Type Reconstruction

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Goal

◆ Calculating a principle type of a not type-annotated term.
More Formally: Given a pair (Γ,t), compute the most
general type T such that $\Gamma > t : T$ es well typed.

◆ Example: $\quad \phi \succ f = \lambda x.\, x\,(f\;x) \;\Rightarrow\; f : (X \rightarrow X) \rightarrow X$

$$\phi \succ \lambda x.\, x : X \rightarrow X$$

◆ 2 Steps

    ◆ Derive a set of contraints

    ◆ find the principal unifier for these constraints

◆ We compute principal types, not principal typings.

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Unification

- Unification, [Robinson, 1965]

- Unification in linear space complexity
  [Martelli, Montanary, 1984]

Standard Unification

▪ More precisely: syntactic equational unification

▪ We define the set of terms as:

$s,t := x \mid f(t_1,...,t_n)$ with $x \in$ Var, $f \in$ FuncSymbols

▪ Given an equation

$s \approx t$

we search a substitution σ such that

$\sigma\,s = \sigma\,t$

▪ σ is called a *unifier* for $s \approx t$

Standard Unification

◼ We call a unifier σ_1 *more general* than a unifier σ_2 iff there is a substitution σ such that $\sigma \sigma_1 = \sigma_2$.
We write $\sigma_1 \leq \sigma_2$.

◼ A *principal unifier* of $s \approx t$ is a unifier σ such that for all unifiers σ' of $s \approx t$ we have $\sigma \leq \sigma'$.

> **Unification Theorem:** Each equation $s \approx t$ has a principal unifier if it is unifiable.

Example

- $f(x,y) \approx f(a,y)$

- $\sigma_1 = \{ x := a, y := b \}$ is a unifier as
  $\sigma_1 \, f(x,y) = \sigma_1 \, f(a,y)$
  $f(a,b) = f(a,b)$

- $\sigma_2 = \{ x := a \}$ is a principal unifier
  $\sigma_2 \, f(x,y) = \sigma_2 \, f(a,y)$
  $f(a,y) = f(a,y)$

- $\{ y := b \} \, \sigma_2 = \sigma_1$

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Example

- $f(x) \approx g(a)$ is not unifiable

- $x \approx f(x)$ is not unifiable by *standard unification* !!!!

Unification by Martelli/Montanari

$$t \approx t, R \mid \sigma \Rightarrow_{MM} R \mid \sigma$$

$$f(...) \approx g(...), R \mid \sigma \Rightarrow_{MM} \perp \text{ if } f \neq g \text{ or } \text{Arity}(f) \neq \text{Arity}(g)$$

$$f(s_1,...,s_n) \approx f(t_1,...,t_n), R \mid \sigma \Rightarrow_{MM} s_1 \approx t_1, ... , s_n \approx t_n, R \mid \sigma$$

$$x \approx t, R \mid \sigma \Rightarrow_{MM} [x:= t] R \mid [x:=t] \sigma \quad \text{if } x \notin \text{var}(t)$$
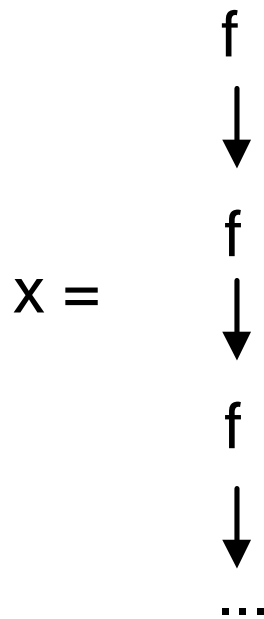$$\text{(Self Occurence Check)}$$

$$x \approx t, R \mid \sigma \Rightarrow_{MM} \perp \quad \text{if } x \in \text{var}(t)$$

$$t \approx x, R \mid \sigma \Rightarrow_{MM} x \approx t, R \mid \sigma$$
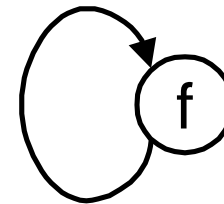
$$\phi \mid \sigma \Rightarrow_{MM} \sigma$$

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Motivation

$x \approx f(x)$ is not unifiable with a **finite** term. But the following regular tree is an **infinite** solution:

Equivalence Test

```
s := φ


fun eq(n,m) =
    if {n,m} ∈ s then
        true
    else if Label(n) ≠ Label(m) or Arity(n) ≠ Arity(m)
        false
    else
        s := s ∪ { {n,m} }
```

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^{Arity(n)} eq(n.i,m.i)$$
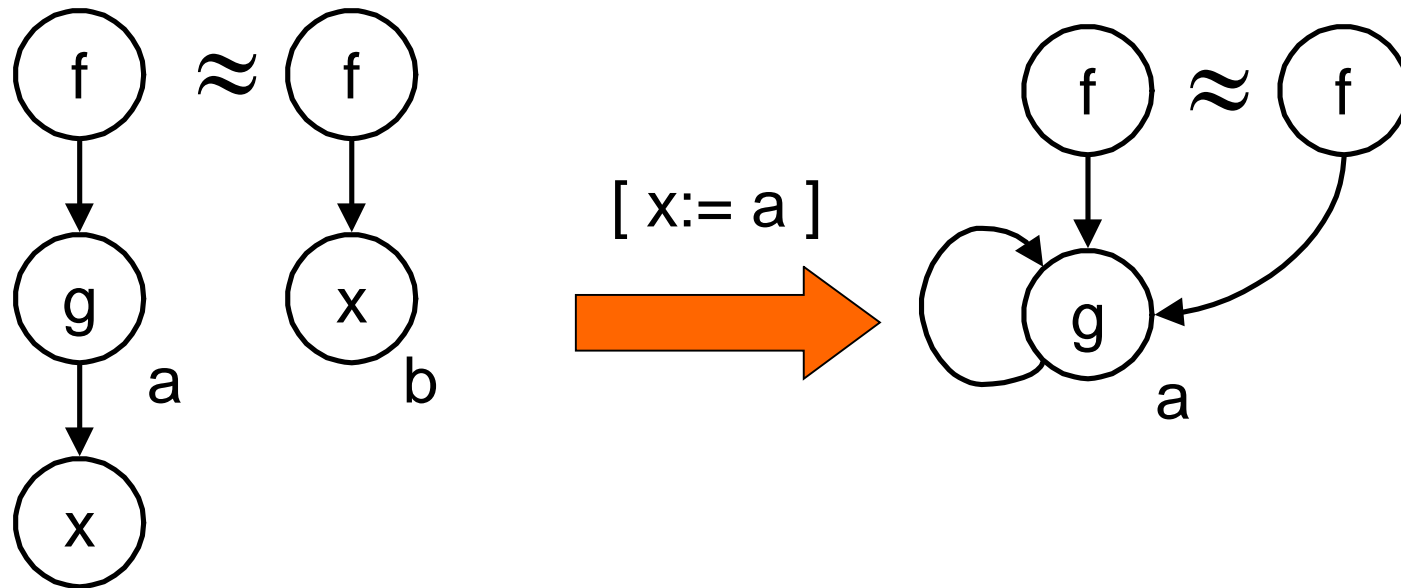
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Nonstandard Unification

See the unification problem $t_1 \approx t_2$ as a graph unification problem. Let *eq* be a function that computes the equivalence between two nodes in a graph.

```
While not eq(t1,t2) do

    let (n,m) be a pair of nodes with Label(n) ≠ Label(m)

        or Arity(n) ≠ Arity(m)

    if Label(n) = f and Label(m) = g and f ≠ g or
        Arity(n) ≠ Arity(m) then return ⊥

    else if Label(n) = x then subst(x,m)

    else if Label(m) = x then subst(x,n)
```

Note: No occurence check !!!!!!
Solutions are infinite regular trees.

Example: f(g(x)) ≈ f(x)

Typing rules for simply typed lambda calculus

Typing Rules

$$\frac{x : T \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \succ x : T} \quad (\text{Ty - Var})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x_1 : T_1 \succ t_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \succ x_1 : T_1 = t_2 : T_2} \quad (\text{Ty - Rec})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : T_1 \succ t_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \succ \lambda x : T_1 . t_2 : T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \quad (\text{Ty - Abs})$$

Note: Abstractions and recursions are type annotated!!!!

