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# Polymorphisms

《程序语言设计和程序分析》

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## □ [PFPL](#)

### ■ Chapter 16 [System F](#) of Polymorphic Types

- System F: polymorphic typed lambda calculus

### ■ Chapter 17 Abstract Types

### ■ Chapter 18 Higher kinds

## □ [TAPL \(pdf\)](#)

### ■ Chapter 22 Type Reconstruction

### ■ Chapter 23 Universal Types

### ■ Chapter 24 Existential Types

## □ Modules in OCaml (L7-L11 in Cornell [CS 3110](#))

## □ Stanford CS242 [Notes](#)



- Various polymorphisms
- Polymorphic types:  $\forall(t. \tau)$ 
  - Procedural abstraction
- Data abstraction: existential types  $\exists(t. \tau)$ 
  - Abstract data types, Generic abstractions
- Overloading and type classes
- Subtyping



# Various Polymorphisms

**Static polymorphism: binding at compile-time**

□ **Parametric polymorphism (参数化多态)**

- polymorphism (FPL), templates, generics (OO)

□ **Ad-hoc polymorphism**

- Overloading: function or operator overloading
- Coercion: implicit type conversion

**Dynamic polymorphism: binding at run-time**

□ **Subtyping (inclusion) polymorphism**

- inheritance, virtual function



# (Parametric) Polymorphism

## □ Example: identity function

- write different function for different type:

$$\lambda(x : \text{int}).x \quad \lambda(x : \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}).x$$

- But in OCaml, we can write the function:

```
let id = fun x -> x
```

id : 'a -> 'a where 'a is type variable

- Typed lambda calculus

- For any type  $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda(x:\alpha).x$

$\Lambda(\alpha) \lambda(x:\alpha)x$

- Type application:

$(\Lambda(\alpha) \lambda(x:\alpha)x)[\text{int}]$   
 $\mapsto[\text{int}/\alpha] (\lambda(x:\alpha)x) = \lambda(x:\text{int})x$

## □ Features

- Single algorithm may be given many types
- Type variable may be replaced by any type



## □ Polymorphism occurs frequently in data structures

```
type 'a tree = Node of 'a tree * 'a * 'a tree | Leaf
let x : int list = [1; 2] in
let y : string list = ["a"; "b"] in
let z : int tree = Node (Leaf, 3, Node(Leaf, 2, Leaf))
```

'a tree is a polymorphic type

### ■ tree is not a type but a **type constructor**:

takes a type as input and returns a type

- int tree
- string tree
- (int \* string) tree
- ...



## □ System F - Syntax

Typ	$\tau$	::=	$t$	$t$	variable
			$\text{arr}(\tau_1; \tau_2)$	$\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$	function
			$\text{all}(t.\tau)$	$\forall(t.\tau)$	polymorphic
Exp	$e$	::=	$x$	$x$	
			$\text{lam}\{\tau\}(x.e)$	$\lambda(x:\tau) e$	abstraction
			$\text{ap}(e_1; e_2)$	$e_1(e_2)$	application
			$\text{Lam}(t.e)$	$\Lambda(t) e$	type abstraction
			$\text{App}\{\tau\}(e)$	$e[\tau]$	type application

## □ Statics

$\Delta$  contains **type variables** and  $\Gamma$  contains **term variables**



# System F Formal Semantics

## □ Syntax

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Typ } \tau &::= \dots \mid t \mid \forall(t.\tau) \\ \text{Exp } e &::= \dots \mid \lambda(t)e \mid e[t] \end{aligned}$$

## □ Statics:

### Well-formed types

$$\frac{}{\Delta, t \text{ type} \vdash t \text{ type}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta, t \text{ type} \vdash \tau \text{ type}}{\Delta \vdash \forall(t.\tau) \text{ type}}$$

### Typing rules of terms

$$\frac{\Delta, t \text{ type} \quad \Gamma \vdash e : \tau}{\Delta \Gamma \vdash \lambda(t)e : \forall(t.\tau)}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \Gamma \vdash e : \forall(t.\tau') \quad \Delta \vdash \tau \text{ type}}{\Delta \Gamma \vdash e[\tau] : [\tau/t]\tau'}$$

