

Qualified Types for ML-F

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Motivation / contribution

Motivation:

- Make ML-F suitable for use in a full-fledged programming language (read: Haskell).

Contribution:

- Extend ML-F with support for qualified types.
- Give an evidence translation of qualified ML-F types into a core language.

Overview

- 1 Hindley-Milner and ML-F
 - Arbitrary-rank polymorphism
 - Impredicativity
- 2 Qualified types
 - Type classes
- 3 ML-F with qualified types
 - Example/Problem
 - Solution

Overview

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Hindley-Milner

- The type system we all know and love.
- At the basis of ML, Haskell, Clean, and many other functional programming languages.
- Efficient type inference.
- No type annotations required.
- Principal types.

- ML-F is an extension of the Hindley-Milner type system (ICFP 2003).
- Arbitrary-rank polymorphism.
- Impredicative.
- Type annotations are required where higher-rank polymorphic values are introduced.
- (Still) Principal types.

Arbitrary-rank polymorphism

≈ functions can have polymorphic arguments

| f choose = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')

- Within f, the function choose is used at two different types.
 - The first occurrence is of type $\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \alpha$.
 - The second occurrence is of type $\text{Char} \rightarrow \text{Char} \rightarrow \alpha$.
- The above definition does not type-check in Haskell (nor in ML).

In ML-F:

| f (choose :: $\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$) = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')

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Arbitrary-rank polymorphism

≈ functions can have polymorphic arguments

| `f choose = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')`

- Within `f`, the function `choose` is used at two different types.
 - The first occurrence is of type `Bool → Bool → α`.
 - The second occurrence is of type `Char → Char → α`.
- The above definition does not type-check in Haskell (nor in ML).

In ML-F:

| `f (choose :: ∀α. α → α → α) = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')`

Arbitrary-rank polymorphism

≈ functions can have polymorphic arguments

| f choose = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')

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In ML-F:

| f (choose :: $\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$) = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')

ML-F type:

| $(\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow (\text{Bool}, \text{Char})$

Arbitrary-rank polymorphism

≈ functions can have polymorphic arguments

| f choose = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')

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The first occurrence is of type $\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \alpha$.
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In ML-F:

| f (choose :: $\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$) = (choose True False, choose 'a' 'b')

Real ML-F type:

| $\forall (\alpha = \forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta). \alpha \rightarrow (\text{Bool}, \text{Char})$

Impredicativity

≈ quantified variables range over polymorphic types

choose :: $\forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

id :: $\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta$

choose id :: ...

Possibility 2 (id is used at its polymorphic type):

choose id :: $(\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta)$

ML-F:

choose id :: $\forall (\alpha \geq \forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta). \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

Impredicativity

\approx quantified variables range over polymorphic types

choose $:: \forall \alpha. \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

id $:: \forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta$

Possibility 1 (predicative, Haskell):

choose id $:: \forall \gamma. (\gamma \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow (\gamma \rightarrow \gamma)$

Possibility 2 (id is used at its polymorphic type):

choose id $:: (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow (\forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta)$

ML-F:

choose id $:: \forall (\alpha \geq \forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta). \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

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ML-F:

choose id $:: \forall (\alpha \geq \forall \beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta). \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

Impredicativity

≈ parametrized datatypes can be instantiated to polymorphic types

| [id] :: $\forall(\alpha \geq \forall\beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta). [\alpha]$

Alternatively:

| [id] :: $[\forall\beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta]$

Haskell:

| [id] :: $\forall\beta. [\beta \rightarrow \beta]$

First-class higher-rank polymorphism

$f :: \forall(\alpha = \forall\beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta). \alpha \rightarrow (\text{Bool}, \text{Char})$

[f]

id f

[runST]

runST computation vs. runST \$ computation

First-class higher-rank polymorphism

$f :: \forall(\alpha = \forall\beta. \beta \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta). \alpha \rightarrow (\text{Bool}, \text{Char})$

[f]

id f

[runST]

runST computation vs. runST \$ computation

The ML-F type language

Monotypes:

$$| \tau ::= g \tau_1 \dots \tau_n \mid \alpha$$

Polytypes:

$$| \sigma ::= \perp \mid \forall Q. \tau$$

Prefix:

$$| Q ::= \varepsilon \mid (\alpha \diamond \sigma) Q$$

Bounds:

$$| \diamond ::= \geq \mid =$$

The notation $\forall \alpha. \tau$ abbreviates $\forall (\alpha \geq \perp). \tau$.