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ t_1 : T_2 \rightarrow T_3 \quad \Gamma \succ t_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \succ t_1 \, t_2 : T_3} \quad (\text{Ty - App})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ t_1 : Bool \quad \Gamma \succ t_2 : T \quad \Gamma \succ t_3 : T}{\Gamma \succ \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 : T} \quad (\text{Ty - If})$$

Example λ x. λ y. x y

λ x: Bool $\rightarrow$ Bool. λ y: Bool. x y : (Bool $\rightarrow$ Bool) $\rightarrow$ Bool $\rightarrow$ Bool

λ x: Nat $\rightarrow$ Bool. λ y: Nat. x y : (Nat $\rightarrow$ Bool) $\rightarrow$ Nat $\rightarrow$ Bool

λ x: Bool $\rightarrow$ Y. λ y: Bool. x y : (Bool $\rightarrow$ Y) $\rightarrow$ Bool $\rightarrow$ Y

λ x: X $\rightarrow$ Y. λ y: X. x y : (X $\rightarrow$ Y) $\rightarrow$ X $\rightarrow$ Y

Supposition: It exists a principal type annotation.

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Constraint typing rules

Principal Types, Curry and Feys [1958]

Algorithm to compute principal types, Hindley [1969]

Type reconstruction, Algorithm W, Damas and Milner [1982]

Goal

◆ Calculating a principle type of a not type-annotated term. More Formally: Given a pair (Γ,t), compute the most general type T such that $\Gamma > t : T$ es well typed.

◆ Example: $\quad \phi \succ f = \lambda x. \, x \, (f \, x) \;\Rightarrow\; f : (X \rightarrow X) \rightarrow X$

$$\phi \succ \lambda x. \, x : X \rightarrow X$$

◆ 2 Steps

  ◆ Derive a set of contraints

  ◆ find the principal unifier for these constraints

◆ We compute principal types, not principal typings.

CT-Rules by Pierce

$$\frac{x : T \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : T \mid_\emptyset \{\}} \quad \text{(CT-VAR)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : T_1 \vdash t_2 : T_2 \mid_x C}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : T_1 . t_2 : T_1 \to T_2 \mid_x C} \quad \text{(CT-ABS)}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \mid_{x_1} C_1 \qquad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \mid_{x_2} C_2 \\ X_1 \cap X_2 = X_1 \cap FV(T_2) = X_2 \cap FV(T_1) = \emptyset \\ X \notin X_1, X_2, T_1, T_2, C_1, C_2, \Gamma, t_1, \text{ or } t_2 \\ C' = C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \{T_1 = T_2 \to X\} \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash t_1\, t_2 : X \mid_{X_1 \cup X_2 \cup \{X\}} C'} \quad \text{(CT-APP)}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash 0 : \text{Nat} \mid_\emptyset \{\} \quad \text{(CT-ZERO)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T \mid_x C \\ C' = C \cup \{T = \text{Nat}\}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{succ } t_1 : \text{Nat} \mid_x C'} \quad \text{(CT-SUCC)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T \mid_x C \\ C' = C \cup \{T = \text{Nat}\}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{pred } t_1 : \text{Nat} \mid_x C'} \quad \text{(CT-PRED)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T \mid_x C \\ C' = C \cup \{T = \text{Nat}\}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{iszero } t_1 : \text{Bool} \mid_x C'} \quad \text{(CT-ISZERO)}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{true} : \text{Bool} \mid_\emptyset \{\} \quad \text{(CT-TRUE)}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{false} : \text{Bool} \mid_\emptyset \{\} \quad \text{(CT-FALSE)}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \mid_{x_1} C_1 \\ \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \mid_{x_2} C_2 \qquad \Gamma \vdash t_3 : T_3 \mid_{x_3} C_3 \\ X_1, X_2, X_3 \text{ nonoverlapping} \\ C' = C_1 \cup C_2 \cup C_3 \cup \{T_1 = \text{Bool}, T_2 = T_3\} \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 : T_2 \mid_{x_1 \cup x_2 \cup x_3} C'} \quad \text{(CT-IF)}$$

Figure 22-1: Constraint typing rules

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Constraint typing rules

Let all X_i be fresh type variables.

