

## Proofs of a Set of Hybrid Let-Polymorphic Type Inference Algorithms<sup>\*1</sup>

Hyunjun EO and Oukseh LEE  
*Research On Program Analysis System*<sup>\*2</sup>  
*Department of Computer Science*  
*Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology*  
*373-1 Guseong-dong, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon 305-701, Korea*

Kwangkeun YI  
*School of Computer Science and Engineering*<sup>\*3</sup>  
*Seoul National University*  
*San 56-1, Shilim-dong, Gwanak-gu, Seoul 151-742, Korea*  
{poisson; cookcu; kwang}@ropas.kaist.ac.kr

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**Abstract** We present a generalized let-polymorphic type inference algorithm, prove that any of its instances is sound and complete with respect to the Hindley/Milner let-polymorphic type system, and find a condition on two instance algorithms so that one algorithm should find type errors earlier than the other.

By instantiating the generalized algorithm with different parameters, we can obtain not only the two opposite algorithms (the bottom-up standard algorithm  $\mathcal{W}$  and the top-down algorithm  $\mathcal{M}$ ) but also other hybrid algorithms which are used in real compilers. Such instances' soundness and completeness follow automatically, and their relative earliness in detecting type-errors is determined by checking a simple condition. The set of instances of the generalized algorithm is a superset of those used in the two most popular ML compilers: SML/NJ and OCaml.

**Keywords:** Type System, Type Inference Algorithm, Let-Polymorphism, Generalization.

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## §1 Introduction

### 1.1 This Work

In realistic compilers, the let-polymorphic type system<sup>14)</sup>'s two opposite algorithms ( $\mathcal{W}^{6,14}$  and  $\mathcal{M}^{10}$ ) are not attractive candidates. In order to generate helpful type-error messages we need to balance between their two opposite behaviors in type-checking: the bottom-up algorithm  $\mathcal{W}$  is context-insensitive, finding type errors too late, while the top-down algorithm  $\mathcal{M}$  is as context-sensitive as possible, finding type errors too early. Because of these behaviors, the Standard ML of New Jersey (SML/NJ<sup>19</sup>) and Objective Caml (OCaml<sup>11</sup>) compilers use hybrids of the two algorithms.

Several works<sup>2,3,7,8,13,17,23)</sup> clearly show that other type checking strategies are possible. To systematically explore this space of strategies, as well as to justify the existing hybrid ones, we need a framework (1) for integrating the two opposite algorithms into one algorithm; (2) for assuring that such an integrated algorithm is still sound and complete; and (3) for measuring, if possible, how any two hybrid algorithms differ in behaviour.

We present a generalized let-polymorphic type inference algorithm, prove that *any* of its instances is sound and complete with respect to the Hindley/Milner let-polymorphic type system, and present a condition on two instance algorithms that ensures that one algorithm always finds type errors earlier than the other. By instantiating the generalized algorithm with different parameters, we can obtain not only the two opposite algorithms ( $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$ ) but also other hybrid algorithms that lie within this spectrum. The set of hybrid algorithms captured by the generalized algorithm is a superset of the existing hybrid algorithms in SML/NJ and OCaml. Within this algorithmic framework, compiler developers can freely experiment with various combinations without the burden of proving their correctness every time.

### 1.2 Notation

We use the same conventional notation as used in Lee and Yi's.<sup>10)</sup> Vector  $\vec{\alpha}$  is a shorthand for  $\{\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n\}$ , and  $\forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau$  is for  $\forall \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n. \tau$ . Equality of type schemes is up to renaming of bound variables. For a type scheme  $\sigma = \forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau$ , the set  $ftv(\sigma)$  of free type variables in  $\sigma$  is  $ftv(\tau) \setminus \vec{\alpha}$ , where  $ftv(\tau)$  is the set of type variables in type  $\tau$ . For a type environment  $\Gamma$ ,  $ftv(\Gamma) = \cup_{x \in dom(\Gamma)} ftv(\Gamma(x))$ . A (simultaneous) substitution  $S = \{\tau_i/\alpha_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  substitutes type  $\tau_i$  for type variable  $\alpha_i$ . We write  $\{\vec{\tau}/\vec{\alpha}\}$  as a shorthand for a substitution  $\{\tau_i/\alpha_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  where  $\vec{\alpha}$  and  $\vec{\tau}$  have the same length  $n$ , and  $S\vec{\alpha}$  for  $\{S\alpha_1, \dots, S\alpha_n\}$ . For a substitution  $S$ , the support  $supp(S)$  is  $\{\alpha \mid S\alpha \neq \alpha\}$ , and the set  $itv(S)$  of involved type variables is  $\{\alpha \mid \beta \in supp(S), \alpha \in \{\beta\} \cup ftv(S\beta)\}$ . For a substitution  $S$  and a type  $\tau$ ,  $S\tau$  is the type resulting from applying every substitution component  $\tau_i/\alpha_i$  in  $S$  to  $\tau$ . Hence,  $\{\vec{\tau}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau = \tau$ . For a substitution  $S$  and a type scheme  $\sigma = \forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau$ ,  $S\sigma = \forall \vec{\beta}. S\{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau$ , where  $\vec{\beta} \cap (itv(S) \cup ftv(\sigma)) = \emptyset$ . For a substitution  $S$  and a type environment  $\Gamma$ ,  $S\Gamma = \{x \mapsto S\sigma \mid x \mapsto \sigma \in \Gamma\}$ . The composition of substitutions  $S$  followed by  $R$  is written as  $RS$ , which is  $\{R(S\alpha)/\alpha \mid \alpha \in$

$\text{supp}(S)\} \cup \{R\alpha/\alpha \mid \alpha \in \text{supp}(R) \setminus \text{supp}(S)\}$ . Two substitutions  $S$  and  $R$  are equal if and only if  $S\alpha = R\alpha$  for every  $\alpha \in \text{supp}(S) \cup \text{supp}(R)$ . For a substitution  $P$  and a set of type variables  $V$ , we write  $P|_V$  for  $\{\tau/\alpha \in P \mid \alpha \notin V\}$ . The relation  $\forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau' \succ \tau$  holds whenever there exists a substitution  $S$  such that  $S\tau' = \tau$  and  $\text{supp}(S) \subseteq \vec{\alpha}$ . We write  $\Gamma + x : \sigma$  to mean  $\{y \mapsto \sigma' \mid x \neq y, y \mapsto \sigma' \in \Gamma\} \cup \{x \mapsto \sigma\}$ .  $\text{Clos}_\Gamma(\tau)$  is the same as  $\text{Gen}(\Gamma, \tau)$  in Damas and Milner's,<sup>6)</sup> i.e.,  $\forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau$ , where  $\vec{\alpha} = \text{ftv}(\tau) \setminus \text{ftv}(\Gamma)$ .

