

## Last time

### System $F\omega$

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

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

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

(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  $F\omega$

# What is type inference?

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## Goal

succinctness of annotation-free code

+

safety and expressiveness of System  $F_{\omega}$

## Bad news

the goal is unachievable

# 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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## Prenex quantification

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

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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

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let id = fun x -> x
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✓

```
let id x = x
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✓

```
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## Prenex quantification

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

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

## 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

```
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

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \mathcal{B} \text{ is a type}} \mathcal{B}\text{-types}$$

$$\frac{\alpha \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash \alpha \text{ is a type}} \alpha\text{-types}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \Gamma \vdash A \text{ is a type} \\ \Gamma \vdash B \text{ is a type} \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \text{ is a type}} \rightarrow\text{-types}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \bar{\alpha} \vdash A :: *}{\Gamma \vdash \forall \bar{\alpha}. A \text{ is a scheme}} \text{scheme}$$



# Environments

$$\frac{}{\cdot \text{ is an environment}} \Gamma \dashv\cdot$$

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

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ is an environment}}{\Gamma, \alpha \text{ is an environment}} \Gamma \dashv\cdot$$

## 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

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

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

# Milner's algorithm

# Substitutions

$$\{\alpha_1 \mapsto A_1, \alpha_2 \mapsto A_2, \dots, \alpha_n \mapsto A_n\}$$

For example, let

$$\sigma \text{ be } \{\alpha \mapsto \mathcal{B}, \beta \mapsto (\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B})\}$$

$$A \text{ be } \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha$$

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

$$\alpha = \beta$$

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

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

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

# Unification

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Algorithm J

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

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

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

$J (\Gamma, M N) = \beta$   
where  $A = J (\Gamma, M)$   
and  $B = J (\Gamma, N)$   
and unify '  $\{A = B \rightarrow \beta\}$  '  
succeeds  
and  $\beta$  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 =  $\lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x$  in  
  let id =  $\lambda y.y$  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) =
```