$$\frac{x:T \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \succ x:T \mid \{\}} \ (\text{CT - Var}) \qquad \frac{\Gamma, x_1:X_1 \succ t_2:T_2 \mid C}{\Gamma \succ x_1:X_1 = t_2:T_2 \mid C \cup \{X_1 = T_2\}} \ (\text{CT - Rec})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:X_1 \succ t_2:T_2 \mid C}{\Gamma \succ \lambda x:X_1.t_2:X_1 \to T_2 \mid C} \ (\text{CT - Abs})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ t_1:T_1 \mid C_1 \quad \Gamma \succ t_2:T_2 \mid C_2}{\Gamma \succ t_1 \ t_2:X \mid C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \{T_1 = T_2 \to X\}} \ (\text{CT - App})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ t_1:T_1 \mid C_1 \quad \Gamma \succ t_2:T_2 \mid C_2 \quad \Gamma \succ t_3:T_3 \mid C_3}{\Gamma \succ \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3:T_2 \mid C_1 \cup C_2 \cup C_3 \cup \{T_1 = Bool, T_2 = T_3\}} \ (\text{CT - If})$$

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Idea

◆ Do just the same as the standard typing rules.

◆ Introduce fresh type variables each time a type can't be computed directly.

◆ Construct constraints consisting of the conditions the typing rules check.

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CT-Var

$$\frac{x : T \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \succ x : T} \qquad \text{Ty-Var}$$

$$\frac{x : T \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \succ x : T \mid \{\}} \qquad \text{CT-Var}$$

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CT-Rec

$$\frac{\Gamma, x_1 : T_1 \succ t_2 : T_2 \quad T_1 = T_2}{\Gamma \succ x_1 : T_1 = t_2 : T_2} \qquad \text{Ty-Rec}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x_1 : X_1 \succ t_2 : T_2 \mid C}{\Gamma \succ x_1 : X_1 = t_2 : T_2 \mid C \cup \{X_1 = T_2\}}$$

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CT-Abs

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:T_1 \succ t_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \succ \lambda x:T_1.t_2 : T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \quad \text{Ty-Abs}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:X_1 \succ t_2 : T_2 \mid C}{\Gamma \succ \lambda x:X_1.t_2 : X_1 \rightarrow T_2 \mid C} \quad \text{CT-Abs}$$

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CT-App

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ t_1 : T_2 \to T_3 \quad \Gamma \succ t_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \succ t_1 \, t_2 : T_3} \quad \text{Ty-App}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ t_1 : T_1 \mid C_1 \quad \Gamma \succ t_2 : T_2 \mid C_2}{\Gamma \succ t_1 \, t_2 : X_3 \mid C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \{T_1 = T_2 \to X_3\}}$$

Example $\quad f = \lambda x.\, x\,(f\ x)$

$$\cfrac{\cfrac{f:X_1, x:X_2 \succ x:X_2 \mid \phi \quad \cfrac{f:X_1, x:X_2 \succ f:X_1 \mid \phi \quad f:X_1, x:X_2 \succ x:X_2 \mid \phi}{f:X_1, x:X_2 \succ f\ x:X_3 \mid \{X_1 = X_2 \to X_3\} = C_1}}{f:X_1, x:X_2 \succ x\,(f\ x):X_4 \mid C_1 \cup \{X_2 = X_3 \to X_4\} = C_2}}{\cfrac{f:X_1 \succ \lambda x:X_2.\, x\,(f\ x):X_2 \to X_4 \mid C_2}{\phi \succ f:X_1 = \lambda x:X_2.\, x\,(f\ x):X_1 \mid C_2 \cup \{X_1 = X_2 \to X_4\}}}$$

$$C_3 = \begin{Bmatrix} X_1 = X_2 \to X_3 \\ X_2 = X_3 \to X_4 \\ X_1 = X_2 \to X_4 \end{Bmatrix}$$