## □ Lemma (Substitution)

- If  $\Delta, t \text{ type} \vdash \tau' \text{ type}$ , and  $\Delta \vdash \tau \text{ type}$ , then  $\Delta \vdash [\tau/t]\tau' \text{ type}$
- If  $\Delta, t \text{ type} \vdash e' : \tau'$ , and  $\Delta \vdash \tau \text{ type}$ , then  $\Delta [\tau/t]\Gamma \vdash [\tau/t]e' : [\tau/t]\tau'$
- If  $\Delta \Gamma, x : \tau \vdash e' : \tau'$ , and  $\Delta \Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ , then  $\Delta \Gamma \vdash [e/x]e' : \tau'$





- Syntax
- Statics
- Dynamics

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Typ } \tau ::= \dots | t | \forall(t.\tau) \\ \text{Exp } e ::= \dots | \Lambda(t)e | e[t] \end{array}$$

$$\frac{}{\Lambda(t)e \text{ val}} \quad \frac{e \mapsto e'}{e[\tau] \mapsto e'[\tau]} \quad \frac{}{(\Lambda(t)e)[\tau] \mapsto [\tau/t]e}$$

## □ Lemma (Canonical Forms)

If  $e:\tau$  and  $e \text{ val}$

■ If  $\tau = \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$ , then  $e = \lambda(x:\tau_1)e_2$  with  $x:\tau_1 \vdash e_2:\tau_2$

■ If  $\tau = \forall(t.\tau')$ , then  $e = \Lambda(t)e'$  with  $t \text{ type} \vdash e':\tau'$

## □ Theorem (Safety)

■ Preservation: If  $e:\tau$  and  $e \rightarrow e'$ , then  $e':\tau$

■ Progress: If  $e:\tau$ , then either  $e \text{ val}$  or there exists  $e'$  such that  $e \rightarrow e'$



# Example

- Polymorphic composition function
- Polymorphic composition function type



## □ Polymorphic composition function

$$\Lambda(t_1)\Lambda(t_2)\Lambda(t_3)\lambda(f:t_2 \rightarrow t_3)\lambda(g:t_1 \rightarrow t_2)\lambda(x:t_1) f(g(x))$$

## □ Polymorphic composition function type

$$\begin{aligned} & \forall(t_1. \forall(t_2. \forall(t_3. (t_2 \rightarrow t_3) \rightarrow (t_1 \rightarrow t_2) \rightarrow t_1 \rightarrow t_3))) \\ = & \forall(t_1. \forall(t_2. \forall(t_3. (t_2 \rightarrow t_3) \rightarrow (t_1 \rightarrow t_2) \rightarrow (t_1 \rightarrow t_3)))) \end{aligned}$$



## □ Interface

- A **contract** between the **client** and the **implementor**

## □ Implementations

- **Satisfy the contract**
- One implementation can be **replaced by another without affecting** the behavior of the **client**

## Data abstraction is formalized by

extending System F with ***existential types***

- Interfaces: ***existential types*** that provide a collection of operations acting on abstract type
- Implementations: packages, the **introduction** form of existential types



## □ Different implementations of Counter

```
module IntCounter = struct
  type t = int
  let make (n : int) : t = n
  let incr (ctr : t) (n : int) : t = ctr + n
  let get (ctr : t) : int = ctr
end
```

```
module RecordCounter = struct
  type t = { x: int }
  let make (n : int) : t = {x = n}
  let incr (ctr : t) (n : int) : t = {x = ctr.x + n}
  let get (ctr : t) : int = ctr.x
end
```

```
let ctr : IntCounter.t = IntCounter.make 3 in
let ctr : IntCounter.t = IntCounter.incr ctr 5 in
assert((IntCounter.get ctr) = 8);
assert(ctr = 8)
```

IntCounter.t = int  
make: int → int  
incr: int → int → int  
get: int → int

RecordCounter.t = {x: int}  
make: int → {x: int}  
incr: {x: int} → int → {x: int}  
get: {x: int} → int



## □ Interfaces

### ■ module signature

```
module type Counter =  
sig  
  type t  
  val make : int -> t  
  val incr : t -> int -> t  
  val get : t -> int  
end
```

