

# Operational Aspects of Type Systems

Inter-Derivable Semantics of Type Checking

and

Gradual Types for Object Ownership

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14 November 2012

**KU LEUVEN**



**Types**

# A type $\mathcal{T}$

- is a set of data instances and operations on them

**boolean** = **true**, **false**

**int** = 0, 1, -1, 2, ...

**string** = "abc", "kuleuven", ...

**array** = [1, 2, 3], [**true**, "a"]

# A type $\mathcal{T}$

- is a statement in a constructive logic

$$(A, B) \rightarrow A \quad \approx \quad A \wedge B \Rightarrow A$$

# A typed program of type $\mathcal{T}$

- is a *proof* of the statement

$$\lambda(x, y) : (A, B). x \quad \approx \quad \wedge\text{-left} \frac{A \quad B}{A}$$

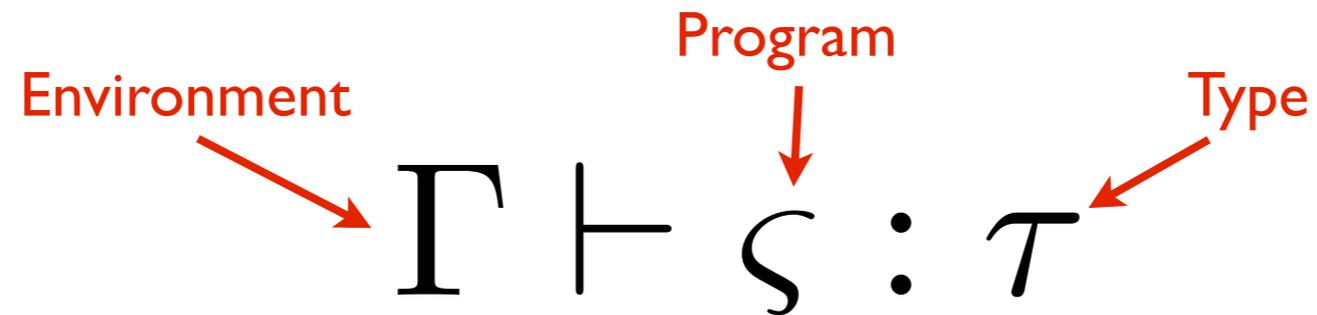
# Types help to recognize bad programs

$$\underbrace{3 \times \text{apple} + 2 \times \text{crocodile}}_{?} = ?$$

apples crocodiles

# Type Systems

# Assigning Types To Programs



- *Well-typed programs cannot go wrong*
  - R. Milner, 1978
- *Well-typed programs cannot get stuck*
  - A. Wright and M. Felleisen, 1992
- *Well-typed programs cannot be blamed*
  - P. Wadler, 2009

# Type Systems

Well-Typed Programs Don't Go Wrong

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash \varsigma_0 : \tau$$

$$\varsigma_0 \longrightarrow \varsigma_1 \longrightarrow \varsigma_2 \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \varsigma_n \longrightarrow \varsigma_{final}$$

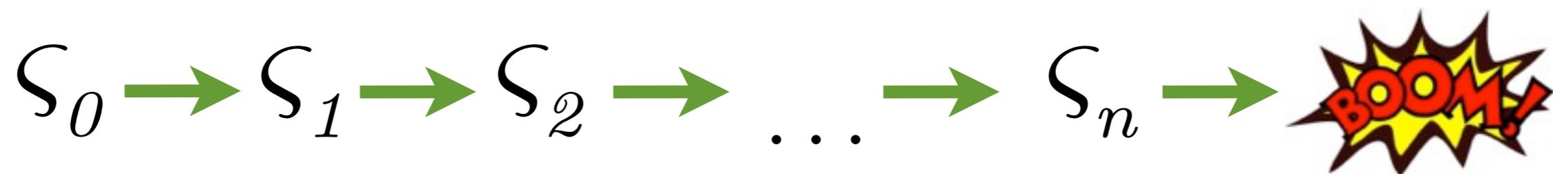
$$\varsigma_0 \longrightarrow \varsigma_1 \longrightarrow \varsigma_2 \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \varsigma_n \longrightarrow \dots$$

# Type Systems

Well-Typed Programs Don't Go Wrong

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash \varsigma_0 : \tau$$

But not



# Type Checking

# A Simple Language

Expressions	$e ::= n \mid x \mid \lambda x : \tau. e \mid e e$
Numbers	$n ::= number$
Values	$v ::= n \mid \lambda x : \tau. e$
Types	$\tau ::= num \mid \tau \rightarrow \tau$
Typing environments	$\Gamma ::= \emptyset \mid \Gamma, x : \tau$

$$(t\text{-var}) \frac{(x : \tau) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : \tau}$$

$$(t\text{-lam}) \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2}$$

$$(t\text{-app}) \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : \tau_2}$$

$$(t\text{-num}) \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash number : num}$$

Type-checking inference rules

# Another ill-typed program (which also goes wrong)

$f = \lambda x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}. \lambda y : \text{num}. x y (\lambda z : \text{num}. x z)$

$(f\ 1)\ 2 = \text{BOOM!}$

# Type Checking via Inference Rules

$$\frac{\{x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}, \dots\} \vdash x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num} \quad \{y : \text{num} \dots\} \vdash y : \text{num}}{\text{num}}$$

$$\frac{\{x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}, \dots\} \vdash x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num} \quad \{z : \text{num} \dots\} \vdash z : \text{num}}{\text{num}}$$

$$\frac{\{x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}, z : \text{num}, \dots\} \vdash x z : \text{num}}{\text{num}}$$

$$\frac{\{x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}, y : \text{num}\} \vdash x y : (\text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}) \rightarrow \tau \quad \{x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}, \dots\} \vdash \lambda z : \text{num}. x z : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}}{\text{num}}$$

$$\{x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}, y : \text{num}\} \vdash x y (\lambda z : \text{num}. x z) : \tau$$

$$\{x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}\} \vdash \lambda y : \text{num}. x y (\lambda z : \text{num}. x z) : \tau$$

$$\emptyset \vdash \lambda x : \text{num} \rightarrow \text{num}. \lambda y : \text{num}. x y (\lambda z : \text{num}. x z) : \tau$$

# The Context

## Understanding and Tracing a Type System

$$\text{(t-var)} \frac{(x : \tau) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : \tau}$$

$$\text{(t-lam)} \frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \tau_1. e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2}$$

$$\text{(t-app)} \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : \tau_2}$$

$$\text{(t-num)} \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \textit{number} : \textit{num}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} M : \Pi^{\text{par}} s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \forall \vec{s} :: \hat{\sigma}. \bar{\sigma} \vec{s} \rightarrow \exists \bar{\rho}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{p}} N : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{N} : \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \bar{\sigma} \vec{t}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{kLIS}} MN : \rho[N/s] \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, y \rangle. y \vec{t}(\bar{N} \bar{\Gamma})}{: \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \exists \vec{t} :: \hat{\rho}. \bar{\rho}[\vec{t}'/\vec{s}]\vec{t}}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} M : \Sigma s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma} \vec{t} \quad \Gamma, s : \sigma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} N : \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{N} : \exists \vec{t}'_0 :: \hat{k}'_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \forall \vec{s} :: \hat{\sigma}. \bar{\sigma} \vec{s} \rightarrow \exists \vec{t}'_1 :: \hat{k}'_1}{M, N) : \Sigma s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \text{open } \bar{N} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}'_0, y \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, z \rangle. \text{open } y \bar{\Gamma} \vec{t} z \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}'_1, w \rangle. \langle z$$

$$: \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \exists \vec{t}'_0 :: \hat{k}'_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \exists \vec{t}'_1 :: \hat{k}'_1. (\lambda \vec{s} :: \hat{\sigma}. \lambda \vec{t} :: \hat{\rho}. \bar{\sigma} \vec{s} \times \bar{\rho} \vec{t}) \vec{t}'$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} M : \Sigma s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. (\lambda \vec{s} :: \hat{\sigma}. \lambda \vec{t} :: \hat{\rho}. \bar{\sigma} \vec{s} \times \bar{\rho} \vec{t}) \vec{t}'}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} \pi_1 M : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, y \rangle. \pi_1 y : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma} \vec{t}}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} \pi_1 M : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, y \rangle. \pi_1 y : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma} \vec{t}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} M : \Sigma s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. (\lambda \vec{s} :: \hat{\sigma}. \lambda \vec{t} :: \hat{\rho}. \bar{\sigma} \vec{s} \times \bar{\rho} \vec{t}) \vec{t}'}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} \pi_2 M : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, y \rangle. \pi_2 y : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\rho}[\vec{t}'/\vec{s}]\vec{t}'}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} \pi_2 M : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, y \rangle. \pi_2 y : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\rho}[\vec{t}'/\vec{s}]\vec{t}'$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \langle \sigma \rangle \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0, \bar{\Gamma} \vdash \bar{e} : \exists \bar{\sigma}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{S}} \text{unpack } e \text{ as } \sigma : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \bar{e} : \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \bar{\sigma}}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} M : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma} \vec{t}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} M : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma} \vec{t}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{kLID}} (M :: \sigma) : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \langle \vec{t} = \lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \lambda \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \vec{t}, x : \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma}(\vec{t} \bar{\Gamma} \vec{t}_1) \rangle}{: \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \exists \vec{t} :: \bar{\Gamma} \Rightarrow \hat{k}_1 \Rightarrow \hat{\sigma}. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma}(\vec{t} \bar{\Gamma} \vec{t}_1)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{k}} M : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \bar{\sigma} \vec{t}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{W}} (M > \sigma) : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, y \rangle. \langle \vec{t} = \vec{t}, y : \bar{\sigma} \vec{t} \rangle}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{W}} (M > \sigma) : \sigma \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \text{open } \bar{M} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_0, x \rangle. \Lambda \bar{\Gamma}. \text{open } x \bar{\Gamma} \text{ as } \langle \vec{t}_1, y \rangle. \langle \vec{t} = \vec{t}, y : \bar{\sigma} \vec{t} \rangle$$

$$: \exists \vec{t}_0 :: \hat{k}_0. \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \exists \vec{t}_1 :: \hat{k}_1. \exists \bar{\sigma}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{p}} M : \llbracket T \rrbracket \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \Upsilon y \bar{\tau}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{p}} M : \mathfrak{S}(M) \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \Pi \bar{\Gamma}. \Upsilon y \bar{\tau}}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{p}} \lambda s : \sigma. M s : \Pi^{\text{tot}} s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \bar{\tau}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{p}} M : \Pi^{\text{tot}} s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \bar{\tau}}$$

