

# Computation and Deduction

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Now, the question, *What is a judgement?* is no small question, because the notion of judgement is just about the first of all the notions of logic, the one that has to be explained before all the others, before even the notions of proposition and truth, for instance.

— Per Martin-Löf

*On the Meanings of the Logical Constants and the  
Justifications of the Logical Laws* [ML85a]

In everyday computing we deal with a variety of different languages. Some of them such as C, C++, Ada, ML, or Prolog are intended as general purpose languages. Others like Emacs Lisp, Tcl, T<sub>E</sub>X, HTML, csh, Perl, SQL, Visual Basic, VHDL, or Java were designed for specific domains or applications. We use these examples to illustrate that many more computer science researchers and system developers are engaged in language design and implementation than one might at first suspect. We all know examples where ignorance or disregard of sound language design principles has led to languages in which programs are much harder to write, debug, compose, or maintain than they should be. In order to understand the principles which guide the design of programming languages, we should be familiar with their theory. Only if we understand the properties of complete languages as opposed to the properties of individual programs, do we understand how the pieces of a language fit together to form a coherent (or not so coherent) whole.

As I hope these notes demonstrate, the theory of programming languages does not require a deep and complicated mathematical apparatus, but can be carried out in a concrete, intuitive, and computational way. With a only a few exceptions, the material in these notes has been fully implemented in a meta-language, a so-called logical framework. This implementation encompasses the languages we study, the algorithms pertaining to these languages (*e.g.*, compilation), and the proofs of their properties (*e.g.*, compiler correctness). This allows hands-on experimentation with

the given languages and algorithms and the exploration of variants and extensions. We now briefly sketch our approach and the organization of these notes.

## 1.1 The Theory of Programming Languages

The theory of programming languages covers diverse aspects of languages and their implementations. Logically first are issues of *concrete syntax* and parsing. These have been relatively well understood for some time and are covered in numerous books. We therefore ignore them in these notes in order to concentrate on deeper aspects of languages.

The next question concerns the *type structure* of a language. The importance of the type structure for the design and use of a language can hardly be overemphasized. Types help to sort out meaningless programs and type checking catches many errors before a program is ever executed. Types serve as formal, machine-checked documentation for an implementation. Types also specify interfaces to modules and are therefore important to obtain and maintain consistency in large software systems.

Next we have to ask about the meanings of programs in a language. The most immediate answer is given by the *operational semantics* which specifies the behavior of programs, usually at a relatively high level of abstraction.

Thus the fundamental parts of a language specification are the *syntax*, the *type system*, and the *operational semantics*. These lead to many meta-theoretic questions regarding a particular language. Is it effectively decidable if an input expression is well-typed? Do the type system and the operational semantics fit together? Are types needed during the execution of a program? In these notes we investigate such questions in the context of small *functional* and *logic programming* languages. Many of the same issues arise for realistic languages, and many of the same solutions still apply.

The specification of an operational semantics rarely corresponds to an efficient language implementation, since it is designed primarily to be easy to reason about. Thus we also study *compilation*, the translation from a source language to a target language which can be executed more efficiently by an *abstract machine*. Of course we want to show that compilation preserves the observable behavior of programs. Another important set of questions is whether programs satisfy some abstract specification, for example, if a particular function really computes the integer logarithm. Similarly, we may ask if two programs compute the same function, even though they may implement different algorithms and thus may differ operationally. These questions lead to general *type theory* and *denotational semantics*, which we consider only superficially in these notes. We concentrate on type systems and the operational behavior of programs, since they determine programming style and are closest to the programmer's intuition about a language. They are also amenable



to immediate implementation, which is not so direct, for example, for denotational semantics.

The principal novel aspect of these notes is that the operational perspective is not limited to the programming languages we study (the *object language*), but encompasses the *meta-language*, that is, the framework in which we carry out our investigation. Informally, the meta-language is centered on the notions of *judgment* and *deductive system* explained below. They have been formalized in a *logical framework* (LF) [HHP93] in which judgments can be specified at a high level of abstraction, consistent with informal practice in computer science. LF has been given an operational interpretation in the Elf meta-programming language [Pfe91a], thus providing means for a computational meta-theory. Elf implementations of the languages we discuss and proofs of the meta-theorems (except where explicitly noted) are available electronically and constitute an important supplement to these notes. They provide the basis for hands-on experimentation with language variants, extensions, proofs of exercises, and projects related to the formalization and implementation of other topics in the theory of programming languages.

## 1.2 Deductive Systems

In logic, deductive systems are often introduced as a syntactic device for establishing semantic properties. We are given a *language* and a *semantics* assigning meaning to expressions in the language, in particular to a category of expressions called *formulas*. Furthermore, we have a distinguished semantic property, such as *truth* in a particular model. A *deductive system* is then defined through a set of *axioms* (all of which are true formulas) and *rules of inference* which yield true formulas when given true formulas. A *deduction* can be viewed as a tree labelled with formulas, where the axioms are leaves and inference rules are interior nodes, and the label of the root is the formula whose truth is established by the deduction. This naturally leads to a number of meta-theoretic questions concerning a deductive system. Perhaps the most immediate are *soundness*: “*Are the axioms true, and is truth preserved by the inference rules?*” and *completeness*: “*Can every true formula be deduced?*”. A difficulty with this general approach is that it requires the mathematical notion of a model, which is complex and not immediately computational.

An alternative is provided by Martin-Löf [ML85a, ML85b] who introduces the notion of a *judgment* (such as “*A is true*”) as something we may know by virtue of a *proof*. For him the notions of judgment and proof are thus more basic than the notions of proposition and truth. The meaning of propositions is explained via the rules we may use to establish their truth. In Martin-Löf’s work these notions are mostly informal, intended as a philosophical foundation for constructive mathematics and computer science. Here we are concerned with actual implementation and also the meta-theory of deductive systems. Thus, when we refer to judgments we

mean *formal* judgments and we substitute the synonyms *deduction* and *derivation* for formal proof. The term *proof* is reserved for proofs in the meta-theory. We call a judgment *derivable* if (and only if) it can be established by a deduction, using the given axioms and inference rules. Thus the derivable judgments are defined inductively. Alternatively we might say that the set of derivable judgments is the least set of judgments containing the axioms and closed under the rules of inference. The underlying view that axioms and inference rules provide a semantic definition for a language was also advanced by Gentzen [Gen35] and is sometimes referred to as *proof-theoretic semantics*. A study of deductive systems is then a semantic investigation with syntactic means. The investigation of a theory of deductions often gives rise to *constructive* proofs of properties such as consistency (not every formula is provable), which was one of Gentzen's primary motivations. This is also an important reason for the relevance of deductive systems in computer science.

The study of deductive systems since the pioneering work of Gentzen has arrived at various styles of calculi, each with its own concepts and methods independent of any particular logical interpretation of the formalism. Systems in the style of Hilbert [HB34] have a close connection to combinatory calculi [CF58]. They are characterized by many axioms and a small number of inference rules. Systems of *natural deduction* [Gen35, Pra65] are most relevant to these notes, since they directly define the meaning of logical symbols via inference rules. They are also closely related to typed  $\lambda$ -calculi and thus programming languages via the so-called Curry-Howard isomorphism [How69]. Gentzen's *sequent calculus* can be considered a calculus of proof search and is thus relevant to logic programming, where computation is realized as proof search according to a fixed strategy.

In these notes we concentrate on calculi of natural deduction, investigating methods for

1. the definition of judgments,
2. the implementation of algorithms for deriving judgments and manipulating deductions, and
3. proving properties of deductive systems.

As an example of these three tasks, we show what they might mean in the context of the description of a programming language.

Let  $e$  range over expressions of a statically typed programming language,  $\tau$  range over types, and  $v$  over those expressions which are values. The relevant judgments are

$$\begin{array}{ll} \triangleright e : \tau & e \text{ has type } \tau \\ e \hookrightarrow v & e \text{ evaluates to } v \end{array}$$

1. The deductive systems which define these judgments fix the type system and the operational semantics of our programming language.

2. An implementation of these judgments provides a program for type inference and an interpreter for expressions in the language.
3. A typical meta-theorem is *type preservation*, which expresses that the type system and the operational semantics are compatible:

If  $\triangleright e : \tau$  is derivable and  $e \hookrightarrow v$  is derivable, then  $\triangleright v : \tau$  is derivable.

In this context the deductive systems *define* the judgments under considerations: there simply exists no external, semantical notion against which our inference rules should be measured. Different inference systems lead to different notions of evaluation and thus to different programming languages.

We use standard notation for judgments and deductions. Given a judgment  $J$  with derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  we write

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{J}$$

or, because of its typographic simplicity,  $\mathcal{D} :: J$ . An application of a rule of inference with *conclusion*  $J$  and premisses  $J_1, \dots, J_n$  has the general form

$$\frac{J_1 \quad \dots \quad J_n}{J} \text{ rule name}$$

An axiom is simply a special case with no premisses ( $n = 0$ ) and we still show the horizontal line. We use script letters  $\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}, \dots$  to range over deductions. Inference rules are almost always *schematic*, that is, they contain meta-variables. A schematic inference rule stands for all its *instances* which can be obtained by replacing the meta-variables by expressions in the appropriate syntactic category. We usually drop the byword “schematic” for the sake of simplicity.

Deductive systems are intended to provide an explicit calculus of evidence for judgments. Sometimes complex side conditions restrict the set of possible instances of an inference rule. This can easily destroy the character of the inference rules in that much of the evidence for a judgment now is implicit in the side conditions. We therefore limit ourselves to side conditions regarding legal occurrences of variables in the premisses. It is no accident that our formalization techniques directly account for such side conditions. Other side conditions as they may be found in the literature can often be converted into explicit premisses involving auxiliary judgments. There are a few standard means to combine judgments to form new ones. In particular, we employ *parametric* and *hypothetical* judgments. Briefly, a *hypothetical judgment* expresses that a judgment  $J$  may be derived under the assumption or hypothesis  $J'$ . If we succeed in constructing a deduction  $\mathcal{D}'$  of  $J'$  we can substitute  $\mathcal{D}'$  in every place where  $J'$  was used in the original, hypothetical deduction of  $J$  to obtain unconditional evidence for  $J$ . A *parametric judgment*  $J$  is a judgment containing a meta-variable  $x$  ranging over some syntactic category. It is judged evident if we can

provide a deduction  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $J$  such that we can replace  $x$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  by any expression in the appropriate syntactic category and obtain a deduction for the resulting instance of  $J$ .

In the statements of meta-theorems we generally refer to a judgment  $J$  as derivable or not derivable. This is because judgments and deductions have now become objects of investigation and are the subjects of meta-judgments. However, using the meta-judgment *is derivable* pervasively tends to be verbose, and we will take the liberty of using “ $J$ ” to stand for “ $J$  is derivable” when no confusion can arise.

### 1.3 Goals and Approach

We pursue several goals with these notes. First of all, we would like to convey a certain style of language definition using deductive systems. This style is standard practice in modern computer science and students of the theory of programming languages should understand it thoroughly.

Secondly, we would like to impart the main techniques for proving properties of programming languages defined in this style. Meta-theory based on deductive systems requires surprisingly few principles: induction over the structure of derivations is by far the most common technique.

Thirdly, we would like the reader to understand how to employ the LF logical framework [HHP93] and its implementation in Elf [Pfe91a] in order to *implement* these definitions and related algorithms. This serves several purposes. Perhaps the most important is that it allows hands-on experimentation with otherwise dry definitions and theorems. Students can get immediate feedback on their understanding of the course material and their ideas about exercises. Furthermore, using a logical framework deepens one’s understanding of the methodology of deductive systems, since the framework provides an immediate, formal account of informal explanations and practice in computer science.

Finally, we would like students to develop an understanding of the subject matter, that is, functional and logic programming. This includes an understanding of various type systems, operational semantics for functional languages, high-level compilation techniques, abstract machines, constructive logic, the connection between constructive proofs and functional programs, and the view of goal-directed proof search as the foundation for logic programming. Much of this understanding, as well as the analysis and implementation techniques employed here, apply to other paradigms and more realistic, practical languages.

The notes begin with the theory of Mini-ML, a small functional language including recursion and polymorphism (Chapter 2). We informally discuss the language specification and its meta-theory culminating in a proof of type preservation, always employing deductive systems. This exercise allows us to identify common concepts of deductive systems which drive the design of a *logical framework*. In Chapter 3 we

then incrementally introduce features of the logical framework LF, which is our formal meta-language. Next we show how LF is implemented in the Elf programming language (Chapter 4). Elf endows LF with an operational interpretation in the style of logic programming, thus providing a programming language for meta-programs such as interpreters or type inference procedures. Our meta-theory will always be constructive and we observe that meta-theoretic proofs can also be implemented and executed in Elf, although at present they cannot be verified completely. Next we introduce the important concepts of parametric and hypothetical judgments (Chapter 5) and develop the implementation of the proof of type preservation. At this point the basic techniques have been established, and we devote the remaining chapters to case studies: compilation and compiler correctness (Chapter 6), natural deduction and the connection between constructive proofs and functional programs (Chapter 7), the theory of logic programming (Chapter 8), and advanced type systems (Chapter 9).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[*One or two additional topics may be added.*]



## Chapter 2

# The Mini-ML Language

Unfortunately one often pays a price for [languages which impose no discipline of types] in the time taken to find rather inscrutable bugs—anyone who mistakenly applies CDR to an atom in LISP and finds himself absurdly adding a property list to an integer, will know the symptoms.

— Robin Milner

*A Theory of Type Polymorphism in Programming* [Mil78]

In preparation for the formalization of Mini-ML in a logical framework, we begin with a description of the language in a common mathematical style. The version of Mini-ML we present here lies in between the language introduced in [CDDK86] and call-by-value PCF [Plo75, Plo77]. The description consists of three parts: (1) the abstract syntax, (2) the operational semantics, and (3) the type system. Logically, the type system would come before the operational semantics, but we postpone the more difficult typing rules until Section 2.5.

### 2.1 Abstract Syntax

The language of types centrally affects the kinds of expression constructs that should be available in the language. The types we include in our formulation of Mini-ML are natural numbers, products, and function types. Many phenomena in the theory of Mini-ML can be explored with these types; some others are the subject of Exercises 2.6, 2.7, and 2.9. For our purposes it is convenient to ignore certain questions of concrete syntax and parsing and present the abstract syntax of the language in Backus Naur Form (BNF). The vertical bar “|” separates alternatives on the right-hand side of the definition symbol “::=”. Definitions in this style

can be understood as inductive definitions of syntactic categories such as *types* or *expressions*.

$$\text{Types } \tau ::= \text{nat} \mid \tau_1 \times \tau_2 \mid \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \mid \alpha$$

Here, **nat** stands for the type of natural numbers,  $\tau_1 \times \tau_2$  is the type of pairs with elements from  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$ ,  $\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$  is the type of functions mapping elements of type  $\tau_1$  elements of type  $\tau_2$ . Type variables are denoted by  $\alpha$ . Even though our language supports a form of polymorphism, we do not explicitly include a polymorphic type constructor in the language; see Section 2.5 for further discussion of this issue. We follow the convention that  $\times$  and  $\rightarrow$  associate to the right, and that  $\times$  has higher precedence than  $\rightarrow$ . Parentheses may be used to explicitly group type expressions. For example,

$$\text{nat} \times \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}$$

denotes the same type as

$$(\text{nat} \times \text{nat}) \rightarrow (\text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}).$$

For each concrete type (excluding type variables) we have expressions that allow us to construct elements of that type and expressions that allow us to discriminate elements of that type. We choose to completely separate the languages of types and expressions so we can define the operational semantics without recourse to typing. We have in mind, however, that only well-typed programs will ever be executed.

Expressions $e ::=$	<b>z</b>   <b>s</b> $e$   ( <b>case</b> $e_1$ <b>of</b> <b>z</b> $\Rightarrow e_2$   <b>s</b> $x \Rightarrow e_3$ )	<i>Natural numbers</i>
	$\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle$   <b>fst</b> $e$   <b>snd</b> $e$	<i>Pairs</i>
	<b>lam</b> $x. e$   $e_1 e_2$	<i>Functions</i>
	<b>let val</b> $x = e_1$ <b>in</b> $e_2$	<i>Definitions</i>
	<b>let name</b> $x = e_1$ <b>in</b> $e_2$	
	<b>fix</b> $x. e$	<i>Recursion</i>
	$x$	<i>Variables</i>

Most of these constructs should be familiar from functional programming languages such as ML: **z** stands for zero, **s**  $e$  stands for the successor of  $e$ . A **case**-expression chooses a branch based on whether the value of the first argument is zero or non-zero. Abstraction, **lam**  $x. e$ , forms functional expressions. It is often written  $\lambda x. e$ , but we will reserve “ $\lambda$ ” for the formal meta-theory. Application of a function to an argument is denoted simply by juxtaposition.

Definitions introduced by **let val** provide for explicit sequencing of computation, while **let name** introduces a local name abbreviating an expression. The latter incorporates a form of polymorphism (see ??).

Recursion is introduced via a fixpoint construct. A fixpoint of a function  $f$  is an element  $e$  such that  $f e = e$ . If we think of **fix**  $x. e$  as an operator **fix** acting on the function  $\lambda x. e$ , then  $(\lambda x. e) (\text{fix } (\lambda x. e))$  should be equal<sup>1</sup> to **fix**  $(\lambda x. e)$ . Of course,

---

<sup>1</sup>in a sense not made precise here.



not every function has a fixpoint and our semantics will have to account for this.

We use  $e, e', \dots$ , possibly subscripted, to range over expressions. The letters  $x, y$ , and occasionally  $u$  and  $v$ , range over variables. We use boldface for language keywords. Parentheses are used for explicit grouping as for types. Juxtaposition associates to the left. The period (in **lam**  $x.$  and **fix**  $x.$ ) and the keywords **in** and **of** act as a prefix whose scope extends as far to the right as possible while remaining consistent with the present parentheses. For example, **lam**  $x. x \mathbf{z}$  stands for **lam**  $x. (x \mathbf{z})$  and

$$\mathbf{let\ val\ } x = \mathbf{z\ in\ case\ } x \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow y \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow f \ x' \ x$$

denotes the same expression as

$$\mathbf{let\ val\ } x = \mathbf{z\ in\ (case\ } x \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow y \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow ((f \ x') \ x)).$$

As a first example, consider the following implementation of the predecessor function, where the predecessor of 0 is defined to be 0.

$$\mathit{pred} = \mathbf{lam\ } x. \mathbf{case\ } x \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow x'$$

Here “=” introduces a definition in our (informal) mathematical meta-language. As a second example, consider the following definition of addition.

$$\mathit{plus}_1 = \mathbf{fix\ } \mathit{add}. \mathbf{lam\ } x. \mathbf{lam\ } y. \mathbf{case\ } x \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow y \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow \mathbf{s\ } (\mathit{add\ } x' \ y)$$

The considerations regarding the interpretation of fixpoint expressions yield the “equation”

$$\mathit{plus}_1 \text{ “=” } \mathbf{lam\ } x. \mathbf{lam\ } y. \mathbf{case\ } x \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow y \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow \mathbf{s\ } (\mathit{plus}_1 \ x' \ y)$$

which will be a guide in specifying the operational semantics of **fix**. Continuing our informal reasoning we find that for any two arguments  $n$  and  $m$  representing natural numbers we have

$$\mathit{plus}_1 \ n \ m \text{ “=” } \mathbf{case\ } n \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow m \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow \mathbf{s\ } (\mathit{plus}_1 \ x' \ m)$$

and finally, by analyzing the cases for  $n$  we arrive at the familiar recursive equations for addition:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathit{plus}_1 \ \mathbf{z} \ m & \text{“=”} \quad m \\ \mathit{plus}_1 \ (\mathbf{s\ } n') \ m & \text{“=”} \quad \mathbf{s\ } (\mathit{plus}_1 \ n' \ m) \end{array}$$

The reader may want to convince himself now or after the detailed presentation of the operational semantics that the following are correct alternative definitions of addition.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathit{plus}_2 & = \mathbf{lam\ } y. \mathbf{fix\ } \mathit{add}. \mathbf{lam\ } x. \mathbf{case\ } x \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow y \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow \mathbf{s\ } (\mathit{add\ } x') \\ \mathit{plus}_3 & = \mathbf{fix\ } \mathit{add}. \mathbf{lam\ } x. \mathbf{lam\ } y. \mathbf{case\ } x \mathbf{ of\ } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow y \mid \mathbf{s\ } x' \Rightarrow (\mathit{add\ } x' \ (\mathbf{s\ } y)) \end{array}$$

## 2.2 Substitution

The concepts of *free* and *bound variable* are fundamental in this and many other languages. In Mini-ML variables are scoped as follows:

<b>case</b> $e_1$ <b>of</b> $z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3$	binds $x$ in $e_3$ ,
<b>lam</b> $x. e$	binds $x$ in $e$ ,
<b>let val</b> $x = e_1$ <b>in</b> $e_2$	binds $x$ in $e_2$ ,
<b>let name</b> $x = e_1$ <b>in</b> $e_2$	binds $x$ in $e_2$ ,
<b>fix</b> $x. e$	binds $x$ in $e$ .

An occurrence of variable  $x$  in an expression  $e$  is a *bound occurrence* if it lies within the scope of a binder for  $x$  in  $e$ , in which case it refers to the innermost enclosing binder. Otherwise the variable is said to be *free* in  $e$ . For example, the two non-binding occurrences of  $x$  and  $y$  below are bound, while the occurrence of  $u$  is free.

**let name**  $x = \mathbf{lam} \ y. y$  **in**  $x \ u$

The names of bound variables may be important to the programmer's intuition, but they are irrelevant to the formal meaning of an expression. We therefore do not distinguish between expressions which differ only in the names of their bound variables. For example, **lam**  $x. x$  and **lam**  $y. y$  both denote the identity function. Of course, variables must be renamed “consistently”, that is, corresponding variable occurrences must refer to the same binder. Thus

**lam**  $x. \mathbf{lam} \ y. x = \mathbf{lam} \ u. \mathbf{lam} \ y. u$

but

**lam**  $x. \mathbf{lam} \ y. x \neq \mathbf{lam} \ y. \mathbf{lam} \ y. y.$

When we wish to be explicit, we refer to expressions which differ only in the names of their bound variables as  $\alpha$ -*convertible* and the renaming operation as  $\alpha$ -*conversion*. Languages in which meaning is invariant under variable renaming are said to be *lexically scoped* or *statically scoped*, since it is clear from program text, without considering the operational semantics, where a variable occurrence is bound. Languages such as Lisp which permit dynamic scoping for some variables are semantically less transparent and more difficult to describe formally and reason about.

A fundamental operation on expressions is *substitution*, the replacement of a free variable by an expression. We write  $[e'/x]e$  for the result of substituting  $e'$  for all free occurrences of  $x$  in  $e$ . During this substitution operation we must make sure that no variable that is free in  $e'$  is *captured* by a binder in  $e$ . But since we may tacitly rename bound variables, the result of substitution is always uniquely defined. For example,

$$[x/y]\mathbf{lam} \ x. y = [x/y]\mathbf{lam} \ x'. y = \mathbf{lam} \ x'. x \neq \mathbf{lam} \ x. x.$$

This form of substitution is often called *capture-avoiding substitution*. It is the only meaningful form of substitution under the variable renaming convention: with pure textual replacement we could conclude that

$$\mathbf{lam} \ x. x = [x/y](\mathbf{lam} \ x. y) = [x/y](\mathbf{lam} \ x'. y) = \mathbf{lam} \ x'. x,$$

which is clearly nonsensical.

Substitution has a number of obvious and perhaps not so obvious properties. The first class of properties can properly be considered part of the definition of substitution. These are equalities of the form

$$\begin{aligned} [e'/x]x &= e' \\ [e'/x]y &= y && \text{for } x \neq y \\ [e'/x](e_1 \ e_2) &= ([e'/x]e_1) ([e'/x]e_2) \\ [e'/x](\mathbf{lam} \ y. e) &= \mathbf{lam} \ y. [e'/x]e && \text{for } x \neq y \text{ and } y \text{ not free in } e'. \end{aligned}$$

Of course, there exists one of these equations for every construct in the language. A second important property states that consecutive substitutions can be permuted with each other under certain circumstances:

$$[e_2/x_2]([e_1/x_1]e) = ([e_2/x_2]e_1)/x_1]([e_2/x_2]e)$$

provided  $x_1$  does not occur free in  $e_2$ . The reader is invited to explore the formal definition and properties of substitution in Exercise 2.8. We will take these simple properties largely for granted.

## 2.3 Operational Semantics

The first judgment to be defined is the evaluation judgment,  $e \hookrightarrow v$  (read:  $e$  evaluates to  $v$ ). Here  $v$  ranges over expressions; in Section 2.4 we define the notion of a *value* and show that the result of evaluation is in fact a value. For now we only informally think of  $v$  as representing the value of  $e$ . The definition of the evaluation judgment is given by inference rules. Here, and in the remainder of these notes, we think of axioms as inference rules with no premisses, so that no explicit distinction between axioms and inference rules is necessary. A definition of a judgment via inference rules is inductive in nature, that is,  $e$  evaluates to  $v$  if and only if  $e \hookrightarrow v$  can be established with the given set of inference rules. We will make use of this inductive structure of deductions throughout these notes in order to prove properties of deductive systems.

This approach to the description of the operational semantics of programming languages goes back to Plotkin [Plø75, Plø81] under the name of *structured operational semantics* and Kahn [Kah87], who calls his approach *natural semantics*. Our presentation follows the style of natural semantics.

We begin with the rules concerning the natural numbers.

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z} \qquad \frac{e \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{s} \, e \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, v} \text{ev\_s}$$

The first rule expresses that  $\mathbf{z}$  is a constant and thus evaluates to itself. The second expresses that  $\mathbf{s}$  is a constructor, and that its argument must be evaluated, that is, the constructor is not *eager* and not *lazy*.<sup>2</sup> Note that the second rule is schematic in  $e$  and  $v$ : any instance of this rule is valid.

The next two inference rules concern the evaluation of the **case** construct. The second of these rule requires substitution as introduced in the previous section.

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z} \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{(\mathbf{case} \, e_1 \, \mathbf{of} \, \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \, x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_z}$$

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, v'_1 \quad [v'_1/x]e_3 \hookrightarrow v}{(\mathbf{case} \, e_1 \, \mathbf{of} \, \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \, x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_s}$$

The substitution of  $v'_1$  for  $x$  in case  $e_1$  evaluates to  $\mathbf{s} \, v'_1$  eliminates the need for *environments* which are present in many other semantic definitions. These rules are *declarative* in nature, that is, we define the operational semantics by declaring rules of inference for the evaluation judgment without actually implementing an interpreter. This is exhibited clearly in the two rules for the conditional: in an interpreter, we would evaluate  $e_1$  and then branch to the evaluation of  $e_2$  or  $e_3$ , depending on the value of  $e_1$ . This interpreter structure is not contained in these rules; in fact, naive search for a deduction under these rules will behave differently (see Section 4.3).

As a simple example which can be expressed using only the four rules given so far, consider the derivation of  $(\mathbf{case} \, \mathbf{s} \, (\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}) \, \mathbf{of} \, \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s} \, x' \Rightarrow x') \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}$ . This would arise as a subdeduction in the derivation of  $\text{pred} \, (\mathbf{s} \, (\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}))$  with the earlier definition of  $\text{pred}$ .

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z}}{\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_s} \quad \frac{\frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z}}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_s}}{\mathbf{s} \, (\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}) \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, (\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z})} \text{ev\_s} \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_s}}{(\mathbf{case} \, \mathbf{s} \, (\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}) \, \mathbf{of} \, \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s} \, x' \Rightarrow x') \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_case\_s}$$

The conclusion of the second premiss arises as  $[(\mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z})/x']x' = \mathbf{s} \, \mathbf{z}$ . We refer to a deduction of a judgment  $e \hookrightarrow v$  as an *evaluation deduction* or simply *evaluation* of  $e$ . Thus deductions play the role of traces of computation.

<sup>2</sup>For more on this distinction, see Exercise 2.12.

Pairs do not introduce any new ideas.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2}{\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle} \text{ev\_pair} \\
 \frac{e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}{\text{fst } e \hookrightarrow v_1} \text{ev\_fst} \quad \frac{e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}{\text{snd } e \hookrightarrow v_2} \text{ev\_snd}
 \end{array}$$

This form of operational semantics avoids explicit error values: for some expressions  $e$  there simply does not exist any value  $v$  such that  $e \hookrightarrow v$  would be derivable. For example, when trying to construct a  $v$  and a deduction of the expression  $(\text{case } \langle z, z \rangle \text{ of } z \Rightarrow z \mid s \ x' \Rightarrow x') \hookrightarrow v$ , one arrives at the following impasse:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ev\_z} \quad \frac{}{z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ev\_z}}{\langle z, z \rangle \hookrightarrow \langle z, z \rangle} \text{ev\_pair} \quad ?}{\text{case } \langle z, z \rangle \text{ of } z \Rightarrow z \mid s \ x' \Rightarrow x' \hookrightarrow v} ?$$

There is no inference rule “?” which would allow us to fill  $v$  with an expression and obtain a valid deduction. This particular kind of example will be excluded by the typing system, since the argument which determines the cases here is not a natural number. On the other hand, natural semantics does not preclude a formulation with explicit error elements (see Exercise 2.9).

In programming languages such as Mini-ML functional abstractions evaluate to themselves. This is true for languages with call-by-value and call-by-name semantics, and might be considered a distinguishing characteristic of *evaluation* compared to *normalization*.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\text{lam } x. e \hookrightarrow \text{lam } x. e} \text{ev\_lam} \\
 \frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \text{lam } x. e'_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 \quad [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app}
 \end{array}$$

This specifies a *call-by-value* discipline for our language, since we evaluate  $e_2$  and then substitute the resulting value  $v_2$  for  $x$  in the function body  $e'_1$ . In a call-by-name discipline, we would omit the second premiss and the third premiss would be  $[e_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v$  (see Exercise 2.12).

The inference rules above have an inherent inefficiency: the deduction of a judgment of the form  $[v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v$  may have many copies of a deduction of  $v_2 \hookrightarrow v_2$ .

In an actual interpreter, we would like to evaluate  $e'_1$  in an *environment* where  $x$  is bound to  $v_2$  and simply look up the value of  $x$  when needed. Such a modification in the specification, however, is not straightforward, since it requires the introduction of *closures*. We make such an extension to the language as part of the compilation process in Section 6.1.

The rules for **let** are straightforward, given our understanding of function application. There are two variants, depending on whether the subject is evaluated (**let val**) or not (**let name**).

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1 \quad [v_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{let\ val}\ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in}\ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_letv}$$

$$\frac{[e_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{let\ name}\ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in}\ e_2} \text{ev\_letn}$$

The **let val** construct is intended for the computation of intermediate results that may be needed more than once, while the **let name** construct is primarily intended to give names to functions so they can be used polymorphically (see Exercise 2.22).

Finally, we come to the fixpoint construct. Following the considerations in the example on page 11, we arrive at the rule

$$\frac{[\mathbf{fix}\ x. e/x]e \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{fix}\ x. e \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_fix}$$

Thus evaluation of a fixpoint construct unrolls the recursion one level and evaluates the result. Typically this uncovers a **lam**-abstraction which evaluates to itself. This rule clearly exhibits another situation in which an expression does not have a value: consider **fix**  $x. x$ . There is only one rule with a conclusion of the form **fix**  $x. e \hookrightarrow v$ , namely **ev\_fix**. So if **fix**  $x. x \hookrightarrow v$  were derivable for some  $v$ , then the premiss, namely  $[\mathbf{fix}\ x. x/x]x \hookrightarrow v$  would also have to be derivable. But  $[\mathbf{fix}\ x. x/x]x = \mathbf{fix}\ x. x$ , and the instance of **ev\_fix** would have to have the form

$$\frac{\mathbf{fix}\ x. x \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{fix}\ x. x \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_fix.}$$

Clearly we have made no progress, and hence there is no evaluation of **fix**  $x. x$ . As an example of a successful evaluation, consider the function which doubles its argument.

$$\text{double} = \mathbf{fix}\ f. \mathbf{lam}\ x. \mathbf{case}\ x \ \mathbf{of}\ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s}\ x' \Rightarrow \mathbf{s}\ (\mathbf{s}\ (f\ x'))$$

The representation of the evaluation tree for  $\text{double}\ (\mathbf{s}\ \mathbf{z})$  uses a linear notation which is more amenable to typesetting. The lines are shown in the order in which

they would arise during a left-to-right, depth-first construction of the evaluation deduction. Thus it might be easiest to read this from the bottom up. We use *double* as a short-hand for the expression shown above and *not* as a definition within the language in order to keep the size of the expressions below manageable. Furthermore, we use *double'* for the result of unrolling the fixpoint expression *double* once.

1	$double' \hookrightarrow double'$	ev_lam
2	$double \hookrightarrow double'$	ev_fix 1
3	$z \hookrightarrow z$	ev_z
4	$s\ z \hookrightarrow s\ z$	ev_s 3
5	$z \hookrightarrow z$	ev_z
6	$s\ z \hookrightarrow s\ z$	ev_s 5
7	$double' \hookrightarrow double'$	ev_lam
8	$double \hookrightarrow double'$	ev_fix 1
9	$z \hookrightarrow z$	ev_z
10	$z \hookrightarrow z$	ev_z
11	$z \hookrightarrow z$	ev_z
12	$(\text{case } z \text{ of } z \Rightarrow z \mid s\ x' \Rightarrow s\ (s\ (double\ x')))) \hookrightarrow z$	ev_case_z 10, 11
13	$double\ z \hookrightarrow z$	ev_app 8, 9, 12
14	$s\ (double\ z) \hookrightarrow s\ z$	ev_s 13
15	$s\ (s\ (double\ z)) \hookrightarrow s\ (s\ z)$	ev_s 14
16	$(\text{case } s\ z \text{ of } z \Rightarrow z \mid s\ x' \Rightarrow s\ (s\ (double\ x')))) \hookrightarrow s\ (s\ z)$	ev_case_s 6, 15
17	$double\ (s\ z) \hookrightarrow s\ (s\ z)$	ev_app 2, 4, 16

where

$$\begin{aligned} double &= \text{fix } f. \text{lam } x. \text{case } x \text{ of } z \Rightarrow z \mid s\ x' \Rightarrow s\ (s\ (f\ x')) \\ double' &= \text{lam } x. \text{case } x \text{ of } z \Rightarrow z \mid s\ x' \Rightarrow s\ (s\ (double\ x')) \end{aligned}$$

The inefficiencies of the rules we alluded to above can be seen clearly in this example: we need two copies of the evaluation of  $s\ z$ , one of which should in principle be unnecessary, since we are in a call-by-value language (see Exercise 2.11).

## 2.4 A First Meta-Theorem: Evaluation Returns a Value

Before we discuss the type system, we will formulate and prove a simple meta-theorem. The set of *values* can be described by the BNF grammar

$$\text{Values } v ::= z \mid s\ v \mid \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \mid \text{lam } x. e.$$

This kind of grammar can be understood as a form of inductive definition of a subcategory of the syntactic category of expressions: a value is either  $z$ , the successor

of a value, a pair of values, or any **lam**-expression. There are alternative equivalent definition of values, for example as those expressions which evaluate to themselves (see Exercise 2.13). Syntactic subcategories (such as values as a subcategory of expressions) can also be defined using deductive systems. The judgment in this case is unary:  $e \text{ Value}$ . It is defined by the following inference rules.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \text{ Value}} \text{val\_z} \qquad \frac{e \text{ Value}}{\mathbf{s} \ e \text{ Value}} \text{val\_s} \\
 \\
 \frac{e_1 \text{ Value} \quad e_2 \text{ Value}}{\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \text{ Value}} \text{val\_pair} \qquad \frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e \text{ Value}} \text{val\_lam}
 \end{array}$$

Again, this definition is inductive: an expression  $e$  is a value if and only if  $e \text{ Value}$  can be derived using these inference rules. It is common mathematical practice to use different variable names for elements of the smaller set in order to distinguish them in the presentation. But is it justified to write  $e \hookrightarrow v$  with the understanding that  $v$  is a value? This is the subject of the next theorem. The proof is instructive as it uses an induction over the structure of a deduction. This is a central technique for proving properties of deductive systems and the judgments they define. The basic idea is simple: if we would like to establish a property for all deductions of a judgment we show that the property is preserved by all inference rules, that is, we assume the property holds of the deduction of the premisses and we must show that the property holds of the deduction of the conclusion. For an axiom (an inference rule with no premisses) this just means that we have to prove the property outright, with no assumptions. An important special case of this induction principle is an *inversion principle*: in many cases the form of a judgment uniquely determines the last rule of inference which must have been applied, and we may conclude the existence of a deduction of the premiss.

**Theorem 2.1** (Value Soundness) *For any two expressions  $e$  and  $v$ , if  $e \hookrightarrow v$  is derivable, then  $v \text{ Value}$  is derivable.*

**Proof:** The proof is by induction over the structure of the deduction  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ . We show a number of typical cases.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z}$ . Then  $v = \mathbf{z}$  is a value by the rule **val\_z**.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1}}{\mathbf{s} \ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v_1} \text{ev\_s}.$$



The induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  yields a deduction of  $v_1$  *Value*. Using the inference rule **val\_s** we conclude that **s**  $v_1$  *Value*.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{e_2 \hookrightarrow v}}{(\mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \mathbf{ev\_case\_z}.$$

Then the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}_2$  yields a deduction of  $v$  *Value*, which is what we needed to show in this case.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v'_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_3}{[v'_1/x]e_3 \hookrightarrow v}}{(\mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \mathbf{ev\_case\_s}.$$

Then the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}_3$  yields a deduction of  $v$  *Value*, which is what we needed to show in this case.

**Case:** If  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in **ev\_pair** we reason similar to cases above.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}}{\mathbf{fst} \ e \hookrightarrow v_1} \mathbf{ev\_fst}.$$

Then the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}'$  yields a deduction  $\mathcal{P}'$  of the judgment  $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle$  *Value*. By examining the inference rules we can see that  $\mathcal{P}'$  must end in an application of the **val\_pair** rule, that is,

$$\mathcal{P}' = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{P}_1}{v_1 \ \mathbf{Value}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{P}_2}{v_2 \ \mathbf{Value}}}{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \ \mathbf{Value}} \mathbf{val\_pair}$$

for some  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$ . Hence  $v_1$  *Value* must be derivable, which is what we needed to show. We call this form of argument *inversion*.

**Case:** If  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in **ev\_snd** we reason similar to the previous case.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e} \mathbf{ev\_lam}.$

Again, this case is immediate, since  $v = \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e$  is a value by rule **val\_lam**.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{D}_1 & \mathcal{D}_2 & \mathcal{D}_3 \\ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1 & e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 & [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v \end{array}}{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app.}$$

Then the induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_3$  yields that  $v$  *Value*.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in  $\text{ev\_letv}$ . Similar to the previous case.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in  $\text{ev\_letn}$ . Similar to the previous case.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_1 \\ [\mathbf{fix} \ x. e/x]e \hookrightarrow v \end{array}}{\mathbf{fix} \ x. e \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_fix.}$$

Again, the induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  directly yields that  $v$  is a value.

□

Since it is so pervasive, we briefly summarize the principle of *structural induction* used in the proof above. We assume we have an arbitrary derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $e \hookrightarrow v$  and we would like to prove a property  $P$  of  $D$ . We show this by induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D}$ : For each inference rule in the system defining the judgment  $e \hookrightarrow v$  we show that the property  $P$  holds for the conclusion under the assumption that it holds for every premiss. In the special case of an inference rules with no premisses we have no inductive assumptions; this therefore corresponds to a base case of the induction. This suffices to establish the property  $P$  for every derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  since it must be constructed from the given inference rules. In this particular theorem the property  $P$  states that there exists a derivation  $\mathcal{P}$  of the judgment that  $v$  is a value.

## 2.5 The Type System

In the presentation of the language so far, we have not used types. Thus types are external to the language of expressions and a judgment such as  $\triangleright e : \tau$  may be considered as establishing a property of the (untyped) expression  $e$ . This view of types has been associated with Curry [Cur34, CF58], and systems of this style are often called *type assignment systems*. An alternative is a system in the style of Church [Chu32, Chu33, Chu41], in which types are included within expressions, and every well-typed expression has a unique type. We will discuss such a system in Section 9.1.

Mini-ML as presented by Clément *et al.* is a language with some limited polymorphism, in that it explicitly distinguishes *simple types* and *type schemes* with some restrictions on the use of type schemes. This notion of polymorphism was introduced by Milner [Mil78, DM82]. We will refer to it as *schematic polymorphism*. In our formulation, we will be able to avoid using type schemes completely by distinguishing two forms of definitions via **let**, one of which is polymorphic. A formulation in this style originates with Hannan and Miller [HM89, Han91]. See also ??.

$$\text{Types } \tau ::= \text{nat} \mid \tau_1 \times \tau_2 \mid \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \mid \alpha$$

Here,  $\alpha$  stands for type variables. We also need a notion of *context* which assigns types to free variables in an expression.

$$\text{Contexts } \Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Gamma, x:\tau$$

We generally omit the empty context, “.”, and, for example, write  $x:\tau$  for  $\cdot, x:\tau$ . We also have to deal again with the problem of variable names. In order to avoid ambiguities and simplify the presentation, we stipulate that each variable may be declared at most once in a context  $\Gamma$ . When we wish to emphasize this assumption, we refer to contexts without repeated variables as *valid contexts*. We write  $\Gamma(x)$  for the type assigned to  $x$  in  $\Gamma$ .

The typing judgment

$$\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau$$

states that expression  $e$  has type  $\tau$  in context  $\Gamma$ . It is important for the meta-theory that there is exactly one inference rule for each expression constructor. We say that the definition of the typing judgment is *syntax-directed*. Of course, many deductive systems defining typing judgments are not syntax-directed (see, for example, Section 9.1).

We begin with typing rules for natural numbers. We require that the two branches of a **case**-expression have the same type  $\tau$ . This means that no matter which of the two branches of the **case**-expression applies during evaluation, the value of the whole expression will always have type  $\tau$ .

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{z} : \text{nat}} \text{tp\_z} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \triangleright e : \text{nat}}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{s} \ e : \text{nat}} \text{tp\_s}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \triangleright e_1 : \text{nat} \quad \Gamma \triangleright e_2 : \tau \quad \Gamma, x:\text{nat} \triangleright e_3 : \tau}{\Gamma \triangleright (\mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) : \tau} \text{tp\_case}$$

Implicit in the third premiss of the **tp\_case** rule is the information that  $x$  is a bound variable whose scope is  $e_3$ . Moreover,  $x$  stands for a natural number (the predecessor

of the value of  $e_1$ ). Note that we may have to rename the variable  $x$  in case another variable with the same name already occurs in the context  $\Gamma$ .

Pairing is straightforward.

$$\frac{\Gamma \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Gamma \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle : \tau_1 \times \tau_2} \text{tp\_pair}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{fst} \, e : \tau_1} \text{tp\_fst} \quad \frac{\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{snd} \, e : \tau_2} \text{tp\_snd}$$

Because of the following rule for **lam**-abstraction, the type of an expression is not unique. This is a characteristic property of a type system in the style of Curry.

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:\tau_1 \triangleright e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{lam} \, x. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \text{tp\_lam}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \triangleright e_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau_1 \quad \Gamma \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright e_1 \, e_2 : \tau_1} \text{tp\_app}$$

The rule **tp\_lam** is (implicitly) restricted to the case where  $x$  does not already occur in  $\Gamma$ , since we made the general assumption that no variable occurs more than once in a context. This restriction can be satisfied by renaming the bound variable  $x$ , thus allowing the construction of a typing derivation for  $\triangleright \mathbf{lam} \, x. \mathbf{lam} \, x. x : \alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \beta)$ , but not for  $\triangleright \mathbf{lam} \, x. \mathbf{lam} \, x. x : \alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \alpha)$ . Note that together with this rule, we need a rule for looking up variables in the context.

$$\frac{\Gamma(x) = \tau}{\Gamma \triangleright x : \tau} \text{tp\_var}$$

As variables occur at most once in a context, this rule does not lead to any inherent ambiguity.

Our language incorporates a **let val** expression to compute intermediate values. This is not strictly necessary, since it may be defined using **lam**-abstraction and application (see Exercise 2.19).

$$\frac{\Gamma \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Gamma, x:\tau_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{let} \, \mathbf{val} \, x = e_1 \, \mathbf{in} \, e_2 : \tau_2} \text{tp\_letv}$$

Even though  $e_1$  may have more than one type, only one of these types ( $\tau_1$ ) can be used for occurrences of  $x$  in  $e_2$ . In other words,  $x$  can *not* be used *polymorphically*, that is, at various types.

Schematic polymorphism (or *ML-style polymorphism*) only plays a role in the typing rule for **let name**. What we would like to achieve is that, for example, the following judgment holds:

$$\triangleright \mathbf{let\ name}\ f = \mathbf{lam}\ x. x \mathbf{\ in}\ \langle f\ z, f\ (\mathbf{lam}\ y. s\ y) \rangle : \mathbf{nat} \times (\mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat})$$

Clearly, the expression can be evaluated to  $\langle z, (\mathbf{lam}\ y. s\ y) \rangle$ , since  $\mathbf{lam}\ x. x$  can act as the identity function on any type, that is, both

$$\begin{aligned} &\triangleright \mathbf{lam}\ x. x : \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat}, \\ \text{and } &\triangleright \mathbf{lam}\ x. x : (\mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat}) \end{aligned}$$

are derivable. In a type system with explicit polymorphism a more general judgment might be expressed as  $\triangleright \mathbf{lam}\ x. x : \forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$  (see Section ??). Here, we use a different device by allowing different types to be assigned to  $e_1$  at different occurrences of  $x$  in  $e_2$  when type-checking  $\mathbf{let\ name}\ x = e_1 \mathbf{\ in}\ e_2$ . We achieve this by substituting  $e_1$  for  $x$  in  $e_2$  and checking only that the result is well-typed.

$$\frac{\Gamma \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Gamma \triangleright [e_1/x]e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{let\ name}\ x = e_1 \mathbf{\ in}\ e_2 : \tau_2} \text{tp\_letn}$$

Note that  $\tau_1$ , the type assigned to  $e_1$  in the first premiss, is not used anywhere. We require such a derivation nonetheless so that all subexpressions of a well-typed term are guaranteed to be well-typed (see Exercise 2.20). The reader may want to check that with this rule, the example above is indeed well-typed.

Finally we come to the typing rule for fixpoint expressions. In the evaluation rule, we substitute  $[\mathbf{fix}\ x. e/x]e$  in order to evaluate  $\mathbf{fix}\ x. e$ . For this to be well-typed, the body  $e$  must be well-typed under the assumption that the variable  $x$  has the type of whole fixpoint expression. Thus we are lead to the rule

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:\tau \triangleright e : \tau}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{fix}\ x. e : \tau} \text{tp\_fix.}$$

More general typing rules for fixpoint constructs have been considered in the literature, most notably the rule of the Milner-Mycroft calculus which is discussed in Exercise 2.21.

An important property of the system is that an expression uniquely determines the last inference rule of its typing derivation. This leads to a principle of *inversion*: from the type of an expression we can draw conclusions about the types of its constituents expressions. The inversion principle is used pervasively in the proof of Theorem 2.5, for example. In many deductive systems similar inversion principles hold, though often they turn out to be more difficult to prove.

**Lemma 2.2** (Inversion) *Given a context  $\Gamma$  and an expression  $e$  such that there exists a  $\tau$  such that  $\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau$  is derivable. Then the last inference rule of any derivation of  $\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau'$  for some  $\tau'$  is uniquely determined.*

**Proof:** By inspection of the inference rules.  $\square$

Note that this does not imply that types are unique; they are not in this formulation of Mini-ML as remarked above.

## 2.6 Type Preservation

Before we come to the statement and proof of type preservation in Mini-ML, we need a few preparatory lemmas. The reader may wish to skip ahead and reexamine these lemmas wherever they are needed. We first note the properties of exchange and weakening and then state and prove a substitution lemma for typing derivations. Substitution lemmas are basic to the investigation of many deductive systems, and we will pay special attention to them when considering the representation of proofs of meta-theorems in a logical framework. We use the notation  $\Gamma, \Gamma'$  for the result of appending the declarations in  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  assuming implicitly that the result is valid. Recall that a context is *valid* if no variable in it is declared more than once.

**Lemma 2.3** (Exchange and Weakening)

1. *If valid contexts  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  only differ in the order of declarations, then  $\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau$  if and only if  $\Gamma' \triangleright e : \tau$ .*
2. *If  $\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau$  then  $\Gamma, \Gamma' \triangleright e : \tau$  provided  $\Gamma, \Gamma'$  is a valid context.*

**Proof:** By straightforward inductions over the structure of the derivation of  $\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau$ . The only inference rule where the context is examined is **tp\_var** which will be applicable if a declaration  $x:\tau$  is present in the context  $\Gamma$ . It is clear that the order of declarations or the presence of additional non-conflicting declarations does not alter this property.  $\square$

Type derivations which differ only by exchange or weakening in the type declarations  $\Gamma$  have identical structure. Thus we permit the exchange or weakening of type declarations in  $\Gamma$  during a structural induction over a typing derivation. The substitution lemma below is also central, it is closely connected to the notions of parametric and hypothetical judgments introduced in Chapter 5.

**Lemma 2.4** (Substitution) *If  $\Gamma \triangleright e' : \tau'$  and  $\Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright e : \tau$ , then  $\Gamma \triangleright [e'/x]e : \tau$ .*

**Proof:** By induction over the structure of the derivation  $\mathcal{D} :: \Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright e : \tau$ . The result should be intuitive: wherever  $x$  occurs in  $e$  we are at a leaf in the typing derivation of  $e$ . After substitution of  $e'$  for  $x$ , we have to supply a derivation showing that  $e'$  has type  $\tau'$  at this leaf position, which exists by assumption. We only show a few cases in the proof in detail; the remaining ones follow the same pattern.

$$\textbf{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{(\Gamma, x:\tau')(x) = \tau'}{\Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright x : \tau'} \textbf{tp\_var.}$$

Then  $[e'/x]e = [e'/x]x = e'$ , so the lemma reduces to showing  $\Gamma \triangleright e' : \tau'$  from  $\Gamma \triangleright e' : \tau'$ .

$$\textbf{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{(\Gamma, x:\tau')(y) = \tau}{\Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright y : \tau} \textbf{tp\_var, where } x \neq y.$$

In this case,  $[e'/x]e = [e'/x]y = y$  and hence the lemma follows from

$$\frac{(\Gamma)(y) = \tau}{\Gamma \triangleright y : \tau} \textbf{tp\_var.}$$

$$\textbf{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{\Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright e_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{\Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2}}{\Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright e_1 \ e_2 : \tau_1} \textbf{tp\_app.}$$

Then we construct a deduction

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{E}_1}{\Gamma \triangleright [e'/x]e_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}_2}{\Gamma \triangleright [e'/x]e_2 : \tau_2}}{\Gamma \triangleright ([e'/x]e_1) ([e'/x]e_2) : \tau_1} \textbf{tp\_app}$$

where  $\mathcal{E}_1$  and  $\mathcal{E}_2$  are known to exist from the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2$ , respectively. By definition of substitution,  $[e'/x](e_1 \ e_2) = ([e'/x]e_1) ([e'/x]e_2)$ , and the lemma is established in this case.

$$\textbf{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{\Gamma, x:\tau', y:\tau_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2}}{\Gamma, x:\tau' \triangleright \textbf{lam } y. e_2 : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \textbf{tp\_lam.}$$

In this case we need to use Exchange and then apply the induction hypothesis by using  $\Gamma, y:\tau_1$  for  $\Gamma$ . This is why the lemma is formulated using arbitrary valid contexts  $\Gamma$ : an attempt to prove it inductively for expressions  $e'$  whose

only free variable is  $x$  will fail. From the induction hypothesis and one inference step we obtain

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}_1 \quad \Gamma, y:\tau_1 \triangleright [e'/x]e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ y. [e'/x]e_2 : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \text{tp\_lam}$$

which yields the lemma by the equation  $[e'/x](\mathbf{lam} \ y. e_2) = \mathbf{lam} \ y. [e'/x]e_2$  if  $y$  is not free in  $e'$  and distinct from  $x$ . We can assume that these conditions are satisfied, since they can always be achieved by renaming bound variables.

□

The statement of the type preservation theorem below is written in such a way that the induction argument will work directly.

**Theorem 2.5** (Type Preservation) *For any  $e$  and  $v$ , if  $e \hookrightarrow v$  is derivable, then for any  $\tau$  such that  $\triangleright e : \tau$  is derivable,  $\triangleright v : \tau$  is also derivable.*

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of the deduction  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $e \hookrightarrow v$ . The justification “*by inversion*” refers to Lemma 2.2. More directly, from the form of the judgment established by a derivation we draw conclusions about the possible forms of the premiss, which, of course, must also be derivable.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z}.$

Then we have to show that for any type  $\tau$  such that  $\triangleright \mathbf{z} : \tau$  is derivable,  $\triangleright \mathbf{z} : \tau$  is derivable. This is obvious.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1}{\mathbf{s} \ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v_1} \text{ev\_s}.$  Then

$\triangleright \mathbf{s} \ e_1 : \tau$	By assumption
$\triangleright e_1 : \mathbf{nat}$ and $\tau = \mathbf{nat}$	By inversion
$\triangleright v_1 : \mathbf{nat}$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_1$
$\triangleright \mathbf{s} \ v_1 : \mathbf{nat}$	By rule $\text{tp\_s}$

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad \mathcal{D}_2 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z} \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{(\mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_z}.$

$\triangleright (\mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) : \tau$	By assumption
$\triangleright e_2 : \tau$	By inversion
$\triangleright v : \tau$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_2$



$$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow s \ v'_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_3}{[v'_1/x]e_3 \hookrightarrow v}}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_s.}$$

$\triangleright (\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3) : \tau$  By assumption  
 $x:\text{nat} \triangleright e_3 : \tau$  By inversion  
 $\triangleright e_1 : \text{nat}$  By inversion  
 $\triangleright s \ v'_1 : \text{nat}$  By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_1$   
 $\triangleright v'_1 : \text{nat}$  By inversion  
 $\triangleright [v'_1/x]e_3 : \tau$  By the Substitution Lemma 2.4  
 $\triangleright v : \tau$  By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_3$

**Cases:** If  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in `ev_pair`, `evfst`, or `ev_snd` we reason similar to cases above (see Exercise 2.15).

$$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\text{lam } x. e \hookrightarrow \text{lam } x. e} \text{ev\_lam.}$$

This case is immediate as for `ev_z`.

$$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow \text{lam } x. e'_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_3}{[v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v}}{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app.}$$

$\triangleright e_1 \ e_2 : \tau$  By assumption  
 $\triangleright e_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau$  and  $\triangleright e_2 : \tau_2$  for some  $\tau_2$  By inversion  
 $\triangleright \text{lam } x. e'_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau$  By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_1$   
 $x:\tau_2 \triangleright e'_1 : \tau$  By inversion  
 $\triangleright v_2 : \tau_2$  By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_2$   
 $\triangleright [v_2/x]e'_1 : \tau$  By the Substitution Lemma 2.4  
 $\triangleright v : \tau$  By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_3$

$$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{[v_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v}}{\text{let val } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_letv.}$$

$\triangleright \text{let val } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau$  By assumption  
 $\triangleright e_1 : \tau_1$  and  $x:\tau_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau$  for some  $\tau_1$  By inversion  
 $\triangleright v_1 : \tau_1$  By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_1$   
 $\triangleright [v_1/x]e_2 : \tau$  By the Substitution Lemma 2.4  
 $\triangleright v : \tau$  By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_2$

$$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_2 \quad [e_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{\text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_letn.}$$

$\triangleright \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau$   
 $\triangleright [e_1/x]e_2 : \tau$   
 $\triangleright v : \tau$

By assumption  
 By inversion  
 By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_2$

$$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad [\text{fix } x. e_1/x]e_1 \hookrightarrow v}{\text{fix } x. e_1 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_fix.}$$

$\triangleright \text{fix } x. e_1 : \tau$   
 $x : \tau \triangleright e_1 : \tau$   
 $\triangleright [\text{fix } x. e_1/x]e_1 : \tau$   
 $\triangleright v : \tau$

By assumption  
 By inversion  
 By the Substitution Lemma 2.4  
 By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_1$

□

It is important to recognize that this theorem cannot be proved by induction on the structure of the expression  $e$ . The difficulty is most pronounced in the cases for **let** and **fix**: The expressions in the premisses of these rules are in general much larger than the expressions in the conclusion. Similarly, we cannot prove type preservation by an induction on the structure of the typing derivation of  $e$ .

## 2.7 Further Discussion

Ignoring details of concrete syntax, the Mini-ML language is completely specified by its typing and evaluation rules. Consider a simple model of an interaction with an implementation of Mini-ML consisting of two phases: type-checking and evaluation. During the first phase the implementation only accepts expressions  $e$  that are well-typed in the empty context, that is,  $\triangleright e : \tau$  for some  $\tau$ . In the second phase the implementation constructs and prints a value  $v$  such that  $e \hookrightarrow v$  is derivable. This model is simplistic in some ways, for example, we ignore the question which values can actually be printed or *observed* by the user. We will return to this point in Section ??.

Our self-contained language definition by means of deductive systems does not establish a connection between types, values, expressions, and mathematical objects such as partial functions. This can be seen as the subject of *denotational semantics*. For example, we understand intuitively that the expression

$$ss = \text{lam } x. s \ (s \ x)$$

denotes the function from natural numbers to natural numbers that adds 2 to its argument. Similarly,

$$pred_0 = \mathbf{lam} \ x. \mathbf{case} \ x \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{fix} \ y. y \mid \mathbf{s} \ x' \Rightarrow x'$$

denotes the partial function from natural numbers to natural numbers that returns the predecessor of any argument greater or equal to 1 and is undefined on 0. But is this intuitive interpretation of expressions justified? As a first step, we establish that the result of evaluation (if one exists) is unique.

**Theorem 2.6** (Uniqueness of Values) *If  $e \hookrightarrow v_1$  and  $e \hookrightarrow v_2$  are derivable then  $v_1 = v_2$ .*<sup>3</sup>

**Proof:** Straightforward (see Exercise 2.16).  $\square$

Intuitively the type `nat` can be interpreted by the set of natural numbers. We write  $v_{\text{nat}}$  for values  $v$  such that  $\triangleright v : \text{nat}$ . It can easily be seen by induction on the structure of the derivation of  $v_{\text{nat}}$  *Value* that  $v_{\text{nat}}$  could be defined inductively by

$$v_{\text{nat}} ::= \mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s} \ v_{\text{nat}}.$$

The meaning or *denotation* of a value  $v_{\text{nat}}$ ,  $\llbracket v_{\text{nat}} \rrbracket$ , can be defined almost trivially as

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \mathbf{z} \rrbracket &= 0 \\ \llbracket \mathbf{s} \ v_{\text{nat}} \rrbracket &= \llbracket v_{\text{nat}} \rrbracket + 1. \end{aligned}$$

It is immediate that this is a bijection between closed values of type `nat` and the natural numbers. The meaning of an arbitrary closed expression  $e_{\text{nat}}$  of type `nat` can then be defined by

$$\llbracket e_{\text{nat}} \rrbracket = \begin{cases} \llbracket v \rrbracket & \text{if } e_{\text{nat}} \hookrightarrow v \text{ is derivable} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Determinism of evaluation (Theorem 2.6) tells us that  $v$ , if it exists, is uniquely defined. Value soundness 2.1 tells us that  $v$  is indeed a value. Type preservation (Theorem 2.5) tells us that  $v$  will be a closed expression of type `nat` and thus that the meaning of an arbitrary expression of type `nat`, if it is defined, is a unique natural number. Furthermore, we are justified in overloading the  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$  notation for values and arbitrary expressions, since values evaluate to themselves (Exercise 2.13).

Next we consider the meaning of expressions of functional type. Intuitively, if  $\triangleright e : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}$ , then the meaning of  $e$  should be a partial function from natural numbers to natural numbers. We define this as follows:

$$\llbracket e \rrbracket(n) = \begin{cases} \llbracket v_2 \rrbracket & \text{if } e \ v_1 \hookrightarrow v_2 \text{ and } \llbracket v_1 \rrbracket = n \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

---

<sup>3</sup>Recall that expressions which differ only in the names of their bound variables are considered equal.

This definition is well-formed by reasoning similar to the above, using the observation that  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$  is a bijection between closed values of type `nat` and natural numbers.

Thus we were justified in thinking of the type `nat`  $\rightarrow$  `nat` as consisting of partial functions from natural numbers to natural numbers. Partial functions in mathematics are understood in terms of their input/output behavior rather than in terms of their concrete definition; they are viewed *extensionally*. For example, the expressions

$$\begin{aligned} ss &= \mathbf{lam} \ x. s \ (s \ x) \quad \text{and} \\ ss' &= \mathbf{fix} \ f. \mathbf{lam} \ x. \mathbf{case} \ x \ \mathbf{of} \ z \Rightarrow s \ (s \ z) \mid s \ x' \Rightarrow s \ (f \ x') \end{aligned}$$

denote the same function from natural numbers to natural numbers:  $\llbracket ss \rrbracket = \llbracket ss' \rrbracket$ . Operationally, of course, they have very different behavior. Thus denotational semantics induces a non-trivial notion of equality between expressions in our language. On the other hand, it is not immediately clear how to take advantage of this equality due to its non-constructive nature. The notion of extensional equality between partial recursive function is not recursively axiomatizable and therefore we cannot write a complete deductive system to prove functional equalities. The denotational approach can be extended to higher types (for example, functions that map functions from natural numbers to natural numbers to functions from natural numbers to natural numbers) in a natural way.

It may seem from the above development that the denotational semantics of a language is uniquely determined. This is not the case: there are many choices. Especially the mathematical domains we use to interpret expressions and the structure we impose on them leave open many possibilities. For more on the subject of denotational semantics see, for example, [Gun92].

In the approach above, the meaning of an expression depends on its type. For example, for the expression  $id = \mathbf{lam} \ x. x$  we have  $\triangleright id : \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat}$  and by the reasoning above we can interpret it as a function from natural numbers to natural numbers. We also have  $\triangleright id : (\mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat})$ , so it also maps every function between natural numbers to itself. This inherent ambiguity is due to our use of Curry's approach where types are assigned to untyped expressions. It can be remedied in two natural ways: we can construct denotations independently of the language of types, or we can give meaning to typing derivations. In the first approach, types can be interpreted as subsets of a universe from which the meanings of untyped expressions are drawn. The disadvantage of this approach is that we have to give meanings to all expressions, even those that are intuitively meaningless, that is, ill-typed. In the second approach, we only give meaning to expressions that have typing derivations. Any possible ambiguity in the assignment of types is resolved, since the typing derivation will choose a particular type for the expression. On the other hand we may have to consider *coherence*: different typing derivations for the same expression and type should lead to the same meaning. At the very least the meanings should be compatible in some way so that arbitrary decisions made during type inference do not lead to observable differences in the behavior of a

program. In the Mini-ML language we discussed so far, this property is easily seen to hold, since an expression uniquely determines its typing derivation. For more complex languages this may require non-trivial proof. Note that the ambiguity problem does not usually arise when we choose a language presentation in the style of Church where each expression contains enough type information to uniquely determine its type.

## 2.8 Exercises

**Exercise 2.1** Write Mini-ML programs for multiplication, exponentiation, and a function which returns a pair of (integer) quotient and remainder of two natural numbers.

**Exercise 2.2** The *principal type* of an expression  $e$  is a type  $\tau$  such that *any* type  $\tau'$  of  $e$  can be obtained by instantiating the type variables in  $\tau$ . Even though types in our formulation of Mini-ML are not unique, every well-typed expression has a principal type [Mil78]. Write Mini-ML programs satisfying the following informal specifications and determine their principal types.

1. *compose*  $f\ g$  to compute the composition of two functions  $f$  and  $g$ .
2. *iterate*  $n\ f\ x$  to iterate the function  $f$   $n$  times over  $x$ .

**Exercise 2.3** Write down the evaluation of  $plus_2\ (s\ z)\ (s\ z)$ , given the definition of  $plus_2$  in the example on page 11.

**Exercise 2.4** Write out the typing derivation which shows that the function *double* on page 16 is well-typed.

**Exercise 2.5** Explore a few alternatives to the definition of expressions given in Section 2.1. In each case, give the relevant inference rules for evaluation and typing.

1. Add a type of Booleans and replace the constructs concerning natural numbers by

$$e ::= \dots \mid \mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s}\ e \mid \mathbf{pred}\ e \mid \mathbf{zerop}\ e$$

2. Replace the constructs concerning pairs by

$$e ::= \dots \mid \mathbf{pair} \mid \mathbf{fst} \mid \mathbf{snd}$$

3. Replace the constructs concerning pairs by

$$e ::= \dots \mid \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \mid \mathbf{split}\ e_1\ \mathbf{as}\ \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle \Rightarrow e_2$$

**Exercise 2.6** Consider an extension of the language by the unit type 1 (often written as `unit`) and disjoint sums  $\tau_1 + \tau_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\tau &::= \dots \mid 1 \mid (\tau_1 + \tau_2) \\ e &::= \dots \mid \langle \rangle \mid \mathbf{inl}\ e \mid \mathbf{inr}\ e \mid (\mathbf{case}\ e_1\ \mathbf{of}\ \mathbf{inl}\ x_2 \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{inr}\ x_3 \Rightarrow e_3)\end{aligned}$$

For example, an alternative to the predecessor function might return  $\langle \rangle$  if the argument is zero, and the predecessor otherwise. Because of the typing discipline, the expression

$$pred' = \mathbf{lam}\ x.\ \mathbf{case}\ x\ \mathbf{of}\ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \langle \rangle \mid \mathbf{s}\ x' \Rightarrow x'$$

is not typable. Instead, we have to inject the values into a disjoint sum type:

$$pred' = \mathbf{lam}\ x.\ \mathbf{case}\ x\ \mathbf{of}\ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{inl}\ \langle \rangle \mid \mathbf{s}\ x' \Rightarrow \mathbf{inr}\ x'$$

so that

$$\triangleright pred' : \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow (1 \mid \mathbf{nat})$$

Optional values of type  $\tau$  can be modelled in general by using the type  $(1 \mid \tau)$ .

1. Give appropriate rules for evaluation and typing.
2. Extend the notion of *value*.
3. Extend the proof of value soundness (Theorem 2.1).
4. Extend the proof type preservation (Theorem 2.5).

**Exercise 2.7** Consider a language extension

$$\tau ::= \dots \mid \tau^*.$$

where  $\tau^*$  is the type of lists whose members have type  $\tau$ . Introduce appropriate value constructor and discriminator expressions and proceed as in Exercise 2.6.

**Exercise 2.8** In this exercise we explore the operation of substitution in some more detail than in section 2.2.

1. Define  $x$  *free in*  $e$  which should hold when the variable  $x$  occurs free in  $e$ .
2. Define  $e =_\alpha e'$  which should hold when  $e$  and  $e'$  are alphabetic variants, that is, they differ only in the names assigned to their bound variables as explained in Section 2.2.
3. Define  $[e'/x]e$ , the result of substituting  $e'$  for  $x$  in  $e$ . This operation should avoid capture of variables free in  $e'$  and the result should be unique up to renaming of bound variables.

4. Prove  $[e'/x]e =_{\alpha} e$  if  $x$  does not occur free in  $e'$ .
5. Prove  $[e_2/x_2]([e_1/x_1]e) =_{\alpha} [([e_2/x_2]e_1)/x_1]([e_2/x_2]e)$ , provided  $x_1$  does not occur free in  $e_2$ .

**Exercise 2.9** In this exercise we will explore different ways to treat errors in the semantics.

1. Assume there is a new value **error** of arbitrary type and modify the operational semantics appropriately. You may assume that only well-typed expressions are evaluated. For example, evaluation of **s** (**lam**  $x$ .  $x$ ) does not need to result in **error**.
2. Add an empty type 0 (often called **void**) containing no values. Are there any closed expressions of type 0? Add a new expression form **any**  $e$  which has arbitrary type  $\tau$  whenever  $e$  has type 0, but add no evaluation rules for **any**. Do the value soundness and type preservation properties extend to this language? How does this language compare to the one in item 1.
3. An important semantic property of type systems is often summarized as “*well-typed programs cannot go wrong*.” The meaning of ill-typed expressions such as **fst**  $z$  would be defined as a distinguished semantic value *wrong* (in contrast to intuitively non-terminating expressions such as **fix**  $x$ .  $x$ ) and it is then shown that no well-typed expression has meaning *wrong*. A related phrase is that in statically typed languages “*no type-errors can occur at runtime*.” Discuss how these properties might be expressed in the framework presented here and to what extent they are already reflected in the type preservation theorem.

**Exercise 2.10** In the language Standard ML [MTH90], occurrences of fixpoint expressions are syntactically restricted to the form **fix**  $x$ . **lam**  $y$ .  $e$ . This means that evaluation of a fixpoint expression always terminates in one step with the value **lam**  $y$ . [**fix**  $x$ . **lam**  $y$ .  $e/x$ ] $e$ .

It has occasionally been proposed to extend ML so that one can construct recursive values. For example,  $\omega = \mathbf{fix} \ x. \ \mathbf{s} \ x$  would represent a “circular value” **s** (**s** ...) which could not be printed finitely. The same value could also be defined, for example, as  $\omega' = \mathbf{fix} \ x. \ \mathbf{s} \ (\mathbf{s} \ x)$ .

In our language, the expressions  $\omega$  and  $\omega'$  are not values and, in fact, they do not even have a value. Intuitively, their evaluation does not terminate.

Define an alternative semantics for the Mini-ML language that permits recursive values. Modify the definition of values and the typing rules as necessary. Sketch the required changes to the statements and proofs of value soundness, type preservation, and uniqueness of values. Discuss the relative merits of the two languages.

**Exercise 2.11** Explore an alternative operational semantics in which expressions that are known to be values (since they have been evaluated) are not evaluated again. State and prove in which way the new semantics is equivalent to the one given in Section 2.3.

**Hint:** It may be necessary to extend the language of expressions or explicitly separate the language of values from the language of expressions.

**Exercise 2.12** Specify a call-by-name operational semantics for our language, where function application is given by

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e'_1 \quad [e_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app}$$

Furthermore, we would like constructors (successor and pairing) to be *lazy*, that is, they should not evaluate their arguments. Consider if it still makes sense to have **let val** and **let name** and what their respective rules should be. Modify the affected inference rules, the definition of a value, and the proof that evaluation returns a value.

**Exercise 2.13** Prove that  $v$  *Value* is derivable if and only if  $v \hookrightarrow v$  is derivable. That is, values are exactly those expressions which evaluate to themselves.

**Exercise 2.14** A *replacement lemma* is necessary in some formulations of the type preservation theorem. It states:

If, for any type  $\tau'$ ,  $\triangleright e'_1 : \tau'$  implies  $\triangleright e'_2 : \tau'$ , then  $\triangleright [e'_1/x]e : \tau$  implies  $\triangleright [e'_2/x]e : \tau$ .

Prove this lemma. Be careful to generalize as necessary and clearly exhibit the structure of the induction used in your proof.

**Exercise 2.15** Complete the proof of Theorem 2.5 by giving the cases for **ev\_pair**, **ev\_fst**, and **ev\_snd**.

**Exercise 2.16** Prove Theorem 2.6.

**Exercise 2.17** (*Non-Determinism*) Consider a non-deterministic extension of Mini-ML with two new expression constructors  $\circ$  and  $e_1 \oplus e_2$  with the evaluation rules

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1 \oplus e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_choice}_1 \qquad \frac{e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1 \oplus e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_choice}_2$$

Thus,  $\oplus$  signifies non-deterministic choice, while  $\circ$  means failure (choice between zero alternatives).



1. Modify the type system and extend the proofs of value soundness and type preservation.
2. Write an expression that may evaluate to an arbitrary natural number.
3. Write an expression that may evaluate precisely to the numbers that are not prime.
4. Write an expression that may evaluate precisely to the prime numbers.

**Exercise 2.18** (*General Pattern Matching*) Patterns for Mini-ML can be defined by

$$\text{Patterns } p ::= x \mid \mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s} \, p \mid \langle p_1, p_2 \rangle.$$

Devise a version of Mini-ML where **case** (for natural numbers), **fst**, and **snd** are replaced by a single form of **case**-expression with arbitrarily many branches. Each branch has the form  $p \Rightarrow e$ , where the variables in  $p$  are bound in  $e$ .

1. Define an operational semantics.
2. Define typing rules.
3. Prove type preservation and any lemmas you may need. Show only the critical cases in proofs that are very similar to the ones given in the notes.
4. Is your language deterministic? If not, devise a restriction which makes your language deterministic.
5. Does your operational semantics require equality on expressions of functional type? If yes, devise a restriction that requires equality only on *observable types*—in this case (inductively) natural numbers and products of observable type.

**Exercise 2.19** Prove that the expressions **let val**  $x = e_1$  **in**  $e_2$  and **(lam**  $x. e_2)$   $e_1$  are equivalent in sense that

1. for any context  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{let\,val} \, x = e_1 \, \mathbf{in} \, e_2 : \tau$  iff  $\Gamma \triangleright (\mathbf{lam} \, x. e_2) \, e_1 : \tau$ , and
2.  $\mathbf{let\,val} \, x = e_1 \, \mathbf{in} \, e_2 \hookrightarrow v$  iff  $(\mathbf{lam} \, x. e_2) \, e_1 \hookrightarrow v$ .

Is this sufficient to guarantee that if we replace one expression by the other somewhere in a larger program, the value of the whole program does not change?

**Exercise 2.20** Carefully define a notion of *subexpression* for Mini-ML and prove that if  $\Gamma \triangleright e : \tau$  then every subexpression  $e'$  of  $e$  is also well-typed in an appropriate context.

**Exercise 2.21** (*Milner-Mycroft Typing Rules*)

[ *An exercise about mutual recursion and the Milner-Mycroft rules.* ]

**Exercise 2.22** (*Polymorphism*)

[ *An exercise about prefix polymorphism in the style of ML.* ]

**Exercise 2.23** [ *An exercise about catch and throw.* ]

## Chapter 3

# Formalization in a Logical Framework

We can look at the current field of problem solving by computers as a series of ideas about how to present a problem. If a problem can be cast into one of these representations in a natural way, then it is possible to manipulate it and stand some chance of solving it.

— Allen Newell,

*Limitations of the Current Stock of Ideas for Problem Solving* [New65]

In the previous chapter we have seen a typical application of deductive systems to specify and prove properties of programming languages. In this chapter we present techniques for the formalization of the languages and deductive systems involved. In the next chapter we show how these formalization techniques can lead to implementations.

