A zoo of STLCs

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Types, contexts and terms

Types:

$$A, B ::= A \rightarrow B \mid A \times B \mid A + B \mid \mathbf{1} \mid \mathbf{0}$$

Typing contexts:

$$\Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Gamma, x : A$$

Extrinsic STLC

Extrinsic STLC is the simplest version of typed lambda calculus. The terms are the same as in untyped lambda calculus (with the addition of terms for products, sums, unit and empty). The typing relation takes the form of a type assignment system – we describe which terms have which types, without worrying about issues such as implementation.

Terms

```
Terms: e ::= x \mid \lambda x.e \mid e_1 e_2 \mid (e_1, e_2) \mid \text{outl } e \mid \text{outr } e \mid \text{inl } e \mid \text{inr } e \mid \text{case } e \text{ of } (e_1, e_2) \mid \text{unit } \mid \text{exfalso } e
```

Declarative typing – basics

$$\frac{(x:A) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x:A} VAR$$

Declarative typing – type-directed rules

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash e : B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e : A \rightarrow B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash f : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma \vdash f \ a : B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A \quad \Gamma \vdash b : B}{\Gamma \vdash (a,b) : A \times B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outl } e : A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outr } e : B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl } e : A + B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr } e : A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A + B \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A \to C \quad \Gamma \vdash g : B \to C}{\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{case} \ e \ \mathsf{of} \ (f,g) : C}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unit} : \mathbf{1}} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{exfalso}_{e} : A_{\sigma} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}}$$

Metatheory

Extrinsic STLC enjoys strong metatheoretical properties:

- Confluence: if a term can be reduced to two different terms, these two can in turn be reduced to a common result.
- Termination: computation on well-typed terms always terminates.
- Type preservation: computing with a well-typed term preserves its type.
- Canonicity: in the empty context, normal forms are inductively generated from term constructors.

Intuitively: given a well-typed term, in finite time it computes to another term of the same type which cannot compute anymore. In the empty context, we know the result of this computation must be a constructor.

Uniqueness of typing

However, extrinsic STLC does not enjoy another important property: **uniqueness of typing**. This means that there are terms which can be assigned multiple types. For example, $\lambda x.x$ can be assigned the type $A \to A$ for any type A. There four culprits of this failure are lambda abstractions, sum constructors and exfalso.

Bidirectional STLC

Bidirectional STLC is a version of simply typed lambda calculus which focuses on an efficient implementation of the typechecker. The terms are as in Extrinsic STLC, but with the addition of a general type annotation construct that can appear anywhere and is not mandatory. The typing relation can be presented as type assignment system for reference, but more important are the type checking and type inference relations, both of which are algorithmic, i.e. easily implementable.

Terms

Note: green color marks terms which were not present in Extrinsic STLC.

```
Terms: e ::= x \mid (e : A) \mid \lambda x.e \mid e_1 e_2 \mid (e_1, e_2) \mid \text{outl } e \mid \text{outr } e \mid \text{inl } e \mid \text{inr } e \mid \text{case } e \text{ of } (e_1, e_2) \mid \text{unit } \mid \text{exfalso } e
```

Declarative typing – new rules

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A}{\Gamma \vdash (e : A) : A} Annor$$

Bidirectional typing - basics

$$\frac{(x:A) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow A} VAR$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash (e : A) \Rightarrow A} A_{\text{NNOT}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow B \quad A = B}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A}$$
SuB

Bidirectional typing – type-directed rules

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash e \Leftarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. e \Leftarrow A \to B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash f \Rightarrow A \to B \quad \Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash f \ a \Rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash b \Leftarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash (a,b) \Leftarrow A \times B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outl } e \Rightarrow A} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outr } e \Rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl } e \Leftarrow A + B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr } e \Leftarrow A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A + B \quad \Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow A \rightarrow C \quad \Gamma \vdash g \Leftarrow B \rightarrow C}{\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{case} \ e \ \mathsf{of} \ (f,g) \Leftarrow C}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unit} \Leftarrow \mathbf{1}} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{exfalso}_{e} \Leftarrow A}$$

Bidirectional typing – additional rules

The basic rules are as presented in the previous slide. However, it is possible to add some enhancements. First, we can replace the rule for unit with an inference rulem and if we need to check, we can use subsumption. Second, the paper argues that sum elimination is a general principle, and so it should allow both checking and inference versions. We could also add an inference rule for pairs. It seems there isn't a trade-off either — if the checking rule fails, we can use subsumption and trysto infer.

