

An  
**Algebraic Approach**  
to  
**Typechecking and Elaboration**

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*Let's write a typechecker*

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## Let's write a typechecker

```
data Type = A | B | C | Type ⇒ Type deriving (Eq)
```

## Let's write a typechecker

```
data Type = A | B | C | Type  $\Rightarrow$  Type deriving (Eq)
```

```
data Term = Var Int | Lam Type Term | App Term Term
```

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**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**data** *Term* = Var *Int* | Lam *Type Term* | App *Term Term*

typecheck :: *Term*  $\rightarrow$  [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

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typecheck (Var i) ctxt = Just (ctxt !! i)

typecheck (Lam ty tm) ctxt = **case** typecheck tm (ty:ctxt) **of**  
    Just ty'  $\rightarrow$  Just (ty  $\Rightarrow$  ty')  
    Nothing  $\rightarrow$  Nothing

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    Just ty'  $\rightarrow$  Just (ty  $\Rightarrow$  ty')  
    Nothing  $\rightarrow$  Nothing

typecheck (App tm<sub>1</sub> tm<sub>2</sub>) ctxt = **case** typecheck tm<sub>1</sub> ctxt **of**  
    Just (ty<sub>1</sub>  $\Rightarrow$  ty<sub>2</sub>)  $\rightarrow$   
        **case** typecheck tm<sub>2</sub> ctxt **of**  
            Just ty'<sub>1</sub> | ty<sub>1</sub>  $\equiv$  ty'<sub>1</sub>  $\rightarrow$  Just ty<sub>2</sub>  
            \_  $\rightarrow$  Nothing  
    \_  $\rightarrow$  Nothing

*Let's take a typechecker to bits*

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

```
data Type = A | B | C | Type deriving (Eq)
```

```
type TypeChecker = [Type] → Maybe Type
```

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

```
data Type = A | B | C | Type  $\Rightarrow$  Type deriving (Eq)
```

```
type TypeChecker = [Type]  $\rightarrow$  Maybe Type
```

```
var :: Int  $\rightarrow$  TypeChecker
```

```
var i =  $\lambda$ ctxt  $\rightarrow$  Just (ctxt !! i)
```

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

*var* :: *Int*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*var* i =  $\lambda$ ctxt  $\rightarrow$  Just (ctxt !! i)

*lam* :: *Type*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*lam* ty tc = **case** tc (ty:ctxt) **of**

Just ty'  $\rightarrow$  Just (ty  $\Rightarrow$  ty');    Nothing  $\rightarrow$  Nothing

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

*var* :: *Int*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*var* i =  $\lambda$ ctxt  $\rightarrow$  Just (ctxt !! i)

*lam* :: *Type*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*lam* ty tc = **case** tc (ty:ctxt) **of**

Just ty'  $\rightarrow$  Just (ty  $\Rightarrow$  ty'); Nothing  $\rightarrow$  Nothing

*app* :: *TypeChecker*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*app* tc<sub>1</sub> tc<sub>2</sub> =  $\lambda$ ctxt  $\rightarrow$  **case** tc<sub>1</sub> ctxt **of**

Just (ty<sub>1</sub>  $\Rightarrow$  ty<sub>2</sub>)  $\rightarrow$

**case** tc<sub>2</sub> ctxt **of**

Just ty'<sub>1</sub> | ty<sub>1</sub>  $\equiv$  ty'<sub>1</sub>  $\rightarrow$  Just ty<sub>2</sub>

\_  $\rightarrow$  Nothing

\_  $\rightarrow$  Nothing

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

```
data Type = A | B | C | Type deriving (Eq)
```

```
type TypeChecker = [Type] → Maybe Type
```

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

**data** *Term* = Var *Int* | Lam *Type Term* | App *Term Term*

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type* ⇒ *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*] → *Maybe Type*

**data** *Term* = Var *Int* | Lam *Type Term* | App *Term Term*

*typecheck* :: *Term* → *TypeChecker*

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

**data** *Term* = Var *Int* | Lam *Type Term* | App *Term Term*

*typecheck* :: *Term*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*typecheck* (Var *i*) = var *i*