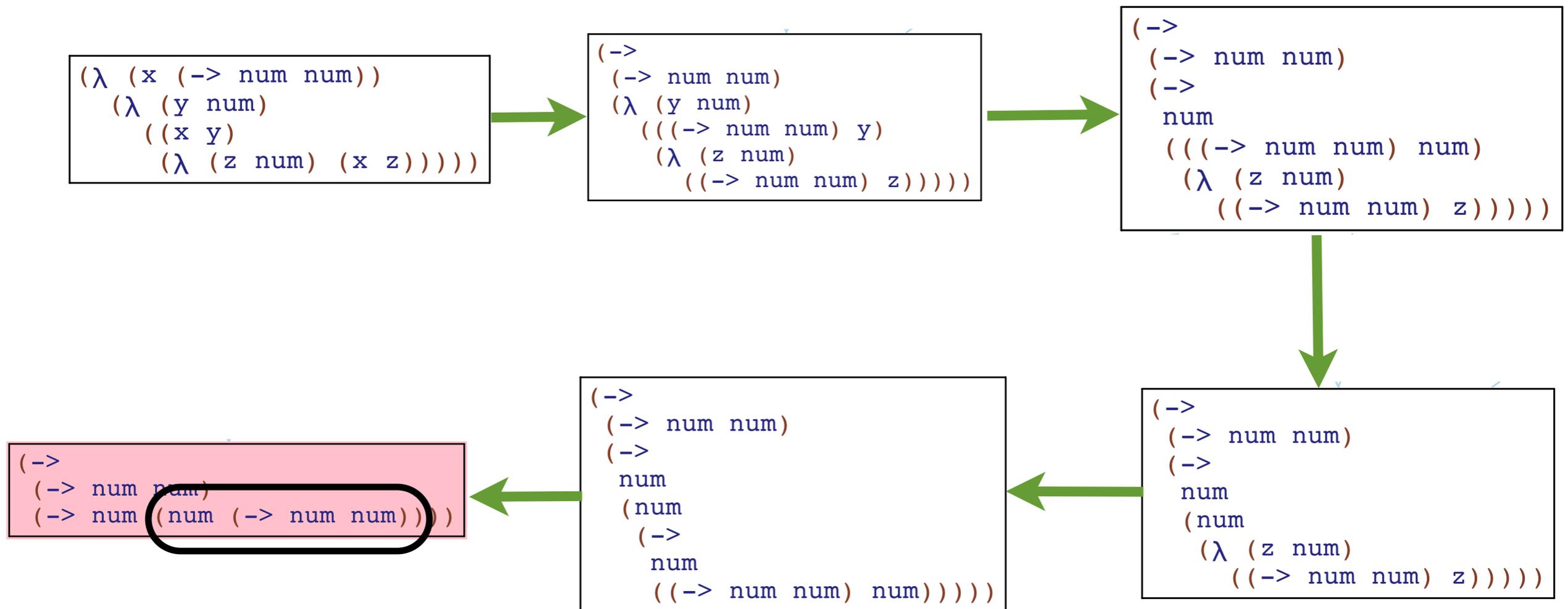
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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{p}} \langle s = \pi_1 M, \pi_2 M \rangle : \Sigma s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \bar{\tau}}{\Gamma \vdash_{\mathbf{p}} M : \Sigma s : \sigma. \rho \rightsquigarrow \Gamma_0 \vdash \bar{M} : \bar{\tau}}$$

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# Thinking of a Type System *Operationally*

# Type Checking as a Rewriting System

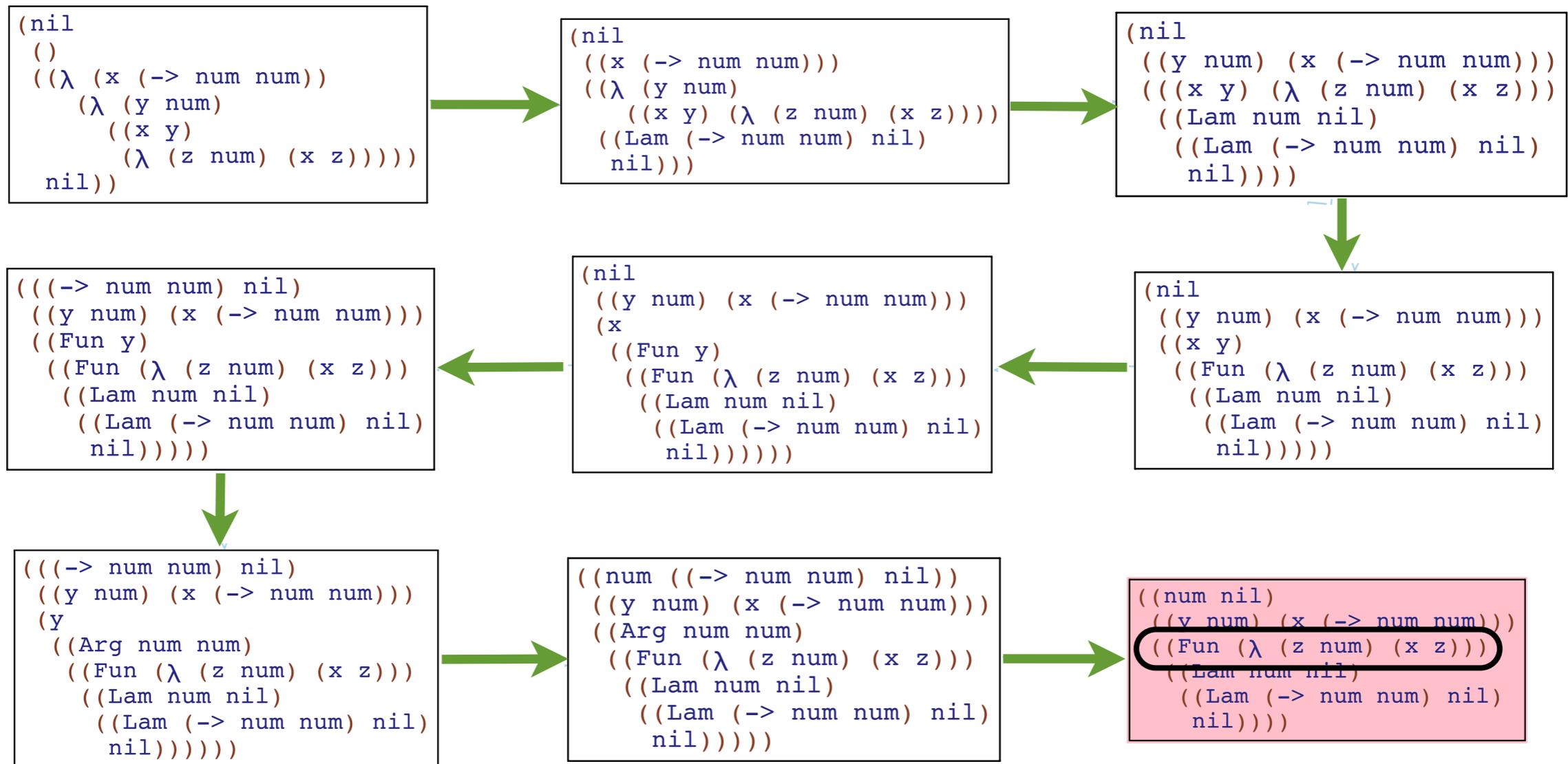


# Tracing Type Error Origin

```
(->  
  (-> num num)  
  (-> num (num (-> num num))))
```



# Type Checking as an Abstract Machine



# Recovering Type Checking Context



```
((num nil)
 (y num) (x (-> num num)))
((Fun (λ (z num) (x z))))
(Lam num nil)
 (Lam (-> num num) nil)
 nil)))
```