The logical framework we use in these notes is called LF and sometimes ELF (for Edinburgh Logical Framework).<sup>1</sup> LF was introduced by Harper, Honsell, and Plotkin [HHP93]. It has its roots in similar languages used in the project Automath [dB80]. LF has been explicitly designed as a meta-language for high-level specification of languages in logic and computer science and thus provides natural support for many of the techniques we have seen in the preceding chapter. For example, it can capture the convention that expressions which differ only in the names of bound variables are identified. Similarly, it allows direct expression of contexts and variable lookup as they arise in the typing judgment. The fact that these techniques are directly supported by the logical framework is not just a matter of engineering an implementation of the deductive systems in question, but it will

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<sup>1</sup>This is not to be confused with Elf, which is the programming language based on the LF logical framework we introduce in Chapter 4.

be a crucial factor for the succinct implementation of proofs of meta-theorems such as type preservation.

By codifying formalization techniques into a meta-language, a logical framework also provides insight into principles of language presentation. Just as it is interesting to know if a mathematical proof depends on the axiom of choice or the law of excluded middle, a logical framework can be used to gauge the properties of the systems we are investigating.

The formalization task ahead of us consists of three common stages. The first stage is the representation of *abstract syntax* of the object language under investigation. For example, we need to specify the languages of expressions and types of Mini-ML. The second stage is the representation of the language *semantics*. This includes the static semantics (for example, the notion of value and the type system) and the dynamic semantics (for example, the operational semantics). The third stage is the representation of *meta-theory* of the language (for example, the proof of type preservation). Each of these uses its own set of techniques, some of which are explained in this chapter using the example of Mini-ML from the preceding chapter.

In the remainder of this chapter we introduce the framework in stages, always motivating new features using our example. The final summary of the system is given in Section 3.8 at the end of this chapter.

### 3.1 The Simply-Typed Fragment of LF

For the representation of the abstract syntax of a language, the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus ( $\lambda^\rightarrow$ ) is usually adequate. When we tackle the task of representing inference rules, we will have to refine the type system by adding dependent types. The reader should bear in mind that  $\lambda^\rightarrow$  should *not* be considered as a functional programming language, but only as a representation language. In particular, the absence of recursion will be crucial in order to guarantee adequacy of representations. Our formulation of the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus has two levels: the level of *types* and the level of *objects*, where types classify objects. Furthermore, we have *signatures* which declare type and object constants, and *contexts* which assign types to variables. Unlike Mini-ML, the presentation is given in the style of Church: every object will have a unique type. This requires that types appear in the syntax of objects to resolve the inherent ambiguity of certain functions, for example, the identity function. We let  $a$  range over type constants,  $c$  over object constants,  $x$  over variables.

Types	$A$	$::=$	$a \mid A_1 \rightarrow A_2$
Objects	$M$	$::=$	$c \mid x \mid \lambda x:A. M \mid M_1 M_2$
Signatures	$\Sigma$	$::=$	$\cdot \mid \Sigma, a:\text{type} \mid \Sigma, c:A$
Contexts	$\Gamma$	$::=$	$\cdot \mid \Gamma, x:A$

We make the general restriction that constants and variables can occur at most once in a signature or context, respectively. We will write  $\Sigma(c) = A$  if  $c:A$  occurs in  $\Sigma$  and  $\Sigma(a) = \text{type}$  if  $a:\text{type}$  occurs in  $\Sigma$ . Similarly  $\Gamma(x) = A$  if  $x:A$  occurs in  $\Gamma$ . We will use  $A$  and  $B$  to range over types, and  $M$  and  $N$  to range over objects. We refer to type constants  $a$  as *atomic types* and types of the form  $A \rightarrow B$  as *function types*.

The judgments defining  $\lambda^\rightarrow$  are

$$\begin{array}{ll} \vdash_\Sigma A : \text{type} & A \text{ is a valid type} \\ \Gamma \vdash_\Sigma M : A & M \text{ is a valid object of type } A \text{ in context } \Gamma \\ \vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig} & \Sigma \text{ is a valid signature} \\ \vdash_\Sigma \Gamma \text{ Ctx} & \Gamma \text{ is a valid context} \end{array}$$

They are defined via the following inference rules.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\Sigma(c) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma c : A} \text{con} \qquad \frac{\Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma x : A} \text{var} \\[10pt] \frac{\vdash_\Sigma A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_\Sigma M : B}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma \lambda x:A. M : A \rightarrow B} \text{lam} \\[10pt] \frac{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma M : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash_\Sigma N : A}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma M N : B} \text{app} \\[20pt] \frac{\Sigma(a) = \text{type}}{\vdash_\Sigma a : \text{type}} \text{tcon} \qquad \frac{\vdash_\Sigma A : \text{type} \quad \vdash_\Sigma B : \text{type}}{\vdash_\Sigma A \rightarrow B : \text{type}} \text{arrow} \\[20pt] \frac{}{\vdash \cdot \text{Sig}} \text{esig} \qquad \frac{\vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig}}{\vdash \Sigma, a:\text{type} \text{ Sig}} \text{tconsig} \\[10pt] \frac{\vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig} \quad \vdash_\Sigma A : \text{type}}{\vdash \Sigma, c:A \text{ Sig}} \text{consig} \\[20pt] \frac{}{\vdash_\Sigma \cdot \text{Ctx}} \text{ectx} \qquad \frac{\vdash_\Sigma \Gamma \text{ Ctx} \quad \vdash_\Sigma A : \text{type}}{\vdash_\Sigma \Gamma, x:A \text{ Ctx}} \text{varctx} \end{array}$$

The rules for valid objects are somewhat non-standard in that they contain no check whether the signature  $\Sigma$  or the context  $\Gamma$  are valid. These are often added to the base cases, that is, the cases for variables and constants. We can separate the validity of signatures, since the signature  $\Sigma$  does not change in the rules for valid types and objects. Furthermore, the rules guarantee that if we have a derivation  $\mathcal{D} :: \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A$  and  $\Gamma$  is valid, then every context appearing in  $\mathcal{D}$  is also valid. This is because the type  $A$  in the *lam* rule is checked for validity as it is added to the context. For an alternative formulation see Exercise 3.1.

Our formulation of the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus above is parameterized by a signature in which new constants can be declared; only variables,  $\lambda$ -abstraction, and application are built into the language itself. In contrast, our formulation of Mini-ML has only a fixed set of constants and constructors. So far, we have left the dynamic semantics of  $\lambda^{\rightarrow}$  unspecified. We later consider *canonical forms* as an analogue to Mini-ML values and conversion to canonical form as an analogue to evaluation. However, every well-typed  $\lambda^{\rightarrow}$  object has a canonical form, while not every well-typed Mini-ML expression evaluates to a value. Moreover, we will start with a notion of *definitional equality* rather than an operational semantics. These differences illustrate that the similarity between Mini-ML as a programming language and  $\lambda^{\rightarrow}$  as a representation language are rather superficial.

The notion of *definitional equality* for objects in  $\lambda^{\rightarrow}$ , written as  $M \equiv N$ , can be based on three conversions. The first is  $\alpha$ -conversion: two objects are considered identical if they differ only in the names of their bound variables. The second is  $\beta$ -conversion:  $(\lambda x:A. M) N \equiv [N/x]M$ . It employs substitution  $[N/x]M$  which renames bound variables to avoid variable capture. The third is derived from an extensionality principle. Roughly, two objects of functional type should be equal if applying them to equal arguments yields equal results. This can be incorporated by the rule of  $\eta$ -conversion:  $(\lambda x:A. M x) \equiv M$  provided  $x$  does not occur free in  $M$ . The conversion rules can be applied to any subobject of an object  $M$  to obtain an object  $M'$  that is definitionally equal to  $M$ . Furthermore the relation of definitional equality is assumed to be an equivalence relation. We define the conversion judgment more formally in Section 3.8, once we have seen which role it plays in the logical framework.

## 3.2 Higher-Order Abstract Syntax

The first task in the formalization of a language in a logical framework is the representation of its expressions. We base the representation on abstract (rather than concrete) syntax in order to expose the essential structure of the object language so we can concentrate on semantics and meta-theory, rather than details of lexical analysis and parsing. The representation technique we use is called *higher-order abstract syntax*. It is supported by the simply-typed fragment  $\lambda^{\rightarrow}$  of the logical framework

LF. The idea of higher-order abstract syntax goes back to Church [Chu40] and has since been employed in a number of different contexts and guises. Church observed that once  $\lambda$ -notation is introduced into a language, all constructs that bind variables can be reduced to  $\lambda$ -abstraction. If we apply this principle in a setting where we distinguish a meta-language (the logical framework) from an object language (Mini-ML, in this example) then variables in the object language are represented by variables in the meta-language. Variables bound in the object language (by constructs such as **case**, **lam**, **let**, and **fix**) will be bound by  $\lambda$  in the meta-language. This has numerous advantages and a few disadvantages over the more immediate technique of representing variables by strings; some of the trade-offs are discussed in Section 3.10.

In the development below it is important not to confuse the typing of Mini-ML expressions with the type system employed by the logical framework, even though some overloading of notation is unavoidable. For example, “:” is used in both systems. For each (abstract) syntactic category of the object language we introduce a new type constant in the meta-language via a declaration of the form  $a:\text{type}$ . Thus, in order to represent Mini-ML expressions we declare a type `exp` in the meta-language LF.<sup>2</sup>

`exp` : type

We intend that every LF object  $M$  of type `exp` represents a Mini-ML expression and *vice versa*. The Mini-ML constant **z** is now represented by an LF constant `z` declared in the meta-language to be of type `exp`.

`z` : exp

The successor **s** is an expression constructor. It is represented by a constant of functional type that maps expressions to expressions so that, for example, `s z` has type `exp`.

`s` : exp  $\rightarrow$  exp

We now introduce the function  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  which maps Mini-ML expressions to their representation in the logical framework. Later we will use  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  generically for representation functions. So far we have

$$\begin{aligned}\ulcorner \mathbf{z} \urcorner &= z \\ \ulcorner \mathbf{s} \ e \urcorner &= s \ \ulcorner e \urcorner.\end{aligned}$$

We would like to achieve that  $\ulcorner e \urcorner$  has type `exp` in LF, given appropriate declarations for constants representing Mini-ML expression constructors. The constructs that do not introduce bound variables can be treated in a straightforward manner.

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<sup>2</sup>Since the representation techniques do not change when we generalize from the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus to LF, we refer to the meta-language as LF throughout.

$$\begin{array}{llll}
\lceil \mathbf{z} \rceil & = & \mathbf{z} & \mathbf{z} : \text{exp} \\
\lceil \mathbf{s} \ e \rceil & = & \mathbf{s} \ \lceil e \rceil & \mathbf{s} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \\
\lceil \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \rceil & = & \text{pair} \ \lceil e_1 \rceil \ \lceil e_2 \rceil & \text{pair} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \\
\lceil \mathbf{fst} \ e \rceil & = & \mathbf{fst} \ \lceil e \rceil & \mathbf{fst} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \\
\lceil \mathbf{snd} \ e \rceil & = & \mathbf{snd} \ \lceil e \rceil & \mathbf{snd} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \\
\lceil e_1 \ e_2 \rceil & = & \text{app} \ \lceil e_1 \rceil \ \lceil e_2 \rceil & \text{app} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}
\end{array}$$

Traditionally, one might now represent **lam**  $x. e$  by  $\text{lam} \ \lceil x \rceil \ \lceil e \rceil$ , where  $\lceil x \rceil$  may be a string or have some abstract type of identifier. This approach leads to a relatively low-level representation, since renaming of bound variables, capture-avoiding substitution, *etc.* as given in Section 2.2 now need to be axiomatized explicitly. Using higher-order abstract syntax means that variables of the object language (the language for which we are designing a representation) are represented by variables in the meta-language (the logical framework). Variables bound in the object language must then be bound correspondingly in the meta-language. As a first and immediate benefit, expressions which differ only in the names of their bound variables will be  $\alpha$ -convertible in the meta-language. This leads to the representation

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\lceil x \rceil & = \ x \\
\lceil \mathbf{lam} \ x. e \rceil & = \ \text{lam} \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ \lceil e \rceil) \quad \text{lam} : (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp}.
\end{array}$$

Recall that LF requires explicit types wherever variables are bound by  $\lambda$ , and free variables must be assigned a type in a context. Note also that the two occurrences of  $x$  in the first line above represent two variables with the same name in different languages, Mini-ML and LF.<sup>3</sup> The four remaining Mini-ML constructs, **case**, **let val**, **let name**, and **fix**, also introduce binding operators. Their representation follows the scheme for **lam**, taking care that variables bound in Mini-ML are also bound at the meta-level and have proper scope. For example, the representation of **let val**  $x = e_1$  **in**  $e_2$  reflects that  $x$  is bound in  $e_2$  but not in  $e_1$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\lceil \mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3 \rceil & = \ \text{case} \ \lceil e_1 \rceil \ \lceil e_2 \rceil \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ \lceil e_3 \rceil) \\
\lceil \mathbf{let val} \ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2 \rceil & = \ \text{letv} \ \lceil e_1 \rceil \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ \lceil e_2 \rceil) \\
\lceil \mathbf{let name} \ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2 \rceil & = \ \text{letn} \ \lceil e_1 \rceil \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ \lceil e_2 \rceil) \\
\lceil \mathbf{fix} \ x. e \rceil & = \ \text{fix} \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ \lceil e \rceil)
\end{array}$$

Hence we have

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\text{case} & : \ \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp} \\
\text{letv} & : \ \text{exp} \rightarrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp} \\
\text{letn} & : \ \text{exp} \rightarrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp} \\
\text{fix} & : \ (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp}.
\end{array}$$

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<sup>3</sup>One can allow renaming in the translation, but it complicates the presentation unnecessarily.



As an example, consider the program *double* from page 16.

$$\begin{aligned} & \ulcorner \mathbf{fix} \ f. \mathbf{lam} \ x. \mathbf{case} \ x \mathbf{ of} \ z \Rightarrow z \mid s \ x' \Rightarrow s \ (s \ (f \ x')) \urcorner \\ & = \mathbf{fix} \ (\lambda f:\mathbf{exp}. \mathbf{lam} \ (\lambda x:\mathbf{exp}. \mathbf{case} \ x \ z \ (\lambda x':\mathbf{exp}. s \ (s \ (\mathbf{app} \ f \ x'))))) \end{aligned}$$

One can easily see that the object on the right-hand side is valid and has type  $\mathbf{exp}$ , given the constant declarations above.

The next step will be to formulate (and later prove) what this representation accomplishes, namely that every expression has a representation, and every LF object of type  $\mathbf{exp}$  constructed with constants from the signature above represents an expression. In practice we want a stronger property, namely that the representation function is a *compositional bijection*, something we will return to later in this chapter in Section 3.3.

Recall that  $\vdash_E$  is the typing judgment of LF. We fix the signature  $E$  to contain all declarations above starting with  $\mathbf{exp}:\mathbf{type}$  through  $\mathbf{fix}:(\mathbf{exp} \rightarrow \mathbf{exp}) \rightarrow \mathbf{exp}$ . At first it might appear that we should be able to prove:

1. For any Mini-ML expression  $e$ ,  $\vdash_E \ulcorner e \urcorner : \mathbf{exp}$ .
2. For any LF object  $M$  such that  $\vdash_E M : \mathbf{exp}$ , there is a Mini-ML expression  $e$  such that  $\ulcorner e \urcorner = M$ .

As stated, neither of these two propositions is true. The first one fails due to the presence of free variables in  $e$  and therefore in  $\ulcorner e \urcorner$  (recall that object-language variables are represented as meta-language variables). The second property fails because there are many objects  $M$  of type  $\mathbf{exp}$  which are not in the image of  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$ . Consider, for example,  $((\lambda x:\mathbf{exp}. x) z)$  for which it is easy to show that

$$\vdash_E (\lambda x:\mathbf{exp}. x) z : \mathbf{exp}.$$

Examining the representation function reveals that the resulting LF objects contain no  $\beta$ -redices, that is, no objects of the form  $(\lambda x:A. M) N$ .

A more precise analysis later yields the related notion of *canonical form*. Taking into account free variables and restricting ourselves to canonical forms (yet to be defined), we can reformulate the proposition expressing the correctness of the representation.

1. Let  $e$  be a Mini-ML expression with free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Then  $x_1:\mathbf{exp}, \dots, x_n:\mathbf{exp} \vdash_E \ulcorner e \urcorner : \mathbf{exp}$ , and  $\ulcorner e \urcorner$  is in canonical form.
2. For any canonical form  $M$  such that  $x_1:\mathbf{exp}, \dots, x_n:\mathbf{exp} \vdash_E M : \mathbf{exp}$  there is a Mini-ML expression  $e$  with free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  such that  $\ulcorner e \urcorner = M$ .

It is a deep property of LF that every valid object is definitionally equal to a unique canonical form. Thus, if we want to answer the question which Mini-ML expression is represented by a non-canonical object  $M$  of type  $\text{exp}$ , we convert it to canonical form  $M'$  and determine the expression  $e$  represented directly by  $M'$ .

The definition of canonical form is based on two observations regarding the inversion of representation functions,  $\lceil \cdot \rceil$  in the example. The first is that if we are considering an LF object  $M$  of type  $\text{exp}$  we can read off the top-level constructor (the alternative in the definition of Mini-ML expressions) if the term has the form  $c M_1 \dots M_n$ , where  $c$  is one of the LF constants in the signature defining Mini-ML expressions. For example, if  $M$  has the form  $(s M_1)$  we know that  $M$  represents an expression of the form  $s e_1$ , where  $M_1$  is the representation of  $e_1$ .

The second observation is less obvious. Let us consider an LF object of type  $\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$ . Such objects arise in the representation, for example, in the second argument to  $\text{letv}$ , which has type  $\text{exp} \rightarrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp}$ . For example,

$$\lceil \text{let val } x = s \text{ z in } \langle x, x \rangle \rceil = \text{letv } (s \text{ z}) (\lambda x:\text{exp. pair } x \text{ } x).$$

The argument  $(\lambda x:\text{exp. pair } x \text{ } x)$  represents the body of the **let**-expression, abstracted over the **let**-bound variable  $x$ . Since we model the scope of a bound variable in the object language by the scope of a corresponding  $\lambda$ -abstraction in the meta-language, we always expect an object of type  $\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$  to be a  $\lambda$ -abstraction. As a counterexample consider the object

$$\text{letv } (\text{pair } (s \text{ z}) \text{ z}) \text{ fst}$$

which is certainly well-typed in LF and has type  $\text{exp}$ , since  $\text{fst} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$ . This object is not the image of any expression  $e$  under the representation function  $\lceil \cdot \rceil$ . However, there is an  $\eta$ -equivalent object, namely

$$\text{letv } (\text{pair } (s \text{ z}) \text{ z}) (\lambda x:\text{exp. fst } x)$$

which represents **let val**  $x = \langle s \text{ z}, z \rangle$  **in** **fst**  $x$ .

We can summarize these two observations as the following statement constraining our definition of canonical forms.

1. A canonical object of type  $\text{exp}$  should either be a variable or have the form  $c M_1 \dots M_n$ , where  $M_1, \dots, M_n$  are again canonical; and
2. a canonical object of type  $\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$  should have the form  $\lambda x:\text{exp. } M_1$ , where  $M_1$  is again canonical.

Returning to an earlier counterexample,  $((\lambda x:\text{exp. } x) \text{ z})$ , we notice that it is not canonical, since it is of atomic type  $(\text{exp})$ , but does not have the form of a constant applied to some arguments. In this case, there is a  $\beta$ -equivalent object which is

canonical form, namely  $z$ . In general each valid object has a  $\beta\eta$ -equivalent object in canonical form, but this is a rather deep theorem about LF.

For the representation of more complicated languages, we have to generalize the observations above and allow an arbitrary number of type constants (rather than just  $\text{exp}$ ) and allow arguments to variables. We write the general judgment as

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow A \quad M \text{ is canonical of type } A.$$

This judgment is defined by the following inference rules. Recall that  $a$  stands for constants at the level of types.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda x:A. M \uparrow A \rightarrow B} \text{carrow} \\[10pt] \frac{\Sigma(c) = A_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow A_n \rightarrow a \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M_1 \uparrow A_1 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M_n \uparrow A_n}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} c M_1 \dots M_n \uparrow a} \text{conapp} \\[10pt] \frac{\Gamma(x) = A_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow A_n \rightarrow a \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M_1 \uparrow A_1 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M_n \uparrow A_n}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} x M_1 \dots M_n \uparrow a} \text{varapp} \end{array}$$

This judgment singles out certain valid objects, as the following theorem shows.

**Theorem 3.1** (Validity of Canonical Objects) *Let  $\Sigma$  be a valid signature and  $\Gamma$  a context valid in  $\Sigma$ . If  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A$ .*

**Proof:** See Exercise 3.2 and Section 3.9. □

The simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus we have introduced so far has some important properties. In particular, type-checking is decidable, that is, it is decidable if a given object is valid. It is also decidable if a given object is in canonical form, and every well-typed object can effectively be converted to a unique canonical form. Further discussion and proof of these and other properties can be found in Section 8.2.

### 3.3 Representing Mini-ML Expressions

In order to obtain a better understanding of the representation techniques, it is worthwhile to state in full detail and carry out the proofs that the representation of Mini-ML introduced in this chapter is correct. First, we summarize the representation function and the signature  $E$  defining the abstract syntax of Mini-ML.

$$\begin{aligned}
\lceil z \rceil &= z \\
\lceil s \ e \rceil &= s \ \lceil e \rceil \\
\lceil \text{case } e_1 \text{ of } z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3 \rceil &= \text{case } \lceil e_1 \rceil \ \lceil e_2 \rceil \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e_3 \rceil) \\
\lceil \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \rceil &= \text{pair } \lceil e_1 \rceil \ \lceil e_2 \rceil \\
\lceil \text{fst } e \rceil &= \text{fst } \lceil e \rceil \\
\lceil \text{snd } e \rceil &= \text{snd } \lceil e \rceil \\
\lceil \text{lam } x. e \rceil &= \text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil) \\
\lceil e_1 \ e_2 \rceil &= \text{app } \lceil e_1 \rceil \ \lceil e_2 \rceil \\
\lceil \text{let val } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \rceil &= \text{letv } \lceil e_1 \rceil \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e_2 \rceil) \\
\lceil \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \rceil &= \text{letn } \lceil e_1 \rceil \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e_2 \rceil) \\
\lceil \text{fix } x. e \rceil &= \text{fix } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil) \\
\lceil x \rceil &= x
\end{aligned}$$

$\text{exp} \quad :$  type  
 $z \quad :$  exp  
 $s \quad :$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{case} \quad :$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  $\rightarrow$  (exp  $\rightarrow$  exp)  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{pair} \quad :$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{fst} \quad :$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{snd} \quad :$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{lam} \quad :$  (exp  $\rightarrow$  exp)  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{app} \quad :$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{let} \quad :$  exp  $\rightarrow$  (exp  $\rightarrow$  exp)  $\rightarrow$  exp  
 $\text{fix} \quad :$  (exp  $\rightarrow$  exp)  $\rightarrow$  exp

**Lemma 3.2** (Validity of Representation) *For any context  $\Gamma = x_1:\text{exp}, \dots, x_n:\text{exp}$  and Mini-ML expression  $e$  with free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,*

$$\Gamma \vdash_E \lceil e \rceil \uparrow \text{exp}$$

**Proof:** The proof is a simple induction on the structure of  $e$ . We show three representative cases—the others follow similarly.

**Case:**  $e = z$ . Then  $\lceil z \rceil = z$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_E z \uparrow \text{exp}$ .

**Case:**  $e = e_1 \ e_2$ . Then  $\lceil e \rceil = \text{app } \lceil e_1 \rceil \ \lceil e_2 \rceil$ . By induction hypothesis there are derivations

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}_1 &:: \Gamma \vdash_E \lceil e_1 \rceil \uparrow \text{exp}, \text{ and} \\
\mathcal{D}_2 &:: \Gamma \vdash_E \lceil e_2 \rceil \uparrow \text{exp}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $E(\text{app}) = \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$  we can apply rule **conapp** from the definition of canonical forms to  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2$  to conclude that

$$\Gamma \vdash_E \text{app} \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner \Uparrow \text{exp}$$

is derivable.

**Case:**  $e = (\text{let val } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2)$ . Then  $\ulcorner e \urcorner = \text{let } \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner (\lambda x:\text{exp. } \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner)$ . Note that if  $e$  has free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , then  $e_2$  has free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n, x$ . Hence, by induction hypothesis, we have derivations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_1 &:: \Gamma \vdash_E \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \Uparrow \text{exp, and} \\ \mathcal{D}_2 &:: \Gamma, x:\text{exp} \vdash_E \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner \Uparrow \text{exp.} \end{aligned}$$

Applying rule **carrow** yields the derivation

$$\frac{\frac{E(\text{exp}) = \text{type}}{\vdash_E \text{exp} : \text{type}} \text{con} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{\Gamma, x:\text{exp} \vdash_E \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner \Uparrow \text{exp}}}{\Gamma \vdash_E \lambda x:\text{exp. } \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner \Uparrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}} \text{carrow}$$

Using this derivation,  $E(\text{let}) = \text{exp} \rightarrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp}$ , derivation  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and rule **conapp** yields a derivation of

$$\Gamma \vdash_E \text{let } \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner (\lambda x:\text{exp. } \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner) \Uparrow \text{exp,}$$

which is what we needed to show. □

Next we define the inverse of the representation function,  $\llcorner \cdot \lrcorner$ . We need to keep in mind that it only needs to be defined on canonical forms of type **exp**.

$$\begin{aligned} \llcorner \mathbf{z} \lrcorner &= \mathbf{z} \\ \llcorner \mathbf{s} \ M \lrcorner &= \mathbf{s} \ \llcorner M \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{case } M_1 \ M_2 \ (\lambda x:\text{exp. } M_3) \lrcorner &= \mathbf{case} \ \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow \llcorner M_3 \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{pair } M_1 \ M_2 \lrcorner &= \langle \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner, \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner \rangle \\ \llcorner \text{fst } M \lrcorner &= \mathbf{fst} \ \llcorner M \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{snd } M \lrcorner &= \mathbf{snd} \ \llcorner M \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } M) \lrcorner &= \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ \llcorner M \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{app } M_1 \ M_2 \lrcorner &= \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \ \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{letv } M_1 \ (\lambda x:\text{exp. } M_2) \lrcorner &= \mathbf{let val} \ x = \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \ \mathbf{in} \ \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{letn } M_1 \ (\lambda x:\text{exp. } M_2) \lrcorner &= \mathbf{let name} \ x = \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \ \mathbf{in} \ \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner \\ \llcorner \text{fix } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } M) \lrcorner &= \mathbf{fix} \ x. \ \llcorner M \lrcorner \\ \llcorner x \lrcorner &= x \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 3.3** *For any  $\Gamma = x_1:\text{exp}, \dots, x_n:\text{exp}$  and  $M$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash_E M \uparrow \text{exp}$ ,  $\llcorner M \lrcorner$  is defined and yields a Mini-ML expression such that  $\lceil \llcorner M \lrcorner \rceil = M$ .*

**Proof:** The proof is by induction on the structure of the derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $\Gamma \vdash_E M \uparrow \text{exp}$ . Note that  $\mathcal{D}$  cannot end with an application of the **carrow** rule, since **exp** is atomic.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in **varapp**. From the form of  $\Gamma$  we know that  $x = x_i$  for some  $i$  and  $x$  has no arguments. Hence  $\llcorner M \lrcorner = \llcorner x \lrcorner = x$  is defined.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in **conapp**. Then  $c$  must be one of the constants in  $E$ . We now further distinguish subcases, depending on  $c$ . We only show three subcases; the others follow similarly.

Subcase:  $c = \mathbf{z}$ . Then  $c$  has no arguments and  $\llcorner M \lrcorner = \llcorner \mathbf{z} \lrcorner = \mathbf{z}$ , which is a Mini-ML expression. Furthermore,  $\lceil \mathbf{z} \rceil = \mathbf{z}$ .

Subcase:  $c = \text{app}$ . Then  $c$  has two arguments,  $\llcorner M \lrcorner = \llcorner \text{app } M_1 \ M_2 \lrcorner = \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner$ , and, suppressing the premiss  $E(\text{app}) = \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  has the form

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{\Gamma \vdash_E M_1 \uparrow \text{exp}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{\Gamma \vdash_E M_2 \uparrow \text{exp}}}{\Gamma \vdash_E \text{app } M_1 \ M_2 \uparrow \text{exp}} \text{conapp}$$

By the induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2$ ,  $\llcorner M_1 \lrcorner$  and  $\llcorner M_2 \lrcorner$  are defined and therefore  $\llcorner M \lrcorner = \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner$  is also defined. Furthermore,  $\lceil \llcorner M \lrcorner \rceil = \lceil \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner \rceil = \text{app } \lceil \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \rceil \lceil \llcorner M_2 \lrcorner \rceil = \text{app } M_1 \ M_2$ , where the last equality follows by the induction hypothesis on  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ .

Subcase:  $c = \text{letv}$ . Then  $c$  has two arguments and, suppressing the premiss  $E(\text{letv}) = \text{exp} \rightarrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  has the form

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{\Gamma \vdash_E M_1 \uparrow \text{exp}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{\Gamma \vdash_E M_2 \uparrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}}}{\Gamma \vdash_E \text{letv } M_1 \ M_2 \uparrow \text{exp}} \text{conapp}$$

There is only one inference rule which could have been used as the last inference in  $\mathcal{D}_2$ , namely **carrow**. Hence, by inversion,  $\mathcal{D}_2$  must have the form

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}'_2}{\Gamma, x:\text{exp} \vdash_E M'_2 \uparrow \text{exp}}}{\Gamma \vdash_E \lambda x:\text{exp}. M'_2 \uparrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp})} \text{carrow}$$

where  $M_2 = \lambda x:\text{exp}. M'_2$ . Then

$$\llcorner M \lrcorner = \llcorner \text{letv } M_1 \ (\lambda x:\text{exp}. M'_2) \lrcorner = (\text{let val } x = \llcorner M_1 \lrcorner \text{ in } \llcorner M'_2 \lrcorner)$$

which is a Mini-ML expression by induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{D}'_2$ .  
We reason as in the previous cases that here, too,  $\lceil \lfloor M \rfloor \rceil = M$ .

□

**Lemma 3.4** *For any Mini-ML expression  $e$ ,  $\lfloor \lceil e \rceil \rfloor = e$ .*

**Proof:** The proof is a simple induction over the structure of  $e$  (see Exercise 3.3).  
□

The final lemma of this section is the substitution lemma, which connects meta-level substitution and object-level substitution. We only state this lemma for substitution of a single variable, but other, more general variants are possible. This lemma gives a formal expression to the statement that the representation function is *compositional*, that is, the representation of a compound expression is constructed from the representations of its immediate constituents. Note that in the statement of the lemma, the substitution on the left-hand side of the equation is substitution in the Mini-ML language as defined in Section 2.2, while on the right-hand side we have substitution at the level of the framework.

**Lemma 3.5** (Substitution Lemma)  $\lceil [e_1/x]e_2 \rceil = [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] \lceil e_2 \rceil$ .

**Proof:** The proof is by induction on the structure of  $e_2$ . We show three cases—the remaining ones follow the same pattern.

**Case:**  $e_2 = x$ . Then

$$\lceil [e_1/x]e_2 \rceil = \lceil [e_1/x]x \rceil = \lceil e_1 \rceil = [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x]x = [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] \lceil e_2 \rceil.$$

**Case:**  $e_2 = y$  and  $y \neq x$ . Then

$$\lceil [e_1/x]e_2 \rceil = \lceil [e_1/x]y \rceil = y = [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x]y = [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] \lceil e_2 \rceil.$$

**Case:**  $e_2 = (\text{let val } y = e'_2 \text{ in } e''_2)$ , where  $y \neq x$  and  $y$  is not free in  $e_1$ . Note that this condition can always be achieved via renaming of the bound variable  $y$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lceil [e_1/x]e_2 \rceil \\ &= \lceil [e_1/x](\text{let val } y = e'_2 \text{ in } e''_2) \rceil \\ &= \lceil \text{let val } y = [e_1/x]e'_2 \text{ in } [e_1/x]e''_2 \rceil \\ &= \text{letv } \lceil [e_1/x]e'_2 \rceil (\lambda y:\text{exp. } \lceil [e_1/x]e''_2 \rceil) \\ &= \text{letv } ([\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] \lceil e'_2 \rceil) (\lambda y:\text{exp. } [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] \lceil e''_2 \rceil) \quad \text{by induction hypothesis} \\ &= [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] (\text{letv } \lceil e'_2 \rceil (\lambda y:\text{exp. } \lceil e''_2 \rceil)) \\ &= [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] \lceil \text{let val } y = e'_2 \text{ in } e''_2 \rceil \\ &= [\lceil e_1 \rceil / x] \lceil e_2 \rceil. \end{aligned}$$

□

We usually summarize Lemmas 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, and 3.5 into a single *adequacy theorem*, whose proof is immediate from the preceding lemmas.

**Theorem 3.6** (Adequacy) *There is a compositional bijection  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  between Mini-ML expressions with free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and (canonical) LF objects  $M$  such that*

$$x_1:\text{exp}, \dots, x_n:\text{exp} \vdash_E M \uparrow \text{exp}$$

*is derivable. The bijection is compositional in the sense that*

$$\ulcorner [e_1/x]e_2 \urcorner = \ulcorner [e_1 \urcorner / x] \urcorner e_2 \urcorner.$$

### 3.4 Judgments as Types

So far, we have only discussed the representation of the abstract syntax of a language, taking advantage of the expressive power of the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus. The next step will be the representation of deductions. The general approach is to represent deductions as objects and judgments as types. For example, given closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$  and a deduction

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D} \\ e \hookrightarrow v \end{array}$$

we would like to establish that

$$\vdash_{EV} \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \uparrow \ulcorner e \hookrightarrow v \urcorner,$$

where  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  is again a representation function and  $EV$  is an LF signature from which the constants in  $\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner$  are drawn. That is, the representation of  $\mathcal{D}$  is a canonical object of type  $\ulcorner e \hookrightarrow v \urcorner$ . The main difficulty will be achieving the converse, namely that if

$$\vdash_{EV} M \uparrow \ulcorner e \hookrightarrow v \urcorner$$

then there is a deduction  $\mathcal{D}$  such that  $\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner = M$ .

As a first approximation, assume we declare a type `eval` of evaluations, similar to the way we declared a type `exp` of Mini-ML expressions.

`eval` : type

An axiom would simply be represented as a constant of type `eval`. An inference rule can be viewed as a constructor which, given deductions of the premisses, yields a



deduction of the conclusion. For example, the rules

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z} \qquad \frac{e \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{s} \ e \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v} \text{ev\_s} \\
 \\
 \frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z} \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_z}
 \end{array}$$

would be represented by

```

ev_z      : eval
ev_s      : eval → eval
ev_case_z : eval → eval → eval.

```

One can easily see that this representation is not faithful: the declaration of a constant in the signature contains much less information than the statement of the inference rule. For example,

$$\vdash_{EV} \text{ev\_case\_z} (\text{ev\_s ev\_z}) \text{ev\_z} \uparrow \text{eval}$$

would be derivable, but the object above does not represent a valid evaluation. The problem is that the first premiss of the rule **ev\_case\_z** must be an evaluation yielding **z**, while the corresponding argument to **ev\_case\_z**, namely **(ev\_s ev\_z)**, represents an evaluation yielding **s z**.

One solution to this representation problem is to introduce a validity predicate and define when a given object of type `eval` represents a valid deduction. This is, for example, the solution one would take in a framework such as higher-order Horn clauses or hereditary Harrop formulas. This approach is discussed in a number of papers [MNPS91, NM90, Pau87, Wol91] and also is the basis for the logic programming language  $\lambda$ Prolog [NM88] and the theorem prover Isabelle [PN90]. Here we take a different approach in that we refine the type system instead in such a way that only the representation of valid deductions (evaluations, in this example) will be well-typed in the meta-language. This has a number of methodological advantages. Perhaps the most important is that checking the validity of a deduction is reduced to a type-checking problem in the logical framework. Since LF type-checking is decidable, this means that checking deductions of the object language is automatically decidable, once a suitable representation in LF has been chosen.

But how do we refine the type system so that the counterexample above is rejected as ill-typed? It is clear that we have to subdivide the type of all evaluations into an infinite number of subtypes: for any expression  $e$  and value  $v$  there should be a type of deductions of  $e \hookrightarrow v$ . Of course, many of these types should be empty. For example, there is no deduction of the judgment  $\mathbf{s} \ \mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}$ . These considerations lead to the view that `eval` is a *type family* indexed by representations of  $e$  and  $v$ .

Following our representation methodology, both of these will be LF objects of type `exp`. Thus we have *types*, such as `(eval z z)` which depend on *objects*, a situation which can easily lead to an undecidable type system. In the case of LF we can preserve decidability of type-checking (see Section 3.5). A first approximation to a revision of the representation for evaluations above would be

```
eval      : exp → exp → type
ev_z      : eval z z
ev_s      : eval E V → eval (s E) (s V)
ev_case_z : eval E1 z → eval E2 V → eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.
```

The declarations of `ev_s` and `ev_case_z` are schematic in the sense that they are intended to represent all instances with valid objects  $E$ ,  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ ,  $E_3$ , and  $V$  of appropriate type. With these declarations the object `(ev_case_z (ev_s ev_z) ev_z)` is no longer well-typed, since `(ev_s ev_z)` has type `eval (s z) (s z)`, while the first argument to `ev_case_z` should have type `eval E1 z` for some  $E_1$ .

Although it is not apparent in this example, allowing unrestricted schematic declarations would lead to an undecidable type-checking problem for LF, since it would require a form of higher-order unification. Instead we add  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ ,  $E_3$ , and  $V$  as explicit arguments to `ev_case_z`.<sup>4</sup> A simple function type (formed by  $\rightarrow$ ) is not expressive enough to capture the dependencies between the various arguments. For example,

```
ev_case_z : exp → exp → (exp → exp) → exp
           → eval E1 z → eval E2 V → eval (case E1 E2 E3) V
```

does not express that the first argument is supposed to be  $E_1$ , the second argument  $E_2$ , *etc.* Thus we must explicitly label the first four arguments: this is what the *dependent function type* constructor  $\Pi$  achieves. Using dependent function types we write

```
ev_case_z :  $\Pi E_1:\text{exp. } \Pi E_2:\text{exp. } \Pi E_3:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp. } \Pi V:\text{exp.}$ 
           eval E1 z → eval E2 V → eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.
```

Note that the right-hand side is now a closed type since  $\Pi$  binds the variable it quantifies. The function `ev_case_z` is now a function of six arguments.

Before continuing the representation, we need to extend the simply-typed framework as presented in Section 3.1 to account for the two new phenomena we have encountered: type families indexed by objects and dependent function types.

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<sup>4</sup>In practice this is often unnecessary and the Elf programming language allows schematic declarations in the form above and performs type reconstruction.

### 3.5 Adding Dependent Types to the Framework

We now introduce type families and dependent function types into the simply-typed fragment, although at this point not in the full generality of LF.

The first change deals with type families: it is now more complicated to check if a given type is well-formed, since types depend on objects. Moreover, we must be able to declare the type of the indices of type families. This leads to the introduction of *kinds*, which form another level in the definition of the framework calculus.

Kinds	$K$	$::=$	$\text{type} \mid A \rightarrow K$
Types	$A$	$::=$	$a \ M_1 \dots M_n \mid A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \mid \Pi x:A_1. A_2$
Objects	$M$	$::=$	$c \mid x \mid \lambda x:A. M \mid M_1 \ M_2$
Signatures	$\Sigma$	$::=$	$\cdot \mid \Sigma, a:K \mid \Sigma, c:A$
Contexts	$\Gamma$	$::=$	$\cdot \mid \Gamma, x:A$

Note that the level of objects has only changed insofar as the types occurring in  $\lambda$ -abstractions may now be more general. Indeed, all functions which can be expressed in this version of the framework could already be expressed in the simply-typed fragment. This highlights our motivation and intuition behind this extension: we *refine* the type system so that objects that do not represent deductions will be ill-typed. We are not interested in extending the language so that, for example, more functions would be representable.

Type families can be declared via  $a:K$  in signatures and instantiated to types as  $a \ M_1 \dots M_n$ . We refer to such types as *atomic types*, to types of the form  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$  as *simple function types*, and to types of the form  $\Pi x:A_1. A_2$  as *dependent function types*. We also need to extend the inference rules for valid types and objects. We now have the basic judgments

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad & A \text{ is a valid type} \\ \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A \quad & M \text{ is a valid object of type } A \end{aligned}$$

and auxiliary judgments

$$\begin{aligned} \vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig} \quad & \Sigma \text{ is a valid signature} \\ \vdash_{\Sigma} \Gamma \text{ Ctx} \quad & \Gamma \text{ is a valid context} \\ \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} K \text{ Kind} \quad & K \text{ is a valid kind} \\ M \equiv N \quad & M \text{ is definitionally equal to } N \\ A \equiv B \quad & A \text{ is definitionally equal to } B \end{aligned}$$

The judgments are now mutually dependent to a large degree. For example, in order to check that a type is valid, we have to check that the objects occurring in the indices of a type family are valid. The need for the convertibility judgments will be motivated below. Again, there are a variety of possibilities for defining these judgments. The one we give below is perhaps not the most convenient for the meta-theory of LF, but it reflects the process of type-checking fairly directly. We begin with the rules defining the valid types.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\Sigma(a) = A_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow A_n \rightarrow \text{type} \quad \Gamma \vdash_\Sigma M_1 : A_1 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma \vdash_\Sigma M_n : A_n}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma a M_1 \dots M_n : \text{type}} \text{atom} \\
 \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma \vdash_\Sigma B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma A \rightarrow B : \text{type}} \text{arrow} \\
 \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_\Sigma B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma \Pi x:A. B : \text{type}} \text{pi}
 \end{array}$$

The basic rules for valid objects are as before, except that we now have to allow for dependency. The typing rule for applying a function with a dependent type requires some thought. Recall, from the previous section,

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{ev\_case\_z} \quad : \quad \Pi E_1:\text{exp. } \Pi E_2:\text{exp. } \Pi E_3:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp. } \Pi V:\text{exp.} \\
 \quad \quad \quad \text{eval } E_1 \text{ z} \rightarrow \text{eval } E_2 V \rightarrow \text{eval (case } E_1 \text{ } E_2 \text{ } E_3) V.
 \end{array}$$

The  $\Pi$  construct was introduced to express the dependency between the first argument and the type of the fifth argument. This means, for example, that we would expect

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \vdash_{EV} \quad \text{ev\_case\_z z z } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } x) \text{ z} \\
 \quad \quad \quad : \text{eval z z} \rightarrow \text{eval z z} \rightarrow \text{eval (case z z } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } x)) \text{ z}
 \end{array}$$

to be derivable. We have instantiated  $E_1$  with  $z$ ,  $E_2$  with  $z$ ,  $E_3$  with  $(\lambda x:\text{exp. } x)$  and  $V$  with  $z$ . Thus the typing rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma M : \Pi x:A. B \quad \Gamma \vdash_\Sigma N : A}{\Gamma \vdash_\Sigma M N : [N/x]B} \text{app}$$

emerges. In this rule we can see that the *type* (and not just the value) of an application of a function  $M$  to an argument  $N$  may *depend* on  $N$ . This is the reason why  $\Pi x:A. B$  is called a *dependent function type*. For different reasons it is also sometimes referred to as the *dependent product*. The rule for  $\lambda$ -abstraction and

the other rules do not change significantly.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\Sigma(c) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} c : A} \text{con} \qquad \frac{\Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} x : A} \text{var} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda x:A. M : \Pi x:A. B} \text{lam}
 \end{array}$$

The prior rules for functions of simple type are still valid, with the restriction that  $x$  may not occur free in  $B$  in the rule **lam''**. This restriction is necessary, since it is now possible for  $x$  to occur in  $B$  because objects (including variables) can appear inside types.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda x:A. M : A \rightarrow B} \text{lam''} \\
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} N : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M N : B} \text{app''}
 \end{array}$$

The type system as given so far has a certain redundancy and is also no longer syntax-directed. That is, there are two rules for  $\lambda$ -abstraction (**lam** and **lam''**) and application. It is convenient to eliminate this redundancy by allowing  $A \rightarrow B$  as a notation for  $\Pi x:A. B$  whenever  $x$  does not occur in  $B$ . It is easy to see that under this convention, the rules **lam''** and **app''** are valid rules of inference, but are no longer necessary since any of their instances are also instances of **lam** and **app**.

The rules for valid signatures, contexts, and kinds are straightforward and left as Exercise 3.10. They are a special case of the rules for full LF given in Section 3.8.

One rule which is still missing is the rule of type conversion. Type conversion introduces a major complication into the type system and is difficult to motivate and illustrate with the example as we have developed it so far. We take a brief excursion and introduce another example to illustrate the necessity for the type conversion rule. Consider a potential application of dependent types in functional programming, where we would like to index the type of vectors of integers by the length of the vector. That is, **vector** is a type family, indexed by integers.

```

int      : type
plus     : int → int → int
vector   : int → type

```

Furthermore, assume we can assign the following type to the function which concatenates two vectors:

```

concat   : Πn:int. Πm:int. vector n → vector m → vector (plus n m).

```

Then we would obtain the typings

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{concat } 3 \ 2 \ \langle 1, 2, 3 \rangle \ \langle 4, 5 \rangle & : \text{ vector (plus 3 2)} \\ \langle 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \rangle & : \text{ vector 5.} \end{array}$$

But since the first expression presumably evaluates to the second, we would expect  $\langle 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 \rangle$  to have type `vector (plus 3 2)`, or the first expression to have type `vector 5`—otherwise the language would not preserve types under evaluation.

This example illustrates two points. The first is that adding dependent types to functional languages almost invariably leads to an undecidable type-checking problem, since with the approach above one could easily encode static array bounds checking. The second is that we need to allow conversion between equivalent types. In the example above, `vector (plus 3 2)`  $\equiv$  `vector 5`. Thus we need a notion of definitional equality and add the rule of *type conversion* to the system we have considered so far.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A \quad A \equiv B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B} \text{conv}$$

It is necessary to check the validity of  $B$  in the premiss, since we have followed the standard technique of formulating definitional equality as an untyped judgment, and a valid type may be convertible to an invalid type. As hinted earlier, the notion of definitional equality that is most useful for our purposes is based on  $\beta$ - and  $\eta$ -conversion. We postpone the full definition until the need for these conversions is better motivated from the example.

### 3.6 Representing Evaluations

We summarize the signature for evaluations as we have developed it so far, taking advantage of type families and dependent types.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{eval} & : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{type} \\ \text{ev\_z} & : \text{eval } z \ z \\ \text{ev\_s} & : \prod E:\text{exp}. \prod V:\text{exp}. \text{eval } E \ V \rightarrow \text{eval } (s \ E) \ (s \ V) \\ \text{ev\_case\_z} & : \prod E_1:\text{exp}. \prod E_2:\text{exp}. \prod E_3:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \prod V:\text{exp}. \\ & \quad \text{eval } E_1 \ z \rightarrow \text{eval } E_2 \ V \rightarrow \text{eval } (\text{case } E_1 \ E_2 \ E_3) \ V \end{array}$$

The representation function on derivations using these rules is defined inductively on the structure of the derivation.

$$\frac{\ulcorner \quad \urcorner}{z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ev\_z} = \text{ev\_z}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v}}{\mathbf{s} \, e \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, v} \text{ev\_s}}{\mathbf{s} \, e \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \, v} \text{ev\_s} = \text{ev\_s} \, \ulcorner e \urcorner \ulcorner v \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \\
\\
\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{e_2 \hookrightarrow v}}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \, x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_z}}{\text{ev\_case\_z} \, \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, \ulcorner e_3 \urcorner) \ulcorner v \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_1 \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_2 \urcorner}
\end{array}$$

The rules dealing with pairs are straightforward and introduce no new representation techniques. We leave them as Exercise 3.4. Next we consider the rule for evaluating a Mini-ML expression formed with **lam**. For this rule we will examine more closely why, for example,  $E_3$  in the `ev_case_z` rule was assumed to be of type  $\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$ .

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \, x. \, e \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \, x. \, e} \text{ev\_lam}$$

Recall that the representation function employs the idea of higher-order abstract syntax:

$$\ulcorner \mathbf{lam} \, x. \, e \urcorner = \text{lam} \, (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, \ulcorner e \urcorner).$$

An *incorrect* attempt at a direct representation of the inference rule above would be

$$\text{ev\_lam} \quad : \quad \Pi E:\text{exp.} \, \text{eval} \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, E)) \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, E)).$$

The problem with this formulation is that, because of the variable naming hygiene of the framework, we cannot instantiate  $E$  with an object which contains  $x$  free. That is, for example,

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \, x. \, x \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \, x. \, x} \text{ev\_lam}$$

could not be represented by `(ev_lam  $x$ )` since its type would be

$$\begin{aligned}
& [x/E] \text{eval} \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, E)) \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, E)) \\
& = \text{eval} \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x':\text{exp.} \, x)) \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x':\text{exp.} \, x)) \\
& \neq \text{eval} \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, x)) \, (\text{lam} \, (\lambda x:\text{exp.} \, x)) \\
& = \text{eval} \, \ulcorner \mathbf{lam} \, x. \, x \urcorner \ulcorner \mathbf{lam} \, x. \, x \urcorner
\end{aligned}$$

for some new variable  $x'$ . Instead, we have to bundle the scope of the bound variable with its binder into a function from  $\text{exp}$  to  $\text{exp}$ , the type of the argument to  $\text{lam}$ .

$$\text{ev\_lam} \quad : \quad \Pi E:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \text{eval} (\text{lam } E) (\text{lam } E).$$

Now the evaluation of the identity function above would be correctly represented by  $(\text{ev\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. x))$  which has type

$$\begin{aligned} & [(\lambda x:\text{exp}. x)/E] \text{eval} (\text{lam } E) (\text{lam } E) \\ = & \text{eval} (\text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. x)) (\text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. x)). \end{aligned}$$

To summarize this case, we have

$$\frac{\ulcorner}{\mathbf{lam } x. e \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam } x. e} \text{ev\_lam} \urcorner = \text{ev\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e \urcorner).$$

Yet another new technique is introduced in the representation of the rule which deals with applying a function formed by **lam** to an argument.

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam } x. e'_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 \quad [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1 e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app}$$

As in the previous example,  $e'_1$  must be represented with its binder as a function from  $\text{exp}$  to  $\text{exp}$ . But how do we represent  $[v_2/x]e'_1$ ? The substitution lemma (Lemma 3.5) tell us that

$$\ulcorner [v_2/x]e'_1 \urcorner = [\ulcorner v_2 \urcorner/x] \ulcorner e'_1 \urcorner.$$

The right-hand side is  $\beta$ -convertible to  $(\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e'_1 \urcorner) \ulcorner v_2 \urcorner$ . Note that the function part of this application,  $(\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e'_1 \urcorner)$  will be an argument to the constant representing the rule, and we can thus directly apply it to the argument representing  $v_2$ . These considerations lead to the declaration

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev\_app} \quad : \quad & \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp}. \Pi E'_1:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \Pi V_2:\text{exp}. \Pi V:\text{exp}. \\ & \text{eval } E_1 (\text{lam } E'_1) \\ & \rightarrow \text{eval } E_2 V_2 \\ & \rightarrow \text{eval } (E'_1 V_2) V \\ & \rightarrow \text{eval } (\text{app } E_1 E_2) V \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\ulcorner \quad \quad \quad \urcorner}{\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam } x. e'_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 \quad [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1 e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app}} \\ & = \quad \text{ev\_app } \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e'_1 \urcorner) \ulcorner v_2 \urcorner \ulcorner v \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_1 \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_2 \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_3 \urcorner. \end{aligned}$$



Consider the evaluation of the Mini-ML expression  $(\mathbf{lam} \ x. \ x) \ \mathbf{z}$ :

$$\frac{\frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. \ x \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ x} \text{ev\_lam} \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z} \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z}}{\mathbf{(lam} \ x. \ x) \ \mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_app}$$

Note that the third premiss is a deduction of  $[\mathbf{z}/x]x \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}$  which is  $\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}$ . The whole deduction is represented by the LF object

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ev\_app} (\text{lam} (\lambda x:\text{exp. } x)) \ \mathbf{z} \ (\lambda x:\text{exp. } x) \ \mathbf{z} \ \mathbf{z} \\ & (\text{ev\_lam} (\lambda x:\text{exp. } x)) \\ & \text{ev\_z} \\ & \text{ev\_z.} \end{aligned}$$

But why is this well-typed? The crucial question arises with the last argument to `ev_app`. By substitution into the type of `ev_app` we find that the last argument is required to have type  $(\text{eval } ((\lambda x:\text{exp. } x) \ \mathbf{z}) \ \mathbf{z})$ , while the actual argument, `ev_z`, has type  $\text{eval } \mathbf{z} \ \mathbf{z}$ . The rule of type conversion allows us to move from one type to the other provided they are definitionally equal. Thus our notion of definitional equality must include  $\beta$ -conversion in order to allow the representation technique whereby object-level substitution is represented by meta-level  $\beta$ -reduction.

In the seminal paper on LF [HHP93], definitional equality was based only on  $\beta$ -reduction, due to technical problems in proving the decidability of the system including  $\eta$ -conversion. The disadvantage of the system with only  $\beta$ -reduction is that not every object is convertible to a canonical form using only  $\beta$ -conversion (see the counterexample on page 44). This property holds once  $\eta$ -conversion is added. The decidability of the system with both  $\beta\eta$ -conversion has since been proven using three different techniques [Sal92, Coq91, Geu92].

The remaining rule of the operational semantics of Mini-ML follow the pattern of the previous rules.

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v'_1 \quad [v'_1/x]e_3 \hookrightarrow v}{(\mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_s}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev\_case\_s} \quad & : \quad \prod E_1:\text{exp.} \prod E_2:\text{exp.} \prod E_3:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp.} \prod V'_1:\text{exp.} \prod V:\text{exp.} \\ & \text{eval } E_1 \ (\mathbf{s} \ V'_1) \rightarrow \text{eval } (E_3 \ V'_1) \ V \rightarrow \text{eval } (\mathbf{case} \ E_1 \ E_2 \ E_3) \ V \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1 \quad [v_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{val} \ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_letv}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev\_letv} \quad & : \quad \prod E_1:\text{exp.} \prod E_2:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp.} \prod V_1:\text{exp.} \prod V:\text{exp.} \\ & \text{eval } E_1 \ V_1 \rightarrow \text{eval } (E_2 \ V_1) \ V \rightarrow \text{eval } (\mathbf{letv} \ E_1 \ E_2) \ V \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{[e_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{\text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2} \text{ ev\_letn}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{ev\_letn} : \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \Pi V:\text{exp}. \\ \text{eval } (E_2 \ E_1) \ V \rightarrow \text{eval } (\text{letn } E_1 \ E_2) \ V \end{array}$$

For the fixpoint construct, we have to substitute a compound expression and not just a variable.

$$\frac{[\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e/x]e \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e \hookrightarrow v} \text{ ev\_fix}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{ev\_fix} : \Pi E:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \Pi V:\text{exp}. \\ \text{eval } (E \ (\mathbf{fix} \ E)) \ V \rightarrow \text{eval } (\mathbf{fix} \ E) \ V \end{array}$$

Again we are taking advantage of the substitution lemma in the form

$$\ulcorner [\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e/x]e \urcorner = \ulcorner [\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e^\urcorner/x]e^\urcorner \equiv (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e^\urcorner) \ulcorner \mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e^\urcorner.$$

The succession of representation theorems follows the pattern of Section 3.3. Note that we postulate that  $e$  and  $v$  be closed, that is, do not contain any free variables. We state this explicitly, because according to the earlier inference rules, there is no requirement that  $\mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e$  be closed in the  $\text{ev\_lam}$  rule. However, we would like to restrict attention to closed expressions  $e$ , since they are the only ones which will be well-typed in the empty context within the Mini-ML typing discipline. The generalization of the canonical form judgment to LF in the presence of dependent types is given in Section 3.9.

**Lemma 3.7** *Let  $e$  and  $v$  be closed Mini-ML expressions, and  $\mathcal{D}$  a derivation of  $e \hookrightarrow v$ . Then*

$$\vdash_{EV} \ulcorner \mathcal{D}^\urcorner \uparrow \uparrow \text{eval } \ulcorner e^\urcorner \urcorner \ulcorner v^\urcorner.$$

**Proof:** The proof proceeds by induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D}$ . We show only one case—the others are similar and simpler.

$$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{D}_1 & \mathcal{D}_2 & \mathcal{D}_3 \\ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e'_1 & e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 & [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v \end{array}}{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ ev\_app. Then}$$

$$\ulcorner \mathcal{D}^\urcorner = \text{ev\_app } \ulcorner e_1^\urcorner \urcorner \ulcorner e_2^\urcorner \urcorner (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e'_1 \urcorner) \ulcorner v_2^\urcorner \urcorner \ulcorner v^\urcorner \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_1^\urcorner \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_2^\urcorner \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D}_3^\urcorner$$

By the adequacy of the representation of expressions (Theorem 3.6),  $\lceil e_1 \rceil$ ,  $\lceil e_2 \rceil$ ,  $\lceil v_2 \rceil$ , and  $\lceil v \rceil$  are canonical of type  $\text{exp}$ . Furthermore,  $\lceil e'_1 \rceil$  is canonical of type  $\text{exp}$  and one application of the **carrow** rule yields

$$\frac{\vdash_{EV} \lceil e'_1 \rceil \uparrow \text{exp}}{\vdash_{EV} \lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil \uparrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}} \text{ carrow},$$

that is,  $\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil$  is canonical of type  $\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$ .

By the induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_1$ , we have

$$\vdash_{EV} \mathcal{D}_1 \uparrow \text{eval} \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ e'_1 \rceil$$

and hence by the definition of the representation function

$$\vdash_{EV} \mathcal{D}_1 \uparrow \text{eval} \lceil e_1 \rceil (\text{lam} (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil))$$

Furthermore, by induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_2$ ,

$$\vdash_{EV} \mathcal{D}_2 \uparrow \text{eval} \lceil e_2 \rceil \lceil v_2 \rceil.$$

Recalling the declaration of **ev\_app**,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev\_app} \quad &: \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp}. \Pi E'_1:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \Pi V_2:\text{exp}. \Pi V:\text{exp}. \\ &\quad \text{eval } E_1 (\text{lam } E'_1) \\ &\quad \rightarrow \text{eval } E_2 V_2 \\ &\quad \rightarrow \text{eval } (E'_1 V_2) V \\ &\quad \rightarrow \text{eval } (\text{app } E_1 E_2) V, \end{aligned}$$

we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{ev\_app} \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil) \lceil v_2 \rceil \lceil v \rceil \lceil \mathcal{D}_1 \rceil \lceil \mathcal{D}_2 \rceil \\ &: \text{eval} ((\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil) \lceil v_2 \rceil) \lceil v \rceil \rightarrow \text{eval} (\text{app} \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil) \lceil v \rceil. \end{aligned}$$

The type here is not in canonical form, since  $(\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil)$  is applied to  $\lceil v_2 \rceil$ . With the rule of type conversion we now obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{ev\_app} \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil) \lceil v_2 \rceil \lceil v \rceil \lceil \mathcal{D}_1 \rceil \lceil \mathcal{D}_2 \rceil \\ &: \text{eval} ([\lceil v_2 \rceil / x] \lceil e'_1 \rceil) \lceil v \rceil \rightarrow \text{eval} (\text{app} \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil) \lceil v \rceil. \end{aligned}$$

where  $[\lceil v_2 \rceil / x] \lceil e'_1 \rceil$  is a valid object of type  $\text{exp}$ . The application of the object above to  $\lceil \mathcal{D}_3 \rceil$  (which yields  $\lceil \mathcal{D} \rceil$ ) can be seen as type-correct, since the induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_3$  yields

$$\vdash_{EV} \mathcal{D}_3 \uparrow \text{eval} \lceil [v_2/x] e'_1 \rceil \lceil v \rceil,$$

and from the substitution lemma (Lemma 3.5) we know that

$$\ulcorner [v_2/x]e'_1 \urcorner = \ulcorner v_2 \urcorner / x \urcorner \ulcorner e'_1 \urcorner.$$

Furthermore,  $\mathcal{D}$  is canonical, since it is atomic and all the arguments to `ev_app` are in canonical form.

□

**Lemma 3.8** *For any LF objects  $E, V$ , and  $M$  such that  $\vdash_{EV} E \uparrow \text{exp}$ ,  $\vdash_{EV} V \uparrow \text{exp}$  and  $\vdash_{EV} M \uparrow \text{eval } E \ V$ , there exist unique Mini-ML expressions  $e$  and  $v$  and a deduction  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  such that  $\ulcorner e \urcorner = E$ ,  $\ulcorner v \urcorner = V$  and  $\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner = M$ .*

**Proof:** The proof is by structural induction on the derivation of  $\vdash_{EV} M \uparrow \text{eval } E \ V$  (see Exercise 3.12). □

A substitution lemma does not arise in the same way as it arose for expressions since evaluations are closed. However, as we know from the use of Lemma 3.5 in the proof of type preservation (Theorem 2.5), a substitution lemma for Mini-ML typing derivations plays an important role. We will return to this in Section 5.4. As before, we summarize the correctness of the representation into an adequacy theorem. It follows directly from Lemmas 3.7 and 3.8.

**Theorem 3.9** (Adequacy) *There is a bijection between deductions of  $e \hookrightarrow v$  for closed Mini-ML expressions  $e$  and  $v$  and canonical LF objects  $M$  such that*

$$\vdash_{EV} M \uparrow \text{eval } \ulcorner e \urcorner \ulcorner v \urcorner$$

As a second example for the representation of deductions we consider the judgment *e Value*, defined in Section 2.4. Again, the judgment is represented as a type family, *value*, indexed by the representation of the expression  $e$ . That is,

$$\text{value} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{type}$$

Objects of type *value*  $\ulcorner e \urcorner$  then represent deductions, and inference rules are encoded as constructors for objects of such types.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{val\_z} & : \text{value } z \\ \text{val\_s} & : \Pi E:\text{exp}. \text{value } E \rightarrow \text{value } (\text{s } E) \\ \text{val\_pair} & : \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp}. \text{value } E_1 \rightarrow \text{value } E_2 \rightarrow \text{value } (\text{pair } E_1 \ E_2) \\ \text{val\_lam} & : \Pi E:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \text{value } (\text{lam } E) \end{aligned}$$

In the last rule, the scope of the binder **lam** is represented as a function from expressions to expressions. We refer to the signature above (including the signature  $E$  representing Mini-ML expressions) as  $V$ . We omit the obvious definition of the representation function on value deductions. The representation theorem only refers to its existence implicitly.

**Theorem 3.10** (Adequacy) *For closed expressions  $e$  there is a bijection between deductions  $\mathcal{P} :: e$  Value and canonical LF objects  $M$  such that  $\vdash_V M \uparrow \text{value} \ulcorner e \urcorner$  is derivable.*

**Proof:** See Exercise 3.13. □

### 3.7 Meta-Theory via Higher-Level Judgments

So far we have completed two of the tasks we set out to accomplish in this chapter: the representation of abstract syntax and the representation of deductive systems in a logical framework. This corresponds to the specification of a language and its semantics. The third task now before us is the representation of the meta-theory of the language, that is, proofs of properties of the language and its semantics.

This representation of meta-theory should naturally fit within the framework we have laid out so far. It should furthermore reflect the structure of the informal proof as directly as possible. We are thus looking for a formal language and methodology for expressing a given proof, and not for a system or environment for finding such a proof. Once such a methodology has been developed it can also be helpful in proof search, but we would like to emphasize that this is a secondary consideration. In order to design a proof representation we must take stock of the proof techniques we have seen so far. By far the most pervasive is *structural induction*. Structural induction is applied in various forms: we have used induction over the structure of expressions, and induction over the structure of deductions. Within proofs of the latter kind we have also frequent cause to appeal to *inversion*, that is, from the form of a derivable judgment we make statements about which inference rule must have been applied to infer it. Of course, as is typical in mathematics, we break down a proof into a succession of lemmas leading up to a main theorem. A kind of lemma which arises frequently when dealing with deductive systems is a *substitution lemma*.

We first consider the issue of structural induction and its representation in the framework. At first glance, this seems to require support for logical reasoning, that is, we need quantifiers and logical connectives to express a meta-theorem, and logical axioms and inference rules to prove it. Our framework does not support this directly—we would either have to extend it very significantly or encode the logic we are attempting to model just like any other deductive system. Both of these approaches have some problems. The first does not mesh well with the idea of higher-order abstract syntax, basically because the types (such as the type `exp` of Mini-ML expressions) are not inductively defined in the usual sense.<sup>5</sup> Similar problems arise when encoding deductive systems employing parametric and hypothetical

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<sup>5</sup>[The problem arises from the negative occurrences of `exp` in the type of `case`, `lam`, `let`, and `fix`.]

judgments such as the Mini-ML typing judgment. The second approach, that is, to first define a logical system and then reason within it, incurs a tremendous overhead in additional machinery to be developed. Furthermore, the connection between the direct representations given in the previous sections of this chapter and this indirect method is problematic.

Thus we are looking for a more direct way to exploit the expressive power of the framework we have developed so far. We will use Theorem 2.1 (value soundness for Mini-ML) and its proof as a motivating example. Recall that the theorem states that whenever  $e \hookrightarrow v$  is derivable, then  $v \text{ Value}$  is also derivable. The proof proceeds by an induction on the structure of the derivation of  $e \hookrightarrow v$ .

A first useful observation is that the proof is *constructive* in the sense that it implicitly contains a method for constructing a deduction  $\mathcal{P}$  of the judgment  $v \text{ Value}$ , given a deduction  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $e \hookrightarrow v$ . This is an example of the relationship between constructive proofs and programs considered further in Sections 7.4 through 7.6. Could we exploit the converse, that is, in what sense might the function  $f$  for constructing  $\mathcal{P}$  from  $\mathcal{D}$  represent a proof of the theorem? Such a function  $f$ , if it were expressible in the framework, would presumably have type  $\Pi E:\text{exp. } \Pi V:\text{exp. eval } E V \rightarrow \text{value } V$ . If it were guaranteed that a total function of this type existed, our meta-theorem would be verified. Unfortunately, such a function is not realizable within the logical framework, since it would have to be defined by a form of recursion on an object of type  $\text{eval } E V$ . Attempting to extend the framework in a straightforward way to encompass such function definitions invalidates our approach to abstract syntax and hypothetical judgments.

But we have one further possibility: why not represent the connection between  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{P} :: v \text{ Value}$  as a *judgment* (defined by inference rules) rather than a function? This technique is well-known from logic programming, where predicates (defined via Horn clauses) rather than functions give rise to computation. A related operational interpretation for LF signatures (which properly generalize sets of Horn clauses) forms the basis for the Elf programming language discussed in Chapter 4. To restate the idea: we represent the essence of the proof of value soundness as a judgment relating deductions  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{P} :: v \text{ Value}$ . Judgments relating deductions are not uncommon in the meta-theory of logic. An important example is the judgment that a natural deduction reduces to another natural deduction, which we will discuss in Section 7.1.

In order to illustrate this approach, we quote various cases in the proof of value soundness and try to extract the inference rules for the judgment we motivated above. We write the judgment as

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \Longrightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}$$

and read it as “ $\mathcal{D}$  reduces to  $\mathcal{P}$ .” Following this analysis, we give its representation in LF. Recall that the proof is by induction over the structure of the deduction

$\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ .

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z}$ . Then  $v = \mathbf{z}$  is a value by the rule  $\text{val\_z}$ .

This gives rise to the axiom

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \text{ Value}} \text{val\_z} \quad \text{vs\_z}$$

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1}{\mathbf{s} \ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v_1} \text{ev\_s}.$$

The induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  yields a deduction of  $v_1 \text{ Value}$ . Using the inference rule  $\text{val\_s}$  we conclude that  $\mathbf{s} \ v_1 \text{ Value}$ .

This case in the proof is represented by the following inference rule.

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}_1 \quad v_1 \text{ Value}}{} \text{vs\_s} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1}{\mathbf{s} \ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v_1} \text{ev\_s} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{P}_1 \quad v_1 \text{ Value}}{\mathbf{s} \ v_1 \text{ Value}} \text{val\_s}}$$

Here, the appeal to the induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  has been represented in the premiss, where we have to establish that  $\mathcal{D}_1$  reduces to  $\mathcal{P}_1$ .

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z} \quad \mathcal{D}_2 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_z}.$$

Then the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}_2$  yields a deduction of  $v \text{ Value}$ , which is what we needed to show in this case.

In this case, the appeal to the induction hypothesis immediately yields the correct deduction; no further inference is necessary.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\mathcal{D}_2 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}_2 \quad v \text{ Value}}{\text{vs\_case\_z}} \\
 \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z} \quad \mathcal{D}_2 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v}{\text{ev\_case\_z}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}_2 \quad v \text{ Value}}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v}
 \end{array}$$

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v'_1 \quad \mathcal{D}_3 \quad [v'_1/x]e_3 \hookrightarrow v}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_case\_s.}$$

Then the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}_3$  yields a deduction of  $v \text{ Value}$ , which is what we needed to show in this case.

This is like the previous case.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\mathcal{D}_3 \quad [v'_1/x]e_3 \hookrightarrow v \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}_3 \quad v \text{ Value}}{\text{vs\_case\_s}} \\
 \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v'_1 \quad \mathcal{D}_3 \quad [v'_1/x]e_3 \hookrightarrow v}{\text{ev\_case\_s}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}_3 \quad v \text{ Value}}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \hookrightarrow v}
 \end{array}$$

If  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in `ev_pair` we reason similar to cases above.



**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}' \quad e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}{\mathbf{fst} \ e \hookrightarrow v_1} \mathbf{ev\_fst}.$$

Then the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}'$  yields a deduction  $\mathcal{P}'$  of the judgment  $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}$ . By examining the inference rules we can see that  $\mathcal{P}'$  must end in an application of the  $\mathbf{val\_pair}$  rule, that is,

$$\mathcal{P}' = \frac{\mathcal{P}_1 \quad v_1 \text{ Value} \quad \mathcal{P}_2 \quad v_2 \text{ Value}}{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}} \mathbf{val\_pair}$$

for some  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$ . Hence  $v_1 \text{ Value}$  must be derivable, which is what we needed to show.

In this case we also have to deal with an application of *inversion* in the informal proof, analyzing the possible inference rules in the last step of the derivation  $\mathcal{P}' :: \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}$ . The only possibility is  $\mathbf{val\_pair}$ . In the representation of this case as an inference rule for the  $\Rightarrow$  judgment, we require that the right-hand side of the premiss end in this inference rule.

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}' \quad e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{P}_1 \quad v_1 \text{ Value} \quad \mathcal{P}_2 \quad v_2 \text{ Value}}{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}} \mathbf{val\_pair}}{\frac{\mathcal{D}' \quad e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}{\mathbf{fst} \ e \hookrightarrow v_1} \mathbf{ev\_fst} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{P}_1 \quad v_1 \text{ Value}} \mathbf{vs\_fst}$$

The remaining cases are similar to the ones shown above and left as an exercise (see Exercise 3.8). While our representation technique should be clear from the example, it also appears to be extremely unwieldy. The explicit definition of the  $\Rightarrow$  judgment given above is fortunately only a crutch in order to explain the LF signature which follows below. In practice we do not make this intermediate form explicit, but directly express the proof of a meta-theorem as an LF signature. Such signatures may seem very cumbersome, but the type reconstruction phase of the Elf implementation allows very concise signature specifications that are internally expanded into the form shown below.

The representation techniques given so far suggest that we represent the judgment

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \Longrightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}$$

as a type family indexed by the representation of the deductions  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$ , that is,

$$\text{vs} : \text{eval } E \ V \rightarrow \text{value } V \rightarrow \text{type}$$

Once again we need to resolve the status of the free variables  $E$  and  $V$  in order to achieve (in general) a decidable type reconstruction problem. Before, we used the dependent function type constructor  $\Pi$  to turn them into explicit arguments to object level constants. Here, we need to index the type family  $\text{vs}$  explicitly by  $E$  and  $V$ , both of type  $\text{exp}$ . Thus we need to extend the language for kinds (which classify type families) to admit dependencies and allow the declaration

$$\text{vs} : \Pi E:\text{exp}. \Pi V:\text{exp}. \text{eval } E \ V \rightarrow \text{value } V \rightarrow \text{type}.$$

The necessary generalization of the system from Section 3.5 is given in Section 3.8. The main change is a refinement of the language for kinds by admitting dependencies, quite analogous to the previous refinement of the language of types when we generalized the simply-typed fragment of Section 3.1.

We now consider the representation of some of the rules of the judgment  $\Longrightarrow$  as LF objects. The axiom

$$\frac{}{\frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z} \Longrightarrow \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \text{ Value}} \text{val\_z}} \text{vs\_z}$$

is represented as

$$\text{vs\_z} : \text{vs } \mathbf{z} \ \mathbf{z} \ \text{ev\_z} \ \text{val\_z}.$$

The instantiation of the type family  $\text{vs}$  is valid, since  $\text{ev\_z} : \text{eval } \mathbf{z} \ \mathbf{z}$  and  $\text{val\_z} : \text{value } \mathbf{z}$ .