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

**data** *Term* = *Var Int* | *Lam Type Term* | *App Term Term*

*typecheck* :: *Term*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*typecheck* (*Var i*) = *var i*

*typecheck* (*Lam ty tm*) = *lam ty (typecheck tm)*

## Let's take a Typechecker to bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

**data** *Term* = *Var Int* | *Lam Type Term* | *App Term Term*

*typecheck* :: *Term*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*typecheck* (*Var* i) = *var* i

*typecheck* (*Lam* ty tm) = *lam* ty (*typecheck* tm)

*typecheck* (*App* tm<sub>1</sub> tm<sub>2</sub>) = *app* (*typecheck* tm<sub>1</sub>) (*typecheck* tm<sub>2</sub>)

# Typechecker Scripts

With these bits, we can write *typechecker scripts*.

A term:  $\lambda f:A \Rightarrow B. \lambda a:A. f a$   
& its typechecker: `lam (A  $\Rightarrow$  B) (lam A (app (var 1) (var 0)))`

A term family:  $\lambda f:A \Rightarrow B. \lambda a:A. [-]$   
& its typechecker:  `$\lambda x. \text{lam } (A \Rightarrow B) (\text{lam } A x)$`

## More Typechecker Bits

```
data Type = A | B | C | Type deriving (Eq)
```

```
type TypeChecker = [Type] → Maybe Type
```

## More Typechecker Bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

*failure* :: *TypeChecker*

*failure* =  $\lambda$ txt  $\rightarrow$  *Nothing*

## More Typechecker Bits

```
data Type = A | B | C | Type ⇒ Type deriving (Eq)
```

```
type TypeChecker = [Type] → Maybe Type
```

```
failure :: TypeChecker
```

```
failure = λctxt → Nothing
```

```
have :: Int → Type → TypeChecker → TypeChecker
```

```
have i ty tc = λctxt → if ctxt !! i ≡ ty then tc ctxt else Nothing
```

## More Typechecker Bits

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**type** *TypeChecker* = [*Type*]  $\rightarrow$  *Maybe Type*

*failure* :: *TypeChecker*

*failure* =  $\lambda$ ctxt  $\rightarrow$  *Nothing*

*have* :: *Int*  $\rightarrow$  *Type*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*have* i ty tc =  $\lambda$ ctxt  $\rightarrow$  **if** ctxt !! i  $\equiv$  ty **then** tc ctxt **else** *Nothing*

*hasType* :: *Type*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*  $\rightarrow$  *TypeChecker*

*hasType* ty tc =  $\lambda$ ctxt  $\rightarrow$  **case** tc ctxt **of**

*Just* ty' | ty  $\equiv$  ty'  $\rightarrow$  *Just* ty

    \_  $\rightarrow$  *Nothing*

# Typechecker Scripts

*A term, with an assertion*

```
hasType ((A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  
  (lam (A  $\Rightarrow$  B) (lam A (app (var 1) (var 0))))
```

# Typechecker Scripts

*A term, with an assertion*

```
hasType ((A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  
  (lam (A  $\Rightarrow$  B) (lam A (app (var 1) (var 0))))
```

*A term with a hole, with an assertion*

```
 $\lambda$ x. hasType ((A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  
  (lam (A  $\Rightarrow$  B) (lam A x))
```

# Typechecker Scripts

*A term, with an assertion*

```
hasType ((A ⇒ B) ⇒ A ⇒ B)
  (lam (A ⇒ B) (lam A (app (var 1) (var 0))))
```

*A term with a hole, with an assertion*

```
λx. hasType ((A ⇒ B) ⇒ A ⇒ B)
  (lam (A ⇒ B) (lam A x))
```

*A term with a hole, with two assertions*

```
λx. hasType ((A ⇒ B) ⇒ A ⇒ B)
  (lam (A ⇒ B) (lam A (have 1 (A ⇒ B) x)))
```

# *Algebraic Theory of Typechecking*

# The Algebraic Theory of Typechecking

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\alpha$  **where**

$var \quad :: Int \rightarrow \alpha;$	$have \quad :: Int \rightarrow Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$lam \quad :: Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha;$	$hasType \quad :: Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$app \quad :: \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha;$	$failure \quad :: \alpha$