# *A Hard Solution*

To *prove* soundness and completeness

$$(1) \approx (2)$$

G. Kuan, D. MacQueen, R. B. Findler, ESOP 07

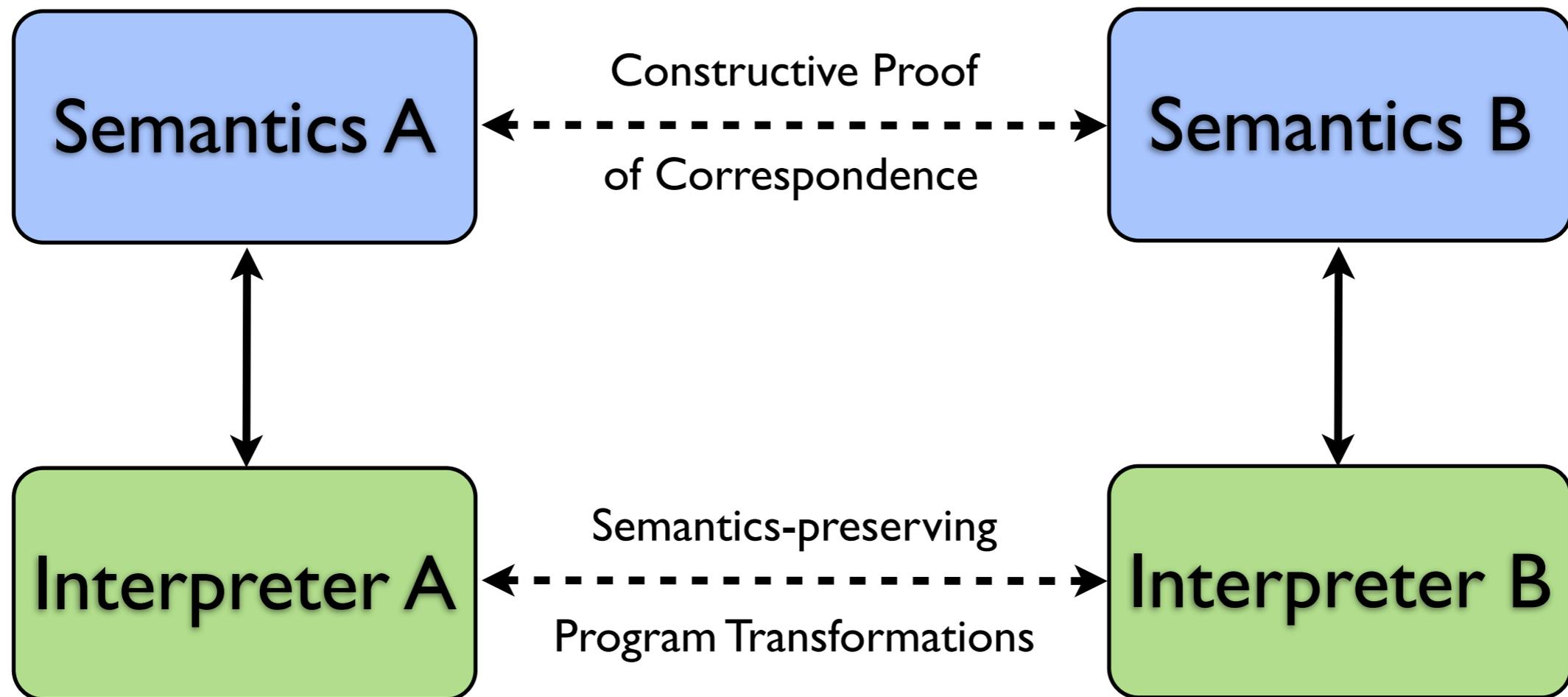
$$(1) \approx (3)$$

C. Hankin, D. Le Métayer, POPL'94

- Non-reusable, should be proven for each *new* pair of semantics
- Should be done *a posteriori*, after the semantics is constructed

# Our Solution

## Applying the Functional Correspondence



# Example: Semantics of Fibonacci Numbers

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{(fib-1)} \frac{}{1 \Downarrow_{fib} 1} \quad \text{(fib-2)} \frac{}{2 \Downarrow_{fib} 1} \\ \text{(fib-n)} \frac{(n-1) \Downarrow_{fib} v_1 \quad (n-2) \Downarrow_{fib} v_2}{n \Downarrow_{fib} v_1 + v_2} \end{array}$$



```
fun fib0 n
= if n = 1 orelse n = 2 then 1
  else let val v1 = fib0 (n - 1)
        val v2 = fib0 (n - 2)
  in v1 + v2 end
```

# Example: Semantics of Fibonacci Numbers

```
fun fib_stack (s: int list, n: int)
= if n = 1 orelse n = 2 then 1 :: s
  else let val s1 = fib_stack (s, n - 1)
        val s2 = fib_stack (s1, n - 2)
        in case s2 of
          v1 :: v2 :: s3 => (v1 + v2) :: s3
        end

fun fib1 n = fib_stack (nil, n)
```

# Example: Semantics of Fibonacci Numbers

```
fun fib_cps (s, n, k)
  = if n = 1 orelse n = 2 then k (1 :: s)
  else fib_cps (s, n - 1, fn s1 =>
    fib_cps (s1, n - 2, fn s2 =>
      case s2 of
        v1 :: v2 :: s3 => k ((v1 + v2) :: s3)))

fun fib2 n = fib_cps (nil, n, fn (x :: _) => x)
```

# Example: Semantics of Fibonacci Numbers

```
datatype cont = CONT_MT
                | CONT_FIB1 of int * cont
                | CONT_FIB2 of cont

fun fib_defun (s, n, C)
  = if n = 1 orelse n = 2 then continue (1 :: s, C)
    else fib_defun (s, n - 1, CONT_FIB1 (n, C) )

and continue (s, CONT_MT )
  = (case s of (x :: _) => x)
  | continue (s, CONT_FIB1 (n, C) )
  = fib_defun (s, n - 2, CONT_FIB2 C )
  | continue (s, CONT_FIB2 C )
  = case s of (v1 :: v2 :: s3) => continue ((v1 + v2) :: s3, C)

fun fib3 n = fib_defun (nil, n, CONT_MT )
```

# Example: Semantics of Fibonacci Numbers

```
datatype cont' = CONT_MT'
                | CONT_FIB1' of int * cont'
                | CONT_FIB2' of cont'
                | NUM' of int * cont'

fun fib_defun' (s, NUM' (n, C) )
  = if n = 1 orelse n = 2 then continuel (1 :: s, C)
    else fib_defun' (s, NUM' (n - 1, CONT_FIB1' (n, C)))

and continuel (s, CONT_MT' )
  = (case s of (x :: _) => x)
  | continuel (s, CONT_FIB1' (n, C) )
  = fib_defun' (s, NUM' (n - 2, CONT_FIB2' C))
  | continuel (s, CONT_FIB2' C )
  = case s of (v1 :: v2 :: s3) => continuel ((v1 + v2) :: s3, C)

fun fib4 n = fib_defun' (nil, NUM' (n, CONT_MT'))
```

# Example: Semantics of Fibonacci Numbers

```
datatype control_element = NUM of int
                          | CF1 of int
                          | CF2

fun fib_control (s, NUM n :: C)
  = if n = 1 orelse n = 2 then fib_control (1 :: s, C)
  else fib_control (s, NUM (n - 1) :: CF1 n :: C)
| fib_control (s, CF1 n :: C)
  = fib_control (s, NUM (n - 2) :: CF2 :: C)
| fib_control (s, CF2 :: C)
  = (case s of (v1 :: v2 :: s3) => fib_control ((v1 + v2) :: s3, C))
| fib_control (s, nil)
  = (case s of (x :: _) => x)

fun fib5 n = fib_control (nil, NUM n :: nil)
```

# Example: Semantics of Fibonacci Numbers

$$\begin{aligned} \langle S, \text{Num}(1) :: C \rangle &\Rightarrow_{SC_{fib}} \langle 1 :: S, C \rangle \\ \langle S, \text{Num}(2) :: C \rangle &\Rightarrow_{SC_{fib}} \langle 1 :: S, C \rangle \\ \langle S, \text{Num}(n) :: C \rangle &\Rightarrow_{SC_{fib}} \langle S, \text{Num}(n-1) :: CF_1(n) :: C \rangle \\ \langle S, CF_1(n) :: C \rangle &\Rightarrow_{SC_{fib}} \langle S, \text{Num}(n-2) :: CF_2 :: C \rangle \\ \langle v_1 :: v_2 :: S, CF_2 :: C \rangle &\Rightarrow_{SC_{fib}} \langle (v_1 + v_2) :: S, C \rangle \end{aligned}$$


```
type state = int list * control_element list

(* step : state -> state *)
fun step (s, NUM 1 :: C)
  = (1 :: s, C)
  | step (s, NUM 2 :: C)
  = (1 :: s, C)
  | step (s, NUM n :: C)
  = (s, NUM (n - 1) :: CF1 n :: C)
  | step (s, CF1 n :: C)
  = (s, NUM (n - 2) :: CF2 :: C)
  | step (v1 :: v2 :: s3, CF2 :: C)
  = ((v1 + v2) :: s3, C)

(* step : state -> int *)
fun iterate (v :: _, nil)
  = v
  | iterate (s, C)
  = iterate (step (s, C))
```

# Functional Correspondence, applied

- Evaluators with computational effects [[Ager-al:TCS05](#)]
- Object calculi inter-derivation [[Danvy-Johannsen:JCSS10](#)]
- Landin's SECD machine [[Danvy-Millikin:LMCS08](#)]
- Abstract machine for call-by-need lambda calculus [[Ager-al:IPL04](#), [Danvy-al:FLOPS10](#)]
- Formalizing semantics of Scheme [[Biernacka-Danvy:LNCS5700](#)]
- Abstract Interpretation-based analyses [[VanHorn-Might:ICFP10](#)]
- ...

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Inter-Derivable Semantics of Type Checking

and

Gradual Types for Object Ownership

# Based on the Publications

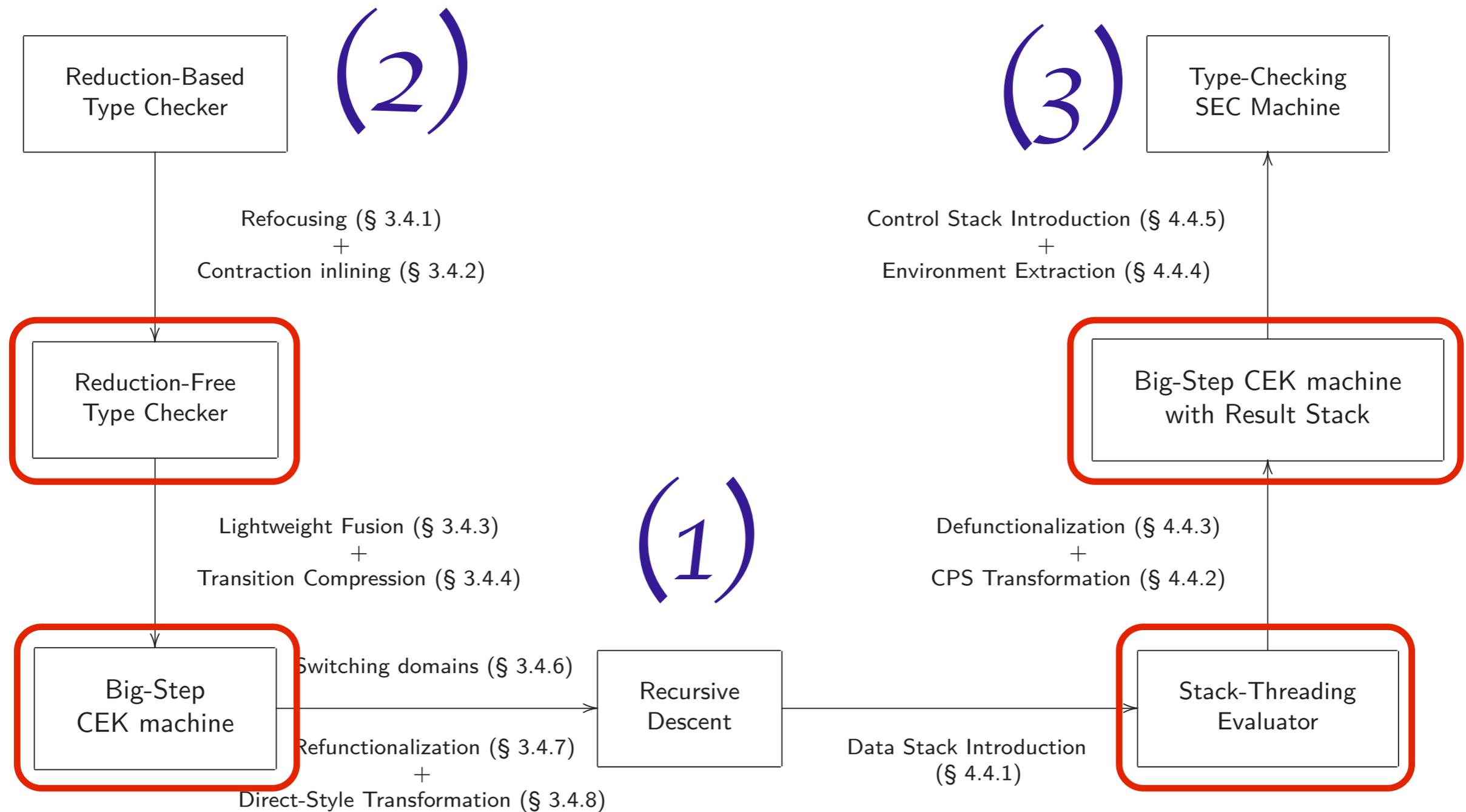
- Ilya Sergey and Dave Clarke.  
*A correspondence between type checking via reduction and type checking via evaluation*  
Information Processing Letters, January 2012. Elsevier.
- Ilya Sergey and Dave Clarke.  
*A correspondence between type checking via reduction and type checking via evaluation*  
*Accompanying code overview*  
CW Reports, volume CW617. KU Leuven. January 2012.
- Ilya Sergey and Dave Clarke.  
*From type checking by recursive descent to type checking with an abstract machine*  
In proceedings of the 11th Workshop on Language Descriptions, Tools and Applications (LDTA 2011), March 2011. ACM.

