T_0$$
$$O \vdash e_1 : T_1$$
$$\vdots$$
$$O \vdash e_n : T_n$$

---

$$O \vdash e_0.f(e_1, \dots, e_n) : ?$$

# Method Dispatch

$O \vdash e_0.f(e_1, \dots, e_n) : ?$

Need a map from class and method name to the type information for the method.

$M(c, f) = (T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n, T_{n+1})$

$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$

class method

$\underbrace{T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n}_{\text{types of formals}}$   $\underbrace{T_{n+1}}_{\text{return type}}$

# Method Dispatch

$O, M \vdash e_0 : T_0$

$O, M \vdash e_1 : T_1$

$\vdots$

$O, M \vdash e_n : T_n$

$M(T_0, f) = (T'_1, T'_2, \dots, T'_n, T_{n+1})$

$T_1 \leq T'_i$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$

$O, M \vdash e_0.f(e_1, \dots, e_n) : T_{n+1}$

actual  
types are  
subtypes  
of  
formals.

declared types for  
formal parameters.

specified  
return  
type.

# Static Dispatch

$e_o @ T.f(\text{---})$

↑  
call method  $e_o$  in class  $T$

Class of  $e_o$  must inherit from  $T$ .



$$O, M \vdash e_0 : T_0$$

$$O, M \vdash e_1 : T_1$$

⋮

⋮

$$O, M \vdash e_n : T_n$$

$$T_0 \leq T$$

← type of  $e_0$  inherits from  $T$

$$M(T_0, f) = (T'_1, T'_2, \dots, T'_n, T_{n+1})$$

$$T_i \leq T'_i \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq n$$

---


$$O, M \vdash e_0 @ T. f(e_1, \dots, e_n) : T_{n+1}$$

Rules involving SELF-TYPE require  
knowing current class

Additional component of type environment:

$C$  - the class we are in.

Final form of type rules

$$O, M, C \vdash e : T$$

E.g.

$$\frac{O, M, C \vdash e_1 : \text{Int} \quad O, M, C \vdash e_2 : \text{Int}}{O, M, C \vdash e_1 + e_2 : \text{Int}}$$

# Recursive Traversal

## Implementation

Environment is passed down AST  
Argument to recursive function

Types of expressions are computed  
bottom-up.

## Recursive Type Check Example

$tc(env, e_1 + e_2):$

$T_1 = tc(env, e_1);$

$T_2 = tc(env, e_2);$

check  $T_1 == T_2 == \text{Int}$

return Int;

# Static and Dynamic Types in Cool

Dynamic type of an object — the class  $C$  in the new  $C$  call that created it.

"Run-time type"

Cool has dynamic types, but no run-time type errors

Static type — the type inferred by the compiler

class A { ... }

class B inherits A { ... }

class Main {

x: A ← new A;

...

x ← new B;

...

}

← x value has dynamic type A

← x value has dynamic type B.

A variable of static type A can hold a value of dynamic type B iff  $B \leq A$



# Soundness

$\forall E. \text{dynamic\_type}(E) \leq \text{static\_type}(E)$

- Operations on values of type  $T_1$  are always defined for  $T_2 \leq T_1$ 
  - method dispatch
  - attribute read/write
- Subclasses never remove features
- Redefined methods in subclasses must have same types.

SELF\_TYPE

## SELF\_TYPE

Allows more accurate static typing.  
(static types are closer to dynamic types)

Intuition: SELF\_TYPE is the type of  
"self".

Example:

Object has a generic `copy()` method.

`x: Object ← new Object;`

`x.copy()` – return a copy of `x`.

What is the return type of the `copy` method?

`copy(): Object` (since `x.copy` returns an object)

copy is inherited by all classes, so we can use it to copy anything.

```
class A { ... }
```

```
y: A ← new A;
```

```
z: A ← y.copy()
```

Object

type error.

Problem:  
Result type of  
"copy" is "too static"

```
class A { ... }
```

```
y: A ← new A;
```

```
z: A ← (A) y.copy()
```

Most languages: User would have  
"cast" to type A ("downcasting")

Problem: User can lie, resulting in  
run-time error.

Object

copy(): SELF\_TYPE

Return type is "type of current class"

Still a static type, but static results are closer to dynamic type.

Copy(): SELF-TYPE

class A { ... }

y: A ← new A;

z: A ← y.copy()

↑  
type of  
y is A

↑ so return  
type is A,  
not Object.



