



Recap on Subtype



Principle of subsumption

Some types *are better* than others, in the sense that a value of one can always safely be used where a value of the other is expected.

This can be formalized by introducing:

1. a *subtyping relation* between types, written $S <: T$
2. a rule of *subsumption* stating that, if $S <: T$, then any value of type S can also be regarded as having type T , i.e.,

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : S \quad S <: T}{\Gamma \vdash t : T} \quad (\text{T-SUB})$$

Subtype Relation



$$S <: S \quad (\text{S-REFL})$$

$$\frac{S <: U \quad U <: T}{S <: T} \quad (\text{S-TRANS})$$

$$\{1_j : T_j^{i \in 1..n+k}\} <: \{1_j : T_j^{i \in 1..n}\} \quad (\text{S-RCDWIDTH})$$

$$\frac{\text{for each } i \quad S_i <: T_i}{\{1_j : S_j^{i \in 1..n}\} <: \{1_j : T_j^{i \in 1..n}\}} \quad (\text{S-RCDDEPTH})$$

$$\frac{\{k_j : S_j^{j \in 1..n}\} \text{ is a permutation of } \{1_j : T_j^{i \in 1..n}\}}{\{k_j : S_j^{j \in 1..n}\} <: \{1_j : T_j^{i \in 1..n}\}} \quad (\text{S-RCDPERM})$$

$$\frac{T_1 <: S_1 \quad S_2 <: T_2}{S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \quad (\text{S-ARROW})$$

$$S <: \text{Top} \quad (\text{S-TOP})$$

Issues in Subtyping



For a *given subtyping statement*, there are *multiple rules* that could be used in a derivation.

1. The conclusions of **S-RcdWidth**, **S-RcdDepth**, and **S-RcdPerm** *overlap with each other*.
2. **S-REFL** and **S-TRANS** overlap with every other rule.

Syntax-directed rules



In the simply typed lambda-calculus (without subtyping), each rule can be “*read from bottom to top*” in a straightforward way.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_{11}}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 : T_{12}} \quad (\text{T-APP})$$



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If we are given some Γ and some t of the form $t_1 t_2$, we can try to *find a type* for t by

1. finding (recursively) a type for t_1
2. checking that it has the form $T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}$
3. finding (recursively) a type for t_2
4. checking that it is the same as T_{11}



Syntax-directed rules

Technically, the reason this works is that we can *divide the “positions”* of the typing relation into *input positions* (i.e., Γ and t) and *output positions* (T).

- For the input positions, all metavariables appearing in the *premises* also appear in the *conclusion* (so we can calculate inputs to the “subgoals” from the subexpressions of inputs to the main goal)
- For the output positions, all metavariables appearing in the *conclusions* also appear in the *premises* (so we can calculate outputs from the main goal from the outputs of the subgoals)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_{11}}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 : T_{12}} \quad (\text{T-APP})$$

Syntax-directed sets of rules



The *second important point* about the simply typed lambda-calculus is that *the set of typing rules is syntax-directed*, in the sense that, for every “*input*” Γ and t , there is *one rule* that can be used to derive typing statements involving t .

E.g., if t is an *application*, then we must proceed by trying to use **T-App**. If we succeed, then we have found a type (indeed, the *unique type*) for t . If it *fails*, then we know that t is *not typable*.

⇒ no backtracking!

Non-syntax-directedness of typing



When we extend the system with *subtyping*, both aspects of syntax-directedness get broken.

1. The set of typing rules now includes *two* rules that can be used to give a type to terms of a given shape (the old one plus T-SUB)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : S \quad S <: T}{\Gamma \vdash t : T} \quad (\text{T-SUB})$$

2. Worse yet, the new rule T-SUB *itself is not syntax directed*: the *inputs* to the left-hand subgoal are exactly the same as the *inputs* to the main goal!
 - Hence, if we translated the typing rules naively into a typechecking function, the case corresponding to T-SUB would cause *divergence*

Non-syntax-directedness of subtyping



Moreover, the *subtyping relation* is *not syntax directed* either.

