

9 Semantics of Programming Languages (SS)

This question is about a very simple programming language with support for exceptions. The syntax and semantics is given to you.

The language has the following syntax.

Exceptions: $\gamma, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots$

Expressions: $e ::= \text{true} \mid \text{false} \mid \text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3$
 $\mid e_1 \text{ handle } \gamma \Rightarrow e_2 \mid \text{raise } \gamma$

Types: There is only one type: **bool**

A *typing context* is a set Γ of exceptions. The typing rules are as follows:

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{true} : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{false} : \text{bool}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \text{bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \text{bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash e_3 : \text{bool}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 : \text{bool}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \cup \{\gamma\} \vdash e_1 : \text{bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \text{bool}}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 \text{ handle } \gamma \Rightarrow e_2 : \text{bool}} \quad (\gamma \notin \Gamma) \quad \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{raise } \gamma : \text{bool}} \quad (\gamma \in \Gamma)$$

The reduction relation \longrightarrow is defined as follows:

$$\frac{}{\text{if true then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 \longrightarrow e_2} \quad \frac{}{\text{if false then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 \longrightarrow e_3}$$

$$\frac{e_1 \longrightarrow e'_1}{\text{if } e_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 \longrightarrow \text{if } e'_1 \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3}$$

$$\frac{}{(\text{true handle } \gamma \Rightarrow e_2) \longrightarrow \text{true}} \quad \frac{}{(\text{false handle } \gamma \Rightarrow e_2) \longrightarrow \text{false}}$$

$$\frac{}{((\text{raise } \gamma) \text{ handle } \gamma \Rightarrow e_2) \longrightarrow e_2} \quad \frac{e_1 \longrightarrow e'_1}{(e_1 \text{ handle } \gamma \Rightarrow e_2) \longrightarrow (e'_1 \text{ handle } \gamma \Rightarrow e_2)}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{if } (\text{raise } \gamma) \text{ then } e_2 \text{ else } e_3 \longrightarrow \text{raise } \gamma} \quad \frac{}{((\text{raise } \gamma) \text{ handle } \gamma' \Rightarrow e_2) \longrightarrow \text{raise } \gamma} \quad (\gamma \neq \gamma')$$

(a) Consider the program $e_0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{if } ((\text{raise } \gamma) \text{ handle } \gamma \Rightarrow \text{true}) \text{ then false else true}$.

(i) Give a derivation for $\vdash e_0 : \text{bool}$. [4 marks]

(ii) Give a derivation for all of the transition steps for e_0 . [3 marks]

(b) Prove the following theorem about this language:

If $\Gamma \vdash e : \text{bool}$ then one of the following four conditions holds: (1) $e = \text{true}$; (2) $e = \text{false}$; (3) there is $\gamma \in \Gamma$ such that $e = (\text{raise } \gamma)$; (4) there is e' such that $e \longrightarrow e'$. [13 marks]