In presenting type-inference algorithms, we use Robinson's unification algorithm:

**Theorem 1.1 (Robinson<sup>18)</sup>)**

There is an algorithm  $\mathcal{U}$  which, given a pair of types, either returns a substitution  $S$  or fails; further

- If  $S = \mathcal{U}(\tau, \tau')$  then  $S\tau = S\tau'$ .
- If  $S'$  unifies  $\tau$  and  $\tau'$ , then  $\mathcal{U}(\tau, \tau')$  succeeds with  $S$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $S' = RS$ .

Moreover,  $S$  involves only variables of  $\tau$  and  $\tau'$ .

### 1.3 Algorithms $\mathcal{W}$ and $\mathcal{M}$

The source language and its Hindley/Milner style let-polymorphic type system are shown in Fig. 1. The two opposite algorithms ( $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$ ) are shown

Abstract Syntax															
<i>Expr</i>	$e$	$::=$	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>()</math></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">constant</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>x</math></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">variable</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>\lambda x.e</math></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">function</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>e e</math></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">application</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>\text{let } x=e \text{ in } e</math></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>\text{fix } f \lambda x.e</math></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	$()$	constant	$x$	variable	$\lambda x.e$	function	$e e$	application	$\text{let } x=e \text{ in } e$		$\text{fix } f \lambda x.e$	
$()$	constant														
$x$	variable														
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$e e$	application														
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$\text{fix } f \lambda x.e$															
<i>Type</i>	$\tau$	$::=$	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>\iota</math></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">constant type</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>\alpha</math></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">type variable</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 10px;"><math>\tau \rightarrow \tau</math></td> <td style="padding-right: 10px;">function type</td> </tr> </table>	$\iota$	constant type	$\alpha$	type variable	$\tau \rightarrow \tau$	function type						
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$\alpha$	type variable														
$\tau \rightarrow \tau$	function type														
<i>TypeScheme</i>	$\sigma$	$::=$	$\tau \mid \forall \vec{\alpha}. \sigma$												
<i>TypeEnv</i>	$\Gamma$	$\in$	$\text{Var} \rightarrow \text{TypeScheme}$ type environment												
(CON)			$\Gamma \vdash () : \iota$												
(VAR)			$\frac{\Gamma(x) \succ \tau}{\Gamma \vdash x : \tau}$												
(FN)			$\frac{\Gamma + x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2}$												
(APP)			$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : \tau_2}$												
(LET)			$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_\Gamma(\tau_1) \vdash e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : \tau_2}$												
(FIX)			$\frac{\Gamma + f : \tau \vdash \lambda x.e : \tau}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fix } f \lambda x.e : \tau}$												

**Fig. 1** Language and Its Let-Polymorphic Type System

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Subst} & \quad S \subseteq \{\tau/\alpha \mid \alpha \text{ is a type variable, } \tau \text{ is a type}\} \\
\mathcal{W}: \text{TypeEnv} \times \text{Expr} & \rightarrow \text{Subst} \times \text{Type} \\
\mathcal{M}: \text{TypeEnv} \times \text{Expr} \times \text{Type} & \rightarrow \text{Subst}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, ()) & = (id, \iota) \\
\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, x) & = (id, \{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau) \text{ where } \Gamma(x) = \forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau, \text{ new } \vec{\beta} \\
\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, \lambda x.e) & = \text{let } (S_1, \tau_1) = \mathcal{W}(\Gamma + x: \beta, e), \text{ new } \beta \\
& \quad \text{in } (S_1, S_1\beta \rightarrow \tau_1) \\
\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, e_1 e_2) & = \text{let } (S_1, \tau_1) = \mathcal{W}(\Gamma, e_1) \\
& \quad (S_2, \tau_2) = \mathcal{W}(S_1\Gamma, e_2) \\
& \quad S_3 = \mathcal{U}(S_2\tau_1, \tau_2 \rightarrow \beta), \text{ new } \beta \\
& \quad \text{in } (S_3S_2S_1, S_3\beta) \\
\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2) & = \text{let } (S_1, \tau_1) = \mathcal{W}(\Gamma, e_1) \\
& \quad (S_2, \tau_2) = \mathcal{W}(S_1\Gamma + x: \text{Clos}_{S_1\Gamma}(\tau_1), e_2) \\
& \quad \text{in } (S_2S_1, \tau_2) \\
\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, \text{fix } f \lambda x.e) & = \text{let } (S_1, \tau_1) = \mathcal{W}(\Gamma + f: \beta, \lambda x.e), \text{ new } \beta \\
& \quad S_2 = \mathcal{U}(S_1\beta, \tau_1) \\
& \quad \text{in } (S_2S_1, S_2\tau_1)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, (), \rho) & = \mathcal{U}(\rho, \iota) \\
\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, x, \rho) & = \mathcal{U}(\rho, \{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau) \text{ where } \Gamma(x) = \forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau, \text{ new } \vec{\beta} \\
\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, \lambda x.e, \rho) & = \text{let } S_1 = \mathcal{U}(\rho, \beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2), \text{ new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \\
& \quad S_2 = \mathcal{M}(S_1\Gamma + x: S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2) \\
& \quad \text{in } S_2S_1 \\
\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, e_1 e_2, \rho) & = \text{let } S_1 = \mathcal{M}(\Gamma, e_1, \beta \rightarrow \rho), \text{ new } \beta \\
& \quad S_2 = \mathcal{M}(S_1\Gamma, e_2, S_1\beta) \\
& \quad \text{in } S_2S_1 \\
\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2, \rho) & = \text{let } S_1 = \mathcal{M}(\Gamma, e_1, \beta), \text{ new } \beta \\
& \quad S_2 = \mathcal{M}(S_1\Gamma + x: \text{Clos}_{S_1\Gamma}(S_1\beta), e_2, S_1\rho) \\
& \quad \text{in } S_2S_1 \\
\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, \text{fix } f \lambda x.e, \rho) & = \mathcal{M}(\Gamma + f: \rho, \lambda x.e, \rho)
\end{aligned}$$

**Fig. 2** Algorithm  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$ . Note that every new type variable is distinct from each other, and the set *New* of new type variables introduced at each recursive call to  $\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, e)$  (respectively,  $\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$ ) satisfies  $\text{New} \cap \text{fv}(\Gamma) = \emptyset$  (respectively,  $\text{New} \cap (\text{fv}(\Gamma) \cup \text{fv}(\rho)) = \emptyset$ ).

in Fig. 2.

Algorithm  $\mathcal{W}$  is context-insensitive. It fails only at an application expression. It infers types of two sub-expressions independently and checks later by unification whether those types conflict. Because of this, an erroneous expression is often successfully type-checked (context-insensitively) long before its consequence collides. On the other hand, algorithm  $\mathcal{M}$  is as context-sensitive as possible. It carries a type constraint (or an expected type) implied by the context of an expression down to its sub-or-sibling expressions. It fails when the current expression's type cannot satisfy the supplied type constraint. For example, for an application expression “ $e_1 e_2$ ” with a type constraint, say of `int`, the type constraint for  $e_1$  is  $\alpha \rightarrow \text{int}$  and the constraint for  $e_2$  is the type that  $\alpha$

becomes after the type inference of  $e_1$ . For a constant or a variable expression, its type must satisfy the type constraint that the algorithm has supplied to that point.

