

Agenda

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Boolean expressions

§4

We extend our language of simple arithmetic expressions with support for Boolean expressions.

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4. Simple types

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4.1 Syntax

Terms and values

§4.1

```
 $n \in \mathbf{Num}$  numerals  
 $t \in \mathbf{Tm}$  terms  
 $v \in \mathbf{Val}$  values
```

```
 $t ::= n \mid \mathbf{false} \mid \mathbf{true} \mid \mathbf{if } t_1 \mathbf{ then } t_2 \mathbf{ else } t_3 \mathbf{ fi}$   
       $\mid t_1 + t_2 \mid t_1 * t_2 \mid t_1 < t_2 \mid t_1 \equiv t_2 \mid t_2 > t_2$   
 $v ::= n \mid \mathbf{false} \mid \mathbf{true}$ 
```

For example:

```
 $\mathbf{if } 2 < 3$   
 $\mathbf{then}$   
   $\mathbf{if } \mathbf{false} \mathbf{ then } 5 \mathbf{ else } 7 \mathbf{ fi}$   
 $\mathbf{else}$   
   $\mathbf{if } 11 \equiv 13 \mathbf{ then } 17 * 19 \mathbf{ else } 23 + 29 \mathbf{ fi}$   
 $\mathbf{fi}$ 
```



4.2 Semantics

Preliminaries

§4.2

Recall that $\mathbf{Num} = \mathbb{N}$.

We write \sqsubset and \sqsupset for the binary relations “less than” and “greater than” on natural numbers.



The semantics for our extended language is given as a small-step operational semantics, i.e., as a set of inference rules for deriving judgements of the form

$$t \longrightarrow t' \quad \text{reduction}$$



Less than

$$\frac{n_1 \sqsubset n_2}{n_1 < n_2 \longrightarrow \text{true}} \quad [r\text{-lt-true}]$$

$$\frac{n_1 \not\sqsubset n_2}{n_1 < n_2 \longrightarrow \text{false}} \quad [r\text{-lt-false}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{t_1 < t_2 \longrightarrow t'_1 < t_2} \quad [r\text{-lt}_1]$$

$$\frac{t_2 \longrightarrow t'_2}{v_1 < t_2 \longrightarrow v_1 < t'_2} \quad [r\text{-lt}_2]$$

☞ Two “computational” rules, two congruence rules.



$$\frac{}{n_1 + n_2 \longrightarrow n_1 \pm n_2} \quad [r\text{-add}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{t_1 + t_2 \longrightarrow t'_1 + t_2} \quad [r\text{-add}_1]$$

$$\frac{t_2 \longrightarrow t'_2}{v_1 + t_2 \longrightarrow v_1 + t'_2} \quad [r\text{-add}_2]$$

$$\frac{}{n_1 * n_2 \longrightarrow n_1 \times n_2} \quad [r\text{-mul}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{t_1 * t_2 \longrightarrow t'_1 * t_2} \quad [r\text{-mul}_1]$$

$$\frac{t_2 \longrightarrow t'_2}{v_1 * t_2 \longrightarrow v_1 * t'_2} \quad [r\text{-mul}_2]$$



Equals

$$\frac{n_1 = n_2}{n_1 \equiv n_2 \longrightarrow \text{true}} \quad [r\text{-eq-true}]$$

$$\frac{n_1 \neq n_2}{n_1 \equiv n_2 \longrightarrow \text{false}} \quad [r\text{-eq-false}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{t_1 \equiv t_2 \longrightarrow t'_1 \equiv t_2} \quad [r\text{-eq}_1]$$

$$\frac{t_2 \longrightarrow t'_2}{v_1 \equiv t_2 \longrightarrow v_1 \equiv t'_2} \quad [r\text{-eq}_2]$$



$$\frac{n_1 \sqsupset n_2}{n_1 > n_2 \longrightarrow \text{true}} [r\text{-gt-true}]$$

$$\frac{n_1 \not\sqsupset n_2}{n_1 > n_2 \longrightarrow \text{false}} [r\text{-gt-false}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{t_1 > t_2 \longrightarrow t'_1 > t_2} [r\text{-gt}_1]$$

$$\frac{t_2 \longrightarrow t'_2}{v_1 > t_2 \longrightarrow v_1 > t'_2} [r\text{-gt}_2]$$



