

CSE505 Concepts of Programming Languages, Assignment 4

Due: Tuesday 28 February 2012, 11:00PM

Code for problem 2 is on the course website. Code for problem 5 will be emailed to you (not posted because it solves large parts of homework 3).

- (Types for Continuations) Recall how we added first-class continuations to the lambda-calculus with evaluation-context semantics:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 e ::= \dots \mid \text{letcc } x. e \mid \text{throw } e e \mid \text{cont } E \\
 v ::= \dots \mid \text{cont } E \\
 E ::= \dots \mid \text{throw } E e \mid \text{throw } v E
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \frac{}{E[\text{letcc } x. e] \rightarrow E[(\lambda x. e)(\text{cont } E)]}$$

$$\frac{}{E[\text{throw } (\text{cont } E') v] \rightarrow E'[v]}$$

Extend the simply-typed lambda-calculus with typing rules for these new constructs. Your rules should be sound and not unreasonably restrictive. Assume we extend the type system with types of the form $\tau \text{ cont}$. The type $\tau \text{ cont}$ should describe expressions that evaluate to $\text{cont } E$ for some E such that $E[v]$ is well-typed for any v with type τ . (We don't care what type $E[v]$ has as long as it has some type.)

Hint: These three rules are enough given the right hypotheses:

$$\frac{???}{\Gamma \vdash \text{letcc } x. e : \tau}
 \qquad
 \frac{???}{\Gamma \vdash \text{throw } e_1 e_2 : \tau}
 \qquad
 \frac{???}{\Gamma \vdash \text{cont } E : \tau \text{ cont}}$$

- (Manual Continuation-Passing Style) In this problem you will reimplement the large-step, environment-based interpreter and the type-checker from homework 3. Your reimplementations should always use a constant amount of stack space regardless of how big a program they evaluate or type-check. To do so, use the idiom of continuation passing. Note that you are manually using continuation-passing style to implement the interpreter and type-checker; you are *not* applying a CPS transformation to the program being type-checked and evaluated.

- In the provided code, complete the definition of `problem2/interpret`, which should have type `exp -> (exp * heap) option` where the result `Some (v,h)` carries the final value and heap and the result `None` indicates a run-time error occurred. Two cases of the tail-recursive helper function are provided to you. This helper function should never raise an exception: it should return `None` or invoke the continuation it is passed. Hints:
 - There is no reason to use the `Some` constructor in this helper function.
 - It is probably easiest to copy parts of your solution to homework 3 and then modify them.
- In the provided code, complete the definition of `typecheck`, which should have type `exp -> typ option` where the result `Some typ` carries the type of the entire program and `None` indicates a type-error was found. You need to define a helper function that, like the helper function in part (a), takes a function as an extra argument that serves as a continuation.

- (References and Subtyping) Consider a simply-typed lambda-calculus including mutation (as defined in homework 3), records, and subtyping (as defined in lecture). In other words, it has mutable references and immutable records, plus all the subtyping rules considered in lecture. This “combined language” has no subtyping rule for reference types yet (see below).

- Write an inference rule allowing *covariant* subtyping for reference types. Show this rule is *unsound*. To show a rule is unsound, assume the language without the rule is sound (which it is). Then give an example program, show that the program typechecks using the rule, and that evaluating the program can get stuck.

