

CS 4110

Programming Languages & Logics

Lecture 29
Propositions as Types



Propositions as Types

Logics = Type Systems

Inference Rules for Logic

We have used inference rules to build up inductively defined sets of PL concepts: operational steps, valid Hoare triples, associations between terms and types, etc.

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Logicians use the same kind of notation to build up the set of true logical formulas.

Here's a rule from [natural deduction](#), a *constructive* logic invented by logician Gerhard Gentzen in 1935:

$$\frac{\phi \quad \psi}{\phi \wedge \psi} \wedge\text{-INTRO}$$

Given a proof of ϕ and a proof of ψ , the rule lets you *construct* a proof of $\phi \wedge \psi$.

Natural Deduction

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We'll start with a grammar for formulas:

$$\begin{array}{l} \phi ::= \top \\ | \perp \\ | X \\ | \phi \wedge \psi \\ | \phi \vee \psi \\ | \phi \rightarrow \psi \\ | \neg \phi \\ | \forall X. \phi \end{array}$$

where X ranges over Boolean variables
and $\neg \phi$ is an abbreviation for $\phi \rightarrow \perp$.

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- $A, B, C \vdash B$

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...and so on.

Natural Deduction

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \phi \vdash \phi} \text{AXIOM}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \phi \vdash \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \phi \rightarrow \psi} \rightarrow\text{-INTRO}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \phi \rightarrow \psi \quad \Gamma \vdash \phi}{\Gamma \vdash \psi} \rightarrow\text{-ELIM}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \phi \quad \Gamma \vdash \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \phi \wedge \psi} \wedge\text{-INTRO}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \phi}{\Gamma \vdash \phi \vee \psi} \vee\text{-INTRO1}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \psi}{\Gamma \vdash \phi \vee \psi} \vee\text{-INTRO2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \phi \vee \psi \quad \Gamma \vdash \phi \rightarrow \chi \quad \Gamma \vdash \psi \rightarrow \chi}{\Gamma \vdash \chi} \vee\text{-ELIM}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, P \vdash \phi}{\Gamma \vdash \forall P. \phi} \forall\text{-INTRO}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \forall P. \phi}{\Gamma \vdash \phi\{\psi/P\}} \forall\text{-ELIM}$$

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$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{x:A \times B \vdash x:A \times B} \text{T-VAR}}{x:A \times B \vdash \#2 x:B} \text{T-\#1} \quad \frac{\frac{}{x:A \times B \vdash x:A \times B} \text{T-VAR}}{x:A \times B \vdash \#1 x:A} \text{T-\#2}}{x:A \times B \vdash (\#2 x, \#1 x):B \times A} \text{T-PAIR}}{\vdash \lambda x. (\#2 x, \#1 x):A \times B \rightarrow B \times A} \text{T-ABS}$$

Propositions as Types

Every natural deduction proof tree has a corresponding type tree in System F with product and sum types! And vice-versa!

Type Systems		Formal Logic	
τ	Type	ϕ	Formula
τ	is inhabited	ϕ	is a theorem
e	Well-typed expression	π	Proof

A program with a given type acts as a *witness* that the type's corresponding formula is true.

Propositions as Types

Every type rule in System F with product and sum types corresponds 1-1 with a proof rule in natural deduction:

Type Systems		Formal Logic	
\rightarrow	Function	\rightarrow	Implication
\times	Product	\wedge	Conjunction
$+$	Sum	\vee	Disjunction
\forall	Universal	\forall	Quantifier

You can even add existential types to correspond to existential quantification. It still works!

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Is this a coincidence? Natural deduction was invented by a German logician in 1935. Types for the λ -calculus were invented by Church at Princeton in 1940.

Propositions as Types Through the Ages

Natural Deduction

Gentzen (1935)

⇔

Typed λ -Calculus

Church (1940)

Type Schemes

Hindley (1969)

⇔

ML's Type System

Milner (1975)

System F

Girard (1972)

⇔

Polymorphic λ -Calculus

Reynolds (1974)

Modal Logic

Lewis (1910)

⇔

Monads

Kleisli (1965), Moggi (1987)

Classical-Intuitionistic Embedding

Gödel (1933)

⇔

Continuation Passing Style

Reynolds (1972)

Term Assignment

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To prove a formula ϕ :

1. Convert the ϕ into its corresponding type τ .
2. Find some program v that has the type τ .
3. Realize that the existence of v implies a type tree for $\vdash v:\tau$, which implies a proof tree for $\vdash \phi$.

Negation and Continuations

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Recall that $\neg\phi$ is shorthand for $\phi \rightarrow \perp$. So $\neg\neg\phi$ corresponds to the System F function type $(\tau \rightarrow \perp) \rightarrow \perp$.

So what we need is a way to take any program of any type τ and turn it into a program of type $(\tau \rightarrow \perp) \rightarrow \perp$.

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Shockingly, that's exactly what the CPS transform does! A τ becomes a function that takes a continuation $\tau \rightarrow \perp$ and invokes it, producing \perp .