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Example

$$C_3 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_1 = X_2 \to X_3 \\ X_2 = X_3 \to X_4 \\ X_1 = X_2 \to X_4 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sigma_1 C_3 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_2 \to X_3 = X_2 \to X_3 \\ X_2 = X_3 \to X_4 \\ X_2 \to X_3 = X_2 \to X_4 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sigma_1 = [X_1 := X_2 \to X_3]$$

$$\sigma_2 = [X_1 := X_2 \to X_4, X_3 := X_4]$$

$$\sigma_2 C_3 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X_2 \to X_4 = X_2 \to X_4 \\ X_2 = X_4 \to X_4 \\ X_2 \to X_4 = X_2 \to X_4 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sigma_3 C_3 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (X_4 \to X_4) \to X_4 = (X_4 \to X_4) \to X_4 \\ X_4 \to X_4 = X_4 \to X_4 \\ (X_4 \to X_4) \to X_4 = (X_4 \to X_4) \to X_4 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\sigma_3 = [X_1 := (X_4 \to X_4) \to X_4, X_3 := X_4, X_2 := X_4 \to X_4]$$

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Recursive Types

◆ CT-Rules can be maintained

◆ Use the Nonstandard Unification Algorithm

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Simple Example $\lambda x.\, x\, x$

$$\cfrac{\cfrac{\{x : X_1\} \succ x : X_1 \mid \phi \qquad \{x : X_1\} \succ x : X_1 \mid \phi}{\{x : X_1\} \succ x\, x : X_2 \mid \{X_1 = X_1 \rightarrow X_2\}}}{\phi \succ \lambda x : X_1.\, x\, x : X_1 \rightarrow X_2 \mid \{X_1 = X_1 \rightarrow X_2\}}$$
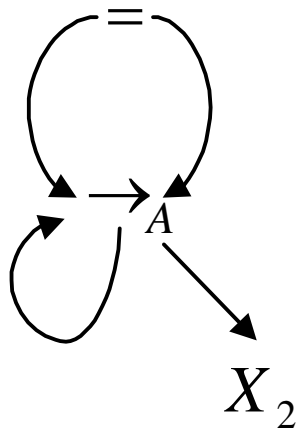
$$C = \{X_1 = X_1 \rightarrow X_2\}$$

Unification

$$\sigma = \phi$$

Unification

$$\sigma = [X_1 = A]$$

Most general type of $\lambda x.\, x\, x$

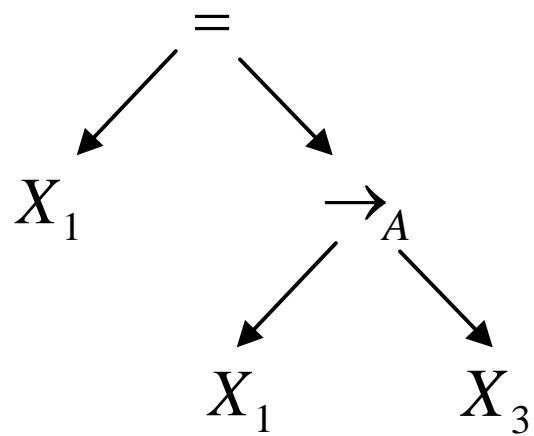is $\left(\mu\, X_1 : X_1 \rightarrow X_2\right) \rightarrow X_2$

