

User-Defined Operators Including Name Binding for New Language Constructs

Kazuhiro Ichikawa and Shigeru Chiba
The University of Tokyo

Typed-Lambda Calculus

$$\Gamma, x : T_1 \vdash e : T_2$$

Here, $x : T_1$ expresses that

variable x of type T_1 is available in the expression e

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : T_1 \quad \Gamma, x : T_1 \vdash e_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : T_2}$$

x is available in e_2

Setters and Getters

getter operator

setter operator

$$\Gamma, x : T_1, x = _ : T_1 \rightarrow \text{Unit} \vdash e : T_2$$

Here, $x = _ : T_1 \rightarrow \text{Unit}$ expresses that
assignment syntax to x is available in the expression e

assignment is also typeable

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : T_1 \quad \Gamma, x : T_1, x = _ : T_1 \rightarrow \text{Unit} \vdash e_2 : T_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : T_2}$$

assignment syntax $x = _$
is available in e_2

Turnstile Types

A type for dealing
with name binding

$$\Gamma \vdash e : T \rightarrow e : \Gamma \vdash T$$

- regarding $\Gamma \vdash T$ as a type
- read as a type T under the context Γ
- A type can specify available variables within a scope
and the availability is type-checked!

$$\frac{e_1 : \boxed{\Gamma \vdash T_1} \quad e_2 : \boxed{(\Gamma, x : T_1, x = _ : T_1 \rightarrow Unit) \vdash T_2}}{let\ x = e_1\ in\ e_2 : \boxed{\Gamma \vdash T_2}}$$

turnstile type

Reduction

$$\frac{\Gamma, S \vdash T}{\Gamma \vdash S \rightarrow T}$$

$$e : (\Gamma, s : T_1) \vdash T_2 \Rightarrow \lambda s. e : \Gamma \vdash T_1 \rightarrow T_2$$

Turnstile type expression e behaves
as a function $T_1 \rightarrow T_2$ under the context Γ

operator s 's type

$$e_2 : (\Gamma, x : T_1, x = _ : T_1 \rightarrow Unit) \vdash T_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda(x = _). e_2 : (\Gamma, x : T_1) \vdash (T_1 \rightarrow Unit) \rightarrow T_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda x. \lambda(x = _). e_2 : \Gamma \vdash T_1 \rightarrow (T_1 \rightarrow Unit) \rightarrow T_2$$

Proteaj2

Programming language implementing our idea

- Java-based language
 - syntax extensions based on **user-defined operators**
 - supporting **turnstile types** for expressing local syntax
 - providing **DSL classes** for modularizing operators
 - providing **generic names** for recognizing names
 - compiler is available from github.com/csg-tokyo/proteaj2
- Users can define new language constructs involving a name binding in a type-safe fashion!

User-Defined Operators

Functions with their own syntax

- extension of operator overloading
- overloaded by return type and parameter types
- proposed in our previous paper

The diagram shows two lines of C-like code. The first line is `int "x" () { return value; }`. The second line is `void "x" "=" _ (int v) { value = v; }`. Several speech bubbles point to specific parts of the code:

- A blue speech bubble labeled "return type" points to the `int` keyword in the first line.
- A blue speech bubble labeled "name part" points to the identifier `"x"` in both lines.
- A blue speech bubble labeled "operand" points to the `_` character in the second line.
- A blue speech bubble labeled "operand type" points to the `int` keyword in the second line.
- An orange speech bubble labeled "getter operator" points to the first line of code.
- An orange speech bubble labeled "setter operator" points to the second line of code.

```
int "x" () { return value; }
void "x" "=" _ (int v) { value = v; }
```

Let-x Expressions

Syntax of variable x is declared as
instance operators of a **DSL class**

```
dsl VarX <T> {  
    T "x" () { return value; }  
    void "x" "=" _ (T v) { value = v; }  
    VarX (T v) { value = v; }  
    private T value;  
}
```

$$\frac{e_1 : \Gamma \vdash T_1 \quad e_2 : (\Gamma, x : T_1, x = _\cdot : T_1 \rightarrow \text{Unit}) \vdash T_2}{\text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \Gamma \vdash T_2}$$

Let-x Expressions

Syntax of *let* expressions is declared as an operator

- the type of e2 is a turnstile type
- Γ is omitted in the operator definition because it is verbose

```
<T1, T2> T2
  "let" "x" "=" _ "in" _ (T1 e1, VarX<T1> |- T2 e2)
{ ... }
```

$$\frac{e_1 : \Gamma \vdash T_1 \quad e_2 : \Gamma, \text{Var}X\langle T_1 \rangle \vdash T_2}{\text{let } x = e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \Gamma \vdash T_2}$$

Let-x Expressions

Turnstile type value behaves as a function

- value of $\text{VarX} < T1 \rangle \vdash T2$ is changed to
a function $\text{VarX} < T1 \rangle \rightarrow T2$ in operator body

```
<T1, T2> T2
  "let" "x" "=" _ "in" _ (T1 e1, VarX<T1> |- T2 e2)
{
  return e2.apply(new VarX<T1>(e1));
}
```