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- 1 Hindley-Milner and ML-F
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 - Impredicativity
- 2 **Qualified types**
 - Type classes
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Qualified types

- A general framework for types with predicates π .
- Usually written $\pi \Rightarrow \sigma$.
- Many applications:
 - ▶ Type classes
 - ▶ Implicit parameters
 - ▶ Records (has-predicates, lacks-predicates)
- Generic theory by Mark Jones, and many others (rules for predicate entailment and propagation).
- Implementation: usually using **evidence translation**.

Type classes

- Predicates of the form $C \tau$.
- Example:

| $(==) :: \forall \alpha. Eq \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow Bool$

- Predicates assert that certain types are instances of a class.
- Evidence: a dictionary of the class methods for the type in question.

Evidence translation

- Predicates are represented by evidence.
- Evidence for class predicates is a dictionary containing the class methods.
- Evidence is automatically provided or propagated.

original code

```
(==) :: ∀α. Eq α ⇒ α → α → Bool
```

```
'a' == 'b'
```

```
elem :: ∀α. Eq α ⇒ [α] → Bool  
elem y = or · map (λx. x == y)
```

internal translation

```
(==) :: ∀α. Eq α → α → α → Bool
```

```
(==) eqChar 'a' 'b'
```

```
elem :: ∀α. Eq α → [α] → Bool  
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original code

$(==) :: \forall \alpha. \text{Eq } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

`'a' == 'b'`

$\text{elem} :: \forall \alpha. \text{Eq } \alpha \Rightarrow [\alpha] \rightarrow \text{Bool}$
 $\text{elem } y = \text{or} \cdot \text{map } (\lambda x. x == y)$

internal translation

$(==) :: \forall \alpha. \text{Eq } \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

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ML-F and qualified types

When adding qualified types to ML-F, the tricky part is to adapt the evidence translation.

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Example: four lists

$xs_1 = []$

$xs_2 = \text{const} : xs_1$

$xs_3 = \text{min} : xs_2$

$xs_4 = (<) : xs_3$

$\text{const} :: \forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha$

$\text{min} :: \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

$(<) :: \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Example: four lists

$$\begin{aligned} \text{xs}_1 = [] & \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha] \\ \text{xs}_2 = \text{const} : \text{xs}_1 & \quad :: \forall \alpha \beta. [\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha] \\ \text{xs}_3 = \text{min} : \text{xs}_2 & \quad :: \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow [\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha] \\ \text{xs}_4 = (<) : \text{xs}_3 & \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}] \end{aligned}$$

Haskell types.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{const} & \quad :: \forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha \\ \text{min} & \quad :: \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \\ (<) & \quad :: \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \text{Bool} \end{aligned}$$

Example: four lists

$$\begin{aligned} \text{xs}_1 = [] & \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha] \\ \text{xs}_2 = \text{const} : \text{xs}_1 & \quad :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma] \\ \text{xs}_3 = \text{min} : \text{xs}_2 & \quad :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma] \\ \text{xs}_4 = (<) : \text{xs}_3 & \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}] \end{aligned}$$

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Haskell evidence translation

$xs_1 = [] \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha]$
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$xs_1^* \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha]$
 $xs_1^* = []^*$

$xs_2^* \quad :: \forall \alpha \beta. [\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha]$
 $xs_2^* = \text{const}^* : xs_1^*$

$xs_3^* \quad :: \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \rightarrow [\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha]$
 $xs_3^* = \lambda \text{ord}_\alpha. \text{min}^* \text{ ord}_\alpha : xs_2^*$

$xs_4^* \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}]$
 $xs_4^* = (<)^* \text{ ord}_{\text{Bool}} : xs_3^* \text{ ord}_{\text{Bool}}$

Haskell evidence translation

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Haskell evidence translation

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Naïve evidence translation for ML-F types

$xs_1 = [] \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha]$

$xs_2 = \text{const} : xs_1 \quad :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma]$

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$xs_3^* = \text{min}^* : \dots xs_2^* \dots$

$xs_4^* \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}]$