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Advanced Example

$$F = \lambda x.\lambda y.\, y\,(x\,x\,y) \qquad fix = F\,F$$

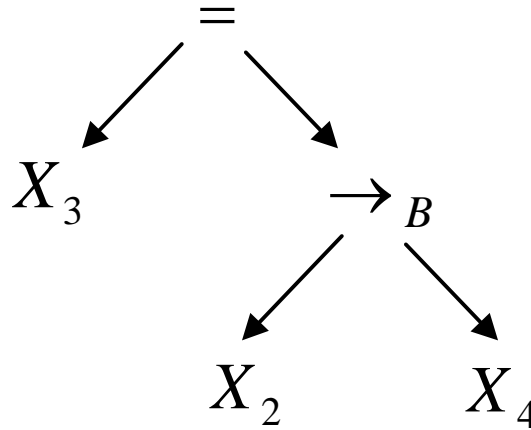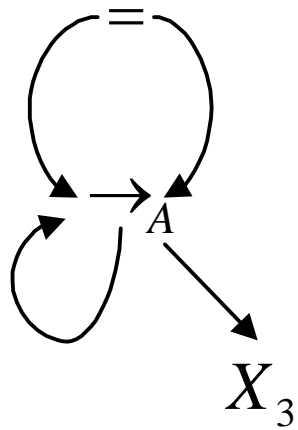$$\cfrac{\Gamma \succ y : X_2 \mid \phi \qquad \cfrac{\cfrac{\Gamma \succ x : X_1 \mid \phi \qquad \Gamma \succ x : X_1 \mid \phi}{\Gamma \succ x\,x : X_3 \mid \{X_1 = X_1 \to X_3\} = C_1} \qquad \Gamma \succ y : X_2 \mid \phi}{\Gamma \succ x\,x\,y : X_4 \mid C_1 \cup \{X_3 = X_2 \to X_4\} = C_2}}{\cfrac{\Gamma = \{x : X_1, y : X_2\} \succ y\,(x\,x\,y) : X_5 \mid C_2 \cup \{X_2 = X_4 \to X_5\} = C_3}{\phi \succ \lambda x : X_1\,\lambda y : X_2.\, y\,(x\,x\,y) : X_1 \to X_2 \to X_5 \mid C_3}}$$

$$C_3 = \begin{cases} X_1 = X_1 \to X_3 \\ X_3 = X_2 \to X_4 \\ X_2 = X_4 \to X_5 \end{cases}$$
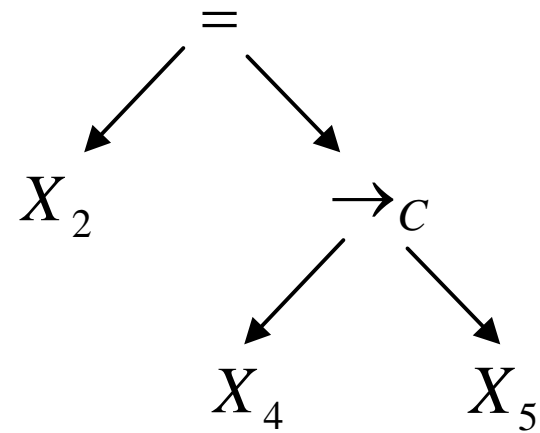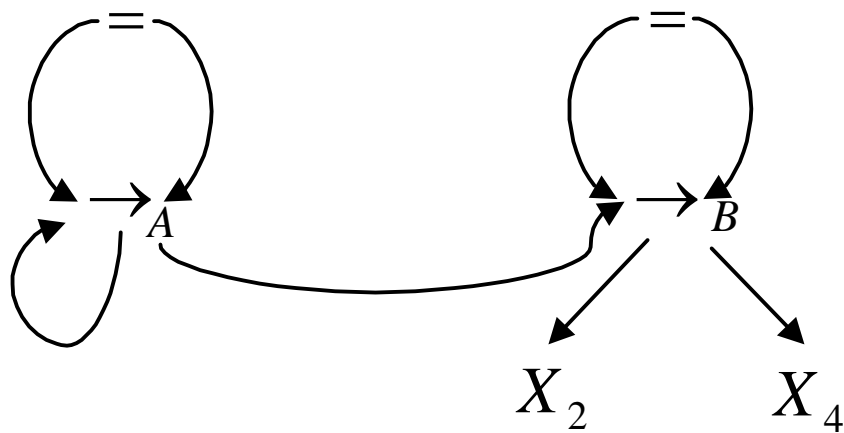
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$$\sigma = \phi$$
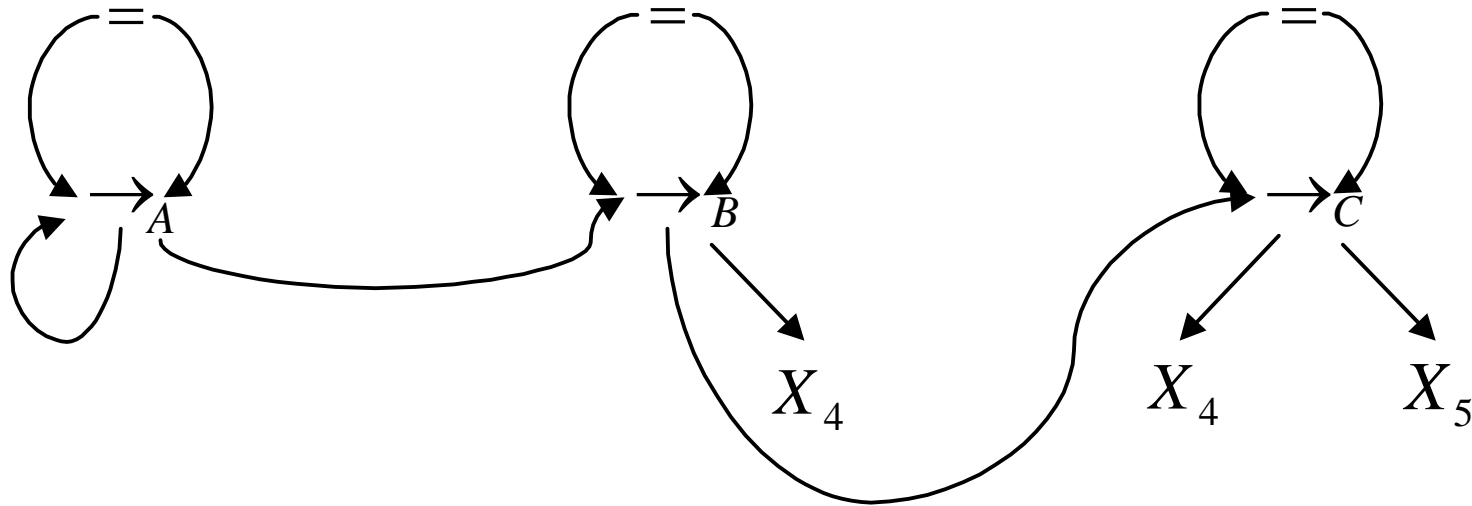
$$\sigma = [X_1 = A]$$