Let Expression

not Let-x

To recognize arbitrary names given by users,
names can be parameterized in Proteaj2

- **X:Ident** expresses a **generic name X**
and the name is an expression of type **Ident**

```
<T1, T2, X:Ident> T2
  "let" X "=" _ "in" _ (T1 e1, Var<T1, X> |- T2 e2)
{
  return e2.apply(new Var<T1, X>(e1));
}
```

Let Expression

Generic name can be used as a part of syntax

- **X** takes an expression of **Ident**
- Compiler checks the AST is identical to the argument of **X**

```
dsl Var <T, X:Ident> {
    T X () { return value; }
    void X "=" _ (T v) { value = v; }
    Var (T v) { value = v; }
    private T value;
}
```

Let Expression

Ident is not a meta type or primitive type

- **Ident** is a normal class
- Syntax of **Ident** can be defined as operators

```
literal Ident __ (Letter letter, Ident rest)
{ return new Ident(letter, rest); }

literal Ident _ (Letter letter)
{ return new Ident(letter); }

literal Letter "a" () { return Letter.a; }

...
literal Letter "z" () { return Letter.z; }
```

literal indicates that the syntax does not
recognize whitespace characters as a separator

Case Study: Lambda Expressions

Users can define the syntax of lambda expressions

- Type parameters can be used in operator syntax

```
<T1, T2, X:Ident> Function<T1, T2>
  X ":" T1 "->" _ (Var<T1, X> |- T2 f)
{
  return new Function<T1, T2> {
    T2 apply (T1 value) {
      return f.apply(new Var<T1, X>(value));
    };
}
  a: String -> b: String -> a + b
```

Case Study: Anaphoric If Statements

Anaphoric-if is well-known unhygienic macros
but it can be safely implemented in ProteaJ2

```
<T> void "a-if" "(" _ ")" _ (T value, It<T> |- Void f)
{
  if (value != null) { f.apply(new It<T>(value)); }
}
dsl It <T> {
  T "it" () { return value; }
  It (T v) { value = v; }
  private T value;
}
```

```
a-if (get_nullable()) {
  System.out.println(it);
}
```

Case Study: Try-with Statements

```
<R extends AutoCloseable, X:Ident> void
"try" "(" R X "=" _ ")" "{ " _ "}"
(R resource, Val<R, X> |- Void f) throws Exception
{
    try { f.apply(new Val<R, X>(resource)); }
    finally { if (resource != null) resource.close(); }
}
dsl Val <T, X:Ident> {
    T X () { return value; }
    Val (T v) { value = v; }
    private T value;
}
```

```
try (FileReader reader =
      new FileReader(file))
{
    parse(reader)
}
```

Case Study: For Expressions

```
<T, R, X:Ident> List<R>
"for" "(" T X "=" _ ";" _ ";" _ ")" "yield" "{" _ "}"
(T ini, Var<T, X> |- Boolean cond,
 Var<T, X> |- Void update, Var<T, X> |- R body)
{
    List<R> list = new ArrayList<R>();
    Var<T, X> var = new Var<T, X>(ini);
    while (cond.apply(var)) {
        list.add(body.apply(var))
        update.apply(var);
    }
    return list;
}
```

```
for (Integer x = 0;
      x < 10; x = x + 2)
yield { x * x }
// List(0, 4, 16, 36, 64)
```

Parsing

Top-down context-sensitive parsing

- environment Γ is needed for parsing
- environment Γ propagates from root to leaf of AST
- our implementation is based on packrat parser combinators

Proteaj2 compiler uses **expected types** for parsing

- compiler only uses operators returning expected type

Related Work

Function literals with receiver in Kotlin

- they specify their receiver at call site
- members of the receiver are available in the literal
- `instance_eval` in Ruby is an untyped variant of them

➤ they can be regarded as turnstile types
that only support limited syntax

```
fun html (ini: HTML.() -> Unit): HTML {  
    val html = new HTML()  
    html.ini()  
    return html  
}  
  
html {  
    head {  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

receiver

can be called as a method of HTML

method of HTML

Related Work

Implicit parameters in Scala

- if argument is not specified at call site, it is implicitly given
 - argument is found among implicit values of current scope
- implicit values work similar to Γ (left-hand side of \vdash)
but users cannot flexibly control Γ

Conclusion

We proposed **turnstile types**

- $\Gamma \vdash e : T \rightarrow e : \Gamma \vdash T$
- Γ contains typed syntax like $x = _ : T_1 \rightarrow Unit$
- A type can specify available syntax in a restricted scope

We have developed ProteaJ2 supporting our proposal

- syntax extensions based on **user-defined operators**
- providing **DSL classes** for modularizing operators
- providing **generic names** for arbitrary name binding
- compiler is available from github.com/csg-tokyo/proteaj2