### Example 1.1

To illustrate the difference between  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$ , consider the application expression

```
1 2.
```

$\mathcal{W}$  fails at the application expression *after* having successfully type-checked the two sub-expressions, while  $\mathcal{M}$  fails at the left expression 1 because its type `int` conflicts with a function type expected from the context (an application).

## §2 The Generalized Algorithm $\mathcal{G}$

### 2.1 Overview

Our generalized algorithm is based on the top-down, context-sensitive algorithm  $\mathcal{M}$ . The key observation is that we can vary the type-checking strategy by changing two factors in  $\mathcal{M}$ : the amount of information in the type constraints and the positions of calls to unification. Algorithm  $\mathcal{M}$  carries as much information as possible in its type constraints and applies a unification at every value (constant, variable, and lambda) expression. Algorithm  $\mathcal{W}$ , on the other hand, carries no information at its type constraints and applies a unification at every application expression. Tuning these two factors yields other type-checking strategies:

### Example 2.1

Consider an application expression

```
(IsOne 2):bool
```

where `IsOne` has type `int → bool`. As we impose less and less constraints in type-checking sub-expressions yet apply more and more checks later, we obtain the following type-checking variations:

- We type-check `IsOne` with constraint  $\beta \rightarrow \text{bool}$ , which is the strongest expectation. After its success, we type-check 2 with the function's domain type `int` as its constraint. ( $\mathcal{M}$ )
- We type-check `IsOne` with a weaker constraint,  $\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2$  with  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  being new type variables. The constraint forces `IsOne`'s type to be a function, but does not constrain its domain or range. After its success, we check whether the function's range type is `bool`. Then we type-check 2 with the function's domain type `int` as its constraint.
- We type-check `IsOne` with no constraint. After its success, we check whether the result type is a function type to `bool`. Then we type-check 2 with the function's domain type `int` as its constraint. (OCaml's type inference algorithm)
- We type-check `IsOne` with no constraint. After its success, we check

whether the result type is just a function type, whatever its domain and range types are. Then we type-check 2 with the function’s domain type `int` as its constraint. After its success, we check whether the function’s range type is `bool`.

- We type-check `IsOne` with no constraint. After its success, we check, as before, whether the result type is just a function type. Then we type-check 2, but with no constraint. After its success, we check whether the function’s type is `int → bool`.
- We type-check `IsOne` with no constraint. After its success, we don’t check anything but continue type-checking the second expression 2 with no constraint. After its success, we check everything at once: we check whether `IsOne`’s type is a function type from `int` to `bool`. ( $\mathcal{W}$ )

Every type-checking variation in the above example exposes a common property: it relaxes the type constraints for sub-expressions then checks afterward whether the results from the relaxed constraints agree with the contexts implied from the original constraints.

Our generalized algorithm is one that allows, wherever possible, the relaxing of the type constraints and yet makes sure that posterior unifications compensate for the relaxation. The places for relaxing the constraints are right before recursive calls for type-checking sub-expressions. The places for posterior unifications that compensate for the relaxed constraints are after the successful returns from the recursive-calls. Some unifications may only partially compensate for the relaxed constraints. Thus, before the original call returns, a final round of unification must be used to enforce any outstanding constraints. For example, consider type-checking the application expression  $e_1 e_2$  with initial constraint  $\rho$ . Our algorithm type-checks  $e_1$  with a type constraint that can be more relaxed than the strongest possible constraint  $\beta \rightarrow \rho$ . Right after its return, it applies a unification that can compensate, not necessarily completely, for the relaxed constraint. It then type-checks the argument expression  $e_2$  with a type constraint that can be more relaxed than the type that  $\beta$  became. After its success, there are no more sub-expressions to type-check, hence it’s time to finalize the compensation for the relaxed constraints at the two recursive calls. This is done by two unifications: each one compensates for the relaxed constraint used in type-checking each sub-expression. The unifications check whether the types from the relaxed constraints agree with what the strongest constraint  $\beta \rightarrow \rho$  implies.

## 2.2 Algorithm Definition

The generalized algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$  is shown in Fig. 3. As in  $\mathcal{M}$ , it returns a substitution from three components: an expression, a type environment, and a type constraint. The inferred type of the expression is the result of applying the final substitution to the type constraint of the expression. The type constraints are just types.

By the phrases of the form  $\theta \geq \rho$  marked (1) to (7) in the algorithm, the strongest type constraint  $\rho$  is relaxed into  $\theta$  at each recursive call. This relaxed

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathcal{G} : \text{TypeEnv} \times \text{Expr} \times \text{Type} \rightarrow \text{Subst} \\
 \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, (), \rho) &= \mathcal{U}(\rho, \iota) & (\mathcal{G}.1) \\
 \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, x, \rho) &= \mathcal{U}(\rho, \{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau), \text{ new } \vec{\beta}, \Gamma(x) = \forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau & (\mathcal{G}.2) \\
 \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, \lambda x. e, \rho) &= \\
 \text{let } S_1 &= \mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta), \text{ new } \beta_1, \text{ new } \beta_2, \quad (1) \theta \geq \rho & (\mathcal{G}.3) \\
 S_2 &= \mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2) & (\mathcal{G}.4) \\
 S_3 &= \mathcal{U}(S_2S_1\theta, S_2S_1\rho) & (\mathcal{G}.5) \\
 \text{in } S_3S_2S_1 \\
 \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1 e_2, \rho) &= \\
 \text{let } S_1 &= \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1), \text{ new } \beta, \quad (2) \theta_1 \geq \beta \rightarrow \rho & (\mathcal{G}.6) \\
 S_2 &= \mathcal{U}(S_1\theta_1, \theta_2), \quad (3) \theta_2 \geq S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) & (\mathcal{G}.7) \\
 S_3 &= \mathcal{G}(S_2S_1\Gamma, e_2, \theta_3), \quad (4) \theta_3 \geq S_2S_1\beta & (\mathcal{G}.8) \\
 S_4 &= \mathcal{U}(S_3S_2S_1\theta_1, S_3S_2S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)) & (\mathcal{G}.9) \\
 S_5 &= \mathcal{U}(S_4S_3\theta_3, S_4S_3S_2S_1\beta) & (\mathcal{G}.10) \\
 \text{in } S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1 \\
 \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2, \rho) &= \\
 \text{let } S_1 &= \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \beta), \text{ new } \beta & (\mathcal{G}.11) \\
 S_2 &= \mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{S_1\Gamma}(S_1\beta), e_2, \theta), \quad (5) \theta \geq S_1\rho & (\mathcal{G}.12) \\
 S_3 &= \mathcal{U}(S_2\theta, S_2S_1\rho) & (\mathcal{G}.13) \\
 \text{in } S_3S_2S_1 \\
 \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, \text{fix } f \lambda x. e, \rho) &= \\
 \text{let } \Gamma_1 &= \Gamma + f : \theta_1, \quad (6) \theta_1 \geq \rho & (\mathcal{G}.14) \\
 S_1 &= \mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta_2), \text{ new } \beta_1, \text{ new } \beta_2, \quad (7) \theta_2 \geq \theta_1 & (\mathcal{G}.15) \\
 S_2 &= \mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma_1 + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2) & (\mathcal{G}.16) \\
 S_3 &= \mathcal{U}(S_2S_1\theta_1, S_2S_1\theta_2, S_2S_1\rho) & (\mathcal{G}.17) \\
 \text{in } S_3S_2S_1
 \end{aligned}$$