1. There are *lots of ways* to derive a given subtyping statement. (8.2.4 /9.3.3 [uniqueness of types])
2. The transitivity rule

$$\frac{S <: U \quad U <: T}{S <: T} \quad (\text{S-TRANS})$$

is *badly non-syntax-directed*: the premises contain a *metavariable* (in an “*input position*”) that does *not appear at all in the conclusion*.

To implement this rule naively, we have to *guess* a value for **U**!



What to do?

1. *Observation*: We don't *need lots of ways* to prove a given typing or subtyping statement — *one is enough*.
→ *Think more carefully about the typing and subtyping systems to see where we can get rid of excess flexibility.*
2. Use the resulting intuitions to formulate new “*algorithmic*” (i.e., syntax-directed) typing and subtyping relations.
3. Prove that the algorithmic relations are “*the same as*” the original ones in an appropriate sense.

What to do?



We'll turn the *declarative version* of subtyping into the *algorithmic version*.

The **problem** was that we don't have an algorithm to decide when $S <: T$ or $\Gamma \vdash t : T$.

Both sets of rules are not *syntax-directed*.



Chap 16

Metatheory of Subtyping

Algorithmic Subtyping

Algorithmic Typing

Joins and Meets



Developing an algorithmic subtyping relation



Algorithmic Subtyping



What to do

How do we change the rules deriving $S <: T$ to be *syntax-directed*?

There are lots of ways to derive a given subtyping statement $S <: T$.

The general idea is to *change this system* so that there is *only one way* to derive it.

Step 1: simplify record subtyping



Idea: combine all three record subtyping rules into one “*macro rule*” that captures all of their effects

$$\frac{\{l_i^{i \in 1..n}\} \subseteq \{k_j^{j \in 1..m}\} \quad k_j = l_i \text{ implies } S_j <: T_i}{\{k_j : S_j^{j \in 1..m}\} <: \{l_i : T_i^{i \in 1..n}\}} \quad (\text{S-RCD})$$

Simpler subtype relation



$$S <: S \quad (\text{S-REFL})$$

$$\frac{S <: U \quad U <: T}{S <: T} \quad (\text{S-TRANS})$$

$$\frac{\{l_i^{i \in 1..n}\} \subseteq \{k_j^{j \in 1..m}\} \quad k_j = l_i \text{ implies } S_j <: T_i}{\{k_j : S_j^{j \in 1..m}\} <: \{l_i : T_i^{i \in 1..n}\}} \quad (\text{S-RCD})$$

$$\frac{T_1 <: S_1 \quad S_2 <: T_2}{S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \quad (\text{S-ARROW})$$

$$S <: \text{Top} \quad (\text{S-TOP})$$

Step 2: Get rid of reflexivity



Observation: S-REFL is unnecessary.

Lemma: $S <: S$ can be derived for every type S without using S-REFL.

Even simpler subtype relation



$$\frac{S <: U \quad U <: T}{S <: T} \quad (\text{S-TRANS})$$

$$\frac{\{l_i^{i \in 1..n}\} \subseteq \{k_j^{j \in 1..m}\} \quad k_j = l_i \text{ implies } S_j <: T_i}{\{k_j : S_j^{j \in 1..m}\} <: \{l_i : T_i^{i \in 1..n}\}} \quad (\text{S-RCD})$$

$$\frac{T_1 <: S_1 \quad S_2 <: T_2}{S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \quad (\text{S-ARROW})$$

$$S <: \text{Top} \quad (\text{S-TOP})$$

Step 3: Get rid of transitivity



Observation: S-Trans is unnecessary.

Lemma: If $S \leq T$ can be derived, then it can be derived without using S-Trans.