The second rule we considered arose from the case where the evaluation ended in the rule for successor.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1} \text{ev\_s} \Longrightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}_1}{v_1 \text{ Value}} \text{val\_s}}{\mathbf{s} \ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v_1} \text{ev\_s}} \frac{}{\frac{}{\mathbf{s} \ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s} \ v_1} \text{ev\_s} \Longrightarrow \frac{}{v_1 \text{ Value}} \text{val\_s}} \text{vs\_s}$$

Recall the declarations for  $\text{ev\_s}$  and  $\text{val\_s}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ev\_s} & : \Pi E:\text{exp. } \Pi V:\text{exp. } \text{eval } E \ V \rightarrow \text{eval } (\text{s } E) \ (\text{s } V) \\ \text{val\_s} & : \Pi E:\text{exp. } \text{value } E \rightarrow \text{value } (\text{s } E) \end{aligned}$$

The declaration corresponding to  $\text{vs\_s}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vs\_s} & : \Pi E_1:\text{exp. } \Pi V_1:\text{exp.} \\ & \quad \Pi D_1:\text{eval } E_1 \ V_1. \ \Pi P_1:\text{value } V_1. \\ & \quad \text{vs } E_1 \ V_1 \ D_1 \ P_1 \rightarrow \text{vs } (\text{s } E_1) \ (\text{s } V_1) \ (\text{ev\_s } E_1 \ V_1 \ D_1) \ (\text{val\_s } V_1 \ P_1). \end{aligned}$$

We consider one final example, where inversion was employed in the informal proof.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle} \Rightarrow \frac{\frac{\mathcal{P}_1}{v_1 \text{ Value}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{P}_2}{v_2 \text{ Value}}}{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}} \text{val\_pair}}{\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle} \text{fst } e \hookrightarrow v_1} \text{vs\_fst} \\ \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle} \text{fst } e \hookrightarrow v_1}{\text{fst } e \hookrightarrow v_1} \text{ev\_fst} \Rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}_1}{v_1 \text{ Value}} \end{array}$$

We recall the types for the inference rule encodings involved here:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{val\_pair} & : \Pi E:\text{exp. } \Pi E_2:\text{exp. } \text{value } E_1 \rightarrow \text{value } E_2 \rightarrow \text{value } (\text{pair } E_1 \ E_2) \\ \text{ev\_fst} & : \Pi E:\text{exp. } \Pi V_1:\text{exp. } \Pi V_2:\text{exp.} \\ & \quad \text{eval } E \ (\text{pair } V_1 \ V_2) \rightarrow \text{eval } (\text{fst } E) \ V_1 \end{aligned}$$

The rule above can then be represented as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vs\_fst} & : \Pi E_1:\text{exp. } \Pi V_1:\text{exp. } \Pi V_2:\text{exp.} \\ & \quad \Pi D':\text{eval } E \ (\text{pair } V_1 \ V_2). \ \Pi P_1:\text{value } V_1. \ \Pi P_2:\text{value } V_2. \\ & \quad \text{vs } E \ (\text{pair } V_1 \ V_2) \ D' \ (\text{val\_pair } V_1 \ V_2 \ P_1 \ P_2) \\ & \quad \rightarrow \text{vs } (\text{fst } E) \ V_1 \ (\text{ev\_fst } E \ V_1 \ V_2 \ D') \ P_1 \end{aligned}$$

What have we achieved with this representation of the proof of value soundness in LF? The first observation is the obvious one, namely a representation theorem relating this signature to the  $\Rightarrow$  judgment. Let  $P$  be the signature containing the declaration for expressions, evaluations, value deductions, and the declarations above encoding the  $\Rightarrow$  judgment via the type family  $\text{vs}$ .

**Theorem 3.11** (Adequacy) *For closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$ , there is a compositional bijection between deductions of*

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \Rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}$$

*and canonical LF objects  $M$  such that*

$$\vdash_P M \uparrow \text{vs} \ulcorner e \urcorner \ulcorner v \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner$$

*is derivable.*

This representation theorem is somewhat unsatisfactory, since the connection between the informal proof of value soundness and the LF signature remains unstated and unproven. It is difficult to make this relationship precise, since the informal proof is not given as a mathematical object. But we can claim and prove a stronger version of the value soundness theorem in which this connection is more explicit.

**Theorem 3.12** (Explicit Value Soundness) *For any two expressions  $e$  and  $v$  and deduction  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  there exists a deduction  $\mathcal{P} :: v \text{ Value}$  such that*

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \implies \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}$$

*is derivable.*

**Proof:** By a straightfoward induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  (see Exercise 3.14).  $\square$

Coupled with the proofs of the various representation theorems for expressions and deductions this establishes a formal connection between value soundness and the vs type family. Yet the essence of the relationship between the informal proof and its representation in LF lies in the connection between the informal proof and its representation of the  $\implies$  judgment, and this remains implicit. To appreciate this problem, consider the judgment

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \xRightarrow{\text{triv}} \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}$$

which is defined via a single axiom

$$\frac{}{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \xRightarrow{\text{triv}} \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}} \text{vs\_triv.}$$

By value soundness and the uniqueness of the deduction of  $v \text{ Value}$  for a given  $v$ , the  $\implies$  and  $\xRightarrow{\text{triv}}$  judgments have the same extent, that is,  $\mathcal{D} \implies \mathcal{P}$  is derivable iff  $\mathcal{D} \xRightarrow{\text{triv}} \mathcal{P}$  is derivable, but one would hardly claim that  $\xRightarrow{\text{triv}}$  represents some informal proof of value soundness.

Ideally, we would like to establish some decidable, formal notion similar to the validity of LF objects which would let us check that the type family vs indeed represents *some* proof of value soundness. Such a notion can be given in the form of *schema-checking* which guarantees that a type family such as vs inductively defines a total function from its first three arguments to its fourth argument. A discussion of schema-checking [Roh96] is beyond the scope of these notes. Some material may also be found in the documentation which accompanies the implementation of Elf.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>[some further remarks later in the notes?]

### 3.8 The Full LF Type Theory

The levels of kinds and types in the system from Section 3.5 were given as

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Kinds} & K ::= \text{type} \mid A \rightarrow K \\ \text{Types} & A ::= a \mid M_1 \dots M_n \mid A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \mid \Pi x:A_1. A_2 \end{array}$$

We now make two changes: the first is a generalization in that we allow dependent kinds  $\Pi x:A. K$ . The kind of the form  $A \rightarrow K$  is then a special case of the new construct where  $x$  does not occur in  $K$ . The second change is to eliminate the multiple argument instantiation of type families. This means we generalize to a level of families, among which we distinguish the types as families of kind “type.”

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Kinds} & K ::= \text{type} \mid \Pi x:A. K \\ \text{Families} & A ::= a \mid A \mid M \mid \Pi x:A_1. A_2 \\ \text{Objects} & M ::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x:A. M \mid M_1 M_2 \\ \text{Signatures} & \Sigma ::= \cdot \mid \Sigma, a:K \mid \Sigma, c:A \\ \text{Contexts} & \Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Gamma, x:A \end{array}$$

This system differs only minimally from the one given by Harper, Honsell, and Plotkin in [HHP93]. They also allow families to be formed by explicit abstraction, that is,  $\lambda x:A_1. A_2$  is a legal family. These do not occur in normal forms and we have thus chosen to omit them from our system. As mentioned previously, it also differs in that we allow  $\beta$  and  $\eta$ -conversion between objects as the basis for our notion of definitional equality, while in [HHP93] only  $\beta$ -conversion is considered. The judgments take a slightly different form than in Section 3.5, in that we now need to introduce a judgment to explicitly classify families.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : K & A \text{ is a valid family of kind } K \\ \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A & M \text{ is a valid object of type } A \\ \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} K \text{ Kind} & K \text{ is a valid kind} \\ \vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig} & \Sigma \text{ is a valid signature} \\ \vdash_{\Sigma} \Gamma \text{ Ctx} & \Gamma \text{ is a valid context} \\ M \equiv N & M \text{ is definitionally equal to } N \\ A \equiv B & A \text{ is definitionally equal to } B \\ K \equiv K' & K \text{ is definitionally equal to } K' \end{array}$$

These judgments are defined via the following inference rules.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Sigma(a) = K}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} a : K} \text{famcon} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \Pi x:B. K \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A M : [M/x]K} \text{famapp} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \Pi x:A. B : \text{type}} \text{fampi}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Sigma(c) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} c : A} \text{objcon} \quad \frac{\Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} x : A} \text{objvar} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda x:A. M : \Pi x:A. B} \text{objlam} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : \Pi x:A. B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} N : A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M N : [N/x]B} \text{objapp} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A \quad A \equiv B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B} \text{typcnv}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \text{type } Kind} \text{kndtyp} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} K Kind}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \Pi x:A. K Kind} \text{kndpi} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : K \quad K \equiv K' \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} K' Kind}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : K'} \text{kndcnv}
\end{array}$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash_{\Sigma} \cdot Ctx} \text{ctxemp} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \vdash_{\Sigma} \Gamma Ctx}{\vdash_{\Sigma} \Gamma, x:A Ctx} \text{ctxobj}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\vdash \cdot \text{Sig}} \text{sigemp} \\
\\
\frac{\vdash_{\Sigma} K \text{ Kind} \quad \vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig}}{\vdash \Sigma, a : K \text{ valid}} \text{sigfam} \\
\\
\frac{\vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type} \quad \vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig}}{\vdash \Sigma, c : A \text{ Sig}} \text{sigobj}
\end{array}$$

For definitional equality, we have three classes of rules. The first class of rules introduces the conversions.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{(\lambda x:A. M) N \equiv [N/x]M} \text{beta} \\
\\
\frac{}{(\lambda x:A. M x) \equiv M} \text{eta}^*
\end{array}$$

where  $\eta$  is restricted to the case the  $x$  is not free in  $M$ . The second class of rules specifies that  $\equiv$  is an *equivalence*, satisfying reflexivity, symmetry, and transitivity at each level.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\frac{}{K \equiv K} \text{kndrefl} & \frac{K' \equiv K}{K \equiv K'} \text{kndsym} & \frac{K \equiv K'' \quad K'' \equiv K'}{K \equiv K'} \text{kndtrans} \\
\\
\frac{}{A \equiv A} \text{famrefl} & \frac{B \equiv A}{A \equiv B} \text{famsym} & \frac{A \equiv C \quad C \equiv B}{A \equiv B} \text{famtrans} \\
\\
\frac{}{M \equiv M} \text{objrefl} & \frac{N \equiv M}{M \equiv N} \text{objsym} & \frac{M \equiv O \quad O \equiv N}{M \equiv N} \text{objtrans}
\end{array}$$

Finally we require rules to ensure that  $\equiv$  is a *congruence*, that is, conversion can be

applied to subterms.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{A \equiv A'}{\Pi x:A. K \equiv \Pi x:A'. K} \text{cngkndpi}_1 \qquad \frac{K \equiv K'}{\Pi x:A. K \equiv \Pi x:A. K'} \text{cngkndpi}_2 \\
\\
\frac{A \equiv A'}{A M \equiv A' M} \text{cngfamapp}_1 \qquad \frac{M \equiv M'}{A M \equiv A M'} \text{cngfamapp}_2 \\
\\
\frac{A_1 \equiv A'_1}{\Pi x:A_1. A_2 \equiv \Pi x:A'_1. A_2} \text{cngfampi}_1 \qquad \frac{A_2 \equiv A'_2}{\Pi x:A_1. A_2 \equiv \Pi x:A_1. A'_2} \text{cngfampi}_2 \\
\\
\frac{A \equiv A'}{\lambda x:A. M \equiv \lambda x:A'. M} \text{cngobjlam}_1 \qquad \frac{M \equiv M'}{\lambda x:A. M \equiv \lambda x:A. M'} \text{cngobjlam}_2 \\
\\
\frac{M_1 \equiv M'_1}{M_1 M_2 \equiv M'_1 M_2} \text{cngobjapp}_1 \qquad \frac{M_2 \equiv M'_2}{M_1 M_2 \equiv M_1 M'_2} \text{cngobjapp}_2
\end{array}$$

Some important properties of the LF type theory are stated at the end of next section.

### 3.9 Canonical Forms in LF

The notion of a canonical form, which is central to the representation theorems for LF encodings, is somewhat more complicated in full LF than in the simply typed fragment given in Section 3.1. In particular, we need to introduce auxiliary judgments for canonical types. At the same time we replace the rules with an indeterminate number of premisses by using another auxiliary judgment which establishes that an object is *atomic*, that is, of the form  $x M_1 \dots M_n$  or  $c M_1 \dots M_n$ , and its arguments  $M_1, \dots, M_n$  are again canonical. An analogous judgment exists at the level of families. Thus we arrive at the judgments

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow A & M \text{ is canonical of type } A \\
\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \uparrow \text{type} & A \text{ is a canonical type} \\
\\
\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \downarrow A & M \text{ is atomic of type } A \\
\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \downarrow K & A \text{ is atomic of kind } K
\end{array}$$

These are defined by the following inference rules.



$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \uparrow \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda x:A. M \uparrow \Pi x:A. B} \text{canpi} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \downarrow \text{type} \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \downarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow A} \text{canatm} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow A \quad A \equiv B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow B} \text{cancnv}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Sigma(c) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} c \downarrow A} \text{atmcon} \quad \frac{\Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} x \downarrow A} \text{atmvar} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \downarrow \Pi x:A. B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} N \uparrow A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M N \downarrow [N/x]B} \text{atmapp} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \downarrow A \quad A \equiv B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \downarrow B} \text{atmcnv}
\end{array}$$

The conversion rules are included here for the same reason they are included among the inference rules for valid types and terms.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Sigma(a) = K}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} a \downarrow K} \text{attcon} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \downarrow \Pi x:B. K \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A M \downarrow [M/x]K} \text{attapp} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \downarrow K \quad K \equiv K' \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} K' \text{ Kind}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \downarrow K'} \text{attcnv} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \uparrow \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} B \uparrow \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \Pi x:A. B \uparrow \text{type}} \text{cntpi} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \downarrow \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \uparrow \text{type}} \text{cntatm}
\end{array}$$

We state, but do not prove a few critical properties of the LF type theory. Basic versions of the results are due to Harper, Honsell, and Plotkin [HHP93], but their

seminal paper does not treat  $\eta$ -conversion. The theorem below is a consequence of results in [Sal90, Coq91, Geu92]. The proofs are quite intricate, because of the mutually dependent nature of the levels of objects and types and are beyond the scope of these notes.

**Theorem 3.13** (Properties of LF) *Assume  $\Sigma$  is a valid signature, and  $\Gamma$  a context valid in  $\Sigma$ . Then the following hold.*

1. *If  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M \uparrow A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A$ .*
2. *If  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A \uparrow \text{type}$  then  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type}$ .*
3. *For each object  $M$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A$  there exists a unique<sup>7</sup> object  $M'$  such that  $M \equiv M'$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M' \uparrow A$ . Moreover,  $M'$  can be effectively computed.*
4. *For each type  $A$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A : \text{type}$  there exists a unique<sup>7</sup> type  $A'$  such that  $A \equiv A'$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A' \uparrow \text{type}$ . Moreover,  $A'$  can be effectively computed.*
5. *Type checking in the LF type theory is decidable.*

### 3.10 Summary and Further Discussion

In this chapter we have developed a methodology for representing deductive systems and their meta-theory within the LF Logical Framework. The LF type theory is a refinement of the Church's simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus with dependent types.

The cornerstone of the methodology is a technique for representing the expressions of a language, whereby object-language variables are represented by meta-language variables. This leads to the notion of higher-order abstract syntax, since now syntactic operators which bind variables must be represented by corresponding binding operators in the meta-language. As a consequence, expressions which differ only in the names of bound variables in the object language are  $\alpha$ -convertible in the meta-language. Furthermore, substitution can be modelled by  $\beta$ -reduction. These relationships are expressed in the form of an adequacy theorem for the representation which postulates the existence of a compositional bijection between object language expressions and meta-language objects of a given type. Ordinarily, the representation of abstract syntax of a language does not involve dependent, but only simple types. This means that the type of representations of expressions, which was exp in the example used throughout this chapter, is a type constant and not an indexed type family. We refer to such a constant as a family at level 0. We summarize the methodology in the following table.

---

<sup>7</sup> up to  $\alpha$ -conversion, as usual

Object Language	Meta-Language
Syntactic Category Expressions	Level 0 Type Family $\text{exp} : \text{type}$
Variable $x$	Variable $x$
Constructor $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle$	Constant $\text{pair} \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner$ , where $\text{pair} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$
Binding Constructor <b>let val</b> $x = e_1$ <b>in</b> $e_2$	Second-Order Constant $\text{letv} \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner (\lambda x:\text{exp}.\ulcorner e_2 \urcorner)$ , where $\text{letv} : \text{exp} \rightarrow (\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}) \rightarrow \text{exp}$

An alternative approach, which we do not pursue here, is to use terms in a first-order logic to represent Mini-ML expressions. For example, we may have a binary function constant *pair* and a ternary function constant *letv*. We then define a predicate *exp* which is true for expressions and false otherwise. This predicate is defined via a set of axioms. For example,  $\forall e_1. \forall e_2. \text{exp}(e_1) \wedge \text{exp}(e_2) \supset \text{exp}(\text{pair}(e_1, e_2))$ . Similarly,  $\forall x. \forall e_1. \forall e_2. \text{var}(x) \wedge \text{exp}(e_1) \wedge \text{exp}(e_2) \supset \text{exp}(\text{letv}(x, e_1, e_2))$ , where *var* is another predicate which is true on variables and false otherwise. Since first-order logic is undecidable, we must then impose some restriction on the possible definitions of predicates such as *exp* or *var* in order to guarantee decidable representations. Under appropriate restrictions such predicates can then be seen to define types. A commonly used class are *regular tree types*. Membership of a term in such a type can be decided by a finite tree automaton [GS84]. This approach to representation and types is the one usually taken in logic programming which has its roots in first-order logic. For a collection of papers describing this and related approaches see [Pfe92]. The principal disadvantage of regular tree types in a first-order term language is that it does not admit representation techniques such as higher-order abstract syntax. Its main advantage is that it naturally permits subtypes. For example, we could easily define the set of Mini-ML values as a subtype of expressions, while the representation of values in LF requires an explicit judgment. Thus, we do not capture in LF that it is decidable if an expression is a value. Some initial work towards combining regular tree types and function types is reported in [FP91] and [Pfe93].

The second representation technique translates judgments to types and deductions to objects. This is often summarized by the motto *judgments-as-types*. This can be seen as a methodology for formalizing the semantics of a language, since semantic judgments (such as evaluation or typing judgments) can be given conveniently and elegantly as deductive systems. The goal is now to reduce checking of deductions to type-checking within the framework (which is decidable). For this reduction to work correctly, the simply-typed framework which is sufficient for ab-

stract syntax in most cases, needs to be refined by type families and dependent function types. The index objects for type families typically are representations of expressions, which means that they are typed at level 0. We refer to a family which is indexed by objects typed at level 0 as a level 1 family. We can summarize this representation technique in the following table.

Object Language	Meta-Language
Semantic Judgment $e \hookrightarrow v$	Level 1 Type Family $\text{eval} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{type}$
Inference Rule $\frac{e \hookrightarrow v}{s \ e \hookrightarrow s \ v} \text{ev\_s}$	Constant Declaration $\text{ev\_s} :$ $\Pi E:\text{exp}. \Pi V:\text{exp}.$ $\text{eval } E \ V$ $\rightarrow \text{eval } (s \ E) \ (s \ V)$
Deduction	Well-Typed Object
Deductive System	Signature

An alternative to dependent types (which we do not pursue here) is to define predicates in a higher-order logic which are true of valid deductions and false otherwise. The type family *eval*, indexed by two expressions, then becomes a simple type *eval* and we additionally require a predicate *valid*. The logics of higher-order Horn clauses [NM90, Wol91] and hereditary Harrop formulas [MNPS91, Pau87] support this approach and the use of higher-order abstract syntax. They have been implemented in the logic programming language  $\lambda\text{Prolog}$  [NM88] and the theorem prover Isabelle [PN90]. The principal disadvantage of this approach is that checking the validity of a deduction is reduced to theorem proving in the meta-logic. Thus decidability is not guaranteed by the representation and we do not know of any work to isolate decidable classes of higher-order predicates which would be analogous to regular tree types. Hereditary Harrop formulas have a natural logic programming interpretation, which permits them to be used as the basis for implementing programs related to judgments specified via deductive systems. For example, programs for evaluation or type inference in Mini-ML can be easily and elegantly expressed in  $\lambda\text{Prolog}$ . In Chapter 4 we show that a similar operational interpretation is also possible for the LF type theory, leading to the language Elf.

The third question we considered was how to represent the proofs of properties of deductive systems. The central idea was to represent the function which is implicit in a constructive proof as a judgment relating deductions. For example, the proof that evaluation returns a value proceeds by induction over the structure of the deduction  $D :: e \hookrightarrow v$ . This gives rise to a total function  $f$ , mapping each  $D :: e \hookrightarrow v$  into a deduction  $P :: v \text{ Value}$ . We then represent this function as a judgment  $D \Rightarrow P$  such that  $D \Rightarrow P$  is derivable if and only if  $f(D) = P$ . A strong adequacy theorem, however, is not available, since the mathematical proof is

informal, and not itself introduced as a mathematical object. The judgment between deductions is then again represented in LF using the idea of judgments-as-types, although now the index objects to the representing family represent deductions. We refer to a family indexed by objects whose type is constructed from a level 1 family as a level 2 family. The technique for representing proofs of theorems about deductive systems which have been formalized in the previous step is summarized in the following table.

Object Language	Meta-Language
Informal Proof	Level 2 Type Family
Value Soundness	vs : $\Pi E:\text{exp}. \Pi V:\text{exp}.$ eval $E V \rightarrow \text{value } V \rightarrow \text{type}$
Case in Structural Induction	Constant Declaration
Base Case for Axioms	Constant of Atomic Type
Induction Step	Constant of Functional Type

A decidable criterion on when a given type family represent a proof of a theorem about a deductive system is subject of current research [Roh96]. Some initial results and ideas are reported in [PR92] under the name of *schema-checking*.<sup>8</sup>

An alternative to this approach is to work in a stronger type theory with explicit induction principles in which we can directly express induction arguments. This approach is taken, for example, in the Calculus of Inductive Constructions [CH88, CP88] which has been implemented in the Coq system [Hue89]. The disadvantage of this approach is that it does not coexist well with the techniques of higher-order abstract syntax and judgments-as-types, since the resulting representation types (for example, exp) are not inductively defined in the usual sense.

### 3.11 Exercises

**Exercise 3.1** Consider a variant of the typing rules given in Section 3.1 where the rules **var**, **con**, **lam**, **tcon**, and **ctx** are replaced by the following rules.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\vdash_{\Sigma} \Gamma \text{ Ctx} \quad \Sigma(c) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} c : A} \text{con}' \quad \frac{\vdash_{\Sigma} \Gamma \text{ Ctx} \quad \Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} x : A} \text{var}' \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, x:A \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda x:A. M : A \rightarrow B} \text{lam}' \\
\\
\frac{\vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig} \quad \Sigma(a) = \text{type}}{\vdash_{\Sigma} a : \text{type}} \text{tcon}' \quad \frac{\vdash \Sigma \text{ Sig}}{\vdash_{\Sigma} \cdot \text{Ctx}} \text{ctx}
\end{array}$$

---

<sup>8</sup>[remark about implementation?]

In what sense are these two systems equivalent? Formulate and carefully prove an appropriate theorem.

**Exercise 3.2** Prove Theorem 3.1.

**Exercise 3.3** Prove Lemma 3.4

**Exercise 3.4** Give LF representations of the natural semantics rules `ev_pair`, `ev_fst`, and `ev_snd` (see Section 2.3).

**Exercise 3.5** Reconsider the extension of the Mini-ML language by unit, void, and disjoint sum type (see Exercise 2.6). Give LF representation for

1. the new expression constructors,
2. the new rules in the evaluation and value judgments, and
3. the new cases in the proof of value soundness.

**Exercise 3.6** Give the LF representation of the evaluations in Exercise 2.3. You may need to introduce some abbreviations in order to make it feasible to write it down.

**Exercise 3.7** Complete the definition of the representation function for evaluations given in Section 3.6.

**Exercise 3.8** Complete the definition of the judgment

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \Longrightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}$$

given in Section 3.7 and give the LF encoding of the remaining inference rules.

**Exercise 3.9** Formulate and prove a theorem which expresses that the rules `lam''` and `app''` in Section 3.5 are no longer necessary, if  $A \rightarrow B$  stands for  $\Pi x:A. B$  for some  $x$  which does not occur in  $B$ .

**Exercise 3.10** State the rules for valid signatures, contexts, and kinds which were omitted in Section 3.8.

**Exercise 3.11** Formulate an adequacy theorem for the representation of evaluations which is more general than Theorem 3.9 by allowing free variables in the expressions  $e$  and  $v$ .

**Exercise 3.12** Show the case for `ev_app` in the proof of Lemma 3.8.

**Exercise 3.13** Prove Theorem 3.10.

**Exercise 3.14** Prove Theorem 3.12.

**Exercise 3.15** Prove items 1 and 2 of Theorem 3.13.

**Exercise 3.16** [ *An exercise characterizing canonical forms.* ]

## Chapter 4

# The Elf Programming Language

Elf, thou lovest best, I think,  
The time to sit in a cave and drink.

— William Allingham  
*In Fairy Land* [All75]

In Chapter 2 we have seen how deductive systems can be used systematically to specify aspects of the semantics of programming languages. In later chapters, we will see many more examples of this kind, including some examples from logic. In Chapter 3 we explored the logical framework LF as a formal meta-language for the representation of programming languages, their semantics, and their meta-theory. An important motivation behind the development of LF has been to provide a formal basis for the implementation of proof-checking and theorem proving tools, independently of any particular logic or deductive system. Note that search in the context of LF is the dual of type-checking: given a type  $A$ , find a closed object  $M$  of type  $A$ . If such an object  $M$  exists we refer to  $A$  as *inhabited*. Since types represent judgments and objects represent deductions, this is a natural formulation of the search for a deduction of a judgment via its representation in LF. Unlike type-checking, of course, the question whether a closed object of a given type exists is in general undecidable. The question of general search procedures for LF has been studied by Elliott, Pym and Wallen [Ell89, Ell90, Pym90, PW90, PW91], including the question of unification of LF objects modulo  $\beta\eta$ -conversion.

In the context of the study of programming languages, we encounter problems that are different from general proof search. For example, once a type system has been *specified* as a deductive system, how can we *implement* a type-checker or a type inference procedure for the language? Another natural question concerns

the operational semantics: once specified as a deductive system, how can we take advantage of this specification to obtain an interpreter for the language? In both of these cases we are in a situation where algorithms are known and need to be implemented. The problem of proof search can also be phrased in these terms: given a logical system, implement algorithms for proof search that are appropriate to the system at hand.

Our approach to the implementation of algorithms is inspired by logic programming: specifications and programs are written in the same language. In traditional logic programming, the common basis for specifications and implementations has been the logic of Horn clauses; here, the common basis will be the logical framework LF. We would like to emphasize that specifications and programs are generally *not* the same: many specifications are not useful if interpreted as programs, and many programs would not normally be considered specifications. In the logic programming paradigm, execution is the search for a proof of some instance of a query. The operational semantics of the logic programming language specifies precisely how this search will be performed, given a list of Horn clauses which constitute the program. Thus, if one understands this operational reading of Horn clauses, one can induce the desired execution behavior by giving an appropriate presentation of a predicate. For example, the three Prolog programs

```
nat(zero).
nat(succ(X)) :- nat(X).
```

and

```
nat(succ(X)) :- nat(X).
nat(zero).
```

and

```
nat(X) :- nat(X).
nat(zero).
nat(succ(X)) :- nat(X).
```

specify exactly the same predicate `nat` which is true for all terms of the form `succ(...succ(zero)...)` , but only the first is useful as a program to enumerate the natural numbers, and only the first two are useful as programs to check if a given term represents a natural number.<sup>1</sup>

Exploration of the idea of program execution as proof search within a logical framework has led to the programming language Elf. We briefly sketch the operational intuition behind Elf in analogy to Prolog before going into greater detail

---

<sup>1</sup>In Prolog, `:-` is an implication written in reverse, and each rule is to be interpreted schematically, that is, stands for all its instances. For more on Prolog and traditional logic programming, see Sterling and Shapiro's introductory textbook [SS86] or some material in Chapter 8.



and examples in the remainder of this chapter. As explained above, proof search is modeled in LF by the search for a closed object of a given type. Thus a type plays the role of a query in Prolog and may contain free variables. A signature constitutes a program, and search is performed by trying each constant in a signature in turn in order to construct an object of the query type. First-order unification as it is familiar from Prolog is insufficient: instead we employ a constraint solver for typed equations over LF objects. Subgoals are solved in the order they are encountered, and search backtracks to the most recent choice point whenever a goal fails. This means that the search for a closed object is performed in a depth-first fashion as in Prolog.

Elf is a strongly typed language, since it is directly based on LF. The Elf interpreter must thus perform type reconstruction on programs and queries before executing them. Because of the complex type system of LF, this is a non-trivial task. In fact, it has been shown by Dowek [Dow93] that the general type inference problem for LF is undecidable, and thus not all types may be omitted from Elf programs. The algorithm for type reconstruction which is used in the implementation [Pfe91b, Pfe94] is based on the same constraint solving algorithm employed during execution.

## 4.1 Concrete Syntax

The concrete syntax of Elf is very simple, since we only have to model the relatively few constructs of LF. While LF is stratified into the level of kinds, families, and objects, the syntax is overloaded in that, for example, the symbol  $\Pi$  constructs dependent function types and dependent kinds. Similarly, juxtaposition is concrete syntax for instantiation of a type family and application of objects. We maintain this overloading in the concrete syntax for Elf and refer to expressions from any of the three levels collectively as *terms*. A signature is given as a sequence of *declarations*.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>We describe here only the core language; the design and implementation of a module system for the structured presentation of signatures is currently in progress. The preliminary design is described in [HP99].

Terms	$term ::=$	$  id$ $  \{id : term_1\} term_2$ $  [id : term_1] term_2$ $  term_1 term_2$ $  type$ $  term_1 \rightarrow term_2$ $  term_1 \leftarrow term_2$ $  \{id\} term \mid [id] term \mid \_$ $  term_1 : term_2$ $  (term)$	$a \text{ or } c \text{ or } x$ $\Pi x : A_1. A_2 \text{ or } \Pi x : A. K$ $\lambda x : A. M$ $A M \text{ or } M_1 M_2$ $type$ $A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ $A_2 \rightarrow A_1$ $omitted \text{ terms}$ $cast$ $grouping$
Declarations	$decl ::=$	$id : term.$	$a : K \text{ or } c : A$

The terminal *id* stands either for a bound variable, a free variable, or a constant at the level of families or objects. Bound variables and constants in Elf can be arbitrary identifiers, but free variables in a declaration or query must begin with an uppercase letter (a free, undeclared lowercase identifier is flagged as an undeclared constant). An uppercase identifier is one which begins with an underscore `_` or a letter in the range `A` through `Z`; all others are considered lowercase, including numerals. Identifiers may contain all characters except `(){}[]:.%` and whitespace. In particular, `A->B` would be a single identifier, while `A -> B` denotes a function type. The left-pointing arrow as in `B <- A` is a syntactic variant and parsed into the same representation as `A -> B`. It improves the readability of some Elf programs. Recall that `A -> B` is just an abbreviation for `{x:A} B` where `x` does not occur in `B`.

The right-pointing arrow `->` is right associative, while the left-pointing arrow `<-` is left associative. Juxtaposition binds tighter than the arrows and is left associative. The scope of quantifications `{x : A}` and abstractions `[x : A]` extends to the next closing parenthesis, bracket, brace or to the end of the term. Term reconstruction fills in the omitted types in quantifications `{x}` and abstractions `[x]` and omitted types or objects indicated by an underscore `_` (see Section 4.2). In case of essential ambiguity a warning or error message results.

Single-line comments begin with `%` and extend through the end of the line. A delimited comment begins with `%{` and ends with the matching `%}`, that is, delimited comments may be properly nested. The parser for Elf also supports infix, prefix, and postfix declarations similar to the ones available in Prolog.

## 4.2 Type and Term Reconstruction

A crucial element in a practical implementation of LF must be an algorithm for type reconstruction. We will illustrate type reconstruction with the Mini-ML examples

from the previous chapter. First, the straightforward signature defining Mini-ML expressions which is summarized on page 46.

```

exp  : type.  %name exp E

z    : exp.
s    : exp -> exp.
case : exp -> exp -> (exp -> exp) -> exp.
pair : exp -> exp -> exp.
fst  : exp -> exp.
snd  : exp -> exp.
lam  : (exp -> exp) -> exp.
app  : exp -> exp -> exp.
letv : exp -> (exp -> exp) -> exp.
letn : exp -> (exp -> exp) -> exp.
fix  : (exp -> exp) -> exp.

```

The pragma `%name exp E` indicates to Elf that fresh variables of type `exp` which are created during type reconstruction or search should be named `E`, `E1`, `E2`, *etc.*

Next, we turn to the signature defining evaluations. Here are three declarations as they appear on page 56.

```

eval      : exp → exp → type
ev_z      : eval z z
ev_s      : ΠE:exp. ΠV:exp. eval E V → eval (s E) (s V)
ev_case_z : ΠE1:exp. ΠE2:exp. ΠE3:exp → exp. ΠV:exp.
              eval E1 z → eval E2 V → eval (case E1 E2 E3) V

```

In Elf's concrete syntax these would be written as

```

eval : exp -> exp -> type.
ev_z  : eval z z.
ev_s  : {E:exp} {V:exp} eval E V -> eval (s E) (s V).
ev_case_z :
  {E1:exp} {E2:exp} {E3:exp -> exp} {V:exp}
  eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.

```

A simple deduction, such as

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ ev\_z} \quad \frac{}{s \, z \hookrightarrow s \, z} \text{ ev\_s}}{\text{case } z \text{ of } z \Rightarrow s \, z \mid s \, x \Rightarrow z} \text{ ev\_case\_z}}{}$$

is represented in Elf as<sup>3</sup>

```
ev_case_z z (s z) ([x:exp] z) (s z) (ev_z) (ev_s z z (ev_z)).
```

The top-level of Elf can perform type checking and reconstruction; later we will see how the user can also initiate search. In order to check the the object above represents a derivation of  $\text{case } z \text{ of } z \Rightarrow s \ z \mid s \ x \Rightarrow z$ , we can pose the query

```
?- ev_case_z z (s z) ([x:exp] z) (s z) (ev_z) (ev_s z z (ev_z))
   : eval (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) (s z).
solved
```

The interpreter responds with the message `solved` which indicates that the given judgment holds, that is, the object to the left of the colon has type type to the right of the colon in the *current signature*. The current signature is embodied in the state of the top-level; please see the Elf User's Manual for details.<sup>4</sup>

We now reconsider the declaration of `ev_case_z`. The types of `E1`, `E2`, `E3`, and `V` are unambiguously determined by the kind of `eval` and the type of `case`. For example, `E1` must have type `exp`, since the first argument of `eval` must have type `exp`. This means, the declaration of `ev_case_z` could be replaced by

```
ev_case_z :
  {E1} {E2} {E3} {V}
  eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.
```

It will frequently be the case that the types of the variables in a declaration can be determined from the context they appear in. To abbreviate declarations further we allow the omission of the explicit  $\Pi$ -quantifiers.<sup>5</sup> That is, the declaration above can be given even more succinctly as

```
ev_case_z : eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.
```

This second step introduces a potential problem: the order of the quantifiers is not determined by the abbreviated declaration. Consequently, we do not know which argument to `ev_case_z` stands for `E1`, which for `E2`, *etc.* Fortunately, these arguments (which are objects) can be determined from the context in which `ev_case_z` occurs. Let `E1`, `E2`, `E3`, `V`, `E'` and `V'` stand for objects yet to be determined and consider the incomplete object

```
ev_case_z E1 E2 E3 V (ev_z) (ev_s E' V' (ev_z)).
```

The typing judgment

---

<sup>3</sup>The parentheses surrounding `ev_z` are unnecessary and inserted only for stylistic reasons.

<sup>4</sup>[*just kidding*]

<sup>5</sup>Since the logical counterpart of the dependent function type constructor is the universal quantifier, we will often refer to  $\Pi$  as a quantifier.

```

ev_case_z E1 E2 E3 V
  : eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V

```

holds for all valid objects  $E1$ ,  $E2$ ,  $E3$ , and  $V$  of appropriate type. The next argument, ( $ev\_z$ ) has type  $eval\ z\ z$ . For the object to be well-typed we must thus have

```
eval E1 z = eval z z
```

where  $=$  represents definitional equality. Thus  $E1 = z$ . We can similarly determine that  $E2 = s\ z$ ,  $V = s\ z$ ,  $E' = z$ , and  $V' = z$ . However,  $E3$  is as yet undetermined. But if we also know the type of the whole object, namely

```
eval (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) (s z),
```

then  $E3 = [x:exp]\ z$  also follows. Since it will generally be possible to determine these arguments (up to conversion), we omit them in the input. We observe a strict correspondence between implicit quantifiers in a constant declaration and implicit arguments wherever the constant is used. This solves the problem that the order of implicit arguments is unspecified. With the abbreviated declarations

```

eval : exp -> exp -> type.
ev_z  : eval z z.
ev_s  : eval E V -> eval (s E) (s V).
ev_case_z :
  eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.

```

the derivation above is concisely represented by

```

ev_case_z (ev_z) (ev_s (ev_z))
  : eval (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) (s z).

```

While arguments to a object of truly dependent function type ( $\Pi x:A. B$  where  $x$  occurs free in  $B$ ) are often redundant, there are examples where arguments cannot be reconstructed unambiguously. It is a matter of practical experience that the great majority of arguments to dependently typed functions do not need to be explicitly given, but can be reconstructed from context. The Elf type reconstruction algorithm will give a warning when an implicit quantifier in a constant declaration is likely to lead to essential ambiguity later.

For debugging purposes it is sometimes useful to know the values of reconstructed types and objects. The front-end of the Elf implementation can thus print the internal and fully explicit form of all the declarations if desired. One can also use the Elf interpreter to reconstruct types through the use of free variables in a query. For example

```
?- ev_case_z (ev_z) (ev_s (ev_z) : A) : B.
```

```

B = eval (case z (s z) E) (s z),
A = eval (s z) (s z).

```

After typing the first line, the interpreter responds with the second which contains the *answer substitution* for A and B. In this example, the substitution term for B itself contains a free variable E. This means that all instances of the given typing judgment are valid. This reflects that in our informal analysis E3 (called E above) remained undetermined. In effect, the object `ev_case_z (ev_z) (ev_s (ev_z))` represents a whole class of derivations, namely all instances of

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ev\_z} \quad \frac{\frac{}{s \ z \hookrightarrow s \ z} \text{ev\_s}}{\text{case } z \text{ of } z \Rightarrow s \ z \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e \hookrightarrow s \ z} \text{ev\_case\_z}}{\text{case } z \text{ of } z \Rightarrow s \ z \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e \hookrightarrow s \ z} \text{ev\_case\_z}}$$

where  $e$  is a meta-variable that may contain free occurrences of  $x$ . We call derivations with free (meta-)variables *schematic derivations*. As we have seen, schematic derivations can be represented naturally in LF and Elf.

Type reconstruction is discussed in further detail in the documentation of the implementation. For the remainder of this chapter, the main feature to keep in mind is the duality between implicit quantifiers and implicit arguments.

### 4.3 A Mini-ML Interpreter in Elf

Let us recap the signature *EV* defining evaluation as developed so far in the previous section.

```
eval : exp -> exp -> type.
ev_z  : eval z z.
ev_s  : eval E V -> eval (s E) (s V).
ev_case_z :
    eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.
```

One can now follow the path of Section 3.6 and translate the LF signature into Elf syntax. Our main concern in this section, however, will be to implement an executable interpreter for Mini-ML in Elf. In logic programming languages like Prolog, computation is search for a proof of a query according to a particular operational interpretation Horn clauses. In Elf, computation is search for a derivation of a judgment according to a particular operational interpretation of inference rules. In the terminology of the LF type theory, this translates to the search for an object of a given type over a particular signature.

To consider a concrete example, assume we are given a Mini-ML expression  $e$ . We would like to find an object  $V$  and a closed object  $D$  of type `eval  $\ulcorner e \urcorner$  V`. Thus, we are looking simultaneously for a closed instance of a type, `eval  $\ulcorner e \urcorner$  V`, and a closed object of this instance of the type. How would this search proceed? As an

example, consider  $e = \mathbf{case\ z\ of\ z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{s\ z} \mid \mathbf{s\ x} \Rightarrow \mathbf{z}$ . The query would have the form

```
?- D : eval (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) V.
```

where  $V$  is a free variable. Now the Elf interpreter will attempt to use each of the constants in the given signature in turn in order to construct a canonical object of this type. Neither `ev_z` nor `ev_s` are appropriate, since the types do not match. However, there is an instance of the last declaration

```
ev_case_z : eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.
```

whose conclusion `eval (case E1 E2 E3) V` matches the current query by instantiating  $E1 = z$ ,  $E2 = (s\ z)$ ,  $E3 = ([x:exp]\ z)$ , and  $V = V$ . Thus, solutions to the *subgoals*

```
?- D2 : eval (s z) V.
?- D1 : eval z z.
```

would provide a solution  $D = \mathbf{ev\_case\_z\ D1\ D2}$  to the original query. At this point during the search, the incomplete derivation in mathematical notation would be

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_1 \\ z \hookrightarrow z \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_2 \\ s\ z \hookrightarrow v \end{array}}{(\mathbf{case\ z\ of\ z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{s\ z} \mid \mathbf{s\ x} \Rightarrow \mathbf{z}) \hookrightarrow v} \mathbf{ev\_case\_z}$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{D}_2$ , and  $v$  are still to be filled in. Thus computation in Elf corresponds to bottom-up search for a derivation of a judgment. The subgoal  $\mathcal{D}_2$  can be matched against the type of `ev_s`, leading to the further subgoal

```
?- D3 : eval z V1.
```

while instantiating  $V$  to  $s\ V1$  for a new variable  $V1$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2$  to `ev_s D3`. In mathematical notation, the current state of search would be the partial derivation

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_1 \\ z \hookrightarrow z \end{array} \quad \frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_3 \\ z \hookrightarrow v_1 \end{array} \mathbf{ev\_s}}{s\ z \hookrightarrow s\ v_1}}{(\mathbf{case\ z\ of\ z} \Rightarrow \mathbf{s\ z} \mid \mathbf{s\ x} \Rightarrow \mathbf{z}) \hookrightarrow s\ v_1} \mathbf{ev\_case\_z.}$$

The subgoals  $\mathcal{D}_3$  can be solved directly by `ev_z`, instantiating  $V1$  to  $z$ . The subgoal  $\mathcal{D}_1$  can also be solved directly and we obtain the instantiations

```

D = ev_case_z D1 D2
D2 = ev_s D3,
V = s V1,
D3 = ev_z,
V1 = z,
D1 = ev_z.

```

Substituting for some the intermediate variables we obtain the same answer that Elf would return.

```

?- D : eval (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) V.

V = s z,
D = ev_case_z ev_z (ev_s ev_z).

```

One can see that the matching process which is required for this search procedure must allow instantiation of the query as well as the declarations. The problem of finding a common instance of two terms is called *unification*. A unification algorithm for terms in first-order logic was first sketched by Herbrand [Her30]. The first full description of an efficient algorithm for unification was given by Robinson [Rob65], which has henceforth been a central building block for automated theorem proving procedures and logic programming languages. In Elf, Robinson's algorithm is not directly applicable because of the presence of types and  $\lambda$ -abstraction. Huet showed that unification in the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus is undecidable [Hue73], a result later sharpened by Goldfarb [Gol81]. The main difficulty stems from the notion of definitional equality, which can be taken as  $\beta$  or  $\beta\eta$ -convertibility. Of course, the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus is a subsystem of the LF type theory, and thus unifiability is undecidable for LF as well. A practical semi-decision procedure for unifiability in the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus has been proposed by Huet [Hue75] and used in a number of implementations of theorem provers and logic programming languages [AINP88, EP89, PN90]. However, the procedure has the drawback that it may not only diverge but also branch, which is difficult to control in logic programming. Thus, in Elf, we have adopted the approach of constraint logic programming languages first proposed by Jaffar and Lassez [JL87], whereby difficult unification problems are postponed and carried along as constraints during execution. We will say more about the exact nature of the constraint solving algorithm employed in Elf in Section ?? . In this chapter, all unification problems encountered will be essentially first-order.

We have not paid close attention to the order of various operations during computation. In the first approximation, the operational semantics of Elf can be described as follows. Assume we are given a list of goals  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  with some free variables. Each type of an object-level constant  $c$  in a signature has the form  $\Pi y_1:B_1 \dots \Pi y_m:B_m. C$ , where  $C$  is an atomic type. We call  $C$  the *target type* of  $c$ .



Also, in analogy to logic programming, we call  $c$  a *clause*,  $C$  the *head* of the clause  $c$ . Recall, that some of these quantifiers may remain implicit in Elf, and that  $A \rightarrow B$  is only an abbreviation for  $\Pi x:A. B$  where  $x$  does not occur in  $B$ . We instantiate  $y_1, \dots, y_m$  with fresh variables  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  and unify the resulting instance of  $C'$  with  $A_1$ , trying each constant in the signature in turn until unification succeeds. Unification may require further instantiation, leading to types  $B'_1, \dots, B'_n$ . We now set these up as subgoals, that is, we obtain the new list of goals  $B'_m, \dots, B'_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ . The (closed) object we were looking for will be  $c M_1 \dots M_m$ , where  $M_1, \dots, M_m$  are the objects of type  $B'_1, \dots, B'_m$ , respectively, yet to be determined. We say that the goal  $A_1$  has been *resolved* with the clause  $c$  and refer to the process as *back-chaining*. Note that the subgoals will be solved “from the inside out,” that is,  $B'_m$  is the first one to be considered. If unification should fail and no further constants are available in the signature, we *backtrack*, that is, we return to the most recent point where a goal unified with a clause head (*i.e.*, a target type of a constant declaration in a signature) and further choices were available. If there are no such choice points, the overall goal fails.

Logic programming tradition suggests writing the (atomic) target type  $C$  *first* in a declaration, since it makes is visually much easier to read a program. We follow the same convention here, although the reader should keep in mind that  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $B \leftarrow A$  are parsed to the same representation: the direction of the arrow has no semantic significance. The logical reading of  $B \leftarrow A$  is “ $B$  if  $A$ ,” although strictly speaking it should be “ $B$  is derivable if  $A$  is derivable.” The left-pointing arrow is left associative so that  $C \leftarrow B \leftarrow A$ ,  $(C \leftarrow B) \leftarrow A$ ,  $A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$ , and  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$  are all syntactically different representations for the same type. Since we solve innermost subgoals first, the operational interpretation of the clause

```
ev_case_z :
  eval E1 z -> eval E2 V -> eval (case E1 E2 E3) V.
```

would be: “*To solve a goal of the form eval (case E1 E2 E3) V, solve eval E2 V and, if successful, solve eval E1 z.*” On the other hand, the clause

```
ev_case_z : eval (case E1 E2 E3) V
             <- eval E1 z
             <- eval E2 V.
```

reads as: “*to solve a goal of the form eval (case E1 E2 E3) V, solve eval E1 z and, if successful, eval E2 V.*” Clearly this latter interpretation is desirable from the operational point of view, even though the argument order to `ev_case_z` is reversed when compared to the LF encoding of the inference rules we have used so far. This serves to illustrate that a signature that is adequate as a specification of a deductive system is not necessarily adequate for search. We need to pay close attention to the order of the declarations in a signature (since they will be tried in

succession) and the order of the subgoals (since they will be solved from the inside out).

We now complete the signature describing the interpreter for Mini-ML in Elf. It differs from the LF signature in Section 3.6 only in the order of the arguments to the constants. First the complete rules concerning natural numbers.

```

ev_z      : eval z z.
ev_s      : eval (s E) (s V)
           <- eval E V.
ev_case_z : eval (case E1 E2 E3) V
           <- eval E1 z
           <- eval E2 V.
ev_case_s : eval (case E1 E2 E3) V
           <- eval E1 (s V1')
           <- eval (E3 V1') V.

```

Recall that the application  $(E3\ V1')$  was used to implement substitution in the object language. We discuss how this is handled operationally below when considering `ev_app`. Pairs are straightforward.

```

ev_pair : eval (pair E1 E2) (pair V1 V2)
         <- eval E1 V1
         <- eval E2 V2.
ev_fst  : eval (fst E) V1
         <- eval E (pair V1 V2).
ev_snd  : eval (snd E) V2
         <- eval E (pair V1 V2).

```

Abstraction and function application employ the notion of substitution. Recall the inference rule and its representation in LF:

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam}\ x. e'_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 \quad [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1\ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ ev\_app}$$

```

ev_app  :  ΠE1:exp. ΠE2:exp. ΠE'1:exp → exp. ΠV2:exp. ΠV:exp.
          eval E1 (lam E'1)
          → eval E2 V2
          → eval (E'1 V2) V
          → eval (app E1 E2) V.

```

As before, we transcribe this (and the trivial rule for evaluating  $\lambda$ -expressions) into Elf.

```

ev_lam  : eval (lam E) (lam E).

ev_app  : eval (app E1 E2) V
          <- eval E1 (lam E1')
          <- eval E2 V2
          <- eval (E1' V2) V.

```

The operational reading of the `ev_app` rule is as follows. In order to evaluate an application  $e_1 e_2$  we evaluate  $e_1$  and match the result against **lam**  $x. e'_1$ . If this succeeds we evaluate  $e_2$  to the value  $v_2$ . Then we evaluate the result of substituting  $v_2$  for  $x$  in  $e'_1$ . The Mini-ML expression **lam**  $x. e'_1$  is represented as in LF as `lam (λx:exp. ⌈e'_1⌋)`, and the variable `E1' : exp -> exp` will be instantiated to `([x:exp] ⌈e'_1⌋)`.<sup>6</sup> In the operational semantics of Elf, an application which is not in canonical form (such as `(E1' V2)` after instantiation of `E1'` and `V2`) will be reduced until it is in head-normal form (see Section 8.2)—in this case this means performing the substitution of `V2` for the top-level bound variable in `E1'`. As an example, consider the evaluation of `(lam x. x) z` which is given by the deduction

$$\frac{\frac{}{\text{lam } x. x \hookrightarrow \text{lam } x. x} \text{ ev\_lam} \quad \frac{}{z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ ev\_z} \quad \frac{}{z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ ev\_z}}{(\text{lam } x. x) z \hookrightarrow z} \text{ ev\_app.}$$

The first goal is

```
?- D : eval (app (lam [x:exp] x) z) V.
```

This is resolved with the clause `ev_app`, yielding the subgoals

```

?- D1 : eval (lam [x:exp] x) (lam E1').
?- D2 : eval z V2.
?- D3 : eval (E1' V2) V.

```

The first subgoal will be resolved with the clause `ev_lam`, instantiating `E1'` to `([x:exp] x)`. The second subgoal will be resolved with the clause `ev_z`, instantiating `V2` to `z`. Thus, by the time the third subgoal is considered, it has been instantiated to

```
?- D3 : eval (([x:exp] x) z) V.
```

When this goal is unified with the clauses in the signature, `(([x:exp] x) z)` is reduced to `z`. It thus unifies with the head of the clause `ev_z`, and `V` is instantiated to `z` to yield the answer

```

V = z.
D = ev_app ev_z ev_z ev_lam.

```

---

<sup>6</sup>Recall that `[x:A]B` is Elf's concrete syntax for  $\lambda x:A. B$ .

Note that because of the subgoal ordering, `ev_lam` is the last argument to `ev_app`.

Evaluation of **let**-expressions follows the same schema as function application, and we again take advantage of meta-level  $\beta$ -reduction in order to model object-level substitution.

```
ev_letv : eval (letv E1 E2) V
  <- eval E1 V1
  <- eval (E2 V1) V.
```

```
ev_letn : eval (letn E1 E2) V
  <- eval (E2 E1) V.
```

The Elf declaration for evaluating a fixpoint construct is again a direct transcription of the corresponding LF declaration. Recall the rule

$$\frac{[\mathbf{fix} \ x. e/x]e \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{fix} \ x. e \hookrightarrow v} \text{ ev\_fix}$$

```
ev_fix : eval (fix E) V
  <- eval (E (fix E)) V.
```

This declaration introduces non-terminating computations into the interpreter. Reconsider the example from page 16, `fix x. x`. Its representation in Elf is given by `fix ([x:exp] x)`. Attempting to evaluate this expression leads to the following sequence of goals.

```
?- D : eval (fix ([x:exp] x)) V.
?- D1 : eval (([x:exp] x) (fix ([x:exp] x))) V.
?- D1 : eval (fix ([x:exp] x)) V.
```

The step from the original goal to the first subgoal is simply the back-chaining step, instantiating `E` to `[x:exp] x`. The second is a  $\beta$ -reduction required to transform the goal into canonical form, relying on the rule of type conversion. The third goal is then a renaming of the first one, and computation will diverge. This corresponds to the earlier observation (see page 16) that there is no  $v$  such that the judgment `fix x. x  $\hookrightarrow$  v` is derivable.

It is also possible that evaluation fails finitely, although in our formulation of the language only for Mini-ML expressions that are not well-typed (in Mini-ML, not LF). For example,

```
?- D : eval (fst z) V.
no
```

The only subgoal considered is `D' : eval z (pair V V2)` after resolution with the clause `ev_fst`. This subgoal fails, since there is no rule that would permit a conclusion of this form, that is, no clause head unifies with `eval z (pair V V2)`.

As a somewhat larger example, we reconsider the evaluation which doubles the natural number 1, as given on page 16. Reading the justifications of the lines 1–17 from the bottom-up yields the same sequence of inference rules as reading the object D below from left to right.

```

?- D : eval (app
              (fix [f:exp] lam [x:exp]
                  (case x z ([x':exp] s (s (app f x')))))
              (s z))
      V.

V = s (s z),
D =
  ev_app
    (ev_case_s
      (ev_s (ev_s (ev_app (ev_case_z ev_z ev_z)
                          ev_z (ev_fix ev_lam))))
      (ev_s ev_z))
    (ev_s ev_z) (ev_fix ev_lam).
;
no more solutions

```

The example above exhibits another feature of the interactive top-level of Elf. After displaying the first solution for  $V$  and  $D$  the Elf interpreter pauses. If one simply inputs a newline then Elf prompts again with `?-` , waiting for another query. If the user types a semi-colon, then the interpreter backtracks as if the most recent subgoal had failed, and tries to find another solution. This can be a useful debugging device. We know that evaluation of Mini-ML expressions should be deterministic in two ways: there should be only one value (see Theorem 2.6) and there should also be at most one deduction of every evaluation judgment. Thus backtracking should never result in another value or another deduction of the same value. Fortunately, the interpreter confirms this property in this particular example.

As a second example for an Elf program, we repeat the definition of value

$$\text{Values } v ::= z \mid s \ v \mid \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \mid \mathbf{lam} \ x. e$$

which was presented as a judgment on page 18 and as an LF signature on page 62.

```

value : exp -> type. %name value P

val_z    : value z.
val_s    : value (s E) <- value E.
val_pair : value (pair E1 E2) <- value E1 <- value E2.
val_lam  : value (lam E).

```

This signature can be used as a program to decide if a given expression is a value. For example,

```

?- value (pair z (s z)).
solved

yes
?- value (fst (pair z (s z))).
no
?- value (lam [x] (fst x)).
solved

```

Here we use a special query form that consists only of a type  $A$ , rather than a typing judgment  $M : A$ . Such a query is interpreted as  $X : A$  for a new free variable  $X$  whose instantiation will not be shown with in the answer substitution. In many cases this query form is substantially more efficient than the form  $M : A$ , since the interpreter optimizes such queries and does not construct the potentially large object  $M$ .

## 4.4 An Implementation of Value Soundness

We now return to the proof of value soundness which was first given in Section 2.4 and formalized in Section 3.7. The theorem states that evaluation always returns a value. The proof of the theorem proceeds by induction over the structure of the derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  of the judgment  $e \hookrightarrow v$ , that is, the evaluation of  $e$ . The first step in the formalization of this proof is to formulate a judgment between deductions,

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{e \hookrightarrow v} \Longrightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}}{v \text{ Value}}$$

which relates every  $\mathcal{D}$  to some  $\mathcal{P}$  and whose definition is based on the structure of  $\mathcal{D}$ . This judgment is then represented in LF as a type family `vs`, following the judgments-as-types principle.

`vs :  $\Pi E:\text{exp. } \Pi V:\text{exp. eval } E \ V \rightarrow \text{value } V \rightarrow \text{type.}$`

Each of the various cases in the induction proof gives rise to one inference rule for the  $\Longrightarrow$  judgment, and each such inference rule is represented by a constant declaration in LF. We illustrate the Elf implementation with the case where  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in the rule `ev_fst` and then present the remainder of the signature in Elf more tersely.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}' \quad e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}{\mathbf{fst} \ e \hookrightarrow v_1} \text{ev\_fst.}$$

Then the induction hypothesis applied to  $\mathcal{D}'$  yields a deduction  $\mathcal{P}'$  of the judgment  $\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}$ . By examining the inference rules we can see that  $\mathcal{P}'$  must end in an application of the `val_pair` rule, that is,

$$\mathcal{P}' = \frac{\mathcal{P}_1 \quad v_1 \text{ Value} \quad \mathcal{P}_2 \quad v_2 \text{ Value}}{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}} \text{val\_pair}$$

for some  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$ . Hence  $v_1 \text{ Value}$  must be derivable, which is what we needed to show.

This is represented by the following inference rule for the  $\Rightarrow$  judgment.

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}' \quad e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \quad \frac{\mathcal{P}_1 \quad v_1 \text{ Value} \quad \mathcal{P}_2 \quad v_2 \text{ Value}}{\langle v_1, v_2 \rangle \text{ Value}} \text{val\_pair}}{\frac{\mathcal{D}' \quad e \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle}{\mathbf{fst} \ e \hookrightarrow v_1} \text{ev\_fst}} \Rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{P}_1}{v_1 \text{ Value}} \text{vs\_fst}$$

Its representation in LF is given by

```
vs_fst  :  ΠE1:exp. ΠV1:exp. ΠV2:exp.
           ΠD':eval E (pair V1 V2). ΠP1:value V1. ΠP2:value V2.
           vs E (pair V1 V2) D' (val_pair V1 V2 P1 P2)
           → vs (fst E) V1 (ev_fst E V1 V2 D') P1
```

This may seem unwieldy, but Elf's type reconstruction comes to our aid. In the declaration of `vs`, the quantifiers on  $E$  and  $V$  can remain implicit:

```
vs : eval E V -> value V -> type.
```

The corresponding arguments to `vs` now also remain implicit. We also repeat the declarations for the inference rules involved in the deduction above.



```

ev_fst  : eval (fst E) V1 <- eval E (pair V1 V2).
val_pair : value (pair E1 E2) <- value E1 <- value E2.

```

Here is the declaration of the `vs_fst` constant:

```

vs_fst  : vs (ev_fst D') P1 <- vs D' (val_pair P2 P1).

```

Note that this declaration only has to deal with deductions, not with expressions. Term reconstruction expands this into

```

vs_fst :
  {E:exp} {E1:exp} {E2:exp} {D':eval E (pair E1 E2)}
  {P2:value E2} {P1:value E1}
  vs E (pair E1 E2) D' (val_pair E2 E1 P2 P1)
  -> vs (fst E) E1 (ev_fst E E1 E2 D') P1.

```

Disregarding the order of quantifiers and the choice of names, this is the LF declaration given above. We show the complete signature which implements the proof of value soundness without further comment. The declarations can be derived from the material and the examples in Sections 2.4 and 3.7.

```

vs : eval E V -> value V -> type.

% Natural Numbers
vs_z      : vs (ev_z) (val_z).
vs_s      : vs (ev_s D1) (val_s P1)
            <- vs D1 P1.
vs_case_z : vs (ev_case_z D2 D1) P2
            <- vs D2 P2.
vs_case_s : vs (ev_case_s D3 D1) P3
            <- vs D3 P3.

% Pairs
vs_pair : vs (ev_pair D2 D1) (val_pair P2 P1)
            <- vs D1 P1
            <- vs D2 P2.
vs_fst  : vs (ev_fst D') P1
            <- vs D' (val_pair P2 P1).
vs_snd  : vs (ev_snd D') P2
            <- vs D' (val_pair P2 P1).

% Functions
vs_lam  : vs (ev_lam) (val_lam).
vs_app  : vs (ev_app D3 D2 D1) P3

```

```

    <- vs D3 P3.

% Definitions
vs_letv : vs (ev_letv D2 D1) P2
    <- vs D2 P2.
vs_letn : vs (ev_letn D2) P2
    <- vs D2 P2.

% Recursion
vs_fix : vs (ev_fix D1) P1
    <- vs D1 P1.

```

This signature can be used to transform evaluations into value deductions. For example, the evaluation of **case z of z  $\Rightarrow$  s z | s x  $\Rightarrow$  z** considered above is given by the Elf object

```
ev_case_z (ev_s ev_z) ev_z
```

of type

```
eval (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) (s z).
```

We can transform this evaluation into a derivation which shows that **s z** is a value:

```

?- vs (ev_case_z (ev_s ev_z) ev_z) P.

P = val_s val_z.

```

The sequence of subgoals considered is

```

?- vs (ev_case_z (ev_s ev_z) ev_z) P.
% Resolved with clause vs_case_z
?- vs (ev_s ev_z) P.
% Resolved with clause vs_s [with P = val_s P1]
?- vs ev_z P1.
% Resolved with clause vs_z [with P1 = val_z]

```

This approach to testing the meta-theory is feasible for this simple example. As evaluations become more complicated, however, we would like to use the program for evaluation to generate appropriate derivations and then transform them. This form of sequencing of computation can be achieved in Elf, but only in a somewhat awkward fashion because of the order in which subgoals are solved. In order to properly stage the queries, we need an auxiliary family **find** whose only purpose is to explicitly construct an evaluation. Note that **find** is a level 2 type family.

```

find : {E:exp} eval E V -> type.
find_all : {E:exp} {D:eval E V} find E D.

```

The family `tfm` below now first constructs an evaluation `D` and then transforms it.

```
tfm : {E:exp} eval E V -> value V -> type.
tfm_all : tfm E D P <- find E D <- vs D P.
```

For example,

```
?- tfm (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) D P.
```

```
P = val_s val_z,
D = ev_case_z (ev_s ev_z) ev_z.
```

Since there is often a need for staging queries, the Elf implementation provides a special kind of query `sigma [x : A] B`.<sup>7</sup> A query of this form first solves `A` and instantiates `x` to an object of the appropriate type. It then solves `B` under this instantiation. The `sigma` construct can be nested, but it is a special top-level form and cannot be embedded within signatures. Using this special construct, we can reformulate the query without special auxiliary families `find` and `tfm`.

```
?- sigma [D: eval (case z (s z) ([x:exp] z)) V] vs D P.
```

```
P = val_s val_z,
V = s z.
```

This is reminiscent of the use of  $\Sigma$ -types (or *strong sums*) in some type theories—thus the name `sigma`.

## 4.5 Dynamic and Static Constants

Via the judgments-as-types and deductions-as-object principles of representation, Elf unifies concepts which are ordinarily distinct in logic programming languages. For example, a goal is represented as a type in Elf. If we look a little deeper, Elf associates a variable `M` with each goal type `A` such that solving the goal requires finding a closed object `M` of some closed instance of `A`. That is, Elf unifies the concepts of goal and logic variable. This identification of concepts has not presented any problems so far, but in some circumstances it can lead to undesired operational behavior of Elf programs. One example of this problem is in the program for Mini-ML type inference in Section 5.5. Here we will use simple list manipulation programs as examples to illustrate the difficulties and the solution adopted in Elf.

First, the declaration of natural numbers. We declare `s`, the successor function, as a prefix operator so we can write 2, for example, as `s s 0` without additional parentheses. Note that without the prefix declaration this term would be associated to the left and parsed incorrectly as `((s s) 0)`.

---

<sup>7</sup>The exact form of the support for staging may differ in future versions of Elf.

```

nat  : type.          %name nat N
0    : nat.
s    : nat -> nat.    %prefix 20 s

```

The prefix declaration has the general form `%prefix prec id1 ... idn` and gives the constants  $id_1, \dots, id_n$  precedence  $prec$ . The second declaration introduces lists of natural numbers. We declare “;” as a right-associative infix constructor for lists.

```

list : type.          %name list L K M
nil  : list.
;    : nat -> list -> list. %infix right 10 ;

```

For example, `(0 ; s 0 ; s s 0 ; nil)` denotes the list of the first three natural numbers; `(0 ; ((s 0) ; ((s (s 0)) ; nil)))` is its fully parenthesized version, and `(; 0 (; (s 0) (; (s (s 0)) nil)))` is the prefix form which would have to be used if no infix declarations had been supplied.

The definition of the `append` program is straightforward. It is implemented as a type family indexed by three lists, where the third list must be the result of appending the first two. This can easily be written as a judgment (see Exercise 4.6).

```

append : list -> list -> list -> type.

ap_nil  : append nil K K.
ap_cons : append (X ; L) K (X ; M) <- append L K M.

```

This program exhibits the expected behavior when given ground lists as the first two arguments. It can also be used to split a list when the third argument is given the first two are variables. For example,

```

?- append (0 ; s 0 ; nil) (s s 0 ; nil) M.

M = 0 ; s 0 ; s s 0 ; nil.
yes
?- append L K (0 ; s 0 ; s s 0 ; nil).

K = 0 ; s 0 ; s s 0 ; nil,
L = nil.
;
K = s 0 ; s s 0 ; nil,
L = 0 ; nil.
;
K = s s 0 ; nil,
L = 0 ; s 0 ; nil.
;

```

```

K = nil,
L = 0 ; s 0 ; s s 0 ; nil.
;
no more solutions

```

The behavior of this program on a query such as `?- append nil K M.` may be a surprise at first. Recall that our first approximation to the full operational semantics calls for *closed* answers. Omitting deductions, the first four solutions are given below.

```
?- append nil K M.
```

```

M = nil,
K = nil.
;
M = 0 ; nil,
K = 0 ; nil.
;
M = s 0 ; nil,
K = s 0 ; nil.
;
M = s s 0 ; nil,
K = s s 0 ; nil.

```

The analogy to Prolog suggests that the goal `append nil K M` should instead be resolved with the clause `ap_nil`, instantiating `K` and `M` to some common variable. For example,

```
?- append nil K M.
```

```

M = L,
K = L.
;
no more solutions

```

This solution subsumes all the others given above, that is, any other solution will be an instance of this one. But it violates the principle that search proceeds by finding a closed object of a closed instance of the given type, since the answer contains the free variable `L`. In many circumstance like the one above it is desirable to permit free variables of certain types in answer substitutions. Thus we need a way to instruct the Elf interpreter not to search for closed objects of types `list` or `nat`. We label such families *static*, while families such as `append` are labelled *dynamic*. The Elf top-level provides ways to load signatures such that its declarations will be

considered either static or dynamic.<sup>8</sup> In the example above, the signatures defining natural numbers and lists would normally be loaded as static, while the signature defining `append` would be loaded as dynamic. When all signatures of this example are loaded dynamically, no free variables are tolerated in the answer, and the Elf interpreter will enumerate lists of natural numbers as shown above.

Declaring too many signatures to be static can lead to unexpected behavior. For example, if all signatures above are loaded statically, then there will never be any search! Each query will immediately “succeed,” and the object of the given query type remains a free variable. For example,

```
?- Q : append (0 ; nil) K M.
```

```
M = M,  
K = K,  
Q = Q.
```

The variable `Q` variable remains uninstantiated; we have “reduced” the problem of finding an object of type `append nil (0 ; nil) nil` to itself. In the usual situation, that is, when `append` is dynamic and all other types are static, we would obtain, for example,

```
?- Q : append (0 ; nil) K M.
```

```
M = 0 ; K1,  
K = K1,  
Q = ap_cons ap_nil.
```

The significance of static type families goes beyond the final answer to a query. In Mini-ML type inference, for example, it is crucial that Mini-ML types are static in order to avoid excessive backtracking and ensure termination (see Exercise 5.7).

Besides families, objects may also be either static or dynamic. An object which is static will never be used during search, and thus solutions may be overlooked. On the other hand, objects whose type would lead to undesirable search behavior can be excluded. In Elf programming practice it is usual to divide the signatures into the static and the dynamic part, situated in separate files. Each file contains declarations of families and objects.

The distinction between dynamic and static constants affects only search and not the underlying LF type theory or the process of type reconstruction. It reintroduces some aspects of the distinction between goals and logic variables that is present in Prolog. A formula in Prolog corresponds to a dynamic type in Elf, a predicate to a dynamic type family. A logic variable in Prolog is now a variable of static type, that is, a variable which is instantiated only by unification, but not by search.

---

<sup>8</sup>A more principled solution has been adopted in the module calculus for Elf [HP99].

## 4.6 Exercises

**Exercise 4.1** Show the sequence of subgoals generated by the query which attempts to evaluate the Mini-ML expression  $(\mathbf{lam}\ x.\ x\ x)\ (\mathbf{lam}\ x.\ x\ x)$ . Also show that this expression is not well-typed in Mini-ML, although its representation is of course well-typed in LF.

**Exercise 4.2** The Elf interpreter for Mini-ML contains some obvious redundancies. For example, while constructing an evaluation of  $\mathbf{case}\ e_1\ \mathbf{of}\ z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s}\ x \Rightarrow e_3$ , the expression  $e_1$  will be evaluated twice if its value is not zero. Write a program for evaluation of Mini-ML expressions in Elf that avoids this redundant computation and prove that the new interpreter and the natural semantics given here are equivalent. Implement this proof as a higher-level judgment relating derivations.

**Exercise 4.3** Implement the optimized version of evaluation from Exercise 2.11 in which values that are substituted for variables during evaluation are not evaluated again. Based on the modified interpreter, implement *bounded evaluation*  $e \xrightarrow{n} v$  with the intended meaning that  $e$  evaluates to  $v$  in at most  $n$  steps (for a natural number  $n$ ). You may make the simplifying but unrealistic assumption that every inference rule represents one step in the evaluation.

**Exercise 4.4** Write Elf programs to implement quicksort and insertion sort for lists of natural numbers, including all necessary auxiliary judgments.

**Exercise 4.5** Write declarations to represent natural numbers in binary notation.

1. Implement a translation between binary and unary representations in Elf.
2. Formulate an appropriate representation theorem and prove it.
3. Implement the proof of the representation theorem in Elf.

**Exercise 4.6** Give the definition of the judgment *append* as a deductive system. *append*  $l_1\ l_2\ l_3$  should be derivable whenever  $l_3$  is the result of appending  $l_1$  and  $l_2$ .





## Chapter 5

# Parametric and Hypothetical Judgments

Many deductive systems employ reasoning from hypotheses. We have seen an example in Section 2.5: a typing derivation of a Mini-ML expression requires assumptions about the types of its free variables. Another example occurs in the system of natural deduction in Chapter 7, where a deduction of the judgment that  $A \supset B$  *is true* can be given as a deduction of  $B$  *is true* from the hypothesis  $A$  *is true*. We refer to a judgment that  $J$  is derivable under a hypothesis  $J'$  as a *hypothetical judgment*. Its critical property is that we can substitute a derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $J'$  for every use of the hypothesis  $J'$  to obtain a derivation which no longer depends on the assumption  $J'$ .

Related is reasoning with parameters, which also occurs frequently. The system of natural deduction provides once again a typical example: we can infer that  $\forall x. A$  *is true* if we can show that  $[a/x]A$  *is true*, where  $a$  is a new parameter which does not occur in any undischarged hypothesis. Similarly, in the typing rules for Mini-ML we postulate that every variable is declared at most once in a context  $\Gamma$ , that is, in the rule

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:\tau_1 \triangleright e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \text{tp\_lam}$$

the variable  $x$  is new with respect to  $\Gamma$  (which represents the hypotheses of the derivation). This side condition can always be fulfilled by tacitly renaming the bound variable. We refer to a judgment that  $J$  is derivable with parameter  $x$  as a *parametric judgment*. Its critical property is that we can substitute an expression  $t$  for  $x$  throughout a derivation of a parametric judgment to obtain a derivation which no longer depends on the parameter  $x$ .

Since parametric and hypothetical judgments are common, it is natural to ask if we can directly support them within the logical framework. The answer is

affirmative—the key is the notion of function provided in LF. Briefly, the derivation of a hypothetical judgment is represented by a function which maps a derivation of the hypothesis to a derivation of the conclusion. Applying this function corresponds to substituting a derivation for appeals to the hypothesis. Similarly, the derivation of a parametric judgment is represented by a function which maps an expression to a derivation of the instantiated conclusion. Applying this function corresponds to substituting an expressions for the parameter throughout the parametric derivation.

In the remainder of this chapter we elaborate the notions of parametric and hypothetical judgment and their representation in LF. We also show how to exploit them to arrive at a natural and elegant representation of the proof of type preservation for Mini-ML.

## 5.1 Closed Expressions

When employing parametric and hypothetical judgments, we must formulate the representation theorems carefully in order to avoid paradoxes. As a simple example, we consider the judgment  $e \text{ Closed}$  which expresses that  $e$  has no free variables. Expression constructors which do not introduce any bound variables are treated in a straightforward manner.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{z \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z} \qquad \frac{e \text{ Closed}}{s \ e \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_s} \\
 \\
 \frac{e_1 \text{ Closed} \quad e_2 \text{ Closed}}{\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_pair} \\
 \\
 \frac{e \text{ Closed}}{\text{fst } e \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_fst} \qquad \frac{e \text{ Closed}}{\text{snd } e \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_snd} \\
 \\
 \frac{e_1 \text{ Closed} \quad e_2 \text{ Closed}}{e_1 \ e_2 \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_app}
 \end{array}$$

In order to give a concise formulation of the judgment whenever variables are bound we use hypothetical judgments. For example, in order to conclude that **lam**  $x. e$  is closed, we must show that  $e$  is closed under the assumption that  $x$  is closed. The hypothesis about  $x$  may only be used in the deduction of  $e$ , but not elsewhere. Furthermore, in order to avoid confusion between different bound variables with the same name, we would like to make sure that the name  $x$  is not already used, that is, the judgment should be parametric in  $x$ . The hypothetical

judgment that  $J$  is derivable from hypotheses  $J_1, \dots, J_n$  is written as

$$\begin{array}{c} J_1 \dots J_n \\ \vdots \\ J \end{array}$$

The construction of a deduction of a hypothetical judgment should be intuitively clear: in addition to the usual inference rules, we may also use a hypothesis as evidence for a judgment. But we must also indicate where an assumption is *discharged*, that is, after which point in a derivation it is no longer available. We indicate this by providing a name for the hypothesis  $J$  and labelling the inference at which the hypothesis is discharged correspondingly. Similarly, we label the inference at which a parameter is discharged. The remaining inference rules for the judgment  $e$  *Closed* using this notation are given below.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{x \text{ Closed}}^u \\ \vdots \\ \frac{e_1 \text{ Closed} \quad e_2 \text{ Closed} \quad e_3 \text{ Closed}}{(\text{case } e_1 \text{ of } \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3) \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_case}^{x,u} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\frac{}{x \text{ Closed}}^u \quad \vdots \quad e \text{ Closed}}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. e \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x,u} \qquad \frac{\frac{}{x \text{ Closed}}^u \quad \vdots \quad e_1 \text{ Closed} \quad e_2 \text{ Closed}}{\mathbf{let val} \ x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_letv}^{x,u} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{e_1 \text{ Closed} \quad \frac{}{x \text{ Closed}}^u \quad \vdots \quad e_2 \text{ Closed}}{\mathbf{let name} \ x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_letn}^{x,u} \qquad \frac{e \text{ Closed}}{\mathbf{fix} \ x. e \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_fix}^{x,u} \end{array}$$

In order to avoid ambiguity we assume that in a given deduction, all labels for the inference rules `clo_case`, `clo_lam`, `clo_letv`, `clo_letn` and `clo_fix` are distinct. An alternative to this rather stringent, but convenient requirement is suggestive of the representation of hypothetical judgments in LF: we can think of a label  $u$  as a variable ranging over deductions. The variable is bound by the inference which discharges the hypothesis.