**Fig. 3** A Generalized Type Inference Algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$ . All the type variables in  $\text{ftv}(\theta) \setminus \text{ftv}(\rho)$  for each  $\theta \geq \rho$  are new, every new type variable is distinct from each other, and the set *New* of new type variables introduced at each recursive call to  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  satisfies  $\text{New} \cap (\text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cup \text{ftv}(\rho)) = \emptyset$ .

constraint is one that can be instantiated to  $\rho$  by a substitution that ranges over the type variables occurring only in  $\theta$  (but not  $\rho$ ):

**Definition 2.1** ( $\theta \geq \rho$ )

Type  $\theta$  is more general (more relaxed) than type  $\rho$ , written  $\theta \geq \rho$ , if and only if there exists a substitution  $G$  such that  $G\theta = \rho$  and  $\text{supp}(G) = \text{ftv}(\theta) \setminus \text{ftv}(\rho)$ .

For the variable case ( $\mathcal{G}.2$ ), the variable's type  $\Gamma(x)$  must satisfy the current type constraint  $\rho$ :  $\mathcal{U}(\rho, \{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau)$ . Similarly for the constant case ( $\mathcal{G}.1$ ).

For the lambda expression case  $\lambda x. e$  with type constraint  $\rho$ , we first decide on the type constraint for the function's body  $e$ . It can be any type that is more relaxed than the range type of  $\rho$ . We choose such a type by relaxing  $\rho$  first, then picking up its range component by unification:

$$S_1 = \mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta), \text{ new } \beta_1, \beta_2, \quad (1) \theta \geq \rho. \quad (\mathcal{G}.3)$$

Then we use the resulting range type  $S_1\beta_2$  as the constraint in type-checking the function's body:

$$S_2 = \mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2). \quad (\mathcal{G}.4)$$

For example, if we choose the  $\theta$  to be a new type variable, then the unification (G.3) has no effect, hence  $e$ 's type is inferred without any constraint. The other extreme is to choose  $\theta$  to be just  $\rho$ . Then  $e$ 's type is inferred with  $\rho$ 's range type, if  $\rho$  is a function type. After returning from the recursive call to  $e$ , we have to compensate for passing the relaxed type constraint. This last step is done by checking whether the relaxed constraint  $\theta$  can agree with the type that its original  $\rho$  became:

$$S_3 = \mathcal{U}(S_2 S_1 \theta, S_2 S_1 \rho). \quad (\mathcal{G}.5)$$

Consider type-checking an application expression  $e_1 e_2$  with type constraint  $\rho$ . First we decide on the type constraint for the function expression  $e_1$ . It can be any type that is more relaxed than the most informative constraint  $\beta \rightarrow \rho$  with  $\beta$  being a new type variable:

$$S_1 = \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1), \text{ new } \beta, \quad (2) \theta_1 \geq \beta \rightarrow \rho. \quad (\mathcal{G}.6)$$

After the success of this recursive call, we can compensate, not necessarily completely, for passing the relaxed type constraint  $\theta_1$ . The compensation may be varied according to the constraint we wish to impose on the type of  $e_1$ . We can check the result type against the strongest constraint  $\beta \rightarrow \rho$  or we can check against nothing. Varying the degree of compensation amounts to choosing yet another more relaxed type  $\theta_2$  than  $S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$  and by unifying it with the type that  $\theta_1$  became:

$$S_2 = \mathcal{U}(S_1 \theta_1, \theta_2), \quad (3) \theta_2 \geq S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho). \quad (\mathcal{G}.7)$$

argument expression  $e_2$ . It can be any type that is more relaxed than the type that  $\beta$  became. Hence the next recursive call is:

$$S_3 = \mathcal{G}(S_2 S_1 \Gamma, e_2, \theta_3), \quad (4) \theta_3 \geq S_2 S_1 \beta. \quad (\mathcal{G}.8)$$

The finalizing compensation for passing the relaxed type constraints to the two recursive calls is done by checking whether the first relaxed constraint  $\theta_1$  can agree with the type that the original type  $\beta \rightarrow \rho$  became:

$$S_4 = \mathcal{U}(S_3 S_2 S_1 \theta_1, S_3 S_2 S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)) \quad (\mathcal{G}.9)$$

and by checking whether the other relaxed constraint  $\theta_3$  for the argument expression can agree with what the original type  $\beta$  became:

$$S_5 = \mathcal{U}(S_4 S_3 \theta_3, S_4 S_3 S_2 S_1 \beta). \quad (\mathcal{G}.10)$$

We don't have to check for  $\theta_2$  because of its unification with  $\theta_1$  at line (G.7).

Consider inferring the type of let-expression  $\text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2$  with type constraint  $\rho$ . Because there is no context information about the type of the first expression  $e_1$ , there is no room for varying its type constraint:

$$S_1 = \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \beta), \text{ new } \beta. \quad (\mathcal{G}.11)$$

Next we decide on the type constraint for the body expression  $e_2$ . It can be any type that is more relaxed than the given constraint  $\rho$ :

$$S_2 = \mathcal{G}(S_1 \Gamma + x: \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma}(S_1 \beta), e_2, \theta), \quad (5) \theta \geq S_1 \rho. \quad (\mathcal{G}.12)$$

Finally, we have to check whether the relaxed constraint agrees with the type that the original constraint became:



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mathcal{G}^R : \text{TypeEnv} \times \text{Expr} \times \text{Type} \rightarrow \text{Subst} \\
 & \mathcal{G}^R(\Gamma, e_1 \ e_2, \rho) = \\
 & \quad \text{let } S_1 = \mathcal{G}^R(\Gamma, e_2, \beta), \text{ new } \beta \quad (\mathcal{G}.18) \\
 & \quad \quad S_2 = \mathcal{G}^R(S_1\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1), \quad \theta_1 \geq S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad (\mathcal{G}.19) \\
 & \quad \quad S_3 = \mathcal{U}(S_2\theta_1, S_2S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)) \quad (\mathcal{G}.20) \\
 & \quad \text{in } S_3S_2S_1
 \end{aligned}$$

**Fig. 4** A Generalized Type Inference Algorithm  $\mathcal{G}^R$ . For  $e_1 \ e_2$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^R$  infers the type of  $e_2$  first, while  $\mathcal{G}$  infers the type of  $e_1$  first. Other parts of  $\mathcal{G}^R$  are the same as those of  $\mathcal{G}$  except that every recursive call in inference algorithm is  $\mathcal{G}^R$ , not  $\mathcal{G}$ .

