

Refinement Types for Elm

Master Thesis Report

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Topics of this Talk

- Background
 - Introduction to Elm
 - Introduction to Refinement Types
 - Motivation
 - Goals of the Thesis
- Formulizing the Elm Language
 - Defining the Type System
 - Inferring the Type of the Max Function
- Extending the Elm Language
 - Defining Liquid Types
 - Revisiting the Max Function
 - The Inference Algorithm for liquid Types

Background

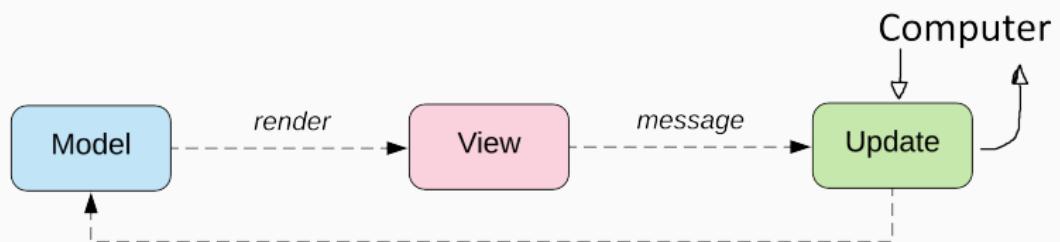
Background: Introduction to Elm

- Invented by Evan Czaplicki as his master-thesis in 2012.
- Website: elm-lang.org

Characteristics

- Pure Functional Language (immutable, no side effect, everything is a function)
- Compiles to JavaScript (in the future also to WebAssembly)
- ML-like Syntax (we say `fun a b c` for $\textit{fun}(a, b, c)$)
- Simpler than Haskell (no Type classes, no Monads, only one way to do a given thing)
- “No Runtimes errors” (running out of memory, function equality and non-terminating functions still give runtime errors.)

Background: Introduction to Elm



Background: Introduction to Refinement Types

Restricts the values of an existing type using a predicate.

Initial paper in 1991 by Tim Freeman and Frank Pfenning

- Initial concept was done in ML.
- Allows predicates with only $\wedge, \vee, =$, constants and basic pattern matching.
- Operates over algebraic types.
- Needed to specify **explicitly** all possible Values.

Example

$$\forall t. \{a : List\ t \mid a = Cons\ (b : t)\ (c : List\ t) \wedge c = Cons\ (d : t)\ []\}$$

Background: Introduction to Refinement Types

Liquid Types (Logically Quantified Data Types) introduced in 2008

- Invented by Patrick Rondon, Ming Kawaguchi and Ranji Jhala
- Initial concept done in OCaml. Later also C, Haskell and TypeScript.
- Operates over Integers and Booleans, Tuples and Functions.
- Allows predicates with logical operators, comparisons and addition.

Example

$$\begin{aligned} a : \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid 0 \leq a\} &\rightarrow b : \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid 0 \leq b\} \\ &\rightarrow \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid 0 \leq \nu \wedge a - b \leq \nu \wedge b - a \leq \nu\} \end{aligned}$$

Background: Motivation

- Catching Division by zero in compile time
- Catching index-out-of-bounds errors in compile time
- Having natural numbers as a subtype of integers

Background: Goals of Thesis

1. Formal language similar to Elm

- A formal syntax
- A formal type system
- A denotational semantic
- A small step semantic (using K Framework) for rapid prototyping the language
- Proof that the type system is valid with respect to the semantics.

2. Extension of the formal language with Liquid Types

- Extending the formal syntax, formal type system and denotational semantic
- Proof that the extension infers the correct types.
- A Implementation (of the core algorithm) written in Elm for Elm.

Formulizing the Elm Language

Formalizing the Elm Language: Defining the Type System

We will use the Hindley-Milner type system (used in ML, Haskell and Elm)

We say

T is a *mono type* : \Leftrightarrow T is a type variable

\vee T is a type application

\vee T is a algebraic type

\vee T is a product type

\vee T is a function type

T is a *poly type* : \Leftrightarrow $T = \forall a. T'$

 where T' is a mono type or poly type

 and a is a symbol

T is a *type* : \Leftrightarrow T is a mono type \vee T is a poly type.