A part of this work was carried out while visiting  
the BRICS PhD School of Aarhus University in September 2010.

# Employed Program Transformations

- CPS Transformation
- Direct-style transformation
- Defunctionalization
- Refunctionalization
- Transition compression
- Lightweight Fusion
- Lambda Lifting
- Closure Conversion
- Control Stack Extraction
- Refocusing

# The Resulting Derivation



# Summary

1. Type checking is a computation over a program's syntax; its semantics may be described in different ways;
2. *Different* formalisms and corresponding implementations might be used, but *equivalence* between them should be proved;
3. *Functional correspondence* makes it possible to derive a family of algorithms for type checking, rather than invent them from scratch;
4. A tool-chain of program transformations is applied to derive those algorithms;
5. All derived semantics correspond to each other *by construction*.

# Contributions I

1. A *mechanical* correspondence between type checking via reductions and type checking via evaluation
2. A *mechanical* correspondence between type checking via evaluation and type checking via an abstract machine
3. A family of *novel, semantically equivalent* artifacts for type checking
4. A proof-of-concept implementation of the derivation in *Standard ML* and *PLT Redex*, available at <http://github.com/ilyasergey/typechecker-transformations>

# Applications

## 1. Type debugging

- *Figuring out what has gone wrong during type checking*

## 2. Incremental type checking

- *Since a type checker is just an interpreter, the usual memoization techniques can be applied*

## 3. Conservative type checking via abstract interpretation

- *Can be applied for effect inference systems, e.g., strictness analysis in the form of a type system*

# Future Work I

1. Handling type system evolution
  - *Transformations should not be re-done again*
2. Tool support for transformations
  - *The transformations should be automated*
3. Mechanization of the metatheory
  - *So far, done only for some of the transformations from the toolchain*

# Type Systems

Well-Typed Programs Don't Go Wrong

$$\Gamma, \Delta \vdash \varsigma_0 : \tau$$

$$\varsigma_0 \longrightarrow \varsigma_1 \longrightarrow \varsigma_2 \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \varsigma_n \longrightarrow \varsigma_{final}$$

$$\varsigma_0 \longrightarrow \varsigma_1 \longrightarrow \varsigma_2 \longrightarrow \dots \longrightarrow \varsigma_n \longrightarrow \dots$$

# Domain-Specific Type Systems

Well-Typed Programs Still Don't Go Wrong

$$\hat{\Gamma}, \hat{\Delta} \not\vdash \varsigma_0 : \hat{\tau}$$



# Some Domain-Specific Type Systems

- NonNull Types [[Fändrich-Leino:OOPSLA03](#)]
- Types for Information Flow Control [[Myers:POPL99](#), [Hunt:POPL06](#)]
- Uniqueness Type Systems [[Aldrich-al:OOPSLA02](#), [Boyland:SPE01](#)]
- Universe Types [[Cunningham-al:FMCO07](#)]
- Ownership Types [[Clarke-al:OOPSLA98](#)]

# The Problem

A program should not run,  
when something is actually *Wrong*.

but

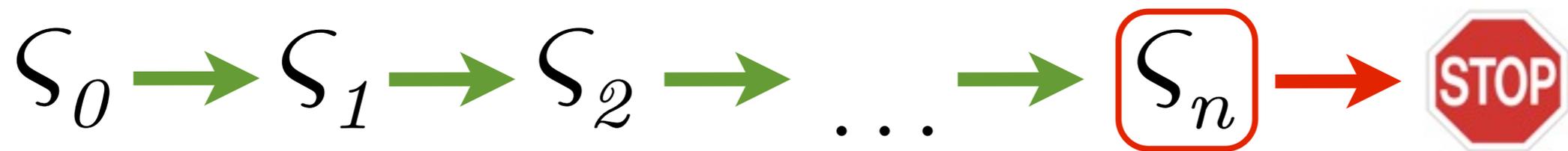
A program should be executable,  
even if it might possibly go *Wrong*.

# A Solution

## Gradual Domain-Specific Type Systems

# Gradual Domain-Specific Type Systems

$$\hat{\Gamma}, \hat{\Delta} \not\vdash \varsigma_0 : \hat{\tau}$$



Next one is a bad state

# Gradual Domain-Specific Type Systems

$\hat{\Gamma}, \hat{\Delta} \not\vdash \zeta_0 : \tilde{\tau}$



**This Work**

**A Case Study**

**Making  
a Domain-Specific Type System  
Gradual**

# Ownership Types

- data-race freedom [[Boyapati-Rinard:OOPSLA01](#)]
- disjointness of effects [[Clarke-Drossopoulou:OOPSLA02](#)]
- various confinement properties [[Vitek-Bokowski:OOPSLA99](#)]
- modular reasoning about aliasing [[Müller:VSTTE05](#)]
- effective memory management [[Boyapati-et-al:PLDI03](#)]

# But also

- Verbosity of ownership types is a problem for practical adaptation
- Sometimes, the imposed invariant is too restrictive
- A type debugging support would require to trace the *execution* of programs

# Operational Aspects of Type Systems

Inter-Derivable Semantics of Type Checking  
and

Gradual Types for Object Ownership

# Based on the Publications

- Ilya Sergey and Dave Clarke  
*Gradual Ownership Types*  
In proceedings of the 21th European Symposium on Programming (ESOP 2012), April 2012. Volume 7211 of LNCS, Springer.
- Ilya Sergey and Dave Clarke  
*Gradual Ownership Types, the Accompanying Technical Report*  
CW Reports, volume CW613. KU Leuven. December 2011.
- Ilya Sergey and Dave Clarke  
*Towards Gradual Ownership Types*  
In International Workshop on Aliasing, Confinement and Ownership (IWACO 2011). July 2011.

**Ownership**



Of course, darling.



**No way!**  
We're not so related.



Granny, may I use your seal?

Yes, shoot!

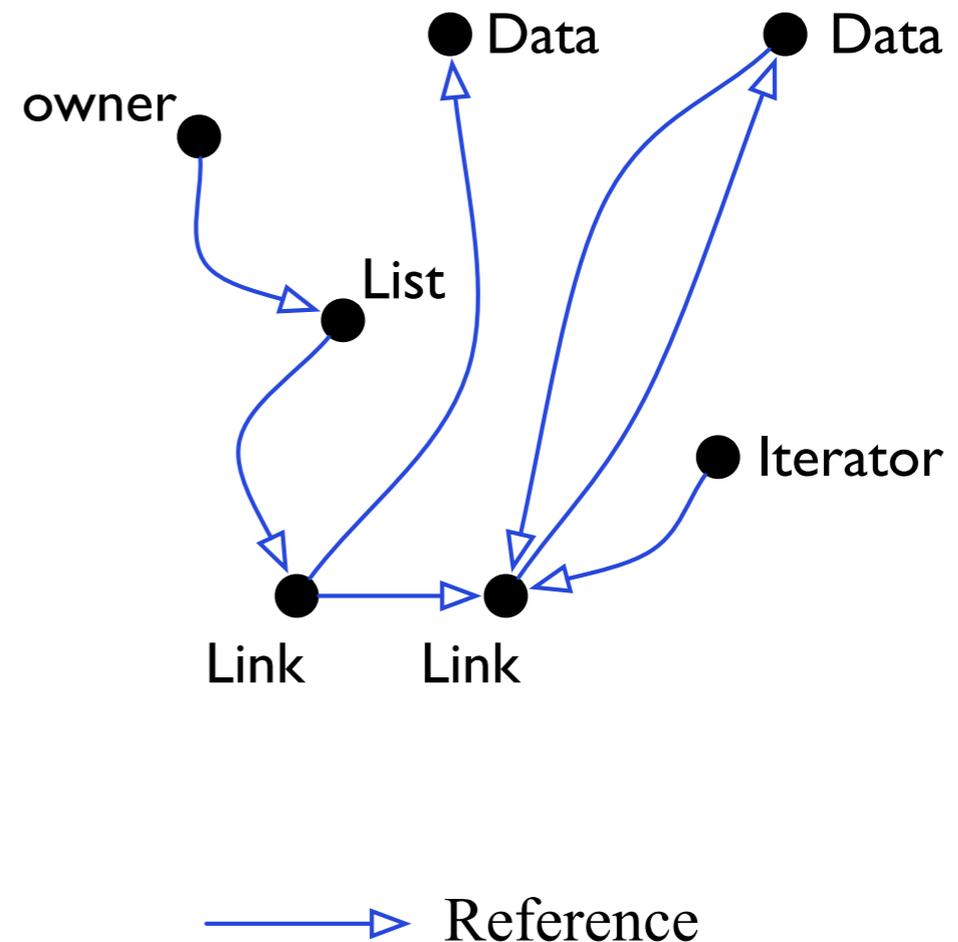


Uncle Gru, may I use your wonderful car?