The following derivation shows that the expression **let name**  $f = \mathbf{lam} \ x. x \mathbf{ in } f \ (f \ z)$  is closed.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{x \text{ Closed}} \ u}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x,u} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{f \text{ Closed}} \ w \quad \frac{}{z \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}}{\text{clo\_app}}}{\frac{}{f \ z \text{ Closed}}} \text{clo\_app}}{\frac{}{f \ (f \ z) \text{ Closed}}} \text{clo\_app} \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{let \ name} \ f = \mathbf{lam} \ x. x \mathbf{ in } f \ (f \ z) \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_letn}^{f,w}$$

This deduction has no undischarged assumptions, but it contains subderivations with hypotheses. The right subderivation, for example, would traditionally be written as

$$\frac{f \text{ Closed} \quad \frac{\frac{}{f \text{ Closed}} \quad \frac{}{z \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}}{\text{clo\_app}}}{\frac{}{f \ z \text{ Closed}}} \text{clo\_app} \quad \frac{}{f \ (f \ z) \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_app}.$$

In this notation we can not determine if there are two hypotheses (which happen to coincide) or two uses of the same hypothesis. This distinction may be irrelevant under some circumstances, but in many situations it is critical. Therefore we retain the labels even for hypothetical derivations, with the restriction that the free labels must be used consistently, that is, all occurrences of a label must justify the same hypothesis. The subderivation above then reads

$$\frac{\frac{}{f \text{ Closed}} \ w \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{f \text{ Closed}} \ w \quad \frac{}{z \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}}{\text{clo\_app}}}{\frac{}{f \ z \text{ Closed}}} \text{clo\_app}}{\frac{}{f \ (f \ z) \text{ Closed}}} \text{clo\_app}.$$

There are certain reasoning principles for hypothetical derivations which are usually not stated explicitly. One of them is that hypotheses need not be used. For example, **lam**  $x. z$  is closed as witnessed by the derivation

$$\frac{\frac{}{z \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. z \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x,u}$$

which contains a subdeduction of  $z \text{ Closed}$  from hypothesis  $u :: x \text{ Closed}$ . Another principle is that hypotheses may be used more than once and thus, in fact, arbitrarily often. Finally, the order of the hypotheses is irrelevant (although their labelling is not). This means that a hypothetical deduction in this notation could be evidence for a variety of hypothetical judgments which differ in the order of the hypotheses

or may contain further, unused hypotheses. One can make these principles explicit as inference rules, in which case we refer to them as *weakening* (hypotheses need not be used), *contraction* (hypotheses may be used more than once), and *exchange* (the order of the hypotheses is irrelevant). We should keep in mind that if these principles do not apply then the judgment should not be considered to be hypothetical in the usual sense, and the techniques below may not apply. These properties have been studied abstractly as *consequence relations* [Avr87, Gar92].

The example derivation above is not only hypothetical in  $w$ , but also parametric in  $f$ , and we can therefore substitute an expression such as  $\mathbf{lam} \ x. x$  for  $f$  and obtain another valid deduction.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}} w}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}} w}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}} \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}}{\frac{}{\mathbf{z} \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}} \text{clo\_app}}{\frac{}{(\mathbf{lam} \ x. x) \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_app}} \text{clo\_app}$$

If  $\mathcal{C} :: e \text{ Closed}$  is parametric in  $x$ , then we write  $[e'/x]\mathcal{C} :: [e'/x]e \text{ Closed}$  for the result of substituting  $e'$  for  $x$  in the deduction  $\mathcal{C}$ . In the example, the deduction still depends on the hypothesis  $w$ , which suggests another approach to understanding hypothetical judgments. If a deduction depends on a hypothesis  $u :: J$  we can substitute any valid deduction of  $J$  for this hypothesis to obtain another deduction which no longer depends on  $u :: J$ . Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be the deduction above and let  $\mathcal{C}' :: \mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}$  be

$$\frac{\frac{}{x \text{ Closed}} u}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x,u}.$$

Note that this deduction is *not* parametric in  $x$ , that is,  $x$  must be considered a bound variable within  $\mathcal{C}'$ . The result of substituting  $\mathcal{C}'$  for  $w$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{x \text{ Closed}} u}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. x \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x,u} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{x' \text{ Closed}} u'}{\mathbf{lam} \ x'. x' \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x',u'} \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}}{\frac{}{\mathbf{z} \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_z}} \text{clo\_app}}{\frac{}{(\mathbf{lam} \ x'. x') \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_app}} \text{clo\_app}$$

where we have renamed some occurrences of  $x$  and  $u$  in order to satisfy our global side conditions on parameter names. In general we write  $[\mathcal{D}'/u]\mathcal{D}$  for the result of substituting  $\mathcal{D}'$  for the hypothesis  $u :: J'$  in  $\mathcal{D}$ , where  $\mathcal{D}' :: J'$ . During substitution we may need to rename parameters or labels of assumptions to avoid violating side conditions on inference rules. This is analogous to the renaming of bound variables during substitution in terms in order to avoid variable capture.

The representation of the judgment  $e \text{ Closed}$  in LF follows the judgment-as-types principle: we introduce a type family ‘closed’ indexed by an expression.

`closed` : `exp`  $\rightarrow$  `type`

The inference rules that do not employ hypothetical judgments are represented straightforwardly.

`clo_z` : `closed` `z`  
`clo_s` :  $\Pi E:\text{exp}. `closed`  $E \rightarrow$  `closed` (`s`  $E$ )  
`clo_pair` :  $\Pi E_1:\text{exp}.$   $\Pi E_2:\text{exp}.$   
           `closed`  $E_1 \rightarrow$  `closed`  $E_2 \rightarrow$  `closed` (`pair`  $E_1$   $E_2$ )  
`clofst` :  $\Pi E:\text{exp}.$  `closed`  $E \rightarrow$  `closed` (`fst`  $E$ )  
`clo_snd` :  $\Pi E:\text{exp}.$  `closed`  $E \rightarrow$  `closed` (`snd`  $E$ )  
`clo_app` :  $\Pi E_1:\text{exp}.$   $\Pi E_2:\text{exp}.$   
           `closed`  $E_1 \rightarrow$  `closed`  $E_2 \rightarrow$  `closed` (`app`  $E_1$   $E_2$ )$

Now we reconsider the rule `clo_lam`.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \overline{x \text{ Closed}}^u \\ \vdots \\ e \text{ Closed} \end{array}}{\text{lam } x. e \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x,u}$$

The judgment in the premiss is parametric in  $x$  and hypothetical in  $x \text{ Closed}$ . We thus consider it as a function which, when applied to an  $e'$  and a deduction  $\mathcal{C} :: e' \text{ Closed}$  yields a deduction of  $[e'/x]e \text{ Closed}$ .

`clo_lam` :  $\Pi E:\text{exp} \rightarrow$  `exp`.  
            $(\Pi x:\text{exp}.$  `closed`  $x \rightarrow$  `closed` ( $E$   $x$ ))  $\rightarrow$  `closed` (`lam`  $E$ )

Recall that it is necessary to represent the scope of a binding operator in the language of expressions as a function from expressions to expressions. Similar declarations are necessary for the hypothetical judgments in the premisses of the `clo_letv`, `clo_letn`, and `clo_fix` rules.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{clo\_case} & : \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp}. \Pi E_3:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \\
& \quad \text{closed } E_1 \rightarrow \text{closed } E_2 \\
& \quad \rightarrow (\Pi x:\text{exp}. \text{closed } x \rightarrow \text{closed } (E_3 \ x)) \\
& \quad \rightarrow \text{closed } (\text{case } E_1 \ E_2 \ E_3) \\
\text{clo\_letv} & : \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \\
& \quad \text{closed } E_1 \rightarrow (\Pi x:\text{exp}. \text{closed } x \rightarrow \text{closed } (E_2 \ x)) \\
& \quad \rightarrow \text{closed } (\text{letv } E_1 \ E_2) \\
\text{clo\_letn} & : \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \\
& \quad \text{closed } E_1 \rightarrow (\Pi x:\text{exp}. \text{closed } x \rightarrow \text{closed } (E_2 \ x)) \\
& \quad \rightarrow \text{closed } (\text{letn } E_1 \ E_2) \\
\text{clo\_fix} & : \Pi E:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \\
& \quad (\Pi x:\text{exp}. \text{closed } x \rightarrow \text{closed } (E \ x)) \rightarrow \text{closed } (\text{fix } E)
\end{aligned}$$

We refer to the signature which includes expression constructors, the declarations of the family *closed* and the encodings of the inference rules above as *EC*.

In order to appreciate how this representation works, it is necessary to understand the representation function  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  on deductions. As usual, the definition of the representation function follows the structure of  $\mathcal{C} :: e \text{ Closed}$ . We only show a few typical cases.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Case: } \mathcal{C} &= \frac{\frac{\mathcal{C}_1}{e_1 \text{ Closed}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{C}_2}{e_2 \text{ Closed}}}{e_1 \ e_2 \text{ Closed}} \text{ clo\_app. Then} \\
& \quad \ulcorner \mathcal{C} \urcorner = \text{clo\_app } \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \ulcorner e_2 \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{C}_1 \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{C}_2 \urcorner.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{x \text{ Closed}}}{\mathcal{C}_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{C}_1}{e \text{ Closed}}}{\text{lam } x. e \text{ Closed}} \text{ clo\_lam}^{x.u}. \text{ Then} \\
& \quad \ulcorner \mathcal{C} \urcorner = \text{clo\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e \urcorner) (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lambda u:\text{closed } x. \ulcorner \mathcal{C}_1 \urcorner).
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Case: } \mathcal{C} &= \frac{\overline{u}}{x \text{ Closed}} u. \text{ Then} \\
& \quad \ulcorner \mathcal{C} \urcorner = u.
\end{aligned}$$

The example deduction above which is evidence for the judgment **let name**  $f = \text{lam } x. x \text{ in } f \text{ z Closed}$  is represented as

$$\begin{aligned}
\vdash_{EC} \quad & \text{clo\_letn } (\text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. x)) (\lambda f:\text{exp}. \text{app } f \text{ z}) \\
& (\text{clo\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. x) (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lambda u:\text{closed } u. u)) \\
& (\lambda f:\text{exp}. \lambda w:\text{closed } f. \text{clo\_app } f \text{ z } w \text{ clo\_z}) \\
& : \text{closed } (\text{letn } (\text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. x)) (\lambda f:\text{exp}. \text{app } f \text{ z}))
\end{aligned}$$

To show that the above is derivable we need to employ the rule of type conversion as in the example on page 59. The naive formulation of the soundness of the representation does not take the hypothetical or parametric judgments into account.

**Property 5.1** (Soundness of Representation, Version 1)

*Given any deduction  $\mathcal{C} :: e \text{ Closed}$ . Then  $\vdash_{EC} \ulcorner \mathcal{C} \urcorner \uparrow \text{closed} \ulcorner e \urcorner$ .*

While this indeed a theorem, it cannot be proven directly by induction—the induction hypothesis will not be strong enough to deal with the inference rules whose premisses require deductions of hypothetical judgments. In order to formulate and prove a more general property we have to consider the representation of hypothetical judgments. As one can see from the example above, the deduction fragment

$$\frac{\frac{}{f \text{ Closed}} \quad w \quad \frac{}{z \text{ Closed}} \quad \text{clo\_z}}{f \ z \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_app}$$

is represented by the LF object

$$\text{clo\_app } f \ z \ w \ \text{clo\_z}$$

which is valid in the context with the declarations  $f:\text{exp}$  and  $w:\text{closed } f$ . In order to make the connection between the hypotheses and the LF context explicit, we retain the labels of the assumptions and explicitly define the representation of a list of hypotheses. Let  $\Delta = u_1 :: x_1 \text{ Closed}, \dots, u_n :: x_n \text{ Closed}$  be a list of hypotheses where all labels are distinct. Then

$$\ulcorner \Delta \urcorner = x_1:\text{exp}, u_1:\text{closed } x_1, \dots, x_n:\text{exp}, u_n:\text{closed } x_n.$$

The reformulated soundness property now references the available hypotheses.

**Property 5.2** (Soundness of Representation, Version 2)

*Given any deduction  $\mathcal{C} :: e \text{ Closed}$  from hypotheses  $\Delta = u_1 :: x_1 \text{ Closed}, \dots, u_n :: x_n \text{ Closed}$ . Then  $\vdash_{EC} \ulcorner \Delta \urcorner \text{Ctx}$  and*

$$\ulcorner \Delta \urcorner \vdash_{EC} \ulcorner \mathcal{C} \urcorner \uparrow \text{closed} \ulcorner e \urcorner.$$

**Proof:** The proof is by induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{C}$ . We show three typical cases.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{C}_1}{e_1 \text{ Closed}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{C}_2}{e_2 \text{ Closed}}}{e_1 \ e_2 \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_app}.$$

Since  $\mathcal{C}$  is a deduction from hypotheses  $\Delta$ , both  $\mathcal{C}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$  are also deductions from hypotheses  $\Delta$ . From the induction hypothesis we conclude then that



1.  $\lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash_{EC} \lceil \mathcal{C}_1 \rceil \uparrow \text{closed } \lceil e_1 \rceil$ , and
2.  $\lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash_{EC} \lceil \mathcal{C}_2 \rceil \uparrow \text{closed } \lceil e_2 \rceil$

are both derivable. Thus, from the type of `clo_app`,

$$\lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash_{EC} \text{clo\_app } \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil \lceil \mathcal{C}_1 \rceil \lceil \mathcal{C}_2 \rceil \uparrow \text{closed } (\text{app } \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil).$$

It remains to notice that  $\lceil e_1 \ e_2 \rceil = \text{app } \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil$ .

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\frac{\frac{}{x \text{ Closed}} u}{\mathcal{C}_1} e \text{ Closed}}{\text{lam } x. e \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam } x. u.$$

Then  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is a deduction from hypotheses  $\Delta, u :: x \text{ Closed}$ , and

$$\lceil \Delta, u :: x \text{ Closed} \rceil = \lceil \Delta \rceil, x:\text{exp}, u:\text{closed } x.$$

By the induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{C}_1$  we thus conclude that

$$\lceil \Delta \rceil, x:\text{exp}, u:\text{closed } x \vdash_{EC} \lceil \mathcal{C}_1 \rceil \uparrow \text{closed } \lceil e \rceil$$

is derivable. Hence, by two applications of the `canpi` rule for canonical forms,

$$\lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash_{EC} \lambda x:\text{exp}. \lambda u:\text{closed } x. \lceil \mathcal{C}_1 \rceil \uparrow \Pi x:\text{exp}. \Pi u:\text{closed } x. \text{closed } \lceil e \rceil$$

is also derivable.

By the representation theorem for expressions (Theorem 3.6) and the weakening for LF we also know that

$$\lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash_{EC} \lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil \uparrow \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$$

is derivable. From this and the type of `clo_lam` we infer

$$\begin{aligned} \lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash_{EC} \text{clo\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil) \\ \downarrow (\Pi x:\text{exp}. \Pi u:\text{closed } x. \text{closed } ((\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil) x)) \\ \rightarrow \text{closed } (\text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil)). \end{aligned}$$

By the rule `atmcnv`, using one  $\beta$ -conversion in the type above, we conclude

$$\begin{aligned} \lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash_{EC} \text{clo\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil) \\ \downarrow (\Pi x:\text{exp}. \Pi u:\text{closed } x. \text{closed } \lceil e \rceil) \\ \rightarrow \text{closed } (\text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e \rceil)). \end{aligned}$$

Using the rules **atmapp** and **cancon** which are now applicable we infer

$$\begin{array}{c} \ulcorner \Delta \urcorner \vdash_{EC} \text{clo\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } \ulcorner e \urcorner) (\lambda x:\text{exp. } \lambda u:\text{closed } x. \ulcorner C_1 \urcorner) \\ \uparrow \text{closed } (\text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } \ulcorner e \urcorner)), \end{array}$$

which is the desired conclusion since  $\ulcorner \mathbf{lam } x. e \urcorner = \text{lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } \ulcorner e \urcorner)$ .

**Case:**

$$C = \frac{}{x \text{ Closed}} u.$$

Then  $\ulcorner C \urcorner = u$ , to which  $\ulcorner \Delta \urcorner$  assigns type  $\text{closed } x = \text{closed } \ulcorner x \urcorner$ , which is what we needed to show.

□

The inverse of the representation function,  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$ , is defined on canonical objects  $C$  of type  $\text{closed } E$  for some  $E$  of type  $\text{exp}$ . This is sufficient for the adequacy theorem below—one can extend it to arbitrary valid objects via conversion to canonical form. Again, we only show three critical cases.

$$\begin{aligned} \ulcorner \text{clo\_app } E_1 E_2 C_1 C_2 \urcorner &= \frac{\ulcorner C_1 \urcorner \quad \ulcorner C_2 \urcorner}{\ulcorner E_1 \urcorner \quad \ulcorner E_2 \urcorner \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_app} \\ \ulcorner \text{clo\_lam } (\lambda x:\text{exp. } E) (\lambda x:\text{exp. } \lambda u:\text{closed } x. C_1) \urcorner &= \frac{\frac{\ulcorner C_1 \urcorner}{\ulcorner E \urcorner \text{ Closed}}}{\mathbf{lam } x. \ulcorner E \urcorner \text{ Closed}} \text{clo\_lam}^{x,u} \\ \ulcorner u \urcorner &= \frac{}{x \text{ Closed}} u \end{aligned}$$

The last case reveals that the inverse of the representation function should be parameterized by a context so we can find the  $x$  which is assumed to be closed according to hypothesis  $u$ . Alternatively, we can assume that we always know the type of the canonical object we are translating to a deduction. Again, we are faced with the problem that the natural theorem regarding the function  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  cannot be proved directly by induction.

**Property 5.3** (Completeness of Representation, Version 1) *Given LF objects  $E$  and  $C$  such that  $\vdash_{EC} E \uparrow \text{exp}$  and  $\vdash_{EC} C \uparrow \text{closed } E$ . Then  $\ulcorner C \urcorner :: \ulcorner E \urcorner \text{ Closed}$ .*

In order to prove this, we generalize it to allow appropriate contexts. These contexts need to be translated to an appropriate list of hypotheses. Let  $\Gamma$  be a context of the form  $x_1:\text{exp}, u_1:\text{closed } x_1, \dots, x_n:\text{closed } x_n$ . Then  $\perp\Gamma\perp$  is the list of hypotheses  $u_1 :: x_1 \text{ Closed}, \dots, u_n :: x_n \text{ Closed}$ .

**Property 5.4** (Completeness of Representation, Version 2) *Given a context  $\Gamma = x_1:\text{exp}, u_1:\text{closed } x_1, \dots, x_n:\text{closed } x_n$  and LF objects  $E$  and  $C$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash_{EC} E \uparrow \text{exp}$  and  $\Gamma \vdash_{EC} C \uparrow \text{closed } E$ . Then  $\perp C \perp :: \perp E \perp \text{ Closed}$  is a valid deduction from hypotheses  $\perp\Gamma\perp$ . Moreover,  $\perp\ulcorner C \urcorner\perp = C$  and  $\perp\ulcorner \Delta \urcorner\perp = \Delta$  for deductions  $C :: e \text{ Closed}$  and hypotheses  $\Delta$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of the derivation  $\Gamma \vdash_{EC} C \uparrow \text{closed } E$ . The restriction to contexts  $\Gamma$  of a certain form is crucial in this proof (see Exercise 5.1).  $\square$

The usual requirement that  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  be a compositional bijection can be understood in terms of substitution for deductions. Let  $C :: e \text{ Closed}$  be a deduction from hypothesis  $u :: x \text{ closed}$ . Then compositionality of the representation function requires

$$\ulcorner [C'/u][e'/x]C \urcorner = [\ulcorner C' \urcorner/u][\ulcorner e' \urcorner/x]\ulcorner C \urcorner$$

whenever  $C' :: e' \text{ Closed}$ . Note that the substitution on the left-hand side is substitution for undischarged hypotheses in a deduction, while substitution on the right is at the level of LF objects. Deductions of parametric and hypothetical judgments are represented as functions in LF. Applying such functions means to substitute for deductions, which can be exhibited if we rewrite the right-hand side of the equation above, preserving definitional equality.

$$[\ulcorner C' \urcorner/u][\ulcorner e' \urcorner/x]\ulcorner C \urcorner \equiv (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lambda u:\text{closed } x. \ulcorner C \urcorner) \ulcorner e' \urcorner \ulcorner C' \urcorner$$

The discipline of dependent function types ensures the validity of the object on the right-hand side:

$$(\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lambda u:\text{closed } x. \ulcorner C \urcorner) \ulcorner e' \urcorner : [\ulcorner e' \urcorner/x](\text{closed } x \rightarrow \text{closed } \ulcorner e \urcorner).$$

Hence, by compositionality of the representation for expressions,

$$(\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lambda u:\text{closed } x. \ulcorner C \urcorner) \ulcorner e' \urcorner : \text{closed } \ulcorner e' \urcorner \rightarrow \text{closed } \ulcorner [e'/x]e \urcorner$$

and the application of this object to  $\ulcorner C' \urcorner$  is valid and of the appropriate type.

**Theorem 5.5** (Adequacy) *There is a bijection between deductions  $C :: e \text{ Closed}$  from hypotheses  $u_1 :: x_1 \text{ Closed}, \dots, u_n :: x_n \text{ Closed}$  and LF objects  $C$  such that*

$$x_1:\text{exp}, u_1:\text{closed } x_1, \dots, x_n:\text{exp}, u_n:\text{closed } x_n \vdash_{EC} C \uparrow \text{closed } \ulcorner e \urcorner.$$

The bijection is compositional in the sense that for expressions  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  and deductions  $\mathcal{C}_1 :: e_1 \text{ Closed}, \dots, \mathcal{C}_n :: e_n \text{ Closed}$ ,

$$\ulcorner [\mathcal{C}_n/u_n][e_n/x_n] \dots [\mathcal{C}_1/u_1][e_1/x_1] \mathcal{C} \urcorner = \ulcorner [\mathcal{C}_n \urcorner / u_n] [\ulcorner e_n \urcorner / x_n] \dots [\ulcorner \mathcal{C}_1 \urcorner / u_1] [\ulcorner e_1 \urcorner / x_1] \urcorner \mathcal{C} \urcorner$$

where we assume that the free variables of  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1, \dots, \mathcal{C}_n$  are distinct from  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and  $u_1, \dots, u_n$ .

**Proof:** Properties 5.2 and 5.4 show the existence of the bijection. To show that it is compositional we reason by induction over the structure of  $\mathcal{C}$  (see Exercise 5.2).  $\square$

## 5.2 Function Types as Goals in Elf

Below we give the transcription of the LF signature above in Elf.

```
closed : exp -> type.  %name closed u

% Natural Numbers
clo_z    : closed z.
clo_s    : closed (s E)
          <- closed E.
clo_case : closed (case E1 E2 E3)
          <- closed E1
          <- closed E2
          <- ({x:exp} closed x -> closed (E3 x)).

% Pairs
clo_pair : closed (pair E1 E2)
          <- closed E1
          <- closed E2.
clo_fst  : closed (fst E)
          <- closed E.
clo_snd  : closed (snd E)
          <- closed E.

% Functions
clo_lam  : closed (lam E)
          <- ({x:exp} closed x -> closed (E x)).
clo_app  : closed (app E1 E2)
          <- closed E1
          <- closed E2.
```

```

% Definitions
clo_letv : closed (letv E1 E2)
          <- closed E1
          <- ({x:exp} closed x -> closed (E2 x)).
clo_letn : closed (letn E1 E2)
          <- closed E1
          <- ({x:exp} closed x -> closed (E2 x)).

% Recursion
clo_fix : closed (fix E)
          <- ({x:exp} closed x -> closed (E x)).

```

Note that we have changed the order of arguments as in other examples. It seems reasonable to expect that this signature could be used as a program to determine if a given object  $e$  of type `exp` is closed. Let us consider the subgoals as they arise in a query to check if `lam y. y` is closed.

```

?- closed (lam [y:exp] y).
% Resolved with clause clo_lam
?- {x:exp} closed x -> closed (([y:exp] y) x).

```

Recall that solving a goal means to find a closed expression of the query type. Here, the query type is a (dependent) function type. From Theorem 3.13 we know that if a closed object of type  $\Pi x:A. B$  exists, then there is a definitionally equal object of the form  $\lambda x:A. M$  such that  $M$  has type  $B$  in the context augmented with the assumption  $x:A$ . It is thus a complete strategy in this case to make the assumption that  $x$  has type `exp` and solve the goal

```

?- closed x -> closed (([y:exp] y) x).

```

However,  $x$  now is not a free variable in same sense as  $V$  in the query

```

?- eval (lam [y:exp] y) V.

```

since it is not subject to instantiation during unification. In order to distinguish these different kinds of variables, we call variables which are subject to instantiation *logic variables* and variables which act as constants to unification *parameters*. In order to clarify the roles of variables, the Elf printer prefixes parameters with an exclamation mark `!`. Thus the current goal might be presented as

```

!x : exp
?- closed !x -> closed (([y:exp] y) !x).

```

Here we precede the query with the typings for the current parameters. Now recall that  $A \rightarrow B$  is just a concrete syntax for  $\{_:A\} B$  where  $_$  is an anonymous variable which cannot appear free in  $B$ . Thus, this case is handled similarly: we introduce a new parameter  $u$  of type `closed !x` and then solve the subgoal

```
!x : exp
!u : closed !x
?- closed (([y:exp] y) !x).
```

By an application of  $\beta$ -conversion this is transformed into the equivalent goal

```
!x : exp
!u : closed !x
?- closed !x.
```

Now we can use the parameter `!u` as the requested object of type `closed !x` and the query succeeds without further subgoals.

We now briefly consider, how the appropriate closed object of the original query, namely `?- closed (lam [y:exp] y)`, would be constructed. Recall that if  $\Gamma, x:A \vdash_E M : B$  then  $\Gamma \vdash_E \lambda x:A. M : \Pi x:A. B$ . Using this we can now through the trace of the search in reverse, constructing inhabiting objects as we go along and inserting conversions where necessary.

```
!u : closed !x.
[u:closed !x] u : closed !x -> closed !x.
[x:exp][u:closed x] u : {x:exp} closed x -> closed x.
[x:exp][u:closed x] u : {x:exp} closed x -> closed (([y:exp] y) x).
clo_lam ([x:exp][u:closed x] u)
      : closed (lam [y:exp] y).
```

Just as in Prolog, search proceeds according to a fixed operational semantics. This semantics specifies that clauses (that is, LF constant declarations) are tried in order from the first to the last. Before referring to the fixed signature, however, the temporary hypotheses are consulted, always considering the most recently introduced parameter first. After all of them have been considered, then the current signature is traversed. In this example the search order happens to be irrelevant as there will always be at most one assumption available for any expression parameter.

The representations of parametric and hypothetical judgments can also be given directly at the top-level. Here are two examples: the first to find the representation of the hypothetical deduction of  $f (f \mathbf{z})$  *closed* from the hypothesis  $f$  *closed*, the second to illustrate failure when given an expression  $(\langle x, x \rangle)$  which is not closed.

```
?- Q : {f:exp} closed f -> closed (app f (app f z)).

Q = [f:exp] [u:closed f] clo_app (clo_app clo_z u) u.
```

```

;
no more solutions
?- Q : {x:exp} closed (pair x x).

```

```
no
```

Note that the quantification on the variable  $x$  is necessary, since the query `?- closed (pair x x).` is considered to contain an undeclared constant  $x$  (which is an error), and the query `?- closed (pair X X)` considers  $X$  as a logic variable subject to instantiation:

```

?- Q : closed (pair X X).
Solving...

```

```

X = z,
Q = clo_pair clo_z clo_z.
;

```

```

X = s z,
Q = clo_pair (clo_s clo_z) (clo_s clo_z).

```

```
yes
```

### 5.3 Negation

Now that we have seen how to write a program to detect closed expressions, how do we write a program which succeeds if an expression is *not* closed? In Prolog, one has the possibility of using the unsound technique of negation-as-failure to write a predicate which succeeds if and only if another predicate fails finitely. In Elf, this technique is not available. Philosophically one might argue that the absence of evidence for *e Closed* does not necessarily mean that  $e$  is not closed. More pragmatically, note that if we possess evidence that  $e$  is closed, then this will continue to be evidence regardless of any further inference rules or hypotheses we might introduce to demonstrate that expressions are closed. However, the judgment that  $\langle x, x \rangle$  is *not* closed does not persist if we add the hypothesis that  $x$  is closed. Only under a so-called *closed-world assumption*, that is, the assumption that no further hypotheses or inference rules will be considered, is it reasonable to conclude the  $\langle x, x \rangle$  is not closed. The philosophy behind the logical framework is that we work with an implicit *open-world assumption*, that is, all judgments, once judged to be evident since witnessed by a deduction, should remain evident under extensions of the current rules of inference. Note that this is clearly *not* the case for the meta-theorems we prove. Their proofs rely on induction on the structure of derivations and they may no longer be valid when further rules are added.

Thus it is necessary to explicitly define a judgment  $e$  *Open* to provide means for giving evidence that  $e$  is open, that is, it contains at least one free variable. Below is the implementation of such a judgment in Elf.

```

open : exp -> type.  %name open v

% Natural Numbers
open_s      : open (s E) <- open E.
open_case1  : open (case E1 E2 E3) <- open E1.
open_case2  : open (case E1 E2 E3) <- open E2.
open_case3  : open (case E1 E2 E3) <- ({x:exp} open (E3 x)).

% Pairs
open_pair1  : open (pair E1 E2) <- open E1.
open_pair2  : open (pair E1 E2) <- open E2.
open_fst    : open (fst E) <- open E.
open_snd    : open (snd E) <- open E.

% Functions
open_lam    : open (lam E) <- ({x:exp} open (E x)).
open_app1   : open (app E1 E2) <- open E1.
open_app2   : open (app E1 E2) <- open E2.

% Definitions
open_letv1   : open (letv E1 E2) <- open E1.
open_letv2   : open (letv E1 E2) <- ({x:exp} open (E2 x)).
open_letn1   : open (letn E1 E2) <- open E1.
open_letn2   : open (letn E1 E2) <- ({x:exp} open (E2 x)).

% Recursion
open_fix     : open (fix E) <- ({x:exp} open (E x)).

```

One curious fact about this judgment is that there is no base case, that is, without any hypotheses any query of the form  $?- \text{open } \ulcorner e \urcorner$ . will fail! That is, with a given query we must provide evidence that any parameters which may occur in it are open. For example,

```

?- Q : {x:exp} open (pair x x).
no
?- Q : {x:exp} open x -> open (pair x x).

Q = [x:exp] [v:open x] open_pair1 v.
;

```



```

solved
Q = [x:exp] [v:open x] open_pair2 v.
;
no more solutions
?- Q : {x:exp} open x -> open (lam [x:exp] pair x x).
no

```

## 5.4 Representing Mini-ML Typing Derivations

In this section we will show a natural representation of Mini-ML typing derivations in LF. In order to avoid confusion between the contexts of LF and the contexts of Mini-ML, we will use  $\Delta$  throughout the remainder of this chapter to designate a Mini-ML context. The typing judgment of Mini-ML then has the form

$$\Delta \triangleright e : \tau$$

and expresses that  $e$  has type  $\tau$  in context  $\Delta$ . We observe that this judgment can be interpreted as a hypothetical judgment with hypotheses  $\Delta$ . There is thus an alternative way to describe the judgment  $e : \tau$  which employs hypothetical judgments without making assumptions explicit.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Delta, x:\tau_1 \triangleright e : \tau_2}{\Delta \triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \text{tp\_lam} \qquad \frac{\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{\triangleright x : \tau_1} u \\ \vdots \\ \triangleright e : \tau_2 \end{array}}{\triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \text{tp\_lam}^{x,u}
\end{array}$$

The judgment in the premiss in the formulation of the rule on the right is parametric in  $x$  and hypothetical in  $u :: x:\tau_1$ . On the left, all available hypothesis are represented explicitly. The restriction that each variable may be declared at most once in a context and bound variables may be renamed tacitly encodes the parametricity with respect to  $x$ .

First, however, the representation of Mini-ML types. We declare an LF type constant, `tp`, for the representation of Mini-ML types. Recall, from Section 2.5,

$$\text{Types } \tau ::= \text{nat} \mid \tau_1 \times \tau_2 \mid \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \mid \alpha$$

It is important to bear in mind that  $\rightarrow$  is overloaded here, since it stands for the function type constructor in Mini-ML and in LF. It should be clear from the context which constructor is meant in each instance. The representation function and the

LF declarations are straightforward.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \lceil \alpha \rceil &= \alpha & \text{tp} &: \text{type} \\
 \lceil \text{nat} \rceil &= \text{nat} & \text{nat} &: \text{tp} \\
 \lceil \tau_1 \times \tau_2 \rceil &= \text{cross } \lceil \tau_1 \rceil \lceil \tau_2 \rceil & \text{cross} &: \text{tp} \rightarrow \text{tp} \rightarrow \text{tp} \\
 \lceil \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \rceil &= \text{arrow } \lceil \tau_1 \rceil \lceil \tau_2 \rceil & \text{arrow} &: \text{tp} \rightarrow \text{tp} \rightarrow \text{tp}
 \end{array}$$

Here  $\alpha$  on the right-hand side stands for a variable named  $\alpha$  in the LF type theory. We refer to the signature in the right-hand column as  $T$ . We briefly state (without proof) the representation theorem.

**Theorem 5.6** (Adequacy) *The representation function  $\lceil \cdot \rceil$  is a compositional bijection between Mini-ML types and canonical LF objects of type tp over the signature  $T$ .*

Now we try to apply the techniques for representing hypothetical judgments developed in Section 5.1 to the representation of the typing judgment (for an alternative, see Exercise 5.6). The representation will be as a type family ‘of’ such that

$$\lceil \Delta \rceil \vdash \lceil \mathcal{P} \rceil : \text{of } \lceil e \rceil \lceil \tau \rceil$$

whenever  $\mathcal{P}$  is a deduction of  $\Delta \triangleright e : \tau$ . Thus,

$$\text{of} : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{tp} \rightarrow \text{type}$$

with the representation for Mini-ML contexts  $\Delta$  as LF contexts  $\lceil \Delta \rceil$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \lceil \cdot \rceil &= \cdot \\
 \lceil \Delta, x : \tau \rceil &= \lceil \Delta \rceil, x : \text{exp}, u : \text{of } x \lceil \tau \rceil
 \end{array}$$

Here  $u$  must be chosen to be different from  $x$  and any other variable in  $\lceil \Delta \rceil$  in order to satisfy the general assumption about LF contexts. This assumption can be satisfied since we made a similar assumption about  $\Delta$ .

For typing derivation themselves, we only show three critical cases in the definition of  $\lceil \mathcal{P} \rceil$  for  $\mathcal{P} :: \Delta \triangleright e : \tau$ . The remainder is given directly in Elf later. The type family of  $: \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{tp} \rightarrow \text{type}$  represents the judgment  $e : \tau$ .

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{P} = \frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{P}_1 \\ \Delta \triangleright e_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau_1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{P}_2 \\ \Delta \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2 \end{array}}{\Delta \triangleright e_1 \ e_2 : \tau_1} \text{tp\_app}.$$

In this simple case we let

$$\lceil \mathcal{P} \rceil = \text{tp\_app } \lceil \tau_1 \rceil \lceil \tau_2 \rceil \lceil e_1 \rceil \lceil e_2 \rceil \lceil \mathcal{P}_1 \rceil \lceil \mathcal{P}_2 \rceil$$

where

$$\text{tp\_app} : \Pi T_1:\text{tp}. \Pi T_2:\text{tp}. \Pi E_1:\text{exp}. \Pi E_2:\text{exp} \\ \text{of } E_1 \text{ (arrow } T_2 \text{ } T_1) \rightarrow \text{of } E_2 \text{ } T_2 \rightarrow \text{of (app } E_1 \text{ } E_2) \text{ } T_1$$

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{P} = \frac{\mathcal{P}' \quad \Delta, x:\tau_1 \triangleright e : \tau_2}{\Delta \triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \text{tp\_lam}.$$

In this case we view  $\mathcal{P}'$  as a deduction of a hypothetical judgment, that is, a derivation of  $e : \tau_2$  from the hypothesis  $x:\tau_1$ . We furthermore note that  $\mathcal{P}'$  is parametric in  $x$  and choose an appropriate functional representation.

$$\ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner = \text{tp\_lam } \ulcorner \tau_1 \urcorner \ulcorner \tau_2 \urcorner (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e \urcorner) (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lambda u:\text{of } x \ulcorner \tau_1 \urcorner. \ulcorner \mathcal{P}' \urcorner)$$

The constant  $\text{tp\_lam}$  must thus have the following type:

$$\text{tp\_lam} : \Pi T_1:\text{tp}. \Pi T_2:\text{tp}. \Pi E:\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}. \\ (\Pi x:\text{exp}. \text{of } x \text{ } T_1 \rightarrow \text{of } (E \ x) \text{ } T_2) \\ \rightarrow \text{of (lam } E) \text{ (arrow } T_1 \text{ } T_2).$$

Representation of a deduction  $\mathcal{P}$  with hypotheses  $\Delta$  requires unique labels for the various hypotheses, in order to return the appropriate variable whenever an hypothesis is used. While we left this correspondence implicit, it should be clear that in the case of  $\ulcorner \mathcal{P}' \urcorner$  above, the hypothesis  $x:\tau_1$  should be considered as labelled by  $u$ .

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{P} = \frac{\Delta(x) = \tau}{\Delta \triangleright x : \tau} \text{tp\_var}.$$

This case is not represented using a fixed inference rule, but we will have a variable  $u$  of type ‘of  $x \ulcorner \tau \urcorner$ ’ which implicitly provides a label for the assumption  $x$ . We simply return this variable.

$$\ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner = u$$

The adequacy of this representation is now a straightforward exercise, given in the following two properties. We refer to the full signature (which includes the signatures  $T$  for Mini-ML types and  $E$  for Mini-ML expressions) as  $TD$ .

**Property 5.7** (Soundness) *If  $\mathcal{P} :: \Delta \triangleright e : \tau$  then  $\vdash_{TD} \ulcorner \Delta \urcorner$  Ctx and*

$$\ulcorner \Delta \urcorner \vdash_{TD} \ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner \uparrow \text{ of } \ulcorner e \urcorner \ulcorner \tau \urcorner.$$

**Property 5.8** (Completeness) *Let  $\Delta$  be a Mini-ML context and  $\Gamma = \ulcorner \Delta \urcorner$ . If  $\vdash_{TD} E \uparrow \text{exp}$ ,  $\vdash_{TD} T \uparrow \text{tp}$ , and*

$$\Gamma \vdash_{TD} P \uparrow \text{ of } E T$$

*then there exist  $e$ ,  $\tau$ , and a derivation  $\mathcal{P} :: \Delta \triangleright e : \tau$  such that  $\ulcorner e \urcorner = E$ ,  $\ulcorner T \urcorner = \tau$ , and  $\ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner = P$ .*

It remains to understand the compositionality property of the bijection. We reconsider the substitution lemma (Lemma 2.4):

If  $\Delta \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1$  and  $\Delta, x_1 : \tau_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2$  then  $\Delta \triangleright [e_1/x_1]e_2 : \tau_2$ .

The proof is by induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{P}_2 :: (\Delta, x_1 : \tau_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2)$ . Wherever the assumption  $x_1 : \tau_1$  is used, we substitute a version of the derivation  $\mathcal{P}_1 :: \Delta \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1$  where some additional (and unused) typing assumptions may have been added to  $\Delta$ . A reformulation using the customary notation for hypothetical judgments exposes the similarity to the considerations for the judgment  $e$  *Closed* considered in Section 5.1.

$$\text{If } \frac{}{\triangleright x_1 : \tau_1} u_1 \text{ and } \frac{\mathcal{P}_1}{\triangleright e_1 : \tau_1} \text{ then } \frac{\frac{\mathcal{P}_1}{\triangleright e_1 : \tau_1} u_1}{\frac{[e_1/x_1]\mathcal{P}_2}{\triangleright [e_1/x_1]e_2 : \tau_2}}$$

Here,  $[e_1/x_1]\mathcal{P}_2$  is the substitution of  $e_1$  for  $x_1$  in the deduction  $\mathcal{P}_2$ , which is legal since  $\mathcal{P}_2$  is a deduction of a judgment parametric in  $x_1$ . Furthermore, the deduction  $\mathcal{P}_1$  has been substituted for the hypotheses labelled  $u$  in  $\mathcal{P}_2$ , indicated by writing  $\mathcal{P}_1$  above the appropriate hypothesis. Using the conventions established for hypothetical and parametric judgments, the final deduction above can also be written as  $[\mathcal{P}_1/u_1][e_1/x_1]\mathcal{P}_2$ . Compositionality of the representation then requires

$$\begin{aligned} \ulcorner [\mathcal{P}_1/u_1][e_1/x_1]\mathcal{P}_2 \urcorner &= \ulcorner [\mathcal{P}_1 \urcorner / u_1] [\ulcorner e_1 \urcorner / x_1] \ulcorner \mathcal{P}_2 \urcorner \urcorner \\ &\equiv (\lambda x_1 : \text{exp. } \lambda u_1 : \text{of } x_1 \ulcorner \tau_1 \urcorner. \ulcorner \mathcal{P}_2 \urcorner) \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{P}_1 \urcorner \end{aligned}$$

After appropriate generalization, this is proved by a straightforward induction over the structure of  $\mathcal{P}_2$ , just as the substitution lemma for typing derivation which lies at the heart of this property.

**Theorem 5.9** (Adequacy) *There is a bijection between deductions*

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{P} \\ x_1:\tau_1, \dots, x_n:\tau_n \triangleright e : \tau \end{array}$$

*and LF objects  $P$  such that*

$$x_1:\text{exp}, u_1:\text{of } x_1 \ulcorner \tau_1 \urcorner, \dots, x_n:\text{exp}, u_n:\text{of } x_n \ulcorner \tau_n \urcorner \vdash_{TD} P \uparrow \text{ of } \ulcorner e \urcorner \ulcorner \tau \urcorner.$$

*The bijection is compositional in the sense that for expressions  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  and deductions  $\mathcal{P}_1 :: \Delta' \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1, \dots, \mathcal{P}_n :: \Delta' \triangleright e_n : \tau_n$  whose free variables are distinct from  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  we have*

$$\ulcorner [\mathcal{P}_n/u_n][e_n/x_n] \dots [\mathcal{P}_1/u_1][e_1/x_1] \mathcal{P} \urcorner = [\ulcorner \mathcal{P}_n \urcorner / u_n][\ulcorner e_n \urcorner / x_n] \dots [\ulcorner \mathcal{P}_1 \urcorner / u_1][\ulcorner e_1 \urcorner / x_1] \ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner$$

*where  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  are labels for the assumptions  $x_1:\tau_1, \dots, x_n:\tau_n$ , respectively.*

**Proof:** [ to be sketched ]

□

## 5.5 An Elf Program for Mini-ML Type Inference

We now complete the signature from the previous section by transcribing the rules from the previous section and Section 2.5 into Elf. The notation will be suggestive of a reading of this signature as a program for type inference. First, the declarations of Mini-ML types.

```
tp : type. %name tp T

nat  : tp.
cross : tp -> tp -> tp.
arrow : tp -> tp -> tp.
```

Next, the typing rules.

```
of : exp -> tp -> type. %name of P

% Natural Numbers
tp_z      : of z nat.
tp_s      : of (s E) nat
           <- of E nat.
tp_case   : of (case E1 E2 E3) T
           <- of E1 nat
           <- of E2 T
```

```

      <- ({x:exp} of x nat -> of (E3 x) T).

% Pairs
tp_pair : of (pair E1 E2) (cross T1 T2)
      <- of E1 T1
      <- of E2 T2.
tp_fst  : of (fst E) T1
      <- of E (cross T1 T2).
tp_snd  : of (snd E) T2
      <- of E (cross T1 T2).

% Functions
tp_lam  : of (lam E) (arrow T1 T2)
      <- ({x:exp} of x T1 -> of (E x) T2).
tp_app  : of (app E1 E2) T1
      <- of E1 (arrow T2 T1)
      <- of E2 T2.

% Definitions
tp_letv : of (letv E1 E2) T2
      <- of E1 T1
      <- ({x:exp} of x T1 -> of (E2 x) T2).
tp_letn : of (letn E1 E2) T2
      <- of E1 T1
      <- of (E2 E1) T2.

% Recursion
tp_fix  : of (fix E) T
      <- ({x:exp} of x T -> of (E x) T).

```

As for evaluation, we take advantage of compositionality in order to represent substitution of an expression for a bound variable in representation of `tp_letn`,

$$\frac{\Delta \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Delta \triangleright [e_1/x]e_2 : \tau_2}{\Delta \triangleright \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{tp\_letn}.$$

Since we are using higher-order abstract syntax,  $e_2$  is represented together with its bound variable as a function of type  $\text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$ . Applying this function to the representation of  $e_1$  yields the representation of  $[e_1/x]e_2$ .

The Elf declarations above are suggestive of an operational interpretation as a program for type inference. The idea is to pose queries of the form `?- of  $\ulcorner e \urcorner$  T.` where  $T$  is a free variable subject to instantiation and  $e$  is a concrete Mini-ML expression. We begin by considering a simple example: `lam x.  $\langle x, s \ x \rangle$ .` For this

purpose we assume that `of` has been declared dynamic and `exp` and `tp` are static. This means that free variables of type `exp` and `tp` may appear in an answer.

```
?- of (lam [x] pair x (s x)) T.
Resolved with clause tp_lam
?- {x:exp} of x T1 -> of (pair x (s x)) T2.
```

In order to perform this first resolution step, the interpreter performed the substitutions

```
E = [x:exp] pair x (s x),
T1 = T1,
T2 = T2,
T = arrow T1 T2.
```

where `E`, `T1`, and `T2` come from the clause `tp_lam`, and `T` appears in the original query. Now the interpreter applies the rules for solving goals of functional type and introduces a new parameter `!x`.

```
Introducing new parameter !x : exp

!x : exp
?- of !x T1 -> of (pair !x (s !x)) T2.
Introducing new parameter !P : of !x T1.

!x : exp,
!P : of !x T1
?- of (pair !x (s !x)) T2.
Resolved with clause tp_pair
```

This last resolution again requires some instantiation. We have

```
E1 = !x,
E2 = (s !x),
T2 = cross T21 T22.
```

Here, `E1`, `E2`, `T21`, and `T22` come from the clause (the latter two renamed from `T1` and `T2`, respectively). Now we have to solve two subgoals, namely `?- of !x T21.` and `?- of (s !x) T22.` The first subgoal immediately succeeds by using the assumption `!P`, which requires the instantiation `T21 = T1` (or vice versa).

```
!x : exp,
!P : of !x T1
?- of !x T21.
Resolved with clause !P
```

Here is the remainder of the computation.

```
!x : exp,
!P : of !x T1
?- of (s !x) T22.
Resolved with clause tp_s
```

This instantiates T22 to `nat` and produces one subgoal.

```
!x : exp,
!P : of !x T1
?- of !x nat.
Resolved with clause !P
```

This last step instantiates T1 (and thereby indirectly T21) to `nat`. Thus we obtain the final answer

```
T = arrow nat (cross nat nat).
```

We can also ask for the typing derivation Q:

```
?- Q : of (lam [x] pair x (s x)) T.

T = arrow nat (cross nat nat),
Q = tp_lam [x:exp] [P:of x nat] tp_pair (tp_s P) P.
```

There will always be at most one answer to a type query, since for each expression constructor there exists at most one applicable clause. Of course, type inference will fail for ill-typed queries, and it will report failure, again because the rules are syntax-directed. We have stated above that there will be at most one answer yet we also know that types of expressions such as **lam** *x*. *x* are not unique. This apparent contradiction is resolved by noting that the given answer subsumes all others in the sense that all other types will be instances of the given type. This deep property of Mini-ML type inference is called the *principal type property*.

```
?- of (lam [x] x) T.
Resolved with clause tp_lam
?- {x:exp} of x T1 -> of x T2.
Introducing new parameter !x
?- of !x T1 -> of !x T2.
Assuming !P1 : of !x T1
?- of !x T2.
Resolved with clause !P1 [with T2 = T1]

T = arrow T1 T1.
```



Here the final answer contains a free variable **T1** of type **tp**. This is legal, since we have declare **tp** to be a static type. Any instance of the final answer will yield an answer to the original problem and an object of the requested type. This can be expressed by stating that search has constructed a closed object, namely

```
(([T1:tp] tp_lam ([x:exp] [P:of x T1] P)) :
{T1:tp} of (lam ([x:exp] x)) (arrow T1 T1).
```

If we interpret this result as a deduction, we see that search has constructed a deduction of a parametric judgment, namely that  $\triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. x : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_1$  for any concrete type  $\tau_1$ . In order to include such generic derivations we permitted type variables  $\alpha$  in our language. The most general or principal derivation above would then be written (in two different notations):

$$\frac{\frac{}{\triangleright x : \alpha} u}{\triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. x : \alpha \rightarrow \alpha} \mathbf{tp\_lam}^{x,u} \qquad \frac{\frac{}{x:\alpha \triangleright x : \alpha} \mathbf{tp\_var}}{\triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. x : \alpha \rightarrow \alpha} \mathbf{tp\_lam}$$

From the program above one can see, that the type inference problem has been reduced to the satisfiability of some equations which arise from the question if a clause head and the goal have a common instance. For example, the goal `?- of (lam [x] x) (cross T1 T2).` will fail immediately, since the only possible rule, **tp\_lam**, is not applicable because **arrow T1 T2** and **cross T1 T2** do not have a common instance. The algorithm for finding common instances which also has the additional property that it does not make any unnecessary instantiation is called a *unification algorithm*. For first-order terms (such as LF objects of type **tp** in the type inference problem) a least committed common instance can always be found and is unique (modulo renaming of variables). When variables are allowed to range over functions, this is no longer the case. For example, consider the objects **E2 z** and **pair z z**, where **E2** is a free variable of type **exp -> exp**. Then there are four canonical closed solutions for **E2**:<sup>1</sup>

```
E2 = [x:exp] pair x x ;
E2 = [x:exp] pair z x ;
E2 = [x:exp] pair x z ;
E2 = [x:exp] pair z z.
```

In general, the question whether two objects have a common instance in the LF type theory is undecidable. This follows from the same result (due to Goldfarb [Gol81]) for a much weaker theory, the second-order fragment of the simply-typed lambda-calculus.

The operational reading of LF we sketched so far thus faces a difficulty: one of the basic steps (finding a common instance) is an undecidable problem, and,

<sup>1</sup>A fifth possibility, **E2 = pair z z** is not canonical and  $\eta$ -equivalent to the second solution.

moreover, may not have a least committed solution. We deal with this problem by approximation: Elf employs an algorithm which finds a greatest common instance or detects failure in many cases and postpones other equations which must be satisfied as *constraints*. In particular, it will solve all problems which are essentially first order, as they arise in the type inference program above. Thus Elf is in spirit a *constraint logic programming language*, even though in many aspects it goes beyond the definition of the CLP family of languages described by Jaffar and Lassez [JL87]. The algorithm, originally discovered by Miller in the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus [Mil91] has been generalized to dependent and polymorphic types in [Pfe91c]. The precise manner in which it is employed in Elf is described in [Pfe91a].<sup>2</sup> Here we content ourselves with a simple example which illustrates how constraints may arise.

```
?- of (lam [x] x) ((F:tp -> tp) nat).
```

```
F = F.
(( arrow T1 T1 = F nat ))
```

Here the remaining constraint is enclosed within double parentheses. Any solution to this equation yields an answer to the original query. It is important to realize that this constitutes only a *conditional success*, that is, we can in general not be sure that the given constraint set is indeed be satisfiable. In the example above, this is obvious: there are infinitely many solutions of which we show two.

```
F = [T:tp] arrow T1 T1,
T1 = T1 ;
F = [T:tp] arrow (arrow T T) (arrow T T),
T1 = arrow nat nat.
```

The same algorithm is also employed during Elf's term reconstruction phase. In practice this means that Elf term reconstruction may also terminate with remaining constraints which, in this case, is considered an error and accompanied by a request to the programmer to supply more type information.

The operational behavior of the program above may not be satisfactory from the point of view of efficiency, since expressions bound to a variable by a **let name** are type-checked once for each occurrence of the variable in the body of the expression. The following is an example for a derivation involving **let name** in Elf.

```
?- Q : of (letn (lam [y] y) ([f] pair (app f z) (app f (pair z z)))) T.
Solving...

T = cross nat (cross nat nat),
Q =
    tp_letn
```

---

<sup>2</sup>[further discussion of unification elsewhere?]

```

(tp_pair
  (tp_app (tp_pair tp_z tp_z)
    (tp_lam [x:exp] [P:of x (cross nat nat)] P))
  (tp_app tp_z (tp_lam [x:exp] [P:of x nat] P)))
(tp_lam [x:exp] [P:of x T1] P).
;
no more solutions

```

Notice the two occurrences of `tp_lam` which means that `(lam [y] y)` was type-checked twice. Usually, ML's type system is defined with explicit constructors for polymorphic types so that we can express  $\triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ x : \forall t. \ t \rightarrow t$ . The type inference algorithm can then instantiate such a most general type in the body  $e_2$  of a **let name**-expression **let name**  $x = e_1$  **in**  $e_2$  without type-checking  $e_1$  again. This is the essence of Milner's algorithm  $W$  in [Mil78]. It is difficult to realize this algorithm directly in Elf. Some further discussion and avenues towards a possible solution are given in [Har90], [DP91], and [Lia95]. Theoretically, however, algorithm  $W$  of [Mil78] is not more efficient compared to the algorithm presented above as shown by [?].

## 5.6 Representing the Proof of Type Preservation

We now return to the proof of type preservation from Section 2.6. In order to prepare for its representation in Elf, we reformulate the theorem to explicitly mention the deductions involved.

For any  $e, v, \tau, \mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ , and  $\mathcal{P} :: \triangleright e : \tau$  there exists a  $\mathcal{Q} :: \triangleright v : \tau$ .

The proof is by induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D}$  and relies heavily on inversion to predict the shape of  $\mathcal{P}$  from the structure of  $e$ . The techniques from Section 3.7 suggest casting this proof as a higher-level judgment relating  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}$ , and  $\mathcal{Q}$ . This higher-level judgment can be represented in LF and then be implemented in Elf as a type family. We forego the intermediate step and directly map the informal proof into Elf, calling the type family `tps`.

```
tps : eval E V -> of E T -> of V T -> type.
```

All of the cases in the induction proof now have a direct representation in Elf. The interesting cases involve appeals to the substitution lemma (Lemma 2.4).

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{ev\_z}.$

Then we have to show that for any type  $\tau$  such that  $\triangleright \mathbf{z} : \tau$  is derivable,  $\triangleright \mathbf{z} : \tau$  is derivable. This is obvious.

There are actually two slightly different, but equivalent realizations of this case. The first uses the deduction  $\mathcal{P} :: \triangleright \mathbf{z} : \tau$  that exists by assumption.

```
tps_z0 : tps (ev_z) P P.
```

The second, which we prefer, uses inversion to conclude that  $\mathcal{P}$  must be  $\mathbf{tp\_z}$ , since it is the only rule which assigns a type to  $\mathbf{z}$ .

```
tps_z      : tps (ev_z) (tp_z) (tp_z).
```

The appeal to the inversion principle is implicit in these declarations. For each  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  there should be a  $\mathcal{Q}$  such that  $\mathbf{tps} \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{Q} \urcorner$  is inhabited. The declaration above appears to work only for the case where the second argument  $\mathcal{P}$  is the axiom  $\mathbf{tp\_z}$ . But by inversion we know that this is the only possible case. This pattern of reasoning is applied frequently when representing proofs of meta-theorems.

The next case deals with the successor constructor for natural numbers. We have taken the liberty of giving names to the deductions whose existence is shown in the proof in Section 2.6. This will help use to connect the informal statement with its implementation in Elf.

$\text{Case: } \mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1}{s \ e_1 \hookrightarrow s \ v_1} \text{ ev\_s. Then}$	
$\mathcal{P} :: \triangleright s \ e_1 : \tau$	By assumption
$\mathcal{P}_1 :: \triangleright e_1 : \mathbf{nat}$ and $\tau = \mathbf{nat}$	By inversion
$\mathcal{Q}_1 :: \triangleright v_1 : \mathbf{nat}$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_1$
$\mathcal{Q} :: \triangleright s \ v_1 : \mathbf{nat}$	By rule $\mathbf{tp\_s}$

Recall that an appeal to the induction hypothesis is modelled by a recursive call in the program which implements the proof. Here, the induction hypothesis is applied to  $\mathcal{D}_1 :: e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_1 :: \triangleright e_1 : \mathbf{nat}$  to conclude that there is a  $\mathcal{Q}_1 :: \triangleright v_1 : \mathbf{nat}$ . This is what we needed to show and can thus be directly returned.

```
tps_s      : tps (ev_s D1) (tp_s P1) (tp_s Q1)
             <- tps D1 P1 Q1.
```

We return to the cases involving **case**-expressions later after we have discussed the case for functions. The rules for pairs are straightforward.

```
tps_pair : tps (ev_pair D2 D1) (tp_pair P2 P1) (tp_pair Q2 Q1)
             <- tps D1 P1 Q1
             <- tps D2 P2 Q2.
```

```

tps_fst  : tps (ev_fst D1) (tp_fst P1) Q1
          <- tps D1 P1 (tp_pair Q2 Q1).
tps_snd  : tps (ev_snd D1) (tp_snd P1) Q2
          <- tps D1 P1 (tp_pair Q2 Q1).

```

There is an important phenomenon one should note here. Since we used the backwards arrow notation in the declarations for `ev_pair` and `tp_pair`

```

ev_pair : eval (pair E1 E2) (pair V1 V2)
          <- eval E1 V1
          <- eval E2 V2.

tp_pair : of (pair E1 E2) (cross T1 T2)
          <- of E1 T1
          <- of E2 T2.

```

their arguments are reversed from what one might expect. This is why we called the first argument to `ev_pair` above `D2` and the second argument `D1`, and similiary for `tp_pair`. The case for **lam**-expressions is simple, since they evaluate to themselves. For stylistic reasons we apply inversion here as in all other cases.

```

tps_lam   : tps (ev_lam) (tp_lam P) (tp_lam P).

```

The case for evaluating an application  $e_1 e_2$  is more complicated than the cases above. The informal proof appeals to the substitution lemma.

			$\mathcal{D}_1$	$\mathcal{D}_2$	$\mathcal{D}_3$	
			$e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1$	$e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2$	$[v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v$	
<b>Case:</b> $D =$			$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 \quad [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v}{e_1 e_2 \hookrightarrow v}$			<code>ev_app.</code>
$\mathcal{P} :: \triangleright e_1 e_2 : \tau_1$						By assumption
$\mathcal{P}_1 :: \triangleright e_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau_1$ and $\mathcal{P}_2 :: \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2$ for some $\tau_2$						By inversion
$\mathcal{Q}_1 :: \triangleright \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1 : \tau_2 \rightarrow \tau_1$						By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_1$
$\mathcal{Q}'_1 :: x:\tau_2 \triangleright e'_1 : \tau_1$						By inversion
$\mathcal{Q}_2 :: \triangleright v_2 : \tau_2$						By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_2$
$\mathcal{P}_3 :: \triangleright [v_2/x]e'_1 : \tau_1$						By the Substitution Lemma 2.4
$\mathcal{Q}_3 :: \triangleright v : \tau_1$						By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_3$

We repeat the declarations of the `ev_app` and `tp_lam` clauses here with some variables renamed in order to simplify the correspondence to the names used above.

```

ev_lam : eval (app E1 E2) V
          <- eval E1 (lam E1')
          <- eval E2 V2

```

```
<- eval (E1' V2) V.
```

```
tp_lam : of (lam E1') (arrow T2 T1)
  <- ({x:exp} of x T2 -> of (E1' x) T1).
```

The deduction  $Q_1$  is a deduction of a parametric and hypothetical judgment (parametric in  $x$ , hypothetical in  $\triangleright x:\tau_2$ ). In Elf this is represented as a function which, when applied to  $V2$  and an object  $Q2 : \text{of } V2 \text{ } T2$  yields an object of type  $\text{of } (E1' \ V2) \ T1$ , that is

```
Q1' : {x:exp} of x T2 -> of (E1' x) T1.
```

The Elf variable  $E1' : \text{exp} \rightarrow \text{exp}$  represents  $\lambda x:\text{exp}. \lceil e'_1 \rceil$ , and  $V2$  represents  $v_2$ . Thus the appeal to the substitution lemma has been transformed into a function application using  $Q1'$ , that is,  $P3 = Q1' \ V2 \ Q2$ .

```
tps_app : tps (ev_app D3 D2 D1) (tp_app P2 P1) Q3
  <- tps D1 P1 (tp_lam Q1')
  <- tps D2 P2 Q2
  <- tps D3 (Q1' V2 Q2) Q3.
```

This may seem like black magic—where did the appeal to the substitution lemma go? The answer is that it is hidden in the proof of the adequacy theorem for the representation of typing derivations (Theorem 5.9) combined with the substitution lemma for LF itself! We have thus factored the proof effort: in the proof of the adequacy theorem, we establish that the typing judgment employs parametric and hypothetical judgments (which permit weakening and substitution). The implementation above can then take this for granted and model an appeal to the substitution lemma simply by function application.

One very nice property is the conciseness of the representation of the proofs of the meta-theorems in this fashion. Each case in the induction proof is represented directly as a clause, avoiding explicit formulation and proof of many properties of substitution, variable occurrences, *etc.* This is due to the principles of higher-order abstract syntax, judgments-as-types, and hypothetical judgments as functions. Another important factor is the Elf type reconstruction algorithm which eliminates the need for much redundant information. In the clause above, for example, we need to refer explicitly to only one expression (the variable  $V2$ ). All other constraints imposed on applications of inferences rules can be inferred in a most general way in all of these examples. To illustrate this point, here is the fully explicit form of the above declaration, as generated by Elf's term reconstruction.

```
tps_app :
  {E:exp -> exp} {V2:exp} {E1:exp} {T:tp} {D3:eval (E V2) E1}
  {T1:tp} {Q1':{E1:exp} of E1 T1 -> of (E E1) T} {Q2:of V2 T1}
```

```

{Q3:of E1 T} {E2:exp} {D2:eval E2 V2} {P2:of E2 T1} {E3:exp}
{D1:eval E3 (lam E)} {P1:of E3 (arrow T1 T)}
tps (E V2) E1 T D3 (Q1' V2 Q2) Q3 -> tps E2 V2 T1 D2 P2 Q2
-> tps E3 (lam E) (arrow T1 T) D1 P1 (tp_lam T1 E T Q1')
-> tps (app E3 E2) E1 T (ev_app E V2 E1 E2 E3 D3 D2 D1)
    (tp_app E2 T1 E3 T P2 P1) Q3.

```

We skip the two cases for **case**-expressions and only show their implementation. The techniques we need have all been introduced.

```

tps_case_z: tps (ev_case_z D2 D1) (tp_case P3 P2 P1) Q2
  <- tps D2 P2 Q2.

tps_case_s: tps (ev_case_s D3 D1) (tp_case P3 P2 P1) Q3
  <- tps D1 P1 (tp_s Q1')
  <- tps D3 (P3 V1 Q1') Q3.

```

Next, we come to the cases for definitions. For **let val**-expressions, no new considerations arise.

$\text{Case: } D = \frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_1 \\ e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_2 \\ [v_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v \end{array}}{\text{let val } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_letv.}$
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <math>\mathcal{P} :: \triangleright \text{let val } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau</math>  <math>\mathcal{P}_1 :: \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \text{and}</math>  <math>\mathcal{P}_2 :: x : \tau_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau \quad \text{for some } \tau_1</math>  <math>\mathcal{Q}_1 :: \triangleright v_1 : \tau_1</math>  <math>\mathcal{P}'_2 :: \triangleright [v_1/x]e_2 : \tau</math>  <math>\mathcal{Q}_2 :: \triangleright v : \tau</math> </div> <div style="width: 35%; text-align: right;">           By assumption             By inversion            By ind. hyp. on <math>\mathcal{D}_1</math>            By the Substitution Lemma 2.4            By ind. hyp. on <math>\mathcal{D}_2</math> </div> </div>

```

tps_letv : tps (ev_letv D2 D1) (tp_letv P2 P1) Q2
  <- tps D1 P1 Q1
  <- tps D2 (P2 V1 Q1) Q2.

```

**let name**-expressions may at first sight appear to be the most complicated case. However, the substitution at the level of expressions is dealt with via compositionality as in evaluation, so the representation of this case is actually quite simple.

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{Case: } D = \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{[e_1/x]e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ ev\_letn.} \\
\mathcal{P} :: \triangleright \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau \quad \text{By assumption} \\
\mathcal{P}_2 :: \triangleright [e_1/x]e_2 : \tau \quad \text{By inversion} \\
\mathcal{Q}_2 :: \triangleright v : \tau \quad \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_2
\end{array}$$

```

tps_letn : tps (ev_letn D2) (tp_letn P2 P1) Q2
<- tps D2 P2 Q2.

```

The case of fixpoint follows the same general pattern as the case for application in that we need to appeal to the substitution lemma. The solution is analogous.

$$\begin{array}{l}
\text{Case: } D = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{[\text{fix } x. e_1/x]e_1 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ ev\_fix.} \\
\mathcal{P} :: \triangleright \text{fix } x. e_1 : \tau \quad \text{By assumption} \\
\mathcal{P}_1 :: x : \tau \triangleright e_1 : \tau \quad \text{By inversion} \\
\mathcal{P}'_1 :: \triangleright [\text{fix } x. e_1/x]e_1 : \tau \quad \text{By the Substitution Lemma 2.4} \\
\mathcal{Q}_1 :: \triangleright v : \tau \quad \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_1
\end{array}$$

In the representation,

```

P1 : {x:exp} of x T -> of (E1 x) T

```

and thus

```

(P1 (fix E1)) : of (fix E1) T -> of (E1 (fix E1)) T

```

and

```

(P1 (fix E1) (tp_fix P1)) : of (E1 (fix E1)) T

```

This is the representation of the deduction  $\mathcal{P}'_1$ , since

$$\ulcorner [\text{fix } x. e_1/x]e_1 \urcorner = \ulcorner \text{fix } x. e_1 \urcorner / x \urcorner \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner \equiv (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner) (\text{fix } (\lambda x:\text{exp}. \ulcorner e_1 \urcorner)).$$

```

tps_fix : tps (ev_fix D1) (tp_fix P1) Q1
<- tps D1 (P1 (fix E1) (tp_fix P1)) Q1.

```



Here is a simple example which illustrates the use of the **tps** type family as a program. First, we generate a typing derivation  $\mathcal{P}$  for

**let name  $f = \text{lam } x. x$  in let  $g = f f$  in  $g g$ .**

Then we evaluate the expression (which yields **lam  $x. x$** ) and finally use the proof of type preservation to generate a deduction  $\mathcal{Q}$  which shows that the result has the same type as the original expression.

```
?- sigma [P:of (letn (lam [x] x) ([f] letn (app f f) ([g] app g g))) T]
   sigma [D:eval (letn (lam [x] x) ([f] letn (app f f) ([g] app g g))) V]
   tps D P Q.
Solving...
```

```
Q = tp_lam [x:exp] [P:of x T1] P,
V = lam [x:exp] x,
T = arrow T1 T1.
```

Of course, this is a very indirect way to generate a typing derivation of **lam  $x. x$** , but illustrates the computational content of the type family **tps** we defined.

## 5.7 Exercises

**Exercise 5.1** Carry out three representative cases in the proof of Property 5.4. Where do we require the assumption that  $\Gamma$  must be of a certain form? Construct a counterexample which shows the falsehood of careless generalization of the theorem to admit arbitrary contexts  $\Gamma$ .

**Exercise 5.2** Carry out three representative cases in the proof of the Adequacy Theorem 5.5.

**Exercise 5.3** Modify the natural semantics for Mini-ML such that only closed  $\lambda$ -expressions have a value. How does this affect the proof of type preservation?

**Exercise 5.4** Write Elf programs

1. to count the number of occurrences of bound variables in a Mini-ML expression;
2. to remove all vacuous **let**-bindings from a Mini-ML expression;
3. to rewrite all occurrences of expressions of the form **(lam  $x. e_2$ )  $e_1$**  to **let  $x = e_1$  in  $e_2$** .

**Exercise 5.5** For each of the following statements, prove them informally and represent the proof in Elf, or give a counterexample if the statement is false.

1. For any expressions  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , evaluation of  $(\mathbf{lam} \ x. e_2) \ e_1$  yields a value  $v$  if and only if evaluation of  $\mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{val} \ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$  yields  $v$ .
2. For any expressions  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , evaluation of  $(\mathbf{lam} \ x. e_2) \ e_1$  yields a value  $v$  if and only if evaluation of  $\mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{name} \ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$  yields  $v$ .
3. For *values*  $v_1$ , the expression  $(\mathbf{lam} \ x. e_2) \ v_1$  has type  $\tau$  if and only if the expression  $\mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{val} \ x = v_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$  has type  $\tau$ .
4. For *values*  $v_1$ , the expression  $(\mathbf{lam} \ x. e_2) \ v_1$  has type  $\tau$  if and only if the expression  $\mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{name} \ x = v_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$  has type  $\tau$ .
5. Evaluation is deterministic, that is, whenever  $e \hookrightarrow v_1$  and  $e \hookrightarrow v_2$  then  $v_1 = v_2$  (modulo renaming of bound variables, as usual).

**Exercise 5.6** Give an LF representation of the fragment of Mini-ML which includes pairing, first and second projection, functions and application, and definitions with  $\mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{val}$  without using hypothetical judgments. Thus the typing judgment should be represented as a ternary type family, say, *hastype*, indexed by a representation of the context  $\Delta$  and representations of  $e$  and  $\tau$ . We would then look for a representation function  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$  which satisfies

$$\Gamma \vdash \ulcorner \mathcal{P} \urcorner : \text{hastype } \ulcorner \Delta \urcorner \ulcorner e \urcorner \ulcorner \tau \urcorner$$

for a suitable  $\Gamma$ , whenever  $\mathcal{P}$  is a valid deduction of  $\Delta \triangleright e : \tau$ .

**Exercise 5.7** Illustrate by means of an example why declaring the type **tp** as dynamic might lead to undesirable backtracking and unexpected answers during type inference for Mini-ML with the program in Section 5.5. Can you construct a situation where the program diverges on a well-typed Mini-ML expression? How about on a Mini-ML expression which is not well-typed?

**Exercise 5.8** Extend the implementation of the Mini-ML interpreter, type inference, and proof of type preservation to include

1. unit, void, and disjoint sum types (see Exercise 2.6),
2. lists (see Exercise 2.7).

**Exercise 5.9** Consider the call-by-name version of Mini-ML with lazy constructors as sketched in Exercise 2.12. Recall that neither the arguments to functions, nor the arguments to constructors (**s** and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ ) should be evaluated.

1. Implement an interpreter for the language and show a few expressions that highlight the differences in the operational semantics.

2. Implement type inference.
3. Define and implement a suitable notion of value.
4. Prove value soundness and implement your proof.
5. Prove type preservation and implement your proof.

Discuss the main differences between the development for Mini-ML and its call-by-name variant.

**Exercise 5.10** The definition of the judgment  $e \text{ Closed}$  follows systematically from the representation of expressions in higher-order abstract syntax, because object-level variables are represented by meta-level variables. This exercise explores a generalization of this fact. Assume we have a signature  $\Sigma_0$  in the simply-typed lambda-calculus that declares exactly one type constant  $a$  and some unspecified number of object constants  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ . Define an LF signature  $\Sigma_1$  that extends  $\Sigma_0$  by a new family

$$\text{closed} : a \rightarrow \text{type}$$

such that

$$\vdash_{\Sigma_0} N : a$$

if and only if

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma_1} N : a \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma_1} M : \text{closed } N$$

provided  $\Gamma$  no has declaration of the form  $u:\Pi y_1:A_1 \dots \Pi y_m:A_m. \text{closed } P$ .

**Exercise 5.11** Write Elf programs to determine if a Mini-ML expression is free of the recursion operation **fix** and at the same time

1. linear (every bound variable occurs exactly once);
2. affine (every bound variable occurs at most once);
3. relevant (every bound variable occurs at least once).

Since only one branch in a case statement will be taken during evaluation, a bound variable must occur exactly once in each branch in a linear expression, may occur at most once in each branch in an affine expression, and must occur at least once in each branch in a relevant expression.

**Exercise 5.12** Instead of substituting in the typing rule for **let name**-expressions we could extend contexts to record the definitions for variables bound with **let name**.

$$\text{Contexts } \Delta ::= \cdot \mid \Delta, x:\tau \mid \Delta, x = e$$

Variables must still occur at most once in a context (no variable may be declared and defined). We would replace the rule **tp\_letn** by the following two rules.

$$\frac{\Delta \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Delta, x = e_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2}{\Delta \triangleright \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{tp\_letn0} \quad \frac{x = e \text{ in } \Delta \quad \Delta \triangleright e : \tau}{\Delta \triangleright x : \tau} \text{tp\_var0}$$

There are at least two ways we can view this modification for representation in the framework.

1. We use a new judgment,  $x = e$ , which is introduced only as a hypothesis into a derivation.
2. We view a hypothesis  $x = e$  as the assumption of an *inference rule*. We might write this as

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \frac{\triangleright e_1 : \tau}{\triangleright x : \tau} u_\tau \\ \vdots \\ \triangleright e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2 \end{array}}{\triangleright \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2} \text{tp\_let}^{x,u}.$$

The subscript  $\tau$  in the hypothetical rule  $u$  indicates that in each application of  $u$  we may choose a different type  $\tau$ . Hypothetical rules have been investigated by Schroeder-Heister [SH84].

1. Show the proper generalization and the new cases in the informal proof of type preservation using rules **tp\_letn0** and **tp\_var0**.
2. Give the Elf implementation of type inference using alternative 1.
3. Implement the modified proof of type preservation in Elf using alternative 1.
4. Give the Elf implementation of type inference using alternative 2.
5. Implement the modified proof of type preservation in Elf using alternative 2.

**Exercise 5.13** [ *on the value restriction or its absence* ]

**Exercise 5.14** [ *on interpreting let name as let value, connect to value restriction* ]

**Exercise 5.15** The typing rules for Mini-ML in Section 2.5 are not a realistic basis for an implementation, since they require  $e_1$  in an expression of the form **let name**  $u = e_1$  **in**  $e_2$  to be re-checked at every occurrence of  $u$  in  $e_2$ . This is because we may need to assign different types to  $e_1$  for different occurrences of  $u$ .