## □ Implementations

### ■ modules

```
module IntCounter : Counter = struct  
  type t = int  
  let make (n : int) : t = n  
  let incr (ctr : t) (n : int) : t = ctr + n  
  let get (ctr : t) : int = ctr  
end
```

```
module RecordCounter : Counter = struct  
  type t = { x : int }  
  let make (n : int) : t = { x = n }  
  let incr (ctr : t) (n : int) : t = { x = ctr.x + n }  
  let get (ctr : t) : int = ctr.x  
end
```



## □ Interfaces

### ■ module signature

```
module type Counter = sig
  type t
  val make : int -> t
  val incr : t -> int -> t
  val get : t -> int
end
```

## □ Implementations

### ■ modules

```
module IntCounter : Counter = struct
  type t = int
  let make (n : int) : t = n
  let incr (ctr : t) (n : int) : t = ctr + n
  let get (ctr : t) : int = ctr
end
```

```
let ctr : Counter.t = IntCounter.make 3 in
let ctr : Counter.t = IntCounter.incr ctr 5 in
assert((IntCounter.get ctr) = 8);
assert(ctr = 8) ← ❌
```



**IntCounter can be represented as**

**pack int with**

$\langle \text{make} \hookrightarrow \lambda(n: \text{int})n, \text{incr} \hookrightarrow \lambda(c: \text{int}) \lambda(n: \text{int})c + n, \text{get} \hookrightarrow \lambda(c: \text{int})c \rangle$

as  $\exists t. \langle \text{make} \hookrightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow t, \text{incr} \hookrightarrow t \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow t, \text{get} \hookrightarrow t \rightarrow \text{int} \rangle$

**packing of a “package” -- introduction form**

## □ Package

- **Implementation: the second term in the curly braces**

$\langle \text{make} \hookrightarrow \lambda(n: \text{int})n, \text{incr} \hookrightarrow \lambda(c: \text{int}) \lambda(n: \text{int})c + n, \text{get} \hookrightarrow \lambda(c: \text{int})c \rangle$

- **Interface: the type after as keyword**

$\exists t. \langle \text{make} \hookrightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow t, \text{incr} \hookrightarrow t \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow t, \text{get} \hookrightarrow t \rightarrow \text{int} \rangle$

- **Abstracted type: the first term in the curly braces, i.e. int**





## □ Unpack: enable a client to use a package

**open**

**(pack int with**

$\langle \text{make} \hookrightarrow \lambda(n:\text{int})n, \text{incr} \hookrightarrow \lambda(c:\text{int}) \lambda(n:\text{int})c + n, \text{get} \hookrightarrow \lambda(c:\text{int})c \rangle$

**as  $\exists t. \langle \text{make} \hookrightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow t, \text{incr} \hookrightarrow t \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow t, \text{get} \hookrightarrow t \rightarrow \text{int} \rangle$ )**

**as  $t$  with  $x:\tau$**

**in let  $c:t = x.\text{make } 3$  in let  $c:t = x.\text{incr } c \ 3$  in  $x.\text{get } c$**

**open  $e_1$  as  $t$  with  $x:\tau$  in  $e_2$**

打开一个包  $e_1$ ，将其表示类型  $\text{int}$  绑定到  $t$ ，将其实现绑定到  $x$ ，以便在客户端  $e_2$  中使用

```
let ctr : IntCounter.t = IntCounter.make 3 in
```

```
let ctr : IntCounter.t = IntCounter.incr ctr 5 in
```

```
IntCounter.get ctr
```



## □ Syntax

Typ	$\tau$	::=	some( $t.\tau$ )	$\exists(t.\tau)$	interface
Exp	$e$	::=	pack{ $t.\tau$ }{ $\rho$ }( $e$ )	pack $\rho$ with $e$ as $\exists(t.\tau)$	implementation
			open{ $t.\tau$ }{ $\rho$ }( $e_1; t, x.e_2$ )	open $e_1$ as $t$ with $x:\tau$ in $e_2$	client

**pack  $\rho$  with  $e$  as  $\exists(t.\tau)$**

把表示类型  $\rho$  和实现  $e$  打成满足接口  $\exists(t.\tau)$  的一个包， $t$  为抽象类型

**open  $e_1$  as  $t$  with  $x:\tau$  in  $e_2$**

打开一个包  $e_1$ ，将其表示类型  $\text{int}$  绑定到  $t$ ，将其实现绑定到  $x$ ，  
以便在客户端  $e_2$  中使用