# Ownership Types\*

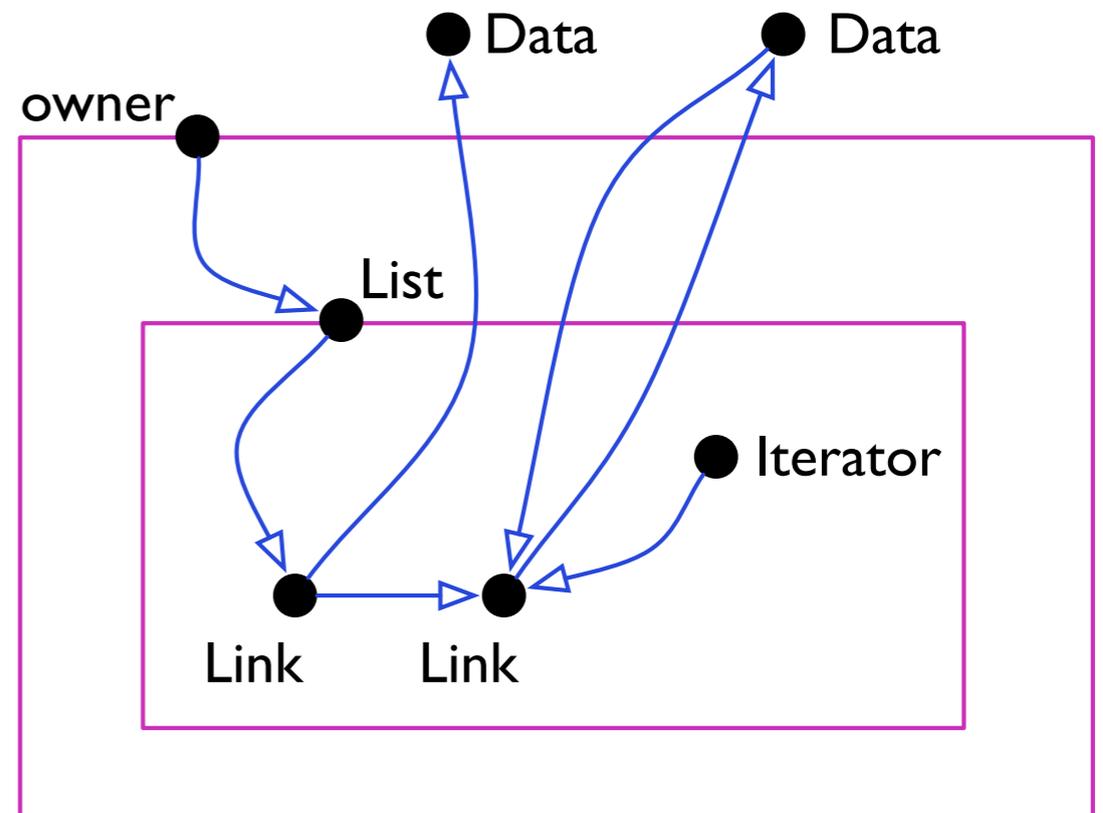
(a bit more formally)

```
class List {
  Link head;
  void add(Data d) {
    head = new Link(head, d);
  }
  Iterator makeIterator() {
    return new Iterator(head);
  }
}
class Link {
  Link next;
  Data data;
  Link(Link next, Data data) {
    this.next = next; this.data = data;
  }
}
class Iterator {
  Link current;
  Iterator(Link first) {
    current = first;
  }
  void next() { current = current.next; }
  Data elem() { return current.data; }
  boolean done() {
    return (current == null);
  }
}
```



# Ownership Types

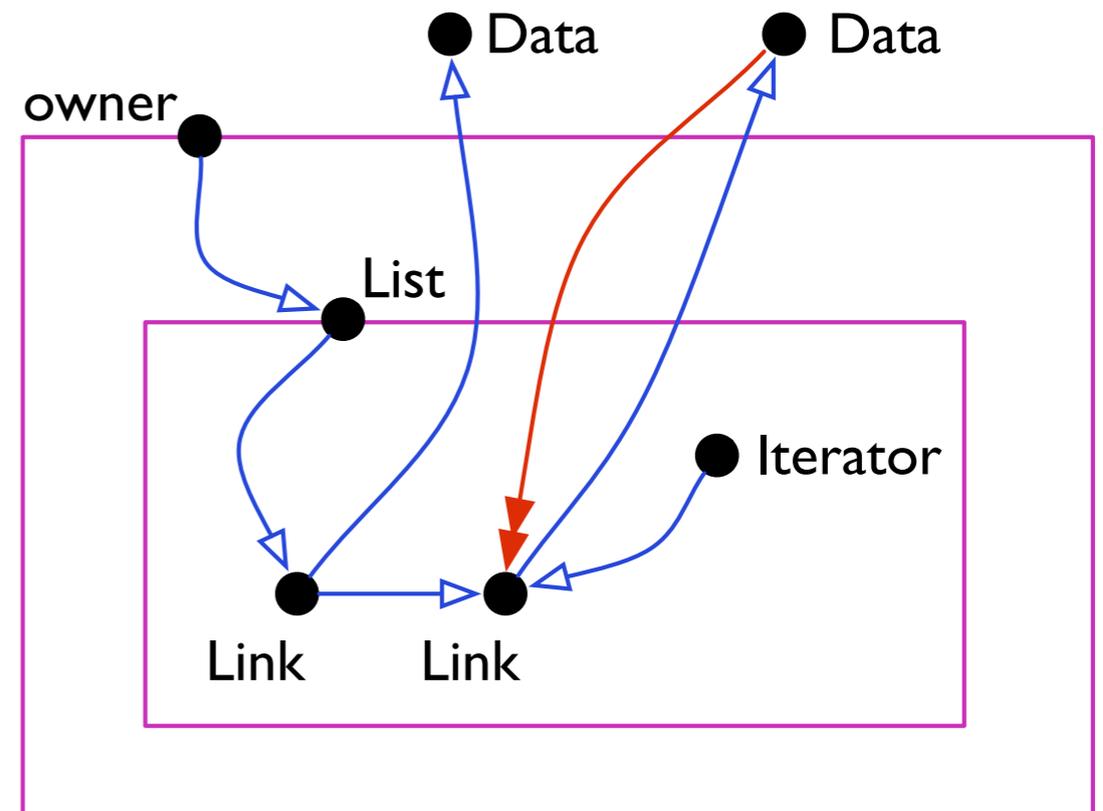
```
class List {
  Link head;
  void add(Data d) {
    head = new Link(head, d);
  }
  Iterator makeIterator() {
    return new Iterator(head);
  }
}
class Link {
  Link next;
  Data data;
  Link(Link next, Data data) {
    this.next = next; this.data = data;
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  Link current;
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    current = first;
  }
  void next() { current = current.next; }
  Data elem() { return current.data; }
  boolean done() {
    return (current == null);
  }
}
```



—▶ Reference  
— Encapsulation Boundary

# Ownership Types

```
class List {
  Link head;
  void add(Data d) {
    head = new Link(head, d);
  }
  Iterator makeIterator() {
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  Link current;
  Iterator(Link first) {
    current = first;
  }
  void next() { current = current.next; }
  Data elem() { return current.data; }
  boolean done() {
    return (current == null);
  }
}
```