$$S_3 = \mathcal{U}(S_2\theta, S_2S_1\rho). \quad (\mathcal{G}.13)$$

The case for recursive function `fix f λx.e` is similar. First, we decide on the type constraint for  $f$ . It can be any type that is more relaxed than the given constraint  $\rho$ :

$$\Gamma_1 = \Gamma + f : \theta_1, \quad (6) \ \theta_1 \geq \rho. \quad (\mathcal{G}.14)$$

Next we decide on what is expected for the type of  $\lambda x.e$ . We choose such a type by relaxing  $\theta_1$  first, then picking up its domain and range component by unification:

$$S_1 = \mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta_2), \text{ new } \beta_1, \beta_2, \quad (7) \ \theta_2 \geq \theta_1. \quad (\mathcal{G}.15)$$

Then we use the resulting range type  $S_1\beta_2$  as the constraint in type-checking the function body and the domain type  $S_1\beta_1$  as the type of  $x$ :

$$S_2 = \mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma_1 + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2). \quad (\mathcal{G}.16)$$

Finally, we check whether the relaxed type constraints agrees with the type that the original constraint became:

$$S_3 = \mathcal{U}(S_2S_1\theta_1, S_2S_1\theta_2, S_2S_1\rho). \quad (\mathcal{G}.17)$$

We have another variant of generalized type inference algorithm  $\mathcal{G}^R$  in Fig. 4. For the function application  $e_1 \ e_2$ ,  $\mathcal{G}^R$  infers the type of argument expression  $e_2$  first, and then infers the type of function expression  $e_1$ . For other expressions,  $\mathcal{G}^R$  is the same as  $\mathcal{G}$  except that every recursive call in inference algorithm is  $\mathcal{G}^R$ , not  $\mathcal{G}$ .

Consider type-checking an application expression  $e_1 \ e_2$  with type constraint  $\rho$ . Because we do not have any context information about the type of the argument  $e_2$ , there is no room for varying its type constraint:

$$S_1 = \mathcal{G}^R(\Gamma, e_2, \beta), \text{ new } \beta. \quad (\mathcal{G}.18)$$

Next we decide on the type constraint for the function expression  $e_1$ . It can be any type that is more relaxed than the function type from  $\beta$  to given constraint  $\rho$ :

$$S_2 = \mathcal{G}^R(S_1\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1), \quad \theta_1 \geq S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho). \quad (\mathcal{G}.19)$$

Finally, we have to check whether the relaxed constraint agrees with the type that the original type  $\beta \rightarrow \rho$  became:

$$S_3 = \mathcal{U}(S_2\theta, S_2S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)). \quad (\mathcal{G}.20)$$

### 2.3 Instances

By determining the relaxed constraints  $\theta$ 's in  $\mathcal{G}$ , we obtain various type-inference algorithms, including the standard algorithm  $\mathcal{W}$ , the top-down algorithm  $\mathcal{M}$ , and the combinations of the two algorithms used in the SML/NJ<sup>19)</sup> and OCaml<sup>11)</sup> compiler systems.

- $\mathcal{W}$  is an instance of  $\mathcal{G}$  where every  $\theta$  is a new type variable.
- $\mathcal{M}$  is an instance of  $\mathcal{G}$  where every  $\theta$  is not relaxed: for each case  $\theta \geq \rho$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ , we choose  $\rho$  for  $\theta$ .
- The OCaml's type inference algorithm<sup>\*\*4</sup> is an instance of  $\mathcal{G}$  where the  $\theta$  at (2) (line ( $\mathcal{G}.6$ )) is a new type variable and other  $\theta$ 's are not relaxed.
- The SML/NJ's type inference algorithm<sup>\*\*5</sup> is an instance of  $\mathcal{G}$  where every  $\theta$  is a new type variable, except that  $\theta_2$  at (7) (line ( $\mathcal{G}.15$ )) is the same with  $\theta_1$  at (6) (line ( $\mathcal{G}.14$ )).
- Other variations than the existing algorithms are also possible from  $\mathcal{G}$ . For example, consider an instance of  $\mathcal{G}$  where the  $\theta$  at ( $\mathcal{G}.6$ ) is a new function type ( $\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2$  for new variables  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$ ) and other  $\theta$ 's are not relaxed. Let's call this instance algorithm  $\mathcal{H}$ .

The  $\theta$ 's used in the five instances are summarized in Fig. 5. Please note that for SML/NJ's algorithm, the relaxed constraint for the  $\lambda x.e$  case (line  $\mathcal{G}.3$ ) has two candidates, of which we choose one depending on whether the lambda is recursive (defined in `fix f  $\lambda x.e$` ) or not.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
	$\theta$	$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$	$\theta_3$	$\theta$	$\theta_1$	$\theta_2$
$\mathcal{W}$	$\beta_3$	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$	$\beta_3$	$\beta_1$	$\beta_3$	$\beta_4$
SML/NJ's	$\beta_3$	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$	$\beta_3$	$\beta_1$	$\beta_3$	$\theta_1$
OCaml's	$\rho$	$\beta_1$	$S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$	$S_2S_1\beta$	$S_1\rho$	$\rho$	$\theta_1$
$\mathcal{H}$	$\rho$	$\beta \rightarrow \beta_2$	$S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$	$S_2S_1\beta$	$S_1\rho$	$\rho$	$\theta_1$
$\mathcal{M}$	$\rho$	$\beta \rightarrow \rho$	$S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$	$S_2S_1\beta$	$S_1\rho$	$\rho$	$\theta_1$

Fig. 5 Five Instances of Algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$ .  $\beta_i$ 's are new type variables introduced in the  $\theta$ 's.

### 2.4 Every Instance is Sound and Complete

Every instance of  $\mathcal{G}$  is sound and complete with respect to the Hindley/Milner let-polymorphic type system.

#### Theorem 2.1 (Soundness)

Let  $e$  be an expression,  $\Gamma$  be a type environment, and  $\rho$  be a type. If  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S$ , then  $S\Gamma \vdash e : S\rho$ . The theorem also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

<sup>\*\*4</sup> We figured out the OCaml's type inference algorithm by examining the source codes of OCaml 3.06.<sup>11)</sup>

<sup>\*\*5</sup> We figured out the SML/NJ's type inference algorithm by examining the source codes of SML/NJ 110.0.7.<sup>19)</sup>

**Proof**

See Appendix Section A1. ■

**Theorem 2.2 (Completeness)**

Let  $e$  be an expression, and let  $\Gamma$  be a type environment. If there exist a type  $\rho$  and a substitution  $P$  such that  $P\Gamma \vdash e : P\rho$ , then  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $P|_{New} = (RS)|_{New}$  where  $New$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$ . The theorem also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

**Proof**

See Appendix Section A2. ■

Completeness means that if an expression  $e$  has a type  $\tau$  that satisfies a type constraint  $\rho$  (i.e.,  $\exists P.\tau = P\rho$ ), then algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$  for the expression with the constraint  $\rho$  succeeds with substitution  $S$  such that the result type  $S\rho$  subsumes  $\tau$  (i.e., the principality,  $\exists R.\tau = R(S\rho)$ ).