## □ Syntax

some( $t. \tau$ )

$\exists(t. \tau)$

pack $\{t. \tau\}\{\rho\}(e)$

pack  $\rho$  with  $e$  as  $\exists(t. \tau)$

open $\{t. \tau\}\{\tau_2\}(e_1; t; x. e_2)$

open  $e_1$  as  $t$  with  $x: \tau$  in  $e_2$

## □ Statics

### Well-formed types

$$\frac{\Delta, t \text{ type} \vdash \tau \text{ type}}{\Delta \vdash \text{some}(t. \tau) \text{ type}}$$

### Typing rules of terms

$$\frac{\Delta \vdash \rho \text{ type} \quad \Delta, t \text{ type} \vdash \tau \text{ type} \quad \Delta \Gamma \vdash e: [\rho/t]\tau}{\Delta \Gamma \vdash \text{pack}\{t. \tau\}\{\rho\}(e): \text{some}(t. \tau)}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \Gamma \vdash e_1: \text{some}(t. \tau) \quad \Delta, t \text{ type} \quad \Gamma, x: \tau \vdash e_2: \tau_2 \quad \Delta \vdash \tau_2 \text{ type}}{\Delta \Gamma \vdash \text{open}\{t. \tau\}\{\tau_2\}(e_1; t; x. e_2): \tau_2}$$

$\tau_2$ 是client代码的结果类型



- Syntax
- Statics
- Dynamics

some( $t. \tau$ )	$\exists(t. \tau)$
pack $\{t. \tau\}\{\rho\}(e)$	pack $\rho$ with $e$ as $\exists(t. \tau)$
open $\{t. \tau\}\{\tau_2\}(e_1; t; x. e_2)$	open $e_1$ as $t$ with $x: \tau$ in $e_2$

$$\frac{[e \text{ val}]}{\text{pack}\{t. \tau\}\{\rho\}(e) \text{ val}}$$

$$\left[ \frac{e \mapsto e'}{\text{pack}\{t. \tau\}\{\rho\}(e) \mapsto \text{pack}\{t. \tau\}\{\rho\}(e')} \right]$$

$$\frac{e_1 \mapsto e'_1}{\text{open}\{t. \tau\}\{\tau_2\}(e_1; t; x. e_2) \mapsto \text{open}\{t. \tau\}\{\tau_2\}(e'_1; t; x. e_2)}$$

$$\frac{[e \text{ val}]}{\text{open}\{t. \tau\}\{\tau_2\}(\text{pack}\{t. \tau\}\{\rho\}(e); t; x. e_2) \mapsto [\rho, e/t, x]e_2}$$



# \*Definability of Existential Types

- 引入存在类型的原因：对数据抽象进行建模
- 存在类型可由多态类型（全称类型）定义
  - 如下的client代码  $e_2$  是以表示类型  $X$  为参数的多态函数

$\text{open}\{t.\tau\}\{\tau_2\}(e_1; t; x.e_2)$

$$\frac{\Delta \Gamma \vdash e_1:\text{some}(t.\tau) \quad \Delta, t \text{ type } \Gamma, x:\tau \vdash e_2:\tau_2 \quad \Delta \vdash \tau_2 \text{ type}}{\Delta \Gamma \vdash \text{open}\{t.\tau\}\{\tau_2\}(e_1; t; x.e_2):\tau_2}$$

- $e_1:\exists(t.\tau)$  是一个package (具体实现),  $e_2:\tau_2$ 是client代码
- Client代码本质上是类型为 $\forall(t.\tau \rightarrow \tau_2)$ 的多态函数,  $t$ 可能出现在 $\tau$ 中, 但是不会出现在 $\tau_2$ 中
- 存在类型是一个多态函数类型

$$\exists(t.\tau) = \forall(u.\forall(t.\tau \rightarrow u) \rightarrow u)$$



## □ 存在类型可由多态类型（全称类型）定义

■ 存在类型是一个多态函数类型  $\exists(t.\tau) = \forall(u.\forall(t.\tau \rightarrow u) \rightarrow u)$