Fortunately, all the different types for an expression  $e$  can be seen as instances of a most general *type schema* for  $e$ . In this exercise we explore an alternative formulation of Mini-ML which uses explicit type schemas.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Types } \tau & ::= \text{nat} \mid \tau_1 \times \tau_2 \mid \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \mid \alpha \\ \text{Type Schemas } \sigma & ::= \tau \mid \forall \alpha. \sigma \end{array}$$

Type schemas  $\sigma$  are related to types  $\tau$  through *instantiation*, written as  $\sigma \preceq \tau$ . This judgment is defined by

$$\frac{}{\tau \preceq \tau} \text{inst\_tp} \quad \frac{[\tau'/\alpha]\sigma \preceq \tau}{\forall \alpha. \sigma \preceq \tau} \text{inst\_all}.$$

We modify the judgment  $\Delta \triangleright e : \tau$  and add a second judgment,  $\Delta \triangleright e : \sigma$  stating that  $e$  has type schema  $\sigma$ . The typing rule for **let name** now no longer employs substitution, but refers to a schematic type for the definition. It must therefore be possible to assign type schemas to variables which are instantiated when we need an actual type for a variable.

$$\frac{\Delta \triangleright e_1 : \sigma_1 \quad \Delta, x:\sigma_1 \triangleright e_2 : \tau_2}{\Delta \triangleright \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2} \text{tp\_letn} \quad \frac{\Delta(x) = \sigma \quad \sigma \preceq \tau}{\Delta \triangleright x : \tau} \text{tp\_var}$$

Type schemas can be derived for expressions by means of quantifying over free type variables.

$$\frac{\Delta \triangleright e : \tau}{\Delta \triangleright e : \tau} \text{tpsc\_tp} \quad \frac{\Delta \triangleright e : \sigma}{\Delta \triangleright e : \forall \alpha. \sigma} \text{tpsc\_all}^\alpha$$

Here the premiss of the  $\text{tpsc\_all}^\alpha$  rule must be parametric in  $\alpha$ , that is,  $\alpha$  must not occur free in the context  $\Delta$ .

In the proofs and implementations below you may restrict yourself to the fragment of the language with functions and **let name**, since the changes are orthogonal to the other constructs of the language.

1. Give an example which shows why the restriction on the  $\text{tpsc\_all}$  rule is necessary.
2. Prove type preservation for this formulation of Mini-ML. Carefully write out and prove any substitution lemmas you might need, but you may take weakening and exchange for granted.
3. State the theorem which asserts the equivalence of the new typing rules when compared to the formulation in Section 2.5.
4. Prove the easy direction of the theorem in item 3. Can you conjecture the critical lemma for the opposite direction?

5. Implement type schemas, schematic instantiation, and the new typing judgments in Elf.
6. Unlike our first implementation, the new typing rules do not directly provide an implementation of type inference for Mini-ML in Elf. Show the difficulty by means of an example.
7. Implement the proof of type preservation from item 2 in Elf.
8. Implement one direction of the equivalence proof from item 3 in Elf.

**Exercise 5.16**      [ *about the Milner-Mycroft calculus with explicit types for polymorphic let and recursion* ]

# Chapter 6

## Compilation

The model of evaluation introduced in Section 2.3 and formalized in Section 3.6 builds only on the expressions of the Mini-ML language itself. This leads very naturally to an *interpreter* in Elf which is given in Section 4.3. Our specification of the operational semantics is in the style of *natural semantics* which very often lends itself to direct, though inefficient, execution. The inefficiency of the interpreter in 4.3 is more than just a practical issue, since it is clearly the wrong model if we would like to reason about the complexity of functions defined in Mini-ML. One can refine the evaluation model in two ways: one is to consider more efficient interpreters (see Exercises 2.11 and 4.2), another is to consider compilation. In this chapter we pursue the latter possibility and describe and prove the correctness of a compiler for Mini-ML.

In order to define a compiler we need a *target language* for compilation, that is, the language into which programs in the source language are translated. This target language has its own operational semantics, and we must show the correctness of compilation with respect to these two languages and their semantics. The ultimate target language for compilation is determined by the architecture and instruction set of the machine the programs are to be run on. In order to insulate compilers from the details of particular machine architectures it is advisable to design an intermediate language and execution model which is influenced by a set of target architectures and by constructs of the source language. We refer to this intermediate level as an *abstract machine*. Abstract machine code can then itself either be interpreted or compiled further to actual machine code. In this chapter we take a stepwise approach to compilation, using two intermediate forms between Mini-ML and a variant of the SECD machine [Lan64] which is also related to the Categorical Abstract Machine (CAM) [CCM87]. This decomposition simplifies the correctness proofs and localizes ideas which are necessary to understand the compiler in its totality.

The material presented in this chapter follows work by Hannan [HM90, Han91], both in general approach and in many details. An extended abstract that also addresses correctness issues and methods of formalization can be found in [HP92]. A different approach to compilation using *continuations* may be found in Section 9.2.

## 6.1 An Environment Model for Evaluation

The evaluation judgment  $e \hookrightarrow v$  requires that all information about the state of the computation is contained in the Mini-ML expression  $e$ . The application of a function formed by  $\lambda$ -abstraction,  $\mathbf{lam}\ x. e$ , to an argument  $v$  thus requires the substitution of  $v$  for  $x$  in  $e$  and evaluation of the result. In order to avoid this substitution it may seem reasonable to formulate evaluation as a hypothetical judgment ( $e$  is evaluated under the hypothesis that  $x$  evaluates to  $v$ ) but this attempt fails (see Exercise 6.1). Instead, we allow free variables in expressions which are given values in an *environment*, which is explicitly represented as part of a revised evaluation judgment. Variables are evaluated by looking up their value in the environment; previously we always eliminated them by substitution, so no separate rule was required. However, this leads to a problem with the scope of variables. Consider the expression  $\mathbf{lam}\ y. x$  in an environment that binds  $x$  to  $\mathbf{z}$ . According to our natural semantics the value of this expression should be  $\mathbf{lam}\ y. \mathbf{z}$ , but this requires the substitution of  $\mathbf{z}$  for  $x$ . Simply returning  $\mathbf{lam}\ y. x$  is incorrect if this value may later be interpreted in an environment in which  $x$  is not bound, or bound to a different value. The practical solution is to return a *closure* consisting of an environment  $K$  and an expression  $\mathbf{lam}\ y. e$ .  $K$  must contain at least all the variables free in  $\mathbf{lam}\ y. e$ . We ignore certain questions of efficiency in our presentation and simply pair up the complete current environment with the expression to form the closure.

This approach leads to the question how to represent environments and closures. A simple solution is to represent an environment as a list of values and a variable as a pointer into this list. It was de Bruijn's idea [dB72] to implement such pointers as natural numbers where  $n$  refers to the  $n^{\text{th}}$  element of the environment list. This works smoothly if we also represent bound variables in this fashion: an occurrence of a bound variable points backwards to the place where it is bound. This pointer takes the form of a positive integer, where 1 refers to the innermost binder and 1 is added for every binding encountered when going upward through the expression. For example

$\mathbf{lam}\ x. \mathbf{lam}\ y. x (\mathbf{lam}\ z. y\ z)$

would be written as

$\Lambda (\Lambda (2 (\Lambda (2\ 1))))$

where  $\Lambda$  binds an (unnamed) variable. In this form expressions that differ only in the names of their bound variables are syntactically identical. If we restrict



attention to pure  $\lambda$ -terms for the moment, this leads to the definition

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{de Bruijn Expressions } D & ::= n \mid \Lambda D \mid D_1 D_2 \\ \text{de Bruijn Indices } n & ::= 1 \mid 2 \mid \dots \end{array}$$

Instead of using integers and general arithmetic operations on them, we use only the integer 1 to refer to the innermost element of the environment and the operator  $\uparrow$  (read: shift, written in post-fix notation) to increment variable references. That is, the integer  $n + 1$  is represented as

$$1 \underbrace{\uparrow \dots \uparrow}_{n \text{ times}}$$

But  $\uparrow$  can also be applied to other expressions, in effect raising each integer in the expression by 1. For example, the expression

$$\mathbf{lam} \ x. \mathbf{lam} \ y. x \ x$$

can be represented by

$$\Lambda (\Lambda ((1\uparrow) (1\uparrow)))$$

or

$$\Lambda (\Lambda ((1 \ 1)\uparrow)).$$

This is a very simple form of a  $\lambda$ -calculus with *explicit substitutions* where  $\uparrow$  is the only available substitution (see [ACCL91]).

$$\text{Modified de Bruijn Expressions } F ::= 1 \mid F\uparrow \mid \Lambda F \mid F_1 F_2$$

We use the convention that the postfix operator  $\uparrow$  binds stronger than application which in turn binds stronger than the prefix operator  $\Lambda$ . Thus the two examples above can be written as  $\Lambda \Lambda 1\uparrow 1\uparrow$  and  $\Lambda \Lambda (1 \ 1)\uparrow$ , respectively.

The next step is to introduce environments. These depend on *values* and *vice versa*, since a closure is a pair of an environment and an expression, and an environment is a list of values. This can be carried to the extreme: in the Categorical Abstract Machine (CAM), for example, environments are built as iterated pairs and are thus values. Our representation will not make this identification. Since we have simplified our language to a pure  $\lambda$ -calculus, the only kind of value which can arise is a closure.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Environments } K & ::= \cdot \mid K; W \\ \text{Values } W & ::= \{K, F\} \end{array}$$

We write  $w$  for parameters ranging over values. During the course of evaluation, only closures over  $\Lambda$ -expressions will arise, that is, all closures have the form  $\{K, \Lambda F'\}$  (see Exercise 6.2).

The specification of modified de Bruijn expressions, values, and environments is straightforward. The abstract syntax is now first-order, since the language does not contain any name binding constructs.

```

exp'   : type.  %name exp' F

1      : exp'.
^      : exp' -> exp'.  %postfix 20 ^
lam'   : exp' -> exp'.
app'   : exp' -> exp' -> exp'.

env     : type.  %name env K
val     : type.  %name val W

empty   : env.
;       : env -> val -> env.  %infix left 10 ;

clo     : env -> exp' -> val.

```

There are two main judgments that achieve compilation: one relates a de Bruijn expression  $F$  in an environment  $K$  to an ordinary expression  $e$ , another relates a value  $W$  to an expression  $v$ . We also need an evaluation judgment relating de Bruijn expressions and values in a given environment.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e & F \text{ translates to } e \text{ in environment } K \\
W \Leftrightarrow v & W \text{ translates to } v \\
K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W & F \text{ evaluates to } W \text{ in environment } K
\end{array}$$

When we evaluate a given expression  $e$  using these judgments, we translate it to a de Bruijn expression  $F$  in the empty environment, evaluate  $F$  in the empty environment to obtain a value  $W$ , and then translate  $W$  to an expression  $v$  in the original language. This is depicted in the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
e & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v} & v \\
\mathcal{C} :: \cdot \vdash F \leftrightarrow e \downarrow & & \uparrow \mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v \\
F & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}' :: \cdot \vdash F \hookrightarrow W} & W
\end{array}$$

The correctness of this phase of compilation can then be decomposed into two statements. For *completeness*, we assume that  $\mathcal{D}$  and therefore  $e$  and  $v$  are given, and we would like to show that there exist  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'$ , and  $\mathcal{U}$  completing the diagram. This means that for every evaluation of  $e$  to a value  $v$ , this value could also have been produced by evaluating the compiled expression and translating the resulting value back to the original language. The dual of this is *soundness*: we assume that  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  are given and we have to show that an evaluation  $\mathcal{D}$  exists. That

is, every value which can be produced by compilation and evaluation of compiled expressions can also be produced by direct evaluation.

We will continue to restrict ourselves to expressions built up only from abstraction and application. When we generalize this later only the case of fixpoint expressions will introduce an essential complication. First we define evaluation of de Bruijn expressions in an environment  $K$ , written as  $K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ . The variable 1 refers to the first value in the environment (counting from right to left); its evaluation just returns that value.

$$\frac{}{K; W \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_1}$$

The meaning of an expression  $F\uparrow$  in an environment  $K; W$  is the same as the meaning of  $F$  in the environment  $K$ . Intuitively, the environment references from  $F$  into  $K$  are shifted by one. The typical case is one where a reference to the  $n^{\text{th}}$  value in  $K$  is represented by the expression  $1\uparrow \cdots \uparrow$ , where the shift operator is applied  $n - 1$  times.

$$\frac{K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W}{K; W' \vdash F\uparrow \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_}\uparrow$$

A functional abstraction usually immediately evaluates to itself. Here this is insufficient, since an expression  $\Lambda F$  may contain references to the environment  $K$ . Thus we need to combine the environment  $K$  with  $\Lambda F$  to produce a closed (and self-contained) value.

$$\frac{}{K \vdash \Lambda F \hookrightarrow \{K, \Lambda F\}} \text{fev\_}\lambda$$

In order to evaluate  $F_1 F_2$  in an environment  $K$  we evaluate both  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  in that environment, yielding the closure  $\{K', \Lambda F'_1\}$  and value  $W_2$ , respectively. We then add  $W_2$  to the environment  $K'$ , in effect binding the variable previously bound by  $\Lambda$  in  $\Lambda F'_1$  to  $W_2$  and then evaluate  $F'_1$  in the extended environment to obtain the overall value  $W$ .

$$\frac{K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow \{K', \Lambda F'_1\} \quad K \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W_2 \quad K'; W_2 \vdash F'_1 \hookrightarrow W}{K \vdash F_1 F_2 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_app}$$

Here is the implementation of this judgment as the type family `feval` in Elf.

```
feval : env -> exp' -> val -> type.  %name feval D

% Variables
fev_1 : feval (K ; W) 1 W.
fev_~ : feval (K ; W') (F ~) W
      <- feval K F W.
```

```

% Functions
fev_lam : feval K (lam' F) (clo K (lam' F)).
fev_app : feval K (app' F1 F2) W
          <- feval K F1 (clo K' (lam' F1'))
          <- feval K F2 W2
          <- feval (K' ; W2) F1' W.

```

We have written this signature in a way that emphasizes its operational reading, because it serves as an implementation of an interpreter. As an example, consider the evaluation of the expression  $(\Lambda (\Lambda (1\uparrow))) (\Lambda 1)$ , which is a representation of  $(\mathbf{lam} \ x. \mathbf{lam} \ y. x) (\mathbf{lam} \ v. v)$ .

```

?- D : feval empty (app' (lam' (lam' (1 ^))) (lam' 1)) W.

W = clo (empty ; clo empty (lam' 1)) (lam' (1 ^)),
D = fev_app fev_lam fev_lam fev_lam.

```

The resulting closure,  $\{(\cdot; \{\cdot, \Lambda 1\}), \Lambda(1\uparrow)\}$ , represents the de Bruijn expressions  $\Lambda(\Lambda 1)$ , since  $(1\uparrow)$  refers to the first value in the environment.

The translation between ordinary and de Bruijn expressions is specified by the following rules which employ a parametric and hypothetical judgment.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{K \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e_1 \quad K \vdash F_2 \leftrightarrow e_2}{K \vdash F_1 F_2 \leftrightarrow e_1 e_2} \text{tr\_app} \qquad \frac{\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{w \leftrightarrow x} u \\ \vdots \\ K; w \vdash F \leftrightarrow e \end{array}}{K \vdash \Lambda F \leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e} \text{tr\_lam}^{w,x,u} \\
\\
\frac{W \leftrightarrow e}{K; W \vdash 1 \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr\_1} \qquad \frac{K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e}{K; W \vdash F\uparrow \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr\_}\uparrow
\end{array}$$

where the rule  $\text{tr\_lam}$  is restricted to the case where  $w$  and  $x$  are new parameters not free in any other hypothesis, and  $u$  is a new label. The translation of values is defined by a single rule in this language fragment.

$$\frac{K \vdash \Lambda F \leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e}{\{K, \Lambda F\} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e} \text{vtr\_lam}$$

As remarked earlier this translation can be non-deterministic if  $K$  and  $e$  are given and  $F$  is to be generated. This is the direction in which this judgment would be used for compilation. Here is an example of a translation.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{w \Leftrightarrow x} u \\
\frac{}{\vdash w \vdash 1 \Leftrightarrow x} \text{tr\_1} \\
\frac{}{\vdash w; w' \vdash 1 \uparrow \Leftrightarrow x} \text{tr\_}\uparrow \\
\frac{}{\vdash w \vdash \Lambda 1 \uparrow \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ y. \ x} \text{tr\_lam}^{w, y, u'} \quad \frac{}{w'' \Leftrightarrow v} u'' \\
\frac{}{\vdash \Lambda \Lambda 1 \uparrow \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ \mathbf{lam} \ y. \ x} \text{tr\_lam}^{w, x, u} \quad \frac{}{\vdash w'' \vdash 1 \Leftrightarrow v} \text{tr\_1} \\
\frac{}{\vdash \vdash \Lambda \Lambda 1 \uparrow \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. \ \mathbf{lam} \ y. \ x} \text{tr\_lam}^{w, x, u} \quad \frac{}{\vdash \vdash \Lambda 1 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ v. \ v} \text{tr\_lam}^{w'', v, u''} \\
\frac{}{\vdash \vdash (\Lambda \Lambda 1 \uparrow) (\Lambda 1) \Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{lam} \ x. \ \mathbf{lam} \ y. \ x) (\mathbf{lam} \ v. \ v)} \text{tr\_app}
\end{array}$$

The representation of the translation judgment relies on the standard technique for representing deductions of hypothetical judgments as functions.

```

trans  : env -> exp' -> exp -> type.    %name trans C
vtrans : val -> exp -> type.             %name vtrans U

tr_lam : trans K (lam' F) (lam E)
        <- {w:val} {x:exp}
            vtrans w x -> trans (K ; w) F (E x).
tr_app : trans K (app' F1 F2) (app E1 E2)
        <- trans K F1 E1
        <- trans K F2 E2.

tr_1   : trans (K ; W) 1 E <- vtrans W E.
tr_~   : trans (K ; W) (F ~) E <- trans K F E.

vtr_lam : vtrans (clo K (lam' F)) (lam E)
          <- trans K (lam' F) (lam E).

```

The judgment

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{w \Leftrightarrow x} u \\
\vdots \\
K; w \vdash F \Leftrightarrow e
\end{array}$$

in the premiss of the `tr_lam` is parametric in the variables  $w$  and  $x$  and hypothetical in  $u$ . It is represented by a function which, when given a value  $W'$ , an expression  $e'$ , and a deduction  $\mathcal{U}' :: W' \Leftrightarrow e'$  returns a deduction  $\mathcal{D}' :: K; W' \vdash F \Leftrightarrow [e'/x]e$ . This property is crucial in the proof of compiler correctness.

The signature above can be executed as a non-deterministic program for translation between de Bruijn and ordinary expressions in both directions. For the compilation of expressions it is important to keep the clauses `tr_1` and `tr_~` in the

given order so as to avoid unnecessary backtracking. This non-determinism arises, since the expression  $E$  in the rules  $\text{tr\_1}$  and  $\text{tr\_}^\wedge$  does not change in the recursive calls. For other possible implementations see Exercise 6.3. Here is an execution which yields the example deduction above.

```
?- C : trans empty F (app (lam [x] lam [y] x) (lam [v] v)).
```

```
F = app' (lam' (lam' (1 ^))) (lam' 1),
```

```
C =
```

```
  tr_app (tr_lam ([w':val] [v:exp] [u':vtrans w v] tr_1 u'))
    (tr_lam
      ([w:val] [x:exp] [u:vtrans w x]
        tr_lam ([w':val] [y:exp] [u':vtrans w' y]
          tr_^\ (tr_1 u))))).
```

```
;
```

```
no more solutions
```

It is not immediately obvious that every source expression  $e$  can in fact be compiled using this judgment. This is the subject of the following theorem.

**Theorem 6.1** *For every closed expression  $e$  there exists a de Bruijn expression  $F$  such that  $\cdot \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ .*

**Proof:** A direct attempt at an induction argument fails—a typical situation when proving properties of judgments which involve hypothetical reasoning. However, the theorem follows immediately from Lemma 6.2 below.  $\square$

**Lemma 6.2** *Let  $w_1, \dots, w_n$  be parameters ranging over values and let  $K$  be the environment  $\cdot; w_n; \dots; w_1$ . Furthermore, let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  range over expression variables. For any expression  $e$  with free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  there exists a de Bruijn expression  $F$  and a deduction  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$  from hypotheses  $u_1 :: w_1 \Leftrightarrow x_1, \dots, u_n :: w_n \Leftrightarrow x_n$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of  $e$ .

**Case:**  $e = e_1 e_2$ . By induction hypothesis on  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , there exist  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  and deductions  $\mathcal{C}_1 :: K \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2 :: K \vdash F_2 \leftrightarrow e_2$ . Applying the rule  $\text{tr\_app}$  to  $\mathcal{C}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$  yields the desired deduction  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F_1 F_2 \leftrightarrow e_1 e_2$ .

**Case:**  $e = \text{lam } x. e_1$ . Here we apply the induction hypothesis to the expression  $e_1$ , environment  $K; w$  for a new parameter  $w$ , and hypotheses  $u_1 :: w_1 \Leftrightarrow x_1, \dots, u_n :: w_n \Leftrightarrow x_n, u :: w \Leftrightarrow x$  to obtain an  $F_1$  and a deduction

$$\frac{\frac{u}{w \Leftrightarrow x}}{\mathcal{C}_1} \\ K; w \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e_1$$

possibly also using hypotheses labelled  $u_1, \dots, u_n$ . Note that  $e_1$  is an expression with free variables among  $x_1, \dots, x_n, x$ . Applying the rule **tr\_lam** discharges the hypothesis  $u$  and we obtain the desired deduction

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\frac{\frac{}{w \Leftrightarrow x} u}{\mathcal{C}_1} \quad K; w \vdash F_1 \Leftrightarrow e_1}{K \vdash \Lambda F_1 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1} \mathbf{tr\_lam}^u$$

**Case:**  $e = x$ . Then  $x = x_i$  for some  $i$  between 1 and  $n$  and we let  $F = 1 \uparrow \dots \uparrow$   $i-1$  times

and

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{}{w_i \Leftrightarrow x_i} u_i}{\mathbf{tr\_l}}}{\vdots; w_n; \dots; w_i \vdash 1 \Leftrightarrow x_i} \mathbf{tr\_}\uparrow}{\vdots; w_n; \dots; w_1 \vdash 1 \uparrow \dots \uparrow \Leftrightarrow x_i} \mathbf{tr\_}\uparrow$$

□

At present we do not know how to represent this proof in Elf because we cannot employ the usual technique for representing hypothetical judgments as functions. The difficulty is that the order of the hypotheses is important for returning the correct variable  $1 \uparrow \dots \uparrow$ , but hypothetical judgments are generally invariant under reordering of hypotheses. Hannan [Han91] has suggested a different, deterministic translation for which termination is relatively easy to show, but which complicates the proofs of the remaining properties of compiler correctness. Thus our formalization does not capture the desirable property that compilation always terminates. All the remaining parts, however, are implemented. The first property states that translation followed by evaluation leads to the same result as evaluation followed by translation. We generalize this for arbitrary environments  $K$  in order to allow a proof by induction. This property is depicted in the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} e & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v} & v \\ \mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \Leftrightarrow e \downarrow & & \uparrow \mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v \\ K, F \dots \dots \dots & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W} & W \end{array}$$

The solid lines indicate deductions that are assumed, dotted lines represent the deductions whose existence we assert and prove below.

**Lemma 6.3** *For any closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$ , environment  $K$ , de Bruijn expression  $F$ , deductions  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ , there exist a value  $W$  and deductions  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on the structures of  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ . In this induction we assume the induction hypothesis on the premisses of  $\mathcal{D}$  and for arbitrary  $\mathcal{C}$  and on the premisses of  $\mathcal{C}$ , but for the same  $\mathcal{D}$ . This is sometimes called *lexicographic* induction on the pair consisting of  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$ . It should be intuitively clear that this form of induction is valid. We represent this proof as a judgment relating the four deductions involved in the diagram.

```
map_eval : eval E V -> trans K F E
          -> feval K F W -> vtrans W V -> type.
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  ends in an application of the `tr_1` rule.

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\mathcal{U}_1 \quad W_1 \Leftrightarrow e}{K_1; W_1 \vdash 1 \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr}_1$$

$\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$	Assumption
$\mathcal{C}_1 :: K'_1 \vdash \Lambda F'_1 \leftrightarrow e \quad \text{and} \quad W_1 = \{K'_1, \Lambda F'_1\}$	By inversion on $\mathcal{U}_1$
$e = \mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1$	By inversion on $\mathcal{C}_1$
$v = \mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1 = e$	By inversion on $\mathcal{D}$

Then  $W = W_1$ ,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_1 :: W_1 \Leftrightarrow e$  and  $\mathcal{D}' = \text{fev}_1 :: K_1; W_1 \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow W_1$  satisfy the requirements of the theorem. This case is captured in the clause

```
mp_1 : map_eval (ev_lam) (tr_1 (vtr_lam (tr_lam C2)))
      (fev_1) (vtr_lam (tr_lam C2)).
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  ends in an application of the `tr_↑` rule.

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\mathcal{C}_1 \quad K_1 \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e}{K_1; W'_1 \vdash F_1 \uparrow \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr}_\uparrow$$

$\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$	Assumption
$\mathcal{D}'_1 :: K_1 \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1$	
and $\mathcal{U}_1 :: W_1 \Leftrightarrow v$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}$ and $\mathcal{C}_1$



Now we let  $W = W_1$ ,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_1$ , and obtain  $\mathcal{D}' :: K_1; W'_1 \vdash F_1 \uparrow \hookrightarrow W_1$  by  $\text{fev\_}\uparrow$  from  $\mathcal{D}'_1$ .

```
mp_ˆ : map_eval D (tr_ˆ C1) (fev_ˆ D1') U1
      <- map_eval D C1 D1' U1.
```

For the remaining cases we assume that the previous two cases do not apply. We refer to this assumption as *exclusion*.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in an application of the  $\text{ev\_lam}$  rule.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1} \text{ev\_lam}$$

$\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1$   
 $F = \Lambda F_1$

By assumption  
 By inversion and exclusion

Then we let  $W = \{K, \Lambda F_1\}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}' = \text{fev\_lam} :: K \vdash \Lambda F_1 \hookrightarrow \{K, \Lambda F_1\}$ , and obtain  $\mathcal{U} :: \{K, \Lambda F_1\} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1$  by  $\text{vtr\_lam}$  from  $\mathcal{C}$ .

```
mp_lam : map_eval (ev_lam) (tr_lam C1)
          (fev_lam) (vtr_lam (tr_lam C1)).
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in an application of the  $\text{ev\_app}$  rule.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{D}_1 & \mathcal{D}_2 & \mathcal{D}_3 \\ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1 & e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 & [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v \end{array}}{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app}$$

This is the most interesting case, since it contains the essence of the argument how substitution can be replaced by binding variables to values in an environment.

$\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e_1 \ e_2$

By assumption

$F = F_1 \ F_2$ ,

$\mathcal{C}_1 :: K \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e_1$ , and

$\mathcal{C}_2 :: K \vdash F_2 \leftrightarrow e_2$

By inversion and exclusion

$\mathcal{D}'_2 :: K \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W_2$  and

$\mathcal{U}_2 :: W_2 \Leftrightarrow v_2$

By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_2$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$

$\mathcal{D}'_1 :: K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1$  and

$\mathcal{U}_1 :: W_1 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1$

By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1$

$W_1 = \{K_1, \Lambda F'_1\}$  and

$\mathcal{C}'_1 :: K_1 \vdash \Lambda F'_1 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1$

By inversion on  $\mathcal{U}_1$

Applying inversion again to  $\mathcal{C}'_1$  shows that the premiss must be the deduction of a hypothetical judgment. That is,

$$\mathcal{C}'_1 = \frac{\frac{\overline{w \Leftrightarrow x} \quad u}{\mathcal{C}_3}}{K_1; w \vdash F'_1 \Leftrightarrow e'_1}$$

where  $w$  is a new parameter ranging over values. This judgment is parametric in  $w$  and  $x$  and hypothetical in  $u$ . We can thus substitute  $W_2$  for  $w$ ,  $v_2$  for  $x$ , and  $\mathcal{U}_2$  for  $u$  to obtain a deduction

$$\mathcal{C}'_3 :: K_1; W_2 \vdash F'_1 \Leftrightarrow [v_2/x]e'_1.$$

Now we apply the induction hypothesis to  $\mathcal{D}_3$  and  $\mathcal{C}'_3$  to obtain a  $W_3$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}'_3 &:: K_1; W_2 \vdash F'_1 \hookrightarrow W_3 \text{ and} \\ \mathcal{U}_3 &:: W_3 \Leftrightarrow v. \end{aligned}$$

We let  $W = W_3$ ,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_3$ , and obtain  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F_1 F_2 \hookrightarrow W$  by `fev_app` from  $\mathcal{D}'_1$ ,  $\mathcal{D}'_2$ , and  $\mathcal{D}'_3$ .

The implementation of this relatively complex reasoning employs again the magic of hypothetical judgments: the substitution we need to carry out to obtain  $\mathcal{C}'_3$  from  $\mathcal{C}_3$  is implemented as a function application.

```
mp_app : map_eval (ev_app D3 D2 D1) (tr_app C2 C1)
          (fev_app D3' D2' D1') U3
  <- map_eval D1 C1 D1' (vtr_lam (tr_lam C3))
  <- map_eval D2 C2 D2' U2
  <- map_eval D3 (C3 W2 V2 U2) D3' U3.
```

This completes the proof once we have convinced ourselves that all possible cases have been considered. Note that whenever  $\mathcal{C}$  ends in an application of the `tr_1` or `tr_↑` rules, then the first two cases apply. Otherwise one of the other two cases must apply, depending on the shape of  $\mathcal{D}$ .  $\square$

Theorem 6.1 and Lemma 6.3 together guarantee completeness of the translation.

**Theorem 6.4** (Completeness) *For any closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$  and evaluation  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ , there exist a de Bruijn expression  $F$ , a value  $W$  and deductions  $\mathcal{C} :: \cdot \vdash F \Leftrightarrow e$ ,  $\mathcal{D}' :: \cdot \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ , and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** Lemma 6.3 shows that an evaluation  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  and a translation  $W \Leftrightarrow v$  exist for any translation  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \Leftrightarrow e$ . Theorem 6.1 shows that a particular  $F$  and translation  $\mathcal{C} :: \cdot \vdash F \Leftrightarrow e$  exist, thus proving the theorem.  $\square$

Completeness is insufficient to guarantee compiler correctness. For example, the translation of values  $W \Leftrightarrow v$  could relate *any* expression  $v$  to any value  $W$ , which would make the statement of the previous theorem almost trivially true. We need to check a further property, namely that any value which could be produced by evaluating the compiled code, could also be produced by direct evaluation as specified by the natural semantics. This is shown in the diagram below.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v} & v \\
 \mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \Leftarrow e & \downarrow & \uparrow \mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v \\
 K, F & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W} & W
 \end{array}$$

We call this property *soundness* of the compiler, since it prohibits the compiled code from producing incorrect values. We prove this from a lemma which asserts the existence of an expression  $v$ , evaluation  $\mathcal{D}$  and translation  $\mathcal{U}$ , given the translation  $\mathcal{C}$  and evaluation  $\mathcal{D}'$ . This yields the theorem by showing that the translation  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ , is uniquely determined from  $W$ .

**Lemma 6.5** *For any closed expression  $e$ , de Bruijn expression  $F$ , environment  $K$ , value  $W$ , deductions  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  and  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \Leftarrow e$ , there exist an expression  $v$  and deductions  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** The proof proceeds by a straightforward induction over the structure of  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ . It heavily employs inversion (as the proof of completeness, Lemma 6.3). Interestingly, this proof can be implemented by literally the same judgment. We leave it as exercise 6.6 to write out the informal proof—its representation from the proof of completeness is summarized below. Using `is` as a program in this instance means that we assume that second and third arguments are given and the first and last argument are logic variables whose instantiation terms are to be constructed.

```

map_eval : eval E V -> trans K F E
           -> feval K F W -> vtrans W V -> type.

mp_1 : map_eval (ev_lam) (tr_1 (vtr_lam (tr_lam C2)))
      (fev_1) (vtr_lam (tr_lam C2)).

mp_~ : map_eval D (tr_~ C1) (fev_~ D1') U1
      <- map_eval D C1 D1' U1.

mp_lam : map_eval (ev_lam) (tr_lam C1)

```

```

(fev_lam) (vtr_lam (tr_lam C1)).

mp_app : map_eval (ev_app D3 D2 D1) (tr_app C2 C1)
          (fev_app D3' D2' D1') U3
  <- map_eval D1 C1 D1' (vtr_lam (tr_lam C3))
  <- map_eval D2 C2 D2' U2
  <- map_eval D3 (C3 W2 V2 U2) D3' U3.

```

□

**Theorem 6.6** (Uniqueness of Translations) *For any value  $W$  if there exist a  $v$  and a translation  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ , then  $v$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  are unique. Furthermore, for any environment  $K$  and de Bruijn expression  $F$ , if there exist an  $e$  and a translation  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \Leftrightarrow e$ , then  $e$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are unique.*

**Proof:** By simultaneous induction on the structures of  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$ . In each case, either  $W$  or  $F$  uniquely determine the last inference. Since the translated expressions in the premisses are unique by induction hypothesis, so is the translated value in the conclusion. □

The proof requires no separate implementation in Elf in the same way that appeals to inversion remain implicit in the formulation of higher-level judgments. It is obtained by direct inspection of properties of the inference rules.

**Theorem 6.7** (Soundness) *For any closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$ , de Bruijn expression  $F$ , environment  $K$ , value  $W$ , deductions  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ ,  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \Leftrightarrow e$ , and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ , there exists a deduction  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** From Lemma 6.5 we infer the existence of a  $v$ ,  $\mathcal{U}$ , and  $\mathcal{D}$ , given  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$ . Theorem 6.6 shows that  $v$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  are unique, and thus the property must hold for all  $v$  and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ , which is what we needed to show. □

## 6.2 Adding Data Values and Recursion

In the previous section we treated only a very restricted core language of Mini-ML. In this section we will extend the compiler to the full Mini-ML language as presented in Chapter 2. The main additions to the core language which affect the compiler are data values (such as natural numbers and pairs) and recursion. The language of de Bruijn expressions is extended by allowing constructors that parallel ordinary expressions. We maintain a similar syntax, but mark de Bruijn expression

constructors with a prime (').

Expressions	$F ::=$	$  \mathbf{z}'   \mathbf{s}' F   \mathbf{case}' F_1 F_2 F_3$	<i>Natural Numbers</i>
		$  \langle F_1, F_2 \rangle'   \mathbf{fst}' F   \mathbf{snd}' F$	<i>Pairs</i>
		$  \Lambda F   F_1 F_2$	<i>Functions</i>
		$  \mathbf{let}' \mathbf{val} F_1 \mathbf{in} F_2$	<i>Definitions</i>
		$  \mathbf{let}' \mathbf{name} F_1 \mathbf{in} F_2$	
		$  \mathbf{fix}' F$	<i>Recursion</i>
		$  1   F\uparrow$	<i>Variables</i>

Expressions of the form  $F\uparrow$  are not necessarily variables (where  $F$  is a sequence of shifts applied to 1), but it may be intuitively helpful to think of them that way. In the representation we need only first-order constants, since this language has no constructs binding variables by name.

```

exp'    : type.  %name exp' F

1       : exp'.
^       : exp' -> exp'.  %postfix 20 ^
z'      : exp'.
s'      : exp' -> exp'.
case'   : exp' -> exp' -> exp' -> exp'.
pair'   : exp' -> exp' -> exp'.
fst'    : exp' -> exp'.
snd'    : exp' -> exp'.
lam'    : exp' -> exp'.
app'    : exp' -> exp' -> exp'.
letv'   : exp' -> exp' -> exp'.
letn'   : exp' -> exp' -> exp'.
fix'    : exp' -> exp'.

```

Next we need to extend the language of values. While data values can be added in a straightforward fashion, **let name** and recursion present some difficulties. Consider the evaluation rule for fixpoints.

$$\frac{[\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e/x]e \hookrightarrow v}{\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e \hookrightarrow v} \text{ ev\_fix}$$

We introduced the environment model of evaluation in order to eliminate the need for explicit substitution, where an environment is a list of values. In the case of the fixpoint construction we would need to bind the variable  $x$  to the expression  $\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e$  in the environment in order to avoid substitution, but  $\mathbf{fix} \ x. \ e$  is not a value. The evaluation rules for de Bruijn expressions take advantage of the invariant that an

environment contains only values. In particular, the rule

$$\frac{}{K; W \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_1}$$

requires that an environment contain only values. We will thus need to add a new environment constructor  $K + F$  in order to allow unevaluated expressions in the environment. These considerations yield the following mutually recursive definitions of environments and values. We mark data values with a star (\*) to distinguish them from expressions and de Bruijn expressions with the same name.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{Environments } K & ::= & \cdot \mid K; W \mid K + F \\ \text{Values } W & ::= & \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{z}^* \mid \mathbf{s}^* W \quad \text{Natural Numbers} \\ \langle W_1, W_2 \rangle^* \quad \text{Pairs} \\ \{K, F\} \quad \text{Closures} \end{array} \end{array}$$

The Elf representation is direct.

```
env      : type.  %name env K
val      : type.  %name val W

empty    : env.
;        : env -> val -> env.  %infix left 10 ;
+        : env -> exp' -> env.  %infix left 10 +

z*       : val.
s*       : val -> val.

pair*    : val -> val -> val.

clo      : env -> exp' -> val.
```

In the extension of the evaluation rule to this completed language, we must exercise care in the treatment of the new environment constructor for unevaluated expression: when such an expression is looked up in the environment, it must be evaluated.

$$\frac{K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W}{K + F \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_1+} \qquad \frac{K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W}{K + F' \vdash F \uparrow \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_}\uparrow+$$

The rules involving data values generally follow the patterns established in the natural semantics for ordinary expressions. The main departure from the earlier formulation is the separation of values from expressions. We show only four of the

relevant rules.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{K \vdash \mathbf{z}' \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}^*} \text{fev\_z} \qquad \frac{K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W}{K \vdash \mathbf{s}' F \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s}^* W} \text{fev\_s} \\
\\
\frac{K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}^* \quad K \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W}{K \vdash \mathbf{case}' F_1 F_2 F_3 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_case\_z} \\
\\
\frac{K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{s}^* W'_1 \quad K; W'_1 \vdash F_3 \hookrightarrow W}{K \vdash \mathbf{case}' F_1 F_2 F_3 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_case\_s}
\end{array}$$

Evaluating a **let val**-expression also binds a variable to value by extending the environment.

$$\frac{K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1 \quad K; W_1 \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W}{K \vdash \mathbf{let val}' F_1 \mathbf{in} F_2 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_letv}$$

Evaluating a **let name**-expression binds a variable to an expression and thus requires the new environment constructor.

$$\frac{K + F_1 \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W}{K \vdash \mathbf{let name}' F_1 \mathbf{in} F_2 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_letn}$$

Fixpoint expressions are similar, except that the variable is bound to the **fix** expression itself.

$$\frac{K + \mathbf{fix}' F \vdash F \hookrightarrow W}{K \vdash \mathbf{fix}' F \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_fix}$$

For example, **fix**  $x. x$  (considered on page 16) is represented by **fix'** 1. Intuitively, evaluation of this expression should not terminate. An attempt to construct an evaluation leads to the sequence

$$\begin{array}{c}
\vdots \\
\frac{}{\cdot \vdash \mathbf{fix}' 1 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_fix} \\
\frac{}{\cdot + \mathbf{fix}' 1 \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_1+} \\
\frac{}{\cdot \vdash \mathbf{fix}' 1 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_fix.}
\end{array}$$

The implementation of these rules in Elf poses no particular difficulties. We show only the rules from above.

```
feval : env -> exp' -> val -> type. %name feval D
```

```

% Variables
fev_1+ : feval (K + F) 1 W
        <- feval K F W.
fev_~+ : feval (K + F') (F ~) W
        <- feval K F W.

% Natural Numbers
fev_z : feval K z' z*.
fev_s : feval K (s' F) (s* W)
        <- feval K F W.
fev_case_z : feval K (case' F1 F2 F3) W
             <- feval K F1 z*
             <- feval K F2 W.
fev_case_s : feval K (case' F1 F2 F3) W
             <- feval K F1 (s* W1)
             <- feval (K ; W1) F3 W.

% Definitions
fev_letv : feval K (letv' F1 F2) W
          <- feval K F1 W1
          <- feval (K ; W1) F2 W.

fev_letn : feval K (letn' F1 F2) W
          <- feval (K + F1) F2 W.

% Recursion
fev_fix : feval K (fix' F) W
          <- feval (K + (fix' F)) F W.

```

Next we need to extend the translation between expressions and de Bruijn expressions and values. We show a few interesting cases in the extended judgments  $K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$  and  $W \Leftrightarrow v$ . The case for **let val** is handled just like the case for **lam**, since we will always substitute a *value* for the variable bound by the **let** during



execution.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{K \vdash \mathbf{z}' \leftrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{tr\_z} \qquad \frac{K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e}{K \vdash \mathbf{s}' F \leftrightarrow \mathbf{s} e} \text{tr\_s} \\
\\
\frac{\frac{}{w \leftrightarrow x} u \quad \vdots \quad K \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e_1 \quad K; w \vdash F_2 \leftrightarrow e_2}{K \vdash \mathbf{let val}' F_1 \text{ in } F_2 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2} \text{tr\_letv}^{w,x,u}
\end{array}$$

where the right premiss of  $\text{tr\_let}$  is parametric in  $w$  and  $x$  and hypothetical in  $u$ . In order to preserve the basic structure of the proofs of lemmas 6.3 and 6.5, we must treat the **let name** and **fix** constructs somewhat differently: we extend the environment with an *expression* parameter (not a value parameter) using the new environment constructor  $+$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{K \vdash f \leftrightarrow x} u \quad \vdots \\
\frac{K \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e_1 \quad K + f \vdash F_2 \leftrightarrow e_2}{K \vdash \mathbf{let name}' F_1 \text{ in } F_2 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2} \text{tr\_letn}^{f,x,u} \\
\\
\frac{\frac{}{K \vdash f \leftrightarrow x} u \quad \vdots \quad K + f \vdash F \leftrightarrow e}{K \vdash \mathbf{fix}' F \leftrightarrow \mathbf{fix } x. e} \text{tr\_fix}^{f,x,u}
\end{array}$$

$$\frac{K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e}{K + F \vdash 1 \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr\_1+} \qquad \frac{K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e}{K + F' \vdash F \uparrow \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr\_}\uparrow\text{+}$$

Finally, the value translation does not have to deal with fixpoint-expressions (they are not values). We only show the three new cases.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\mathbf{z}^* \leftrightarrow \mathbf{z}} \text{vtr\_z} \qquad \frac{W \leftrightarrow v}{\mathbf{s}^* W \leftrightarrow \mathbf{s} v} \text{vtr\_s} \\
\\
\frac{W_1 \leftrightarrow v_1 \quad W_2 \leftrightarrow v_2}{\langle W_1, W_2 \rangle^* \leftrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle} \text{vtr\_pair}
\end{array}$$

Deductions of parametric and hypothetical judgments are represented by functions, as usual.

```

trans  : env -> exp' -> exp -> type.  %name trans C
vtrans : val -> exp -> type.          %name vtrans U

% Natural numbers
tr_z    : trans K z' z.
tr_s    : trans K (s' F) (s E)
          <- trans K F E.

% Definitions
tr_letv : trans K (letv' F1 F2) (letv E1 E2)
          <- trans K F1 E1
          <- ({w:val} {x:exp}
              vtrans w x -> trans (K ; w) F2 (E2 x)).

tr_letn : trans K (letn' F1 F2) (letn E1 E2)
          <- trans K F1 E1
          <- ({f:exp'} {x:exp}
              trans K f x -> trans (K + f) F2 (E2 x)).

% Recursion
tr_fix  : trans K (fix' F) (fix E)
          <- ({f:exp'} {x:exp}
              trans K f x -> trans (K + f) F (E x)).

% Variables
tr_1+   : trans (K + F) 1 E <- trans K F E.
tr_~+   : trans (K + F') (F ~) E <- trans K F E.

% Natural number values
vtr_z   : vtrans z* z.
vtr_s   : vtrans (s* W) (s V)
          <- vtrans W V.

% Pair values
vtr_pair : vtrans (pair* W1 W2) (pair V1 V2)
          <- vtrans W1 V1
          <- vtrans W2 V2.

```

In order to extend the proof of compiler correctness in Section 6.1 we need to extend various lemmas.

**Theorem 6.8** *For every closed expression  $e$  there exists a de Bruijn expression  $F$  such that  $\cdot \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ .*

**Proof:** We generalize analogously to Lemma 6.2 and prove the modified lemma by induction on the structure of  $e$  (see Exercise 6.7).  $\square$

**Lemma 6.9** *If  $W \Leftrightarrow e$  is derivable, then  $e$  Value is derivable.*

**Proof:** By a straightforward induction on the structure of  $U :: W \Leftrightarrow e$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 6.10** *If  $e$  Value and  $e \hookrightarrow v$  are derivable then  $e = v$ .*

**Proof:** By a straightforward induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{P} :: e$  Value.  $\square$

The Elf implementations of the proofs of Lemmas 6.9 and 6.10 is straightforward and can be found in the on-line material that accompanies these notes. The type families are

```
vtrans_val : vtrans W E -> value E -> type.
val_eval   : value E -> eval E E -> type.
```

The next lemma is the main lemma is the proof of completeness, that is, every value which can be obtained by direct evaluation can also be obtained by compilation, evaluation of the compiled code, and translation of the returned value to the original language.

**Lemma 6.11** *For any closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$ , environment  $K$ , de Bruijn expression  $F$ , deduction  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ , there exist a value  $W$  and deductions  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  and  $U :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ . In this induction, as in the proof of Lemma 6.3, we assume the induction hypothesis on the premisses of  $\mathcal{D}$  and for arbitrary  $\mathcal{C}$ , and on the premisses of  $\mathcal{C}$  if  $\mathcal{D}$  remains fixed. The implementation is an extension of the previous higher-level judgment,

```
map_eval : eval E V -> trans K F E
          -> feval K F W -> vtrans W V -> type.
```

We show only some of the typical cases—the others are straightforward and left to the reader or remain unchanged from the proof of Lemma 6.3

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  ends in an application of the `tr_1` rule.

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\mathcal{U}_1 \quad W_1 \Leftrightarrow e}{K_1; W_1 \vdash 1 \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr\_1}$$

This case changes from the previous proof, since there we applied simple inversion (there was only one possible kind of value) to conclude that  $e = v$ . Here we need two lemmas from above.

$\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$	Assumption
$\mathcal{P} :: e \text{ Value}$	By Lemma 6.9 from $\mathcal{U}_1$
$e = v$	By Lemma 6.10 from $\mathcal{P}$

Hence we can let  $W$  be  $W_1$ ,  $\mathcal{U}$  be  $\mathcal{U}_1$ , and  $\mathcal{D}'$  be  $\text{fev\_1} :: K_1; W_1 \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow W_1$ . The implementation explicitly appeals to the implementations of the lemmas.

```
mp_1 : map_eval D (tr_1 U1) (fev_1) U1
      <- vtrans_val U1 P
      <- val_eval P D.
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  ends in an application of the  $\text{tr\_}\uparrow$  rule. This case proceeds as before.

```
mp_~ : map_eval D (tr_~ C1) (fev_~ D1') U1
      <- map_eval D C1 D1' U1.
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  ends in an application of the  $\text{tr\_1+}$  rule.

$$\mathcal{C} = \frac{\mathcal{C}_1 \quad K_1 \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e}{K_1 + F_1 \vdash 1 \leftrightarrow e} \text{tr\_1+}$$

$\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$	Assumption
$\mathcal{D}'_1 :: K_1 \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1$ and	
$\mathcal{U}_1 :: W_1 \Leftrightarrow v$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}$ and $\mathcal{C}_1$
$\mathcal{D}' :: K_1 + F_1 \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow W$	By $\text{fev\_1+}$ from $\mathcal{D}'_1$

and we can let  $W = W_1$  and  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_1$ .

```
mp_1+ : map_eval D (tr_1+ C1) (fev_1+ D1') U1
       <- map_eval D C1 D1' U1.
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  ends in an application of the  $\text{tr\_}\uparrow+$  rule. This case is just like the  $\text{tr\_}\uparrow$  case.

```
mp_~+ : map_eval D (tr_~+ C1) (fev_~+ D1') U1
       <- map_eval D C1 D1' U1.
```

For the remaining cases we may assume that none of the four cases above apply. We only show the case for fixpoints.

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in an application of the `ev_fix` rule.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{[\mathbf{fix} \ x. e_1/x]e_1 \hookrightarrow v}}{\mathbf{fix} \ x. e_1 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_fix}$$

$\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow \mathbf{fix} \ x. e_1$

By assumption

By inversion and exclusion (of the previous cases),  $\mathcal{C}$  must end in an application of the `tr_fix` rule and thus  $F = \mathbf{fix}' F_1$  for some  $F_1$  and there is a deduction  $\mathcal{C}_1$ , parametric in  $f$  and  $x$  and hypothetical in  $u$ , of the form

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{K \vdash f \leftrightarrow x} u}{\mathcal{C}_1}}{K + f \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow e_1}$$

In this deduction we can substitute  $\mathbf{fix}' F_1$  for  $f$  and  $\mathbf{fix} \ x. e_1$  for  $x$ , and replace the resulting hypothesis  $u :: K \vdash \mathbf{fix}' F_1 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{fix} \ x. e_1$  by  $\mathcal{C}_1$ ! This way we obtain a deduction

$$\mathcal{C}'_1 :: K + \mathbf{fix}' F_1 \vdash F_1 \leftrightarrow [\mathbf{fix} \ x. e_1/x]e_1.$$

Now we can apply the induction hypothesis to  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}'_1$  which yields a  $W_1$  and deductions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}'_1 &:: K + \mathbf{fix}' F_1 \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1 \text{ and} \\ \mathcal{U}_1 &:: W_1 \Leftrightarrow v \end{aligned}$$

By ind. hyp. on  $\mathcal{D}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}'_1$

Applying `fev_fix` to  $\mathcal{D}'_1$  results in a deduction

$$\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash \mathbf{fix}' F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1$$

and we let  $W$  be  $W_1$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  be  $\mathcal{U}_1$ . In Elf, the substitutions into the hypothetical deduction are implemented by applications of the representing function `C1`.

```
mp_fix : map_eval (ev_fix D1) (tr_fix C1)
          (fev_fix D1') U1
<- map_eval D1 (C1 (fix' F1) (fix E1) (tr_fix C1))
          D1' U1.
```

□

This lemma and the totality of the translation relation in its expression argument (Theorem 6.8) together guarantee completeness of the translation.

**Theorem 6.12** (Completeness) *For any closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$  and evaluation  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ , there exist a de Bruijn expression  $F$ , a value  $W$  and deductions  $\mathcal{C} :: \cdot \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ ,  $\mathcal{D}' :: \cdot \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ , and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** As in the proof of Theorem 6.4, but using Lemma 6.11 and Theorem 6.8 instead of Lemma 6.3 and Theorem 6.1.  $\square$

**Lemma 6.13** *For any closed expression  $e$ , de Bruijn expression  $F$ , environment  $K$ , value  $W$ , deduction  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  and  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ , there exist an expression  $v$  and deductions  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ . The family `map_eval` which implements the main lemma in the soundness proof, also implements the proof of this lemma without any change.  $\square$

**Theorem 6.14** (Uniqueness of Translations) *For any value  $W$  if there exist a  $v$  and a translation  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ , then  $v$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  are unique. Furthermore, for any environment  $K$  and de Bruijn expression  $F$ , if there exist an  $e$  and a translation  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ , then  $e$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are unique.*

**Proof:** As before, by a simultaneous induction on the structures of  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 6.15** (Soundness) *For any closed expressions  $e$  and  $v$ , de Bruijn expression  $F$ , environment  $K$ , value  $W$ , deductions  $\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ ,  $\mathcal{C} :: K \vdash F \leftrightarrow e$ , and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ , there exists a deduction  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** From Lemma 6.13 we infer the existence of a  $v$ ,  $\mathcal{U}$ , and  $\mathcal{D}$ , given  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$ . Theorem 6.14 shows that  $v$  and  $\mathcal{U}$  are unique, and thus the property must hold for all  $v$  and  $\mathcal{U} :: W \Leftrightarrow v$ , which is what we needed to show.  $\square$

### 6.3 Computations as Transition Sequences

So far, we have modelled evaluation as the construction of a deduction of the evaluation judgment. This is true for evaluation based on substitution in Section 2.3 and for evaluation based on environments in Section 6.1. In an abstract machine (and, of course, in an actual machine) a more natural model for computation is a sequence of states. In this section we will develop the CLS machine, an abstract machine similar in scope to the SECD machine [Lan64]. The CLS machine still interprets expressions, so the step from environment based evaluation to this abstract machine does not involve any compilation. Instead, we flatten evaluation trees to

sequences of states that describe the computation. This flattening involves some rather arbitrary decisions about which subcomputations should be performed first. We linearize the evaluation deductions beginning with the deduction of the leftmost premiss.

Throughout the remainder of this chapter, we will drop the prime (') from the expression constructors. This should not lead to any confusion, since we no longer need to refer to the original expressions. Now consider the rule for evaluating pairs as a simple example where an evaluation tree has two branches.

$$\frac{K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1 \quad K \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W_2}{K \vdash \langle F_1, F_2 \rangle \hookrightarrow \langle W_1, W_2 \rangle^*} \text{fev\_pair}$$

An abstract machine would presumably start in a state where it is given the environment  $K$  and the expression  $\langle F_1, F_2 \rangle$ . The final state of the machine should somehow indicate the final value  $\langle W_1, W_2 \rangle^*$ . The computation naturally decomposes into three phases: the first phase computes the value of  $F_1$  in environment  $K$ , the second phase computes the value of  $F_2$  in environment  $K$ , and the third phase combines the two values to form a pair. These phases mean that we have to preserve the environment  $K$  and also the expression  $F_2$  while we are computing the value of  $F_1$ . Similarly, we have to save the value  $W_1$  while computing the value of  $F_2$ . A natural data structure for saving components of a state is a stack. The considerations above suggest three stacks: a stack  $KS$  of environments, a stack of expressions to be evaluated, and a stack  $S$  of values. However, we also need to remember that, after the evaluation of  $F_2$  we need to combine  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  into a pair. Thus, instead of a stack of expression to be evaluated, we maintain a *program* which consists of expressions and special instructions (such as: *make a pair* written as *mkpair*).

We will need more instructions later, but so far we have:

Instructions	$I ::= F \mid \text{mkpair} \mid \dots$
Programs	$P ::= \text{done} \mid I \& P$
Environment Stacks	$KS ::= \cdot \mid KS; K$
Value Stacks	$S ::= \cdot \mid S; W$
State	$St ::= \langle KS, P, S \rangle$

Note that value stacks are simply environments, so we will not formally distinguish them from environments. The instructions of a program are sequenced with  $\&$ ; the program *done* indicates that there are no further instructions, that is, computation should stop.

A state consists of an environment stack  $KS$ , a program  $P$  and a value stack  $S$ , written as  $\langle KS, P, S \rangle$ . We have single-step and multi-step transition judgments:

$$\begin{aligned} St &\Longrightarrow St' && St \text{ goes to } St' \text{ in one computation step} \\ St &\Longrightarrow^* St' && St \text{ goes to } St' \text{ in zero or more steps} \end{aligned}$$

We define the transition judgment so that

$$\langle (\cdot; K), F \ \& \ \text{done}, \cdot \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle \cdot, \text{done}, (\cdot; W) \rangle$$

corresponds to the evaluation of  $F$  in environment  $K$  to value  $W$ . The free variables of  $F$  are therefore bound in the innermost environment, and the value resulting from evaluation is deposited on the top of the value stack, which starts out empty. Global evaluation is expressed in the judgment

$$K \vdash F \xRightarrow{*} W \quad F \text{ computes to } W \text{ in environment } K$$

which is defined by the single inference rule

$$\frac{\langle (\cdot; K), F \ \& \ \text{done}, \cdot \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle \cdot, \text{done}, (\cdot; W) \rangle}{K \vdash F \xRightarrow{*} W} \text{run.}$$

We prove in Theorem 6.19 that  $K \vdash F \xRightarrow{*} W$  iff  $K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ . We cannot prove this statement directly by induction (in either direction), since during a computation situations arise where the environment stack consists of more than a single environment, the remaining program is not *done*, etc. In one direction we generalize it to

$$\langle (KS; K), F \ \& \ P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle KS, P, (S; W) \rangle$$

if  $K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ . This is the subject of Lemma 6.16. A slightly modified form of the converse is given in Lemma 6.18.

The transition rules and the remaining instructions can be developed systematically from the intuition provided above. First, we reconsider the evaluation of pairing. The first rule decomposes the pair expression and saves the environment  $K$  on the environment stack.

$$\text{c\_pair} :: \langle (KS; K), \langle F_1, F_2 \rangle \ \& \ P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K; K), F_1 \ \& \ F_2 \ \& \ \text{mkpair} \ \& \ P, S \rangle$$

Here **c\_pair** labels the rule and can be thought of as the deduction of the given transition judgment. The evaluation of  $F_1$ , if it terminates, leads to a state

$$\langle (KS; K), F_2 \ \& \ \text{mkpair} \ \& \ P, (S; W_1) \rangle,$$

and the further evaluation of  $F_2$  then leads to a state

$$\langle KS, \text{mkpair} \ \& \ P, (S; W_1; W_2) \rangle.$$

Thus, the *mkpair* instruction should cause the machine to create a pair from the first two elements on the value stack and deposit the result again on the value stack. That is, we need as another rule:

$$\text{c\_mkpair} :: \langle KS, \text{mkpair} \ \& \ P, (S; W_1; W_2) \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle KS, P, (S; \langle W_1, W_2 \rangle^*) \rangle.$$



We consider one other construct in detail: application. To evaluate an application  $F_1 F_2$  we first evaluate  $F_1$  and then we evaluate  $F_2$ . If the value of  $F_1$  is a closure, we have to bind its variable to the value of  $F_2$  and continue evaluation in an extended environment. The instruction that unwraps the closure and extends the environment is called *apply*.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c\_app} &:: \langle (KS; K), F_1 F_2 \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K; K), F_1 \& F_2 \& \text{apply} \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_apply} &:: \langle KS, \text{apply} \& P, (S; \{K', \Lambda F'_1\}; W_2) \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; (K'; W_2)), F'_1 \& P, S \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The rules for applying zero and successor are straightforward, but they necessitate a new operator *add1* to increment the first value on the stack.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c\_z} &:: \langle (KS; K), \mathbf{z} \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle KS, P, (S; \mathbf{z}^*) \rangle \\ \text{c\_s} &:: \langle (KS; K), \mathbf{s} F \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K), F \& \text{add1} \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_add1} &:: \langle KS, \text{add1} \& P, (S; W) \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle KS, P, (S; \mathbf{s}^* W) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

For expressions of the form **case**  $F_1 F_2 F_3$ , we need to evaluate  $F_1$  and then evaluate either  $F_2$  or  $F_3$ , depending on the value of  $F_1$ . This requires a new instruction, *branch*, which either goes to the next instructions or skips the next instruction. In the latter case it also needs to bind a new variable in the environment to the predecessor of the value of  $F_1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c\_case} &:: \langle (KS; K), \text{case } F_1 F_2 F_3 \& P, S \rangle \\ &\Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K; K), F_1 \& \text{branch} \& F_2 \& F_3 \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_branch\_z} &:: \langle (KS; K), \text{branch} \& F_2 \& F_3 \& P, (S; \mathbf{z}^*) \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K), F_2 \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_branch\_s} &:: \langle (KS; K), \text{branch} \& F_2 \& F_3 \& P, (S; \mathbf{s}^* W) \rangle \\ &\Longrightarrow \langle (KS; (K; W)), F_3 \& P, S \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Rules for **fst** and **snd** require new instructions to extract the first or second element of the value on the top of the stack.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c\_fst} &:: \langle (KS; K), \mathbf{fst} F \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K), F \& \text{getfst} \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_getfst} &:: \langle KS, \text{getfst} \& P, (S; \langle W_1, W_2 \rangle^*) \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle KS, P, (S; W_1) \rangle \\ \text{c\_snd} &:: \langle (KS; K), \mathbf{snd} F \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K), F \& \text{getsnd} \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_getsnd} &:: \langle KS, \text{getsnd} \& P, (S; \langle W_1, W_2 \rangle^*) \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle KS, P, (S; W_2) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

In order to handle **let val** we introduce another new instruction *bind*, even though it is not strictly necessary and could be simulated with other instructions (see Exercise 6.10).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c\_let} &:: \langle (KS; K), \mathbf{let } F_1 \mathbf{ in } F_2 \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K; K), F_1 \& \text{bind} \& F_2 \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_bind} &:: \langle (KS; K), \text{bind} \& F_2 \& P, (S; W_1) \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; (K; W_1)), F_2 \& P, S \rangle \end{aligned}$$

We leave the rules for recursion to Exercise 6.11. The rules for variables and abstractions thus complete the specification of the single-step transition relation.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c\_1} &:: \langle (KS; (K; W)), \mathbf{1} \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle KS, P, (S; W) \rangle \\ \text{c\_}\uparrow &:: \langle (KS; (K; W')), F \uparrow \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle (KS; K), F \& P, S \rangle \\ \text{c\_}\lambda &:: \langle (KS; K), \Lambda F \& P, S \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle KS, P, (S; \{K, \Lambda F\}) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The set of instructions extracted from these rules is

Instructions  $I ::= F \mid \text{add1} \mid \text{branch} \mid \text{mkpair} \mid \text{getfst} \mid \text{getsnd} \mid \text{apply} \mid \text{bind}.$

We view each of the transition rules for the single-step transition judgment as an axiom. Note that there are no other inference rules for this judgment. A partial computation is defined as a multi-step transition. This is easily defined via the following two inference rules.

$$\frac{}{St \xRightarrow{*} St} \text{id} \qquad \frac{St \Rightarrow St' \quad St' \xRightarrow{*} St''}{St \xRightarrow{*} St''} \text{step}$$

This definition guarantees that the end state of one transition matches the beginning state of the remaining transition sequence. Without the aid of dependent types we would have to define a computation as a list states and ensure externally that the end state of each transition matches the beginning state of the next. This use of dependent types to express complex constraints is one of the reasons why simple lists do not arise very frequently in Elf programming.

Deductions of the judgment  $St \xRightarrow{*} St'$  have a very simple form: They all consist of a sequence of single steps terminated by an application of the id rule. We will follow standard practice and use a linear notation for sequences of steps:

$$St_1 \Rightarrow St_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow St_n$$

Similarly, we will mix multi-step and single-step transitions in sequences, with the obvious meaning. We write  $\mathcal{C}_1 \circ \mathcal{C}_2$  for the result of appending computations  $\mathcal{C}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$ . This only makes sense if the final state of  $\mathcal{C}_1$  is the same as the start state of  $\mathcal{C}_2$ . The  $\circ$  operator is associative (see Exercise 6.12).

Recall that a complete computation was defined as a sequence of transitions from an initial state to a final state. The latter is characterized by the program *done*, and empty environment stack, and a value stack containing exactly one value, namely the result of the computation.

$$\frac{\langle (\cdot; K), F \& \text{done}, \cdot \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle \cdot, \text{done}, (\cdot; W) \rangle}{K \vdash F \xRightarrow{*} W} \text{run}$$

The representation of the abstract machine and the computation judgments present no particular difficulties. We begin with the syntax.

```
instruction : type.  %name instruction I
program     : type.  %name program P
envstack    : type.  %name envstack Ks
state       : type.  %name state St
```

The computation rules are also a straightforward transcription of the rules above. The judgment  $St \Longrightarrow St'$  is represented by a type  $\mathbf{St} \Rightarrow \mathbf{St}'$  where  $\Rightarrow$  is a type family indexed by two states and written in infix notation. We show only three example rules.

The multi-step transition is defined by the transcription of its two inference rules. We write  $\sim$  in infix notation rather than **step** since it leads to a concise and readable notation for sequences of computation steps.

[illegible]

```

~      : St => St'
-> St' =>* St''
-> St =>* St''.
```

```
%infix right 10 ~
```

Complete computations appeal directly to the multi-step computation judgment. We write `ceval K F W` for  $K \vdash F \Longrightarrow^* W$ .

```

ceval : env -> exp' -> val -> type.

run : st (emptys ;; K) (ev F & done) (empty)
     =>* st (emptys) (done) (empty ; W)
     -> ceval K F W.
```

While this representation is declaratively adequate it has a serious operational defect when used for evaluation, that is, when  $K$  and  $F$  are given and  $W$  is to be determined. The declaration for `step` (written as `~`) solves the innermost subgoal first, that is we reduce the goal of finding a computation  $C'' :: St \xRightarrow{*} St''$  to finding a state  $St'$  and computation of  $C' :: St' \xRightarrow{*} St''$  and only then a single transition  $R :: St \Longrightarrow St'$ . This leads to non-termination, since the interpreter is trying to work its way backwards through the space of possible computation sequences. Instead, we can get linear, backtracking-free behavior if we first find the single step  $R :: St \Longrightarrow St'$  and then the remainder of the computation  $C' :: St' \xRightarrow{*} St''$ . Since there is exactly one rule for any instruction  $I$  and `id` will apply only when the program  $P$  is *done*, finding a computation now becomes a deterministic process. Executable versions of the last two judgments are given below. They differ from the one above only in the order of the recursive calls and it is a simple matter to relate the two versions formally.

```

>=>*   : state -> state -> type.  %infix none 10 >=>*

id<    : St >=>* St.
<=<    : St >=>* St''
      <- St => St'
      <- St' >=>* St''.
%infix left 10 <=<

>ceval : env -> exp' -> val -> type.

>run    : >ceval K F W
      <- st (emptys ;; K) (ev F & done) (empty)
      >=>* st (emptys) (done) (empty ; W).
```

This example clearly illustrates that Elf should be thought of a uniform language in which one can express specifications (such as the computations above) and implementations (the operational versions below), but that many specifications will not be executable. This is generally the situation in logic programming languages.

In the informal development it is clear (and not usually separately formulated as a lemma) that computation sequences can be concatenated if the final state of the first computation matches the initial state of the second computation. In the formalization of the proofs below, we will need to explicitly implement a type family that appends computation sequences. It cannot be formulated as a function, since such a function would have to be recursive and is thus not definable in LF.

```
append : st Ks P S =>* st Ks' P' S'
        -> st Ks' P' S' =>* st Ks'' P'' S''
        -> st Ks P S =>* st Ks'' P'' S''
        -> type.
```

The defining clauses are left as Exercise 6.12.

We now return to the task of proving the correctness of the abstract machine. The first lemma states the fundamental motivating property for this model of computation.

**Lemma 6.16** *Let  $K$  be an environment,  $F$  an expression, and  $W$  a value such that  $K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ . Then, for any environment stack  $KS$ , program  $P$  and stack  $S$ ,*

$$\langle (KS; K), F \& P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle KS, P, (S; W) \rangle$$

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D} :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$ . We will construct a deduction of  $\mathcal{C} :: \langle (KS; K), F \& P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle KS, P, (S; W) \rangle$ . The proof is straightforward and we show only two typical cases. The implementation in Elf takes the form of a higher-level judgment `subcomp` that relates evaluations to computation sequences.

```
subcomp : feval K F W
        -> st (Ks ;; K) (ev F & P) S =>* st Ks P (S ; W)
        -> type.
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in an application of the rule `fev_z`.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{K \vdash \mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}^*} \text{fev\_z}.$$

Then the single-step transition

$$\langle (KS; K), \mathbf{z} \& P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle KS, P, (S; \mathbf{z}^*) \rangle$$

satisfies the requirements of the lemma. The clause corresponding to this case:

`sc_z : subcomp (fev_z) (c_z ~ id).`

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in an application of the `fev_app` rule.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{D}_1 & \mathcal{D}_2 & \mathcal{D}_3 \\ K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow \{K', \Lambda F'_1\} & K \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W_2 & K'; W_2 \vdash F'_1 \hookrightarrow W \end{array}}{K \vdash F_1 F_2 \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_app}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle (KS; K), F_1 F_2 \& P, S \rangle \\ \Rightarrow & \langle (KS; K; K), F_1 \& F_2 \& \text{apply} \& P, S \rangle && \text{By rule c\_app} \\ \xRightarrow{*} & \langle (KS; K), F_2 \& \text{apply} \& P, (S; \{K', \Lambda F'_1\}) \rangle && \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_1 \\ \xRightarrow{*} & \langle KS, \text{apply} \& P, (S; \{K', \Lambda F'_1\}; W_2) \rangle && \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_2 \\ \Rightarrow & \langle (KS; (K'; W_2)), F'_1 \& P, S \rangle && \text{By rule c\_apply} \\ \xRightarrow{*} & \langle KS, P, (S; W) \rangle && \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_3. \end{aligned}$$

The implementation of this case requires the `append` family defined above. Note how an appeal to the induction hypothesis is represented as a recursive call.

```
sc_app : subcomp (fev_app D3 D2 D1) C
  <- subcomp D1 C1
  <- subcomp D2 C2
  <- subcomp D3 C3
  <- append (c_app ~ C1) C2 C'
  <- append C' (c_apply ~ C3) C.
```

□

The first direction of Theorem 6.19 is a special case of this lemma. The other direction is more intricate. The basic problem is to extract a tree-structured evaluation from a linear computation. We must then show that this extraction will always succeed for complete computations. Note that it is obviously not possible to extract evaluations from arbitrary incomplete sequences of transitions of the abstract machine.

In order to write computation sequences more concisely, we introduce some notation. Let  $R :: St \Rightarrow St'$  and  $\mathcal{C} :: St' \xRightarrow{*} St''$ . Then we write

$$R \sim \mathcal{C} :: St \Rightarrow St''$$

for the computation which begins with  $R$  and then proceeds with  $\mathcal{C}$ . Such a computation exists by the `step` inference rule. This corresponds directly to the notation in the Elf implementation.

For the proof of the central lemma of this section, we will need a new form of induction often referred to as *complete induction*. During a proof by complete induction we assume the induction hypothesis not only for the immediate premisses of the last inference rule, but for all proper subderivations. Intuitively, this is justified, since all proper subderivations are “smaller” than the given derivation. For a more formal discussion of the complete induction principle for derivations see Section 6.4. The judgment  $\mathcal{C} < \mathcal{C}'$  ( $\mathcal{C}$  is a *proper subcomputation* of  $\mathcal{C}'$ ) is defined by the following inference rules.

$$\frac{}{\mathcal{C} < R \sim \mathcal{C}} \text{sub\_imm} \qquad \frac{\mathcal{C} < \mathcal{C}'}{\mathcal{C} < R \sim \mathcal{C}'} \text{sub\_med}$$

It is easy to see that the proper subcomputation relation is transitive.

**Lemma 6.17** *If  $\mathcal{C}_1 < \mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2 < \mathcal{C}_3$  then  $\mathcal{C}_1 < \mathcal{C}_3$ .*

**Proof:** By a simple induction (see Exercise 6.12). □

The implementation of this ordering and the proof of transitivity are immediate.

```

< : (st KS1 P1 S1) =>* (st KS P S)
    -> (st KS2 P2 S2) =>* (st KS P S)
    -> type.
%infix none 8 <

sub_imm : C < R ~ C.

sub_med : C < C'
    -> C < R ~ C'.

trans : C1 < C2 -> C2 < C3 -> C1 < C3 -> type.

```

The representation of the proof of transitivity is left to Exercise 6.12.

We are now prepared for the lemma that a complete computation with an appropriate initial state can be translated into an evaluation followed by another complete computation.

**Lemma 6.18** *If*

$$\mathcal{C} :: \langle (KS; K), F \& P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle \cdot, done, (\cdot; W') \rangle$$

*there exists a value  $W$ , an evaluation*

$$\mathcal{D} :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W,$$

and a computation

$$\mathcal{C}' :: \langle KS, P, (S; W) \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle \cdot, done, (\cdot; W') \rangle$$

such that  $\mathcal{C}' < \mathcal{C}$ .

**Proof:** By complete induction on the  $\mathcal{C}$ . We only show a few cases; the others similar. We use the abbreviation  $final = \langle \cdot, done, (\cdot; W') \rangle$ . The representing type family **spl** is indexed by four deductions:  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}'$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$ , and the derivation which shows that  $\mathcal{C}' < \mathcal{C}$ . In the declaration we need to use the dependent kind constructor in order to name  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}'$  so they can be related explicitly.

```
spl : {C : (st (KS ;; K) (ev F & P) S)
      =>* (st (emptys) (done) (empty ; W'))}
      feval K F W ->
      {C' : (st KS P (S ; W))
        =>* (st (emptys) (done) (empty ; W'))}
      C' < C -> type.
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  begins with  $c\_z$ , that is,  $\mathcal{C} = c\_z \sim \mathcal{C}_1$ . Then  $W = \mathbf{z}^*$ ,

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{K \vdash \mathbf{z} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{z}^*} fev\_z,$$

and  $\mathcal{C}' = \mathcal{C}_1$ . Furthermore,  $\mathcal{C}' = \mathcal{C}_1 < c\_z \sim \mathcal{C}_1$  by rule `sub_imm`. The representation in Elf:

```
spl_z : spl (c_z ~ C1) (fev_z) C1 (sub_imm).
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C}$  begins with  $c\_app$ . Then  $\mathcal{C} = c\_app \sim \mathcal{C}_1$  where

$$\mathcal{C}_1 :: \langle (KS; K; K), F_1 \& F_2 \& apply \& P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} final.$$

By induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{C}_1$  there exists a  $W_1$ , an evaluation

$$\mathcal{D}_1 :: K \vdash F_1 \hookrightarrow W_1$$

and a computation

$$\mathcal{C}_2 :: \langle (KS; K), F_2 \& apply \& P, (S; W_1) \rangle \xRightarrow{*} final$$

such that  $\mathcal{C}_2 < \mathcal{C}_1$ . We can thus apply the induction hypothesis to  $\mathcal{C}_2$  to obtain a  $W_2$ , an evaluation

$$\mathcal{D}_2 :: K \vdash F_2 \hookrightarrow W_2$$



and a computation

$$\mathcal{C}_3 :: \langle KS, \text{apply} \ \& \ P, (S; W_1; W_2) \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \text{final}$$

such that  $\mathcal{C}_3 < \mathcal{C}_2$ . By inversion,  $\mathcal{C}_3 = \text{c\_apply} \sim \mathcal{C}'_3$  and  $W_1 = \{K', \Lambda F'_1\}$  where

$$\mathcal{C}'_3 :: \langle (KS; (K'; W_2)), F'_1 \ \& \ P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \text{final}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{C}'_3 < \mathcal{C}_3$  and by induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{C}'_3$  there is a value  $W_3$ , an evaluation

$$\mathcal{D}_3 :: K'; W_2 \vdash F'_1 \hookrightarrow W_3$$

and a computation

$$\mathcal{C}_4 :: \langle KS, P, (S; W_3) \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \text{final}.$$

Now we let  $W = W_3$  and we construct  $\mathcal{D} :: K \vdash F_1 \ F_2 \hookrightarrow W_3$  by an application of the rule **fev\_app** to the premisses  $\mathcal{D}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{D}_2$ , and  $\mathcal{D}_3$ . Furthermore we let  $\mathcal{C}' = \mathcal{C}_4$  and conclude by some elementary reasoning concerning the subcomputation relation that  $\mathcal{C}' < \mathcal{C}$ .

The representation of this subcase of this case requires three explicit appeals to the transitivity of the subcomputation ordering. In order to make this at all intelligible, we use the name **C2<C1** (one identifier) for the derivation that  $\mathcal{C}_2 < \mathcal{C}_1$  and similarly for other such derivations.