**2.5 More Restraining Instances of  $\mathcal{G}$  Detect Errors Sooner**

The information amount in the type constraints determines how early the algorithm detects type errors. Carrying less informative (restraining) constraints during type-checking sub-expressions makes it more probable that the algorithm successfully infers their types with being less sensitive to the context, hence delays detecting type errors as such.

We say that an instance  $A$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  is more restraining than another instance  $A'$  whenever  $A$  always passes more restraining constraints than  $A'$ . The “always” means that the relaxing operations preserve the restraining order between the original constraints: for each pair of corresponding relaxations  $\theta_i \geq \rho_i$  in  $A$  and  $\theta'_i \geq \rho'_i$  in  $A'$  for the same input, if  $\rho_i$  is more restraining than  $\rho'_i$  then so is  $\theta_i$  than  $\theta'_i$ .

**Definition 2.2 ( $A \sqsubseteq A'$ )**

Let  $A$  and  $A'$  be two instances of  $\mathcal{G}$ .  $A$  is more restraining than  $A'$ , written  $A \sqsubseteq A'$ , if and only if for each pair of corresponding relaxations  $\theta_i \geq \rho_i$  during  $A(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  and  $\theta'_i \geq \rho'_i$  during  $A'(\Gamma, e, \rho)$ , if  $\rho_i = R\rho'_i$  for a substitution  $R$  then  $\theta_i = (R|_{supp(P)} \cup P)\theta'_i$  for a substitution  $P$  with  $supp(P) \subseteq fiv(\theta'_i) \setminus fiv(\rho'_i)$ . We define  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  for the instances of  $\mathcal{G}^R$  in the same way.

**Lemma 2.1**

$\mathcal{M} \sqsubseteq \mathcal{H} \sqsubseteq \text{OCaml's} \sqsubseteq \text{SML/NJ's} \sqsubseteq \mathcal{W}$ .

**Proof**

We prove  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  for each consecutive pair of the instance algorithms. For each corresponding pair of  $\theta \geq \rho$  in algorithm  $A$  and  $\theta' \geq \rho'$  in algorithm  $A'$  with  $\rho = R\rho'$  for a substitution  $R$ , we must find a substitution  $P$  such that  $\theta = (R|_{supp(P)} \cup P)\theta'$ .

- **case  $\mathcal{M} \sqsubseteq \mathcal{H}$ :** They differ only at (2) ( $\mathcal{G}.6$ ). For  $\mathcal{M}$ , it is  $\beta \rightarrow \rho \geq \beta \rightarrow \rho$ . For  $\mathcal{H}$ , it is  $\beta' \rightarrow \beta'_2 \geq \beta' \rightarrow \rho'$ . By the assumption, for a substitution  $R$ ,

- $R(\beta' \rightarrow \rho') = \beta \rightarrow \rho$ . Thus  $(R|_{\{\beta'_2\}} \cup \{\rho/\beta'_2\})(\beta' \rightarrow \beta'_2) = R\beta' \rightarrow \rho = \beta \rightarrow \rho$ .
- **case  $\mathcal{H} \sqsubseteq \text{OCaml}'s$ :** They differ only at (2) (G.6). For  $\mathcal{H}$ , it is  $\beta \rightarrow \beta_2 \geq \beta \rightarrow \rho$ . For OCaml's algorithm, it is  $\beta'_1 \geq \beta' \rightarrow \rho'$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_1\}} \cup \{\beta \rightarrow \beta_2/\beta'_1\})\beta'_1 = \beta \rightarrow \beta_2$ .
  - **case  $\text{OCaml}'s \sqsubseteq \text{SML/NJ}'s$ :**
    - case (1) at (G.3): For OCaml's, it is  $\rho \geq \rho$ . For SML/NJ's, it is  $\beta'_3 \geq \rho'$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_3\}} \cup \{\rho/\beta'_3\})\beta'_3 = \rho$ .
    - case (2) at (G.6): For OCaml's, it is  $\beta_1 \geq \rho$ . For SML/NJ's, it is  $\beta'_1 \geq \rho'$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_1\}} \cup \{\beta_1/\beta'_1\})\beta'_1 = \beta_1$ .
    - case (3) at (G.7): For OCaml's, it is  $S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \geq S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$ . For SML/NJ's, it is  $\beta'_2 \geq S'_1(\beta' \rightarrow \rho')$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_2\}} \cup \{S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)/\beta'_2\})\beta'_2 = S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$ .
    - case (4) at (G.8): For OCaml's, it is  $S_2S_1\beta \geq S_2S_1\beta$ . For SML/NJ's, it is  $\beta'_3 \geq S'_2S'_1\beta'$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_3\}} \cup \{S_2S_1\beta/\beta'_3\})\beta'_3 = S_2S_1\beta$ .
    - case (5) at (G.12): For OCaml's, it is  $S_1\rho \geq S_1\rho$ . For SML/NJ's, it is  $\beta'_1 \geq S'_1\rho'$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_1\}} \cup \{S_1\rho/\beta'_1\})\beta'_1 = S_1\rho$ .
    - case (6) at (G.14): For OCaml's, it is  $\rho \geq \rho$ . For SML/NJ's, it is  $\beta'_3 \geq \rho'$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_3\}} \cup \{\rho/\beta'_3\})\beta'_3 = \rho$ .
    - case (7) at (G.15): OCaml's and SML/NJ's are the same  $\theta_1 \geq \theta_1$ .
  - **case  $\text{SML/NJ}'s \sqsubseteq \mathcal{W}$ :**
    - case (7) at (G.15): For SML/NJ's, it is  $\theta_1 \geq \theta_1$ . For  $\mathcal{W}$ , it is  $\beta'_4 \geq \theta'_1$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_4\}} \cup \{\theta_1/\beta'_4\})\beta'_4 = \theta_1$ .
    - other cases: For SML/NJ's, it is  $\beta_i \geq \tau$  for a type  $\tau$ . For  $\mathcal{W}$ , it is  $\beta'_i \geq \tau'$  for a type  $\tau'$ . For any substitution  $R$ ,  $(R|_{\{\beta'_i\}} \cup \{\beta_i/\beta'_i\})\beta'_i = \beta_i$ .

■

The time of detecting type errors can be formalized by the notion of *call string*.<sup>10)</sup> The call string of  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  (written  $\llbracket \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho) \rrbracket$ ) is constructed by starting with the empty call string and appending a tuple  $(\Gamma_1, e_1, \rho_1)^d$  (respectively,  $(\Gamma_1, e_1, \rho_1)^u$ ) whenever  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma_1, e_1, \rho_1)$  is called (respectively, returned). The  $d$  or  $u$  superscript indicates the downward or upward movement of the stack pointer when the inference algorithm is recursively called or returned. Note that the call strings of every instance algorithm of  $\mathcal{G}$  are always finite, because at most one call to the algorithm occurs for each sub-expression of the program, and that the order of visiting sub-expressions of the input program in every instance algorithm's call string is the same.