Example

```

if 2 + 1 < 3 then 5 * 7 else 11 * 13 fi
  → if 3 < 3 then 5 * 7 else 11 * 13 fi
  → if false then 5 * 7 else 11 * 13 fi
  → 11 * 13
  → 143

```



$$\frac{}{\text{if true then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \text{ fi} \longrightarrow t_2} [r\text{-if-true}]$$

$$\frac{}{\text{if false then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \text{ fi} \longrightarrow t_3} [r\text{-if-false}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 \longrightarrow t'_1}{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \text{ fi} \longrightarrow \text{if } t'_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \text{ fi}} [r\text{-if}]$$

☞ Conditionals are nonstrict: one branch is always left un-evaluated.



Not all terms evaluate to a value

```

if 3 < 3 then 5 else true + 7 fi
  → if false then 5 else true + 7 fi
  → true + 7

```

None of the reduction rules applies to true + 7.

Still, true + 7 is not a value!



- ▶ Leave it as it is: some programs are literally “meaningless”. Implementations will produce a **run-time error** if an irreducible term that is not a value is encountered.
- ▶ Extend the language of values such that terms like `true + 7` are considered values and hence denote possible meanings of programs.
- ▶ Extend the operational semantics so that terms like `true + 7` can actually be reduced, for example by performing **coercions** between natural numbers and Boolean values.
- ▶ Do not consider (some classes of) irreducible terms as programs.



Type systems

“A type system is a tractable syntactic method for proving the absence of certain program behaviors by classifying phrases according to the kinds of values they compute.”

—Pierce (*TAPL*)

Type systems provide a means to statically (i.e., at compile-time, without running the program) calculate an approximation of the run-time behaviour of a program.

Sometimes we speak of “dynamically typed languages” to refer to languages in which run-time tags are used to distinguish between different kinds of data.



4.3 Type system



What are type systems good for?

- ▶ (Strong) type systems guarantee the absence of certain sorts of run-time errors.
- ▶ Type systems allow programmers to think about their programs on a more abstract level.
- ▶ Type systems provide machine-checkable documentation for programs.
- ▶ Type systems protect the abstractions they provide.
- ▶ Type systems enable certain program optimisations: compilers can take advantage of the fact that the run-time form of values is known at compile-time.



Recall: a small-step (or structured) operational semantics formalises the notion of a single computational step (or reduction) in the evaluation of a term:

$$t \longrightarrow t' \quad \text{reduction}$$

The complete evaluation of a term can be formalised by considering chains $t_1 \longrightarrow^* t_n$ of reduction steps:

$$t_1 \longrightarrow t_2 \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow t_{n-1} \longrightarrow t_n$$

☞ The multi-step reduction relation \longrightarrow^* on terms is the reflexive, transitive closure of the single-step reduction relation \longrightarrow : **(1)** for all t and t' , if $t \longrightarrow t'$, then $t \longrightarrow^* t'$ (a singleton chain); **(2)** for all t , $t \longrightarrow^* t$ (the empty chain); and **(3)** for all t, t', t'' , if $t \longrightarrow^* t'$ and $t' \longrightarrow^* t''$, then $t \longrightarrow^* t''$ (chain concatenation).



Stuck terms: example §4.3

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{if } 2 + 1 < 3 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else true} + 7 \text{ fi} \\ &\longrightarrow \text{if } 3 < 3 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else true} + 7 \text{ fi} \\ &\longrightarrow \text{if false then } 5 \text{ else true} + 7 \text{ fi} \\ &\longrightarrow \text{true} + 7 \\ &\not\rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\text{if } 2 + 1 < 3 \text{ then } 5 \text{ else true} + 7 \text{ fi} \longrightarrow^* \text{true} + 7$$

where the normal form $\text{true} + 7$ is stuck.