Even simpler subtype relation



$$\frac{\{l_i^{i \in 1..n}\} \subseteq \{k_j^{j \in 1..m}\} \quad k_j = l_i \text{ implies } S_j <: T_i}{\{k_j : S_j^{j \in 1..m}\} <: \{l_i : T_i^{i \in 1..n}\}} \quad (\text{S-RCD})$$

$$\frac{T_1 <: S_1 \quad S_2 <: T_2}{S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \quad (\text{S-ARROW})$$

$$S <: \text{Top} \quad (\text{S-TOP})$$

“Algorithmic” subtype relation



$\boxed{\vdash} S <: \text{Top}$

$\boxed{\text{SA-}} \text{TOP}$

$$\frac{\vdash T_1 <: S_1 \quad \vdash S_2 <: T_2}{\vdash S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: T_1 \rightarrow T_2}$$

(SA-ARROW)

$$\frac{\{l_i^{i \in 1..n}\} \subseteq \{k_j^{j \in 1..m}\} \quad \text{for each } k_j = l_i, \vdash S_j <: T_i}{\vdash \{k_j : S_j^{j \in 1..m}\} <: \{l_i : T_i^{i \in 1..n}\}}$$

(SA-RCD)

Soundness and completeness



Theorem: $S <: T$ iff $\mapsto S <: T$

Terminology:

- The *algorithmic presentation* of subtyping is *sound* with respect to the original, if $\mapsto S <: T$ implies $S <: T$.
(Everything validated by the algorithm is actually true.)
- The *algorithmic presentation* of subtyping is *complete* with respect to the original, if $S <: T$ implies $\mapsto S <: T$.
(Everything true is validated by the algorithm.)

Decision Procedures



Recall: A decision procedure for a relation $R \subseteq U$ is a total function p from U to $\{true, false\}$ such that $p(u) = true$ iff $u \in R$.

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Is our *subtype* function a decision procedure?

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Is our *subtype* function a decision procedure?

Since *subtype* is just an implementation of the algorithmic subtyping rules, we have

1. if $subtype(S, T) = true$, then $\mapsto S <: T$ hence, by **soundness** of the algorithmic rules, $S <: T$
2. if $subtype(S, T) = false$, then $\text{not } \mapsto S <: T$ hence, by **completeness** of the algorithmic rules, $\text{not } S <: T$

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1. if $subtype(S, T) = true$, then $\mapsto S <: T$ (hence, by **soundness** of the algorithmic rules, $S <: T$)
2. if $subtype(S, T) = false$, then not $\mapsto S <: T$ (hence, by **completeness** of the algorithmic rules, not $S <: T$)

Q: What's missing?

Decision Procedures



Is our *subtype* function a decision procedure?

Since *subtype* is just an implementation of the algorithmic subtyping rules, we have

1. if $\text{subtype}(S, T) = \text{true}$, then $\mapsto S <: T$ (hence, by **soundness** of the algorithmic rules, $S <: T$)
2. if $\text{subtype}(S, T) = \text{false}$, then $\text{not } \mapsto S <: T$ (hence, by **completeness** of the algorithmic rules, $\text{not } S <: T$)

Q: What's missing?

A: How do we know that *subtype* is a **total function**?

Decision Procedures



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Q: What's missing?

A: How do we know that *subtype* is a *total function*?

Prove it!

Decision Procedures



Recall: A decision procedure for a relation $R \subseteq U$ is *a total function* p from U to $\{true, false\}$ such that $p(u) = true$ iff $u \in R$.

Example:

$$U = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$R = \{(1, 2), (2, 3)\}$$

Note that, we are saying nothing about *computability*.

Decision Procedures



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The function p' whose graph is

$$\{((1, 2), true), ((2, 3), true)\}$$

is not a decision function for R .

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The function p'' whose graph is

$$\{((1, 2), true), ((2, 3), true), ((1, 3), false)\}$$

is *also not* a decision function for R .

Decision Procedures



Recall: A decision procedure for a relation $R \subseteq U$ is a *total function* p from U to $\{true, false\}$ such that $p(u) = true$ iff $u \in R$.