Formalizing the Elm Language: Defining the Type System

Example

1. $\text{Nat} ::= \mu C. 1 \mid \text{Succ } C$
2. $\text{List} = \forall a. \mu C. \text{Empty} \mid \text{Cons } a \ C$
3. $\text{splitAt} : \forall a. \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{List } a \rightarrow (\text{List } a, \text{List } a)$

Formalizing the Elm Language: Defining the Type System

The *values* of a type is the set corresponding to the type:

$$\text{values}(\text{Nat}) = \{1, \text{Succ } 1, \text{Succ Succ } 1, \dots\}$$

$$\text{values}(\text{List Nat}) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \text{values}_n(\text{List Nat})$$

$$\text{values}_0(\text{List Nat}) = \{[\]\}$$

$$\text{values}_n(\text{List Nat}) =$$

$$\{\text{Cons } a b \mid a \in \text{values}(\text{Nat}), b \in \text{values}_{n-1}(\text{List Nat})\}$$

Formalizing the Elm Language: Defining the Type System

Let T_1, T_2 be types.

We define the partial order \sqsubseteq on types as

$T_1 \sqsubseteq T_2 : \Leftrightarrow T_2$ is an instance of T_1

Example: $\forall a. a \sqsubseteq \forall a. List\ a \sqsubseteq List\ Nat$

Formalizing the Elm Language: Defining the Type System

$$\bar{\Gamma} : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$$

$$\bar{\Gamma}(T) := \forall a_1 \dots \forall a_n. T_0$$

such that $\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} = \text{free}(T') \setminus \{a \mid (a, _) \in \Gamma\}$

where $a_i \in \mathcal{V}$ for $i \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ and T_0 is the mono type of T .

We say $\bar{\Gamma}(T)$ is *the most general type* of T .

Example: $\forall a. \forall b. \text{List } (a, b)$ is the most general type of $\text{List } (a, b)$.

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

```
max =  
  \a -> \b ->  
    if  
      (<) a b  
    then  
      b  
    else  
      a
```

Starting with leaves of the AST: a and b.

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

$$\frac{(a, \bar{\Gamma}(T)) \in \Delta}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash a : T}$$

New rules:

$$\overline{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, \bar{\Gamma}(T))\} \vdash a : T} \quad \overline{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(b, \bar{\Gamma}(T))\} \vdash b : T}$$

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

```
max =  
  \a -> \b ->  
    if  
      (<) a b  
    then  
      b          --> a1  
    else  
      a          --> a2
```

Next we derive the type for $(<) a b$.

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash "(<)" : Int \rightarrow Int \rightarrow Bool}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_1 : T_1 \rightarrow T_2 \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_2 : T_1}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_1 \ e_2 : T_2}$$

New rule:

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_1 : Int \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_2 : Int}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash "(<)" \ e_1 \ e_2 : Bool}$$

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, \bar{\Gamma}(T))\} \vdash a : T} \quad \frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(b, \bar{\Gamma}(T))\} \vdash b : T}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_1 : Int \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_2 : Int}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash "(<)" \ e_1 \ e_2 : Bool}$$

The most general type of *Int* is *Int*

New rule:

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, Int), (b, Int)\} \vdash "(<)" \ a \ b : Bool}$$

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

```
max =  
  \a -> \b ->  
    if  
      (<) a b          --> Bool  
    then  
      b                --> Int  
    else  
      a                --> Int
```

Next we apply the rule for if-expressions.

Formulating the Elm Language: The Max Function

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, \text{Int}), (b, \text{Int})\} \vdash "(<)" e_1 e_2 : \text{Bool}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_1 : \text{Bool} \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_2 : T \quad \Gamma, \Delta \vdash e_3 : T}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash \text{"if"} e_1 \text{"then"} e_2 \text{"else"} e_3 : T}$$

New rule:

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, \text{Int}), (b, \text{Int})\} \vdash \text{"if}(<) a b \text{ then } b \text{ else } a\text{"} : \text{Int}}$$

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

```
max =  
  \a -> \b ->  
    if                      --> Int  
      (<) a b  
    then  
      b                      --> Int  
    else  
      a                      --> Int
```

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, \bar{\Gamma}(T_1))\} \vdash e : T_2}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash "\backslash" \ a \ " - > " \ e : T_1 \rightarrow T_2}$$

The most general type of *Int* is *Int*

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

Therefore we conclude

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, \text{Int})\} \vdash "\backslash b -> \text{if } (<) a b \text{ then } b \text{ else } a" : \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}}$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash "\backslash a -> \backslash b -> \text{if } (<) a b \text{ then } b \text{ else } a" : \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Int}}$$