An irreducible term (i.e., a term t for which there is no t' such that $t \longrightarrow t'$) is called a **normal form**.

If $t \longrightarrow^* t'$ and t' is a normal form, then we say that t' is a **normal form of t** .

A normal form that is not a value (i.e., a normal form t with $t \notin \text{Val}$) is called a **stuck term**.

☞ So, a normal form is either a stuck term or a value.



Stuck terms and run-time errors §4.3

Intuitively, stuck terms result from evaluating erroneous programs. (“You cannot add numbers to Booleans.”)

Stuck terms in an operational semantics then correspond to the notion of a **run-time error**: in a concrete representation such an error may be witnessed as, for example, an exception or a segmentation fault.




Stuck terms corresponding to erroneous programs, we would like to tell, without evaluating a term, that **it will not get stuck**.

Approach: we distinguish between terms that result in **numbers** and terms that result in **Boolean values**.

So, we introduce two **types**: *Nat* and *Bool*.

$$\tau \in \mathbf{Ty} \quad \text{types}$$

$$\tau ::= \mathit{Nat} \mid \mathit{Bool}$$

 *Bool* is a type both in our object language (simple arithmetic and boolean expressions) and in our implementation language (Haskell).



Typing: constants

Numerals n and the constants `false` and `true` are already values: their types follow immediately.

$$\frac{}{n : \mathit{Nat}} \quad [t\text{-num}]$$

$$\frac{}{\text{false} : \mathit{Bool}} \quad [t\text{-false}]$$

$$\frac{}{\text{true} : \mathit{Bool}} \quad [t\text{-true}]$$


Next, we classify terms according to their type.

We define a natural deduction system to establish judgements of the form

$$t : \tau \quad \text{typing}$$

meaning that a term t has type τ , that is, without actually evaluating t , we can determine that it will evaluate to a value of the appropriate form.

Values belonging to the type *Nat* of natural numbers are the numerals n .

The values that belong to the type *Bool* are the constants `false` and `true`.




Typing: conditionals

Conditionals (terms of the form `if t_1 then t_2 else t_3 fi`) are not normal forms.

Evaluation can only proceed (cf. rule *[r-if]*) towards a normal form if t_1 evaluates (in zero or more steps) to `false` (rule *[r-if-false]*) or `true` (rule *[r-if-true]*), i.e. a value of type *Bool*.

To determine that the conditional evaluates to a value of some type τ , both branches t_2 and t_3 must evaluate to a value of that same type τ .

$$\frac{t_1 : \mathit{Bool} \quad t_2 : \tau \quad t_3 : \tau}{\text{if } t_1 \text{ then } t_2 \text{ else } t_3 \text{ fi} : \tau} \quad [t\text{-if}]$$

 The three uses of the single metavariable τ denote the constraint that the type assigned to the conditional must be the same as that of both the **then**- and the **else**-branch.



If both operands of an addition or multiplication evaluate to a natural number, then the arithmetic operation will evaluate to a number.

$$\frac{t_1 : \mathit{Nat} \quad t_2 : \mathit{Nat}}{t_1 + t_2 : \mathit{Nat}} \quad [t\text{-add}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 : \mathit{Nat} \quad t_2 : \mathit{Nat}}{t_1 * t_2 : \mathit{Nat}} \quad [t\text{-mul}]$$



if $2 + 1 < 3$ **then** $5 * 7$ **else** $11 * 13$ **fi** : Nat

Inference tree:

$$\frac{\frac{2 : \mathit{Nat} \quad 1 : \mathit{Nat}}{2 + 1 : \mathit{Nat}} \quad \frac{3 : \mathit{Nat}}{3 : \mathit{Nat}} \quad \frac{5 : \mathit{Nat} \quad 7 : \mathit{Nat}}{5 * 7 : \mathit{Nat}} \quad \frac{11 : \mathit{Nat} \quad 13 : \mathit{Nat}}{11 * 13 : \mathit{Nat}}}{2 + 1 < 3 : \mathit{Bool}}}{\text{if } 2 + 1 < 3 \text{ then } 5 * 7 \text{ else } 11 * 13 \text{ fi} : \mathit{Nat}}$$