Example:

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The function p whose graph is

$$\begin{aligned} & \{ ((1, 2), true), ((2, 3), true), \\ & \quad ((1, 1), false), ((1, 3), false), \\ & \quad ((2, 1), false), ((2, 2), false), \\ & \quad ((3, 1), false), ((3, 2), false), ((3, 3), false) \} \end{aligned}$$

is a decision function for R .

Decision Procedures (take 2)



We want a decision procedure to be a *procedure*.

A *decision procedure* for a relation $R \subseteq U$ is a *computable total function* p from U to $\{true, false\}$ such that $p(u) = true$ iff $u \in R$.

Example



$$U = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$R = \{(1, 2), (2, 3)\}$$

The function

$$p(x, y) = \begin{array}{l} \text{if } x = 2 \text{ and } y = 3 \text{ then true} \\ \text{else if } x = 1 \text{ and } y = 2 \text{ then true} \\ \text{else false} \end{array}$$

whose graph is

$$\begin{array}{l} \{(1, 2), \text{true}\}, \{(2, 3), \text{true}\}, \\ \{(1, 1), \text{false}\}, \{(1, 3), \text{false}\}, \\ \{(2, 1), \text{false}\}, \{(2, 2), \text{false}\}, \\ \{(3, 1), \text{false}\}, \{(3, 2), \text{false}\}, \{(3, 3), \text{false}\} \end{array}$$

is a decision procedure for R .

Example



$$U = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$R = \{(1, 2), (2, 3)\}$$

The recursively defined *partial function*

$p(x, y) =$ if $x = 2$ and $y = 3$ then true
else if $x = 1$ and $y = 2$ then true
else if $x = 1$ and $y = 3$ then false
else $p(x, y)$

Example



$$U = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$R = \{(1, 2), (2, 3)\}$$

The recursively defined *partial function*

$$\begin{aligned} p(x, y) = & \text{if } x = 2 \text{ and } y = 3 \text{ then true} \\ & \text{else if } x = 1 \text{ and } y = 2 \text{ then true} \\ & \text{else if } x = 1 \text{ and } y = 3 \text{ then false} \\ & \text{else } p(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

whose graph is

$$\{((1, 2), \text{true}), ((2, 3), \text{true}), ((1, 3), \text{false})\}$$

is *not* a decision procedure for R .

Subtyping Algorithm



This *recursively defined total function* is a decision procedure for the subtype relation:

$subtype(S, T) =$

if $T = \text{Top}$, then *true*

else if $S = S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ and $T = T_1 \rightarrow T_2$

then $subtype(T_1, S_1) \wedge subtype(S_2, T_2)$

else if $S = \{k_j: S_j^{j \in 1..m}\}$ and $T = \{l_i: T_i^{i \in 1..n}\}$

then $\{l_i^{i \in 1..n}\} \subseteq \{k_j^{j \in 1..m}\}$

\wedge for all $i \in 1..n$ there is some $j \in 1..m$ with $k_j = l_i$
and $subtype(S_j, T_i)$

else *false*.

Subtyping Algorithm



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if $T = \text{Top}$, then *true*

else if $S = S_1 \rightarrow S_2$ and $T = T_1 \rightarrow T_2$

then $subtype(T_1, S_1) \wedge subtype(S_2, T_2)$

else if $S = \{k_j: S_j^{j \in 1..m}\}$ and $T = \{l_i: T_i^{i \in 1..n}\}$

then $\{l_i^{i \in 1..n}\} \subseteq \{k_j^{j \in 1..m}\}$

\wedge for all $i \in 1..n$ there is some $j \in 1..m$ with $k_j = l_i$
and $subtype(S_j, T_i)$

else *false*.

To show this, we *need to prove*:

1. that it returns *true* whenever $S <: T$, and
2. that it returns either *true* or *false* on *all inputs*



Algorithmic Typing

Algorithmic typing



How do we implement a *type checker* for the lambda-calculus *with subtyping*?

Given a context Γ and a term t , how do we determine its type T , such that $\Gamma \vdash t : T$?