$$\sigma = [X_1 = A, X_3 = B]$$

$$\sigma = [X_1 = A, X_3 = B, X_2 = C]$$

$$\lambda x : X_1 \, \lambda y : X_2 . \, y \, (x \, x \, y) : X_1 \to X_2 \to X_5$$

Correctness

$$\sigma \text{ satisfies } C \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sigma\, t \text{ is well typed}$$

$$C = \begin{cases} X_1 = X_2 \to X_3 \\ X_2 = X_3 \to X_4 \\ X_1 = X_2 \to X_4 \end{cases} \qquad f : X_1 = \lambda x : X_2 . \big(x\,(f\ x) : X_3 \big) : X_4$$

Note: It exists a principal type annotation.

Let-Polymorphism

Let-polymorphism, Milner [1978]

Polymorphism

Polymorphism is a language mechanism that allow a single part of a program to be used with **different types** in different contexts.

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Let-Polymorphism

Naive Let-Rule:

```
let

    id = λx.x          id : X₁→ X₁

in

    id 1;              X₁=Nat

    id true            X₁=Bool

end
```

$X_1 \to X_1$

$X_1 = Nat$

$X_1 = Bool$

type clash

Solution: type scheme

Let $X_1,...,X_n$ be the ***free type variables*** of T
that do not occur in Γ. We define:

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ x = t_1 : T \mid C \qquad \Gamma, x : (\forall X_1,..., X_n : T, C) \succ t_2 : T' \mid C'}{\Gamma \succ \text{let } x = t_1 \text{ in } t_2 \text{ end} : T' \mid C'} \ (CT\text{-}Let)$$

$$\frac{x : (\forall X_1,..., X_n : T, C) \in \Gamma \quad \sigma = [X_1 = X_1^{'},..., X_n = X_n^{'}]}{\Gamma \succ x : \sigma \ T \mid \sigma \ C} \ (CT\text{-}Var2)$$

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Example

Now, the program is well typed.

```
let

    id = λx.x

in

    id 1;

    id true

end
```

$$id : \forall X_1 : X_1 \rightarrow X_1$$

$$id : X_{11} \rightarrow X_{11} \quad X_{11} = Nat$$

$$id : X_{12} \rightarrow X_{12} \quad X_{12} = Bool$$

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Problem: side effects

```
let

  r = ref(λx.x)          r : ∀X₁:(X₁→X₁)Ref

in

  r:= λx:Nat.succ x;     r : (X₁₁→X₁₁)Ref     X₁₁=Nat

  (!r) true              r : (X₁₂→X₁₂)Ref     X₁₂=Bool

end
```