Metatheory

Similarly to Extrinsic STLC, typing is not unique in Bidirectional STLC. This is because while we do have annotations in terms, we are not forced to use them. Therefore, we can check terms like $\lambda x.x$ with any type of the form $A \to A$. However, inference is unique.

Intrinsic STLC

Intrinsic STLC is the most widespread version of typed lambda calculus. The terms differ from Extrinsic STLC, as type annotations are mandatory on lambdas, sum constructors and the empty type eliminator.

Terms

Note: red color marks places which differ from Extrinsic STLC.

```
Terms:

e ::=
\begin{array}{c}
x \mid \\
\lambda x : A.e \mid e_1 \mid e_2 \mid \\
(e_1, e_2) \mid \text{outl } e \mid \text{outr } e \mid \\
\text{inl}_A \mid e \mid \text{inr}_A \mid e \mid \text{case } e \text{ of } (e_1, e_2) \mid \\
\text{unit} \mid \text{exfalso}_A \mid e
\end{array}
```

Declarative typing - differences

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash e : B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A.e : A \rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl}_{B} \ e : A + B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr}_{A} \ e : A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{exfalso}_A \ e : A}$$

Algorithmic typing – basics

$$\frac{(x:A) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Rightarrow A} VAR$$

Algorithmic typing – type-directed rules

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash e \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A.e \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash f \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash a \Rightarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash f \ a \Rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \Rightarrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash b \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash (a,b) \Rightarrow A \times B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outl } e \Rightarrow A} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outr } e \Rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl}_B \ e \Rightarrow A + B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr}_A \ e \Rightarrow A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A + B \quad \Gamma \vdash f \Rightarrow A \rightarrow C \quad \Gamma \vdash g \Rightarrow B \rightarrow C}{\Gamma \vdash \text{case } e \text{ of } (f,g) \Rightarrow C}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow 0}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unit} \Rightarrow 1} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow 0}{\Gamma \vdash \text{exfalso}_{A} e \Rightarrow A}$$

Metatheory

Because of the annotations on lambda, sum constructors and exfalso, Intrinsic STLC does enjoy uniqueness of typing. It is easy to prove this by induction: types of most terms are determined by the induction hypothesis, whereas for the aforementioned four we need to supplement the induction hypothesis with the annotation.

Dual Intrinsic STLC

If the usual Intrinsic STLC turns out to be a system in which we can infer all types, what would a system in which we can check all types look like?

Terms

Note: red color marks places which differ from Extrinsic STLC.

```
Terms: e ::= x \mid \\ \lambda x.e \mid \operatorname{app}_A e_1 e_2 \mid \\ (e_1, e_2) \mid \operatorname{outl}_A e \mid \operatorname{outr}_A e \mid \\ \operatorname{inl} e \mid \operatorname{inr} e \mid \operatorname{case}_{A,B} e \text{ of } (e_1, e_2) \mid \\ \operatorname{unit} \mid \operatorname{exfalso} e
```

Declarative typing - differences

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f : A \to B \quad \Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma \vdash \operatorname{app}_A f \ a : B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outl}_B \ e : A} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outr}_A \ e : B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A + B \quad \Gamma \vdash f : A \to C \quad \Gamma \vdash g : B \to C}{\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{case}_{A,B} \ e \ \mathsf{of} \ (f,g) : C}$$

Algorithmic typing – basics

$$\frac{(x:A) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x \Leftarrow A} VAR$$

Algorithmic typing - type-directed rules

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash e \Leftarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. e \Leftarrow A \to B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow A \to B \quad \Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{app}_A \ f \ a \Leftarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash b \Leftarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash (a,b) \Leftarrow A \times B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outl}_B \ e \Leftarrow A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outr}_A \ e \Leftarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl } e \Leftarrow A + B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr } e \Leftarrow A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A + B \quad \Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow A \to C \quad \Gamma \vdash g \Leftarrow B \to C}{\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{case}_{A,B} \ e \ \mathsf{of} \ (f,g) \Leftarrow C}$$

Metatheory

Even though Dual Intrinsic STLC has plenty of mandatory annotations, it does not enjoy uniqueness of typing for the usual reasons: we can type $\lambda x.x$ with any type of the form $A \to A$. The role of the annotations is not to force types to be unique, but to make it possible to implement type checking.