Formalizing the Elm Language: The Max Function

```
max =          --> Int -> Int -> Int
  \a -> \b ->
    if           --> Int
      (<) a b
    then
      b           --> Int
    else
      a           --> Int
```

Extending the Elm Language

Extending the Elm Language: Defining Liquid Types

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{IntExp} ::= & \mathbb{Z} \\ | & \textit{IntExp} + \textit{IntExp} \\ | & \textit{IntExp} \cdot \mathbb{Z} \\ | & \mathcal{V} \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q} ::= & \textit{True} \\ | & \textit{False} \\ | & \textit{IntExp} < \mathcal{V} \\ | & \mathcal{V} < \textit{IntExp} \\ | & \mathcal{V} = \textit{IntExp} \\ | & \mathcal{Q} \wedge \mathcal{Q} \\ | & \mathcal{Q} \vee \mathcal{Q} \\ | & \neg \mathcal{Q} \end{aligned}$$

Extending the Elm Language: Defining Liquid Types

T is a *liquid type* $\Leftrightarrow T$ is of form $\{a : \text{Int} \mid r\}$

where T_0 is a type, a is a symbol, $r \in \mathcal{Q}$,

$\text{Nat} := \mu C.1 \mid \text{Succ } C$

and $\text{Int} := \mu _.0 \mid \text{Pos Nat} \mid \text{Neg Nat}$.

$\vee T$ is of form $a : \{b : \text{Int} \mid r\} \rightarrow T$

where a, b are symbols, $r \in \mathcal{Q}$ and T is a liquid types.

Extending the Elm Language: Defining Liquid Types

Subtyping Condition

We say c is a *Subtyping Condition* : $\Leftrightarrow c$ is of form $T_1 <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} T_2$ where T_1, T_2 are liquid types or templates, Θ is a type variable context and $\Lambda \subset \mathcal{Q}$.

Extending the Elm Language: Revisiting the Max Function

```
max =  
  \a -> \b ->  
    if  
      (<) a b  
    then  
      b  
    else  
      a
```

Again starting at a and b.

Extending the Elm Language: Revisiting the Max Function

$$\frac{\{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid \nu = a \} <_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \} \quad (a, \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \}) \in \Delta \quad (a, \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \}) \in \Theta}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash a : \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid \nu = a \}}$$

New rule:

$$\frac{\{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid \nu = a \} <_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \} \quad (a, \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \}) \in \Delta \quad (a, \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \}) \in \Theta}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash a : \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid \nu = a \}}$$
$$\frac{\{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid \nu = b \} <_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \} \quad (b, \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \}) \in \Delta \quad (b, \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid r \}) \in \Theta}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash b : \{ \nu : \text{Int} \mid \nu = b \}}$$

Extending the Elm Language: Revisiting the Max Function

```
max =
  \a -> \b ->
    if
      (<) a b
    then
      b          --> {v:Int| v = b }
    else
      a          --> {v:Int| v = a }
```

Extending the Elm Language: Revisiting the Max Function

```
max =
  \a -> \b ->
    if
      (<) a b --> Bool
    then
      b       --> {v:Int| v = b }
    else
      a       --> {v:Int| v = a }
```

We skip the rule for $(<) a b$: The inferred type is Bool

Liquid Type Inference: Inferring the Type of the Max Function

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \Delta \cup \{(a, \{\nu : Int | r_0\}), (b, \{\nu : Int | r_1\})\}, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash "(<)" e_1 e_2 : Bool}$$

$$\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash e_1 : Bool \quad e_1 : e'_1$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \cup \{e'_1\} \vdash e_2 : T \quad \Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \cup \{\neg e'_1\} \vdash e_3 : T}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash "if" \ e_1 \ "then" \ e_2 \ "else" \ e_3 : T}$$

New rule:

$$\frac{\{(a, \{\nu : Int | r_0\}), (b, \{\nu : Int | r_1\})\} \in \Delta \quad \Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \cup \{a < b\} \vdash b : \{\nu : Int | r_2\} \quad \Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \cup \{\neg(a < b)\} \vdash a : \{\nu : Int | r_2\}}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash "if" \ a < b \ "then" b \ "else" a : \{\nu : Int | r_2\}}$$

Extending the Elm Language: Revisiting the Max Function

We have yet to provide a judgement for the following rules.