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$xs_3^* \quad :: [\forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha]$

$xs_3^* = \text{min}^* : \dots xs_2^* \dots$

$xs_4^* \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}]$

$xs_4^* = (<)^* \text{ord}_{\text{Bool}} : \dots xs_3^* \dots$

Naïve evidence translation for ML-F types

$xs_1 = [] \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha]$

$xs_2 = \text{const} : xs_1 \quad :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma]$

$xs_3 = \text{min} \quad : xs_2 \quad :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma]$

$xs_4 = (<) \quad : xs_3 \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}]$

$xs_1^* \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha]$

$xs_1^* = []^*$

$xs_2^* \quad :: [\forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha]$

$xs_2^* = \text{const}^* : xs_1^*$

$xs_3^* \quad :: [\forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha]$

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$xs_4^* = (<)^* \text{ord}_{\text{Bool}} : \dots xs_3^* \dots$

Idea

| $f :: \forall(\alpha \geq \sigma). \tau$

| $f = \dots x_\sigma \dots x_\sigma \dots$

View

| $\forall(\alpha \geq \sigma). \tau$ as $\forall \alpha. \alpha \geq \sigma \Rightarrow \tau$

| $f^* :: \forall \alpha. (\sigma^* \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \tau^*$

| $f^* = \lambda v. \dots (v x_\sigma) \dots (v x_\sigma) \dots$

Idea

$$| f :: \forall(\alpha \geq \sigma). \tau$$

$$| f = \dots x_\sigma \dots x_\sigma \dots$$

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$$| \forall(\alpha \geq \sigma). \tau \text{ as } \forall \alpha. \alpha \geq \sigma \Rightarrow \tau$$

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$$| \forall(\alpha \geq \sigma). \tau \quad \text{as} \quad \forall \alpha. \alpha \geq \sigma \Rightarrow \tau$$

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$$| f^* = \lambda \mathbf{v}. \dots (\mathbf{v} \ x_\sigma) \dots (\mathbf{v} \ x_\sigma) \dots$$

Applying the idea to the example

$xs_1 = [] \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha]$

$xs_2 = \text{const} : xs_1 \quad :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma]$

$xs_3 = \text{min} \quad : xs_2 \quad :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma]$

$xs_4 = (<) \quad : xs_3 \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}]$

$xs_1^* \quad :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha]$

$xs_1^* = []^*$

$xs_2^* \quad :: \forall \gamma. (\forall \alpha \beta. (\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow [\gamma]$

$xs_2^* = \lambda v_2. (v_2 \text{ const}^*) : xs_1^*$

$xs_3^* \quad :: \forall \gamma. (\forall \alpha. (\text{Ord } \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow [\gamma]$

$xs_3^* = \lambda v_3. (v_3 \text{ min}^*) : xs_2^* (\lambda x. v_3 (\lambda \text{ord}_\alpha. x))$

$xs_4^* \quad :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}]$

$xs_4^* = (<)^* \text{ord}_{\text{Bool}} : xs_3^* (\lambda x. x \text{ord}_{\text{Bool}})$

Applying the idea to the example

$$\begin{aligned} \text{xs}_1 &= [] && :: \forall \alpha. [\alpha] \\ \text{xs}_2 &= \text{const} : \text{xs}_1 && :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha \beta. \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma] \\ \text{xs}_3 &= \text{min} : \text{xs}_2 && :: \forall (\gamma \geq \forall \alpha. \text{Ord } \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha). [\gamma] \\ \text{xs}_4 &= (<) : \text{xs}_3 && :: [\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}] \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \text{xs}_1^* &:: \forall \alpha. [\alpha] \\ \text{xs}_1^* &= []^* \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \text{xs}_2^* &:: \forall \gamma. (\forall \alpha \beta. (\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow [\gamma] \\ \text{xs}_2^* &= \lambda v_2. (v_2 \text{ const}^*) : \text{xs}_1^* \end{aligned}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \text{xs}_3^* &:: \forall \gamma. (\forall \alpha. (\text{Ord } \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow [\gamma] \\ \text{xs}_3^* &= \lambda v_3. (v_3 \text{ min}^*) : \text{xs}_2^* (\lambda x. v_3 (\lambda \text{ord}_\alpha. x)) \end{aligned}$$
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Applying the idea to the example

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Discussion

- We can perform an evidence translation for qualified ML-F types.
- The paper contains many additional details of the extension.
- ML-F with qualified types has advantages over current Haskell extensions:
 - ▶ Impredicativity makes polymorphic values truly first-class.
 - ▶ Polymorphic datastructures without explicit packing and unpacking.
 - ▶ Predicates can have polymorphic arguments, too (example: implicit parameters of polymorphic type).
- ML-F could be a type system for Haskell.
- We are working on a prototype implementation in the Morrow compiler.