STLC with Hints

STLC with Hints is a flavour of STLC inspired by Bidirectional STLC. The main insight behind it is that in Bidirectional STLC, we have a hard time deciding whether a rule should be in checking mode or in inference mode, so why not both? This way, we would have some input type that guides us, but also produce an output type, which is in some sense "better". This is a bit silly if we already have the correct type as input, but we can make this idea work by introducing hints, which are types with holes, and insisting that the input is not a type, but merely a hint.

Hints

$$H ::= ? \mid H_1 \rightarrow H_2 \mid H_1 \times H_2 \mid H_1 + H_2 \mid \mathbf{1} \mid \mathbf{0}$$

Intuitively, hints are partial types. They are built like types, except that there's one additional constructor, ?, which can be read as "hole" or "unknown".

We use the letter H for hints. When we use letters like A, B, C which usually stand in for types, it means that the hint **is** a type, i.e. it doesn't contain any **?**s.

Order on hints

$$\frac{H_1 \sqsubseteq H_1' \quad H_2 \sqsubseteq H_2'}{H_1 \to H_2 \sqsubseteq H_1' \to H_2'}$$

$$\frac{H_1 \sqsubseteq H_1' \quad H_2 \sqsubseteq H_2'}{H_1 \times H_2 \sqsubseteq H_1' \times H_2'}$$

$$\frac{H_1 \sqsubseteq H_1' \quad H_2 \sqsubseteq H_2'}{H_1 + H_2 \sqsubseteq H_1' + H_2'}$$





Order on hints - intuition

The order can be intuitively interpreted as information increase: $H_1 \sqsubseteq H_2$ means that hint H_2 is more informative than H_1 , but in a compatible way. In other words, H_1 and H_2 have the same structure, but some ?s from H_1 were possibly refined to something more informative in H_2 .

Combining hints

$$? \sqcup H = H H \sqcup ? = H (H_1 \to H_2) \sqcup (H'_1 \to H'_2) = (H_1 \sqcup H'_1) \to (H_2 \sqcup H'_2) (H_1 \times H_2) \sqcup (H'_1 \times H'_2) = (H_1 \sqcup H'_1) \times (H_2 \sqcup H'_2) (H_1 + H_2) \sqcup (H'_1 + H'_2) = (H_1 \sqcup H'_1) + (H_2 \sqcup H'_2) 1 \sqcup 1 = 1 0 \sqcup 0 = 0$$

The order on hints induces a partial operation \sqcup , which computes the least upper bound of two hints when it exists. Intuitively, \sqcup combines two hints which share the same structure, filling the ?s in the leaves with something more informative coming from the other argument. For hints with incompatible structure the result is undefined.

Combining hints – properties

If all relevant results are defined, then:

•
$$(H_1 \sqcup H_2) \sqcup H_3 = H_1 \sqcup (H_2 \sqcup H_3)$$

•
$$H_1 \sqcup H_2 = H_2 \sqcup H_1$$

•
$$? \sqcup H = H = H \sqcup ?$$

If \sqcup were not partial, $(H, \sqcup, ?)$ would be a commutative idempotent monoid. But since it is partial, meh...

Hinting – hints for term constructors

```
egin{aligned} & \operatorname{hint}(\lambda x.e) = ? 
ightarrow ? \ & \operatorname{hint}((e_1,e_2)) = ? 	imes ? \ & \operatorname{hint}(\operatorname{inl}\ e) = ? + ? \ & \operatorname{hint}(\operatorname{unit}) = 1 \end{aligned}
```

Terms

Note: red color marks differences from Bidirectional STLC.

Terms:

```
e ::= x \mid (e : H) \mid \lambda x.e \mid e_1 e_2 \mid (e_1, e_2) \mid \text{outl } e \mid \text{outr } e \mid \text{inl } e \mid \text{inr } e \mid \text{case } e \text{ of } (e_1, e_2) \mid \text{unit} \mid \text{exfalso } e
```

Typing contexts assign types to variables, but annotations in terms are hints, not necessarily types.