$$\frac{(a, \{\nu : T \mid r\}) \in \Delta \quad (a, \{\nu : T \mid r\}) \in \Theta}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash a : \{\nu : T \mid \nu = a\}}$$

$$\frac{(b, \{\nu : T \mid r\}) \in \Delta \quad (b, \{\nu : T \mid r\}) \in \Theta}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash b : \{\nu : T \mid \nu = b\}}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \{(a, \{\nu : Int \mid r_0\}), (b, \{\nu : Int \mid r_1\})\} \in \Delta \\ \Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \cup \{a < b\} \vdash b : \{\nu : Int \mid r_2\} \\ \Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \cup \{\neg(a < b)\} \vdash a : \{\nu : Int \mid r_2\} \end{array}}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash \text{"if"}\ a < b \text{ "then"} b \text{ "else"} a : \{\nu : Int \mid r_2\}}$$

Extending the Elm Language: Revisiting the Max Function

Subtyping Rule

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash e : T_1 \quad T_1 <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} T_2 \quad \text{wellFormed}(T_2, \Theta)}{\Gamma, \Delta, \Theta, \Lambda \vdash e : T_2}$$

$$\{a_1 : \text{Int} \mid r_1\} <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{a_2 : \text{Int} \mid r_2\} \Leftrightarrow$$

Let $\{(b_1, T_1), \dots, (b_n, T_n)\} = \Theta$ in

$\forall k_1 \in \text{value}_{\Gamma}(T_1) \dots \forall k_n \in \text{value}_{\Gamma}(T_n)$.

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \forall e \in \Lambda.$

$$[[e]]_{\{(a_1, n), (b_1, k_1), \dots, (b_n, k_n)\}}$$

$$\wedge [[r_1]]_{\{(a_1, n), (b_1, k_1), \dots, (b_n, k_n)\}}$$

$$\Rightarrow [[r_2]]_{\{(a_2, n), (b_1, k_1), \dots, (b_n, k_n)\}}$$

Extending the Elm Language: Revisiting the Max Function

Find $r_2 \in \mathcal{Q}$ such that

$$[((a < b) \wedge \nu = b) \Rightarrow r_2]_{\{(a, \{\nu: \text{Int} \mid r_0\}), (b, \{\nu: \text{Int} \mid r_1\})\}}$$

and

$$[(\neg(a < b) \wedge \nu = a) \Rightarrow r_2]_{\{(a, \{\nu: \text{Int} \mid r_0\}), (b, \{\nu: \text{Int} \mid r_1\})\}}$$

are valid.

Use SMT-Solver to find a solution.

Sharpest solution: $r_2 := ((a < \nu \wedge \nu = b) \vee (\neg(\nu < b) \wedge \nu = a))$

Extending the Elm Language: The Inference Algorithm

We say T is a *template* : $\Leftrightarrow T$ is of form $\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid [k]_S\}$

where $k \in \mathcal{K}$ and $S : \mathcal{V} \nrightarrow \mathcal{Q}$

$\vee T$ is of form $a : \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid [k]_S\} \rightarrow T$

where $k \in \mathcal{K}$, T is a template and $S : \mathcal{V} \nrightarrow \text{IntExp}$.

We define $\mathcal{K} := \{\kappa_i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

Extending the Elm Language: The Inference Algorithm

1. (Split) Split the subtyping conditions over dependent function into subtyping conditions over simple liquid types.
2. (Init) Compute $Q = \text{Init}(V)$ where V is the set of all occurring variables and initiate the mapping A for every key κ_i with the set of resulting predicates with Q .
3. (Solve) Check for every subtyping condition if the current mapping A violates the subtyping condition.
4. (Weaken) If so, weaken the mapping by removing any predicate that violates the subtyping condition and repeat
5. Once the algorithm terminates we have obtained the strongest refinements that can be built by conjunction over predicates in Q .

Extending the Elm Language: The Inference Algorithm

$\text{Split} : \mathcal{C} \not\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C}^-)$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Split}(a : \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_1\} \rightarrow T_2 <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} a : \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_3\} \rightarrow T_4) = \\ \{\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_3\} <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_1\}\} \cup \text{Split}(T_2 <:_{\Theta \cup \{(a, q_3)\}, \Lambda} T_4)\end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned}\text{Split}(\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_1\} <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_2\}) = \\ \{\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_1\} <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_2\}\}\end{aligned}$$