```
spl_app : spl (c_app ~ C1)
           (fev_app D3 D2 D1) C4
           (sub_med C4<C1)
           <- spl C1 D1 C2 C2<C1
           <- spl C2 D2 (c_apply ~ C3') C3<C2
           <- spl C3' D3 C4 C4<C3'
           <- trans C3<C2 C2<C1 C3<C1
           <- trans (sub_imm) C3<C1 C3'<C1
           <- trans C4<C3' C3'<C1 C4<C1.
```

□

Now we have all the essential lemmas to prove the main theorem.

**Theorem 6.19**  $K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  is derivable iff  $K \vdash F \xRightarrow{*} W$  is derivable.

**Proof:** By definition,  $K \vdash F \xRightarrow{*} W$  iff there is a computation

$$\mathcal{C} :: \langle (\cdot; K), F \ \& \ \text{done}, \cdot \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle \cdot, \text{done}, (\cdot; W) \rangle.$$

One direction follows immediately from Lemma 6.16: if  $K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  then

$$\langle (KS; K), F \& P, S \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle KS, P, (S; W) \rangle$$

for *any*  $KS$ ,  $P$ , and  $S$  and in particular for  $KS = \cdot$ ,  $P = \text{done}$  and  $S = \cdot$ . The implementation of this direction in Elf:

```
cev_complete : feval K F W -> ceval K F W -> type.
```

```
cevc : cev_complete D (run C) <- subcomp D C.
```

For the other direction, assume there is a deduction  $\mathcal{C}$  of the form shown above. By Lemma 6.18 we know that there exist a  $W'$ , an evaluation

$$\mathcal{D}' :: K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W'$$

and a computation

$$\mathcal{C}' :: \langle \cdot, \text{done}, (\cdot; W') \rangle \xRightarrow{*} \langle \cdot, \text{done}, (\cdot; W) \rangle$$

such that  $\mathcal{C}' < \mathcal{C}$ . Since there is no transition rule for the program *done*,  $\mathcal{C}'$  must be *id* and  $W = W'$ . Thus  $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}'$  fulfills the requirements of the theorem. This is implemented as follows.

```
cls_sound : ceval K F W -> feval K F W -> type.
```

```
class : cls_sound (run C) D <- spl C D (id) Id<C.
```

□

## 6.4 Complete Induction over Computations

Here we briefly justify the principle of complete induction used in the proof of Lemma 6.18. We repeat the definition of proper subcomputations and also define a general subcomputation judgment which will be useful in the proof.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{C} < \mathcal{C}' & \mathcal{C} \text{ is a proper subcomputation of } \mathcal{C}', \text{ and} \\ \mathcal{C} \leq \mathcal{C}' & \mathcal{C} \text{ is a subcomputation of } \mathcal{C}'. \end{array}$$

These judgments are defined via the following inference rules.

$$\begin{array}{cc} \frac{}{\mathcal{C} < R \sim \mathcal{C}} \text{sub\_imm} & \frac{\mathcal{C} < \mathcal{C}'}{\mathcal{C} < R \sim \mathcal{C}'} \text{sub\_med} \\ \frac{\mathcal{C} < \mathcal{C}'}{\mathcal{C} \leq \mathcal{C}'} \text{leq\_sub} & \frac{}{\mathcal{C} \leq \mathcal{C}} \text{leq\_eq} \end{array}$$

We only need one simple lemma regarding the subcomputation judgment.

**Lemma 6.20** *If  $\mathcal{C} \leq \mathcal{C}'$  is derivable, then  $\mathcal{C} < R \sim \mathcal{C}'$  is derivable.*

**Proof:** By analyzing the two possibilities for the deduction of the premiss and constructing an immediate deduction for the conclusion in each case.  $\square$

We call a property  $P$  of computations *complete* if it satisfies:

For every  $\mathcal{C}$ , the assumption that  $P$  holds for all  $\mathcal{C}' < \mathcal{C}$  implies that  $P$  holds for  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Theorem 6.21** (Principle of Complete Induction over Computations) *If a property  $P$  of computations is complete, then  $P$  holds for all computations.*

**Proof:** We assume that  $P$  is complete and then prove by ordinary structural induction that for every  $\mathcal{C}$  and for every  $\mathcal{C}' \leq \mathcal{C}$ ,  $P$  holds of  $\mathcal{C}$ .

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C} = id$ . By inversion, there is no  $\mathcal{C}'$  such that  $\mathcal{C}' < id$ . Thus  $P$  holds for all  $\mathcal{C}' < id$ . Since  $P$  is complete, this implies that  $P$  holds for  $id$ .

**Case:**  $\mathcal{C} = R \sim \mathcal{C}_1$ . The induction hypothesis states that for every  $\mathcal{C}'_1 \leq \mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $P$  holds of  $\mathcal{C}'_1$ . We have to show that for every  $\mathcal{C}_2 \leq R \sim \mathcal{C}_1$ , property  $P$  holds of  $\mathcal{C}_2$ . By inversion, there are two subcases, depending on the evidence for  $\mathcal{C}_2 \leq R \sim \mathcal{C}_1$ .

**Subcase:**  $\mathcal{C}_2 = R \sim \mathcal{C}_1$ . The induction hypothesis and Lemma 6.20 yield that for every  $\mathcal{C}'_1 < R \sim \mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $P$  holds of  $\mathcal{C}'_1$ . Since  $P$  is complete,  $P$  must thus hold for  $R \sim \mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{C}_2$ .

**Subcase:**  $\mathcal{C}_2 < R \sim \mathcal{C}_1$ . Then by inversion either  $\mathcal{C}_1 = \mathcal{C}_2$  or  $\mathcal{C}_1 < \mathcal{C}_2$ . In either case  $\mathcal{C}_2 \leq \mathcal{C}_1$  by one inference. Now we can apply the induction hypothesis to conclude that  $P$  holds of  $\mathcal{C}_2$ .

$\square$

## 6.5 A Continuation Machine

The natural semantics for Mini-ML presented in Chapter 2 is called a *big-step semantics*, since its only judgment relates an expression to its final value—a “big step”. There are a variety of properties of a programming language which are difficult or impossible to express as properties of a big-step semantics. One of the central ones is that “well-typed programs do not go wrong”. Type preservation, as proved in Section 2.6, does not capture this property, since it presumes that we are already given a complete evaluation of an expression  $e$  to a final value  $v$  and then relates the types of  $e$  and  $v$ . This means that despite the type preservation theorem, it is possible that an attempt to find a value of an expression  $e$  leads to an

intermediate expression such as **fst** **z** which is ill-typed and to which no evaluation rule applies. Furthermore, a big-step semantics does not easily permit an analysis of non-terminating computations.

An alternative style of language description is a *small-step semantics*. The main judgment in a small-step operational semantics relates the state of an abstract machine (which includes the expression to be evaluated) to an immediate successor state. These small steps are chained together until a value is reached. This level of description is usually more complicated than a natural semantics, since the current state must embody enough information to determine the next and all remaining computation steps up to the final answer. It is also committed to the order in which subexpressions are evaluated and thus somewhat less abstract than a natural, big-step semantics.

In this section we construct a machine directly from the original natural semantics of Mini-ML in Section 2.3 (and not from the environment-based semantics in Section 6.1). This illustrates the general technique of *continuations* to sequentialize computations. Another application of the technique at the level of expressions (rather than computations) is given in Section ??.

In order to describe the continuation machine as simply as possible, we move to a presentation of the language in which expressions and values are explicitly separated. An analogous separation formed the basis for environment-based evaluation on de Bruijn expression in Section 6.2. We now also explicitly distinguish variables  $x$  ranging over values and variables  $u$  ranging over expressions. This makes it immediately apparent, for example, that the language has a call-by-value semantics for functions; a call-by-name version for functions would be written as **lam**  $u. e$ .

Expressions	$e ::=$	$\mathbf{z} \mid \mathbf{s} \ e \mid (\mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3)$	<i>Natural numbers</i>
		$\mid \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \mid \mathbf{fst} \ e \mid \mathbf{snd} \ e$	<i>Pairs</i>
		$\mid \mathbf{lam} \ x. e \mid e_1 \ e_2$	<i>Functions</i>
		$\mid \mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{val} \ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$	<i>Definitions</i>
		$\mid \mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{name} \ u = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$	
		$\mid \mathbf{fix} \ u. e$	<i>Recursion</i>
		$\mid u$	<i>Variables</i>
		$\mid v$	<i>Values</i>
Values	$v ::=$	$\mathbf{z}^* \mid \mathbf{s}^* \ v$	<i>Natural numbers</i>
		$\mid \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle^*$	<i>Pairs</i>
		$\mid \mathbf{lam}^* \ x. e$	<i>Functions</i>
		$\mid x$	<i>Variables</i>

Note that expressions and values are mutually recursive syntactic categories, but that an arbitrary value can occur as an expression. The implementation in Elf is completely straightforward, keeping in mind that we have to provide an explicit coercion **v1** from values to expressions.

```

exp  : type.  %name exp E
val  : type.  %name val V

z    : exp.
s    : exp -> exp.
case : exp -> exp -> (val -> exp) -> exp.
pair : exp -> exp -> exp.
fst  : exp -> exp.
snd  : exp -> exp.
lam  : (val -> exp) -> exp.
app  : exp -> exp -> exp.
letv : exp -> (val -> exp) -> exp.
letn : exp -> (exp -> exp) -> exp.
fix  : (exp -> exp) -> exp.

vl   : val -> exp.

z*   : val.
s*   : val -> val.
pair* : val -> val -> val.
lam* : (val -> exp) -> val.

```

The standard operational semantics for this representation of expressions and values is straightforward and can be found in the code supplementing these notes. The equivalence proof is left to Exercise 6.17.

Our goal now is define a small-step semantics. For this, we isolate an expression  $e$  to be evaluated, and a *continuation*  $K$  which contains enough information to carry out the rest of the evaluation necessary to compute the overall value. For example, to evaluate a pair  $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle$  we first compute the value of  $e_1$ , remembering that the next task will be the evaluation of  $e_2$ , after which the two values have to be paired. This also shows the need for intermediate *instructions*, such as “*evaluate the second element of a pair*” or “*combine two values into a pair*”. One particular kind of instruction, written simply as  $e$ , triggers the first step in the computation based on the structure of  $e$ .

Because we always fully evaluate one expression before moving on to the next, the continuation has the form of a stack. Because the result of evaluating the current expression must be communicated to the continuation, each item on the stack is a function from values to instructions. Finally, when we have computed a value, we *return* it by applying the first item on the continuation stack. Thus the following

structure emerges, to be supplemented by further auxiliary instructions as necessary.

Instructions	$i ::= e \mid \mathbf{return} \ v$
Continuations	$K ::= \mathbf{init} \mid K; \lambda x. i$
Machine States	$S ::= K \diamond I \mid \mathbf{answer} \ v$

Here, **init** is the initial continuation, indicating that nothing further remains to be done. The machine state **answer**  $v$  represents the final value of a computation sequence. Based on the general consideration, we have the following transitions of the abstract machine.

$S \Longrightarrow S'$   $S$  goes to  $S'$  in one computation step

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{init} \diamond \mathbf{return} \ v \Longrightarrow \mathbf{answer} \ v} \text{st\_init} \quad \frac{}{K; \lambda x. i \diamond \mathbf{return} \ v \Longrightarrow K \diamond [v/x]i} \text{st\_return}$$

$$\frac{}{K \diamond v \Longrightarrow K \diamond \mathbf{return} \ v} \text{st\_vl}$$

Further rules arise from considering each expression constructor in turn, possibly adding new special-purpose intermediate instructions. We will write the rules in the form  $label :: S \Longrightarrow S'$  as a more concise alternative to the format used above. The meaning, however, remains the same: each rule is an axiom defining the transition judgment.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{st\_z} &:: K \diamond z && \Longrightarrow K \diamond \mathbf{return} \ z^* \\ \text{st\_s} &:: K \diamond s \ e && \Longrightarrow K; \lambda x. \mathbf{return} \ (s^* \ x) \diamond e \\ \text{st\_case} &:: K \diamond \mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3 && \Longrightarrow K; \lambda x_1. \mathbf{case}_1 \ x_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3 \diamond e_1 \\ \text{st\_case1\_z} &:: K \diamond \mathbf{case}_1 \ z^* \ \mathbf{of} \ z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3 && \Longrightarrow K \diamond e_2 \\ \text{st\_case1\_s} &:: K \diamond \mathbf{case}_1 \ s^* \ v_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3 && \Longrightarrow K \diamond [v'_1/x]e_3 \end{aligned}$$

We can see that the **case** construct requires a new instruction of the form **case**<sub>1</sub>  $v_1$  **of**  $z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3$ . This is distinct from **case**  $e_1$  **of**  $z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3$  in that the case subject is known to be a value. Without an explicit new construct, computation could get into an infinite loop since every value is also an expression which evaluates to itself. It should now be clear how pairs and projections are computed; the new instructions are  $\langle v_1, e_2 \rangle_1$ , **fst**<sub>1</sub>, and **snd**<sub>1</sub>.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{st\_pair} &:: K \diamond \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle && \Longrightarrow K; \lambda x_1. \langle x_1, e_2 \rangle_1 \diamond e_1 \\ \text{st\_pair1} &:: K \diamond \langle v_1, e_2 \rangle_1 && \Longrightarrow K; \lambda x_1. \mathbf{return} \ \langle v_1, x_2 \rangle^* \diamond e_2 \\ \text{st\_fst} &:: K \diamond \mathbf{fst} \ e && \Longrightarrow K; \lambda x. \mathbf{fst}_1 \ x \diamond e \\ \text{st\_fst1} &:: K \diamond \mathbf{fst} \ \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle^* && \Longrightarrow K \diamond \mathbf{return} \ v_1 \\ \text{st\_snd} &:: K \diamond \mathbf{snd} \ e && \Longrightarrow K; \lambda x. \mathbf{snd}_1 \ x \diamond e \\ \text{st\_snd1} &:: K \diamond \mathbf{snd} \ \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle^* && \Longrightarrow K \diamond \mathbf{return} \ v_2 \end{aligned}$$

Neither functions, nor definitions or recursion introduce any essentially new ideas. We add two new forms of instructions, **app**<sub>1</sub> and **app**<sub>2</sub>, for the intermediate forms while evaluating applications.

st_lam	::	$K \diamond \mathbf{lam} \ x. e$	$\Rightarrow$	$K$	$\diamond$	$\mathbf{return} \ \mathbf{lam}^* x. e$
st_app	::	$K \diamond e_1 e_2$	$\Rightarrow$	$K; \lambda x_1. \mathbf{app}_1 \ x_1 e_2$	$\diamond$	$e_1$
st_app1	::	$K \diamond \mathbf{app}_1 \ v_1 e_2$	$\Rightarrow$	$K; \lambda x_2. \mathbf{app}_1 \ v_1 x_2$	$\diamond$	$e_2$
st_app2	::	$K \diamond \mathbf{app}_2 \ (\mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1) v_2$	$\Rightarrow$	$K$	$\diamond$	$[v_2/x]e'_1$
st_letv	::	$K \diamond \mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{val} \ x = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$	$\Rightarrow$	$K; \lambda x_1. [x_1/x]e_2$	$\diamond$	$e_1$
st_letn	::	$K \diamond \mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{name} \ u = e_1 \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$	$\Rightarrow$	$K$	$\diamond$	$[e_1/x]e_2$
st_fix	::	$K \diamond \mathbf{fix} \ u. e$	$\Rightarrow$	$K$	$\diamond$	$[\mathbf{fix} \ u. e/u]e$

The complete set of instructions as extracted from the transitions above:

Instructions	$i ::= e \mid \mathbf{return} \ v$	
	$\mid \mathbf{case}_1 \ v_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3$	Natural numbers
	$\mid \langle v_1, e_2 \rangle_1 \mid \mathbf{fst}_1 \ v \mid \mathbf{snd}_1 \ v$	Pairs
	$\mid \mathbf{app}_1 \ v_1 e_2 \mid \mathbf{app}_2 \ v_1 v_2$	Functions

The implementation of instructions, continuations, and machine states in Elf uses infix operations to make continuations and states more readable.

```
% Machine Instructions
inst : type.  %name inst I

ev : exp -> inst.
return : val -> inst.

case1 : val -> exp -> (val -> exp) -> inst.
pair1 : val -> exp -> inst.
fst1 : val -> inst.
snd1 : val -> inst.
app1 : val -> exp -> inst.
app2 : val -> val -> inst.

% Continuations
cont : type.  %name cont K

init : cont.
;      : cont -> (val -> inst) -> cont.
%infix left 8 ;
```

```
% Continuation Machine States
state : type. %name state S

# : cont -> inst -> state.
answer : val -> state.
%infix none 7 #
```

The following declarations constitute a direct translation of the transition rules above.

```
=> : state -> state -> type. %name => St
%infix none 6 =>

% Natural Numbers
st_z : K # (ev z) => K # (return z*).
st_s : K # (ev (s E)) => (K ; [x:val] return (s* x)) # (ev E).
st_case : K # (ev (case E1 E2 E3)) => (K ; [x1:val] case1 x1 E2 E3) # (ev E1).
st_case1_z : K # (case1 (z*) E2 E3) => K # (ev E2).
st_case1_s : K # (case1 (s* V1') E2 E3) => K # (ev (E3 V1')).

% Pairs
st_pair : K # (ev (pair E1 E2)) => (K ; [x1:val] pair1 x1 E2) # (ev E1).
st_pair1 : K # (pair1 V1 E2) => (K ; [x2:val] return (pair* V1 x2)) # (ev E2).
st_fst : K # (ev (fst E)) => (K ; [x:val] fst1 x) # (ev E).
st_fst1 : K # (fst1 (pair* V1 V2)) => K # (return V1).
st_snd : K # (ev (snd E)) => (K ; [x:val] snd1 x) # (ev E).
st_snd1 : K # (snd1 (pair* V1 V2)) => K # (return V2).

% Functions
st_lam : K # (ev (lam E)) => K # (return (lam* E)).
st_app : K # (ev (app E1 E2)) => (K ; [x1:val] app1 x1 E2) # (ev E1).
st_app1 : K # (app1 V1 E2) => (K ; [x2:val] app2 V1 x2) # (ev E2).
st_app2 : K # (app2 (lam* E1') V2) => K # (ev (E1' V2)).

% Definitions
st_letv : K # (ev (letv E1 E2)) => (K ; [x1:val] ev (E2 x1)) # (ev E1).
st_letn : K # (ev (letn E1 E2)) => K # (ev (E2 E1)).

% Recursion
st_fix : K # (ev (fix E)) => K # (ev (E (fix E))).

% Values
st_vl : K # (ev (vl V)) => K # (return V).
```



```
% Return Instructions
st_return : (K ; C) # (return V) => K # (C V).
st_init : (init) # (return V) => (answer V).
```

Multi-step computation sequences could be represented as lists of single step transitions. However, we would like to use dependent types to guarantee that, in a valid computation sequence, the result state of one transition matches the start state of the next transition. This is difficult to accomplish using a generic type of lists; instead we introduce specific instances of this type which are structurally just like lists, but have strong internal validity conditions.

$$\begin{array}{c}
S \xRightarrow{*} S' \quad S \text{ goes to } S' \text{ in zero or more steps} \\
e \xrightarrow{c} v \quad e \text{ evaluates to } v \text{ using the continuation machine} \\
\\
\frac{}{S \xRightarrow{*} S} \text{ stop} \qquad \frac{S \Rightarrow S' \quad S' \xRightarrow{*} S''}{S \xRightarrow{*} S''} \text{ step} \\
\\
\frac{\text{init} \diamond e \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } v}{e \xrightarrow{c} v} \text{ cev}
\end{array}$$

We would like the implementation to be operational, that is, queries of the form `?- ceval 'e' V.` should compute the value `V` of a given `e`. This means the  $S \Rightarrow S'$  should be the first subgoal and hence the second argument of the `step` rule. In addition, we employ a visual trick to display computation sequences in a readable format by representing the `step` rule as a left associative infix operator.

```
=>* : state -> state -> type.          %name =>* C
%infix none 5 =>*

stop : S =>* S.
<< : S =>* S''
    <- S => S'
    <- S' =>* S''.
%infix left 5 <<

ceval : exp -> val -> type.             %name ceval CE

cev : ceval E V
    <- (init) # (ev E) =>* (answer V).
```

We then get a reasonable display of the sequence of computation steps which must be read from right to left.

```

?- C : (init) # (ev (app (lam [x] (vl x)) z)) =>* (answer V).
Solving...

V = z*,
C =
  stop << st_init << st_vl << st_app2 << st_return << st_z
    << st_app1 << st_return << st_lam << st_app.

```

The overall task now is to prove that  $e \hookrightarrow v$  if and only if  $e \xrightarrow{c} v$ . In one direction we have to find a translation from tree-structured derivations  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  to sequential computations  $\mathcal{C} :: \mathbf{init} \diamond e \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} v$ . In the other direction we have to find a way to chop a sequential computation into pieces which can be reassembled into a tree-structured derivation.

We start with the easier of the two proofs. We assume that  $e \hookrightarrow v$  and try to show that  $e \xrightarrow{c} v$ . This immediately reduces to showing that  $\mathbf{init} \diamond e \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} v$ . This does not follow directly by induction, since subcomputations will neither start from the initial computation nor return the final answer. If we generalize the claim to state that for all continuations  $K$  we have that  $K \diamond e \xRightarrow{*} K \diamond \mathbf{return} v$ , then it follows directly by induction, using some simple lemmas regarding the concatenation of computation sequences (see Exercise 6.18).

We can avoid explicit concatenation of computation sequences and obtain a more direct proof (and more efficient program) if we introduce an *accumulator argument*. This argument contains the remainder of the computation, starting from the state  $K \diamond \mathbf{return} v$ . To the front of this given computation we add the computation from  $K \diamond e \xRightarrow{*} K \diamond \mathbf{return} v$ , passing the resulting computation as the next value of the accumulator argument. Translating this intuition to a logical statement requires explicitly universally quantifying over the accumulator argument.

**Lemma 6.22** *For any closed expression  $e$ , value  $v$  and derivation  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ , if  $\mathcal{C}' :: K \diamond \mathbf{return} v \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} w$  for any  $K$  and  $w$ , then  $\mathcal{C} :: K \diamond e \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} w$ .*

**Proof:** The proof proceeds by induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D}$ . Since the accumulator argument must already hold the remainder of the overall computation upon appeal to the induction hypothesis, we apply the induction hypothesis on the immediate subderivations of  $\mathcal{D}$  in right-to-left order.

The proof is implemented by a type family

```

ccp : eval E V
      -> K # (return V) =>* (answer W)
      -> K # (ev E) =>* (answer W)
      -> type.

```

Operationally, the first argument is the induction argument, the second argument the accumulator, and the last the output argument.

We only show a couple of cases in the proof; the others follow in a similar manner.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam}^* \ x. e_1} \text{ev\_lam}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{C}' :: K \diamond \mathbf{return} \ \mathbf{lam}^* \ x. e_1 \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \text{Assumption} \\ \mathcal{C} :: K \diamond \mathbf{lam} \ x. e_1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{answer} \ w & \text{By st\_lam followed by } \mathcal{C}' \end{array}$$

In this case we have added a step `st_lam` to a computation; in the implementation, this will be an application of the `step` rule for the  $S \xRightarrow{*} S'$  judgment, which is written as `<<` in infix notation. Recall that the reversal of the evaluation order means that computations (visually) proceed from right to left.

$$\text{ccp\_lam} : \text{ccp} \ (\text{ev\_lam}) \ \mathcal{C}' \ (\mathcal{C}' \ << \ \text{st\_lam}).$$

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{D}_1 & \mathcal{D}_2 & \mathcal{D}_3 \\ e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1 & e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 & [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v \end{array}}{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \text{ev\_app}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{C}' :: K \diamond \mathbf{return} \ v \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \text{Assumption} \\ \mathcal{C}_3 :: K \diamond [v_2/x]e'_1 \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_3 \text{ and } \mathcal{C}' \\ \mathcal{C}'_2 :: K; \lambda x_2. \mathbf{app}_2 \ (\mathbf{lam}^* \ x. e'_1) \ x_2 \diamond \mathbf{return} \ v_2 \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \\ & \text{By st\_return and st\_app2 followed by } \mathcal{C}_3 \\ \mathcal{C}_2 :: K; \lambda x_2. \mathbf{app}_2 \ (\mathbf{lam}^* \ x. e'_1) \ x_2 \diamond e_2 \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \\ & \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_2 \text{ and } \mathcal{C}'_2 \\ \mathcal{C}'_1 :: K; \lambda x_1. \mathbf{app}_1 \ x_1 \ e_2 \diamond \mathbf{return} \ \mathbf{lam}^* \ x. e'_1 \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \\ & \text{By st\_return and st\_app1 followed by } \mathcal{C}_2. \\ \mathcal{C}_1 :: K; \lambda x_1. \mathbf{app}_1 \ x_1 \ e_2 \diamond e_1 \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \text{By ind. hyp. on } \mathcal{D}_1 \text{ and } \mathcal{C}'_1 \\ \mathcal{C} :: K \diamond e_1 \ e_2 \xRightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} \ w & \text{By st\_app followed by } \mathcal{C}_1. \end{array}$$

The implementation threads the accumulator argument, adding steps concerned with application as in the proof above.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{ccp\_app} : \text{ccp} \ (\text{ev\_app} \ \mathcal{D}_3 \ \mathcal{D}_2 \ \mathcal{D}_1) \ \mathcal{C}' \ (\mathcal{C}_1 \ << \ \text{st\_app}) \\ \quad <- \text{ccp} \ \mathcal{D}_3 \ \mathcal{C}' \ \mathcal{C}_3 \\ \quad <- \text{ccp} \ \mathcal{D}_2 \ (\mathcal{C}_3 \ << \ \text{st\_app2} \ << \ \text{st\_return}) \ \mathcal{C}_2 \\ \quad <- \text{ccp} \ \mathcal{D}_1 \ (\mathcal{C}_2 \ << \ \text{st\_app1} \ << \ \text{st\_return}) \ \mathcal{C}_1. \end{array}$$

□

From this, the completeness of the abstract machine follows directly.

**Theorem 6.23** (Completeness of the Continuation Machine) *For any closed expression  $e$  and value  $v$ , if  $e \hookrightarrow v$  then  $e \xrightarrow{c} v$ .*

**Proof:** We use Lemma 6.22 with  $K = \mathbf{init}$ ,  $w = v$ , and  $\mathcal{C}'$  the computation with `st_init` as the only step, to conclude that there is a computation  $\mathcal{C} :: \mathbf{init} \diamond e \xrightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} v$ . Therefore, by rule `cev`,  $e \xrightarrow{c} v$ .

The implementation is straightforward, using `ccp`, the implementation of the main lemma above.

```
ceval_complete : eval E V -> ceval E V -> type.
```

```
cevcp : ceval_complete D (cev C)
      <- ccp D (stop << st_init) C.
```

□

Now we turn our attention to the soundness of the continuation machine: whenever it produces a value  $v$  then the natural semantics can also produce the value  $v$  from the same expression. This is more difficult to prove than completeness. The reason is that in the completeness proof, every subderivation of  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  can inductively be translated to a sequence of computation steps, but not every sequence of computation steps corresponds to an evaluation. For example, the partial computation

$$K \diamond e_1 e_2 \xrightarrow{*} K; \lambda x_1. \mathbf{app}_1 x_1 e_2 \diamond e_1$$

represents only a fragment of an evaluation. In order to translate a computation sequence we must ensure that it is sufficiently long. A simple way to accomplish this is to require that the given computation goes all the way to a final answer. Thus, we have a state  $K \diamond e$  at the beginning of a computation sequence  $\mathcal{C}$  to a final answer  $w$ , there must be some initial segment of  $\mathcal{C}'$  which corresponds to an evaluation of  $e$  to a value  $v$ , while the remaining computation goes from  $K \diamond \mathbf{return} v$  to the final answer  $w$ . This can then be proved by induction.

**Lemma 6.24** *For any continuation  $K$ , closed expression  $e$  and value  $w$ , if  $\mathcal{C} :: K \diamond e \xrightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} w$  then there is a value  $v$  a derivation  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$ , and a subcomputation  $\mathcal{C}'$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  of the form  $K \diamond \mathbf{return} v \xrightarrow{*} \mathbf{answer} w$ .*

**Proof:** By complete induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{C}$ . Here *complete induction*, as opposed to a simple structural induction, means that we can apply the induction hypothesis to any subderivation of  $\mathcal{C}$ , not just to the immediate subderivations. It should be intuitively clear that this is a valid induction principle (see also Section 6.4).

In the implementation we have chosen not to represent the evidence for the assertion that  $\mathcal{C}'$  is a subderivation of  $\mathcal{C}$ . This can be added, either directly to the implementation or as a higher-level judgment (see Exercise ??). This information is not required to execute the proof on specific computation sequences, although it is critical for seeing that it always terminates.

```
csd : K # (ev E) =>* (answer W)
      -> eval E V
      -> K # (return V) =>* (answer W)
      -> type.
```

We only show a few typical cases; the others follow similarly.

**Case:** The first step of  $\mathcal{C}$  is `st_lam` followed by  $\mathcal{C}_1 :: K \diamond \text{return } \text{lam}^* x. e \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$ .

In this case we let  $\mathcal{D} = \text{ev\_lam}$  and  $\mathcal{C}' = \mathcal{C}_1$ . The implementation (where `step` is written as `<<` in infix notation):

```
csd_lam : csd (C' << st_lam) (ev_lam) C'.
```

**Case:** The first step of  $\mathcal{C}$  is `st_app` followed by  $\mathcal{C}_1 :: K; \lambda x_1. \text{app}_1 x_1 e_2 \diamond e_1 \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$ , where  $e = e_1 e_2$ .

$\mathcal{D}_1 :: e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1$ for some $v_1$ and	
$\mathcal{C}'_1 :: K; \lambda x_1. \text{app}_1 x_1 e_2 \diamond \text{return } v_1 \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{C}_1$
$\mathcal{C}''_1 :: K \diamond \text{app}_1 v_1 e_2 \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$	By inversion on $\mathcal{C}'_1$
$\mathcal{C}_2 :: K; \lambda x_2. \text{app}_2 v_1 x_2 \diamond e_2 \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$	By inversion on $\mathcal{C}''_1$
$\mathcal{D}_2 :: e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2$ for some $v_2$ and	
$\mathcal{C}'_2 :: K; \lambda x_2. \text{app}_2 v_1 x_2 \diamond \text{return } v_2 \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{C}_2$
$\mathcal{C}''_2 :: K \diamond \text{app}_2 v_1 v_2 \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$	By inversion on $\mathcal{C}'_2$
$v_1 = \text{lam } x. e'_1$ and	
$\mathcal{C}_3 :: K \diamond [v_2/x]e'_1 \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$	By inversion on $\mathcal{C}''_2$
$\mathcal{D}_3 :: [v_2/x]e'_1 \hookrightarrow v$ for some $v$ and	
$\mathcal{C}' :: K \diamond \text{return } v \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } w$	By ind. hyp on $\mathcal{C}_3$
$\mathcal{D} :: e_1 e_2 \hookrightarrow v$	By rule <code>ev_app</code> from $\mathcal{D}_1$ , $\mathcal{D}_2$ , and $\mathcal{D}_3$ .

The evaluation  $\mathcal{D}$  and computation sequence  $\mathcal{C}'$  now satisfy the requirements of the lemma. The appeals to the induction hypothesis are all legal, since  $\mathcal{C} > \mathcal{C}_1 > \mathcal{C}''_1 > \mathcal{C}_2 > \mathcal{C}'_2 > \mathcal{C}''_2 > \mathcal{C}_3 > \mathcal{C}'$ , where  $>$  is the subcomputation judgment. Each of the subcomputation judgments in this chain follows either immediately, or by induction hypothesis.

The implementation:

```

csd_app : csd (C1 << st_app) (ev_app D3 D2 D1) C'
  <- csd C1 D1 (C2 << st_app1 << st_return)
  <- csd C2 D2 (C3 << st_app2 << st_return)
  <- csd C3 D3 C'.

```

□

Once again, the main theorem follows directly from the lemma.

**Theorem 6.25** (Soundness of the Continuation Machine) *For any closed expression  $e$  and value  $v$ , if  $e \xrightarrow{c} v$  then  $e \hookrightarrow v$ .*

**Proof:** By inversion,  $\mathcal{C} :: \text{init} \diamond e \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } v$ . By Lemma 6.24 there is a derivation  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v'$  and  $\mathcal{C}' :: \text{init} \diamond \text{return } v' \xRightarrow{*} \text{answer } v$  for some  $v'$ . By inversion on  $\mathcal{C}'$  we see that  $v = v'$  and therefore  $\mathcal{D}$  satisfies the requirements of the theorem.

```

ceval_sound : ceval E V -> eval E V -> type.

cevsd : ceval_sound (cev C) D
  <- csd C D (stop << st_init).

```

□

## 6.6 Relating Relations between Derivations

Upon inspection we see that the higher-level judgments implementing our soundness and completeness proofs are similar. Consider:

```

csd : K # (ev E) =>* (answer W)
  -> eval E V
  -> K # (return V) =>* (answer W)
  -> type.

ccp : eval E V
  -> K # (return V) =>* (answer W)
  -> K # (ev E) =>* (answer W)
  -> type.

```

The families `csd` and `ccp` relate derivations of exactly the same judgments, the only difference being their order. But the analogy is even stronger. By inspecting the (higher-level) rules for application in each of these families,

```

csd_app : csd (C1 << st_app) (ev_app D3 D2 D1) C'
  <- csd C1 D1 (C2 << st_app1 << st_return)
  <- csd C2 D2 (C3 << st_app2 << st_return)
  <- csd C3 D3 C'.

ccp_app : ccp (ev_app D3 D2 D1) C' (C1 << st_app)
  <- ccp D3 C' C3
  <- ccp D2 (C3 << st_app2 << st_return) C2
  <- ccp D1 (C2 << st_app1 << st_return) C1.

```

we conjecture the the premisses are also identical, varying only in their order. This turns out to be true. Thus the translations between evaluations and computation sequences form a bijection: translating in either of the two directions and then back yields the original derivation.

We find it difficult to make such an argument precise in informal mathematical language, since we have not reified the translations between evaluation trees and computation sequences, except in LF. However, this can be done as in Section 3.7 or directly via an ordinary mathematical function. Either of these is tedious and serves only to transcribe the Elf implementation of the soundness and completeness proofs into another language, so we will skip this step and simply state the theorem directly.

**Theorem 6.26** *Evaluations  $\mathcal{D} :: e \hookrightarrow v$  and computations  $\mathcal{CE} :: e \xrightarrow{c} v$  are in bijective correspondence.*

**Proof:** We examine the translations implicit in the constructive proofs of completeness (Lemma 6.22 and Theorem 6.23) and soundness (Lemma 6.24 and Theorem 6.25) to show that they are inverses of each other. More formally, the argument would proceed by induction on the definition of the translation in each direction.

The implementation makes this readily apparent. We only show the declaration of this level 3<sup>1</sup> type family and the cases for functions.

```

peq : csd C D C'
  -> ccp D C' C
  -> type.

% Functions
peq_lam : peq (csd_lam) (ccp_lam).
peq_app : peq (csd_app SD3 SD2 SD1) (ccp_app CP1 CP2 CP3)
  <- peq SD1 CP1
  <- peq SD2 CP2
  <- peq SD3 CP3.

```

---

<sup>1</sup>[check terminology]

Note that the judgment `peq` must be read in both directions in order to obtain the bijective property. At the top level, the relation directly reduces to the inductively defined judgment above.

```
proof_equiv : ceval_sound CE D -> ceval_complete D CE -> type.

peqquiv : proof_equiv (cevsd SD) (cevc CP)
  <- peq SD CP.
```

□

## 6.7 Contextual Semantics

One might ask if the continuations we have introduced in Section 6.5 are actually necessary to describe a small-step semantics. That is, can we describe a semantics where the initial expression  $e$  is successively transformed until we arrive at a value  $v$ ? The answer is yes, although each small step in this style of semantic description is complex: First we have to isolate a subexpression  $r$  of  $e$  to be reduced next, then we actually perform the reduction from  $r$  to  $r'$ , and finally we reconstitute an expression  $e'$  in an occurrence of  $r$  has been replaced by  $r'$ .

This style of semantic description is called a *contextual semantics*, since its central idea is the decomposition of an expression  $e$  into an *evaluation context*  $C$  and a *redex*  $r$ . The evaluation context  $C$  contains a *hole* which, when filled with  $r$  yields  $e$ , and when filled with the reduct  $r'$  yields  $e'$ , the next expression in the computation sequence. By restricting evaluation contexts appropriately we can guarantee that the semantics remains deterministic.

Unlike the other forms of semantic description we have encountered, the contextual semantics makes the relation between the reduction rules of a  $\lambda$ -calculus (as we will see in Section 7.4) and the operational semantics of a functional language explicit. On the other hand, each “small” step in this semantics requires complex auxiliary operations and it is therefore not as direct as either the natural semantics or the continuation machine.

We first identify the reductions on the representation of Mini-ML which separates values and expressions (see Section 6.5). These reductions are of two kinds: *essential reductions* which come directly from an underlying  $\lambda$ -calculus, and *auxiliary reductions* which are used to manage the passage from expression to their corresponding values. The latter ones are usually omitted in informal presentations, but we do not have this luxury in Elf due to the absence of any form of subtyping in LF.

$$e \Longrightarrow e' \quad e \text{ reduces to } e' \text{ in one step}$$

First, the essential reductions. Note that every value is regarded as an expression, but the corresponding coercion is not shown in the concrete syntax.



In addition, we have the following auxiliary reductions.

Expressions which are already values cannot be reduced any further. We say that  $e$  is a redex if there is an  $e'$  such that  $e \Rightarrow e'$ .

The implementation of the one-step reduction and redex judgments are straightforward.

[illegible]

```

%%% Redices
redex : exp -> type.

rdx : redex E
      <- E ==> E'.

```

The specification of the reduction judgment already incorporates some of the basic decision regarding the semantics of the language. For example, we can see that pairs are eager, since **fst**  $e$  can be reduced only when  $e$  is a value (and thus consists of a pair of values). Similarly, the language is call-by-value (rule **red\_app**) and **let name** is call-by-name (rule **red\_letn**). However, we have not yet specified in which order subexpressions must be evaluated. This is fixed by specifying precisely in which context a redex must appear before it can be reduced. In other words, we have to define *evaluation contexts*. We write  $[]$  for the hole in the evaluation context, filling the hole in an evaluation context  $C$  with an expression  $r$  is written as  $C[r]$ .

Evaluation Contexts	$C ::= []$	<i>Hole</i>
	$  \mathbf{s} \ C \   \ \mathbf{case} \ C \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{z} \Rightarrow e_2 \   \ \mathbf{s} \ x \Rightarrow e_3$	<i>Natural numbers</i>
	$  \langle C, e_2 \rangle \   \ \langle v_1, C \rangle \   \ \mathbf{fst} \ C \   \ \mathbf{snd} \ C$	<i>Pairs</i>
	$  C \ e_2 \   \ v_1 \ C$	<i>Functions</i>
	$  \mathbf{let} \ \mathbf{val} \ x = C \ \mathbf{in} \ e_2$	<i>Definitions</i>

A hole  $[]$  is the only base case in this definition. It is instructive to consider which kinds of occurrences of a hole in a context are ruled out by this definition. For example, we cannot reduce any redex in the second component of a pair until the first component has been reduced to a value (clause  $\langle v_1, C \rangle$ ). Furthermore, we cannot reduce in a branch of a **case** expression, in the body of a **let val** expression, or anywhere in the scope of a **let name** or **fix** construct.

Single step reduction can now be extended to one-step computation.

$e \Rightarrow_1 e'$   $e$  goes to  $e'$  in one computation step

$$\frac{r \Rightarrow r'}{C[r] \Rightarrow_1 C[r']} \text{ostp}$$

The straightforward implementation requires the check that a function from expressions to expression is a valid evaluation context from Exercise ??, written here as **evctx**.

```

evctx : (exp -> exp) -> type.
% Exercise...

```

```
one_step : exp -> exp -> type.
```

```
ostp : one_step (C R) (C R')
      <- evctx C
      <- redex R
      <- R ==> R'.
```

An operationally more direct implementation uses a splitting judgment which relates an expression  $e$  to an evaluation context  $C$  and a redex  $r$  such that  $e = C[r]$ . We only show this judgment in its implementation. It illustrates how index functions can be manipulated in Elf programs. The splitting judgment above uses an auxiliary judgment which uses an accumulator argument for the evaluation context  $C$  which is computed as we descend into the expression  $e$ . This auxiliary judgment relates  $C$  and  $e$  (initially:  $C = []$  and  $e$  is the given expression) to a  $C'$  and  $e'$  such that  $e'$  is a redex and  $C[e] = C'[e']$ .

```
%%% Splitting an Expression
split : (exp -> exp) -> exp -> (exp -> exp) -> exp -> type.

%{ split C E C' E'
  Evaluation context C and expression E are given,
  C' and E' are constructed.
  Invariant: (C E) == (C' E')
}%

% Redices
sp_redex : split C E C E
          <- redex E.

% Natural Numbers
% no sp_z
sp_s : split C (s E1) C' E'
      <- split ([h:exp] C (s h)) E1 C' E'.

sp_case : split C (case E1 E2 E3) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (case h E2 E3)) E1 C' E'.

% Pairs
sp_pair2 : split C (pair (v1 V1) E2) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (pair (v1 V1) h)) E2 C' E'.
sp_pair1 : split C (pair E1 E2) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (pair h E2)) E1 C' E'.
```

```

sp_fst  : split C (fst E) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (fst h)) E C' E'.
sp_snd  : split C (snd E) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (snd h)) E C' E'.

% Functions
% no sp_lam
sp_app2 : split C (app (v1 V1) E2) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (app (v1 V1) h)) E2 C' E'.
sp_app1 : split C (app E1 E2) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (app h E2)) E1 C' E'.

% Definitions
sp_letv : split C (letv E1 E2) C' E'
          <- split ([h:exp] C (letv h E2)) E1 C' E'.
% no sp_letn

% Recursion
% no sp_fix

% Values
% no sp_vl

%%% Top-Level Splitting

split_exp : exp -> (exp -> exp) -> exp -> type.

spe : split_exp E C E'
      <- split ([h:exp] h) E C E'.

The splitting judgment is then used in the definition of contextual evaluation in
lieu of an explicit check.

one_step : exp -> exp -> type.

ostp : one_step E (C R')
       <- split_exp E C R
       <- R ==> R'.

%%% Full Contextual Evaluation

xeval : exp -> val -> type.

```

```

xev_vl : xeval (vl V) V.
xev_step : xeval E V
          <- one_step E E'
          <- xeval E' V.

```

Evaluation contexts bear a close resemblance to the continuations in Section 6.5. In fact, there is a bijective correspondence between evaluation contexts (following the grammar above) and the kind of continuation which arises from computation starting with the initial continuation **init**. We do not investigate this relationship here.<sup>2</sup>

## 6.8 Exercises

**Exercise 6.1** If we replace the rule **ev\_app** in the natural semantics of Mini-ML (see Section 2.3) by

$$\frac{
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{x \hookrightarrow v_2} \quad u \\
 \vdots \\
 e_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbf{lam} \ x. e'_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2 \quad e'_1 \hookrightarrow v
 \end{array}
 }{e_1 \ e_2 \hookrightarrow v} \mathbf{ev\_app}^{x,u}$$

in order to avoid explicitly substituting  $v_2$  for  $x$ , something goes wrong. What is it? Can you suggest a way to fix the problem which still employs hypothetical judgments?

(Note: We assume that the third premiss of the modified rule is parametric in  $x$  and hypothetical in  $u$  which is discharged as indicated. This implies that we assume that  $x$  is not already free in any other hypothesis and that all labels for hypotheses are distinct—so this is *not* the problem you are asked to detect.)

**Exercise 6.2** Define the judgment  $W \text{ RealVal}$  which restricts closures  $W$  to  $\Lambda$ -abstractions. Prove that  $\cdot \vdash F \hookrightarrow W$  then  $W \text{ RealVal}$  and represent this proof in Elf.

**Exercise 6.3** In this exercise we try to eliminate some of the non-determinism in compilation.

1. Define a judgment  $F \text{ std}$  which should be derivable if the de Bruijn expression  $F$  is in the standard form in which the  $\uparrow$  operator is not applied to applications or abstractions.

---

<sup>2</sup>[an earlier version of these notes contained a buggy translation here. please search and destroy!]

2. Rewrite the translation from ordinary expressions  $e$  such that only standard forms can be related to any expression  $e$ .
3. Prove the property in item 2.
4. Implement the judgments in items 1, 2, and the proof in item 3.

**Exercise 6.4** Restrict yourself to the fragment of the language with variables, abstraction, and application, that is,

$$F ::= 1 \mid F\uparrow \mid \Lambda F \mid F_1 F_2$$

1. Define a judgment  $F \text{ Closed}$  that is derivable iff the de Bruijn expression  $F$  is closed, that is, has no free variables at the *object level*.
2. Define a judgment for conversion of de Bruijn expressions  $F$  to standard form (as in Exercise 6.3, item 1) in a way that preserves meaning (as given by its interpretation as an ordinary expression  $e$ ).
3. Prove that, under appropriate assumptions, this conversion results in a de Bruijn expression in standard form equivalent to the original expression.
4. Implement the judgments and correctness proofs in Elf.

**Exercise 6.5** Restrict yourself to the same fragment as in Exercise 6.4 and define the operation of substitution as a judgment  $\text{subst } F_1 F_2 F$ . It should be a consequence of your definition that if  $\Lambda F_1$  represents **lam**  $x. e_1$ ,  $F_2$  represents  $e_2$ , and  $\text{subst } F_1 F_2 F$  is derivable then  $F$  should represent  $[e_2/x]e_1$ . Furthermore, such an  $F$  should always exist if  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are as indicated. With appropriate assumptions about free variables or indices (see Exercise 6.4) prove these properties, thereby establishing the correctness of your implementation of substitution.

**Exercise 6.6** Write out the informal proof of Theorem 6.7.

**Exercise 6.7** Prove Theorem 6.8 by appropriately generalizing Lemma 6.2.

**Exercise 6.8** Standard ML [MTH90] and many other formulations do not contain a **let name** construct. Disregarding problems of polymorphic typing for the moment, it is quite simple to simulate **let name** with **let val** operationally using so-called *thunks*. The idea is that we can prohibit the evaluation of an arbitrary expression by wrapping it in a vacuous **lam**-abstraction. Evaluation can be forced by applying the function to some irrelevant value (we write **z**, most presentations use a unit element). That is, instead of

$$l = \text{let name } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2$$

we write

$$l' = \text{let val } x' = \text{lam } y. e_1 \text{ in } [x' \mathbf{z}/x]e_2$$

where  $y$  is a new variable not free in  $e_1$ .

1. Show a counterexample to the conjecture “If  $l$  is closed,  $l \hookrightarrow v$ , and  $l' \hookrightarrow v'$  then  $v = v'$  (modulo renaming of bound variables)”.
2. Show a counterexample to the conjecture “ $\triangleright l : \tau$  iff  $\triangleright l' : \tau$ ”.
3. Define an appropriate congruence  $e \cong e'$  such that  $l \cong l'$  and if  $e \cong e'$ ,  $e \hookrightarrow v$  and  $e' \hookrightarrow v'$  then  $v \cong v'$ .
4. Prove the properties in item 3.
5. Prove that if the values  $v$  and  $v'$  are natural numbers, then  $v \cong v'$  iff  $v = v'$ .

We need a property such as the last one to make sure that the congruence we define does not identify all expressions. It is a special case of a so-called *observational equivalence* (see ??).

**Exercise 6.9** The rules for evaluation in Section 6.2 have the drawback that looking up a variable in an environment and evaluation are mutually recursive, since the environment contains unevaluated expressions. Such expressions may be added to the environment during evaluation of a **let name** or **fix** construct. In the definition of Standard ML [MTH90] this problem is avoided by disallowing **let name** (see Exercise 6.8) and by syntactically restricting occurrences of the **fix** construct. When translated into our setting, this restriction states that all occurrences of fix-point expressions must be of the form **fix**  $x$ . **lam**  $y$ .  $e$ . Then we can dispense with the environment constructor  $+$  and instead introduce a constructor  $*$  that builds a recursive environment. More precisely, we have

$$\text{Environments } K ::= \cdot \mid K; W \mid K * F$$

The evaluation rules **fev\_1+**, **fev\_↑+**, and **fev\_fix** on page 161 are replaced by

$$\frac{}{K \vdash \text{fix}' F \hookrightarrow \{K * F, F\}} \text{fev\_fix*}$$

$$\frac{}{K * F \vdash 1 \hookrightarrow \{K * F, F\}} \text{fev\_1*}$$

$$\frac{K \vdash F \hookrightarrow W}{K * F' \vdash F' \uparrow \hookrightarrow W} \text{fev\_}\uparrow*$$

1. Implement this modified evaluation judgment in Elf.
2. Prove that under the restriction that all occurrences of  $\mathbf{fix}'$  in de Bruijn expressions have the form  $\mathbf{fix}' \Lambda F$  for some  $F$ , the two sets of rules define an equivalent operational semantics. Take care to give a precise definition of the notion of equivalence you are considering and explain why it is appropriate.
3. Represent the equivalence proof in Elf.
4. Exhibit a counterexample which shows that some restriction on fixpoint expressions (as, for example, the one given above) is necessary in order to preserve equivalence.
5. Under the syntactic restriction from above we can also formulate a semantics which requires no new constructor for environments by forming closures over fixpoint expressions. Then we need to add another rule for application of an expression which evaluates to a closure over a fixpoint expression. Write out the rules and prove its equivalence to either the system above or the original evaluation judgment for de Bruijn expressions (under the appropriate restriction).

**Exercise 6.10** Show how the effect of the *bind* instruction can be simulated in the CLS machine using the other instructions. Sketch the correctness proof for this simulation.

**Exercise 6.11** Complete the presentation of the CLS machine by adding recursion. In particular

1. Complete the computation rules on page 171.
2. Add appropriate cases to the proofs of Lemmas 6.16, and 6.18.

**Exercise 6.12** Prove the following carefully.

1. The concatenation operation “ $\circ$ ” on computations is associative.
2. The subcomputation relation “ $<$ ” is transitive (Lemma 6.17).

Show the implementation of your proofs as type families in Elf.

**Exercise 6.13** The machine instructions from Section 6.3 can simply quote expressions in de Bruijn form and consider them as instructions. As a next step in the (abstract) compilation process, we can convert the expressions to lower-level code which simulates the effect of instructions on the environment and value stacks in smaller steps.

1. Design an appropriate language of operations.



2. Specify and implement a compiler from expressions to code.
3. Prove the correctness of this step of compilation.
4. Implement your correctness proof in Elf.

**Exercise 6.14** Types play an important role in compilation, which is not reflected in the development of this chapter. Ideally, we would like to take advantage of type information as much as possible in order to produce more compact and more efficient code [?]. This is most easily achieved if the type information is embedded directly in expressions (see Section ??), but at the very least, we would expect that types can be assigned to intermediate expressions in the compiler.

1. Define typing judgments for de Bruijn expressions, environments, and values for the language of Section 6.2. You may assume that values are always closed.
2. Prove type preservation for your typing judgment and the operational semantics for de Bruijn expressions.
3. Prove type preservation under compilation, that is, well-typed Mini-ML expressions are mapped to well-typed de Bruijn expressions under the translation of Section 6.2.
4. What is the converse of type preservation under compilation. Does your typing judgment satisfy it?
5. Implement the judgments above in Elf.
6. Implement the proofs above in Elf.

**Exercise 6.15** As in Exercise 6.14:

1. Define typing judgments for expressions, values, instructions, continuations, and machine states for the continuation machine of Section 6.5.
2. Prove type preservation for your typing judgment under the operational semantics of the machine.
3. Prove a *progress lemma* for well-typed programs: Any valid machine state is either the final answer or there is a possible next transition.
4. Implement the judgments above in Elf.
5. Implement the proofs above in Elf.
6. Extend the typing judgment, proofs, and implementations to include `letcc k in e`.

**Exercise 6.16** As in Exercise 6.14:

1. Define a typing judgment for evaluation contexts. It should only hold for valid evaluation contexts.
2. Prove that splitting a well-typed expression which is not a value always succeeds and produces a unique context and redex.
3. Prove that splitting a well-typed expression results in a valid evaluation context and valid redex.
4. Prove the correctness of contextual evaluation with respect to the natural semantics for Mini-ML.
5. Implement the judgments above in Elf. Evaluation contexts should be represented as functions from expressions to expressions satisfying an additional judgment.
6. Implement the proofs above in Elf.

**Exercise 6.17** Show that the purely expression-based natural semantics of Section 2.3 is equivalent to the one based on a separation between expressions and values in Section 6.5. Implement your proof, including all necessary lemmas, in Elf.

**Exercise 6.18** Carry out the alternative proof of completeness of the continuation machine sketched on page 188. Implement the proof and all necessary lemmas in Elf.

**Exercise 6.19** Do the equivalence proof in Lemma 6.22 and the alternative in Exercise 6.18 define the same relation between derivations? If so, exhibit the bijection in the form of a higher-level judgment relating the Elf implementations as in Section 6.6. Be careful to write out necessary lemmas regarding concatenation. You may restrict yourself to functional abstraction, application, and the necessary computation rules.

**Exercise 6.20** [ *an exercise about the mechanical translation from small-step to big-step semantics* ]

## Chapter 7

# Natural Deduction

Ich wollte zunächst einmal einen Formalismus aufstellen, der dem wirklichen Schließen möglichst nahe kommt. So ergab sich ein „Kalkül des natürlichen Schließens“.

— Gerhard Gentzen

*Untersuchungen über das logische Schließen* [Gen35]

In Chapter 2 we introduced the functional language Mini-ML. This language was defined by its type system and its operational semantics, both specified via deductive systems. The type system gives us a means to verify some properties of Mini-ML programs. Assume, for example, we can show that  $e : \text{nat}$  for some expression  $e$ . Then we know that if  $e$  evaluates to  $v$  (that is,  $e \hookrightarrow v$  is derivable) then  $v$  is a value by Theorem 2.1. We know furthermore that  $v : \text{nat}$  by type preservation (Theorem 2.5). It is then easy to show that  $v$  must have the form  $s(s \dots (s z) \dots)$ . In other words,  $v$  must represent a natural number. As another example, consider an expression  $e$  of type  $\text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}$ . Then  $e$  represents some partial function from natural numbers to natural numbers: for each argument  $v : \text{nat}$  the expression  $e v$  either evaluates to some  $v'$  which represents a natural number or does not have a value. The uniqueness of  $v'$  is the subject of Exercise 2.16.

The type system can only capture simple properties. It can express that some program  $e$  represents a partial function from natural numbers to natural numbers, but it cannot express *which* partial function. This simplicity has a great advantage: the question if an expression has a given type is effectively decidable, and thus a compiler can mechanically verify program properties expressed as types. In order to reason about more complex properties of programs within some formal system, we need a more expressive language of specifications and some way of connecting programs to the specifications they satisfy. Designing more expressive type systems, usually called *type theories*, is one path which is the subject of much current research. For some of these systems, type checking remains decidable; for others it

becomes undecidable.

We will take a different path and consider *predicate logic* as a means of expressing specifications. The connection to programs will later be made via the so-called Curry-Howard isomorphism which interprets constructive proofs as programs and formulas as types. There are many ways a logical system can be specified, and relationships between them have been intensively investigated. The most important styles of presentation are *axiomatic systems* (often associated with Hilbert [HB34]), *systems of natural deduction*, and *sequent calculi* (the latter two are due to Gentzen [Gen35]). In an axiomatic system, the logic is described by some axioms and a minimal set of inference rules in order to derive new theorems from the axioms and prior theorems. Systems of natural deduction on the other hand try to explicate the meaning of the logical connectives and quantifiers by means of inference rules only. This is in the same spirit as the approach of LF whose design was based on natural deduction. Sequent calculi can instead be considered as calculi for proof search. For the investigation of the connections between proofs and programs a system of natural deduction is most appropriate.

In Chapter 8 we will have occasion to consider *logic programming*, which is based on a different computational mechanism than functional languages. Rather than evaluation via substitution, computation is based on the notion of search for a proof in a logic following a particular strategy. There, too, the system of natural deduction will be of great importance.

## 7.1 Natural Deduction

The system of natural deduction we describe below is basically Gentzen's system NJ [Gen35] or the system which may be found in Prawitz [Pra65]. The calculus of natural deduction was devised by Gentzen in the 1930's out of a dissatisfaction with axiomatic systems in the Hilbert tradition, which did not seem to capture mathematical reasoning practices very directly. Instead of a number of axioms and a small set of inference rules, deductions are described through inference rules only, which at the same time explain the meaning of the logical quantifiers and connectives in terms of their proof rules. This is often called *proof-theoretic semantics*, an approach which has gained popularity in computer science through the work of de Bruijn [dB80] and Martin-Löf [ML80, ML85a].

A language of (first-order) *terms* is built up from *variables*  $x, y$ , etc., *function symbols*  $f, g$ , etc., each with a unique arity, and *parameters*  $a, b$ , etc. in the usual way.

$$\text{Terms } t ::= x \mid a \mid f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

A constant  $c$  is simply a function symbol with arity 0 and we write  $c$  instead of  $c()$ . Exactly which function symbols are available is left unspecified in the general development of predicate logic and only made concrete for specific theories, such

as the theory of natural numbers. However, variables and parameters are always available. We will use  $t$  and  $s$  to range over terms.

The language of *formulas* is built up from *predicate symbols*  $P, Q$ , etc. and terms in the usual way.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Formulas } A ::= & P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \mid A_1 \wedge A_2 \mid A_1 \supset A_2 \mid A_1 \vee A_2 \mid \neg A \mid \perp \mid \top \\ & \mid \forall x. A \mid \exists x. A \end{aligned}$$

A propositional constant  $P$  is simply a predicate symbol with no arguments and we write  $P$  instead of  $P()$ . We will use  $A, B$ , and  $C$  to range over formulas. Exactly which predicate symbols are available is left unspecified in the general development of predicate logic and only made concrete for specific theories.

The notions of *free* and *bound* variables in terms and formulas are defined in the usual way: the variable  $x$  is bound in formulas of the form  $\forall x. A$  and  $\exists x. A$ . We use parentheses to disambiguate and assume that  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  bind more tightly than  $\supset$ . It is convenient to assume that formulas have no free individual variables; we use parameters instead where necessary. Our notation for substitution is  $[t/x]A$  for the result of substituting the term  $t$  for the variable  $x$  in  $A$ . Because of the restriction on occurrences of free variables, we can assume that  $t$  is free of individual variables, and thus capturing cannot occur.

The main judgment of natural deduction is the derivability of a formula  $C$ , written as  $\vdash C$ , from assumptions  $\vdash A_1, \dots, \vdash A_n$ . We will model this as a hypothetical judgment. This means that certain structural properties of derivations are tacitly assumed, independently of any logical inferences.

**Assumption.** If we have an assumption  $\vdash A$  then we can conclude  $\vdash A$ . For example,  $\vdash A$  by itself represents a deduction of  $\vdash A$  from assumption  $\vdash A$ .

**Weakening.** If  $\vdash C$  is derivable from  $\vdash A_1, \dots, \vdash A_n$  then  $\vdash C$  is also derivable from  $\vdash A_1, \dots, \vdash A_n, \vdash A_{n+1}$ . Alternatively, we could say that assumptions need not be used. For example,  $\vdash A$  by itself also represents a deduction of  $\vdash A$  from assumptions  $\vdash A$  and  $\vdash B$ , even though  $B$  is not even mentioned.

**Duplication.** Assumptions can be used more than once.

**Exchange.** The order of assumptions is irrelevant.

In keeping with general mathematical practice in the discussion of natural deduction, we will omit the turnstile  $\vdash$  and let a formula  $A$  itself stand for the judgment  $\vdash A$ . It is important to keep in mind that this is merely a shorthand, and that we are defining a judgment via inference rules in the same manner as in earlier chapters in this book.

In natural deduction each logical connective and quantifier is characterized by its *introduction rule(s)* which specifies how to infer a conjunction, disjunction, etc.

The *elimination rule* for the logical constant tells us how we can assumptions in the form of a conjunction, disjunction, *etc.* The introduction and elimination rules must match in a certain way in order to guarantee the consistency of the system: if we introduce a connective and then immediately eliminate it, we should be able to erase this detour and find a more direct derivation of the conclusion. The rules are summarized on page 7.1.

**Conjunction.**  $A \wedge B$  should be derivable if both  $A$  and  $B$  are derivable. Thus we have the following introduction rule.

$$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} \wedge I$$

If we consider this as a complete definition, we should be able to recover both  $A$  and  $B$  if we know  $A \wedge B$ . We are thus led to two elimination rules.

$$\frac{A \wedge B}{A} \wedge E_L \quad \frac{A \wedge B}{B} \wedge E_R$$

To check our intuition we consider a deduction which ends in an introduction followed by an elimination:

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}}{A \wedge B} \wedge I \quad \frac{A \wedge B}{A} \wedge E_L$$

Clearly, it is unnecessary to first introduce the conjunction and then eliminate it: a more direct proof of the same conclusion from the same (or fewer) assumptions would be simply

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A}$$

Formulated as a transformation or *reduction* between derivations we have

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}}{A \wedge B} \wedge I}{\frac{A \wedge B}{A} \wedge E_L} \Rightarrow_L \frac{\mathcal{D}}{A}$$

and symmetrically

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}}{A \wedge B} \wedge I}{\frac{A \wedge B}{B} \wedge E_R} \Rightarrow_L \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}$$

The new judgment

$$\mathcal{D} :: \vdash A \implies_L \mathcal{E} :: \vdash A$$

relates derivations with the same conclusion. We say  $\mathcal{D}$  *locally reduces to*  $\mathcal{E}$ . Later in Section 7.7 we will define another judgment of reduction in which local reductions can be applied to any subderivation.

**Implication.** To derive  $A \supset B$  we assume  $A$  and then derive  $B$ . Written as a hypothetical judgment:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{--- } u \\ A \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array}}{A \supset B} \supset I^u$$

Thus a derivation of  $A \supset B$  describes a construction by which we can transform a derivation of  $A$  into a derivation of  $B$ : we substitute the derivation of  $A$  wherever we used the assumption  $A$  in the hypothetical derivation of  $B$ . The elimination rule expresses this: if we have a derivation of  $A \supset B$  and also a derivation of  $A$ , then we can obtain a derivation of  $B$ .

$$\frac{A \supset B \quad A}{B} \supset E$$

The reduction rule carries out the substitution of derivations explained above.

$$\frac{\frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{--- } u \\ A \\ \mathcal{D} \\ B \end{array}}{A \supset B} \supset I^u \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{A}}{B} \supset E \implies_L \frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{E} \\ \text{--- } u \\ A \\ \mathcal{D} \\ B \end{array}}{B} \supset E$$

The final derivation depends on all the assumptions of  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  except  $u$ , for which we have substituted  $\mathcal{E}$ . An alternative notation for this substitution of derivations for assumptions as introduced in Chapter 5 is  $[\mathcal{E}/u]\mathcal{D} :: \vdash B$ . The local reduction described above may significantly increase the overall length of the derivation, since the deduction  $\mathcal{E}$  is substituted for each occurrence of the assumption labeled  $u$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  and may thus be replicated many times.

**Disjunction.**  $A \vee B$  should be derivable if either  $A$  is derivable or  $B$  is derivable. Therefore we have two introduction rules.

$$\frac{A}{A \vee B} \vee I_L \quad \frac{B}{A \vee B} \vee I_R$$

If we have an assumption  $A \vee B$ , we do not know how it might be inferred. That is, a proposed elimination rule

$$\frac{A \vee B}{A} ?$$

would be incorrect, since a deduction of the form

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{E}}{B} \vee \text{I}_R}{A \vee B} \frac{A \vee B}{A} ?$$

cannot be reduced. As a consequence, the system would be *inconsistent*: if we have at least one theorem ( $B$ , in the example) we can prove every formula ( $A$ , in the example). How do we use the assumption  $A \vee B$  in informal reasoning? We often proceed with a proof by cases: we prove a conclusion  $C$  under the assumption  $A$  and also show  $C$  under the assumption  $B$ . We then conclude  $C$ , since either  $A$  or  $B$  by assumption. Thus the elimination rule employs two hypothetical judgments.

$$\frac{A \vee B \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{}{A}^{u_1} \\ \vdots \\ C \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{}{B}^{u_2} \\ \vdots \\ C \end{array}}{C} \vee \text{E}^{u_1, u_2}$$

Now one can see that the introduction and elimination rules match up in two reductions. First, the case that the disjunction was inferred by  $\vee \text{I}_L$ .

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \vee \text{I}_L \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{}{A}^{u_1} \\ \mathcal{E}_1 \\ C \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{}{B}^{u_2} \\ \mathcal{E}_2 \\ C \end{array}}{C} \vee \text{E}^{u_1, u_2} \quad \Rightarrow_L \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{A}^{u_1} \mathcal{E}_1 C$$

The other reduction is symmetric.

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{B} \vee \text{I}_R \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{}{A}^{u_1} \\ \mathcal{E}_1 \\ C \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{}{B}^{u_2} \\ \mathcal{E}_2 \\ C \end{array}}{C} \vee \text{E}^{u_1, u_2} \quad \Rightarrow_L \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{B}^{u_2} \mathcal{E}_2 C$$

As in the reduction for implication, the resulting derivation may be longer than the original one.



**Negation.** In order to derive  $\neg A$  we assume  $A$  and try to derive a contradiction. Thus it seems that negation requires falsehood, and, indeed, in most literature on constructive logic,  $\neg A$  is seen as an abbreviation of  $A \supset \perp$ . In order to give a self-contained explanation of negation by an introduction rule, we employ a judgment that is parametric in a propositional parameter  $p$ : If we can derive *any*  $p$  from the hypothesis  $A$  we conclude  $\neg A$ .

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg u \\ A \\ \vdots \\ p \\ \hline \neg A \end{array} \neg I^{p,u} \quad \frac{\neg A \quad A}{C} \neg E}{C} \neg E$$

The elimination rule follows from this view: if we know  $\neg A$  and  $A$  then we can conclude any formula  $C$ . In the form of a local reduction:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg u \\ A \\ \mathcal{D} \\ p \\ \hline \neg A \end{array} \neg I^{p,u} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{A} \quad \Rightarrow_L \quad \frac{\frac{\mathcal{E}}{A} u}{[C/p]\mathcal{D}}}{C} \neg E$$

The substitution  $[C/p]\mathcal{D}$  is valid, since  $\mathcal{D}$  is parametric in  $p$ .

**Truth.** There is only an introduction rule for  $\top$ :

$$\frac{}{\top} \top I$$

Since we put no information into the proof of  $\top$ , we know nothing new if we have an assumption  $\top$  and therefore we have no elimination rule and no reduction. It may also be helpful to think of  $\top$  as a 0-ary conjunction: the introduction rule has 0 premisses instead of 2 and we correspondingly have 0 elimination rules instead of 2.

**Falsehood.** Since we should not be able to derive falsehood, there is no introduction rule for  $\perp$ . Therefore, if we can derive falsehood, we can derive everything.

$$\frac{}{\perp} \perp E$$

Note that there is no local reduction rule for  $\perp E$ . It may be helpful to think of  $\perp$  as a 0-ary disjunction: we have 0 instead of 2 introduction rules and we correspondingly

have to consider 0 cases instead of 2 in the elimination rule. Even though we postulated that falsehood should not be derivable, falsehood could clearly be a consequence of contradictory assumption. For example,  $\vdash A \wedge \neg A \supset \perp$  is derivable.

**Universal Quantification.** Under which circumstances should we be able to derive  $\forall x. A$ ? This clearly depends on the domain of quantification. For example, if we know that  $x$  ranges over the natural numbers, then we can conclude  $\forall x. A$  if we can prove  $[0/x]A$ ,  $[1/x]A$ , *etc.* Such a rule is not effective, since it has infinitely many premisses. Thus one usually retreats to rules such as induction. However, in a general treatment of predicate logic we would like to prove statements which are true for *all* domains of quantification. Thus we can only say that  $\forall x. A$  should be provable if  $[a/x]A$  is provable for a new parameter  $a$  about which we can make no assumption. Conversely, if we know  $\forall x. A$ , we know that  $[t/x]A$  for any term  $t$ .

$$\frac{[a/x]A}{\forall x. A} \forall I^a \qquad \frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall E$$

The superscript on the inference rules is a reminder the parameter  $a$  must be “new”, that is, it may not occur in any uncanceled assumption in the proof of  $[a/x]A$  or in  $\forall x. A$  itself. In other words, the derivation of the premiss must parametric in  $a$ . The local reduction carries out the substitution for the parameter.

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[a/x]A} \forall I \quad \frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall E}{[t/a]\mathcal{D}} \Rightarrow_L \frac{[t/a]\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A}$$

Here,  $[t/a]\mathcal{D}$  is our notation for the result of substituting  $t$  for the parameter  $a$  throughout the deduction  $\mathcal{D}$ . For this substitution to preserve the conclusion, we must know that  $a$  does not already occur in  $A$ . Similarly, we would change the assumptions if  $a$  occurred free in any of the undischarged hypotheses of  $\mathcal{D}$ . This might render a larger proof incorrect. As an example, consider the formula  $\forall x. \forall y. P(x) \supset P(y)$  which should clearly not be derivable for all predicates  $P$ . The

following is *not* a deduction of this formula.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{P(a)} u \\
 \frac{}{\forall x. P(x)} \forall I^a? \\
 \frac{}{P(b)} \forall E \\
 \frac{}{P(a) \supset P(b)} \supset I^u \\
 \frac{}{\forall y. P(a) \supset P(y)} \forall I^b \\
 \frac{}{\forall x. \forall y. P(x) \supset P(y)} \forall I^a
 \end{array}$$

The flaw is at the inference marked with “?”, where  $a$  is free in the assumption  $u$ . Applying a local proof reduction to the (incorrect)  $\forall I$  inference followed by  $\forall E$  leads to the the assumption  $[b/a]P(a)$  which is equal to  $P(b)$ . The resulting derivation

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{P(b)} u \\
 \frac{}{P(a) \supset P(b)} \supset I^u \\
 \frac{}{\forall y. P(a) \supset P(y)} \forall I^b \\
 \frac{}{\forall x. \forall y. P(x) \supset P(y)} \forall I^a
 \end{array}$$

is once again incorrect since the hypothesis labelled  $u$  should read  $P(a)$ , not  $P(b)$ .

**Existential Quantification.** To conclude that  $\exists x. A$  is true, we must know that there is a  $t$  such that  $[t/x]A$  is true. Thus,

$$\frac{[t/x]A}{\exists x. A} \exists I$$

When we have an assumption  $\exists x. A$  we do not know for which  $t$  it is the case that  $[t/x]A$  holds. We can only assume that  $[a/x]A$  holds for some parameter  $a$  about which we know nothing else. Thus the elimination rule resembles the one for disjunction.

$$\frac{\exists x. A \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{}{[a/x]A} u \\ \vdots \\ C \end{array}}{C} \exists E^{a,u}$$

The restriction is similar to the one for  $\forall I$ : the parameter  $a$  must be new, that is, it must not occur in  $\exists x. A$ ,  $C$ , or any assumption employed in the derivation of

the second premiss. In the reduction rule we have to perform two substitutions: we have to substitute  $t$  for the parameter  $a$  and we also have to substitute for the hypothesis labelled  $u$ .

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A} \exists I \quad \frac{\frac{\overline{[a/x]A}^u}{\mathcal{E}}}{C} \exists E^{a,u}}{C} \Rightarrow_L \frac{\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A} \frac{[t/a]\mathcal{E}}{C}^u$$

The proviso on occurrences of  $a$  guarantees that the conclusion and hypotheses of  $[t/a]\mathcal{E}$  have the correct form.

**Classical Logic.** The inference rules so far only model *intuitionistic logic*, and some classically true formulas such as  $A \vee \neg A$  (for an arbitrary  $A$ ) are not derivable (see Exercise 7.10). There are three commonly used ways one can construct a system of *classical natural deduction* by adding one additional rule of inference.  $\perp_C$  is called *Proof by Contradiction* or *Rule of Indirect Proof*,  $\neg\neg_C$  is the *Double Negation Rule*, and XM is referred to as *Excluded Middle*.

$$\frac{\frac{\overline{\neg A}^u}{\vdots} \perp}{A} \perp_C^u \quad \frac{\overline{\neg\neg A}}{A} \neg\neg_C \quad \frac{\overline{A \vee \neg A}}{} XM$$

The rule for classical logic (whichever one chooses to adopt) breaks the pattern of introduction and elimination rules. One can still formulate some reductions for classical inferences, but natural deduction is at heart an intuitionistic calculus. The symmetries of classical logic are much better exhibited in sequent formulations of the logic. In Exercise 7.2 we explore the three ways of extending the intuitionistic proof system and show that they are equivalent.

Here is a simple example of a natural deduction. We attempt to show the process by which such a deduction may have been generated, as well as the final deduction. The three vertical dots indicate a gap in the derivation we are trying to construct, with assumptions and their consequences shown above and the desired conclusion below the gap.

$$\frac{\frac{\vdots}{A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B} \quad \frac{\frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{\vdots} B}{A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B} \supset I^u}{A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B} \leadsto$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\frac{\frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{A} \wedge E_L}{\vdots} & \rightsquigarrow & \frac{\frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{A} \wedge E_L \quad \frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{A \supset B} \wedge E_R}{\vdots} \\
\frac{B}{A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B} \supset I^u & & \frac{B}{A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B} \supset I^u
\end{array}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{A \supset B} \wedge E_R \quad \frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{A} \wedge E_L}{B} \supset E}{\vdots} \supset I^u$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{A \supset B} \wedge E_R \quad \frac{\overline{A \wedge (A \supset B)}^u}{A} \wedge E_L}{B} \supset E}{A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B} \supset I^u$$

The symbols  $A$  and  $B$  in this derivation stand for arbitrary formulas; we can thus view the derivation generated below as being parametric in  $A$  and  $B$ . In other words, every instance of this derivation (replacing  $A$  and  $B$  by arbitrary formulas) is a valid derivation.

Below is a summary of the rules of intuitionistic natural deduction.

## Introduction Rules

$$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} \wedge \text{I}$$

$$\frac{A}{A \vee B} \vee \text{I}_L \quad \frac{B}{A \vee B} \vee \text{I}_R$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg u \\ A \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array}}{A \supset B} \supset \text{I}^u$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg u \\ A \\ \vdots \\ p \end{array}}{\neg A} \neg \text{I}^{p,u}$$

$$\frac{}{\top} \top \text{I}$$

$$\frac{[a/x]A}{\forall x. A} \forall \text{I}^*$$

$$\frac{[t/x]A}{\exists x. A} \exists \text{I}$$

## Elimination Rules

$$\frac{A \wedge B}{A} \wedge \text{E}_L \quad \frac{A \wedge B}{B} \wedge \text{E}_R$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{cc} \neg u_1 & \neg u_2 \\ A & B \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ A \vee B & C \end{array}}{C} \vee \text{E}^{u_1, u_2}$$

$$\frac{A \supset B \quad A}{B} \supset \text{E}$$

$$\frac{A \quad \neg A}{C} \neg \text{E}$$

$$\frac{}{C} \perp \text{E}$$

$$\frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall \text{E}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \overline{u} \\ [a/x]A \\ \vdots \\ C \end{array}}{\exists x. A \quad C} \exists \text{E}^{a,u}$$

## 7.2 Representation in LF

The LF logical framework and its implementation in Elf are ideally suited to the representation of natural deduction, and we will exploit a number of the encoding techniques we have encountered so far.

The representation of terms and formulas employs the idea of higher-order abstract syntax so that substitution and side-conditions on variable occurrences required for the inference rules can be expressed directly. Recall the basic principle of higher-order abstract syntax: represent object-level variables by meta-level variables. As a consequence, object-language constructs that bind variables are represented by meta-level constructs that also bind variables. Parameters play the role of variables in derivations and are thus also represented as variables in the meta-language. As in Section 3.2, we write the representation function as  $\ulcorner \cdot \urcorner$ . First, we declare the type of individuals (i) and the type of formulas (o).

i : type  
o : type

The structure of the domain of individuals is left open in the development of predicate logic. Commitment to, say, natural numbers then leads to a formalization of arithmetic. Our encoding reflects this approach: we do not specify that any particular individuals exist, but we can give the recipe by which function symbols can be added to our encoding. For every function symbol  $f$  of arity  $n$ , we add a corresponding declaration

$$f : \underbrace{i \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow i}_n \rightarrow i.$$

The representation of terms is then given by

$$\begin{aligned} \ulcorner x \urcorner &= x \\ \ulcorner a \urcorner &= a \\ \ulcorner f(t_1, \dots, t_n) \urcorner &= f \ulcorner t_1 \urcorner \dots \ulcorner t_n \urcorner. \end{aligned}$$

Note that each parameter  $a$  of predicate logic is mapped to an LF variable with the same name.

This kind of encoding takes advantage of the open-ended nature of signatures: we can always add further declarations without invalidating judgments made earlier. Predicate symbols are dealt with in a similar manner: The general recipe is to add a declaration

$$p : \underbrace{i \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow i}_n \rightarrow o$$

for every predicate symbol  $P$  of arity  $n$ . The representation function and the remaining declarations are then straightforward.

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 \ulcorner P(t_1, \dots, t_n) \urcorner & = & p \ulcorner t_1 \urcorner \dots \ulcorner t_n \urcorner & \\
 \ulcorner A_1 \wedge A_2 \urcorner & = & \text{and } \ulcorner A_1 \urcorner \ulcorner A_2 \urcorner & \text{and} \quad : \quad o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o \\
 \ulcorner A_1 \supset A_2 \urcorner & = & \text{imp } \ulcorner A_1 \urcorner \ulcorner A_2 \urcorner & \text{imp} \quad : \quad o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o \\
 \ulcorner A_1 \vee A_2 \urcorner & = & \text{or } \ulcorner A_1 \urcorner \ulcorner A_2 \urcorner & \text{or} \quad : \quad o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o \\
 \ulcorner \neg A \urcorner & = & \text{not } \ulcorner A \urcorner & \text{not} \quad : \quad o \rightarrow o \\
 \ulcorner \perp \urcorner & = & \text{false} & \text{false} \quad : \quad o \\
 \ulcorner \top \urcorner & = & \text{true} & \text{true} \quad : \quad o \\
 \ulcorner \forall x. A \urcorner & = & \text{forall } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) & \text{forall} \quad : \quad (i \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o \\
 \ulcorner \exists x. A \urcorner & = & \text{exists } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) & \text{exists} \quad : \quad (i \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o
 \end{array}$$

The formulation of an adequacy theorem for this representation is left to the reader (see Exercise 7.4). We only note the substitution property which holds due to the use of higher-order abstract syntax:

$$\ulcorner [t/x]A \urcorner = [\ulcorner t \urcorner/x] \ulcorner A \urcorner \equiv (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner t \urcorner.$$

The representation of the derivability judgment of natural deduction follows the schema of Chapter 5, since natural deduction makes essential use of parametric and hypothetical judgments. We introduce a type family  $\text{nd}$  that is indexed by a formula. The LF type  $\text{nd } \ulcorner A \urcorner$  is intended to represent the type of natural deductions of the formula  $A$ .

$$\text{nd} : o \rightarrow \text{type}$$

Each inference rule is represented by an LF constant which can be thought of as a function from a derivation of the premisses of the rule to a derivation of the conclusion. The constant must further be applied to the representation of the formulas participating in an inference in order to avoid possible ambiguities.

### Conjunction.

$$\frac{\ulcorner \begin{array}{cc} \mathcal{D} & \mathcal{E} \\ A & B \end{array} \urcorner}{A \wedge B} \wedge\text{I} = \text{andI } \ulcorner A \urcorner \ulcorner B \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{E} \urcorner$$

from which it follows that we declare

$$\text{andI} \quad : \quad \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \text{nd } A \rightarrow \text{nd } B \rightarrow \text{nd } (\text{and } A \ B).$$



For derivations ending in one of the two elimination rules we have the similarly obvious representations

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\Gamma}{\mathcal{D}}}{A \wedge B}}{A} \wedge E_L = \text{andel } \Gamma A^\top \Gamma B^\top \Gamma \mathcal{D}^\top$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\Gamma}{\mathcal{D}}}{A \wedge B}}{B} \wedge E_R = \text{ander } \Gamma A^\top \Gamma B^\top \Gamma \mathcal{D}^\top$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{andel} &: \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \text{nd } (\text{and } A \ B) \rightarrow \text{nd } A \\ \text{ander} &: \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \text{nd } (\text{and } A \ B) \rightarrow \text{nd } B \end{aligned}$$

**Implication.** The introduction rule for implication is somewhat less straightforward, since it employs a hypothetical judgment. The derivation of the hypothetical judgment in the premiss is represented as a function which, when applied to a derivation of  $A$ , yields a derivation of  $B$ .

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\Gamma}{\neg u}}{A} \mathcal{D}}{A \supset B} \supset I^u = \text{impi } \Gamma A^\top \Gamma B^\top (\lambda u. \text{nd } \Gamma A^\top. \Gamma \mathcal{D}^\top)$$

The assumption  $A$  labelled by  $u$  which may be used in the derivaton  $\mathcal{D}$  is represented by the LF variable  $u$  which ranges over derivations of  $A$ .

$$\frac{\Gamma}{\neg u} = u$$

The elimination rule is simpler, since it does not involve a hypothetical judgment. The representation of a derivation ending in the elimination rule is defined by

$$\frac{\frac{\Gamma}{A \supset B} \mathcal{D} \quad \frac{\Gamma}{A} \mathcal{E}}{B} \supset E = \text{impe } \Gamma A^\top \Gamma B^\top \Gamma \mathcal{D}^\top \Gamma \mathcal{E}^\top$$

where

$$\text{impe} \quad : \quad \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \text{nd} (\text{imp } A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow \text{nd } A \rightarrow \text{nd } B.$$

As an example which requires only conjunction and implication, consider the derivation of  $A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B$  from Page 215:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{A \wedge (A \supset B)} u}{A \supset B} \wedge E_R \quad \frac{\frac{}{A \wedge (A \supset B)} u}{A} \wedge E_L}{B} \supset E \quad \frac{}{A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B} \supset I^u$$

This derivation is represented by the LF object

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{impi} (\text{and } \ulcorner A \urcorner (\text{imp } \ulcorner A \urcorner \ulcorner B \urcorner)) \ulcorner B \urcorner \\ & (\lambda u:\text{nd} (\text{and } \ulcorner A \urcorner (\text{imp } \ulcorner A \urcorner \ulcorner B \urcorner)). \\ & (\text{impe } \ulcorner A \urcorner \ulcorner B \urcorner \\ & (\text{ander } \ulcorner A \urcorner (\text{imp } \ulcorner A \urcorner \ulcorner B \urcorner) u) \\ & (\text{andel } \ulcorner A \urcorner (\text{imp } \ulcorner A \urcorner \ulcorner B \urcorner) u))) \end{aligned}$$

which has type

$$\text{nd} (\text{imp} (\text{and } \ulcorner A \urcorner (\text{imp } \ulcorner A \urcorner \ulcorner B \urcorner)) \ulcorner B \urcorner).$$

This example shows clearly some redundancies in the representation of the deduction (there are many occurrence of  $\ulcorner A \urcorner$  and  $\ulcorner B \urcorner$ ). The Elf implementation of natural deduction in Section 7.3 eliminates some of these redundancies.

**Disjunction.** The representation of the introduction and elimination rules for disjunction employ the same techniques as we have seen above.

$$\frac{A}{A \vee B} \vee I_L \quad \frac{B}{A \vee B} \vee I_R \quad \frac{A \vee B \quad \frac{\frac{}{A} u_1 \quad \frac{}{B} u_2}{\vdots} \quad \frac{}{C} \vee E^{u_1, u_2}}{C}$$

The corresponding LF constants:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{orl} & : \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \text{nd } A \rightarrow \text{nd} (\text{or } A \rightarrow B) \\ \text{orir} & : \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \text{nd } B \rightarrow \text{nd} (\text{or } A \rightarrow B) \\ \text{ore} & : \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \Pi C:o. \\ & \quad \text{nd} (\text{or } A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\text{nd } A \rightarrow \text{nd } C) \rightarrow (\text{nd } B \rightarrow \text{nd } C) \rightarrow \text{nd } C. \end{aligned}$$

**Negation.** The introduction and elimination rules for negation and their representation follow the pattern of the rules for implication.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg u \\ A \\ \vdots \\ p \\ \hline \neg A \end{array} \neg I^{p,u}}{\quad} \quad \frac{\neg A \quad A}{C} \neg E$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{noti} & : \quad \Pi A:o. (\Pi p:o. \text{nd } A \rightarrow \text{nd } p) \rightarrow \text{nd } (\text{not } A) \\ \text{note} & : \quad \Pi A:o. \text{nd } (\text{not } A) \rightarrow \Pi C:o. \text{nd } A \rightarrow \text{nd } C \end{array}$$

**Truth.** There is only an introduction rule, which is easily represented. We have

$$\frac{\ulcorner \quad \urcorner}{\top} \top I = \text{truei}$$

where

$$\text{truei} \quad : \quad \text{nd } (\text{true}).$$

**Falsehood.** There is only an elimination rule, which is easily represented. We have

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \ulcorner \quad \urcorner \\ \mathcal{D} \\ \perp \\ \hline C \end{array} \perp E}{\quad} = \text{falsee } \ulcorner C \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner$$

where

$$\text{falsee} \quad : \quad \Pi C:o. \text{nd } (\text{false}) \rightarrow \text{nd } C.$$

**Universal Quantification.** The introduction rule for the universal quantifier employs a parametric judgment and the elimination rule employs substitution.

$$\frac{[a/x]A}{\forall x. A} \forall I^a \quad \frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall E$$

The side condition on  $\forall I$  states that the parameter  $a$  must be “new”. In the spirit of Chapter 5 the derivation of a parametric judgment will be represented as a function of the parameter. Recall that  $\ulcorner \forall x. A \urcorner = \text{forall } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner)$ .

$$\frac{\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner}{\frac{[a/x]A}{\forall x. A} \forall I^a} = \text{foralli } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) (\lambda a.i. \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner)$$

Note that  $\ulcorner A \urcorner$ , the representation of  $A$ , has a free variable  $x$  which must be bound in the meta-language, so that the representing object does not have a free variable  $x$ . This representation determines the type of the constant `foralli`.

$$\text{foralli} : \Pi A:i \rightarrow o. (\Pi a:i. \text{nd } (A \ a)) \rightarrow \text{nd } (\text{forall } A)$$

In an application of this constant, the argument labelled  $A$  will be  $\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner$  and  $(A \ a)$  will be  $(\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ a$  which is equivalent to  $[a/x]\ulcorner A \urcorner$  which in turn is equivalent to  $\ulcorner [a/x]A \urcorner$  by the substitution property on Page 218.

The elimination rule does not employ a hypothetical judgment.

$$\frac{\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner}{\frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall E} = \text{forallle } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \ulcorner t \urcorner$$

The substitution of  $t$  for  $x$  in  $A$  is representation by the application of the function  $(\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner)$  (the first argument of `forallle`) to  $\ulcorner t \urcorner$ .

$$\text{forallle} : \Pi A:i \rightarrow o. \text{nd } (\text{forall } A) \rightarrow \Pi t:i. \text{nd } (A \ t)$$

We now check that

$$\frac{\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner}{\frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall E} : \text{nd } \ulcorner [t/x]A \urcorner,$$

assuming that  $\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner : \text{nd } \ulcorner \forall x. A \urcorner$ . This would be an important part in the proof of adequacy of this representation of natural deductions. First we note that the arguments have the expected types and find that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{forallle} & : \Pi A:i \rightarrow o. \text{nd } (\text{forall } A) \rightarrow \Pi t:i. \text{nd } (A \ t) \\ \text{forallle } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) & : \text{nd } (\text{forall } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner)) \rightarrow \Pi t:i. \text{nd } ((\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ t) \\ \text{forallle } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner & : \Pi t:i. \text{nd } ((\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ t) \\ \text{forallle } (\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \ulcorner t \urcorner & : \text{nd } ((\lambda x.i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner t \urcorner). \end{aligned}$$

Now we have to recall the rule of type conversion for LF (see Section 3.8)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : A \quad A \equiv B \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} M : B} \text{conv}$$

and note that

$$(\lambda x:i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner t \urcorner \equiv [\ulcorner t \urcorner/x] \ulcorner A \urcorner$$

by  $\beta$ -conversion. Furthermore, by the substitution property for the representation we have

$$[\ulcorner t \urcorner/x] \ulcorner A \urcorner = \ulcorner [t/x]A \urcorner$$

which yields the desired

$$\text{for all } (\lambda x:i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \ulcorner t \urcorner : \text{nd } (\ulcorner [t/x]A \urcorner).$$

**Existential Quantification.** The representation techniques are the same we used for universal quantification: parametric and hypothetical derivations are represented as LF functions.

$$\frac{\frac{\ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner}{[t/x]A} \exists \text{I}}{\exists x. A} = \text{existsi } (\lambda x:i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner t \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\ulcorner u \urcorner}{[a/x]A} \mathcal{D}}{C} \exists \text{E}^{a,u}}{\exists x. A} = \text{existse } (\lambda x:i. \ulcorner A \urcorner) \ulcorner C \urcorner (\lambda a:i. \lambda u:\text{nd } \ulcorner [a/x]A \urcorner. \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{existsi} & : \Pi A:i \rightarrow \text{o. } \Pi t:i. \text{nd } (A \ t) \rightarrow \text{nd } (\text{exists } A) \\ \text{existse} & : \Pi A:i \rightarrow \text{o. } \Pi C:\text{o. nd } (\text{exists } A) \rightarrow (\Pi a:i. \text{nd } (A \ a) \rightarrow \text{nd } C) \rightarrow \text{nd } C. \end{aligned}$$

Once again, we will not formally state or prove the adequacy theorem for this encoding. We only mention the three substitution properties which will be important in the formalization of reduction in the next section.

$$\ulcorner [t/a]\mathcal{D} \urcorner = [\ulcorner t \urcorner/a] \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \quad \text{and} \quad \ulcorner [C/p]\mathcal{D} \urcorner = [\ulcorner C \urcorner/p] \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \quad \text{and} \quad \ulcorner [\mathcal{E}/u]\mathcal{D} \urcorner = [\ulcorner \mathcal{E} \urcorner/u] \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner.$$

Each of the rules that may be added to obtain classical logic can be easily represented with the techniques from above. They are left as Exercise 7.7.

### 7.3 Implementation in Elf

In this section we summarize the LF encoding of natural deduction from the previous section as an Elf signature, and also give the representation of the local reduction rules from Section 7.1. We will make a few cosmetic changes that reflect common Elf programming practice. The first is the use of infix and prefix notation in the use of the logical connectives. According to our conventions, conjunction, disjunction, and implication are all right associative, and conjunction and disjunction bind stronger than implication. Negation is treated as a prefix operator binding tighter than the binary connectives. For example,

$$A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset \neg B \supset C$$

is the same formula as

$$(A \wedge (A \supset B)) \supset ((\neg B) \supset C).$$

As an arbitrary baseline in the pragmas below we pick a binding strength of 10 for implication.