$r : \forall X_1:(X_1 \rightarrow X_1)\text{Ref}$

$r : (X_{11} \rightarrow X_{11})\text{Ref} \quad X_{11}=\text{Nat}$

$r : (X_{12} \rightarrow X_{12})\text{Ref} \quad X_{12}=\text{Bool}$

no type clash

Solution

$$\frac{\Gamma \succ x = t_1 : T \mid C \quad \Gamma, x : (\forall X_1, ..., X_n : T, C) \succ t_2 : T' \mid C'}{\Gamma \succ \text{let } x = t_1 \text{ in } t_2 \text{ end} : T' \mid C'} \quad (CT\text{-}Let)$$

Only if t_1 is a value !!!!!

Note: The type scheme is introduced **after** the typechecking of the term $x=t_1$. This means, that you can not use x polymorphically in the term t_1 itself (no polymorphic recursion).

Example

no value   no type scheme

```
let
  r = ref(λx.x)          r : (X₁→X₁)Ref

in

  r:= λx:Nat.succ x;     r : (X₁→X₁)Ref    X₁=Nat

  (!r) true              r : (X₁→X₁)Ref    X₁=Bool

end
```

$r = ref(\lambda x.x) \qquad r : (X_1 \to X_1)Ref$

$r := \lambda x{:}Nat.succ\ x; \qquad r : (X_1 \to X_1)Ref \qquad X_1 = Nat$

$(!r)\ true \qquad r : (X_1 \to X_1)Ref \qquad X_1 = Bool$

type clash

Restriction

You can not compute a polymorphic function.

E.g:


```
val f = let val i = ref true
        in
            fn x => fn y =>
                (if !i then x else y) before i := not(!i)
        end
```


f is no polymorphic function.

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Runtime is Exponential

The following program is well typed but takes a long time to typecheck.

```
let val f0 = fun x => (x,x) in
   let val f1 = fun y => f0 (f0 y) in
      let val f2 = fun y => f1 (f1 y) in
         let val f3 = fun y => f2 (f2 y) in
            let val f4 = fun y => f3 (f3 y) in
               f4 (fun z => z)
end end end end end
```

Runtime Analysis

Program	Derived Type	Type Size	Constraints
`let val f0 =` `fun x => (x,x) in`	$\forall X0{:}X0{\rightarrow}X0{*}X0$	2^0	0
`let val f1 = fun y =>` `f0 (f0 y) in`	$\forall X1{:}X1 \rightarrow (X1{*}X1){*}(X1{*}X1)$	2^2	2
`let val f2 = fun y =>` `f1 (f1 y) in`	$\forall X2{:}X2{\rightarrow}(((((X2{*}X2){*}(X2{*}X2)){*}$ $((X2{*}X2){*}(X2{*}X2)))){*}$	2^4	4
`let val f3 = fun y =>` `f2 (f2 y) in`	$(((X2{*}X2){*}(X2{*}X2)){*}$ $((X2{*}X2){*}(X2{*}X2))))$	2^8	8

`let val f4 = fun y =>`
`f3 (f3 y) in`
`f4 (fun z => z)`
`end end end end end`
	(...)	2^{16}	16

Overview

- Unification, Nonstandard Unification

- Constraint typing rules for λ-calculus (similar to standard typing rules)

- It exists a principal type annotation as the solution of a set of constraints (Unification Theorem)

- Constraint typing rules and recursive types

- Let-Polymorphism

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Historical Context

▍ Unification, [Robinson, 1965]

▍ Unification in linear space complexity [Martelli, Montanary, 1984]

▍ Nonstandard Unification ???

▍ Principal Types, Curry and Feys [1958]

▍ Algorithm to compute principal types, Hindley [1969]

▍ Type reconstruction, Algorithm W, Damas and Milner [1982]

▍ Type Reconstruction with Recursive Types [Huet, 1975, 1976]

▍ Let-polymorphism, Milner [1978]

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Questions?

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