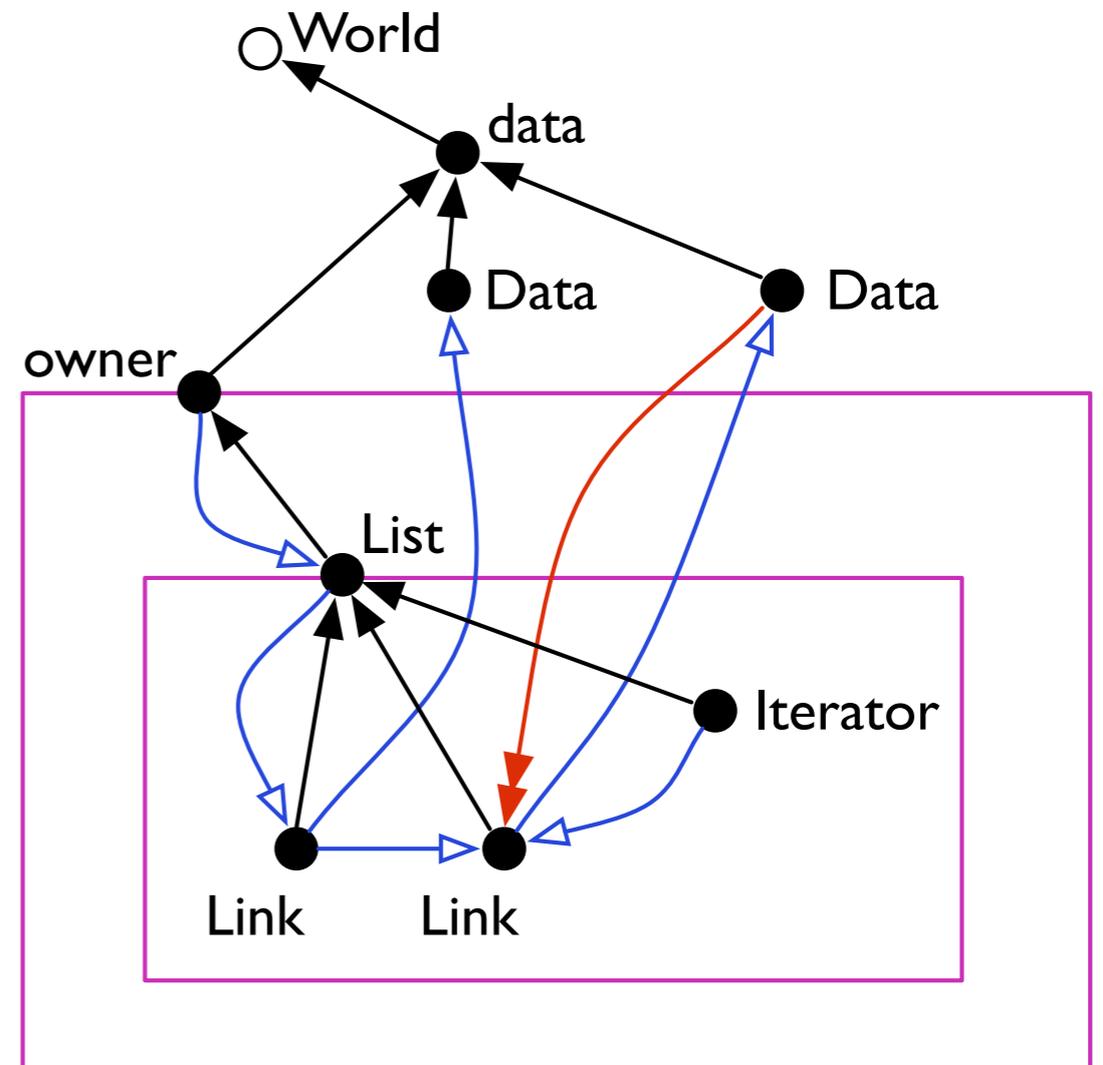


—▶ Reference  
— Encapsulation Boundary  
—▶ Illegal Reference



# Ownership Types

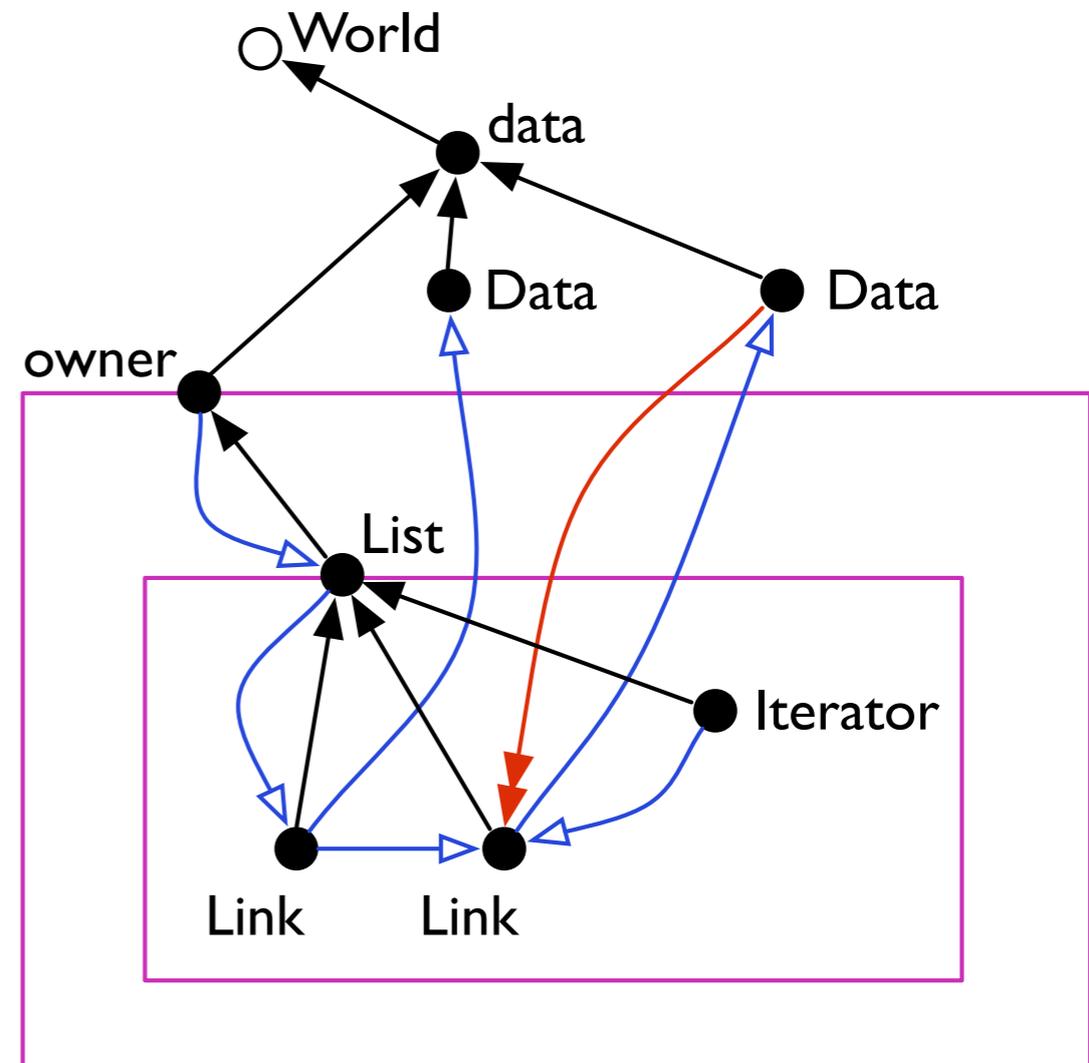
```
class List {
  Link head;
  void add(Data d) {
    head = new Link(head, d);
  }
  Iterator makeIterator() {
    return new Iterator(head);
  }
}
class Link {
  Link next;
  Data data;
  Link(Link next, Data data) {
    this.next = next; this.data = data;
  }
}
class Iterator {
  Link current;
  Iterator(Link first) {
    current = first;
  }
  void next() { current = current.next; }
  Data elem() { return current.data; }
  boolean done() {
    return (current == null);
  }
}
```



Owners-as-Dominators  
(OAD)

# Ownership Types

```
class List<owner, data> {
  Link head<this, data>;
  void add(Data<data> d) {
    head = new Link<this, data>(head, d);
  }
  Iterator<this, data> makeIterator() {
    return new Iterator<this, data>(head);
  }
}
class Link<owner, data> {
  Link<owner, data> next;
  Data<data> data;
  Link(Link<owner, data> next, Data<data> data) {
    this.next = next; this.data = data;
  }
}
class Iterator<owner, data> {
  Link<owner, data> current;
  Iterator(Link<owner, data> first) {
    current = first;
  }
  void next() { current = current.next; }
  Data<data> elem() { return current.data; }
  boolean done() {
    return (current == null);
  }
}
```



Owners-as-Dominators  
(OAD)

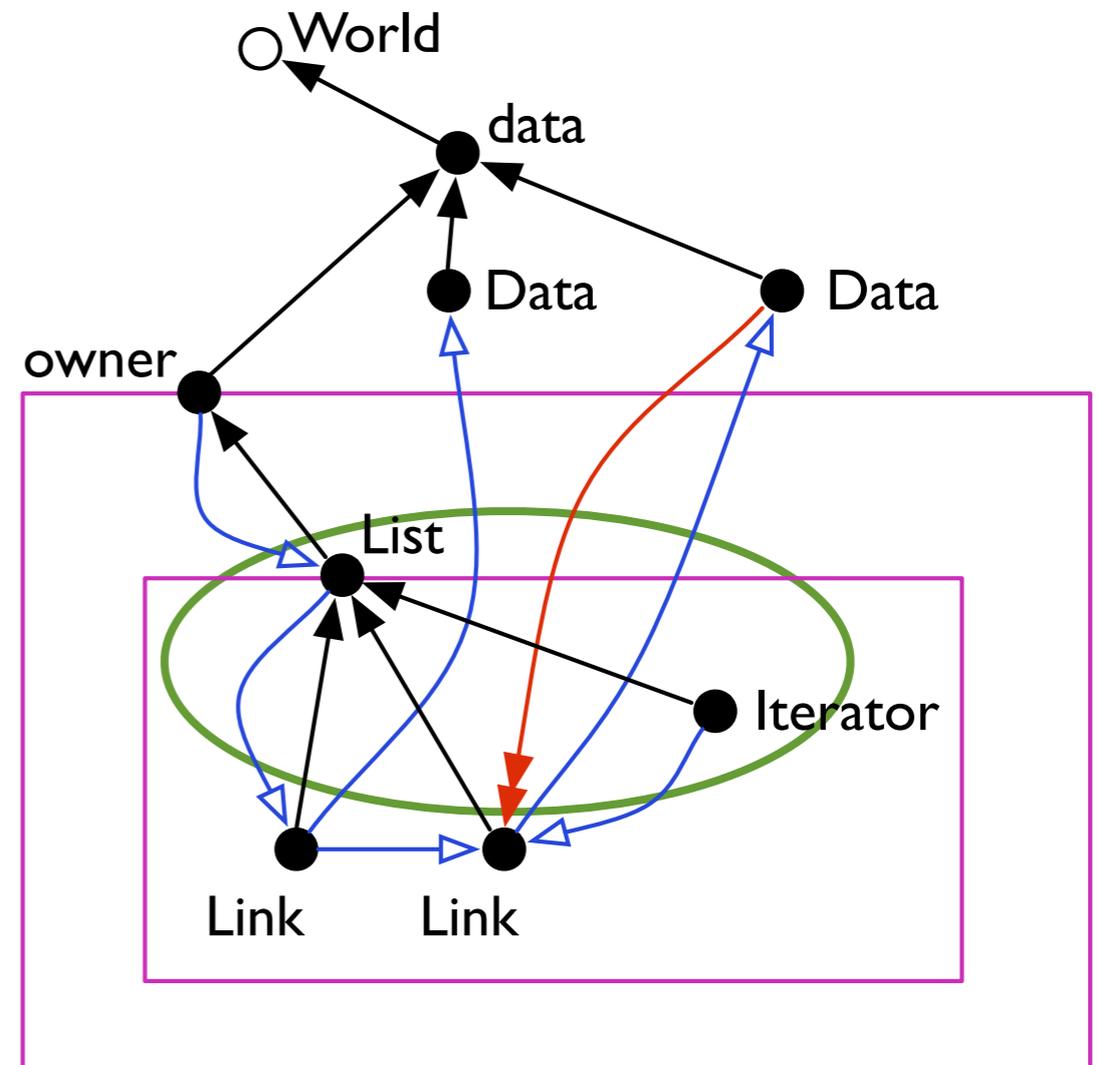


# The Essence of Ownership Types

```
class List<owner, data> {
  Link head<this, data>;
  void add(Data<data> d) {
    head = new Link<this, data>(head, d);
  }
  Iterator<this, data> makeIterator() {
    return new Iterator<this, data>(head)
  }
}

class Link<owner, data> {
  Link<owner, data> next;
  Data<data> data;
  Link(Link<owner, data> next, Data<data> data) {
    this.next = next; this.data = data;
  }
}

class Iterator<owner, data> {
  Link<owner, data> current;
  Iterator(Link<owner, data> first) {
    current = first;
  }
  void next() { current = current.next; }
  Data<data> elem() { return current.data; }
  boolean done() {
    return (current == null);
  }
}
```



- Reference
- Encapsulation Boundary
- Illegal Reference
- Owner

Can we implement  
*the same intention* with a  
*fewer* amount of annotations?