Issue



For the typing relation, we have *just one problematic rule* to deal with: *subsumption rule*

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : S \quad S <: T}{\Gamma \vdash t : T} \quad (\text{T-SUB})$$

Q: where is this rule really needed?

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Q: where is this rule really needed?

For applications, e.g., the term

$(\lambda r: \{x: \text{Nat}\}. r. x) \{x = 0, y = 1\}$

is *not typable* without using subsumption.

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Where else??

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For *applications*, e.g., the term

$(\lambda r: \{x: \text{Nat}\}. r. x) \{x = 0, y = 1\}$

is *not typable* without using subsumption.

Where else??

Nowhere else!

Uses of subsumption rule to help typecheck *applications* are the only interesting ones.

Plan



1. Investigate *how subsumption is used in typing derivations* by *looking at examples* of how it can be “*pushed through*” other rules
2. Use the intuitions gained from these examples to design a new, algorithmic typing relation that
 - *Omits subsumption*
 - Compensates for its absence by *enriching the application rule*
3. Show that the *algorithmic typing relation* is essentially *equivalent* to the original, *declarative one*

Example (T-ABS)



$$\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma, x:S_1 \vdash s_2 : S_2} \quad \frac{\vdots}{S_2 <: T_2}}{\Gamma, x:S_1 \vdash s_2 : T_2} \text{ (T-SUB)}}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x:S_1. s_2 : S_1 \rightarrow T_2} \text{ (T-ABS)}$$

Example (T-ABS)



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
 \hline
 \Gamma, x:S_1 \vdash s_2 : S_2 \qquad S_2 <: T_2 \\
 \hline
 \Gamma, x:S_1 \vdash s_2 : T_2 \quad (\text{T-SUB}) \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash \lambda x:S_1. s_2 : S_1 \rightarrow T_2 \quad (\text{T-ABS})
 \end{array}$$

becomes

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \\
 \hline
 \Gamma, x:S_1 \vdash s_2 : S_2 \qquad S_1 <: S_1 \quad (\text{S-REFL}) \qquad S_2 <: T_2 \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash \lambda x:S_1. s_2 : S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \quad (\text{T-ABS}) \qquad S_1 \rightarrow S_2 <: S_1 \rightarrow T_2 \quad (\text{S-ARROW}) \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash \lambda x:S_1. s_2 : S_1 \rightarrow T_2 \quad (\text{T-SUB})
 \end{array}$$

Intuitions



These examples show that we do not need **T-SUB** to “enable” **T-ABS** :

given any typing derivation, we can construct a derivation *with the same conclusion* in which **T-SUB** is never used immediately before **T-ABS**.

What about **T-APP**?

We’ve already observed that **T-SUB** is required for typechecking some *applications*.

So we expect to find that we **cannot play the same game** with **T-APP** as we’ve done with **T-ABS**.

Let’s see why.

Example (T-Sub with T-APP on the left)



$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 : S_{11} \rightarrow S_{12} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \quad \text{(T-SUB)} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 s_2 : T_{12} \quad \text{(T-APP)}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 \hline
 T_{11} <: S_{11} \quad S_{12} <: T_{12} \\
 \hline
 S_{11} \rightarrow S_{12} <: T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \quad \text{(S-ARROW)} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_2 : T_{11} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 s_2 : T_{12} \quad \text{(T-APP)}
 \end{array}$$

becomes

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 : S_{11} \rightarrow S_{12} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 s_2 : S_{12} \quad \text{(T-APP)} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 s_2 : T_{12} \quad \text{(T-SUB)}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \vdots \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_2 : T_{11} \quad T_{11} <: S_{11} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_2 : S_{11} \\
 \hline
 S_{12} <: T_{12} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash s_1 s_2 : T_{12} \quad \text{(T-SUB)}
 \end{array}$$