```
i : type. % individuals
o : type. % formulas
%name i T S
%name o A B C

and   : o -> o -> o. %infix right 11 and
imp   : o -> o -> o. %infix right 10 imp
or    : o -> o -> o. %infix right 11 or
not   : o -> o.      %prefix 12 not
true  : o.
false : o.
forall : (i -> o) -> o.
exists : (i -> o) -> o.
```

The `%name` declarations instruct Elf's printing routines to prefer names `T` and `S` for unnamed variables of type `i`, and names `A`, `B`, and `C` for unnamed variables of type `o`. This serves to improve the readability of Elf's output.

The second simplification in the concrete presentation is to leave some  $\Pi$ -quantifiers implicit. The type reconstruction algorithm always interprets free variables in a declaration as a schematic variables (which are therefore implicitly  $\Pi$ -quantified) and determines their type from the context in which they appear.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>[*pointer to full discussion*]

```

nd : o -> type. % proofs
%name nd D E

andi    : nd A -> nd B -> nd (A and B).
andel   : nd (A and B) -> nd A.
ander   : nd (A and B) -> nd B.

impi    : (nd A -> nd B) -> nd (A imp B).
impe    : nd (A imp B) -> nd A -> nd B.

oril    : nd A -> nd (A or B).
orir    : nd B -> nd (A or B).
ore     : nd (A or B) -> (nd A -> nd C) -> (nd B -> nd C) -> nd C.

noti    : ({p:o} nd A -> nd p) -> nd (not A).
note    : nd (not A) -> {C:o} nd A -> nd C.

truei   : nd (true).

falsee  : nd (false) -> nd C.

foralli : ({a:i} nd (A a)) -> nd (forall A).
foralle : nd (forall A) -> {T:i} nd (A T).

existsi : {T:i} nd (A T) -> nd (exists A).
existse : nd (exists A) -> ({a:i} nd (A a) -> nd C) -> nd C.

```

As a consequence of omitting the quantifiers on some variables in these declarations, the corresponding arguments to the constants also have to be omitted. For example, in the input language the constant `andi` now appears to take only two arguments (the representation of the derivations of `A` and `B`), rather than four like the LF constant

$$\text{andi} : \Pi A:o. \Pi B:o. \text{nd } A \rightarrow \text{nd } B \rightarrow \text{nd } (\text{and } A \ B).$$

The type reconstruction algorithm will determine the two remaining implicit arguments from context. The derivation of  $A \wedge (A \supset B) \supset B$  from Page 220 has this very concise Elf representation:

```
impi [u:nd (A and (A imp B))] (impe (ander u) (andel u))
```

where `A` and `B` are free variables of type `o`. The use of variable `A` and `B` indicates the generic nature of this derivation: we can substitute any two objects of type `o` for `A`

and  $B$  and still obtain the representation of a valid derivation. Incidentally, in this example the type of  $u$  is also redundant and could also have been omitted.

Next we turn to the local reduction judgment

$$\mathcal{D} :: \vdash A \implies_L \mathcal{D}' :: \vdash A.$$

We used this judgment to check that the introduction and elimination rules for each logical connective and quantifier match up. This higher-level judgment relates derivations of the same formula  $A$ . We have already seen such judgments in Section 3.7 and subsequent representations of meta-theoretic proofs. The representing LF type family would be declared as

```
redl  :  ΠA:o. nd A → nd A → type.
```

We will not show this representation in pure LF, but immediately give its concrete syntax in Elf.

```
==>L : nd A -> nd A -> type.  %infix none 14 ==>L
%name ==>L L
```

Note that the quantifier over  $A$  is once again implicit and that  $==>L$  must be read as one symbol.

**Conjunction.** The local reductions have the form

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}}{A \wedge B} \wedge I \implies_L \frac{\frac{A \wedge B}{A} \wedge E_L}{A} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{A}$$

and symmetrically

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}}{A \wedge B} \wedge I \implies_L \frac{\frac{A \wedge B}{B} \wedge E_R}{B} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}.$$

Because of type reconstruction, we can omit the formulas entirely from the straightforward representations of these two rules.

```
redl_andl  : (andel (andi D E)) ==>L D.
redl_andr  : (ander (andi D E)) ==>L E.
```



**Implication.** This reduction involves a substitution of a derivation for an assumption.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{A} \quad \mathcal{D}}{B} \supset I^u \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{A}}{B} \supset E \quad \Longrightarrow_L \quad \frac{\frac{\mathcal{E}}{A} \quad u}{\mathcal{D}} \quad B$$

The representation of the left-hand side in Elf is

`(impe (impi D) E)`

where  $E = \ulcorner \mathcal{E} \urcorner$  and  $D = \lambda u. \text{nd } \ulcorner A \urcorner. \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner$ . The derivation on the right-hand side can be written more succinctly as  $[\mathcal{E}/u]\mathcal{D}$ . The substitution property for derivations (see Page 7.2) yields

$$\ulcorner [\mathcal{E}/u]\mathcal{D} \urcorner = \ulcorner \mathcal{E} \urcorner / u \urcorner \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner \equiv (\lambda u. \text{nd } \ulcorner A \urcorner. \ulcorner \mathcal{D} \urcorner) \ulcorner \mathcal{E} \urcorner.$$

Thus the representation of the right-hand side will be  $\beta$ -equivalent to `(D E)` and we formulate the rule as

`redl_imp` : `(impe (impi D) E) ==>L (D E)`.

**Disjunction.** The two reductions for disjunction introduction followed by elimination are

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{\overline{u_1}}{A} \quad \frac{\overline{u_2}}{B}}{\frac{A \vee B}{C} \vee I_L \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}_1 \quad \mathcal{E}_2}{C} \vee E^{u_1, u_2}} \Longrightarrow_L \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{u_1}{\mathcal{E}_1} \quad C$$

and

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{B} \quad \frac{\overline{u_1}}{A} \quad \frac{\overline{u_2}}{B}}{\frac{A \vee B}{C} \vee I_R \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}_1 \quad \mathcal{E}_2}{C} \vee E^{u_1, u_2}} \Longrightarrow_L \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{B} \quad \frac{u_2}{\mathcal{E}_2} \quad C$$

Their representation follows the pattern from the previous case to model the substitution of derivations.

`redl_orl` : `(ore (oril D) E1 E2) ==>L (E1 D)`.  
`redl_orr` : `(ore (orir D) E1 E2) ==>L (E2 D)`.

**Negation.** This is similar to implication.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\neg u}{A} \mathcal{D}}{p} \neg I^{p,u} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{A}}{\frac{\neg A}{C} \neg E} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{A} \Rightarrow_L \frac{\frac{\mathcal{E}}{A} u}{[C/p]\mathcal{D}} \frac{A}{C}$$

`redl_not` : (note (noti D) C E) ==>L (D C E).

**Universal Quantification.** The universal introduction rule involves a parametric judgment. Consequently, the substitution to be carried out during reduction replaces a parameter by a term.

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[a/x]A} \forall I^a}{\frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall E} \Rightarrow_L \frac{[t/a]\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A}$$

In the representation we exploit the first part of the substitution property for derivations (see page 223):

$$\lceil [t/a]\mathcal{D} \rceil = [\lceil t \rceil / a] \lceil \mathcal{D} \rceil \equiv (\lambda a.i. \lceil \mathcal{D} \rceil) \lceil t \rceil.$$

This gives rise to the declaration

`redl_forall` : (forall (foralli D) T) ==>L (D T).

**Existential Quantification.** This involves both a parametric and hypothetical judgments, and we combine the techniques used for implication and universal quantification.

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A} \exists I \quad \frac{\frac{\overline{[a/x]A} u}{\mathcal{E}} C}{\frac{\exists x. A}{C} \exists E^{a,u}} \Rightarrow_L \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A} u}{[t/a]\mathcal{E}} \frac{A}{C}$$

The crucial equations for the adequacy of the encoding below are

$$\lceil [D/u][t/a]\mathcal{E} \rceil = [\lceil \mathcal{D} \rceil / u] [\lceil t \rceil / a] \lceil \mathcal{E} \rceil \equiv (\lambda a.i. \lambda u. \text{nd } \lceil [a/x]A \rceil. \lceil \mathcal{E} \rceil) \lceil t \rceil \lceil \mathcal{D} \rceil.$$

`redl_exists` : (existse (existsi T D) E) ==>L (E T D).

## 7.4 The Curry-Howard Isomorphism

The basic judgment of the system of natural deduction is the derivability of a formula  $A$ , written as  $\vdash A$ . If we wish to make the derivation explicit we write  $\mathcal{D} :: \vdash A$ . It has been noted by Howard [How80] that there is a strong correspondence between the (intuitionistic) derivations  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\lambda$ -terms. The formulas  $A$  then act as types classifying those  $\lambda$ -terms. In the propositional case, this correspondence is an isomorphism: formulas are isomorphic to types and derivations are isomorphic to simply-typed  $\lambda$ -terms. These isomorphisms are often called the *propositions-as-types* and *proofs-as-programs* paradigms.

If we stopped at this observation, we would have obtained only a fresh interpretation of familiar deductive systems, but we would not be any closer to the goal of providing a language for reasoning about properties of programs. However, the correspondences can be extended to first-order and higher-order logics. Interpreting first-order (or higher-order) formulas as types yields a significant increase in expressive power of the type system. However, maintaining an isomorphism during the generalization to first-order logic is somewhat unnatural and cumbersome. One might expect that a proof contains more information than the corresponding program. Thus the literature often talks about *extracting programs from proofs* or *contracting proofs to programs*.

The first step will be to introduce a notation for derivations to be carried along in deductions. For example, if  $M$  represents a proof of  $A$  and  $N$  represents a proof of  $B$ , then the pair  $\langle M, N \rangle$  can be seen as a representation of the proof of  $A \wedge B$  by  $\wedge$ -introduction. We write  $M :: A$  to express the judgment  *$M$  is a proof term for  $A$* . We also repeat the local reductions from the previous section in the new notation.

**Conjunction.** The proof term for a conjunction is simply the pair of proofs of the premisses.

$$\frac{M :: A \quad N :: B}{\langle M, N \rangle :: A \wedge B} \wedge I \qquad \frac{M :: A \wedge B}{\mathbf{fst} M :: A} \wedge E_L \qquad \frac{M :: A \wedge B}{\mathbf{snd} M :: B} \wedge E_R$$

The local reductions now lead to two obvious local reductions of the proof terms.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{fst} \langle M, N \rangle &\longrightarrow_L M \\ \mathbf{snd} \langle M, N \rangle &\longrightarrow_L N \end{aligned}$$

**Implication.** The proof of an implication  $A \supset B$  will be represented by a function which maps proofs of  $A$  to proofs of  $B$ . The introduction rule explicitly forms such a function by  $\lambda$ -abstraction and the elimination rule applies the function to an

argument.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{u : \cdot A} \quad u'}{\vdots} \quad M : \cdot B}{(\lambda u:A. M) : \cdot A \supset B} \supset I^{u,u'} \quad \frac{M : \cdot A \supset B \quad N : \cdot A}{M N : \cdot B} \supset E$$

The binding of the variable  $u$  in the conclusion of  $\supset I$  correctly models the intuition that the hypothesis is discharged and not available outside deduction of the premiss. The abstraction is labelled with the proposition  $A$  so that we can later show that the proof term uniquely determines a natural deduction. If  $A$  were not given then, for example,  $\lambda u. u$  would be ambiguous and serve as a proof term for  $A \supset A$  for any formula  $A$ . The local reduction rule is  $\beta$ -reduction.

$$(\lambda u:A. M) N \longrightarrow_L [N/u]M$$

Here bound variables in  $M$  that are free in  $N$  must be renamed in order to avoid variable capture.

**Disjunction.** The proof term for disjunction introduction is the proof of the premiss together with an indication whether it was inferred by introduction on the left or on the right. We also annotate the proof term with the formula which did not occur in the premiss so that a proof term always proves exactly one proposition.

$$\frac{M : \cdot A}{\mathbf{inl}^B M : \cdot A \vee B} \vee I_L \quad \frac{N : \cdot B}{\mathbf{inr}^A N : \cdot A \vee B} \vee I_R$$

The elimination rule corresponds to a case construction.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{u_1 : \cdot A} \quad u'_1}{\vdots} \quad M : \cdot A \vee B \quad N_1 : \cdot C \quad \frac{\overline{u_2 : \cdot B} \quad u'_2}{\vdots} \quad N_2 : \cdot C}{(\mathbf{case} M \mathbf{of} \mathbf{inl} u_1 \Rightarrow N_1 \mid \mathbf{inr} u_2 \Rightarrow N_2) : \cdot C} \vee E^{u_1, u_2, u'_1, u'_2}$$

Since the variables  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  label assumptions, the corresponding proof term variables are *bound* in  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ , respectively. The two reduction rules now also look like rules of computation in a  $\lambda$ -calculus.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{case} \mathbf{inl}^B M \mathbf{of} \mathbf{inl} u_1 \Rightarrow N_1 \mid \mathbf{inr} u_2 \Rightarrow N_2 &\longrightarrow_L [M/u_1]N_1 \\ \mathbf{case} \mathbf{inr}^A M \mathbf{of} \mathbf{inl} u_1 \Rightarrow N_1 \mid \mathbf{inr} u_2 \Rightarrow N_2 &\longrightarrow_L [M/u_2]N_2 \end{aligned}$$

The substitution of a deduction for a hypothesis is represented by the substitution of a proof term for a variable.

**Negation.** This is similar to implication. Since the premise of the rule is parametric in  $p$  the corresponding proof constructor must bind a propositional variable  $p$ , indicated by  $\mu^p$ . Similar, the elimination construct must record the formula so we can substitute for  $p$  in the reduction. This is indicated as a subscript in  $\cdot_C$ .

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{u} : \cdot A}{u : \cdot A} u' \quad \vdots \quad M : \cdot p}{\mu^p u : A. M : \cdot \neg A} \neg I^{p, u, u'} \quad \frac{M : \cdot \neg A \quad N : \cdot A}{M \cdot_C N : \cdot C} \neg E$$

The reduction performs formula and proof term substitutions.

$$(\mu^p u : A. M) \cdot_C N \longrightarrow_L [N/u][C/p]M$$

**Truth.** The proof term for  $\top I$  is written  $\langle \rangle$ .

$$\frac{}{\langle \rangle : \cdot \top} \top I$$

Of course, there is no reduction rule.

**Absurdity.** Here we need to annotate the proof term **abort** with the formula being proved to avoid ambiguity.

$$\frac{M : \cdot \perp}{\mathbf{abort}^C M : \cdot C} \perp E$$

Again, there is no reduction rule.

In summary, we have

Terms	$M ::= u$	<i>Hypotheses</i>
	$  \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle   \mathbf{fst} M   \mathbf{snd} M$	<i>Conjunction</i>
	$  \lambda u : A. M   M_1 M_2$	<i>Implication</i>
	$  \mathbf{inl}^A M   \mathbf{inr}^A M$	<i>Disjunction</i>
	$  (\mathbf{case} M_1 \mathbf{of} \mathbf{inl} u_1 \Rightarrow M_2   \mathbf{inr} u_1 \Rightarrow M_3)$	
	$  \mu^p u : A. M   M \cdot_C N$	<i>Negation</i>
	$  \langle \rangle$	<i>Truth</i>
	$  \mathbf{abort}^A M$	<i>Falsehood</i>

and the reduction rules

$$\begin{array}{llll}
\pi_1 & \mathbf{fst} \langle M, N \rangle & \longrightarrow_L & M \\
\pi_2 & \mathbf{snd} \langle M, N \rangle & \longrightarrow_L & N \\
\beta & (\lambda u:A. M) N & \longrightarrow_L & [N/u]M \\
\rho_1 & \mathbf{case} \mathbf{inl}^B M \mathbf{of} \mathbf{inl} u_1 \Rightarrow N_1 \mid \mathbf{inr} u_2 \Rightarrow N_2 & \longrightarrow_L & [M/u_1]N_1 \\
\rho_2 & \mathbf{case} \mathbf{inr}^A M \mathbf{of} \mathbf{inl} u_1 \Rightarrow N_1 \mid \mathbf{inr} u_2 \Rightarrow N_2 & \longrightarrow_L & [M/u_2]N_2 \\
\mu & (\mu^p u:A. M) \cdot_C N & \longrightarrow_L & [N/u][C/p]M
\end{array}$$

We can now see that the formulas act as types for proof terms. Shifting to the usual presentation of the typed  $\lambda$ -calculus we use  $\tau$  and  $\sigma$  as symbols for types, and  $\tau \times \sigma$  for the product type,  $\tau \rightarrow \sigma$  for the function type,  $\tau + \sigma$  for the disjoint sum type,  $1$  for the unit type and  $0$  for the empty or void type. Base types  $b$  remain unspecified, just as the basic propositions of the propositional calculus remain unspecified. Types and propositions then correspond to each other as indicated below.

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
\text{Types} & \tau & ::= \quad b \quad \mid \quad \tau_1 \times \tau_2 \quad \mid \quad \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \quad \mid \quad \tau_1 + \tau_2 \quad \mid \quad 1 \quad \mid \quad 0 \\
\text{Propositions} & A & ::= \quad p \quad \mid \quad A_1 \wedge A_2 \quad \mid \quad A_1 \supset A_2 \quad \mid \quad A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \mid \quad \top \quad \mid \quad \perp
\end{array}$$

We omit here the negation type which is typically not used in functional programming and thus does not have a well-known counterpart. We can  $\neg A$  as corresponding to  $\tau \rightarrow 0$ , where  $\tau$  corresponds to  $A$  (see Exercise ??). In addition to the terms, shown above, the current set of hypotheses which are available in a subdeduction are usually made explicit in a *context*  $\Gamma$ . These are simply a list of variables with their types. We assume that no variable is declared twice in a context.

$$\text{Contexts} \quad \Gamma \quad ::= \quad \cdot \mid \Gamma, u:A$$

We omit the  $\cdot$  at the beginning of a context or to the left of the typing judgment. The typing rules for the  $\lambda$ -calculus are the rules for natural deduction under a shift of notation and with explicit contexts. The typing judgment has the form

$$\Gamma \triangleright M : \tau \quad M \text{ has type } \tau \text{ in context } \Gamma$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \triangleright M : \tau \quad \Gamma \triangleright N : \sigma}{\Gamma \triangleright \langle M, N \rangle : \tau \times \sigma} \text{pair} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \triangleright M : \tau \times \sigma}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{fst} M : \tau} \text{fst} \quad \frac{\Gamma \triangleright M : \tau \times \sigma}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{snd} M : \sigma} \text{snd} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, u:\tau \triangleright M : \sigma}{\Gamma \triangleright (\lambda u:\tau. M) : \tau \rightarrow \sigma} \text{lam} \quad \frac{u : \tau \text{ in } \Gamma}{\Gamma \triangleright u : \tau} \text{var} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \triangleright M : \tau \rightarrow \sigma \quad \Gamma \triangleright N : \tau}{\Gamma \triangleright M N : \sigma} \text{app} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \triangleright M : \tau}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{inl}^\sigma M : \tau + \sigma} \text{inl} \quad \frac{\Gamma \triangleright N : \sigma}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{inr}^\tau N : \tau + \sigma} \text{inr} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \triangleright M : \tau + \sigma \quad \Gamma, u:\tau \triangleright N_1 : \nu \quad \Gamma, u:\sigma \triangleright N_2 : \nu}{\Gamma \triangleright (\mathbf{case} M \text{ of } \mathbf{inl} u_1 \Rightarrow N_1 \mid \mathbf{inr} u_2 \Rightarrow N_2) : \nu} \text{case} \\
\\
\frac{}{\Gamma \triangleright \langle \rangle : 1} \text{unit} \quad \frac{\Gamma \triangleright M : 0}{\Gamma \triangleright \mathbf{abort}^\nu M : \nu} \text{abort}
\end{array}$$

## 7.5 Generalization to First-Order Arithmetic

We have not yet made the connection between local reduction and computation in a functional programming language. Before we examine this relationship, we investigate how the Curry-Howard isomorphism might be generalized to first-order arithmetic. This involves two principal steps: one to account for quantifiers, and one to account for natural numbers and proofs by induction. The natural numbers here stand in for arbitrary *inductively defined datatypes*, which are beyond the scope of these notes. We begin by generalizing to first-order logic, that is, without any particular built-in datatype such as the natural numbers.

**Terms and Atomic Formulas.** A well-formed first-order term  $f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  where  $f$  is an  $n$ -ary function symbol corresponds to the application  $f t_1 \dots t_n$ , where  $f$  has been declared to be a constant of type  $i \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow i$ . In the propositional case, atomic formulas are drawn from some basic propositions and propositional variables. In first-order logic, well-formed atomic formulas have the form  $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ , where  $P$  is an  $n$ -ary predicate. This corresponds directly to the familiar notion of a *type family*  $p$  indexed by terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ , all of type  $i$ . In summary: under the Curry-Howard isomorphism, predicates correspond to type families.

**Universal Quantification.** Recall the introduction and elimination rules for universal quantification:

$$\frac{[a/x]A}{\forall x. A} \forall I^a \qquad \frac{\forall x. A}{[t/x]A} \forall E$$

where  $a$  is a new parameter. This suggests that the proof term should be a function which, when given a well-formed first-order term  $t$  returns a proof of  $[t/x]A$ . It is exactly this reading of the introduction rule for  $\forall$  that motivated its representation in LF. The elimination rule then applies this function to the argument  $t$ . This reasoning yields the following formulation of the rules with explicit proof terms.

$$\frac{[a/x]M : \cdot [a/x]A}{(\lambda x:i. M) : \cdot \forall x. A} \forall I \qquad \frac{M : \cdot \forall x. A}{M t : \cdot [t/x]A} \forall E$$

This formulation glosses over that we ought to check that  $t$  is actually well-formed, that is, has type  $i$ . Similarly, we may need the assumption that  $a$  is of type  $i$  while deriving the premiss of the introduction rule. This leads to the following versions.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{a : i} u \\ \vdots \\ [a/x]M : \cdot [a/x]A \end{array}}{(\lambda x:i. M) : \cdot \forall x. A} \forall I^{a,u} \qquad \frac{M : \cdot \forall x. A \quad t : i}{M t : \cdot [t/x]A} \forall E$$

It has now become apparent, that we have *not* unified the notions of propositions and types: these rules employ a typing judgment  $t : i$  as well as a proof term judgment  $M : \cdot A$ . The restriction of the universal quantifier to terms of type  $i$  is quite artificial from the point of view of the Curry-Howard isomorphism. If we drop this distinction and further eliminate the distinction between variables and parameters we obtain the rules for abstraction and application in the LF type theory, written in the style of natural deduction rather than with an explicit context.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{x : B} u \\ \vdots \\ M : A \end{array}}{(\lambda x:B. M) : \forall x:B. A} \forall I^{x,u} \qquad \frac{M : \forall x:B. A \quad N : B}{M N : [N/x]A} \forall E$$

Thus the universal quantifier corresponds to a dependent function type constructor  $\Pi$  under a modified Curry-Howard isomorphism. Following this line of development to its logical conclusion leads to a type theory in the tradition of Martin-Löf. Thompson [Tho91] provides a good introduction to this complex subject. We will



only return to it briefly when discussing the existential quantifier below; instead we pursue an alternative whereby we *contract* proofs to programs rather than insisting on an isomorphism.

The local reduction rule for the universal quantifier

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[a/x]A} \forall I}{\forall x. A} \forall E}{[t/x]A} \Longrightarrow_L \frac{[t/a]\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A}$$

corresponds to  $\beta$ -reduction on the proof terms.

$$(\lambda x:i. M) t \longrightarrow_L [t/x]M$$

The language of proof terms now has two forms of abstraction: abstraction over individuals (which yields proof terms for universal formulas) and abstraction over proof terms (which yields proof terms for implications). In a type theory such as LF, these are identified and the latter is seen as a special case of the former where there is no dependency (see Exercise 3.9).

**Existential Quantification.** The proof term for existential introduction must record both the *witness* term  $t$  and the proof term for  $[t/x]A$ . That is, we have

$$\frac{[t/x]A}{\exists x. A} \exists I \qquad \frac{M : \cdot [t/x]A}{\langle t, M \rangle : \cdot \exists x. A} \exists I$$

In the type-theoretic version of this rule, we generalize the existential quantifier to range over arbitrary types, and we must check that the witness has the requested type.

$$\frac{N : B \quad M : [N/x]A}{\langle N, M \rangle : \exists x:B. A} \exists I$$

In analogy to the dependent function type, the existential forms a type for dependent pairs: the *type* of the second component  $M$  depends on the first component  $N$ . This is referred to as a *sum type* or  $\Sigma$ -type, since it is most commonly written as  $\Sigma x:A. B$ . There are some variations on the sum type, depending on how one can access the components of its elements, that is, depending on the form of the elimination rule. If we directly equip the logical elimination rule

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{[a/x]A} \vdots}{\exists x. A} C}{C} \exists E^{a,u}$$

with proof objects we obtain a **case** construct for pairs (with only one branch).

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{u : \cdot [a/x]A} u' \\ \vdots \\ M : \cdot \exists x. A \quad [a/x]N : \cdot C \end{array}}{(\text{case } M \text{ of } \langle x, u \rangle \Rightarrow N) : \cdot C} \exists E^{a,u,u'}$$

Here,  $x$  and  $u$  are bound in  $N$  which reflects that the right premiss of the existential elimination rule is parametric in  $a$  and  $u$ . In type theory, this construct is sometimes called **split** or **spread**. The local proof reduction

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A}}{\exists x. A} \exists I \quad \frac{\frac{[a/x]A}{\mathcal{E}} u}{C} \exists E^{a,u}}{C} \Rightarrow_L \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{[t/x]A} u}{\frac{[t/a]\mathcal{E}}{C}}$$

translates to the expected reduction rule on proof terms

$$\text{case } \langle t, M \rangle \text{ of } \langle x, u \rangle \Rightarrow N \longrightarrow_L [t/x][M/u]N.$$

The language of proof terms now has two different forms of pairs: those that pair a first-order term with a proof term (which form proof terms of existential formulas) and those that pair two proof terms (which form proof terms of conjunctions). In type theory these are identified, and the latter is seen as a special case of the former where there is no dependency.

Certain subtle problems arise in connection with the existential type. Because of the difference in the elimination rules for conjunction and existential, we cannot apply **fst** and **snd** to pairs of the form  $\langle t, M \rangle$ . Moreover, **snd** cannot be defined in general from **case** for dependently typed pairs (see Exercise 7.8). Perhaps even more significantly, proof terms no longer uniquely determine the formula they prove (see Exercise 7.9). In the theory of programming languages, existential and sum types can be used to model abstract data types and modules; the problems mentioned above must be addressed carefully in each such application.

**Natural Numbers.** If we fix the domain of individuals to be the natural numbers, we arrive at first-order arithmetic. We write **nat** instead of  $i$  and we have a constant  $z$  (denoting 0) and a unary function symbol  $s$  (denoting the successor function). The fact that these are the only ways to construct natural numbers is usual captured by Peano's axiom schema of induction:

For any formula  $A$  with free variable  $x$ ,

$$[z/x]A \wedge (\forall x. A \supset [s(x)/x]A) \supset \forall x. A.$$

Our approach has been to explain the semantics of language constructs by inference rules, rather than axioms in a logic. If we look at the rules

$$\frac{}{z : \mathbf{nat}} \text{NI}_z \qquad \frac{t : \mathbf{nat}}{s(t) : \mathbf{nat}} \text{NI}_s$$

as introduction rules for elements of the type  $\mathbf{nat}$ , then we arrive at the following elimination rule.

$$\frac{t : \mathbf{nat} \quad [z/x]A \quad \frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{[a/x]A} \quad \vdots \quad [s(a)/x]A}{[t/x]A} \text{NE}^{a,u}}{[t/x]A}$$

Here, the judgment of the third premiss is parametric in  $a$  and hypothetical in  $u$ . The local reductions follow from this view. If  $t$  was inferred by  $\text{NI}_z$  (and thus  $t = z$ ), the conclusion  $[z/x]A$  is proved directly by the second premiss.

$$\frac{\frac{}{z : \mathbf{nat}} \text{NI}_z \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}_1}{[z/x]A} \quad \frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{[a/x]A} \quad \mathcal{E}_2}{[s(a)/x]A}}{[z/x]A} \text{NE}^{a,u} \implies_L \frac{\mathcal{E}_1}{[z/x]A}$$

If  $t$  was inferred by  $\text{NI}_s$  (and thus  $t = s(t')$ ), then we can obtain a derivation  $\mathcal{E}'$  of  $[t'/x]A$  by NE. To obtain a derivation of  $[s(t')/x]A$  we use the parametric and hypothetical derivation of the rightmost premiss: we substitute  $t'$  for  $a$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  for the hypothesis  $u$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{t' : \mathbf{nat}} \text{NI}_s \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}_1}{[z/x]A} \quad \frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{[a/x]A} \quad \mathcal{E}_2}{[s(a)/x]A}}{[s(t')/x]A} \text{NE}^{a,u} \\ \implies_L \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{t' : \mathbf{nat}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}_1}{[z/x]A} \quad \frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{[a/x]A} \quad \mathcal{E}_2}{[s(a)/x]A}}{\frac{[t'/x]A \quad [t'/a]\mathcal{E}_2}{[s(t')/x]A}} \text{NE}^{a,u} \end{array}$$

In order to write out proof terms for the NE rule, we need a new proof term constructor **prim**.

$$\frac{t : \text{nat} \quad N_1 : \cdot [z/x]A \quad \begin{array}{c} \overline{u : \cdot [a/x]A} \quad u' \\ \vdots \\ [a/x]N_2 : \cdot [s(a)/x]A \end{array}}{\mathbf{prim} \, t \, N_1 \, (x, u, N_2) : \cdot [t/x]A} \text{NE}^{a,u,u'}$$

Here,  $x$  and  $u$  are bound in  $N_2$ . The local reductions can then be written as

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{prim} \, z \, N_1 \, (x, u, N_2) & \longrightarrow_L \, N_1 \\ \mathbf{prim} \, (s(t')) \, N_1 \, (x, u, N_2) & \longrightarrow_L \, [t'/x][(\mathbf{prim} \, t' \, N_1 \, (x, u, N_2))/u]N_2 \end{array}$$

An analogous construct of *primitive recursion* at the level of first-order terms (rather than proof terms) is also usually assumed in the treatment of arithmetic in order to *define* new functions such as addition, multiplication, exponentiation, *etc.* From the point of view of type theory, this is a special case of the above, where  $A$  does not depend on  $x$ . The typing rule has the form

$$\frac{t : \text{nat} \quad \begin{array}{c} \overline{x : \tau} \quad u_1, \quad \overline{y : \tau} \quad u_2 \\ \vdots \\ t_1 : \tau \quad \quad \quad t_2 : \tau \end{array}}{\mathbf{prim} \, t \, t_1 \, (x, y, t_2) : \tau} \text{NE}^{x,y,u_1,u_2}$$

and the local reduction are

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{prim} \, z \, t_1 \, (x, y, t_2) & \longrightarrow_L \, t_1 \\ \mathbf{prim} \, (s(t')) \, t_1 \, (x, y, t_2) & \longrightarrow_L \, [t'/x][(\mathbf{prim} \, t' \, t_1 \, (x, y, t_2))/y]t_2 \end{array}$$

Here we followed the convention for type systems where parameters are not used explicitly, but the same name is used for a bound variable and its corresponding parameter.

In ordinary primitive recursion we also have  $\lambda$ -abstraction and application, but the result type  $\tau$  of the **prim** constructor is restricted to be **nat**. The more general definition above is the basis for the language of *primitive recursive functionals*, which is at the core of Gödel's system T [Göd90]. Strictly more functions can be defined by using primitive recursion at higher types. A famous example is the Ackermann function, which is not primitive recursive, but lies within Gödel's system T. The surface syntax of terms defined by **prim** can be rather opaque, their properties are illustrated by the following formulation. Define

$$\begin{array}{ll} f & = \lambda x. \mathbf{prim} \, x \, t_1 \, (x, y, t_2) \\ g & = \lambda x. \lambda y. t_2. \end{array}$$

Then  $f$  satisfies (using a notion of equivalence  $\equiv$  not made precise here)

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &\equiv t_1 \\ f(s(x)) &\equiv g\ x(f(x)). \end{aligned}$$

If we think in terms of evaluation, then  $x$  will be bound to the predecessor of the argument to  $f$ , and  $y$  will be bound to the result of the recursive call to  $f$  on  $x$  when evaluating  $t_2$ .

In order to make arithmetic useful as a specification language, we also need some primitive predicates such as equality or inequality between natural numbers. An equality should satisfy the usual axioms (reflexivity, symmetry, transitivity, congruence), but it should also allow computation with functions defined by primitive recursion. Furthermore, we need to consider Peano's third and fourth axioms.<sup>2</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \forall x. \neg s(x) &\doteq z \\ \forall x. \forall y. s(x) &\doteq s(y) \supset x \doteq y \end{aligned}$$

These axioms insure that we can prove that different natural numbers are in fact distinct; all the other axioms would also hold if, for example, we interpreted the type `nat` as the natural numbers modulo 5. We can formulate these additional axioms as inference rules and write out appropriate proof terms. We postpone the detailed treatment until the next section, since some of these rules will have no computational significance.

In the realm of Martin-Löf type theories, the best treatment of equality is also a difficult and controversial subject. Built into the theory is an *equality judgment* that relates objects based on the rules of computation. We have an *equality type* which may or may not be extensional. For further discussion, the interested reader is referred to [Tho91].

[ *insert equality rules here, but which formulation?* ]

## 7.6 Contracting Proofs to Programs\*

In this section we presume that we are only interested in data values as results of computations, rather than proof terms. Then a proof may contain significantly more information than the program extracted from it. This phenomenon should not come unexpectedly: it usually requires much more effort to prove a program correct than to write it. As a first approximation toward program extraction, we postulate that the type extracted from an equality formula should be the unit type 1, and that the proof object extracted from *any* proof of an equality should be the

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<sup>2</sup>[*a note on negation*]

unit element  $\langle \rangle$ . The extraction function  $|\cdot|$  for types then has the following shape.

$$\begin{aligned}
|t_1 \doteq t_2| &= 1 \\
|A \wedge B| &= |A| \times |B| \\
|A \vee B| &= |A| + |B| \\
|A \supset B| &= |A| \rightarrow |B| \\
|\top| &= 1 \\
|\perp| &= 0 \\
|\forall x. A| &= \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow |A| \\
|\exists x. A| &= \mathbf{nat} \times |A|
\end{aligned}$$

As examples we consider two simple specifications: one for the predecessor function on natural numbers, and one for the integer division of a number by 2. For the first example, recall that  $\neg A$  is merely an abbreviation for  $A \supset \perp$ .<sup>3</sup>

$$\begin{aligned}
Pred &= \forall x. \exists y. \neg x \doteq z \supset x \doteq s(y) \\
|Pred| &= \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow (\mathbf{nat} \times ((1 \rightarrow 0) \rightarrow 1)) \\
double &= \mathbf{lam} \ x. \mathbf{prim} \ x \ \mathbf{z} \ (x', y. \mathbf{s} \ (\mathbf{s} \ y)) \\
Half &= \forall x. \exists y. x \doteq double \ y \vee x \doteq s \ (double \ y) \\
|Half| &= \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow (\mathbf{nat} \times (1 + 1))
\end{aligned}$$

These types may be surprising. For example we would expect the predecessor function to yield just a natural number. At this point we observe that there is only one value of the unit type 1. Thus, for example, the function  $((1 \rightarrow 0) \rightarrow 1)$  can only ever return the unit element  $\langle \rangle$ . Therefore it carries no new information and can be contracted to 1. We reason further that a value of type  $\mathbf{nat} \times 1$  must be a pair of a natural number and the unit element and carries no more information than  $\mathbf{nat}$  itself. In general we are taking advantage of the following intuitive isomorphisms between types.<sup>4</sup>

$$\begin{aligned}
\tau \times 1 &\cong \tau & 1 \times \tau &\cong \tau \\
\tau \rightarrow 1 &\cong 1 & 1 \rightarrow \tau &\cong \tau
\end{aligned}$$

Some other isomorphisms do *not* hold. In particular, the type  $1 + 1$  cannot be simplified: It contains two values ( $\mathbf{inl} \langle \rangle$  and  $\mathbf{inr} \langle \rangle$ ), while 1 contains only one. In order to make programs more legible, we will abbreviate

$$\begin{aligned}
1 + 1 &= \mathbf{bool} \\
\mathbf{inl} \langle \rangle &= \mathbf{true} \\
\mathbf{inr} \langle \rangle &= \mathbf{false} \\
\mathbf{if} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{then} \ e_2 \ \mathbf{else} \ e_3 &= \mathbf{case} \ e_1 \ \mathbf{of} \ \mathbf{inl} \ x \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \mathbf{inr} \ y \Rightarrow e_3
\end{aligned}$$

<sup>3</sup>[this must be fixed for proper treatment of negation]

<sup>4</sup>Some further isomorphism may be observed regarding the void type 0, but we do not consider it here. For a detailed treatment, see [And93].

In the modified type extraction, we use the isomorphisms above in order to concentrate on computational contents.

[ *The remainder of this section and chapter is under construction.* ]

## 7.7 Proof Reduction and Computation\*

## 7.8 Termination\*

## 7.9 Exercises

**Exercise 7.1** Prove the following by natural deduction using only intuitionistic rules when possible. We use the convention that  $\supset$ ,  $\wedge$ , and  $\vee$  associate to the right, that is,  $A \supset B \supset C$  stands for  $A \supset (B \supset C)$ .  $A \equiv B$  is a syntactic abbreviation for  $(A \supset B) \wedge (B \supset A)$ . Also, we assume that  $\wedge$  and  $\vee$  bind more tightly than  $\supset$ , that is,  $A \wedge B \supset C$  stands for  $(A \wedge B) \supset C$ . The scope of a quantifier extends as far to the right as consistent with the present parentheses. For example,  $(\forall x. P(x) \supset C) \wedge \neg C$  would be disambiguated to  $(\forall x. (P(x) \supset C)) \wedge (\neg C)$ .

1.  $A \supset B \supset A$ .
2.  $A \wedge (B \vee C) \equiv (A \wedge B) \vee (A \wedge C)$ .
3. (Peirce's Law).  $((A \supset B) \supset A) \supset A$ .
4.  $A \vee (B \wedge C) \equiv (A \vee B) \wedge (A \vee C)$ .
5.  $A \supset (A \wedge B) \vee (A \wedge \neg B)$ .
6.  $(A \supset \exists x. P(x)) \equiv \exists x. (A \supset P(x))$ .
7.  $((\forall x. P(x)) \supset C) \equiv \exists x. (P(x) \supset C)$ .
8.  $\exists x. \forall y. (P(x) \supset P(y))$ .

**Exercise 7.2** Show that the three ways of extending the intuitionistic proof system are equivalent, that is, the same formulas are deducible in all three systems.

**Exercise 7.3** Assume we had omitted disjunction and existential quantification and their introduction and elimination rules from the list of logical primitives. In the classical system, give a definition of disjunction and existential quantification (in terms of other logical constants) and show that the introduction and elimination rules now become *admissible rules of inference*. A rule of inference is *admissible* if any deduction using the rule can be transformed into one without using the rule.

**Exercise 7.4** Carefully state and prove adequacy of the given representation for terms, formulas, and natural deductions in LF.

**Exercise 7.5** Give an interpretation of the classical calculus in the intuitionistic calculus, that is, define a function  $\overline{(\ )}$  from formulas to formulas such that  $A$  is deducible in the classical calculus if and only if  $\overline{A}$  is deducible in the intuitionistic calculus.

**Exercise 7.6** Give the representation of the natural deductions in Exercise 7.1 in Elf.

**Exercise 7.7** Give the LF representations of the rules of indirect proof, double negation, and excluded middle from Page 214.

**Exercise 7.8** [ *on problems with typing of **snd** on dependently typed pairs* ]

**Exercise 7.9** [ *failure of uniqueness of types with existential or  $\Sigma$  types* ]

**Exercise 7.10** Using the normalization theorem for intuitionistic natural deduction (Theorem ??) prove that the general law of excluded middle is not derivable in intuitionistic logic.

**Exercise 7.11** For each of the following entailments, give a derivation in Elf (if it holds in intuitionistic logic) or indicate if it does not hold.

1.  $\forall x. A(x) \wedge B(x) \vdash (\forall x. A(x)) \wedge (\forall x. B(x)).$
2.  $(\forall x. A(x)) \wedge (\forall x. B(x)) \vdash \forall x. A(x) \wedge B(x).$
3.  $\forall x. \perp \vdash \perp.$
4.  $\perp \vdash \forall x. \perp.$
5.  $\forall x. \forall y. A(x, y) \vdash \forall y. \forall x. A(x, y).$
6.  $\forall x. \neg A(x) \vdash \neg \exists x. A(x).$
7.  $\neg \exists x. A(x) \vdash \forall x. \neg A(x).$
8.  $\exists x. A(x) \vee B(x) \vdash (\exists x. A(x)) \vee (\exists x. B(x)).$
9.  $(\exists x. A(x)) \supset B \vdash \forall x. (A(x) \supset B).$
10.  $\forall x. (A(x) \supset B) \vdash (\exists x. A(x)) \supset B.$
11.  $(\forall x. A(x)) \supset B \vdash \exists x. (A(x) \supset B).$



12.  $\exists x. (A(x) \supset B) \vdash (\forall x. A(x)) \supset B$ .

**Exercise 7.12** Show that the system of natural deduction extended with the rule of excluded middle XM is equivalent to the system of natural deduction extended with proof by contradiction  $\perp_C$  (see page 242). Implement this proof in Elf.



## Chapter 8

# Logic Programming

In pure functional languages computation proceeds by transforming a given expression to a value. Different expression languages and evaluation strategies lead to different programming languages. In this chapter we shift to the computational paradigm of *logic programming*. In logic programming computation arises from the search for a proof within a logical system. Different logical languages and search strategies lead to different programming languages. The most widely used logic programming language is Prolog. Its pure subset is based on Horn logic, a particularly simple fragment of predicate logic with some attractive theoretical properties. Elf can also be considered as a logic programming language with its formal basis in the LF type theory.

We approach logic programming by studying properties of search procedures for logical systems. Given are a *goal formula* or *query*  $G$ , a *logic program*  $\Delta$ , and a derivability judgment  $\Delta \vdash G$ . The procedure attempts to establish if  $\Delta \vdash G$  is derivable, that is, if  $G$  follows from assumptions  $\Delta$  within the logical system under consideration. The most important property of a search procedure is *soundness*: if search succeeds then there must be a derivation of  $G$  from  $\Delta$ . The second property we consider is *non-deterministic completeness*: if  $\Delta \vdash G$  is derivable then the search procedure must be able to establish this. However, these properties alone do not lead to a useful logic programming language. There must also be an underlying intuition about the meaning of the logical connectives and quantifiers as *search instructions*. Only then will programmers be able to effectively employ a language to implement algorithms.

Logic programming languages are often advertised as *declarative*. In its most extreme form one would only need to express a problem (declarative specification) and *not* the strategy for its solution (procedural implementation). This is not only unattainable, but also undesirable. For example, one may specify the concepts of permutation and order, but one still must implement any of a variety of algorithms

for sorting, depending on the intended application. A programming language should allow the implementation of specific algorithms and not just specifications. However, we should strive for languages in which algorithms can be expressed at a very high level of abstraction, and logic programming languages provide this for some domains. A valuable related property of logic programming languages is that specifications and implementations can be expressed within the same formal language. We have taken advantage of this in our use of Elf in order to express specifications, implementations, and some aspects of their correctness proofs.

We begin the study of logic programming with the notion of *uniform derivation*. It arises naturally from an interpretation of the logical quantifiers and connective as search operations. It is easy to see that uniform proofs are sound with respect to natural deduction. Completeness, on the other hand, fails for full intuitionistic logic. By restricting ourselves to a certain fragment we can recover completeness, but the proof is difficult and subject of Sections 8.3 and 8.4.

## 8.1 Uniform Derivations

By fixing a proof-search strategy for a particular logic, we specify an *operational semantics* for an associated logic programming language. There is a wide variety of logic programming languages based on different proof-search strategies. We will concentrate on a Prolog-like execution model which is often characterized as “top-down” which unfortunately conflicts with our terminology where such proofs are constructed “bottom-up.” Concurrent logic programming languages and database query languages are just two possible alternatives that we do not explore.

The basic idea behind Prolog’s execution model is *goal-directed search*. We assume we are given a program as a collection of formulas  $\Delta$ . The *query*  $G$  is also a formula and the process of computation attempts to find a proof of the query  $G$  from the program  $\Delta$ . We furthermore allow free variables, called *logic variables*, in the query. These variables are interpreted existentially: computation should simultaneously find a substitution  $\theta$  for the logic variables and a deduction of  $[\theta]G$ , the result of applying  $\theta$  to  $G$ . Pure Prolog programs are restricted to consist entirely of *Horn clauses*, and a goal can only be a conjunction of atoms. Under this restriction the interpretation of logical connectives as search operators is complete, but there are more expressive fragments of the predicate calculus for which goal-directed search remains complete.

In the literature, the process of proof search and thus the operational semantics of Prolog are often described as a form of *resolution*. This accurately reflects the historical development of logic programming, but it is somewhat narrowly focussed. In particular, for more expressive logics than Horn clauses the view of logic programming as resolution is less helpful. Our perspective will be different: we *specify* the desired search behavior of the connectives and quantifiers of the logic directly

and then analyze which restrictions to the logical language lead to a complete search procedure. This approach is very abstract and ignores many important issues in practical logic programming languages. It provides insight into the foundation of logic programming, similar to the way that an investigation of a pure  $\lambda$ -calculus provides insights into the nature of functional languages.

Since we are considering goal-directed search, we deal with *sequents*<sup>1</sup> of the form  $\Gamma \longrightarrow A$ , that is, sequents where the succedent is a single formula. We refer to  $A$  as the *goal* and to  $\Gamma$  as the *program*. We factor out the problem of unification and present a system in which existential choices (finding terms  $t$  in the description below) are not explicit. After this prelude, we now give conditions that specify the operational reading of connectives and quantifiers when they appear as goals. These conditions can be seen as desirable properties of a judgment  $\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A$  which has yet to be defined.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A \wedge B & \text{iff } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A \text{ and } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} B \\
\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A \vee B & \text{iff } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A \text{ or } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} B \\
\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \top & \text{iff truth } (\top \text{ represents success}) \\
\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \perp & \text{iff falsehood } (\perp \text{ represents failure}) \\
\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A \supset B & \text{iff } \Gamma, A \xrightarrow{u} B \\
\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \exists x. A & \text{iff } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} [t/x]A \text{ for some } t \\
\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. A & \text{iff } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} [a/x]A \text{ for some new parameter } a.
\end{array}$$

We have omitted a case for negation, since the natural condition,

$$\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \neg A \quad \text{iff} \quad \Gamma, A \xrightarrow{u}$$

involves a sequent with an empty conclusion which is outside our framework. In the intuitionistic calculus we can consider  $\neg A$  as an abbreviation for  $A \supset \perp$ ; thus the absence of negation is not a restriction. Even without any further specifications (that is, how search is to be performed in the case of an atomic goal), we can already see that a strategy based on this specification is not complete for either intuitionistic or classical logic. The three judgments below should all be derivable in the sense that the right-hand side follows from the hypothesis on the left-hand side using intuitionistic natural deduction, but none of them has a uniform derivation.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
A \vee B & \xrightarrow{u} & B \vee A \\
\exists x. (P(x) \wedge C) & \xrightarrow{u} & \exists x. P(x) \\
A \wedge (A \supset \perp) & \xrightarrow{u} & \perp
\end{array}$$

For example, neither  $B$  nor  $A$  by themselves can be derived from  $A \vee B$ : a complete search procedure would have to proceed by analyzing the program *before* breaking down the structure of the goal.

---

<sup>1</sup>[more on the sequent calculus]

We have not yet specified how to interpret atomic goals  $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ . In logic programming, this is considered as a *procedure call* of  $P$  with arguments  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ . In the simplest case we look for an element of  $\Gamma$  of the form  $A \supset P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  and then solve the subgoal  $A$ . In the more general case, we may also have to instantiate a universal quantifier. For example,

$$N(0), \forall x. N(x) \supset N(s(x)) \longrightarrow N(s(0))$$

requires the instantiation of  $x$  with 0 before we can reduce the goal  $N(s(0))$  to the subgoal  $N(0)$ . In order to capture this intuition for the operational interpretation of connectives and quantifiers in programs concisely, we introduce the auxiliary judgment

$$\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P \quad A \text{ immediately entails } P.$$

Here, and in the rest of this chapter, we use  $P$  to stand for atomic formulas. Immediate entailment is closely related to resolution, a connection explored in Section 8.5. The connection to the basic search judgment is given by the requirement that

$$\Gamma \xrightarrow{u} P \quad \text{iff} \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P \text{ for some } A \text{ in } \Gamma.$$

Thus, immediate entailment serves to focus attention on a particular assumption  $A$ , rather than allowing arbitrary inferences among different formulas in  $\Gamma$ . We then have the following natural specification.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} P \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \text{truth (an atomic goal immediately entails itself)} \\ \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \wedge A_2 \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \gg P \text{ or } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \gg P \\ \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \vee A_2 \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \gg P \text{ and } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \gg P \\ \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \supset A_2 \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \text{ and } \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \gg P \\ \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \top \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \text{falsehood } (\top \text{ has no information)} \\ \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \perp \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \text{truth } (\perp \text{ immediately entails everything)} \\ \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. A \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} [t/x]A \gg P \text{ for some } t \\ \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} \exists x. A \gg P & \text{iff} \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{u} [a/x]A \gg P \text{ for some new parameter } a \end{array}$$

Note that the requirements for this judgment depend on the uniform derivability judgment (in the case for implication) and *vice versa* (in the case for atoms).

The relevant requirements above are satisfied in the fragment of the logic that contains only conjunction, implication, truth and universal quantification. We refer to this as the *positive fragment* of intuitionistic logic.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Positive Formulas } A & ::= P \mid A_1 \wedge A_2 \mid A_1 \supset A_2 \mid \top \mid \forall x. A \\ \text{Programs } \Delta & ::= \cdot \mid \Delta, D \end{array}$$

We capture the operational semantics in two mutual recursive judgments that embody goal-directed search and procedure calls. We model execution of a goal  $A$  from

program  $\Delta$  as the bottom-up construction of a derivation of the sequent  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$ . Inversion guarantees trivially that the postulated properties for the logical quantifiers and connectives are satisfied.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A & \text{Program } \Delta \text{ uniformly entails goal } A \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P & A \text{ immediately entails atom } P \text{ under } \Delta \end{array}$$

These two mutually recursive judgments are defined by the following inference rules.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \quad \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \wedge A_2} S_{\wedge} \qquad \frac{}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} \top} S_{\top} \\[10pt] \frac{\Delta, A_2 \xrightarrow{u} A_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \supset A_1} S_{\supset} \qquad \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} [a/x]A_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. A_1} S_{\forall^a} \\[10pt] \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P \quad \text{for } A \text{ in } \Delta}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P} S_{\text{atom}} \qquad \frac{}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P \gg P} I_{\text{atom}} \\[10pt] \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \wedge A_2 \gg P} I_{\wedge_L} \qquad \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \wedge A_2 \gg P} I_{\wedge_R} \\[10pt] \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \gg P \quad \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} (A_2 \supset A_1) \gg P} I_{\supset} \qquad \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} [t/x]A_1 \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. A_1 \gg P} I_{\forall} \end{array}$$

The rule  $S_{\forall^a}$  is restricted to the case where the parameter  $a$  does not occur in  $\Delta$  or  $\forall x. A_1$ . We say a sequent  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$  has a *uniform derivation* if there exists a derivation of  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$ . In order to emphasize the operational reading of uniform derivation we also refer to a derivation  $S :: \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$  as the *solution of*  $A$ . As a simple example, we consider a solution of  $\forall x. N(x) \supset N(s(x)) \longrightarrow N(0) \supset N(s(s(0)))$ . We

use the abbreviation  $\Delta_0$  for  $N(0), \forall x. N(x) \supset N(s(x))$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} N(0) \gg N(0) \\
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} N(0) \quad \Delta_0 \longrightarrow N(s(0)) \gg N(s(0)) \\
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} N(0) \supset N(s(0)) \gg N(s(0)) \\
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. N(x) \supset N(s(x)) \gg N(s(0)) \\
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} N(s(0)) \quad \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} N(s(s(0))) \gg N(s(s(0))) \\
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} N(s(0)) \supset N(s(s(0))) \gg N(s(s(0))) \\
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. N(x) \supset N(s(x)) \gg N(s(s(0))) \\
 \hline
 \Delta_0 \xrightarrow{u} N(s(s(0))) \\
 \hline
 \forall x. N(x) \supset N(s(x)) \xrightarrow{u} N(0) \supset N(s(s(0)))
 \end{array}$$

The fundamental theorems regarding uniform derivations on positive formulas are their soundness and completeness with respect to intuitionistic natural deduction.

**Theorem 8.1** (Soundness of Uniform Derivations) *For any goal  $A$  and program  $\Delta$ ,*  
*if  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$  then  $\frac{\Delta}{A} \mathcal{D}$ .*

**Proof:** We generalize this to:

1. If  $\frac{\mathcal{S}}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A}$  then  $\frac{\Delta}{A} \mathcal{D}$  ;
2. if  $\frac{\mathcal{I}}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P}$  then  $\frac{\Delta, A}{P} \mathcal{D}$  .

The proof is by straightforward induction over the structures of  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{I}$ . We show a few cases.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{S} = \frac{\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P \text{ for } A \text{ in } \Delta}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P} \mathcal{I}_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P} \text{S\_atom}$$



By induction hypothesis (2) on  $\mathcal{I}_1$ ,  $\frac{\Delta, A}{\mathcal{D}_1} \vdash P$ . Since  $A$  is in  $\Delta$  and assumptions in hypothetical judgments may be used more than once, we also have  $\frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D}_1} \vdash P$ .

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{I} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{I}_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \gg P} \quad \frac{\mathcal{S}_2}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2}}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} (A_2 \supset A_1) \gg P} \vdash$$

By induction hypothesis on  $\mathcal{I}_1$  and  $\mathcal{S}_2$ ,

$$\frac{\Delta, A_1}{\mathcal{D}_1} \vdash P \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D}_2} \vdash A_2$$

We construct the natural deduction

$$\frac{\frac{A_1 \supset A_1 \quad \frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D}_2} \vdash A_2}{\Delta, A_1} \supset E}{\frac{\Delta, A_1}{\mathcal{D}_1} \vdash P}$$

which is a derivation of  $P$  from hypothesis  $\Delta, A_2 \supset A_1$  as required.  $\square$

**Theorem 8.2** (Completeness of Uniform Derivations) *For any goal  $G$  and program*

$\Delta$ , *if*  $\frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D}} \vdash G$  *then*  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} G$ .

**Proof:** We exploit the canonical form theorem for natural deductions 8.15 and Theorem 8.16 which asserts the completeness with respect to canonical deductions.  $\square$

Search for a uniform derivation can be divided into two interlocked phases: goal decomposition and program decomposition. Many choices have been eliminated by a restriction of the language, but there are still various choices to be made during search. In order to obtain a deterministic language, Prolog and related languages make further commitments which are not expressed in the inference rules for uniform derivability. We list the choices that arise in the various phases and show how they are resolved in Prolog and Prolog-like languages.

**Conjunctive Choices:** Which subgoal of a conjunction should be solved first? Since both have to be solved eventually, this potentially affects efficiency, but not termination unless other choices are also made deterministically. In Prolog, this is referred to as the *selection rule*. Another form of conjunctive choice arises when the program is an implication. There, we always solve the immediate entailment before solving the subgoal.

**Disjunctive Choices:** Which program formula  $D$  do we pick from the program  $\Delta$  in order to see if it immediately entails an atomic goal  $P$ ? This disjunctive choice is eliminated by always trying the formulas from left to right. This is referred to *depth-first search* for a uniform derivation and is incomplete. Note that this strategy requires that  $\Delta$  is maintained as a list rather than a multi-set. New assumptions (which arise from implicational goals) are added to the beginning of the program, that is, the most recently made assumption is always tried first. An analogous choice arises when considering a conjunctive program formula. There, too, we try the possibilities from left to right.

**Existential Choices:** Which term  $t$  should be used to instantiate  $x$  when the program formula has the form  $\forall x. D_1$ ? This choice is postponed by instantiating  $x$  with a logic variable  $X$  and determining its value later via unification.

**Universal Choices:** Which parameter  $a$  should be used to instantiate  $x$  when solving a goal  $\forall x. G$ ? This choice is arbitrary as long as the parameter is new, that is, does not already appear in goal or program.

As remarked above, the way non-deterministic choices are eliminated in Prolog is incomplete, that is, search for a provable goal may never terminate. The commonly given reason for this is efficiency of the implementation, but there is a deeper reason. At the point where a search strategy is turned into a logic programming language we must know the precise operational semantics in order to predict the behavior of computation and therefore, for example, the complexity of the implementation of a particular algorithm. The order given above is natural and predictable from the programmers point of view. As a simple example of the incompleteness, consider

$$p, p \supset p \xrightarrow{u} p$$

which terminates successfully, and

$$p \supset p, p \xrightarrow{u} p$$

which is equivalent in a very strong sense, but does not terminate. Moreover, the various choices listed above interact in unexpected ways. For example, for some approximation to Prolog's true operational model it may not matter which subgoal

of a conjunction is solved first. However, when combined with depth-first search and unification, the order of subgoal selection can become crucial. For example, with the program

$$\begin{array}{l} \forall x. p(x) \supset p(x). \\ p(0). \\ q(0). \end{array}$$

the goal  $p(X) \wedge q(X)$  does not terminate, while  $q(X) \wedge p(X)$  terminates, substituting 0 for  $X$ .

One may conclude from this discussion that non-deterministic completeness for a language is not of practical interest. However, it is still important, since it allows us to draw conclusions from *failure*. For example, the goal corresponding to Peirce's law  $((q \supset r) \supset q) \supset q$  fails (see page 8.4), and therefore, by completeness, Peirce's law is not intuitionistically provable.

The implementation of uniform proofs in Elf models pure Prolog's<sup>2</sup> choices regarding search faithfully. At a declarative level, the LF specification adequately models uniform proofs. At an operational level, the Elf implementation models Prolog's search behavior. This is because Elf is in spirit also a logic programming language and the inherent choices are resolved in Elf in a way that is consistent with pure Prolog. This comes close to the often puzzling phenomenon of meta-circular interpretation. In some sense, the implementation does not fully specify the semantics of the object language, since different choices for the semantics of the meta-language lead to analogous choices for the object language. Perhaps the most striking example of this is the notion of unification, which seems basic to Prolog, but is not explicit in the system of uniform proofs or their implementation. Elf will simply postpone its own existential choices and solve them by unification; consequently the existential choices in the object language are also postponed and solved by unification.