Declarative typing – differences

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : A \quad H \sqsubseteq A}{\Gamma \vdash (e : H) : A}$$

Hinting – basic rules

$$\frac{(x:A) \in \Gamma \quad H \sqsubseteq A}{\Gamma \vdash x \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow A} V_{AR}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow H_1 \sqcup H_2 \Rightarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash (e:H_1) \Leftarrow H_2 \Rightarrow A} \text{Annor}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \mathtt{hint}(e) \Rightarrow A \quad e \ \mathtt{constructor}}{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow \textbf{?} \Rightarrow A}_{\mathsf{HOLE}}$$

Note that the rule Hole can only be applied once, because hint(e) can never be ?. After applying Hole, the only applicable rules are the type-directed ones.

Hinting – type-directed rules

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash e \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. e \Leftarrow A \rightarrow H \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow ? \rightarrow H \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow A \Rightarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash f \Rightarrow \Rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow H_1 \Rightarrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash b \Leftarrow H_2 \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash (a, b) \Leftarrow H_1 \times H_2 \Rightarrow A \times B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow H \times ? \Rightarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outl } e \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow A} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow H \times ? \Rightarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outr } e \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow B}$$

Hinting – type-directed rules

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl } e \Leftarrow H + B \Rightarrow A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr } e \Leftarrow A + H \Rightarrow A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow ? + ? \Rightarrow A + B \qquad \begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow A \to H \Rightarrow A \to C \\ \Gamma \vdash g \Leftarrow B \to C \Rightarrow B \to C \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{case } e \text{ of } (f,g) \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow C}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \leftarrow \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unit} \leftarrow \mathbf{1} \Rightarrow \mathbf{1}} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \leftarrow \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{exfalso } e \leftarrow A \Rightarrow A}$$



Hinting – alternative rules

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow ? \Rightarrow A \quad \Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow A \to H \Rightarrow A \to B}{\Gamma \vdash f \ a \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow B} \text{AltApp}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow ? \to H \Rightarrow A \to C}{\Gamma \vdash g \Leftarrow ? \to C \Rightarrow B \to C} \qquad \Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A + B \Rightarrow A + B
\Gamma \vdash \text{case } e \text{ of } (f,g) \Leftarrow H \Rightarrow C$$
ALTCASE

We could have made some different choices. For application, we could try to infer the argument type first and then feed it to the function as a hint. For case, we could try to infer domains of the branches first, then feed these as hints when checking the discriminee.

Notations and derived terms

We can introduce some handy notations:

- $\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A :\equiv \Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A \Rightarrow A$
- $\bullet \ \Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A := \Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow ? \Rightarrow A$

We can embed Intrinsic STLC terms:

- $\lambda x : A.e :\equiv (\lambda x.e : A \rightarrow ?)$
- $\operatorname{inl}_B e :\equiv (\operatorname{inl} e : ? + B)$
- $inr_A e :\equiv (inr e : A + ?)$
- $exfalso_A e := (exfalso e : A)$

We can also embed Dual Intrinsic STLC terms:

- app_A f $a :\equiv (f : A \rightarrow ?)$ a
- outl_B $e :\equiv \text{outl} (e : ? \times B)$
- outr_A $e :\equiv \text{outr} (e : A \times ?)$
- case_{A,B} e of (f,g) :=case (e:A+B) of (f,g)

Rules for derived terms

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash e \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A.e \Rightarrow A \rightarrow B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash a \Leftarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash app_A \ f \ a \Leftarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outl}_B \ e \Leftarrow A} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{outr}_A \ e \Leftarrow B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl}_B \ e \Rightarrow A + B} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr}_A \ e \Rightarrow A + B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Leftarrow A + B \quad \Gamma \vdash f \Leftarrow A \to C \quad \Gamma \vdash g \Leftarrow B \to C}{\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{case}_{A,B} \ e \ \mathsf{of} \ (f,g) \Leftarrow C}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e \Rightarrow \mathbf{0}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{exfalso}_A \ e \Rightarrow A} \iff A \iff \mathbb{R} \implies \mathbb$$

Metatheory

Similarly to Extrinsic STLC, STLC with Hints does not enjoy uniqueness of typing. This is because we still can have terms like $\lambda x.x$ with hint ?, which can be typed with any type of the form $A \to A$. However, if the hint is informative enough, then the type is unique. Moreover, every typable term can be given a hint which makes its type unique.