Example (T-Sub with T-APP on the right)



$$\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash s_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}} \quad \frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash s_2 : T_2} \quad T_2 <: T_{11}}{\Gamma \vdash s_2 : T_{11}} \text{ (T-SUB)}}{\Gamma \vdash s_1 s_2 : T_{12}} \text{ (T-APP)}$$

becomes

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash s_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12}} \quad \frac{\frac{\vdots}{T_2 <: T_{11}} \quad T_{12} <: T_{12}}{T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} <: T_2 \rightarrow T_{12}} \text{ (S-REFL) (S-ARROW)}}{\Gamma \vdash s_1 : T_2 \rightarrow T_{12}} \text{ (T-SUB)} \quad \frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash s_2 : T_2}}{\Gamma \vdash s_1 s_2 : T_{12}} \text{ (T-APP)}$$

Observations



So we've seen that **uses of subsumption rule** can be "*pushed*" from one of immediately before **T-APP's** premises to the other, but *cannot be completely eliminated*.

Example (nested uses of T-Sub)



$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash s : S} \quad \frac{\frac{\vdots}{S <: U}}{\Gamma \vdash s : U} \text{ (T-SUB)}}{\Gamma \vdash s : U} \quad \frac{\frac{\vdots}{U <: T}}{\Gamma \vdash s : T} \text{ (T-SUB)}}{\Gamma \vdash s : T} \text{ (T-SUB)}$$

Example (nested uses of T-Sub)



$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash s : S} \quad \frac{\vdots}{S <: U}}{\Gamma \vdash s : U} \text{ (T-SUB)} \quad \frac{\vdots}{U <: T}}{\Gamma \vdash s : T} \text{ (T-SUB)}$$

becomes

$$\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash s : S} \quad \frac{\frac{\vdots}{S <: U} \quad \frac{\vdots}{U <: T}}{S <: T} \text{ (S-TRANS)}}{\Gamma \vdash s : T} \text{ (T-SUB)}$$

Summary



What we've learned:

- Uses of the **T-Sub** rule can be “*pushed down*” through typing derivations until they encounter either
 1. a use of **T-App** , or
 2. the *root* of the derivation tree.
- In both cases, multiple uses of **T-Sub** can be coalesced into a single one.

Summary



What we've learned:

- Uses of the T-Sub rule can be “pushed down” through typing derivations until they encounter either
 1. a use of **T-App** or
 2. the *root* of the derivation tree.
- In both cases, multiple uses of **T-Sub** can be collapsed into a single one.

This suggests a notion of “**normal form**” for typing derivations, in which there is

- **exactly one use** of **T-Sub** before each use of **T-App**,
- **one use** of **T-Sub** at **the very end** of the derivation,
- no uses of **T-Sub** anywhere else.

Algorithmic Typing



The next step is to “build in” the use of subsumption rule in *application rules*, by *changing* the **T-App** rule to *incorporate a subtyping premise*

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \quad \boxed{\vdash T_2 <: T_{11}}}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 : T_{12}}$$

Given any typing derivation, we can now

1. *normalize* it, to *move all uses of subsumption rule* to either just *before applications* (in the right-hand premise) or *at the very end*
2. *replace* uses of **T-App** with **T-SUB** in the right-hand premise by uses of the extended rule above

This yields a derivation in which there is just *one* use of subsumption, at the very end!

Minimal Types



But... if subsumption is only used at the very end of derivations, then it is actually *not needed* in order to show that *any term is typable*!

It is just used to give *more* types to terms that have already been shown to have a type.

In other words, if we *dropped subsumption completely* (after refining the application rule), we would still be able to give types to exactly the same set of terms — we just would not be able to give as *many types* to some of them.

If we drop subsumption, then the remaining rules will assign a *unique, minimal* type to *each typable term*.

For purposes of building a typechecking algorithm, this is enough.