---

# The Algebraic Theory of Typechecking

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\alpha$  **where**

$var \quad :: Int \rightarrow \alpha;$	$have \quad :: Int \rightarrow Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$lam \quad :: Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha;$	$hasType \quad :: Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$app \quad :: \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha;$	$failure \quad :: \alpha$

---

Equations 1: *Failure is contagious*

$failure = lam\ A\ failure$   
 $= app\ failure\ x$   
 $= app\ x\ failure$   
 $= have\ i\ A\ failure$   
 $= hasType\ A\ failure$



# The Algebraic Theory of Typechecking

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\alpha$  **where**

$var \quad :: Int \rightarrow \alpha;$	$have \quad :: Int \rightarrow Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$lam \quad :: Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha;$	$hasType \quad :: Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$app \quad :: \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha;$	$failure \quad :: \alpha$

---

Equations 3: *I can hasType*

$lam\ A\ (hasType\ B\ x)$	$=\ hasType\ (A \Rightarrow B)\ (lam\ A\ x)$
$app\ (hasType\ (A \Rightarrow B)\ x)$	$=\ hasType\ B\ (app\ (hasType\ (A \Rightarrow B)\ x)\ y)$
$(hasType\ A\ y)$	
$app\ (hasType\ A\ x)\ y$	$=\ failure \quad (A \neq - \Rightarrow -)$
$app\ (hasType\ (A \Rightarrow B)\ x)$	$=\ failure \quad (A \neq C)$
$(hasType\ C\ y)$	
$hasType\ A\ (hasType\ A\ x)$	$=\ hasType\ A\ x$
$hasType\ A\ (hasType\ B\ x)$	$=\ failure \quad (A \neq B)$

## Equations vs. Actual Typing

For any term  $t$ , let  $\llbracket t \rrbracket$  be the translation into the Typechecker theory using `var`, `lam`, and `app`.

### Theorem

$$\vdash t : A$$

*if and only if*

$$\text{hasType } A \llbracket t \rrbracket \neq \text{failure}$$

*(in the Typechecker theory)*

## Have an Algebraic Theory? Think “Monad!”

```
data TCTerm  $\alpha$  = Return     $\alpha$ 
                | Var      Int
                | Lam      Type (TCTerm  $\alpha$ )
                | App      (TCTerm  $\alpha$ ) (TCTerm  $\alpha$ )
                | Have     Int Type (TCTerm  $\alpha$ )
                | HasType  Type (TCTerm  $\alpha$ )
                | Failure
```

$(\gg=) :: TCTerm \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow TCTerm \beta) \rightarrow TCTerm \beta$

Return a  $\gg=$  f = f a

Var i  $\gg=$  f = Var i

Lam ty t  $\gg=$  f = Lam ty (t  $\gg=$  f)

App t<sub>1</sub> t<sub>2</sub>  $\gg=$  f = App (t<sub>1</sub>  $\gg=$  f) (t<sub>2</sub>  $\gg=$  f)

Have i ty t  $\gg=$  f = Have i ty (t  $\gg=$  f)

HasType ty t  $\gg=$  f = HasType ty (t  $\gg=$  f)

Failure  $\gg=$  f = Failure

# Typechecker Scripts

For, any  $\alpha$ ,  $TCTerm \alpha$  is a free Typechecker algebra  
(rules shall be imposed later)

*Some algebraic operations, and generic effects:*

<code>var i = Var i</code>	<code>have n A = Have n A (Return ())</code>
<code>lam A = Lam A (Return ())</code>	<code>goals A = HasType A (Return ())</code>
<code>app x y = App x y</code>	<code>failure = Failure</code>

*A typechecker script, monadic style:*

```
do goals ((A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B)
lam (A  $\Rightarrow$  B)
lam A
have 1 (A  $\Rightarrow$  B)
have 0 A
goals B
app (var 1) (var 0)
```

## Sorting out Scoping, Method A: de Bruijn

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker ( $\alpha :: Nat \rightarrow *$ ) **where**