If both operands of a relational operator evaluate to a natural number, then the comparison will evaluate to a Boolean value.

$$\frac{t_1 : \mathit{Nat} \quad t_2 : \mathit{Nat}}{t_1 < t_2 : \mathit{Bool}} \quad [t\text{-lt}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 : \mathit{Nat} \quad t_2 : \mathit{Nat}}{t_1 \equiv t_2 : \mathit{Bool}} \quad [t\text{-eq}]$$

$$\frac{t_1 : \mathit{Nat} \quad t_2 : \mathit{Nat}}{t_1 > t_2 : \mathit{Bool}} \quad [t\text{-gt}]$$



If there exist a type τ such that $t : \tau$, then t is a **well-typed** term.

Similarly, if there does not exist a type τ for which it can be established that $t : \tau$, then t is an **ill-typed** term.



There is no type τ such that

```
if 2 + 1 < 3 then 5 else true + 7 fi :  $\tau$ 
```

Hence, the term `if 2 + 1 < 3 then 5 else true + 7 fi` is ill-typed.

☞ The ill-typedness of a term does not follow from a single rule: it is the *lacking* of some *extra*, suitable rule that makes that we cannot assign a type to the example term above.



Static vs. dynamic semantics

A type system provides a **static semantics** for a programming language: a way to assign a meaning to a program without actually running it.

To contrast it with a static semantics, the formalisation of the evaluation of a program (for example, by means of a set of reduction rules) is called a **dynamic semantics**.

The meaning (i.e., the type) assigned to a program by a static semantics is an abstraction of the dynamic semantics (i.e., the value) of the program.

For example: the type *Bool* abstracts away from the concrete values `false` and `true`.



Well-typed terms share two important properties:

1. **Progress:** A well-typed term t is never stuck, i.e., either t is a value or else there exists a term t' with $t \longrightarrow t'$.
2. **Preservation:** If t is a well-typed term and t' is a term with $t \longrightarrow t'$, then t' is also well-typed. (Often, but not always, t and t' even have the *same* type.)

Together, progress and preservation establish **type safety**: a normal form of a well-typed term is never stuck (Wright and Felleisen, *Inf. Comput.* 115).

☞ Preservation is sometimes also referred to as *subject reduction* or *subject evaluation*.



Soundness

We consider a type system correct if it makes accurate predictions of the form of the values a term evaluates to:

A type system is **sound** with respect to the operational semantics if for every well-typed term t , $t : \tau$ and $t \longrightarrow^* v$ imply that $v : \tau$.

☞ Well-typedness of a term does not imply that it actually does evaluate to a value. In a more involved language there may be nonterminating terms that do not have any normal form at all.

☞ A type system is generally not *complete* w.r.t. the operational semantics: $t \longrightarrow^* v$ and $v : \tau$ do not imply that $t : \tau$.



Being static, type systems typically need to be conservative: even though some terms do evaluate to values, they are considered ill-typed.

For example:

```
if false then 0 else true fi
```

evaluates to `true` but cannot be assigned a type.

☞ In the example above, it is of course possible to statically predict that the term will evaluate to a Boolean value. In general, however, and for less trivial languages, the guard of a conditional can be an arbitrary and potentially nonterminating expression.



4.4 Implementation



An algorithm for assigning types to terms should fulfill two fundamental requirements:

1. **Soundness:** If the algorithm assigns a type τ to a term t , then we can in fact establish, by means of the typing rules, that $t : \tau$.
2. **Completeness:** The algorithm should assign a type to every well-typed term.

As a result, a correct algorithm should fail assign a type to an ill-typed term.

☞ Soundness and completeness of a typing algorithm with respect to a type system are sometimes also referred to as *syntactic soundness* and *syntactic completeness* (as a means to distinguish syntactic soundness from semantic soundness, i.e., soundness w.r.t. a dynamic semantics).



An interpreter with simple types

We now construct an interpreter for our simple language of arithmetic and Boolean expressions.

