

Last time

System F_ω

$$\frac{K_1 \text{ is a kind} \quad K_2 \text{ is a kind}}{K_1 \Rightarrow K_2 \text{ is a kind}} \Rightarrow\text{-kind}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha :: K_1 \vdash A :: K_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda \alpha :: K_1. A :: K_1 \Rightarrow K_2} \Rightarrow\text{-intro}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A :: K_1 \Rightarrow K_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash B :: K_1}{\Gamma \vdash A B :: K_2} \Rightarrow\text{-elim}$$

(and encoding data types: 1, 2, \mathbb{N} , +, lists, nested types and \equiv)

This time

$\Gamma \vdash M : ?$

What is type inference?

```
# fun f g x -> f (g x);;  
- : ('a -> 'b) -> ('c -> 'a) -> 'c -> 'b = <fun>
```

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Goal

succinctness of annotation-free code

+

safety and expressiveness of System $F\omega$

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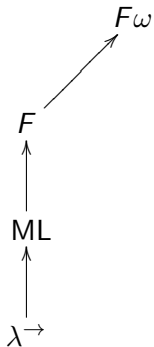
safety and expressiveness of System F_ω

Bad news

the goal is unachievable

The ML calculus

The ML calculus



Prenex quantification

$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

$\forall \alpha. \forall \beta. \alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \beta)$

$\forall \alpha. (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \alpha$

$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta)$

Let-bound polymorphism

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

```
let id x = x
in id id
```

```
let f id = id id
in f (fun x -> x)
```

```
(fun id -> id id)
(fun x -> x)
```


Prenex quantification

$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ ✓

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$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta)$ ✗

Let-bound polymorphism

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Prenex quantification

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$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta)$ ✗

Let-bound polymorphism

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let id = fun x -> x
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✓

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let id x = x
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```
let f id = id id
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```

```
(fun id -> id id)
  (fun x -> x)
```

Prenex quantification

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$\forall \alpha. (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \alpha$ ✗

$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta)$ ✗

Let-bound polymorphism

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

✓

```
let id x = x
in id id
```

✓

```
let f id = id id
in f (fun x -> x)
```

✗

```
(fun id -> id id)
  (fun x -> x)
```

Prenex quantification

$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ ✓

$\forall \alpha. \forall \beta. \alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \beta)$ ✓

$\forall \alpha. (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \alpha$ ✗

$\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta)$ ✗

Let-bound polymorphism

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

✓

```
let id x = x
in id id
```

✓

```
let f id = id id
in f (fun x -> x)
```

✗

```
(fun id -> id id)
(fun x -> x)
```

✗

Types and schemes

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{B} \text{ is a type}} \quad \mathcal{B}\text{-types}$$
$$\frac{\alpha \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash \alpha \text{ is a type}} \quad \alpha\text{-types}$$
$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \Gamma \vdash A \text{ is a type} \\ \Gamma \vdash B \text{ is a type} \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \text{ is a type}} \quad \rightarrow\text{-types}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma, \bar{\alpha} \vdash A \text{ is a type}}{\Gamma \vdash \forall \bar{\alpha}. A \text{ is a scheme}} \quad \text{scheme}$$

Environments

$$\frac{}{\cdot \text{ is an environment}} \Gamma \vdash \cdot$$
$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \Gamma \text{ is an environment} \\ \Gamma \vdash S \text{ is a scheme} \end{array}}{\Gamma, x : S \text{ is an environment}} \Gamma \vdash :$$

Typing rules for \rightarrow

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash M : B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. M : A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow\text{-intro}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash N : A}{\Gamma \vdash M N : B} \rightarrow\text{-elim}$$

Typing rules for schemes

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : A \quad \bar{\alpha} \cap \text{ftv}(\Gamma) = \emptyset \quad \Gamma, x : \forall \bar{\alpha}. A \vdash N : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x = M \text{ in } N : B} \text{scheme-intro}$$

$$\frac{x : \forall \bar{\alpha}. A \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash B \text{ is a type} \quad (\text{for } B \in \bar{B})}{\Gamma \vdash x : A[\bar{\alpha} := \bar{B}]} \text{scheme-elim}$$

Milner's algorithm

Substitutions

$$[a_1 \mapsto A_1, a_2 \mapsto A_2, \dots, a_n \mapsto A_n]$$

For example, let

$$\sigma \text{ be } [a \mapsto \mathcal{B}, b \mapsto (\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B})]$$

$$A \text{ be } a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$$

Then

$$\sigma A \text{ is } \mathcal{B} \rightarrow (\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}.$$

If

$$\sigma A = B \quad (\text{for some } \sigma)$$

then we say

B is a *substitution instance* of A .