```
solve  : o -> type.      % solve goal formulas
assume : o -> type.      % assume program formulas
>>    : o -> p -> type. % immediate entailment
%infix none 8 >>
```

We model the program by hypotheses, so that the rule for implicational goals<sup>3</sup> employs a hypothetical judgment. Similarly, the premiss of the rule for a universal goal requires a parametric judgment.

```
s_and  : solve (A1 and A2)
        <- solve A1
```

---

<sup>2</sup>[*some words on pure vs impure*]

<sup>3</sup>[*embedded implication—somewhere mention and compare to Prolog*]

```

        <- solve A2.

s_imp  : solve (A2 imp A1)
        <- (assume A2 -> solve A1).

s_true : solve (true).

s_forall : solve (forall A1)
          <- {a:i} solve (A1 a).

s_atom : solve (atom P)
        <- assume A
        <- A >> P.

```

Program decomposition is even simpler. In the case of a universal program we make the quantification over  $T$  explicit, since  $T$  can not always be determined from the context.

```

i_andl : A1 and A2 >> P
        <- A1 >> P.

i_andr : A1 and A2 >> P
        <- A2 >> P.

i_imp  : A2 imp A1 >> P
        <- A1 >> P
        <- solve A2.

i_forall : {T:i}
          forall A1 >> P
          <- A1 T >> P.

i_atom : (atom P) >> P.

```

As an example, we consider addition for natural numbers. As a pure Prolog program, this might be written as

```

plus(0,X,X).
plus(s(X),Y,s(Z)) :- plus(X,Y,Z).

```

Its representation in Elf uses the `prog` type family. Furthermore, the quantification over  $X$ ,  $Y$ , and  $Z$  is made explicit and atoms must be coerced to formulas with the `atom` constructor.

```

0 : i.
s : i -> i.

plus : i -> i -> i -> p.

plz : prog (forall [Y] atom (plus 0 Y Y)).
pls : prog (forall [X] forall [Y] forall [Z]
            atom (plus X Y Z) imp atom (plus (s X) Y (s Z))).

```

The operational behavior of the Elf interpreter on well-typed queries is the behavior of pure Prolog.<sup>4</sup> For example,

```

?- solve (atom (plus (s (s 0)) (s (s (s 0))) Z)).

Z = s (s (s (s (s 0)))).
;
no more solutions
?- solve (atom (plus X Y (s (s (s (s 0)))))).

Y = s (s (s (s 0))),
X = 0.
;

Y = s (s (s 0)),
X = s 0.
;

Y = s (s 0),
X = s (s 0).
;

Y = s 0,
X = s (s (s 0)).
;

Y = 0,
X = s (s (s (s 0))).
;
no more solutions

```

The difference in type-checking is illustrated by the following query which is rejected as ill-typed. Its corresponding incarnation in Prolog would succeed with  $Z = s$ .

---

<sup>4</sup>One remaining difference is that Prolog unification may construct infinite terms which are not permitted in Elf.

```
?- solve (atom (plus 0 s Z)).

std_in:1.22-1.23 Error: Type checking failed
s  : i -> i <> i
Unification failure due to clash: -> <> i
caught exception TypeCheckFail
```

The implementation of the soundness proof for uniform derivations (Theorem 8.1) is most conveniently represented using a functional implementation of the hypothetical judgment its conclusion (2).

```
s_sound : solve A -> pf A -> type.
h_sound : assume A -> pf A -> type.
i_sound : A >> P -> (pf A -> pf (atom P)) -> type.
```

The family `h_sound` is used to associate assumption labels for natural deductions with assumption labels in uniform derivations. In the informal proof, these labels were omitted and the correspondence implicit. First the rules for goals.

```
ss_and  : s_sound (s_and S2 S1) (andi D2 D1)
          <- s_sound S1 D1
          <- s_sound S2 D2.

ss_imp  : s_sound (s_imp S1) (impi D1)
          <- {d:assume A} {u:pf A}
             h_sound d u -> s_sound (S1 d) (D1 u).

ss_true : s_sound (s_true) (truei).

ss_forall : s_sound (s_forall S1) (foralli D1)
            <- {a:i} s_sound (S1 a) (D1 a).

ss_atom : s_sound (s_atom I2 H1) (D2 D1)
            <- h_sound H1 D1
            <- i_sound I2 D2.
```

In the last case we use the meta-level application `D2 D1` to substitute `D1`, the assumption label for the member of  $\Delta$ , for the hypothesis in the conclusion (2). This is an instance of a (trivial) substitution lemma where one assumption label is substituted for another. In the rules below small derivation fragments from a new hypothesis `u` are substituted for this hypothesis.

```
is_andl : i_sound (i_andl I1) ([u:pf (A1 and A2)] D1 (andel u))
          <- i_sound I1 D1.
```

```

is_andr : i_sound (i_andr I2) ([u:pf (A1 and A2)] D2 (ander u))
  <- i_sound I2 D2.

is_imp  : i_sound (i_imp S2 I1) ([u:pf (A2 imp A1)] D1 (impe u D2))
  <- i_sound I1 D1
  <- s_sound S2 D2.

is_forall : i_sound (i_forall T I1) ([u:pf (forall A1)] D1 (foralle u T))
  <- i_sound I1 D1.

is_atom : i_sound (i_atom) ([u:pf (atom P)] u).

```

## 8.2 Canonical Forms for the Simply-Typed $\lambda$ -Calculus

The study of completeness for uniform proofs hinges on the notion of *canonical natural deduction*. We show that every natural deduction in the positive fragment is equivalent to a canonical deduction, and that uniform proofs are sound and complete with respect to canonical deductions. Under the Curry-Howard isomorphism, the definition of canonical deductions can be seen as an extension of the notion of canonical form for the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus from Section 3.9.<sup>5</sup>

Natural deductions are notationally awkward, so we use proof terms under the Curry-Howard isomorphism to prove the existence of canonical forms in the positive<sup>6</sup> propositional fragment of natural deduction. This proof can be transliterated to use natural deductions; we only restate the definitions and results in Section 8.3.

The method used in this section is also of independent interest in the study of typed  $\lambda$ -calculi. We extend it to the case of a dependently typed calculus in Section ?? which ultimately yields a proof of non-deterministic completeness for the Elf programming language relative to the LF typing judgment.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{Types} & A ::= a \mid A_1 \times A_2 \mid A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \mid 1 \\
 \text{Objects} & M ::= \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid \mathbf{fst} \, M \mid \mathbf{snd} \, M \\
 & \mid x \mid \lambda x:A. M \mid M_1 \, M_2 \\
 & \mid \langle \rangle
 \end{array}$$

Here,  $a$  stands for atomic types and  $u$  for variables. A *context*  $\Gamma$  consists of a sequence of assumptions.

$$\text{Contexts } \Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Gamma, x:A$$

---

<sup>5</sup>[The proof in the form given here contains a subtle bug which, fortunately, is easy to fix. I am tempted to offer \$64 to the first one to find it, but I will refrain from that and simply fix it soon.]

<sup>6</sup>[terminology?]

As usual, no variable may be declared more than once in a context  $\Gamma$ . The first two judgments define canonical forms.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Gamma \vdash M \uparrow A & M \text{ is canonical of type } A \\ \Gamma \vdash M \downarrow A & M \text{ is atomic of type } A \end{array}$$

Intuitively, an atomic object consists of a sequence of elimination forms (**fst**, **snd**, and application) applied to a variable. Further subobjects must be canonical. A canonical object of a non-atomic type consists of the appropriate introduction construct ( $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $\langle \rangle$ ) with canonical subobjects (if there are any). A canonical object of atomic type must be atomic.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash N \uparrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \langle M, N \rangle \uparrow A \times B} \text{can\_pair} \\[1em] \frac{\Gamma, x:A \vdash M \uparrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x:A. M \uparrow A \rightarrow B} \text{can\_lam} \\[1em] \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \langle \rangle \uparrow 1} \text{can\_triv} \\[1em] \frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow a}{\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow a} \text{can\_atm} \quad \frac{\Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash x \downarrow A} \text{atm\_var} \\[1em] \frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \downarrow A} \text{atm\_fst} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \downarrow B} \text{atm\_snd} \\[1em] \frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow B \rightarrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash N \uparrow B}{\Gamma \vdash M N \downarrow A} \text{atm\_app} \end{array}$$

It is also possible to represent canonical forms as a property of typing derivations, rather than objects. This is simpler to implement, but difficult to represent typographically. The algorithm for conversion to canonical form is based on the following strategy. When considering an object  $M$  of non-atomic type, we obtain canonical forms for the result of applying appropriate elimination rules to  $M$ . The resulting canonical forms are then combined with an introduction rule. When the considering an object of atomic type we apply certain local reductions (so-called *weak head reductions*) until the object has the form of some elimination rules applied to a variable. We then convert the remaining non-canonical subobjects to canonical form.

$$\begin{array}{ll} M \xrightarrow{whr} M' & M \text{ weakly head reduces to } M' \\ \Gamma \vdash M \uparrow M' : A & M \text{ converts to canonical form } M' \text{ at type } A \\ \Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : A & M \text{ converts to atomic form } M' \text{ at type } A \end{array}$$



The rules for weak head reduction can be divided into two classes: those applying *local reductions* (in the sense of Section ??) and partial congruences that allow passing over elimination rules.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{\mathbf{fst} \langle M, N \rangle \xrightarrow{whr} M} \pi_1 \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{snd} \langle M, N \rangle \xrightarrow{whr} N} \pi_2 \\
\\
\frac{}{(\lambda x:A. M) N \xrightarrow{whr} [N/x]M} \beta \\
\\
\frac{M \xrightarrow{whr} M'}{\mathbf{fst} M \xrightarrow{whr} \mathbf{fst} M'} \text{whr\_fst} \quad \frac{M \xrightarrow{whr} M'}{\mathbf{snd} M \xrightarrow{whr} \mathbf{snd} M'} \text{whr\_snd} \\
\\
\frac{M \xrightarrow{whr} M'}{M N \xrightarrow{whr} M' N} \text{whr\_app}
\end{array}$$

The rules for conversion to canonical and atomic form mutually depend on each other. Note how the rules for canonical form are type-directed, while the rules for

atomic form are object-directed.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \uparrow M'_1 : A \quad \Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \uparrow M'_2 : B}{\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow \langle M'_1, M'_2 \rangle : A \times B} \text{tc}_\times \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, x:A \vdash M x \uparrow M'_1 : B}{\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow (\lambda x:A. M'_1) : A \rightarrow B} \text{tc}_\rightarrow \\
\\
\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow \langle \rangle : 1} \text{tc}_1 \\
\\
\frac{M \xrightarrow{whr} M' \quad \Gamma \vdash M' \uparrow M'' : a}{\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow M'' : a} \text{tc\_whr} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : a}{\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow M' : a} \text{tc\_atm} \quad \frac{\Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash x \downarrow x : A} \text{ta\_var} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \downarrow \mathbf{fst} M' : A} \text{ta\_fst} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \downarrow \mathbf{snd} M' : B} \text{ta\_snd} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : B \rightarrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash N \uparrow N' : B}{\Gamma \vdash M N \downarrow M' N' : A} \text{ta\_app}
\end{array}$$

It is easy to check that canonical forms are well-typed, and that the result of conversion to canonical form is in fact canonical.

**Theorem 8.3** (Conversion Yields Canonical Forms)

1. If  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$ ;
2. if  $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$ ;
3. if  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow M' : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M' \uparrow A$ ;
4. if  $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M' \uparrow A$ .

**Proof:** By straightforward inductions over the derivation of the assumption.  $\square$

The canonical form theorem states that if  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow M' : A$  for some  $M'$ . We prove this by Tait's method, often called an argument by *logical relations* or *reducibility candidates*. In such an argument we construct an interpretation of types as a relation between objects, in our case a unary relation. Assume we are trying to establish a property  $P$  of all well-typed objects (in our

case,  $P$  holds of  $M$  if there is an  $N$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : A$ ). At atomic types the logical relation holds if and only if  $P$  itself holds. We then extend it to all types by induction on the structure of types, without further reference to  $P$ . For example, pairs are related if their first and second components are related. Functions are related whenever they map related arguments to related results. We then check that (1) at all types, all related objects satisfy the property  $P$ , and (2) all well-typed objects are related. These two lemmas together establish that  $P$  holds of all well-typed objects.

Often it is sufficient to consider logical relations consisting of only closed objects; here we need to consider objects constructed over various contexts. Thus the interpretation of a type also depends on a context  $\Gamma$ , a construction that has been called a *Kripke logical relation*. In the definition we need to refer to arbitrary extensions  $\Gamma'$  of a given context  $\Gamma$ . This is defined by the following two rules.

$$\begin{array}{c} \Gamma' \geq \Gamma \quad \Gamma' \text{ extends } \Gamma \\ \hline \Gamma \geq \Gamma \end{array} \qquad \frac{\Gamma' \geq \Gamma}{\Gamma', x:A \geq \Gamma}$$

The following weakening lemma is required in the proof of Lemma 8.5.

**Lemma 8.4** (Weakening for Conversion to Canonical and Atomic Form)

1. If  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : A$  and  $\Gamma' \geq \Gamma$  then  $\Gamma' \vdash M \uparrow N : A$ ; and
2. if  $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow N : A$  and  $\Gamma' \geq \Gamma$  then  $\Gamma' \vdash M \downarrow N : A$ .

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of the derivations of  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : A$  and  $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow N : A$ .<sup>7</sup>  $\square$

Unfortunately, the question whether a logical relation argument can be represented naturally within LF is an open research issue. This is closely connected to the question whether the logical relation itself can somehow be presented as a judgment defined solely by inference rules. Instead, we make an informal mathematical definition. We write  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$  if  $M$  satisfies the relation  $\llbracket A \rrbracket$  in context  $\Gamma$ . This notion is defined by induction on the structure of  $A$ .

1.  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket a \rrbracket$  iff  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : a$  for some  $N$ .
2.  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$  iff  $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$  and  $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$ .
3.  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$  iff for every  $\Gamma' \geq \Gamma$  and every  $N$ ,  $\Gamma' \vdash N \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$  implies  $\Gamma' \vdash M N \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$ .

---

<sup>7</sup>[check details]

4.  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket 1 \rrbracket$ .

We have not built in any requirements that the objects in the interpretation be well-typed, but merely that at atomic type, they can be converted to canonical form.

The principal lemmas we need are

1. If  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : A$ .
2. If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .

Both of these require further non-obvious generalization before they can be proved by induction. Since the definitions of canonical form and atomic form mutually depend on each other, we need to generalize item 1 to include objects convertible to atomic form. Because atomic forms and the logical relation are both based on eliminations, the generalization is surprisingly simple.<sup>8</sup>

**Lemma 8.5** 1. If  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : A$ ; and

2. if  $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow N : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .

**Proof:** By induction on  $A$ .

**Case:**  $A = a$ .

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket a \rrbracket$ | Assumption                                   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : a$              | By definition of $\llbracket a \rrbracket$   |
| 2. | $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow N : a$            | Assumption                                   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : a$              | By rule <b>tc_atm</b>                        |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket a \rrbracket$ | By definition of $\llbracket a \rrbracket$ . |

**Case:**  $A = A_1 \times A_2$ .

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$  | Assumption  |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$ and $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$ | By definition   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \uparrow M'_1 : A_1$ and $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \uparrow M'_2 : A_2$                     | By ind. hyp.  |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow \langle M'_1, M'_2 \rangle : A_1 \times A_2$  | By rule <b>tc_x</b>                                     |
| 2. | $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : A_1 \times A_2$  | Assumption  |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \downarrow \mathbf{fst} M' : A_1$   | By rule <b>ta_fst</b>                                   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$  | By ind. hyp. on $A_1$                                   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \downarrow \mathbf{snd} M' : A_2$   | By rule <b>ta_snd</b>                                   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$  | By ind. hyp. on $A_2$                                   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$  | By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$ |

---

<sup>8</sup>[introduce notion of “reducibility”]

**Case:**  $A = A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ .

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$            | Assumption   |
|    | $\Gamma, x:A_1 \geq \Gamma$  | By definition  |
|    | $\Gamma, x:A_1 \vdash x \downarrow x : A_1$                                | By rule <b>ta_var</b>  |
|    | $\Gamma, x:A_1 \vdash x \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$                     | By ind. hyp. (2)   |
|    | $\Gamma, x:A_1 \vdash M x \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$                   | By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$ |
|    | $\Gamma, x:A_1 \vdash M x \uparrow M' : A_2$                               | By ind. hyp. (1)   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow \lambda x:A_1. M' : A_1 \rightarrow A_2$         | By rule <b>tc</b> $\rightarrow$                              |
| 2. | $\Gamma \vdash M \downarrow M' : A_1 \rightarrow A_2$                      | Assumption   |
|    | $\Gamma' \geq \Gamma$ and $\Gamma' \vdash N \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$ | Assumption   |
|    | $\Gamma' \vdash N \uparrow N' : A_1$                                       | By ind. hyp. (1)   |
|    | $\Gamma' \vdash M \downarrow M' : A_1 \rightarrow A_2$                     | By Weakening   |
|    | $\Gamma' \vdash M N \downarrow M' N' : A_2$                                | By rule <b>ta_app</b>  |
|    | $\Gamma' \vdash M N \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$                         | By ind. hyp. (2)   |
|    | $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$            | By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$ |

□

The second property we need states that every well-typed term is in the logical relation:

If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .

The basic idea is to prove this by induction over the typing derivation of  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$ . However, a direct proof attempt will fail, since during conversion to canonical form we may substitute for variables bound by  $\lambda$ . In general, we must account for a simultaneous substitution for all variables declared in  $\Gamma$ . This leads us to the concept of a *well-typed substitution* which we develop here briefly.

$$\text{Substitutions } \theta ::= \cdot \mid \theta, M/x$$

We assume that no variable is defined more than once in a substitution and write  $\theta(x) = M$  if  $M/x$  occurs in  $\theta$ . We refer to the variables defined in a substitution  $\theta$  as the *domain* of  $\theta$ . We also write  $M_1/x_1, \dots, M_n/x_n$  for  $\cdot, M_1/x_1, \dots, M_n/x_n$ . Substitutions mimic the structure of contexts so that we can easily define *well-typed substitutions*.

$\Delta \vdash \theta : \Gamma$  Substitution  $\theta$  matches  $\Gamma$  in  $\Delta$

If  $\Delta \vdash \theta : \Gamma$  then  $\theta$  supplies appropriately typed substitution terms for all variables declared in  $\Gamma$ . The substitution terms can contain the free variables declared in  $\Delta$ .

$$\frac{}{\Delta \vdash \cdot : \cdot} \qquad \frac{\Delta \vdash \theta : \Gamma \quad \Delta \vdash M : A}{\Delta \vdash (\theta, M/x) : (\Gamma, x:A)}$$

We will take great care to apply substitutions only to objects whose free variables are contained in the domain of  $\theta$ . Assume  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  and  $\Delta \vdash \theta : \Gamma$ . Then

$[\theta]M$  the application of  $\theta$  to  $M$

is defined inductively on the structure of  $M$ .

$$\begin{aligned} [\theta]\langle M_1, M_2 \rangle &= \langle [\theta]M_1, [\theta]M_2 \rangle \\ [\theta](\mathbf{fst} M) &= \mathbf{fst} ([\theta]M) \\ [\theta](\mathbf{snd} M) &= \mathbf{snd} ([\theta]M) \\ [\theta]x &= \theta(x) \\ [\theta](\lambda x:A. M) &= \lambda x:A. [\theta, x/x]M \\ [\theta](M_1 M_2) &= ([\theta]M_1) ([\theta]M_2) \\ [\theta]\langle \rangle &= \langle \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Well-typed substitutions map well-typed objects to well-typed objects.

**Lemma 8.6** (Well-Typed Substitutions) *If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  and  $\Delta \vdash \theta : \Gamma$  then  $\Delta \vdash [\theta]M : A$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of the derivation  $\mathcal{D} :: \Gamma \vdash M : A$ .<sup>9</sup>  $\square$

An important notion in many proofs is the composition of substitution. In our formulation, this can be viewed as applying a substitution to every object in another substitution. Assume  $\Gamma \vdash \theta' : \Gamma'$  and  $\Delta \vdash \theta : \Gamma$ . Then we define

$[\theta]\theta'$  the composition of  $\theta$  and  $\theta'$

by induction on the structure of  $\theta'$ .

$$\begin{aligned} [\theta](\cdot) &= \cdot \\ [\theta](\theta', M/x) &= [\theta]\theta', ([\theta]M)/x \end{aligned}$$

Composing well-typed substitutions with matching domain and range leads to well-typed substitutions.

**Lemma 8.7** (Composition of Substitutions) *If  $\Delta \vdash \theta : \Gamma$  and  $\Gamma \vdash \theta' : \Gamma'$  then  $\Delta \vdash [\theta]\theta' : \Gamma'$ . Furthermore, for objects  $M$  such that  $\Gamma' \vdash M : A$  and substitutions  $\theta''$  such that  $\Gamma' \vdash \theta'' : \Gamma''$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} [[\theta]\theta']M &= [\theta]([\theta']M), \\ [[\theta]\theta']\theta'' &= [\theta]([\theta']\theta''). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of  $M$  and  $\theta''$ .<sup>10</sup>  $\square$

---

<sup>9</sup>*[write out?]*

<sup>10</sup>*[write out?]*

Given a context  $\Gamma = x_1:A_1, \dots, x_n:A_n$  we define the *identity substitution over  $\Gamma$*  by  $id_\Gamma = x_1/x_1, \dots, x_n/x_n$ . We have the following obvious properties.

**Lemma 8.8** (Identity Substitution) *If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash [id_\Gamma]M : A$ . Also, if  $\Gamma \vdash \theta' : \Gamma'$  then  $\Gamma \vdash [id_\Gamma]\theta' : \Gamma'$ . Moreover,*

$$\begin{aligned} [id_\Gamma]M &= M, \\ [id_\Gamma]\theta' &= \theta'. \end{aligned}$$

We now extend the notion of logical relation to contexts. A substitution  $\theta$  is in the relation  $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$  if for every definition  $M/x$  in  $\theta$  and corresponding declaration  $x:A$  in  $\Gamma$ ,  $M$  is in the relation  $\llbracket A \rrbracket$ .

1.  $\Delta \vdash \cdot \in \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ .
2.  $\Delta \vdash \theta' \in \llbracket \Gamma, x:A \rrbracket$  iff  $\theta' = (\theta, M/x)$ ,  $\Delta \vdash \theta \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$  and  $\Delta \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .

**Lemma 8.9** (Weakening for Logical Relations)

1. If  $\Delta \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$  and  $\Delta' \geq \Delta$  then  $\Delta' \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .
2. If  $\Delta \vdash \theta \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$  and  $\Delta' \geq \Delta$  then  $\Delta' \vdash \theta \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$ .

**Proof:** <sup>11</sup>

□

**Lemma 8.10** (Closure under Head Expansion) *If  $\Gamma \vdash M' \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$  and  $M \xrightarrow{whr} M'$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on  $A$ .

**Case:**  $A = a$ .

$\Gamma \vdash M' \in \llbracket a \rrbracket$	Assumption
$\Gamma \vdash M' \uparrow M'' : a$	By Lemma 8.5
$M \xrightarrow{whr} M'$	Assumption
$\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow M'' : a$	By rule <code>tc_whr</code>
$\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket a \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket a \rrbracket$

**Case:**  $A = A_1 \times A_2$ .

---

<sup>11</sup>[*skip, exercise, or fill in*]

$\Gamma \vdash M' \in \llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$	Assumption
$\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M' \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$
$\mathbf{fst} M \xrightarrow{whr} \mathbf{fst} M'$	By rule $\mathbf{whr\_fst}$
$\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $A_1$
$\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M' \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$
$\mathbf{snd} M \xrightarrow{whr} \mathbf{snd} M'$	By rule $\mathbf{whr\_snd}$
$\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{snd} M \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $A_2$
$\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$

**Case:**  $A = A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ .

$\Gamma \vdash M' \in \llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$	Assumption
$\Gamma' \vdash N \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$ for $\Gamma' \geq \Gamma$	Assumption
$\Gamma' \vdash M' N \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$
$M N \xrightarrow{whr} M' N$	By rule $\mathbf{whr\_app}$
$\Gamma' \vdash M N \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $A_2$
$\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$

**Case:**  $A = 1$ . The  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket 1 \rrbracket$  by definition of  $\llbracket 1 \rrbracket$ .

□

We can now generalize the central lemma appropriately to all substitution instances of  $M$ . Using the identity substitution for  $\theta$  yields the desired theorem.

**Lemma 8.11** *If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then for any  $\Delta \vdash \theta \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$ ,  $\Delta \vdash [\theta]M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .*

**Proof:** By induction on the structure of  $\mathcal{D} :: \Gamma \vdash M : A$ .

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\Gamma(x) = A}{\Gamma \vdash x : A} \mathbf{tp\_var}.$$

$\Delta \vdash \theta \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$	Assumption
$[\theta]M = [\theta]x = \theta(x) \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_1 \\ \Gamma \vdash M_1 : A_1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_2 \\ \Gamma \vdash M_2 : A_2 \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle : A_1 \times A_2} \mathbf{tp\_pair}.$$



$\Delta \vdash [\theta]M_1 \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_1$
$\Delta \vdash \mathbf{fst} \langle [\theta]M_1, [\theta]M_2 \rangle \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By closure under head expansion
$\Delta \vdash \mathbf{fst} [\theta] \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By definition of substitution
$\Delta \vdash [\theta]M_2 \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_2$
$\Delta \vdash \mathbf{snd} \langle [\theta]M_1, [\theta]M_2 \rangle \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By closure under head expansion
$\Delta \vdash \mathbf{snd} [\theta] \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of substitution
$\Delta \vdash [\theta] \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \in \llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash M_1 : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{fst} M_1 : A_1} \text{tp\_fst.}$$

$\Delta \vdash [\theta]M_1 \in \llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_1$
$\Delta \vdash \mathbf{fst} ([\theta]M_1) \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \times A_2 \rrbracket$
$\Delta \vdash [\theta](\mathbf{fst} M_1) \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By definition of substitution

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in  $\text{tp\_snd}$ . Dual to the previous case.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad \Gamma, x:A_1 \vdash M_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x:A_1. M_2 : A_1 \rightarrow A_2} \text{tp\_lam.}$$

We need to show that  $\Delta \vdash [\theta](\lambda x:A_1. M_2) \in \llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$ .

$\Delta' \geq \Delta$ and $\Delta' \vdash N \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	Assumption
$\Delta' \vdash (\theta, N/x) \in \llbracket \Gamma, x:A_1 \rrbracket$	By definition and weakening of $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$
$\Delta' \vdash [\theta, N/x]M_2 \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_1$
$\Delta' \vdash [id_{\Delta'}, N/x](\theta, x/x]M_2) \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By composition of substitutions
$\Delta' \vdash (\lambda x:A_1. [\theta, x/x]M_2) N \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By closure under head expansion
$\Delta' \vdash ([\theta](\lambda x:A_1. M_2)) N \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of substitution
$\Delta \vdash [\theta](\lambda x:A_1. M_2) \in \llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rrbracket$

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash M_1 : A_2 \rightarrow A_1 \quad \mathcal{D}_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash M_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash M_1 M_2 : A_1} \text{tp\_app.}$$

$\Delta \vdash [\theta]M_1 \in \llbracket A_2 \rightarrow A_1 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_1$
$\Delta \vdash [\theta]M_2 \in \llbracket A_2 \rrbracket$	By ind. hyp. on $\mathcal{D}_2$
$\Delta \geq \Delta$	By definition
$\Delta \vdash ([\theta]M_1) ([\theta]M_2) \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By definition of $\llbracket A_2 \rightarrow A_1 \rrbracket$
$\Delta \vdash [\theta](M_1 M_2) \in \llbracket A_1 \rrbracket$	By definition of substitution

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \langle \rangle : 1} \text{tp\_triv.}$$

Since  $[\theta]\langle \rangle = \langle \rangle$  we have to show that  $\Delta \vdash \langle \rangle \in \llbracket 1 \rrbracket$  which holds by definition of  $\llbracket 1 \rrbracket$ .

□

**Lemma 8.12** *If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ .*

**Proof:** We first show that  $\Gamma \vdash id_\Gamma \in \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$ . This holds if  $\Gamma \vdash x \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$  for every  $x:A$  declared in  $\Gamma$ . But  $\Gamma \vdash x \downarrow x : A$  by rule `atm_var`, so we can apply Lemma 8.5(2) to conclude that  $\Gamma \vdash x \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ . Thus, by Lemma 8.11,  $\Gamma \vdash [id_\Gamma]M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$  and thus  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ . □

**Theorem 8.13** *If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then there exists an  $N$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : A$ .*

**Proof:** By Lemma 8.12,  $\Gamma \vdash M \in \llbracket A \rrbracket$ . By Lemma 8.5(1),  $\Gamma \vdash M \uparrow N : A$  for some  $N$ . □

### 8.3 Canonical Forms for Natural Deductions

The canonical form theorem can be generalized to first-order natural deductions with the universal quantifier.<sup>12</sup> There are two basic approaches to its proof: we can map the first-order case into the propositional case via a simplifying extraction as in Section 7.6, or we can extend the logical relations argument directly. Since a further generalization to the dependently typed  $\lambda$ -calculus  $\lambda^\Pi$  is given in Section ??, we do not repeat the argument here. Instead we concentrate on the definition of the necessary judgments directly on natural deductions and their formalization in Elf.

<sup>12</sup>It fails under the extension by falsehood, disjunction, or existential quantification; some counterexamples are given below.

**Canonical Natural Deductions.** A natural deduction of an atomic formula must be an atomic deduction; otherwise it must end in an elimination rule. An atomic deduction is a sequence of elimination rules applied to an hypothesis; the minor premiss in implication elimination must again be canonical. This informal definition is easily written out as a judgment and implemented in Elf.

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D} \\ A \end{array} \uparrow \quad \mathcal{D} \text{ is canonical}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D} \\ A \end{array} \downarrow \quad \mathcal{D} \text{ is atomic}$$

Since the definition of canonical deductions is inductive on the structure of the formula  $A$ , we make this index explicit in the implementation of the judgment as a type family `can`. Furthermore, it is convenient to introduce a separate type `p` for atomic formulas. At the cost of some clarity and efficiency, we could also introduce a judgment of atomic formula.

```
p : type. % atomic formulas
atom : p -> o.
```

We use  $P$  and  $Q$  throughout this section to stand for atomic formulas  $P(t_1, \dots, t_n)$  in order to simplify notation. One should remember that (first-order) terms may occur in atomic formulas.

```
can : {A:o} pf A -> type. % Canonical deductions
atm : pf A -> type.      % Atomic deductions
```

A deduction ending in the  $\wedge I$  rule is canonical if the subdeductions are canonical. As a higher-level inference rule, this would be expressed as

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \uparrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B} \uparrow}{\text{can}_\wedge I} \quad \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B}}{A \wedge B} \wedge I}{\uparrow}$$

This notation becomes unwieldy, especially when it involves hypothetical and parametric judgments at different levels. Instead, we write it as follows.

$$\frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \uparrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B} \uparrow}{A \wedge B} \wedge I \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \uparrow \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B} \uparrow$$

It should be understood as a shorthand for the higher-level inference rules above, which is underscored by its implementation in Elf. For the implementation of natural deduction, see Section 7.3.

```
can_andi : can (A and B) (andi D E)
          <- can A D
          <- can B E.
```

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg u \\ A \\ \mathcal{D} \\ B \end{array}}{A \supset B} \supset I^u \quad \uparrow \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\begin{array}{c} \neg u \\ A \\ \mathcal{D} \\ B \end{array}}{B} \uparrow \quad \text{under hypothesis} \quad \frac{\neg u}{A} \downarrow$$

```
can_impi : can (A imp B) (impi D)
          <- {u:pf A} atm u -> can B (D u).
```

$$\frac{}{\top} \top I \quad \uparrow$$

```
can_truei : can (true) (truei).
```

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D} \\ [a/x]A \end{array}}{\forall x. A} \forall I \quad \uparrow \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{[a/x]A} \uparrow$$

```
can_foralli : can (forall A) (foralli D)
             <- {a:i} can (A a) (D a).
```

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{P} \uparrow \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{P} \downarrow$$

```
can_atm : can (atom P) D
          <- atm D.
```

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D} \\ A \wedge B \end{array}}{A} \wedge E_L \quad \downarrow \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{A \wedge B} \downarrow$$

```
atm_andel : atm (andel D) <- atm D.
```

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A \wedge B} \wedge E_R \quad \downarrow \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{A \wedge B} \quad \downarrow$$

atm\_ander : atm (ander D) <- atm D.

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{B \supset A} \supset E \quad \downarrow \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{B \supset A} \quad \downarrow \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{B} \quad \uparrow$$

atm\_impe : atm (impe D (E : pf B))  
 <- atm D  
 <- can B E.

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \forall E \quad \downarrow \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \quad \downarrow$$

atm\_foralle : atm (foralle D T)  
 <- atm D.

**Conversion to Canonical Deductions.** Conversion to canonical deductions closely follows the ideas in Section 8.2. We only show the cases for universal quantification in weak head reduction, conversion to canonical, and conversion to atomic form.

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \xrightarrow{whr} \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A} \quad \mathcal{D} \text{ weakly head reduces to } \mathcal{D}'$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \uparrow \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A} \quad \mathcal{D} \text{ converts to canonical form } \mathcal{D}'$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \downarrow \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A} \quad \mathcal{D} \text{ converts to atomic form } \mathcal{D}'$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \forall E \xrightarrow{whr} \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{\forall x. A} \forall E \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \xrightarrow{whr} \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{\forall x. A}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \uparrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{[a/x]A} \forall I \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \forall E \uparrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{[a/x]A} \\
\\
\frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \forall E \downarrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{[t/x]A} \forall E \quad \text{if} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}}{\forall x. A} \downarrow \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{\forall x. A}
\end{array}$$

Below we give the full implementation of the judgments. We use the familiar technique of representation object-level substitution by meta-level application. First, the local reductions.

```

whr : pf A -> pf A -> type.  % Weak head reduction

whr_andl : whr (andel (andi D E)) D.
whr_andr : whr (ander (andi D E)) E.
whr_imp  : whr (impe (impi D) E) (D E).
whr_forall : whr (foralle (foralli D) T) (D T).

```

Next, the congruences on elimination rules. These embody the reduction strategy that permits reductions in the head only.

```

whr_andel : whr (andel D) (andel D')
  <- whr D D'.
whr_ander : whr (ander D) (ander D')
  <- whr D D'.
whr_impe  : whr (impe D E) (impe D' E)
  <- whr D D'.
whr_foralle : whr (foralle D T) (foralle D' T)
  <- whr D D'.

```

Conversion to canonical forms depends on the structure of the formula  $A$ . As a stylistic choice we thus make this argument explicit.

```

tocan : {A:o} pf A -> pf A -> type. % Conversion to canonical form
toatm : pf A -> pf A -> type.      % Conversion to atomic form

tc_and : tocan (A and B) D (andi D1' D2')
  <- tocan A (andel D) D1'
  <- tocan B (ander D) D2'.

tc_imp : tocan (A imp B) D (impi D')
  <- {u:pf A} toatm u u -> tocan B (impe D u) (D' u).

```

```

tc_true : tocan (true) D (truei).

tc_forall : tocan (forall A) D (forallli D')
            <- {a:i} tocan (A a) (foralle D a) (D' a).

tc_whr : tocan (atom P) D D'
          <- whr D D''
          <- tocan (atom P) D'' D'.

tc_atm : tocan (atom P) D D'
          <- toatm D D'.

```

In the conversion to atomic form we use an explicit type annotation ( $E : \text{pf } A$ ) in order to show that the formula  $A$  in the recursive call is determined by the input derivation. From an operational point of view this is not necessary.

```

ta_impe : toatm (impe D (E : pf A)) (impe D' E')
          <- toatm D D'
          <- tocan A E E'.

ta_andel : toatm (andel D) (andel D')
          <- toatm D D'.

ta_ander : toatm (ander D) (ander D')
          <- toatm D D'.

ta_foralle : toatm (foralle D T) (foralle D' T)
          <- toatm D D'.

```

The first theorem shows that conversion yields canonical deductions.

**Theorem 8.14** (Conversion Yields Canonical Deductions)

1. If  $\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \uparrow \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A}$  then  $\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A} \uparrow$ .
2. If  $\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \downarrow \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A}$  then  $\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A} \downarrow$ .

**Proof:** By induction over the structure of the derivations that show the conversion judgments hold, after we generalize to permit hypotheses. This generalization is explicit in the context  $\Gamma$  in the appropriate analogue for the simply typed  $\lambda$ -calculus (Theorem 8.3).  $\square$

The representation of this proof is straightforward, except for the case involving a hypothetical derivation. We only show this case; the remaining cases can be found in the code that accompanies these notes.<sup>13</sup>

```
iscan : tocan A D D' -> can A D' -> type.
isatm : toatm D D' -> atm D' -> type.

isc_imp : iscan (tc_imp TC1) (can_imp CN1)
  <- {u:pf A} {ta:toatm u u} {at:atm u}
    isatm ta at -> iscan (TC1 u ta) (CN1 u at).
```

The hypothesis `isatm ta at` expresses that `at` is the derivation showing that the result of converting `u` to atomic form is atomic. It may be helpful to recall the declarations for `can_imp` and `tc_imp`.

```
can_imp : can (A imp B) (impi D)
  <- {u:pf A} atm u -> can B (D u).

tc_imp : tocan (A imp B) D (impi D')
  <- {u:pf A} toatm u u -> tocan B (impe D u) (D' u).
```

We have the following theorem, which we state here without proof.<sup>14</sup>

**Theorem 8.15** (Canonical Deductions) *If  $\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A}$  then there exists a  $\frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A}$  such that*

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \uparrow \frac{\mathcal{D}'}{A}$$

## 8.4 Completeness of Uniform Derivations

The canonical form theorem for natural deductions for positive, intuitionistic logic

implies the completeness of uniform derivations. Completeness states that  $\frac{\Delta}{G}$

implies  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} G$ . This is a direct corollary of the following theorem and the canonical form theorem.

**Theorem 8.16** (Completeness of Uniform Derivations with Respect to Canonical Deductions)

---

<sup>13</sup>[*filename pointer?*]

<sup>14</sup>[*consider further*]



1. If  $\frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D} \uparrow A}$  then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$ ;

2. if  $\frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D} \downarrow A}$  then for any atom  $P$ ,

$$\begin{array}{c} \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P \\ \vdots \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} P \end{array}$$

The conclusion in statement (2) should be understood as a judgment parametric in  $P$  and hypothetical in  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P$ .

**Proof:** The proof proceeds by induction on the structure of the derivation showing that the natural deduction  $\mathcal{D}$  is canonical (1) and atomic (2).

It is implemented by two mutually recursive type families. The parametric and hypothetical derivation in the conclusion is represented functionally in the framework.

```
cm pcs : can A D -> solve A -> type.
cmpai : {D:pf A} atm D -> ({P:p} A >> P -> solve (atom P)) -> type.
```

In the proof below we suppress the hypothesis  $\Delta$  when possible.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{A_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{A_2}}{A_1 \wedge A_2} \wedge I$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_1 \uparrow$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2 \uparrow$ . Then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1$  and  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2$  by induction hypothesis (1) and thus, by rule  $S\wedge$ ,  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \wedge A_2$ .

```
cm pcs_andi : cm pcs (can_andi CN2 CN1) (s_and S2 S1)
               <- cm pcs CN1 S1
               <- cm pcs CN2 S2.
```

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{u}}{A_2}}{\mathcal{D}_1} A_1}{A_2 \supset A_1} \supset I^u$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_1 \uparrow$  under that hypothesis that  $u \downarrow$ . Then  $\Delta, A_2 \xrightarrow{u} A_1$  by induction hypothesis (1) and hence, by rule  $S\supset$ ,  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \supset A_1$ . In the representation we need to fold in the case for hypotheses below.

```

cmpcs_impi : cmpcs (can_impi CN1) (s_imp S1)
  <- {u:pf A2} {a:atm u} {d:assume A2}
    cmpai u a ([P:p] [i:A2 >> P] s_atom i d)
  -> cmpcs (CN1 u a) (S1 d).

```

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{\top} \top I$$

which is canonical. Then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} \top$  by rule  $S\top$ .

```

cmpcs_truei : cmpcs (can_truei) (s_true).

```

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\mathcal{D}_1 \quad [a/x]A_1}{\forall x. A_1} \forall I$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_1 \uparrow$  and  $\mathcal{D}_1$  is parametric in  $a$ . By induction hypothesis (1),  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} [a/x]A_1$ , also parametric in  $a$ , and thus  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. A_1$  by rule  $S\forall$ .

```

cmpcs_foralli : cmpcs (can_foralli CN1) (s_forall S1)
  <- {a:i} cmpcs (CN1 a) (S1 a).

```

**Case:**  $\frac{\mathcal{D}}{A} \uparrow$  since  $A = Q$  is atomic and  $\mathcal{D} \downarrow$ . By induction hypothesis (2), for any  $P$ ,

$$\begin{array}{c} \Delta \xrightarrow{u} Q \gg P \\ \mathcal{I}_1 \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} P \end{array}$$

If we substitute  $Q$  for  $P$  and

$$\frac{}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} Q \gg Q} \text{I}_{\text{atom}}$$

for the hypothesis, we obtain

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} Q \gg Q} \text{I}_{\text{atom}} \\ \mathcal{I}_1 \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} Q \end{array}$$

which is the required derivation of  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$ . The substitution for  $P$  and the hypothesis is represented in Elf by function application.

```
cmpcs_atm : cmpcs (can_atm (AT1 : atm D)) (I1 Q (i_atom))
  <- cmpai D AT1 I1.
```

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\quad}{A_2} u$$

and  $u \downarrow$ . Then  $A_2$  is a hypothesis in  $\Delta$  and

$$\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \gg P \quad \text{for } A_2 \text{ in } \Delta}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P} S_{\text{atom}}$$

is the required deduction which is parametric in  $P$  and hypothetical  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \gg P$ . The implementation of this case is implicit in the case for  $\supset I$  above.

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{A_1 \wedge A_2}}{A_1} \wedge E_L$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_1 \downarrow$ . By induction hypothesis (2), there is a derivation

$$\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \wedge A_2 \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P} \mathcal{I}_1$$

From this we construct

$$\frac{\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \wedge A_2 \gg P} \wedge I_L}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P} \mathcal{I}_1$$

which satisfies the requirement of (2).

```
cmpai_andel : cmpai (andel D1) (atm_andel CN1)
  ([P:p] [i:A >> P] I1 P (i_andl i))
  <- cmpai D1 CN1 I1.
```

**Case:**  $\mathcal{D}$  ends in  $\wedge E_R$  and the premiss is an atomic deduction. This is dual to the previous case.

```
cmpai_ander : cmpai (ander D1) (atm_ander CN1)
              ([P:p] [i:A >> P] I1 P (i_andr i))
              <- cmpai D1 CN1 I1.
```

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{A_2 \supset A_1} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{A_2}}{A_1} \supset E$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_1 \downarrow$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2 \uparrow$ . By induction hypothesis (2) we have

$$\begin{array}{c} \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \supset A_1 \gg P \\ \mathcal{I}_1 \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} P \end{array}$$

By induction hypothesis (1) we have

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{S}_2 \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \end{array}$$

We construct

$$\frac{\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_1 \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2 \supset A_1 \gg P} \quad \frac{\mathcal{S}_2}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A_2}}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} P} \mid \supset$$

which is the required hypothetical derivation.

```
cmpai_impe : cmpai (impe D1 D2) (atm_impe CN2 AT1)
              ([P:p] [i:A >> P] I1 P (i_imp S2 i))
              <- cmpai D1 AT1 I1
              <- cmpcs CN2 S2.
```

**Case:**

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{\forall x. A_1}}{[t/x]A_1} \forall E$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_1 \downarrow$ . By induction hypothesis (2) we have

$$\begin{array}{c} \Delta \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. A_1 \gg P \\ \mathcal{I}_1 \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} P \end{array}$$

We construct

$$\begin{array}{c} \Delta \xrightarrow{u} [t/x]A_1 \gg P \\ \hline \Delta \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. A_1 \gg P \\ \mathcal{I}_1 \\ \Delta \xrightarrow{u} P \end{array} \mid \forall$$

which is the required hypothetical derivation.

```
cmpai_foralle : cmpai (forall D1 T) (atm_foralle AT1)
                ([P:p] [i] I1 P (i_forall T i))
                <- cmpai D1 AT1 I1.
```

□

**Theorem 8.17** (Completeness of Uniform Derivations) *If  $\frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D}} \frac{A}{A}$  then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$ .*

**Proof:** If  $\frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D}} \frac{A}{A}$  then there exists a  $\mathcal{D}'$  such that  $\frac{\Delta}{\mathcal{D}'}$  and  $\mathcal{D}' \uparrow$  by Theorem 8.15.

By Theorem 8.16(1),  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$ . □

Completeness of uniform derivations is a non-deterministic completeness result from the programming language point of view. The implementation of pure Prolog, even with sound unification, will diverge on some queries that are provable. However, non-deterministic completeness is still valuable, since it allows us to draw strong conclusions from failure of a query. As an example, we consider Peirce's law

$$((q \supset r) \supset q) \supset q$$

which is classically provable (using the law of excluded middle, for example). However, we show that is not intuitionistically provable. Assume there were a derivation  $\mathcal{D} :: ((q \supset r) \supset q) \supset q$  from no hypotheses. By completeness of uniform derivations, there must be a uniform derivation of  $((q \supset r) \supset q) \supset q$ . By a sequence of applications

of the inversion principle, this uniform derivation must have the shape

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{L_0 \xrightarrow{u} q \gg q} \text{I\_atom} \quad \frac{\frac{}{L_0, q \xrightarrow{u} r} ?}{L_0 \xrightarrow{u} q \supset r} \text{S}\supset \\
 \hline
 \frac{L_0 \xrightarrow{u} ((q \supset r) \supset q) \gg q}{(q \supset r) \supset q \xrightarrow{u} q} \text{S\_atom} \\
 \hline
 \frac{(q \supset r) \supset q \xrightarrow{u} q}{\xrightarrow{u} ((q \supset r) \supset q) \supset q} \text{S}\supset
 \end{array}$$

where  $L_0 = (q \supset r) \supset q$ . At the topmost point in this incomplete derivation we have two choices: we can attempt immediate implication with  $L_0$  or with the hypothesis  $q$ . Either one will fail in a few steps since both hypotheses only allow us to potentially establish  $q$  but not  $r$ . This reasoning can be confirmed by using the Elf implementation of uniform derivations. Since the Elf interpreter has a similar non-deterministic completeness guarantee, if it fails we know that there cannot be a uniform derivation of the query.

```
?- {q:p} {r:p} solve ((atom q imp atom r) imp atom q) imp atom q).
no
```

Note the role of the quantification over  $q$  and  $r$  here: since there are no *a priori* given atoms, we in effect say (at the meta-level) that for *any* atoms  $q$  and  $r$ , in the absence of any assumptions on  $q$  and  $r$ , the given formula has no uniform derivation.

We have not yet characterized the notion of uniform derivations completely with regard to natural deductions. The constructive proof of Theorem 8.16 shows how each canonical natural deduction directly corresponds to a uniform derivation. Conversely, every uniform derivation corresponds to a canonical derivation. In fact, the construction that was implicit in the proof of soundness of uniform derivations 8.1 always yields canonical deductions. In order to formulate this observation precisely, we would have to make the construction in the proof of Theorem 8.1 explicit as a higher-level judgment relating uniform derivations  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$  and natural de-

ductions  $\frac{\Delta}{A} \mathcal{D}$  and then show that all derivations  $\mathcal{D}$  in this judgment are canonical.

The informal presentation of this higher-level judgment is left to Exercise ??; we only show its declaration in Elf. Recall that `s_sound S D` is the type family implementing the higher-level judgment. A derivation of this higher-level judgment is now related to a derivation that shows that  $\mathcal{D}$  is canonical. This judgment of level 3 is represented by the type family `ss_can` below; the other two are auxiliary judgments for program formulas and immediate implications.

```

ss_can : s_sound (S : solve A) D -> can A D -> type.
hs_atm : h_sound H D -> atm D -> type.
is_atm : i_sound I D -> ({u:pf A} atm u -> atm (D u)) -> type.

```

The full implementation of these type families can be found in the code.<sup>15</sup>

## 8.5 Resolution

In actual logic programming languages the processes of goal decomposition (uniform derivability) and program decomposition (immediate entailment) are not mutually recursive. Instead, procedure call is modelled by *backwards chaining* or *resolution*. We can view a program formula  $D$  as an complex search instruction that transforms an atomic goal into a complex subgoal. If the subgoal can be solved, then the original goal has a solution. The syntactic simplicity of Horn logic<sup>16</sup> supports this view very directly; in our more general setting the goal transformation is more complex. In this section we define a generalized form of resolution and show that it is sound and complete with respect to uniform derivability.

The strategy of this transformation is to modify immediate entailment  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} D \gg P$  to arrive at  $D \gg P \setminus G$  (where  $G$  is the residual subgoal for  $P$  with respect to  $D$ ) so that all choices present in the definition of immediate implication have been postponed and are represented in  $G$ . For example, instead of solving  $G_2$  directly in

$$\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} D_1 \gg P \quad \Delta \xrightarrow{u} G_2}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} G_2 \supset D_1 \gg P} \mid \supset$$

we add it to the residual subgoal

$$\frac{D_1 \gg P \setminus G_1}{G_2 \supset D_1 \gg P \setminus G_1 \wedge G_2} R \supset .$$

The conjunctive choice: *Which of the two premisses of  $\mid \supset$  do we derive first?* has been postponed to the conjunctive choice for goals *Which of the subgoals in  $G_1 \wedge G_2$  do we solve first?* This strategy for defining resolution meets obstacles quickly. For example, there is no obvious disjunctive choice during goal decomposition to match the disjunctive choice between

$$\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} D_1 \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} D_1 \wedge D_2 \gg P} \mid \wedge_L \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} D_2 \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} D_1 \wedge D_2 \gg P} \mid \wedge_R .$$

Thus we need to extend the language of goals to represent various choices in immediate entailment. We use the new form of goal  $G_1 \vee G_2$  to model the disjunctive choice

<sup>15</sup>[*precise pointer?*]

<sup>16</sup>[*pointer*]

between  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . Since  $\top$  carries no information as a program,  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} \top \gg P$  fails. Hence we need a goal  $\perp$  to represent failure. A universally quantified program represents an existential choice: *Which term  $t$  do we use to instantiate  $x$ ?*

$$\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} [t/x]D \gg P}{\Delta \xrightarrow{u} \forall x. D \gg P} \forall$$

This choice is represented by an existential goal  $\exists x. G$ . Finally, immediate implication can fail for atoms if the program and goal do not match. To shift possible failure to the residual goal, we need a goals  $P_1 \doteq P_2$  equating atoms.

The counterexamples on page 247 show that at least disjunction, existential, and falsehood cannot be simply added to our language, since the uniform derivations would no longer be complete. If we do not insist on a single language for goals and programs, then it is possible to permit them in goals, but rule them out in programs. Uniform derivability remains complete with respect to natural deduction on this smaller class of formulas (see Exercise ??). In slight deviation from the terminology in [MNPS91], we will call them *first-order hereditary Harrop formulas*.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Goal Formulas} & G ::= P \mid G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid D \supset G \mid \top \mid \forall x. G \\ & \quad \mid G_1 \vee G_2 \mid \perp \mid \exists x. G \mid P_1 \doteq P_2 \\ \text{Program Formulas} & D ::= P \mid D_1 \wedge D_2 \mid G \supset D \mid \top \mid \forall x. D \\ \text{Programs} & \Delta ::= \cdot \mid \Delta, D \end{array}$$

The language of program formulas has changed only insofar as the goals  $G$  embedded in them have changed. Adding any of the new constructs as programs destroys the uniform proof property. The following rules are consistent with the postulated search interpretation of the connectives on page 247.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Delta \xrightarrow{r} G & G \text{ has a uniform resolution derivation} \\ D \gg P \setminus G & \text{Resolution of } D \text{ with atom } P \text{ yields residual goal } G \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G_1 \quad \Delta \xrightarrow{r} G_2}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G_1 \wedge G_2} S\wedge \quad \frac{}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} \top} S\top \\
\\
\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G_1 \vee G_2} S\vee_L \quad \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G_2}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G_1 \vee G_2} S\vee_R \\
\\
\frac{\Delta, D_2 \xrightarrow{r} G_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} D_2 \supset G_1} S\supset \quad \frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} [a/x]G_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} \forall x. G_1} S\forall^* \\
\\
\frac{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} [t/x]G_1}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} \exists x. G_1} S\exists \quad \frac{}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} P \doteq P} S\doteq \\
\\
\frac{D \gg P \setminus G \quad \text{for } D \text{ in } \Delta \quad \Delta \xrightarrow{r} G}{\Delta \xrightarrow{r} P} S_{\text{atom}} \\
\\
\frac{D_1 \gg P \setminus G_1 \quad D_2 \gg P \setminus G_2}{D_1 \wedge D_2 \gg P \setminus G_1 \vee G_2} R\wedge \quad \frac{D_1 \gg P \setminus G_1}{G_2 \supset D_1 \gg P \setminus G_1 \wedge G_2} R\supset \\
\\
\frac{}{\top \gg P \setminus \perp} R\top \quad \frac{[a/x]D \gg P \setminus [a/x]G}{\forall x. D \gg P \setminus \exists x. G} R\forall^* \\
\\
\frac{}{Q \gg P \setminus Q \doteq P} R_{\text{atom}}
\end{array}$$

The parameter  $a$  in the rules  $S\forall$  and  $R\forall$  must not already occur in the conclusion judgment. The implementation is complicated by the lack of subtyping in the framework. We would like to declare positive formulas, legal goal and program formulas all as subtypes of arbitrary formulas. An extension of the framework that permit such declarations is sketched in [KP93, Pfe93]. In the absence of such an extension, we introduce various versions of the logical connectives and quantifiers in their various roles (in positive formulas, goal formulas, and program formulas).

```

goal : type.
prog : type.
%name goal G
%name prog D

atom' : p -> goal.
and'   : goal -> goal -> goal. %infix right 11 and'
imp'   : prog -> goal -> goal. %infix right 10 imp'

```

```

true' : goal.
forall' : (i -> goal) -> goal.
or'      : goal -> goal -> goal.  %infix right 11 or'
false'   : goal.
exists'  : (i -> goal) -> goal.
==       : p -> p -> goal.        %infix none 12 ==

atom^ : p -> prog.
and^   : prog -> prog -> prog.  %infix right 11 and^
imp^   : goal -> prog -> prog.  %infix right 10 imp^
true^  : prog. forall^ : (i -> prog) -> prog.

```

These goal and program formulas are related to positive formulas by two trivial judgments.

```

gl : o -> goal -> type.
pg : o -> prog -> type.

gl_atom : gl (atom P) (atom' P).

gl_and : gl (A1 and A2) (G1 and' G2)
        <- gl A1 G1
        <- gl A2 G2.

gl_imp : gl (A2 imp A1) (D2 imp' G1)
        <- gl A1 G1
        <- pg A2 D2.

gl_true : gl (true) (true').

gl_forall : gl (forall A1) (forall' G1)
           <- {a:i} gl (A1 a) (G1 a).

pg_atom : pg (atom P) (atom^ P).

pg_and : pg (A1 and A2) (G1 and^ G2)
        <- pg A1 G1
        <- pg A2 G2.

pg_imp : pg (A2 imp A1) (G2 imp^ D1)
        <- pg A1 D1
        <- gl A2 G2.

```

```
pg_true: pg (true) (true^).
```

```
pg_forall : pg (forall A1) (forall^ D1)
            <- {a:i} pg (A1 a) (D1 a).
```

Resolution enforces legality of goals and programs via the typing.

```
solve' : goal -> type.
assume' : prog -> type.
resolve : prog -> p -> goal -> type.
```

```
s'_and : solve' (G1 and' G2)
        <- solve' G1
        <- solve' G2.
```

```
s'_imp : solve' (D2 imp' G1)
        <- (assume' D2 -> solve' G1).
```

```
s'_true : solve' (true').
```

```
s'_forall : solve' (forall' G1)
            <- {a:i} solve' (G1 a).
```

```
s'_eqp : solve' (P == P).
```

```
s'_orl : solve' (G1 or' G2)
        <- solve' G1.
```

```
s'_orr : solve' (G1 or' G2)
        <- solve' G2.
```

```
s'_exists : {T:i}
            solve' (exists' G1)
            <- solve' (G1 T).
```

```
s'_atom : solve' (atom' P)
        <- assume' D
        <- resolve D P G
        <- solve' G.
```

```
r_and : resolve (D1 and^ D2) P (G1 or' G2)
        <- resolve D1 P G1
        <- resolve D2 P G2.
```

```

r_imp  : resolve (G2 imp^ D1) P (G1 and' G2)
        <- resolve D1 P G1.

r_true : resolve (true^) P (false').

r_forall : resolve (forall^ D1) P (exists' G1)
          <- {a:i} resolve (D1 a) P (G1 a).

r_atom : resolve (atom^ Q) P (Q == P).

```

We first observe that one of our objectives has been achieved: all choices have been removed from resolution.

**Lemma 8.18** (Uniqueness of Residual Goal) *For any  $D$  and  $P$  there exists a unique  $G$  such that  $D \gg P \setminus G$  is derivable.*

**Proof:** By a straightforward induction on the structure of the program formula  $D$ . We only show the implementation.

```

r_total : {D:prog} resolve D P G -> type.

rt_and : r_total (D1 and^ D2) (r_and R2 R1)
        <- r_total D1 R1
        <- r_total D2 R2.

rt_imp : r_total (G2 imp^ D1) (r_imp R1)
        <- r_total D1 R1.

rt_true : r_total (true^) (r_true).

rt_forall : r_total (forall^ D1) (r_forall R1)
          <- {a:i} r_total (D1 a) (R1 a).

rt_atom : r_total (atom^ Q) (r_atom).

```

□

For the remainder of this section we will use  $A$  to stand for positive formulas (the domain of definition for uniform derivability and immediate entailment) and  $\Delta$  for a program consisting entirely of positive formulas. The soundness and completeness theorems for resolution require appropriate generalization so that they can be shown by induction.

**Theorem 8.19** (Soundness of Resolution)

1. If  $\Delta \xrightarrow{r} A$  then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$ ;
2. if  $A \gg P \setminus G$  and  $\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G$  then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P$ .

**Proof:** By induction on the structures of  $\Delta \xrightarrow{r} A$  and  $A \gg P \setminus G$ .<sup>17</sup>

Since every positive formula is a legal goal and program, the informal proof does not distinguish between them. As pointed out above, the implementation must due to the lack of subtyping. The implementation of the proof must therefore explicitly establish the connection between the goals and positive formulas. We only show the declaration of the type families.<sup>18</sup>

```
s'_sound : solve' G -> gl A G -> solve A -> type.
h'_sound : assume' D -> pg A D -> assume A -> type.
r_sound : resolve D P G -> solve' G -> pg A D -> A >> P -> type.
```

□

**Theorem 8.20** (Completeness of Resolution)

1. If  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$  then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{r} A$ ;
2. if  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P$  and  $A \gg P \setminus G$  then  $\Delta \xrightarrow{r} G$ .

**Proof:** By induction on the structures of  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A$  and  $\Delta \xrightarrow{u} A \gg P$ .<sup>19</sup>

Once again we only show the speciation of the type families implementing this proof.<sup>20</sup>

```
s'_comp : solve A -> gl A G -> solve' G -> type.
h'_comp : assume A -> pg A D -> assume' D -> type.
r_comp : A >> P -> pg A D -> resolve D P G -> solve' G -> type.
```

□

If the program is fixed, the resolution judgment allows us to characterize the circumstances under which an atomic goal may succeed. For example, consider

$$D_0 = \text{double}(0, 0) \wedge (\forall x. \forall y. \text{double}(x, y) \supset \text{double}(s(x), s(y))).$$

---

<sup>17</sup>[fill in]

<sup>18</sup>[file pointer]

<sup>19</sup>[fill in]

<sup>20</sup>[code pointer]

Then  $D_0 \gg double(x, y) \setminus G_0$  is derivable if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} G_0 = & double(0, 0) \doteq double(x, y) \\ & \vee \exists x'. \exists y'. double(s(x'), s(y')) \doteq double(x, y) \\ & \wedge double(x', y'). \end{aligned}$$

Since backchaining always yields a unique answer, and there is only one rule for solving an atomic goal, we know that  $double(X, Y)$  will have a proof if and only if  $G_0$  succeeds. That is, we could transform  $D_0$  into the equivalent program

$$\begin{aligned} D'_0 = & \forall x. \forall y. \\ & (double(0, 0) \doteq double(x, y) \\ & \vee \exists x'. \exists y'. double(s(x'), s(y')) \doteq double(x, y) \\ & \wedge double(x', y')) \\ & \supset double(x, y). \end{aligned}$$

If we replace the last implication by a biconditional, then this is referred to as the *iff-completion* of the program  $D_0$ . This is clearly a dubious operation, since the reverse implication is not a legal program. We can assert at the meta-level that if  $double(x, y)$  is derivable by resolution from  $D_0$ , then the formula  $G_0$  must be derivable from  $D_0$ ; replacing this statement by the implication  $\forall x. \forall y. double(x, y) \supset G_0$  is not in general justified. As a logical statement (outside of hereditary Harrop formulas) it only holds under the so-called *closed world assumption*, namely that no further assumptions about  $double$  will ever be made. For Horn clauses (see Section 8.6) this may be a reasonable assumption since the program never changes during the solution of a goal. For hereditary Harrop formulas this is not the case.

## 8.6 Success and Failure Continuations

The system of resolution presented in the preceding section has consolidated choices when compared to uniform derivations. It also more clearly identifies the procedure call mechanism, since goal solution and immediate entailment have been disentangled. However, all choices are still inherited from the Elf meta-language. For example, the order of the subgoals when solving  $G_1 \wedge G_2$  or  $G_1 \vee G_2$  remains implicit in the deductive system. Only the operational semantics of Elf determines that they are attempted from left to right, when their deductive description is viewed as an Elf program, rather than a pure specification. The goal in this section is to make the intended operational semantics of the object language (first-order hereditary Harrop formulas) more explicit and less dependent on the operational semantics of the meta-language.

In our study of Mini-ML we have already encountered a situation where a semantic specification was *a priori* non-deterministic and involved conjunctive and

disjunctive choices. For example, in the evaluation rule for pairing,

$$\frac{e_1 \hookrightarrow v_1 \quad e_2 \hookrightarrow v_2}{\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \hookrightarrow \langle v_1, v_2 \rangle} \text{ev\_pair}$$

the evaluation order of  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  is not specified. This represents a conjunctive choice, since both expressions have to be evaluated to obtain the final value. In the transition to an abstract machine the evaluation order is made explicit without affecting the semantics (as the soundness and completeness theorems for the compiler proved). A disjunctive choice arose from the two rules for the evaluation of **case**  $e_1$  **of**  $z \Rightarrow e_2 \mid s \ x \Rightarrow e_3$ . Since Mini-ML is deterministic removing this choice does not affect the semantics.

Because logic programming is more complex, we do not investigate it to the same depth as Mini-ML. In particular, we do not develop an abstract machine or an execution model in which all non-deterministic choices have been resolved. Instead we leave the existential choice to the meta-language and eliminate conjunctive and disjunctive choice. We also restrict ourselves to a *Horn logic*, which means that program and the available parameters remain constant throughout the execution of any logic program. The definition below actually generalizes ordinary definitions of Horn logic slightly by not enforcing a certain normal form for programs (see Exercise ??).

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Horn Goals} & G ::= P \mid G_1 \wedge G_2 \mid \top \mid G_1 \vee G_2 \mid \perp \mid \exists x. G \mid P_1 \doteq P_2 \\ \text{Horn Programs} & D ::= P \mid D_1 \wedge D_2 \mid G \supset D \mid \top \mid \forall x. D \end{array}$$

We represent a collection of program formulas as a single formula by using conjunction. This allows us to be more explicit about the choice implicit in clause selection, embodied in the premiss “*for*  $D$  *in*  $\Delta$ ” of the **S\_atom** rule. In the main solvability judgment we carry a *success continuation* and a *failure continuation*. The success continuation represents the remaining goal to be solved when the current goal succeeds. The failure continuation represents the possible alternatives to be tried when the current goals fails.

[ *to be completed* ]





## Chapter 9

# Advanced Type Systems\*

Type structure is a syntactic discipline for enforcing levels of abstraction. . . . What computation has done is to create the necessity of formalizing type disciplines, to the point where they can be enforced mechanically.

— John C. Reynolds

*Types, Abstraction, and Parametric Polymorphism* [Rey83]

This chapter examines some advanced type systems and their uses in functional and meta-languages. Specifically, we consider the important concepts of *polymorphism*, *subtyping*, and *intersection types*. Their interaction also leads to new problems which are subject of much current research and beyond the scope of these notes.

Each language design effort is a balancing act, attempting to integrate multiple concerns into a coherent, elegant, and usable language appropriate for the intended application domain. The language of types and its interaction with the syntax on the one hand (through type checking or type reconstruction) and the operational semantics on the other hand (through type preservation) is central. Types can be viewed in various ways; perhaps the most important dichotomy arises from the question whether types are an inherent part of the semantics, or if they merely describe some aspects of a program whose semantics is given independently. This is related to the issue whether a language is *statically* or *dynamically typed*. In a statically typed language, type constraints are checked at compile-time, before programs are executed; only well-typed programs are then evaluated. It also carries the connotation that types are not maintained at run-time, the type-checking having guaranteed that they are no longer necessary. In a dynamically typed language, types are instead tested at run-time in order to prevent meaningless operations (such as computing **fst** *z*).

The semantics of Mini-ML as presented is essentially untyped, that is, the oper-

ational semantics is given for untyped expressions. Since the language satisfies type preservation, a type expresses a property of untyped programs. A program may have multiple types, since it may satisfy multiple properties expressible in the type system. Typing was intended to be static: programs are checked for validity and then evaluated. On the other hand, the semantics of LF (and, by extension, Elf) is typed: only well-typed objects represent terms or derivations. Furthermore, types occur explicitly in objects and are present at run-time, since computation proceeds by searching for an object of a given type. Nonetheless, typing is static in the sense that only well-typed queries can be executed.

Which criteria should be used to evaluate the relative merits of type systems? Language design is an art as well as a craft, so there are no clear and unambiguous rules. Nevertheless, a number questions occur frequently in the comparison of type systems.

**Generality.** How many meaningful programs are admitted? For example, the typing discipline of Mini-ML prohibits self-application ( $\lambda x. x x$ ), even though this function could be meaningfully applied to many arguments, including, for example, the identity function.

**Accuracy.** To what level of detail can we describe or prescribe the properties of programs? For example, in Mini-ML we can express that  $f$  represents a partial function from natural numbers to natural numbers. We can not express that it always terminates or that it maps even numbers to odd numbers.

**Decidability.** Is it decidable if a given expression is well-typed? In a statically typed language this is important, since the compiler should be able to determine if a given input program is meaningful and either execute or reject it.

Often, generality, accuracy, and decidability conflict: if a system is too general or too accurate it may become undecidable. Thus these design goals must be traded off against each other. Other criteria help in making such choices.

**Brevity.** How much type information must be provided by the programmer? It is desirable for the programmer to be allowed to omit some types if there is a canonical way of reconstructing the missing information. Conversely, decidability can often be recovered for very general type systems by requiring many type annotations. In the case of Mini-ML, no type information is necessary in the input language; in Elf, a program consists almost entirely of types.

**Elegance.** Complex, convoluted type systems may be difficult to use in practice, since it may be hard for the programmer to predict which expressions will be considered valid. It also becomes more difficult for the type-checker to give adequate feedback as to the source of a type error. Furthermore, a type system engenders a certain discipline or style of programming. A type system that is hard to understand endangers the elegance and simplicity and therefore the usability of the whole programming language.

**Efficiency.** Besides the theoretical property of decidability, the practical question of the efficiency of type checking must also be a concern. The Mini-ML type-checking problem is decidable, yet theoretically hard because of the rule for **let**. In practice, type checking for ML (which is a significant extension of Mini-ML along many dimensions) is efficient and takes less than 10% of total compilation time except on contrived examples. The situation for Elf is similar.

We return to each of these criteria in the following sections.

## 9.1 Polymorphism\*

Polymorphism, like many other type systems, can be viewed from a number of perspectives. Taking Church's point of view that types are inherently part of a language and its syntax, a polymorphic function is one that may take a type as an argument. We write  $\Lambda$  for abstraction over types, and  $\alpha$  for type variables. Then the *polymorphic identity function*  $\Lambda\alpha. \lambda x:\alpha. x$  first accepts a type  $A$ , then an argument of type  $A$ , and returns its second argument. The type of this function must reflect this dependency between the first and second argument and is typically written as  $\forall\alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ . Note, however, that this is different from dependent types  $\Pi x:A. B$ . Functions of this type only accept objects, not types, as arguments.

Taking Curry's point of view that types are properties of untyped terms, a polymorphic type combines many properties of a function into a single judgment. Returning to Mini-ML, recall that types for expressions are not unique. For example, the identity function  $\triangleright \mathbf{lam} x. x : \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \mathbf{nat}$  and  $\triangleright \mathbf{lam} x. x : (\mathbf{nat} \times \mathbf{nat}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{nat} \times \mathbf{nat})$  are both valid judgments. We can combine these two and many other judgments by stating that  $\mathbf{lam} x. x$  has type  $\tau \rightarrow \tau$  for *all* types  $\tau$ . This might be written as

$$\triangleright \mathbf{lam} x. x : \forall\alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha.$$

Under certain restrictions, every expression can then be seen to have a *principal types*, that is, every type of an expression can be obtained by instantiating the type quantifier.

We investigate  $\lambda^\forall$ , the polymorphic  $\lambda$ -calculus, using a formulation in the style of Church. The language directly extends the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus from Section ??,

but remains a pure  $\lambda$ -calculus in the sense that we do not introduce additional data types or recursion. The primary application of this language in isolation is thus in the area of meta-languages, where meaning of objects are given by their canonical forms. The type system can also be viewed as the core of a functional language, in which other concepts (such as evaluation or compilation) play a prominent role. For the sake of simplicity we omit constant base types and signatures. Since we now permit variables ranging over types, they may be declared in a context, rather than requiring a separate constant declaration mechanism.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Types} & A ::= \alpha \mid A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \mid \forall \alpha. A \\ \text{Objects} & M ::= x \mid \lambda x:A. M \mid M_1 M_2 \mid \Lambda \alpha. M \mid M [A] \end{array}$$

Here  $\alpha$  ranges over type variables and  $x$  over object variables. The type abstraction  $\Lambda \alpha. M$  binds  $\alpha$ , and application of an object to a type is written as  $M [A]$ . The universal type constructor  $\forall$  also binds a type variable  $\alpha$ .

[ *In the remainder of this section we investigate the polymorphic lambda calculus and relate Curry and Church's formulation. We show how to encode data types, discuss type reconstruction, and extend the proof of the existence of canonical forms from the simply-typed version to this setting.* ]

## 9.2 Continuations\*

[ *This section introduces a continuation-passing interpreter based on the original natural semantics using higher-order abstract syntax. We prove soundness and completeness and relate the material to continuation-passing style and CPS conversion. This is carried out in the call-by-value setting; the call-by-name setting is left to an extended exercise.* ]

## 9.3 Intersection and Refinement Types\*

[ *We briefly introduce intersection types in the style of Coppo, but we are primarily interested in subtyping and refinement types. We motivate such a system through examples from Elf and functional programming and then present a declarative and algorithmic typing system and show that they are equivalent. We indicate the connection to abstract interpretation without going into detail.* ]

## 9.4 Dependent Types\*

[ *In this section we finally get around to discussing some of the basics of the meta-theory of LF which we have put off until now. This will include an implementation of LF in Elf, but it will remain rather sketchy in other respects.* ]



## Chapter 10

# Equational Reasoning\*

### 10.1 Cartesian Closed Categories\*

[ We introduce categories and, in particular, CCC's and prove their correspondence to the (extensional) simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus. This material is mostly due to Andrzej Filinski. ]

### 10.2 A Church-Rosser Theorem\*

[ We motivate a Church-Rosser Theorem, either for the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus or for the call-by-value  $\lambda$ -calculus and prove it using the method of parallel reduction. A proof by logical relations proof is left as an exercise. ]

### 10.3 Unification\*

[ Unification is important to the operational semantics of logic programming, and we give and prove the correctness of a simple transformation-based unification algorithm, using the idea of a unification logic. Currently, I am not sure how to make this fit smoothly with the material from the chapter on logic programming, which proceeds at a much higher level. ]





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