To our interpreter, an input is a (valid) program, if it is both a **syntactically correct** and **well-typed** term.

The components it consists of are:

- ▶ A parser.
- ▶ A type checker.
- ▶ An evaluator.
- ▶ A pretty printer.



```

type Num_ = Integer
data Tm    = Num Num_ | False_ | True_
           | If Tm Tm Tm
           | Add Tm Tm | Mul Tm Tm
           | Lt Tm Tm | Eq Tm Tm | Gt Tm Tm
data Val   = VNum Num_ | VFalse | VTrue

```

☞ We include underscore postfixes in the constructor names *False_* and *True_* to distinguish them from the *Bool*-constructors *False* and *True*.

Alternatively, we could represent them by a single constructor *Bool* : *Bool* → *Tm* that delegates to the *Prelude*-type *Bool*.



```

fromTree Tm :: Tm → ATerm
fromTree Tm (Num n)    = App "Num" [fromTree n]
fromTree Tm False_    = App "False" []
fromTree Tm True_     = App "True" []
fromTree Tm (If t1 t2 t3) = App "If" [fromTree t1, fromTree t2,
                                       fromTree t3]
fromTree Tm (Add t1 t2) = App "Add" [fromTree t1, fromTree t2]
fromTree Tm (Mul t1 t2) = App "Mul" [fromTree t1, fromTree t2]
fromTree Tm (Lt t1 t2)  = App "Lt" [fromTree t1, fromTree t2]
fromTree Tm (Eq t1 t2)  = App "Eq" [fromTree t1, fromTree t2]
fromTree Tm (Gt t1 t2)  = App "Gt" [fromTree t1, fromTree t2]

```



```

instance Tree Tm where
  fromTree = fromTree Tm
  toTree   = toTree Tm

```



```

toTree Tm :: ATerm → Feedback Tm
toTree Tm = parseTree
           [ app "Num"    (Num <$> arg)
           , app "False" (pure False_)
           , app "True"  (pure True_)
           , app "If"    (If <$> arg <*> arg <*> arg)
           , app "Add"   (Add <$> arg <*> arg)
           , app "Mul"   (Mul <$> arg <*> arg)
           , app "Lt"    (Lt <$> arg <*> arg)
           , app "Eq"    (Eq <$> arg <*> arg)
           , app "Gt"    (Gt <$> arg <*> arg)
           ]

```



instance *Tree Val* where

```

fromTree (VNum n) = App "VNum" [fromTree n]
fromTree VFalse  = App "VFalse" []
fromTree VTrue   = App "VTrue"  []

toTree = parseTree [app "VNum" (VNum <$> arg)
                    , app "VFalse" (pure VFalse)
                    , app "VTrue" (pure VTrue)
                    ]

```



Evaluation

§4.4

We implement the operational semantics by means of a **partial** function from terms to values:

```
eval : Tm → Val
```



```
data Ty = Nat | Bool deriving Eq
```

instance *Tree Ty* where

```

fromTree Nat = App "Nat" []
fromTree Bool = App "Bool" []

toTree = parseTree [app "Nat" (pure Nat)
                    , app "Bool" (pure Bool)
                    ]

```

☞ We make *Ty* an instance of *Eq*, so we can test two types for syntactic equality.



Evaluation: constants

§4.4

```

eval (Num n) = VNum n
eval False_  = VFalse
eval True_   = VTrue

```



$$\text{eval } (\text{If } t_1 t_2 t_3) = \text{case } \text{eval } t_1 \text{ of}$$

$$\quad V\text{True} \rightarrow \text{eval } t_2$$

$$\quad V\text{False} \rightarrow \text{eval } t_3$$

- ☞ The evaluation function fails if first subterms of a conditional does not not evaluate to a $V\text{True}$ or $V\text{False}$.