# The Essence of Gradual Types

- Programmers may omit type annotations and run the program immediately
  - Run-time checks are *inserted* to ensure *type safety*
- Programmers may add type annotations to increase static checking
  - When all sites are annotated, *all* type errors are caught at compile-time

# Gradual Ownership

Yay!



Okay, you can have my car and pretend it's yours.

Nothing **wrong** will happen as long as you're careful with it.

But if you try to give it to someone else, I will know.



# Gradual Ownership Types

A syntactic type parametrized with owners:

```
Car<Gru, Dad_Of_Gru>
```

Some owners *might* be *unknown*:

```
Car<?, Dad_Of_Gru>
```

Or even all of them:

```
Car ≡ Car<?, ?>
```

Type equality: types  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are *equal*:

$C\langle \text{owner}, \text{outer} \rangle = C\langle \text{owner}, \text{outer} \rangle$

Type equality: types  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are *consistent*

$C\langle \text{owner}, ? \rangle \sim C\langle ?, \text{outer} \rangle$

$T_1$  and  $T_2$  *might* correspond  
to the *same* runtime values

# Traditional Subtyping

```
class D<MyOwner> {...}
class C<Owner1, Owner2> extends D<Owner1> {...}
```

Subtyping:  $T_1$  is a *subtype* of  $T_2$

$C\langle\text{owner}, \text{outer}\rangle \leq D\langle\text{owner}\rangle$

$E;B \vdash t \leq t'$

(SUB-REFL)  
$$\frac{E;B \vdash t}{E;B \vdash t \leq t}$$

Reflexive

(SUB-TRANS)  
$$\frac{E;B \vdash t \leq t' \quad E;B \vdash t' \leq t''}{E;B \vdash t \leq t''}$$

Transitive

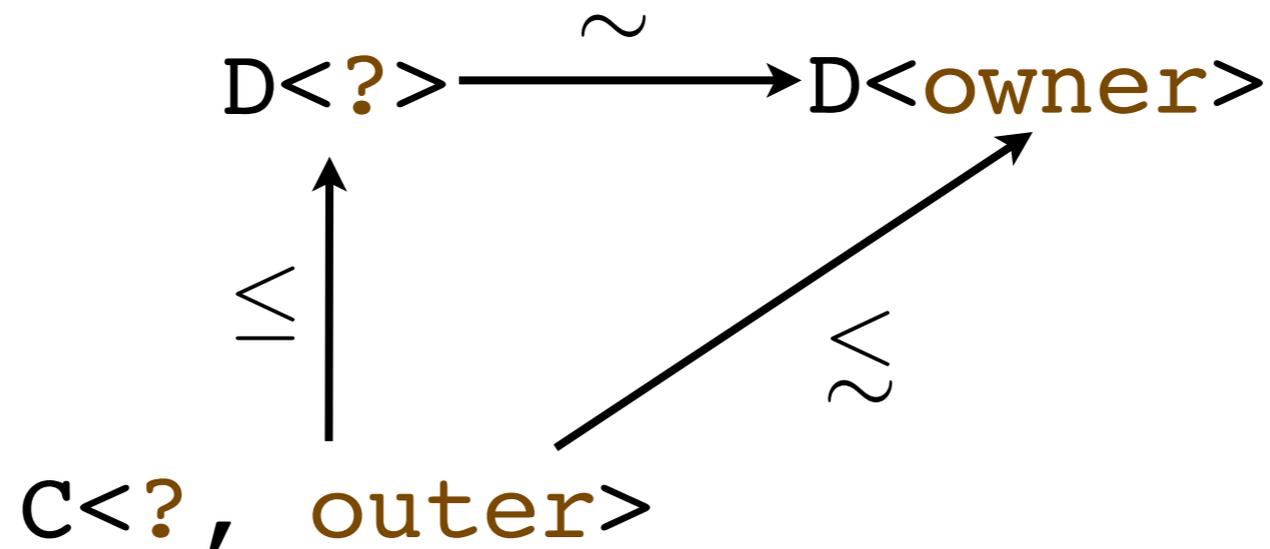
(SUB-CLASS)  
$$\frac{E;B \vdash c\langle\sigma\rangle \quad \text{class } c\langle\alpha_{i \in 1..n}\rangle \text{ extends } c'\langle r_{i \in 1..n'}\rangle \{\dots\}}{E;B \vdash c\langle\sigma\rangle \leq c'\langle\sigma(r_{i \in 1..n'})\rangle}$$

Nominal

# Gradual Subtyping

```
class D<MyOwner> {...}
```

```
class C<Owner1, Owner2> extends D<Owner1> {...}
```



$C<?, outer> \leq D<owner>$

# Gradual Ownership Type System

$$E;B \vdash p \sim p'$$

Consistent owners

(CON-REFL)	(CON-RIGHT)	(CON-LEFT)	(CON-DEPENDENT1)	(CON-DEPENDENT2)
$E;B \vdash p$	$E;B \vdash p$	$E;B \vdash p$	$E;B \vdash p \quad E;B \vdash x^{c.i}$	$E;B \vdash p \quad E;B \vdash x^{c.i}$
$E;B \vdash p \sim p$	$E;B \vdash ? \sim p$	$E;B \vdash p \sim ?$	$E;B \vdash p \sim x^{c.i}$	$E;B \vdash x^{c.i} \sim p$

$$E;B \vdash t \leq t'$$

Traditional subtyping

(SUB-REFL)	(SUB-TRANS)	(SUB-CLASS)
$E;B \vdash t$	$E;B \vdash t \leq t' \quad E;B \vdash t' \leq t''$	$E;B \vdash c\langle\sigma\rangle$
$E;B \vdash t \leq t$	$E;B \vdash t \leq t''$	$\text{class } c\langle\alpha_{i \in 1..n}\rangle \text{ extends } c'\langle r_{i \in 1..n'}\rangle\{\dots\}$ $E;B \vdash c\langle\sigma\rangle \leq c'\langle\sigma(r_i)_{i \in 1..n'}\rangle$

$$E;B \vdash t \sim t'$$

$$E;B \vdash t \lesssim t'$$

$$E;B \vdash t$$

“Good type”

(CON-TYPE)	(GRAD-SUB)	(G-TYPE)
$E;B \vdash c\langle p_{i \in 1..n}\rangle \quad E;B \vdash c\langle q_{i \in 1..n}\rangle$	$E;B \vdash c\langle\sigma\rangle \leq c'\langle\sigma'\rangle$	arity(c) = n
$p_i \sim q_i \forall i \in 1..n$	$E;B \vdash c'\langle\sigma'\rangle \sim c'\langle\sigma''\rangle$	$E;B \vdash p_1 \preceq p_i \quad \forall i \in 1..n$
$E;B \vdash (c\langle p_{i \in 1..n}\rangle \sim c\langle q_{i \in 1..n}\rangle)$	$E;B \vdash (c\langle\sigma\rangle \lesssim c'\langle\sigma''\rangle)$	$E;B \vdash c\langle p_{i \in 1..n}\rangle$

Consistent types

“Gradual Subtyping”

# Type-Directed Compilation

Runtime checks are inserted basing on the type information.

$$\boxed{E;B \vdash b : s}$$

$$\frac{(T\text{-NEW}) \quad E;B \vdash c\langle r_{i \in 1..n} \rangle}{E;B \vdash \text{new } c\langle r_{i \in 1..n} \rangle : c\langle r_{i \in 1..n} \rangle}$$

$$\frac{(T\text{-LKP}) \quad E;B \vdash z : c\langle \sigma \rangle \quad \mathcal{F}_c(f) = t}{E;B \vdash z.f : \sigma_z(t)}$$

$$\frac{(T\text{-LET}) \quad E;B \vdash b : t \quad E, x : \text{fill}(x, t); B \vdash e : s}{E;B \vdash \text{let } x = b \text{ in } e : s}$$

Field update

$$\frac{(T\text{-UPD}) \quad E;B \vdash z : c\langle \sigma \rangle \quad \mathcal{F}_c(f) = t \quad E;B \vdash y : s \quad E;B \vdash s \lesssim \sigma_z(t)}{E;B \vdash z.f = y : \sigma_z(t)}$$

Method call

$$\frac{(T\text{-CALL}) \quad E;B \vdash y : s \quad \mathcal{MT}_c(m) = (y', t \rightarrow t') \quad E;B \vdash z : c\langle \sigma \rangle \quad E;B \vdash s \lesssim \sigma_z(t) \quad \sigma' \equiv \sigma \uplus \{y' \mapsto y\}}{E;B \vdash z.m(y) : \sigma'_z(t')}$$

$$\frac{(VAL\text{-}w) \quad E;B \vdash \diamond w : s \in E}{E;B \vdash w : s}$$

$$\frac{(VAL\text{-}NULL) \quad E;B \vdash t}{E;B \vdash \text{null} : t}$$

$$\boxed{E \vdash t' m(t y) \{e\}}$$

$$\boxed{\vdash P; e}$$

Method return

$$\frac{(METHOD) \quad E, y : \text{fill}(y, t) \vdash e : s \quad E \vdash s \lesssim t'}{E \vdash t' m(t y) \{e\}} \quad \frac{(PROGRAM) \quad \vdash \text{class}_j \quad \forall \text{class}_j \in P \quad E \vdash e : t}{E \vdash P; e}$$

Gradual subtyping might cause check insertion

# Gradual Typing and Compilation

(informally)

## **Theorem 1:**

No unknown owners  $\Rightarrow$  no dynamic casts

## **Corollary :**

No unknown owners  $\Rightarrow$  static invariant guaranty

*(And also, no runtime overhead and failed casts)*

## **Theorem 2:**

A (gradually) well-typed program is compiled into a (statically) well-typed program.

You convinced me that you're not going to give my car to **unknown** people, so I will not have to check it.