$var :: Fin\ n \rightarrow \alpha\ n;$                        $have :: Fin\ n \rightarrow Type \rightarrow \alpha\ n \rightarrow \alpha\ n$   
 $lam :: Type \rightarrow \alpha\ (Suc\ n) \rightarrow \alpha\ n;$   $hasType :: Type \rightarrow \alpha\ n \rightarrow \alpha\ n$   
 $app :: \alpha\ n \rightarrow \alpha\ n \rightarrow \alpha\ n;$                $failure :: \alpha\ n$

---

(Abstract Syntax and Variable Binding, Fiore, Plotkin, Turi, LICS 1999)

So  $\alpha\ n$  is a typechecker in a context with  $n$  free variables

*Same equations...*

## Sorting out Scoping, Method B: HOAS

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\nu \alpha$  **where**

$var :: \nu \rightarrow \alpha;$	$have :: \nu \rightarrow Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$lam :: Type \rightarrow (\nu \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha;$	$hasType :: Type \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$
$app :: \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha;$	$failure :: \alpha$

---

The abstract type  $\nu$  represents variables.

Using a lam gets us a new variable.

Typecheckers with no free variables are represented by the type:

$$\forall \nu \alpha. \text{TypeChecker } \nu \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha$$

(Equivalent to previous (Syntax for free..., Atkey, TLCA 2009))

*Equations???*

## Have an Algebraic Theory? Think “Monad!”

```
data TCTerm  $\nu$   $\alpha$  = Return     $\alpha$ 
      | Var       $\nu$ 
      | Lam     Type ( $\nu \rightarrow$  TCTerm  $\nu$   $\alpha$ )
      | App    (TCTerm  $\nu$   $\alpha$ ) (TCTerm  $\nu$   $\alpha$ )
      | Have    $\nu$  Type (TCTerm  $\nu$   $\alpha$ )
      | HasType Type (TCTerm  $\nu$   $\alpha$ )
      | Failure
```

$(\gg=) :: \text{TCTerm } \nu \alpha \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \text{TCTerm } \nu \beta) \rightarrow \text{TCTerm } \nu \beta$

Return a  $\gg=$  f = f a

Var v  $\gg=$  f = Var v

Lam ty t  $\gg=$  f = Lam ty ( $\lambda v. t v \gg= f$ )

App  $t_1 t_2 \gg=$  f = App ( $t_1 \gg= f$ ) ( $t_2 \gg= f$ )

Have v ty t  $\gg=$  f = Have v ty (t  $\gg=$  f)

HasType ty t  $\gg=$  f = HasType ty (t  $\gg=$  f)

Failure  $\gg=$  f = Failure

# HOAS Typechecker Scripts

*Some algebraic operations, and generic effects:*

```
var v = Var v
lam A = Lam A ( $\lambda v$ . Return v)
app x y = App x y
have v A = Have v A (Return ())
goals A = HasType A (Return ())
failure = Failure
```

*A typechecker script, HOAS monadic style:*

```
do goals ((A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B)
  v1  $\leftarrow$  lam (A  $\Rightarrow$  B)
  v2  $\leftarrow$  lam A
  have v1 (A  $\Rightarrow$  B)
  have v2 A
  goals B
  app (var v1) (var v2)
```

# HOAS Typechecker Scripts

*Some algebraic operations, and generic effects:*

var v = Var v

introduce A = Lam A ( $\lambda v$ . Return v)

app x y = App x y

have v A = Have v A (Return ())

goals A = HasType A (Return ())

failure = Failure

*A typechecker script, HOAS monadic style:*

**do** goals ((A  $\Rightarrow$  B)  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B)

v<sub>1</sub>  $\leftarrow$  introduce (A  $\Rightarrow$  B)

v<sub>2</sub>  $\leftarrow$  introduce A

have v<sub>1</sub> (A  $\Rightarrow$  B)

have v<sub>2</sub> A

goals B

app (var v<sub>1</sub>) (var v<sub>2</sub>)

# HOAS Typechecker Scripts

*Some algebraic operations, and generic effects:*

```
assumption v = Var v
introduce A = Lam A (λv. Return v)
app x y = App x y
have v A = Have v A (Return ())
goals A = HasType A (Return ())
failure = Failure
```