Constraints

$$a = b$$

$$a \rightarrow b = \mathcal{B} \rightarrow b$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$$

Unification

$\text{unify} : \text{ConstraintSet} \rightarrow \text{Substitution}$

$$\text{unify}(\emptyset) = []$$

$$\text{unify}(\{A = A\} \cup C) = \text{unify}(C)$$

$$\text{unify}(\{a = A\} \cup C) = \text{unify}([a \mapsto A]C) \circ [a \mapsto A]$$

when $a \notin \text{ftv}(A)$

$$\text{unify}(\{A = a\} \cup C) = \text{unify}([a \mapsto A]C) \circ [a \mapsto A]$$

when $a \notin \text{ftv}(A)$

$$\text{unify}(\{A \rightarrow B = A' \rightarrow B'\} \cup C) = \text{unify}(\{A = A', B = B'\} \cup C)$$

$$\text{unify}(\{A = B\} \cup C) = \text{FAIL}$$

Algorithm J

$J : \text{Environment} \times \text{Expression} \rightarrow \text{Type}$

$J(\Gamma, \lambda x.M) = b \rightarrow A$
where $A = J(\Gamma, x:b, M)$
and b is fresh

$J(\Gamma, x) = A[\bar{\alpha} := \bar{b}]$
where $\Gamma(x) = \forall \bar{\alpha}. A$
and \bar{b} are fresh

$J(\Gamma, M N) = b$
where $A = J(\Gamma, M)$
and $B = J(\Gamma, N)$
and unify' ($\{A = B \rightarrow b\}$)
succeeds
and b is fresh

$J(\Gamma, \text{let } x = M \text{ in } N) = B$
where $A = J(\Gamma, M)$
and $B = J(\Gamma, x:\forall \bar{\alpha}. A, N)$
and $\bar{\alpha} = \text{ftv}(A) \setminus \text{ftv}(\Gamma)$

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
  apply id) =
```

Algorithm J in action

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J(., let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(., λf.λx.f x) =
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(., let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(., λf.λx.f x) =
J(.,f:b1, λx.f x) =
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
  apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) =  $b_1 \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
  J(·, f:b1, λx.f x) =  $b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
    J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f x) =  $b_3$ 
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) =  $b_1 \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
  J(·, f:b1, λx.f x) =  $b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
    J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f x) =  $b_3$ 
      J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f) =
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) =  $b_1 \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
  J(·, f:b1, λx.f x) =  $b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
    J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f x) =  $b_3$ 
      J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f) =  $b_1$ 
```

Algorithm J in action

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J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) =  $b_1 \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
  J(·, f:b1, λx.f x) =  $b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
    J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f x) =  $b_3$ 
      J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f) =  $b_1$ 
        J(·, f:b1, x:b2, x) =
```


Algorithm J in action

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J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) =  $b_1 \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
  J(·, f:b1, λx.f x) =  $b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
    J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f x) =  $b_3$ 
      J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f) =  $b_1$ 
        J(·, f:b1, x:b2, x) =  $b_2$ 
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) =  $b_1 \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
  J(·, f:b1, λx.f x) =  $b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
    J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f x) =  $b_3$ 
      J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f) =  $b_1$ 
        J(·, f:b1, x:b2, x) =  $b_2$ 
          unify({ $b_1 = b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ }) =
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) =  $b_1 \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
  J(·, f:b1, λx.f x) =  $b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ 
    J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f x) =  $b_3$ 
      J(·, f:b1, x:b2, f) =  $b_1$ 
        J(·, f:b1, x:b2, x) =  $b_2$ 
          unify({ $b_1 = b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ }) = { $b_1 \mapsto b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ }
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, f:b2 → b3, λx.f x) = b2 → b3
J(·, f:b2 → b3, x:b2, f x) = b3
J(·, f:b2 → b3, x:b2, f) = b2 → b3
J(·, f:b2 → b3, x:b2, x) = b2
unify({b1 = b2 → b3}) = {b1 ↦ b2 → b3}
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
  J(·, f:b2 → b3, λx.f x) = b2 → b3
    J(·, f:b2 → b3, x:b2, f x) = b3
      J(·, f:b2 → b3, x:b2, f) = b2 → b3
        J(·, f:b2 → b3, x:b2, x) = b2
ftv((b2 → b3) → b2 → b3) = {b2, b3}
ftv(·) = {}
{b2, b3} \ {} = {b2, b3}
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
  apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3. (α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3. (α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
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J(·, apply:∀α2α3. (α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) =
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, y:b4, y)
  = b4
```


Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
ftv(b4 → b4) = {b4}
ftv(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3) = {}
{b4} \ {} = {b4}
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, id:∀α4.α4 → α4,
  apply id) = b5
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, id:∀α4.α4 → α4,
  apply id) = b5
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  id:∀α4.α4 → α4, apply)
= (b6 → b7) → b6 → b7
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(., let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(., λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(., apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(., apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
J(., apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, id:∀α4.α4 → α4,
  apply id) = b5
J(., apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  id:∀α4.α4 → α4, apply)
  = (b6 → b7) → b6 → b7
J(., apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  id:∀α4.α4 → α4, id)
  = b8 → b8
```

Algorithm J in action

`unify` ($\{(b_6 \rightarrow b_7) \rightarrow b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = (b_8 \rightarrow b_8) \rightarrow b_5\}$)

Algorithm J in action

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{unify } (\{(b_6 \rightarrow b_7) \rightarrow b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = (b_8 \rightarrow b_8) \rightarrow b_5\}) \\ = & \text{unify } (\{b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = b_8 \rightarrow b_8, \\ & \quad b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = b_5\}) \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm J in action

```
unify ({(b6 → b7) → b6 → b7 = (b8 → b8) → b5})  
= unify ({b6 → b7 = b8 → b8,  
         b6 → b7 = b5})  
= unify ({b6 = b8,  
         b7 = b8,  
         b6 → b7 = b5})
```

Algorithm J in action

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{unify} (\{(b_6 \rightarrow b_7) \rightarrow b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = (b_8 \rightarrow b_8) \rightarrow b_5\}) \\ = & \text{unify} (\{b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = b_8 \rightarrow b_8, \\ & \quad b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = b_5\}) \\ = & \text{unify} (\{b_6 = b_8, \\ & \quad b_7 = b_8, \\ & \quad b_6 \rightarrow b_7 = b_5\}) \\ = & \{b_6 \mapsto b_8, b_7 \mapsto b_8, b_5 \mapsto b_6 \rightarrow b_7\} \end{aligned}$$

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, id:∀α4.α4 → α4,
  apply id) = b5
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  id:∀α4.α4 → α4, apply)
= (b6 → b7) → b6 → b7
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  id:∀α4.α4 → α4, id)
= b8 → b8
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, id:∀α4.α4 → α4,
  apply id) = b8 → b8
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  id:∀α4.α4 → α4, apply)
  = (b8 → b8) → b8 → b8
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  id:∀α4.α4 → α4, id)
  = b8 → b8
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) =
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  λy.y) = b4 → b4
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, id:∀α4.α4 → α4,
  apply id) = b8 → b8
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =
J(·, λf.λx.f x) = (b2 → b3) → b2 → b3
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3,
  let id = λy.y in apply id) = b8 → b8
J(·, apply:∀α2α3.(α2 → α3) → α2 → α3, id:∀α4.α4 → α4,
  apply id) = b8 → b8
```

Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply = λf.λx.f x in
  let id = λy.y in
    apply id) =  $b_8 \rightarrow b_8$ 
```

Type inference in practice

Type inference and recursion

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash M : A \quad \bar{\alpha} \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \quad \Gamma, x : \forall \bar{\alpha}. A \vdash N : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let rec } x = M \text{ in } N : B} \text{let-rec}$$

Supporting imperative programming: the value restriction

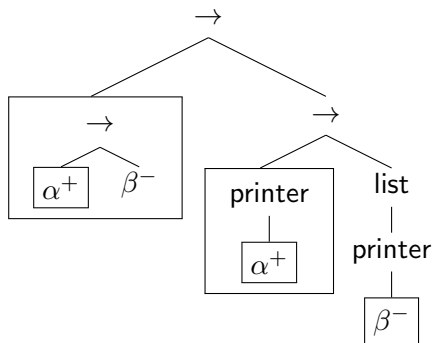
```
type 'a ref = { mutable contents : 'a }  
val ref : 'a -> 'a ref  
val ( ! ) : 'a ref -> 'a  
val ( := ) : 'a ref -> 'a -> unit
```

```
let r = ref None in  
  r := Some "boom";  
  match !r with  
  | None -> ()  
  | Some f -> f ()
```


Relaxing the value restriction: variance

```
type 'a printer = 'a -> string
```

```
('a -> 'b) -> 'a printer -> 'b printer list
```



Relaxing the value restriction: the rules

Should we generalize?

- ▶ covariant type variables
- ▶ invariant type variables
- ▶ contravariant type variables
- ▶ bivariant type variables

Relaxing the value restriction: the rules

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Relaxing the value restriction: the rules

Should we generalize?

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- ▶ bivariant type variables

Relaxing the value restriction: the rules

Should we generalize?

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- ▶ invariant type variables ✗
- ▶ contravariant type variables ✗
- ▶ bivariant type variables

Relaxing the value restriction: the rules

Should we generalize?

- ▶ covariant type variables ✓
- ▶ invariant type variables ✗
- ▶ contravariant type variables ✗
- ▶ bivariant type variables ✓

Next time

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash N : A}{\Gamma \vdash M N : B}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash B}$$