Final Algorithmic Typing Rules



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

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:T_1 \vdash t_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x:T_1. t_2 : T_1 \rightarrow T_2} \quad (\text{TA-ABS})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : T_1 \quad T_1 = T_{11} \rightarrow T_{12} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \quad \boxed{\vdash T_2 <: T_{11}}}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 : T_{12}} \quad (\text{TA-APP})$$

$$\frac{\text{for each } i \quad \Gamma \vdash t_i : T_i}{\Gamma \vdash \{l_1=t_1 \dots l_n=t_n\} : \{l_1:T_1 \dots l_n:T_n\}} \quad (\text{TA-RCD})$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : R_1 \quad R_1 = \{l_1:T_1 \dots l_n:T_n\}}{\Gamma \vdash t_1.l_i : T_i} \quad (\text{TA-PROJ})$$

Completeness of the algorithmic rules



Theorem [Minimal Typing]:

If $\Gamma \vdash t : T$, then $\Gamma \mapsto t : S$ for some $S <: T$.

Completeness of the algorithmic rules



Theorem [Minimal Typing]:

If $\Gamma \vdash t : T$, then $\Gamma \mapsto t : S$ for some $S \leq T$.

Proof: Induction on *typing derivation*.

N.b.: All the messing around with transforming derivations was just to build intuitions and *decide what algorithmic rules* to write down and *what property to prove*:

the proof itself is a straightforward induction on typing derivations.



Meets and Joins



Adding Booleans

Suppose we want to add *booleans* and *conditionals* to the language we have been discussing.

For the declarative presentation of the system, we just add in the appropriate *syntactic forms*, *evaluation rules*, and *typing rules*.

$$\begin{array}{l} \Gamma \vdash \text{true} : \text{Bool} \qquad \qquad \qquad (\text{T-TRUE}) \\ \Gamma \vdash \text{false} : \text{Bool} \qquad \qquad \qquad (\text{T-FALSE}) \\ \hline \frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T \quad \Gamma \vdash t_3 : T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 : T} \qquad (\text{T-IF}) \end{array}$$

A Problem with Conditional Expressions



For the algorithmic presentation of the system, however, we encounter a little difficulty.

What is the minimal type of

if true then {x = true, y = false} else {x = true, z = true} ?

The Algorithmic Conditional Rule



More generally, we can use subsumption to give an expression

if t_1 *then* t_2 *else* t_3

any type that is a possible type of both t_2 and t_3 .

So the *minimal type* of the *conditional* is the

least common supertype (or *join*) of

the minimal type of t_2 and the minimal type of t_3 .

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_3 : T_3}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 : T_2 \vee T_3} \quad (\text{T-IF})$$

The Algorithmic Conditional Rule



More generally, we can use subsumption to give an expression

$\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3$

any type that is a possible type of both t_2 and t_3 .

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least common supertype (or *join*) of

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : \text{Bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : T_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_3 : T_3}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 : T_2 \vee T_3} \quad (\text{T-IF})$$

Q: Does such a type exist for every T_2 and T_3 ??

Existence of Joins



Theorem: For every pair of types S and T , there is a type J such that

1. $S <: J$
2. $T <: J$
3. If K is a type such that $S <: K$ and $T <: K$, then $J <: K$.

i.e., J is the *smallest type* that is a supertype of both S and T .

How to prove it?

Calculating Joins



$$S \vee T = \begin{cases} \text{Bool} & \text{if } S = T = \text{Bool} \\ M_1 \rightarrow J_2 & \text{if } S = S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \quad T = T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \\ & S_1 \wedge T_1 = M_1 \quad S_2 \vee T_2 = J_2 \\ \{j_l : J_l \mid l \in 1..q\} & \text{if } S = \{k_j : S_j \mid j \in 1..m\} \\ & T = \{l_i : T_i \mid i \in 1..n\} \\ & \{j_l \mid l \in 1..q\} = \{k_j \mid j \in 1..m\} \cap \{l_i \mid i \in 1..n\} \\ & S_j \vee T_i = J_l \quad \text{for each } j_l = k_j = l_i \\ \text{Top} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Examples



What are the joins of the following pairs of types?