# Static Method Dispatch

$O, M, C \vdash e_0 : T_0$

$O, M, C \vdash e_1 : T_1$

$\vdots$

$\vdots$

$O, M, C \vdash e_n : T_n$

$M(T_0, f) = (T_1', T_2', \dots, T_n', \text{SELF\_TYPE})$

$T_i \leq T_i'$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$

---

$O, M, C \vdash e_0 @ T.f(e_1, \dots, e_n) : T_0$

used to be  $T_{n+1}$



**SELF\\_TYPE**

$f$  is in  $T_i$   
Why is this ok?  
Because  $f$  returns  
type of self:  
 $T_0$ .

Notation:  $SELF\_TYPE_C$  - use of  
 $SELF\_TYPE$  is the body of definition  
of class  $C$ .

$$SELF\_TYPE_C \leq C$$

# Allowed/Disallowed Uses of SELF\_TYPE

Class  $T$  inherits  $T'$



can't be SELF\_TYPE

Let  $x : \text{SELF\_TYPE}$  in  $E \leftarrow \text{OK}$

new SELF\_TYPE  $\leftarrow \text{OK}$

$e_o @ T(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) \leftarrow T$  cannot be  
SELF\_TYPE

Attribute

```
class ~ {  
    x: SELF_TYPE;  
}
```

In subclass, x would have the type  
of the subclass.

Formals Cannot Be SELF-TYPE

$e_0(x:T):T' \{ \dots \}$

NO SELF-TYPE

SELF-TYPE OK

Class A  $\{ f(x: \text{SELF-TYPE}) \dots \}$

Class B inherits A  $\{ f(x: \text{SELF-TYPE}) \dots \}$

let  $y:A \leftarrow \text{new } B$  in  $y.f(\text{new } A); \dots$

static type A,  $y = \text{new } A$  ok

Violates soundness { but dynamic type is B,  $y = \text{new } A$   
not ok (SELF-TYPE is B)

Notation:  $SELF\_TYPE_C$  - use of  
 $SELF\_TYPE$  is the body of definition  
of class  $C$ .

$SELF\_TYPE_C$  is not the same as  $C$   
Behaves differently in inherited  
methods.

Project note: type implementation just has  
one  $SELF\_TYPE$ .

$\leq$  on SELF-TYPE

$$\text{SELF\_TYPE}_C \leq C$$

SELF-TYPE might be  
 $< C$  when inherited  
method is called

$$\text{SELF\_TYPE}_C \leq \text{SELF\_TYPE}_C$$

In COOL, never compare SELF-TYPES from  
different classes

$$\text{SELF\_TYPE}_C \leq T \text{ if } C \leq T$$

$$T \not\leq \text{SELF\_TYPE}_C \text{ if } T \neq \text{SELF\_TYPE}_C$$

$$T \leq T' \text{ as before if } T, T' \neq \text{SELF\_TYPE}$$

lub and SELF\_TYPE

$$\text{SELF\_TYPE}_c \sqcup \text{SELF\_TYPE}_c = \text{SELF\_TYPE}_c$$

$$\text{SELF\_TYPE}_c \sqcup T = C \sqcup T \quad (T \neq \text{SELF\_TYPE})$$

All we know is  $\text{SELF\_TYPE}_c \leq C$

$$T \sqcup \text{SELF\_TYPE}_c = C \sqcup T$$

$\sqcup$  needs to be commutative

$T \sqcup T'$  as before when  $T, T' \neq \text{SELF\_TYPE}$



Move Rules

---

$$O, M, C \vdash \text{self} : \text{SELF\_TYPE}_c$$

---

$$O, M, C \vdash \text{new SELF\_TYPE} : \text{SELF\_TYPE}_c$$

Other rules remain the same

But use extended definitions of  
 $\leq$  and  $\sqcup$

## Summary of SELF-TYPE

Extended  $\leq$ ,  $\sqsubseteq$  do most of the work

Usage restricted for soundness

SELF-TYPE is always a subtype of  
current class,  $C$

EXCEPT for return type from dispatch,  
where type may be unrelated to  $C$ .

# Error Recovery

Goal: Report errors after the first one

let  $y: \text{Int} \leftarrow x + 2$  in  $y + 3$

*undeclared.*

Type for undeclared  $x$ ?

If  $x: \text{Object}$ ,  $x + 2$  will cause another error.

Reports too many errors.

Another Solution

Compiler stores "No-type" for erroneous expressions

$\text{No\_type} \leq C$  for all types  $C$

So  $\text{No\_type} \sqcup C$  is always  $C$

All operations / assignments are ok.

let  $y: \text{Int} \leftarrow \underline{x + 2}$  in  $y + 3 \leftarrow$  only one error  
 $\text{No\_type} \sqcup \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}$

No - type

Types no longer a tree

Not a problem unless  
you have code that  
assumes it's a tree

Not required in project