- (b) Write an inference rule allowing *contravariant* subtyping for reference types. Show this rule is *unsound*.
- (c) Write an inference rule allowing *invariant* subtyping for reference types. Invariant subtyping means it must be covariant and contravariant. This rule is sound, but you do not have to show it. However, show that this rule is not *admissable* (i.e., it allows programs to typecheck that could not typecheck before). Keep in mind our language already has reflexive subtyping, so we can already derive $\tau \leq \tau$ for all τ .
4. (Sums and Subtyping) Consider a typed λ -calculus with a more flexible version of sum types than considered in lecture:
- There are an infinite number of constructors, not just A and B. Let C range over constructors. So an example expression is $C_7 (\lambda x. x)$.
 - A single sum type $+ \{C_1:\tau_1, \dots, C_n:\tau_n\}$ can list any finite number of constructors and the types of the values they carry. So one example type would be $+ \{C_3:\text{int}, C_7:\text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}, C_2:\text{int}\}$. Like in Caml, the order of constructors is not significant. Unlike in Caml, we are using structural typing and different types can use the same constructors (with possibly different types they carry).
 - As you should expect, a match expression can have any finite number of branches, with a different constructor for each branch. Informally (it can be formalized), a match expression has type τ if (1) the matched expression has type $+ \{C_1:\tau_1, \dots, C_n:\tau_n\}$, (2) for each C_i in the type there is a branch of the form $C_i x_i \rightarrow e_i$ where e_i has type τ assuming x_i has type τ_i .
 - The typing rule for constructor expressions can just be:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash C e : + \{C \tau\}}$$

If that seems odd, read on.

Come up with three sound and generally useful *subtyping rules* for these sum types and *justify informally* why each rule is sound. Write the rules formally.

Note: We already have rules like reflexivity and transitivity. Your rules should specifically deal with the new sum types.

5. (Implementing Subtyping) You have been provided an interpreter and typechecker for the language in homework 3, extended with tuples, *explicit* subsumption, and named types. The example program `factorial` uses these new features, but it will not typecheck until you implement subtype checking. Language details:

- A program now begins with zero or more “type aliases” of the form `type s = τ` where `type` is a keyword, s is an identifier, and τ is a type. A type alias makes s a legal type. As for subtyping, $s \leq \tau$ and $\tau \leq s$. You may assume without checking that a program’s type aliases have no cyclic references (see challenge problems below) and each alias defines a different type name.
- The typechecker does *not* allow implicit subsumption. However, if e has type τ and $\tau \leq \tau'$, then the explicit subsumption (`e : τ'`) has type τ' . If τ is not a subtype of τ' , then (`e : τ'`) should not typecheck.
- Tuple types are written `t1 * t2 ... * tn`. There is no syntax for tuple types with fewer than 2 components even though the interpreter and typechecker support them.
- Similarly, tuple expressions are written (`e1, e2, ..., en`).
- To get a field of a tuple, use `e.i` where i is an integer and the fields are numbered left-to-right starting with 1.

All you need to do is implement the `subtype` function in `main.ml` to support the following:

- A named type (i.e., type alias) is a subtype of what it aliases and vice-versa.
- `Int` is a subtype of `int`.
- Reference types are invariant as in problem 1(d).
- Tuple types have width and depth subtyping.
- Function types have their usual contravariant argument and covariant result subtyping.

Note: Feel free to use functions from the `List` library to make your solution more concise. Pattern-matching on pairs of types is also very useful.

Challenge Problems:

1. (The CPS Transformation) Extend the CPS transformation from lecture 13 to include the translation for pairs and sums as introduced in lecture 11.
2. (Implicit Subsumption) Change `typecheck` from problem 5 to support *implicit* subsumption between type aliases and their definitions (but still require explicit subsumption for all other subtyping).
3. (Subtyping Cycle Detection) Extend your subtype-checker from problem 5 to be sound and always terminate even if the type aliases have cycles in their definitions (e.g., the definition of s_1 uses s_2 and vice-versa; one-type cycles are also a problem). Explain what subtyping you do and do not support in the presence of cycles.

What to turn in:

- Hard-copy (written or typed) answers to problems 1, 3, and 4, and optionally Challenge 1.
- Caml files `problem2/main.ml` and `problem5/main.ml` for problems 2 and 5. For turn-in purposes, you can name them `problem2_main.ml` and `problem5_main.ml`.

Follow the dropbox link on the course website (homework section), follow the “Homework 4” link, and upload your files. If you do not have an electronic copy of your non-code answers in a standard format, you can turn in these problems in Adrian’s grad-student mailbox or give them to him directly.