*A typechecker script, HOAS monadic style:*

```
do goals ((A ⇒ B) ⇒ A ⇒ B)
  v1 ← introduce (A ⇒ B)
  v2 ← introduce A
  have v1 (A ⇒ B)
  have v2 A
  goals B
  app (assumption v1) (assumption v2)
```

## Evaluating Typechecker Scripts

$\text{eval} :: \text{TypeChecker } \alpha \Rightarrow \text{TCTerm } \mathbf{0} \rightarrow \alpha$

$\text{eval } (\text{Return } ())$

$\text{eval } (\text{Var } i) = \text{var } i$

$\text{eval } (\text{Lam } A \ t) = \text{lam } A \ (\text{eval } t)$

$\text{eval } (\text{App } t_1 \ t_2) = \text{app } (\text{eval } t_1) \ (\text{eval } t_2)$

$\text{eval } (\text{Have } i \ A \ t) = \text{have } i \ A \ (\text{eval } t)$

$\text{eval } (\text{HasType } A \ t) = \text{hasType } A \ (\text{eval } t)$

$\text{eval } \text{Failure} = \text{failure}$

## Evaluating Typechecker Scripts

```
eval :: TypeChecker  $\alpha \Rightarrow$  TCTerm 0  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha$   
eval (Return ())  
eval (Var i)           = var i  
eval (Lam A t)         = lam A (eval t)  
eval (App t1 t2)     = app (eval t1) (eval t2)  
eval (Have i A t)      = have i A (eval t)  
eval (HasType A t)     = hasType A (eval t)  
eval Failure           = failure
```

*Type checking:*

```
instance TypeChecker ([Type]  $\rightarrow$  Maybe Type) where...
```

## Evaluating Typechecker Scripts

```
eval :: TypeChecker  $\alpha \Rightarrow$  TCTerm 0  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha$   
eval (Return ())  
eval (Var i)           = var i  
eval (Lam A t)         = lam A (eval t)  
eval (App t1 t2)     = app (eval t1) (eval t2)  
eval (Have i A t)      = have i A (eval t)  
eval (HasType A t)     = hasType A (eval t)  
eval Failure           = failure
```

*Type checking:*

```
instance TypeChecker ([Type]  $\rightarrow$  Maybe Type) where...
```

*Elaboration:*

```
instance TypeChecker  
  (( $\Gamma$  :: [Type])  $\rightarrow$  Maybe ((A :: Type)  $\times$  Tm  $\Gamma$  A)) where...
```

*Two Useful Variations*

## Bidirectional Checking and Synthesis

**data** *Type* = A | B | C | *Type*  $\Rightarrow$  *Type* **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\nu$  ( $\alpha :: \{\text{CHK, SYN}\} \rightarrow *$ ) **where**

var            ::  $\nu \rightarrow \alpha$  SYN

lam            ::  $(\nu \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}) \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}$

app            ::  $\alpha \text{ SYN} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ SYN}$

## Bidirectional Checking and Synthesis

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\nu (\alpha :: \{CHK, SYN\} \rightarrow *)$  **where**

var  $:: \nu \rightarrow \alpha \text{ SYN}$

lam  $:: (\nu \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}) \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}$

app  $:: \alpha \text{ SYN} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ SYN}$

switch  $:: \alpha \text{ SYN} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}$

ascribe  $:: Type \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ SYN}$

## Bidirectional Checking and Synthesis

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\nu$  ( $\alpha :: \{CHK, SYN\} \rightarrow *$ ) **where**

var  $:: \nu \rightarrow \alpha \text{ SYN}$

lam  $:: (\nu \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}) \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}$

app  $:: \alpha \text{ SYN} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ SYN}$

switch  $:: \alpha \text{ SYN} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}$

ascribe  $:: Type \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK} \rightarrow \alpha \text{ SYN}$

have  $:: \nu \rightarrow (Type \rightarrow \alpha \delta) \rightarrow \alpha \delta$

goals  $:: (Type \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}) \rightarrow \alpha \text{ CHK}$