## 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:β1, λx.f x) =
```

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let} \text{ apply} = \lambda f. \lambda x. f \ x \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{let} \text{ id} = \lambda y. y \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\text{apply id}) =$

$$J(\cdot, \lambda f. \lambda x. f \ x) = \beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f: \beta_1, \lambda x. f \ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f: \beta_1, x: \beta_2, f \ x) = \beta_3$$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = \beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, \lambda x.f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f) =$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
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$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, \lambda x.f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f) = \beta_1$$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f. \lambda x. f\ x \ \mathbf{in}$   
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$J(\cdot, \lambda f. \lambda x. f\ x) = \beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, \lambda x. f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f) = \beta_1$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, x) =$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f. \lambda x. f\ x \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y. y \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f. \lambda x. f\ x) = \beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, \lambda x. f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f) = \beta_1$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, x) = \beta_2$



## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
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$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = \beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, \lambda x.f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f) = \beta_1$

$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, x) = \beta_2$

$\mathbf{unify}(\{\beta_1 = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3\}) =$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f. \lambda x. f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
 $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y. y \mathbf{\ in}$   
 $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$$J(\cdot, \lambda f. \lambda x. f\ x) = \beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, \lambda x. f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, f) = \beta_1$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_1, x:\beta_2, x) = \beta_2$$

$$\mathbf{unify}(\{\beta_1 = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3\}) = \{\beta_1 \mapsto \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3\}$$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
   $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
   $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \lambda x.f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, x:\beta_2, f) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, x:\beta_2, x) = \beta_2$$

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## Algorithm J in action

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$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \lambda x.f\ x) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, x:\beta_2, f\ x) = \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, x:\beta_2, f) = \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$$

$$J(\cdot, f:\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, x:\beta_2, x) = \beta_2$$

$$\mathbf{ftv}((\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) = \{\beta_2, \beta_3\}$$

$$\mathbf{ftv}(\cdot) = \{\}$$

$$\{\beta_2, \beta_3\} \setminus \{\} = \{\beta_2, \beta_3\}$$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in\ apply\ id}) =$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$   
     $\lambda y.y) =$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \ \mathbf{in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\lambda y.y) = \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, y : \beta_4, y)$

$= \beta_4$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \ \mathbf{in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\lambda y.y) = \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4$

$\mathbf{ftv}(\beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4) = \{\beta_4\}$

$\mathbf{ftv}(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) = \{\}$

$\{\beta_4\} \setminus \{\} = \{\beta_4\}$



## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \ \mathbf{in}$   
   $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \ \mathbf{in}$   
   $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \ \mathbf{in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\lambda y.y) = \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4,$

$\mathbf{apply\ id}) = \beta_5$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\lambda y.y) = \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4,$

$\mathbf{apply\ id}) = \beta_5$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4, \mathbf{apply})$

$= (\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7) \rightarrow \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\lambda y.y) = \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4,$

$\mathbf{apply\ id}) = \beta_5$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4, \mathbf{apply})$

$= (\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7) \rightarrow \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4, \mathbf{id})$

$= \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$

## Algorithm J in action

unify  $(\{(\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7) \rightarrow \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = (\beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8) \rightarrow \beta_5\})$

## Algorithm J in action

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{unify } (\{(\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7) \rightarrow \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = (\beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8) \rightarrow \beta_5\}) \\ = & \text{unify } (\{\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8, \\ & \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_5\}) \end{aligned}$$

## Algorithm J in action

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{unify } (\{(\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7) \rightarrow \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = (\beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8) \rightarrow \beta_5\}) \\ = & \text{unify } (\{\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8, \\ & \quad \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_5\}) \\ = & \text{unify } (\{\beta_6 = \beta_8, \\ & \quad \beta_7 = \beta_8, \\ & \quad \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_5\}) \end{aligned}$$

## Algorithm J in action

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{unify} \left( \{ (\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7) \rightarrow \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = (\beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8) \rightarrow \beta_5 \} \right) \\ = & \text{unify} \left( \{ \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8, \right. \\ & \quad \left. \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_5 \} \right) \\ = & \text{unify} \left( \{ \beta_6 = \beta_8, \right. \\ & \quad \beta_7 = \beta_8, \\ & \quad \left. \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 = \beta_5 \} \right) \\ = & \{ \beta_6 \mapsto \beta_8, \beta_7 \mapsto \beta_8, \beta_5 \mapsto \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7 \} \end{aligned}$$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
   $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
   $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\lambda y.y) = \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4,$

$\mathbf{apply\ id}) = \beta_5$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4, \mathbf{apply})$

$= (\beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7) \rightarrow \beta_6 \rightarrow \beta_7$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4, \mathbf{id})$

$= \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$



## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
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$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

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$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4,$

$\mathbf{apply\ id}) = \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4, \mathbf{apply})$

$= (\beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8) \rightarrow \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4, \mathbf{id})$

$= \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x\ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y\ \mathbf{in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y\ \mathbf{in\ apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\lambda y.y) = \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4,$

$\mathbf{apply\ id}) = \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$

## Algorithm J in action

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{let\ apply} = \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in}$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3,$

$\mathbf{let\ id} = \lambda y.y \mathbf{\ in\ apply\ id}) = \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$

$J(\cdot, \mathbf{apply} : \forall \beta_2 \beta_3. (\beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3) \rightarrow \beta_2 \rightarrow \beta_3, \mathbf{id} : \forall \beta_4. \beta_4 \rightarrow \beta_4,$   
     $\mathbf{apply\ id}) = \beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$

## Algorithm J in action

```
J(·, let apply =  $\lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x$  in  
  let id =  $\lambda y.y$  in  
  apply id) =  $\beta_8 \rightarrow \beta_8$ 
```

# Type inference in practice

## Type inference and recursion

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

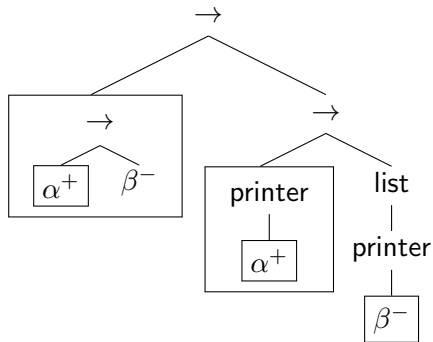
## Supporting imperative programming: the value restriction

```
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

Should we generalize?

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# Relaxing the value restriction: the rules

Should we generalize?

- ▶ covariant type variables ✓
- ▶ invariant type variables ✗
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# Relaxing the value restriction: the rules

Should we generalize?

- ▶ covariant type variables ✓
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- ▶ 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

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

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