

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\Gamma, x:A \vdash M : B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x:A.M : A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow\text{-intro}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \frac{x:A \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : A} \text{ tvar}
 \qquad
 \frac{\Gamma \vdash M : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash N : A}{\Gamma \vdash M N : B} \rightarrow\text{-elim}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha::K \vdash M : A}{\Gamma \vdash \Lambda\alpha::K.M : \forall\alpha::K.A} \quad \forall\text{-intro}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \forall\alpha::K.A \quad \Gamma \vdash B :: K}{\Gamma \vdash M [B] : A[\alpha::=B]} \quad \forall\text{-elim}$$

$\Gamma \vdash M : ?$

What is type inference?

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

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

$$\lambda f:A \rightarrow B. \lambda g:C \rightarrow A. \lambda x:C. f (g x)$$

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# fun f g x -> f (g x);;  
- : ('a -> 'b) -> ('c -> 'a) -> 'c -> 'b = <fun>
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$$\lambda f:A \rightarrow B. \lambda g:C \rightarrow A. \lambda x:C. f (g x)$$
$$\lambda f. \lambda g. \lambda x. f (g x)$$

What is type inference?

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

$$\lambda f:A \rightarrow B. \lambda g:C \rightarrow A. \lambda x:C. f (g x)$$
$$\lambda f. \lambda g. \lambda x. f (g x)$$
$$: (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (C \rightarrow A) \rightarrow C \rightarrow B$$

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

`ty(G, v(X), A) :- in((X, A), G).`

$$\frac{x:A \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : A} \text{tvar}$$

`ty(G, l(X, M), to(A, B)) :- ty([(X, A) | G], M, B).`

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

`ty(G, a(M, N), Res) :- ty(G, M, Fun), ty(G, N, Arg),
unify_with_occurs_check(Fun, to(Arg, Res)).`

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

```
in((X,A),G) :- member((X,A),G), !.
```

```
ty(G,v(X),A) :- in((X,A),G).
```

```
ty(G,l(X,M),to(A,B)) :- ty([(X,A)|G],M,B).
```

```
ty(G,a(M,N),Res) :- ty(G,M,Fun), ty(G,N,Arg),
    unify_with_occurs_check(Fun,to(Arg,Res)).
```

```
/* · ⊢ λf.λg.λx.f (g x) : (A → B) → (C → A) → C → B */
```

```
> ty([],l(f,l(g,l(x,a(v(f),a(v(g),v(x)))))),T).
```

```
T = to(to(A,B),to(to(C,A),to(C,B)))
```

```
/* · ⊢ λx.λx.x : _ → A → A */
```

```
> ty([],l(x,l(x,v(x))),T).
```

```
T = to(_,to(A,A)) /*
```

```
/* λx.(x x) -- self-application does not type check.*/
```

```
> ty([],l(x,a(v(x),v(x))),T).
```

```
no
```

What is type inference?

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

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

Goal

succinctness of annotation-free code

+

safety and expressiveness of System F

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

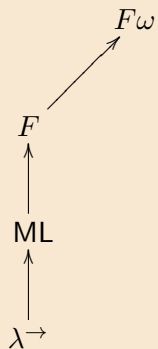
Goal

succinctness of annotation-free code
+
safety and expressiveness of System F

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

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

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

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

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Prenex quantification

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Let-bound polymorphism

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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

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

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

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

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

Let-bound polymorphism

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

✓

```
let id x = x
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✓

```
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
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```

✓

```
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)
```

✗

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

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

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ is a type} \quad \Gamma \vdash B \text{ is a type}}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \text{ is a type}} \rightarrow\text{-types}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Milner's algorithm

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

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 .

$$a = b$$

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

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

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

unify : ConstraintSet \rightarrow 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 $a \notin \text{ftv}(A)$

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

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

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

$J(\Gamma, \lambda x.M) = b \rightarrow A$
 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 $\bar{\alpha} = \text{ftv}(A) \setminus \text{ftv}(\Gamma)$

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

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

```
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) =
```

```
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(·, 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) =
```

```
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(·, 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) =
```

```
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) =  $b_2$ 
```

```

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({ $b_1 = b_2 \rightarrow b_3$ }) =

```

```

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

```

```

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}

```

```

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}

```

```
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(., 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) =

```



```

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

```

```

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}

```

```

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(·, 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(·, 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

```

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

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

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


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

```

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

```

```

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

```

```

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

```

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

$\text{let id} = \lambda y.y \text{ in}$

$\text{apply id}) =$

$J(\cdot, \lambda f.\lambda x.f\ x) = (b_2 \rightarrow b_3) \rightarrow b_2 \rightarrow b_3$

$J(\cdot, \text{apply}:\forall\alpha_2\alpha_3.(\alpha_2 \rightarrow \alpha_3) \rightarrow \alpha_2 \rightarrow \alpha_3,$

$\text{let id} = \lambda y.y \text{ in apply id}) = b_8 \rightarrow b_8$

$J(\cdot, \text{apply}:\forall\alpha_2\alpha_3.(\alpha_2 \rightarrow \alpha_3) \rightarrow \alpha_2 \rightarrow \alpha_3, \text{id}:\forall\alpha_4.\alpha_4 \rightarrow \alpha_4,$

$\text{apply id}) = b_8 \rightarrow b_8$

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

Type inference in practice

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

Supporting imperative programming: the value restriction

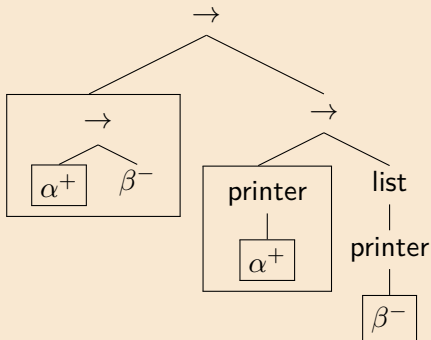
```
type 'a ref = { mutable contents : 'a }  
val ref : 'a -> 'a ref  
val ( ! ) : 'a ref -> 'a  
val ( := ) : 'a ref -> 'a -> unit
```

```
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
```



Should we generalize?

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

Should we generalize?

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

Should we generalize?

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

Should we generalize?

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

Should we generalize?

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

Abstraction