failure  $:: \alpha \delta$

## Bidirectional Checking and Synthesis

**data**  $Type = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type \Rightarrow Type$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\nu (\alpha :: \{CHK, SYN\} \rightarrow *)$  **where**

var  $:: \nu \rightarrow \alpha SYN$

lam  $:: (\nu \rightarrow \alpha CHK) \rightarrow \alpha CHK$

app  $:: \alpha SYN \rightarrow \alpha CHK \rightarrow \alpha SYN$

switch  $:: \alpha SYN \rightarrow \alpha CHK$

ascribe  $:: Type \rightarrow \alpha CHK \rightarrow \alpha SYN$

have  $:: \nu \rightarrow (Type \rightarrow \alpha \delta) \rightarrow \alpha \delta$

goalsIs  $:: (Type \rightarrow \alpha CHK) \rightarrow \alpha CHK$

failure  $:: \alpha \delta$

**instance** TypeChecker

(CHK  $\mapsto [Type] \rightarrow Type \rightarrow Bool$ ; SYN  $\mapsto [Type] \rightarrow Maybe Type$ )

**where...**

# Bidirectional Typechecker Scripts

*Terms that are “active” in their environment:*

**do**  $v_1 \leftarrow$  introduce

$v_2 \leftarrow$  introduce

$ty \leftarrow$  goal

**case**  $ty$  **of**

A  $\rightarrow$  someAConstant

B  $\rightarrow$  someBConstant

\_  $\rightarrow$  assumption  $v_1$

# Bidirectional Typechecker Scripts

*Terms that are “active” in their environment:*

```
do v1 ← introduce
  v2 ← introduce
  ty ← goal
  case ty of
    A → someAConstant
    B → someBConstant
    _ → assumption v1
```

*Application: Polymorphic Constants (elaboration from source):*

```
elaborate (PolyConstant str) =
  do ty ← goal
  case ty of
    A → interpretAsAConstant str
    B → interpretAsBConstant str
    _ → failure
```

(Safely Composable Type-Specific Languages, Omar *et al.*, ECOOP 2014)

# Type Inference (in Prolog)

(An Algebraic Presentation of Predicate Logic, Staton, FoSSaCS 2013)

**data**  $Type\ \mu = A \mid B \mid C \mid Type\ \mu \Rightarrow Type\ \mu \mid MV\ \mu$  **deriving** (Eq)

**class** TypeChecker  $\nu\ \mu\ \alpha$  **where**

var            ::  $\nu \rightarrow \alpha$

lam            ::  $(\nu \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$

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unify  $:: Type\ \mu \rightarrow Type\ \mu \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

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goals  $:: (Type\ \mu \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$

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choice  $:: \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

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app            ::  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$   
newMVar        ::  $(\mu \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$   
unify          ::  $Type\ \mu \rightarrow Type\ \mu \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$   
have            ::  $([(\nu, Type\ \mu)] \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$   
goals          ::  $(Type\ \mu \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha$   
failure        ::  $\alpha$   
choice         ::  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

**instance** TypeChecker  $(Int \rightarrow Int)\ MV$

$(MetaContext \rightarrow [Type\ MV] \rightarrow Type\ MV \rightarrow Bool)$  **where...**

# Typechecker Scripts with Unification

*A “by assumption” tactic for programming:*

```
byAssumption =
```

```
  do g ← goal
```

```
    ctxt ← getContext
```

```
    let search [] = failure
```

```
        search ((v, ty):ctxt = choice (do unify ty g; return v)  
              (search ctxt)
```

```
    v ← search ctxt
```

```
    var v
```

*Summary, and Some Questions*

## Summary:

1. Treat the bits of a typechecker as operations
2. Typechecker scripts
3. Elaboration implementation yields well-typed terms
4. Separation of core typechecking from elaboration
5. Monadic typechecker terms allow for “active terms”

## Questions:

- ▶ Does this work for more complex type systems?
- ▶ What are the right operations and equations, in general?
- ▶ What are the free algebras?
- ▶ Is this a sensible way to implement a typed language?
- ▶ What is relationship to tactic scripts? HiProofs? Isar mode?
- ▶ Does this subsume (hygenic) macros?