**pack  $\rho$  with  $e$  as  $\exists(t.\tau)$**  相当于  $\Lambda(u)\lambda(x:\forall(t.\tau \rightarrow u))x[\rho](e)$

**打包**

由表示类型  $\rho$  和实现  $t$  组成的包是一个多态函数，

该函数在给定结果类型  $u$  和 client 代码  $x$  时，用表示类型  $\rho$  实例化  $t$ ，再将实现  $e$  传递到其中 ( $x[\rho]$ )。

**解包**

**open  $e_1$  as  $t$  with  $x:\tau$  in  $e_2$**  相当于  $e_1[\tau_2](\Lambda(t)\lambda(x:\tau) e_2)$

将 client 代码  $e_2$  打包成一个多态函数  $\forall(t.\tau \rightarrow u)$ ，

将存在类型的结果类型（即  $\forall(u.\forall(t.\tau \rightarrow u) \rightarrow u)$  中的  $u$ ）实例化为  $\tau_2$ ，

再将  $e_1[\tau_2]$  应用到多态 client 程序  $e_2$  上

$e_1$  最终为一个 pack 值，即为一个多态函数

$$\Lambda(u)\lambda(x:\forall(t.\tau \rightarrow u))x[\rho](e)$$



# Type Quantification is not sufficient

## □ Quantification over types

- $\forall(t.\tau)$  models generics
- $\exists(t.\tau)$  models abstraction



Not sufficient to model many programming situations of practical interest.

## □ Examples (not just type quantification)

### ■ Abstract families of types

- e.g.  $\tau$  list An infinite collection types sharing a common collection of operations on them

### ■ Interrelated abstract types

- e.g. a type of trees whose nodes have a forest of child and a type of forests whose elements are trees



# \*Constructors and Kinds

- Quantification over kinds, than just types, e.g. over
  - type constructors: functions mapping types to types
  - type structures: tuples of types
- Kinds: classifying constructors
  - Static layer: use kinds to classify constructors
  - Dynamic layer: use types to classify expressions(terms)

The two-layer architecture models *phase distinction*.

- Constructors are the **static data** of the language.
- Expressions (terms) are the **dynamic data** of the language.





# $F_\omega$ $\lambda^{\rightarrow, \forall_k, \exists_k}$ Grammar

Kind $\kappa$	::=	Type	$\mathbf{T}$	types
		Unit	1	nullary product
		Prod( $\kappa_1; \kappa_2$ )	$\kappa_1 \times \kappa_2$	binary product
		Arr( $\kappa_1; \kappa_2$ )	$\kappa_1 \rightarrow \kappa_2$	function
Con $c$	::=	$u$	$u$	variable
		arr	$\rightarrow$	function constructor
		all{ $\kappa$ }	$\forall_\kappa$	universal quantifier
		some{ $\kappa$ }	$\exists_\kappa$	existential quantifier
		proj[1]( $c$ )	$c \cdot \mathbf{l}$	first projection
		proj[r]( $c$ )	$c \cdot \mathbf{r}$	second projection
		app( $c_1; c_2$ )	$c_1[c_2]$	application
		unit	$\langle \rangle$	null tuple
		pair( $c_1; c_2$ )	$\langle c_1, c_2 \rangle$	pair
		lam( $u.c$ )	$\lambda(u)c$	abstraction



# \*Constructors and Kinds

- More details are not discussed in this course.
- But if you are interest, you need further learn to understand:
  - More judgements specifying static semantics of constructors and kinds
    - Constructor / type /expression formation
  - Rules for constructor formation
  - Substitution lemma
  - ...



# \*Modularity

- **References: [PFPL Chapters 42-44]**
- **Syntax is divided into more levels**
  - **Expressions classified by types**
  - **Constructors classified by kinds**
  - **Modules classified by signatures**



# Summary: Generic Abstractions

- **Parameterize modules by types**
- **Create general implementations**
  - **Can be instantiated in many ways**
- **Language examples**
  - **Ada generic packages**
  - **C++ templates, e.g. C++ Standard Template Library(STL)**
  - **ML functors**
  - **...**



# THANKS