$\mathcal{C} := \{c \mid c \text{ is a subtyping condition}\}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{C}^- := \{ & \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_1\} <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_2\} \\ & \mid (q_1 \in \mathcal{Q} \vee q_1 = [k_1]_{S_1} \text{ for } k_1 \in \mathcal{K}, S_1 \in \mathcal{V} \not\rightarrow \text{IntExp}) \\ & \wedge (q_2 \in \mathcal{Q} \vee q_2 = [k_2]_{S_2} \text{ for } k_2 \in \mathcal{K}, S_2 \in \mathcal{V} \not\rightarrow \text{IntExp}) \}.\end{aligned}$$

Extending the Elm Language: The Inference Algorithm

$$\text{Init} : \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{V}) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q})$$

$$\text{Init}(V) ::= \{0 < \nu\}$$

$$\cup \{a < \nu \mid a \in V\}$$

$$\cup \{\nu < 0\}$$

$$\cup \{\nu < a \mid a \in V\}$$

$$\cup \{\nu = a \mid a \in V\}$$

$$\cup \{\nu = 0\}$$

$$\cup \{a < \nu \vee \nu = a \mid a \in V\}$$

$$\cup \{\nu < a \vee \nu = a \mid a \in V\}$$

$$\cup \{0 < \nu \vee \nu = 0\}$$

$$\cup \{\nu < 0 \vee \nu = 0\}$$

$$\cup \{\neg(\nu = a) \mid a \in V\}$$

$$\cup \{\neg(\nu = 0)\}$$

Extending the Elm Language: The Inference Algorithm

Solve : $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{C}^-) \times (\mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q})) \rightarrow (\mathcal{K} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q}))$

Solve(C, A) =

Let $S := \{(k, \bigwedge Q) \mid (k, Q) \in A\}$.

If there exists $(\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid q_1\} <:_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid [k_2]_{S_2}\}) \in C$ such that

$\neg(\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}. \forall i_1 \in \text{value}_\Gamma(\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid r'_1\}). \dots. \forall i_n \in \text{value}_\Gamma(\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid r'_n\}))$

$[[r_1 \wedge p]]_{\{(\nu, z), (b_1, i_1), \dots, (b_n, i_n)\}} \Rightarrow [[r_2]]_{\{(\nu, z), (b_1, i_1), \dots, (b_n, i_n)\}}$

then Solve($C, \text{Weaken}(c, A)$) else A

SMT statement:

$$((\bigwedge_{j=0}^n [r'_j]_{\{(\nu, b_j)\}}) \wedge r_1 \wedge p) \wedge \neg r_2$$

with free variables $\nu \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $b_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ for $i \in \mathbb{N}_1^n$.

Extending the Elm Language: The Inference Algorithm

Weaken : $\mathcal{C}^- \times (\mathcal{K} \not\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q})) \not\rightarrow (\mathcal{K} \not\rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q}))$

Weaken($\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid x\} <_{\Theta, \Lambda} \{\nu : \text{Int} \mid [k_2]_{S_2}\}, A) =$

Let $S := \{(k, \bigwedge Q) \mid (k, Q) \in A\}$,

$Q_2 := \{ q$

$| q \in A(k_2)$

$\wedge (\forall z \in \mathbb{Z}. \forall i_1 \in \text{value}_\Gamma(\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid r'_1\}) \dots \forall i_n \in \text{value}_\Gamma(\{\nu : \text{Int} \mid r'_n\})$

$[[r_1 \wedge p]]_{\{(\nu, z), (b_1, i_1), \dots, (b_n, i_n)\}} \Rightarrow [[[q]_{S_2}]]_{\{(\nu, z), (b_1, i_1), \dots, (b_n, i_n)\}} \})$

in $\{(k, Q) \mid (k, Q) \in A \wedge k \neq k_2\} \cup \{(k_2, Q_2)\}$

SMT statement:

$$\neg((\bigwedge_{j=0}^n [r'_j]_{\{(\nu, b_j)\}}) \wedge r_1 \wedge p) \vee r_2$$

with free variables $\nu \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $b_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ for $i \in \mathbb{N}_1^n$ and $r_2 := [q]_{S_2}$.

Conclusion

Positives

- Can catch index-out-of-bounds errors in compile time
- Can catch (some) division by zero errors in compile time
- Can define the natural numbers as a subtype of the integers.

Negatives

- The capabilities of liquid types directly depend on the predicates included in $Init(V)$.
- Increasing the size of $Init(V)$ increases the computation type by a lot. (\sim quadratic time)
- The set of inferable refinements is always a proper subset of the set of refinements annotatable. Thus, the type system is no longer complete.

Conclusion

I therefore come to the conclusion, that liquid types are not a proper fit for Elm.

Started thesis in July 2019

Expected finish in April 2021