$$\text{eval } (\text{Lt } t_1 t_2) = \text{let } V\text{Num } n_1 = \text{eval } t_1$$

$$\quad V\text{Num } n_2 = \text{eval } t_2$$

$$\quad \text{in if } n_1 < n_2 \text{ then } V\text{True} \text{ else } V\text{False}$$

$$\text{eval } (\text{Eq } t_1 t_2) = \text{let } V\text{Num } n_1 = \text{eval } t_1$$

$$\quad V\text{Num } n_2 = \text{eval } t_2$$

$$\quad \text{in if } n_1 \equiv n_2 \text{ then } V\text{True} \text{ else } V\text{False}$$

$$\text{eval } (\text{Gt } t_1 t_2) = \text{let } V\text{Num } n_1 = \text{eval } t_1$$

$$\quad V\text{Num } n_2 = \text{eval } t_2$$

$$\quad \text{in if } n_1 > n_2 \text{ then } V\text{True} \text{ else } V\text{False}$$

- ☞ The evaluation function fails if one of the subterms of a comparison does not evaluate to a $V\text{Num}$ -value.



$$\text{eval } (\text{Add } t_1 t_2) = \text{let } V\text{Num } n_1 = \text{eval } t_1$$

$$\quad V\text{Num } n_2 = \text{eval } t_2$$

$$\quad \text{in } V\text{Num } (n_1 + n_2)$$

$$\text{eval } (\text{Mul } t_1 t_2) = \text{let } V\text{Num } n_1 = \text{eval } t_1$$

$$\quad V\text{Num } n_2 = \text{eval } t_2$$

$$\quad \text{in } V\text{Num } (n_1 * n_2)$$

- ☞ The evaluation function fails if one of the subterms of an arithmetic operator does not evaluate to a $V\text{Num}$ -value.



If the evaluation function encounters a stuck term, it fails with a run-time error and hence, the interpreter crashes—which may be a bit harsh on the user.

We could of course have the evaluation function run inside the *Feedback*-monad, but while this perhaps suits an interpreter, an arguably better option for a compiler may be to employ a static semantics and produce from within an implementation of a type system helpful type-error messages for ill-typed programs.

Even for interpreters, this approach establishes, to some extent, a separation of concerns in the implementation.



We implement the static semantics by means of a typing function that runs inside the *Feedback*-monad and that tries to assign types to terms:

```
typeOf :: Tm → Feedback Ty
```



Typing: conditionals

```
typeOf (If t1 t2 t3) =
  do τ1 ← typeOf t1
  case τ1 of
    Bool → do τ2 ← typeOf t2
              τ3 ← typeOf t3
              if τ2 ≡ τ3
                then return τ2
                else fail $ "arms of conditional " ++
                           "have different types"
    _ → fail "guard of conditional is not a Boolean"
```

The actual error messages may provide more detail.



```
typeOf (Num n) = return Nat
typeOf False_ = return Bool
typeOf True_  = return Bool
```



Typing: arithmetic operators

```
typeOf (Add t1 t2) =
  do τ1 ← typeOf t1
     τ2 ← typeOf t2
  case (τ1, τ2) of
    (Nat, Nat) → return Nat
    _ → fail $ "operands of addition are " ++
              "not both numbers"

typeOf (Mul t1 t2) =
  do τ1 ← typeOf t1
     τ2 ← typeOf t2
  case (τ1, τ2) of
    (Nat, Nat) → return Nat
    _ → fail $ "operands of multiplication are " ++
              "not both numbers"
```



```

typeOf (Lt t1 t2) =
  do τ1 ← typeOf t1
     τ2 ← typeOf t2
     case (τ1, τ2) of
       (Nat, Nat) → return Bool
       _ → fail "operands of comparison are not both numbers"

typeOf (Eq t1 t2) =
  do τ1 ← typeOf t1
     τ2 ← typeOf t2
     case (τ1, τ2) of
       (Nat, Nat) → return Bool
       _ → fail "operands of comparison are not both numbers"

typeOf (Gt t1 t2) =
  do τ1 ← typeOf t1
     τ2 ← typeOf t2
     case (τ1, τ2) of
       (Nat, Nat) → return Bool
       _ → fail "operands of comparison are not both numbers"
  
```

