The simply-typed λ -calculus: sums and products

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Reading: PFPL §10.1, 11.1

The language of numbers and strings we have been studying so far has very limited expressivity. We will now proceed to radically expand its capabilities. As a result, it will increasingly resemble a realistic functional programming language. The full language we will study this week is known as the **simply-typed** λ -calculus.

First, we will show how to add facilities that can express the following Haskell data types and programs.

```
("hello", "world") :: (Str, Str)
data EitherNumStr = Left Num | Right Str
```

1 Products

Product types allow the programmer to form tuples. Binary products allow us to write functions that return not one, but two values. The unit type (or nullary product) allows us to write functions that return nothing.¹

We extend the syntax chart of Lecture 3 by adding the following new types and pre-terms:

The statics of product types are given by adding the following typing rules.

$$\frac{\text{Unit}}{\Gamma \vdash \langle \rangle : \mathbf{1}} \qquad \frac{\Pr{\text{ROJ}}}{\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_2}} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \times \tau_2} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \pi_1(e) : \tau_1} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \pi_2(e) : \tau_2}$$

The **dynamics** of product types are given by adding the following rules.

For example, the following typing judgements hold.

```
 \begin{split} & \vdash \langle \langle \rangle, \langle \mathsf{str}[\text{`hello'}], \mathsf{str}[\text{`world'}] \rangle \rangle : \mathbf{1} \times (\mathsf{Str} \times \mathsf{Str}) \\ & \vdash \pi_1(\langle \langle \rangle, \langle \mathsf{str}[\text{`hello'}], \mathsf{str}[\text{`world'}] \rangle \rangle) : \mathbf{1} \\ & p : (\mathsf{Num} \times \mathsf{Num}) \times \mathsf{Num} \vdash \langle \pi_1(\pi_1(p)), \langle \pi_2(\pi_1(p)), \pi_2(p) \rangle \rangle : \mathsf{Num} \times (\mathsf{Num} \times \mathsf{Num}) \end{split}
```

¹In Haskell the binary product of two types a and b is written (a, b). The unit type is written (), and has the unique value ().

2 Sums

Sum types express choices between values of different types. Binary sums allow us to write programs that pattern match on a variable. The void type (or empty type, or nullary sum) offers no choice at all.²

We further extend the syntax chart given above by adding the following new types and pre-terms:

The statics of sums are given by adding the following rules.

The **dynamics** of sums are given by adding the following rules.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Val-Inr} & \text{Val-Inr} & \frac{\text{D-Abort-1}}{e \longmapsto e'} \\ \hline \text{inl}(e) \text{ val} & \overline{\text{inr}(e) \text{ val}} & \frac{e \longmapsto e'}{a \text{bort}(e) \longmapsto a \text{bort}(e')} \\ \hline \\ \text{D-Case-Inr} & \overline{\text{case}(\text{inl}(e); x. e_1; y. e_2) \longmapsto e_1[e/x]} & \overline{\text{case}(\text{inr}(e); x. e_1; y. e_2) \longmapsto e_2[e/y]} \\ \hline \\ \frac{e \longmapsto e'}{\overline{\text{case}(e; x. e_1; y. e_2) \longmapsto \text{case}(e'; x. e_1; y. e_2)}} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

The definition of substitution is the one in Lecture 4, but extended with the following clauses.

$$\begin{split} \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle [e/x] & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \langle e_1[e/x], e_2[e/x] \rangle & \pi_i(u)[e/x] & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_i(u[e/x]) \\ & \operatorname{inl}(u)[e/x] & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \operatorname{inl}(u[e/x]) & \operatorname{inr}(u)[e/x] & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \operatorname{inr}(u[e/x]) \\ & \operatorname{case}(u; z. \, e_1; v. \, e_2)[e/x] & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \operatorname{case}(u[e/x]; z. \, e_1[e/x]; v. \, e_2[e/x]) \end{split}$$

Notice that z and v are bound in e_1 and e_2 respectively, so the Barendregt convention applies.

For example, the following typing judgements hold.

$$\vdash \mathsf{inl}(\mathsf{num}[4]) : \mathsf{Num} + \mathsf{Str}$$

$$x : \mathsf{Str} + (\mathsf{Str} \times \mathsf{Num}) \vdash \mathsf{case}(x; y. \, y; z. \, \pi_1(z)) : \mathsf{Str}$$

$$x : \mathsf{Str} + \mathsf{Num} \vdash \mathsf{case}(x; y. \, \mathsf{inr}(y); z. \, \mathsf{inl}(z)) : \mathsf{Num} + \mathsf{Str}$$

 $^{^2}$ In Haskell the binary sum of two types is given by the declaration data Either a b = Left a | Right b. The void type can be defined by the declaration data Empty, but it is less useful.