1. $\{x: \text{Bool}, y: \text{Bool}\}$ and $\{y: \text{Bool}, z: \text{Bool}\}$?
2. $\{x: \text{Bool}\}$ and $\{y: \text{Bool}\}$?
3. $\{x: \{a: \text{Bool}, b: \text{Bool}\}\}$ and $\{x: \{b: \text{Bool}, c: \text{Bool}\}, y: \text{Bool}\}$?
4. $\{\}$ and Bool ?
5. $\{x: \{\}\}$ and $\{x: \text{Bool}\}$?
6. $\text{Top} \rightarrow \{x: \text{Bool}\}$ and $\text{Top} \rightarrow \{y: \text{Bool}\}$?
7. $\{x: \text{Bool}\} \rightarrow \text{Top}$ and $\{y: \text{Bool}\} \rightarrow \text{Top}$?

Meets



To calculate joins of arrow types, we also need to be able to calculate **meets** (greatest lower bounds)!

Unlike joins, meets *do not necessarily exist*.

E.g., $\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$ and $\{\}$ have *no common subtypes*, so they certainly don't have a greatest one!

However...

Existence of Meets



Theorem: For every pair of types S and T , if there is any type N such that $N <: S$ and $N <: T$, then there is a type M such that

1. $M <: S$
2. $M <: T$
3. If O is a type such that $O <: S$ and $O <: T$, then $O <: M$.

i.e., M (when it exists) is the *largest type* that is a subtype of both S and T .

Existence of Meets



Theorem: For every pair of types S and T , if there is any type N such that $N <: S$ and $N <: T$, then there is a type M such that

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3. If O is a type such that $O <: S$ and $O <: T$, then $O <: M$.

i.e., M (when it exists) is the *largest type* that is a subtype of both S and T .

Jargon: In the simply typed lambda calculus with subtyping, records, and booleans ...

- The subtype relation *has joins*
- The subtype relation *has bounded meets*

Calculating Meets



$S \wedge T =$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} S & \text{if } T = \text{Top} \\ T & \text{if } S = \text{Top} \\ \text{Bool} & \text{if } S = T = \text{Bool} \\ J_1 \rightarrow M_2 & \text{if } S = S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \quad T = T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \\ & S_1 \vee T_1 = J_1 \quad S_2 \wedge T_2 = M_2 \\ \{m_l : M_l \mid l \in 1..q\} & \text{if } S = \{k_j : S_j \mid j \in 1..m\} \\ & T = \{l_i : T_i \mid i \in 1..n\} \\ & \{m_l \mid l \in 1..q\} = \{k_j \mid j \in 1..m\} \cup \{l_i \mid i \in 1..n\} \\ & S_j \wedge T_i = M_l \quad \text{for each } m_l = k_j = l_i \\ & M_l = S_j \quad \text{if } m_l = k_j \text{ occurs only in } S \\ & M_l = T_i \quad \text{if } m_l = l_i \text{ occurs only in } T \\ \text{fail} & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right.$

Examples



What are the meets of the following pairs of types?

1. $\{x: \text{Bool}, y: \text{Bool}\}$ and $\{y: \text{Bool}, z: \text{Bool}\}$?
2. $\{x: \text{Bool}\}$ and $\{y: \text{Bool}\}$?
3. $\{x: \{a: \text{Bool}, b: \text{Bool}\}\}$ and $\{x: \{b: \text{Bool}, c: \text{Bool}\}, y: \text{Bool}\}$?
4. $\{\}$ and Bool ?
5. $\{x: \{\}\}$ and $\{x: \text{Bool}\}$?
6. $\text{Top} \rightarrow \{x: \text{Bool}\}$ and $\text{Top} \rightarrow \{y: \text{Bool}\}$?
7. $\{x: \text{Bool}\} \rightarrow \text{Top}$ and $\{y: \text{Bool}\} \rightarrow \text{Top}$?

Homework😊



- Read and digest chapter 16 & 17
- HW: 16.1.2; 16.2.6, 16.3.4