# Type Safety Result

(informally)

## **Theorem 3:**

A (statically) well-typed program does not violate the OAD invariant but might fail on a dynamic check.

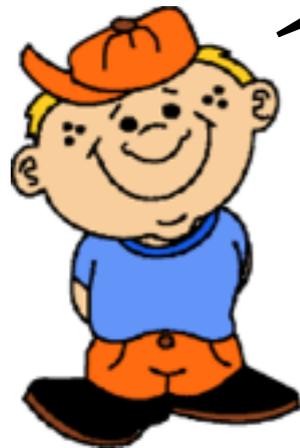
## **Corollary:**

A gradually well-typed program, being compiled, does not violate the OAD invariant.

**Ok, that's enough!  
Give me the keys back!**



Hey, Astrid!  
I've just got my uncle's car.  
Do you want to try it out?



# Implementation

- Implemented in JastAddJ [[Ekman-Hedin:OOPSLA07](#)]
- Extended JastAddJ compiler for Java 1.4
- 2,600 LOC (not including tests and comments)
- Check insertion  $\Rightarrow$  compilation warning
- Source-to-source translation

# Experience

- Java Collection Framework (JDK 1.4.2)
  - 46 source files, ~8,200 LOC
- Securing inner `Entries` of collections
- Questions addressed:
  - How many annotations are needed minimally?
  - What is the execution cost?
  - How many annotations for full static checking?

# Experience

- Minimal amount of annotations
  - `LinkedList` - 17
  - `LinkedMap` - 15
- Performance overhead
  - ~1.5-2 times (for extensive updates)
- Full migration
  - `LinkedList` - yes, 34 annotations
  - `LinkedMap` - no, because of static factory methods
    - (best - 28 annotations)

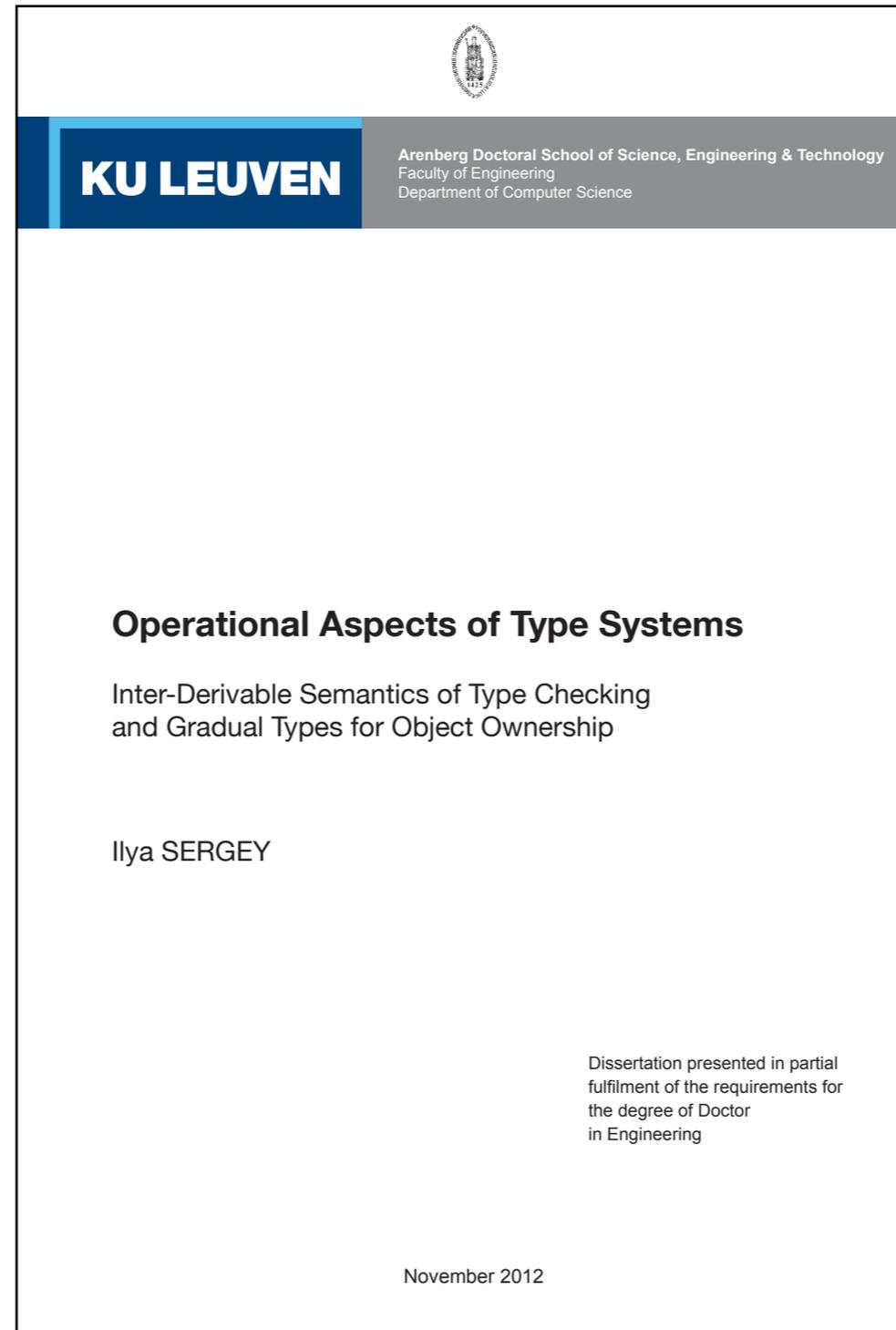
# Contributions II

1. A formalization of a gradual ownership type system and a type-directed compilation for a Java-like language
  - Proofs of safety result for type-directed compilation
2. An implementation of a translating compiler for gradual ownership types
  - Supports *full* Java 1.4
  - Available at <http://github.com/ilyasergey/Gradual-Ownership>
3. A report on program migration using gradual ownership types
  - Migrated several classes from Java Collection Framework 1.4.2
4. A discussion on gradualization of type systems for object ownership

# Future Work II

1. Gradual ownership types in higher-order languages
  - Introduced notion of *dependent owners* is similar to *blame labels*
2. Gradual ownership types meet shape and pointer analysis
  - Imposed dynamic encapsulation invariant can be employed when inferring shape information of data structures
3. IDE Support
  - Gradual compiler emits warning messages that can be used to indicate invariant violations statically

# The Thesis



Thanks

# Appendix

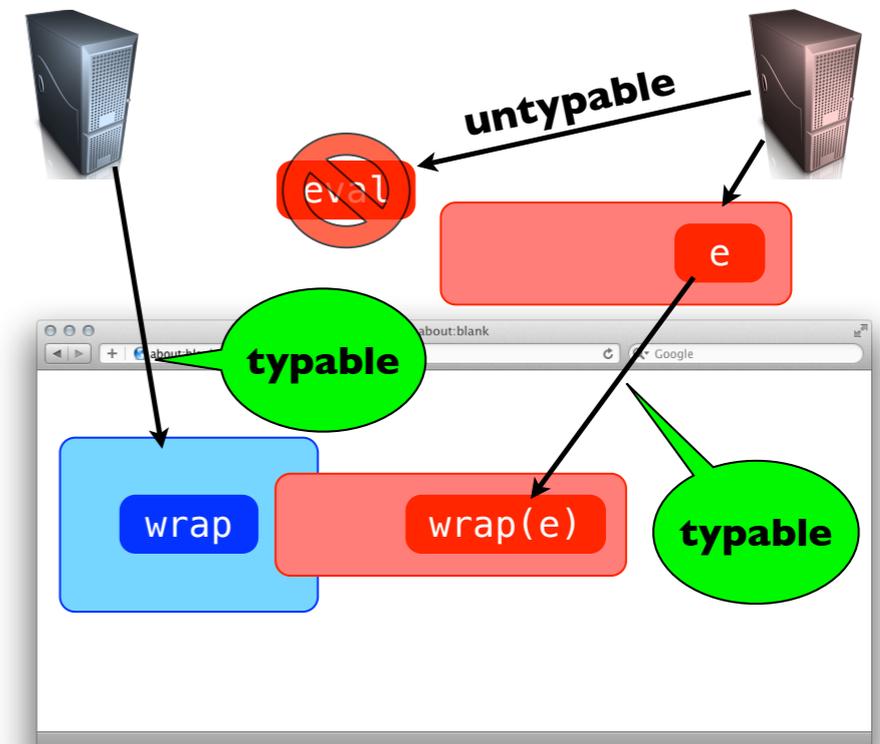
# And also

1. Ilya Sergey, Jan Midtgaard and Dave Clarke  
*Calculating Graph Algorithms for Dominance and Shortest Path*  
In proceedings of MPC 2012, June 2012. Volume 7342 of LNCS, Springer.
  - Invited for publication in a journal special issue
2. Christopher Earl, Ilya Sergey, Matthew Might and David Van Horn  
*Introspective Pushdown Analysis of Higher-Order Programs*  
In Proceedings of ICFP 2012, September 2012. ACM.
  - Invited for publication in a journal special issue
3. Dominique Devriese, Ilya Sergey, Dave Clarke and Frank Piessens  
*Fixing Idioms: a Recursion Primitive for Applicative DSLs*  
Accepted to PEPM 2013.
4. Ilya Sergey, Dave Clarke and Alexander Podkhalyuzin  
*Automatic refactorings for Scala programs*  
Scala Days 2010 Workshop. April 2010.
5. Dave Clarke and Ilya Sergey  
*A semantics for context-oriented programming with layers*  
In proceedings of Workshop on Context-Oriented Programming (COP 2009), June 2009. ACM.

# Gradual Types for Web Security

- Secure contexts for JavaScript evaluation are modeled by sandboxes
- Sandboxes can be modeled as a type system, resulting in static verification

*Semantics and Types for Safe Web Programming*  
A. Guha, PhD Thesis, 2012



Untypable  $\neq$  Forbidden

# Gradual Ownership Types and Ownership Types Inference\*

	Gradual Ownership Types	Ownership Types Inference
Straightforward correspondence to the TS	+	-
Modular	+	-
Effective debugging of type checking	+	-
Well-typed ~ full static safety	-	+
Minimal amount of annotations	required	optional
No runtime overhead	-	+

\* Huang-Milanova: IWACO II