For two instance algorithms  $A$  and  $A'$  of  $\mathcal{G}$ , if  $A$  is more restraining than  $A'$  then  $A$  stops earlier than  $A'$  if the input program is ill-typed:

### Theorem 2.3

Let  $A$  and  $A'$  be instances of  $\mathcal{G}$  such that  $A \sqsubseteq A'$ ,  $\Gamma_0$  be a type environment,  $e_0$  be an expression, and  $\rho_0$  be a type. If  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma, e, \rho)^{d/u}$ , then  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e, \rho')^{d/u}$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  and  $R\rho' = \rho$ . The theorem also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

**Proof**

See Appendix Section A4. ■

Because the orders of visiting sub-expressions during the execution of the two instance algorithms are the same, the above theorem implies that if  $A$  is more restraining than  $A'$  then the length (the number of tuples)  $\|A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0)\|$  of  $A$ 's call string is shorter than or equal to that  $\|A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0)\|$  of  $A'$ 's call string, i.e.,  $A$  stops earlier than  $A'$ .

By Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 2.3, the following order holds:

**Corollary 2.1**

Let  $\Gamma$  be a type environment,  $e$  be an expression and  $\rho$  be a type.

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{M}(\Gamma, e, \rho)\| &\leq \|\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, e, \rho)\| \leq \|\text{OCaml}'s(\Gamma, e, \rho)\| \leq \\ \|\text{SML/NJ}'s(\Gamma, e, \rho)\| &\leq \|\mathcal{W}(\Gamma, e, \rho)\| \end{aligned}$$

where  $|s|$  is the number of tuples in call string  $s$ .

**§3 Discussion**

We presented a generalized let-polymorphic type inference algorithm, from which, by changing its degree of context-sensitivity, various hybrid algorithms can be instantiated. We proved that any of  $\mathcal{G}$ 's instances is sound and complete with respect to the Hindley/Milner let-polymorphic type system, and showed a condition on two instance algorithms so that one algorithm should find type errors earlier than the other. The set of instances of  $\mathcal{G}$  includes the two opposite algorithms ( $\mathcal{W}$  and  $\mathcal{M}$ ) and is a superset of those hybrid algorithms used in the SML/NJ<sup>19)</sup> and OCaml.<sup>11)</sup>

Note that the earliness condition cannot be a criterion to judge the algorithm's goodness in detecting the cause of type-errors. For any algorithm there exists an ill-typed program that falsifies its type-error message. The earliness condition can just be a criterion by which compiler developers can achieve different type-checking strategies.

It is possible to further generalize  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$ . We can relax not only the type constraint  $\rho$  but also the type environment  $\Gamma$ . Note that algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$  passes the most informative type environment to sub-or-sibling expressions; it accumulates all substitutions in the type environment at its recursive calls. This is a top-down strategy; bottom-up approaches such as Bernstein and Stark's<sup>3)</sup> and Chitil's<sup>4)</sup> use unconstrained type environments to check sub-or-sibling expressions. Between these two opposing strategies lie hybrid ones.<sup>12,24)</sup> These variations can be formalized, similarly to  $\mathcal{G}$ , by type-environment relaxing and posterior unification.

In general settings<sup>1,5,9,15,16,20~22)</sup> where one views type inference algorithms as consisting of two separate stages - deriving constraints and solving them - the parameters in our generalized algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$  can be considered a way to control when to solve the constraints within the Hindley/Milner type system. We delay the constraint-solving by passing relaxed constraints to recursive calls, and then solve the delayed constraints by applying posterior unifications.

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## Appendix A

### §A1 Soundness Proof

#### Theorem 2.1 (Soundness)

Let  $e$  be an expression,  $\Gamma$  be a type environment, and  $\rho$  be a type. If  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S$ , then  $S\Gamma \vdash e : S\rho$ . The theorem also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

The proof uses Lemmas A1.1–A1.3 and Theorem 1.1.

#### Lemma A1.1 (Damas and Milner<sup>6)</sup>)

If  $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ , then  $S\Gamma \vdash e : S\tau$ .

#### Lemma A1.2 (Damas and Milner<sup>6)</sup>)

If  $\sigma \succ \sigma'$  then  $S\sigma \succ S\sigma'$ .

#### Lemma A1.3 (Milner<sup>14)</sup>)

Let  $S$  be a substitution,  $\Gamma$  be a type environment, and  $\tau$  be a type.  $SClos_{S\Gamma}(\tau) = Clos_{S\Gamma}(S'\tau)$ , where  $S' = S\{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}$ ,  $\vec{\alpha} = fiv(\tau) \setminus fiv(\Gamma)$  and  $\vec{\beta}$  is new.

#### Proof of Theorem 2.1

We prove by structural induction on  $e$ , and we prove for  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}^R$  simultaneously.

- **case**  $() : S\rho = S\iota = \iota$ . So  $S\Gamma \vdash () : S\rho$  by (CON).

- **case**  $x : S\rho = S\{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau \prec S\Gamma(x)$  by Lemma A1.2. So  $S\Gamma \vdash x : S\rho$  by (VAR).
- **case**  $\lambda x.e$ : By induction hypothesis, (G.4) implies that  $S_2S_1\Gamma + x : S_2S_1\beta_1 \vdash e : S_2S_1\beta_2$ . By (FN),

$$S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e : S_2S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2).$$

By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S_3$  to both sides:

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e : S_3S_2S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2).$$

Because  $S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2) = S_1\theta$  by (G.3) and  $S_3S_2S_1\theta = S_3S_2S_1\rho$  by (G.5),

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e : S_3S_2S_1\rho.$$

- **case**  $e_1 e_2$  for  $\mathcal{G}$ : By induction, (G.6) implies  $S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S_1\theta_1$ . By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S_5S_4S_3S_2$  to both sides:

$$S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1\theta_1.$$

Because  $S_4S_3S_2S_1\theta_1 = S_4S_3S_2S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$  by (G.9) and  $S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1\beta = S_5S_4S_3\theta_3$  by (G.10),

$$S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S_5S_4S_3(\theta_3 \rightarrow S_2S_1\rho). \quad (1)$$

By induction, (G.8) implies  $S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_2 : S_3\theta_3$ . By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S_5S_4$  to both sides:

$$S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_2 : S_5S_4S_3\theta_3. \quad (2)$$

Hence by (APP), (1) and (2) imply

$$S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : S_5S_4S_3S_2S_1\rho.$$

- **case**  $e_1 e_2$  for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ : By induction, (G.18) implies  $S_1\Gamma \vdash e_2 : S_1\beta$ . By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S_3S_2$  to both sides:

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_2 : S_3S_2S_1\beta. \quad (3)$$

By induction, (G.19) implies  $S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S_2\theta$ . By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S_3$  to both sides:

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S_3S_2\theta.$$

Because  $S_3S_2\theta = S_3S_2S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$  by (G.20),

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S_3S_2S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho). \quad (4)$$

Hence by (APP), (3) and (4) imply

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : S_3S_2S_1\rho.$$

- **case** let  $x=e_1$  in  $e_2$ : Let  $S'_2 = S_2\{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}$ , where  $\vec{\alpha} = \text{ftv}(S_1\beta) \setminus \text{ftv}(S_1\Gamma)$ ,  $\vec{\beta}$  are new type variables, and  $\beta$  is the new type variable introduced at (G.11). By induction, (G.11) implies  $S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S_1\beta$ . By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S'_2$  to both sides:

$$S'_2S_1\Gamma \vdash e_1 : S'_2S_1\beta. \quad (5)$$

By induction, (G.12) implies

$$S_2S_1\Gamma + x : S_2\text{Clos}_{S_1\Gamma}(S_1\beta) \vdash e_2 : S_2\theta. \quad (6)$$



Note that  $S_2S_1\Gamma = S'_2S_1\Gamma$  because  $S'_2$  differs from  $S_2$  only on non-free variables of  $S_1\Gamma$ , and that  $S_2Clos_{S_1\Gamma}(S_1\beta) = Clos_{S'_2S_1\Gamma}(S'_2S_1\beta)$  by Lemma A1.3. Thus (6) is

$$S'_2S_1\Gamma + x : Clos_{S'_2S_1\Gamma}(S'_2S_1\beta) \vdash e_2 : S_2\theta. \quad (7)$$

Hence by (LET), (5) and (7) imply  $S'_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : S_2\theta$ ; that is,  
 $S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : S_2\theta$ .

By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S_3$  to both sides:

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : S_3S_2\theta.$$

Because  $S_3S_2\theta = S_3S_2S_1\rho$  by (G.13),

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : S_3S_2S_1\rho.$$

- **case**  $\text{fix } f \lambda x.e$ : By induction, (G.16) implies  $S_2S_1\Gamma_1 + x : S_2S_1\beta_1 \vdash e : S_2S_1\beta_2$ . By (FN),

$$S_2S_1\Gamma_1 \vdash \lambda x.e : S_2S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2).$$

By Lemma A1.1, we can apply  $S_3$  to both sides:

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma_1 \vdash \lambda x.e : S_3S_2S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2).$$

Because  $S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2) = S_1\theta_2$  by (G.15),

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma_1 \vdash \lambda x.e : S_3S_2S_1\theta_2.$$

Because  $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma + f : \theta_1$  by (G.14),

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma + f : S_3S_2S_1\theta_1 \vdash \lambda x.e : S_3S_2S_1\theta_2.$$

Because  $S_3S_2S_1\theta_1 = S_3S_2S_1\theta_2 = S_3S_2S_1\rho$  by (G.17),

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma + f : S_3S_2S_1\rho \vdash \lambda x.e : S_3S_2S_1\rho.$$

Hence by (FIX),

$$S_3S_2S_1\Gamma \vdash \text{fix } f \lambda x.e : S_3S_2S_1\rho.$$

■

## §A2 Completeness Proof

### Theorem 2.2 (Completeness)

Let  $e$  be an expression, and let  $\Gamma$  be a type environment. If there exist a type  $\rho$  and a substitution  $P$  such that  $P\Gamma \vdash e : P\rho$ , then  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $P|_{New} = (RS)|_{New}$  where  $New$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$ . The theorem also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

The completeness proof uses Lemmas A2.1–A2.5.

### Lemma A2.1 (Lee and Yi<sup>10</sup>)

Let  $S$  be a substitution,  $\Gamma$  be a type environment, and  $\tau$  be a type. Then  $SClos_{\Gamma}(\tau) \succ Clos_{S\Gamma}(S\tau)$ .

### Lemma A2.2 (Damas and Milner<sup>6</sup>)

Let  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  be type environments such that  $\Gamma \succ \Gamma'$ . If  $\Gamma' \vdash e : \tau$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash e : \tau$ .

**Lemma A2.3 (Milner<sup>14</sup>)**

Let  $R$  and  $S$  be substitutions and  $\tau$  be a type. Then

- $itv(RS) \subseteq itv(R) \cup itv(S)$  and
- $ftv(S\tau) \subseteq ftv(\tau) \cup itv(S)$ .

**Lemma A2.4**

If  $S = \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  then  $itv(S) \subseteq ftv(\Gamma) \cup ftv(\rho) \cup New$ , where  $New$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$ . The lemma also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

**Proof**

See Appendix Section A3. ■

**Lemma A2.5 (Lee and Yi<sup>10</sup>)**

If  $itv(S) \cap V = \emptyset$ , then  $(RS)|_V = R|_V S$ .

**Proof of Theorem 2.2**

We prove by structural induction on  $e$ , and we prove for  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}^R$  simultaneously. For a rigorous treatment of new type variables, we assume that every new type variable used throughout algorithm  $\mathcal{G}$  is distinct from each other, and that the set  $New$  of new type variables used by each call  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  satisfies  $New \cap (ftv(\Gamma) \cup ftv(\rho)) = \emptyset$ . Moreover, let us rephrase the part of the algorithm definition that whenever we use  $\theta \geq \rho$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ , the substitution  $G$  for  $G\theta = \rho$  is such that  $supp(G) = ftv(\theta) \setminus ftv(\rho)$  and has only new type variables.

- **case () and  $x$**  : The same as the proof for  $\mathcal{M}$  in Lee and Yi's.<sup>10</sup>
- **case  $\lambda x.e$**  : Let the given judgment be  $P\Gamma \vdash \lambda x.e : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$  where  $\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 = P\rho$ , and  $New = \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup supp(G) \cup New_1$  where  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are new type variables used at (G.3),  $G$  is the substitution for  $\theta \geq \rho$  at (G.3), and  $New_1$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2)$  at (G.4).

First, we prove the unification  $\mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta)$  at (G.3) succeeds. Let  $P' = (PG)_{\{\beta_1, \beta_2\}} \cup \{\tau_1/\beta_1, \tau_2/\beta_2\}$ . Then  $P'$  unifies  $\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2$  and  $\theta$  because

$$\begin{aligned} P'\theta &= PG\theta && \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin ftv(\theta) \\ &= P\rho && \text{by the definition of } G \\ &= \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 && \text{by the assumption} \\ &= P'(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2) && \text{by the definition of } P'. \end{aligned}$$

Thus by Theorem 1.1, the unification at (G.3) succeeds with  $S_1$  such that for a substitution  $R_1$ ,

$$R_1 S_1 = P'. \tag{8}$$

By the (FN) rule, the given judgment implies

$$P\Gamma + x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2. \tag{9}$$

To apply induction to  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2)$  at (G.4) and (9), we must prove that there exists a substitution  $P_1$  such that  $\tau_2 = P_1(S_1\beta_2)$  and  $P\Gamma + x : \tau_1 = P_1(S_1\Gamma + x : S_1\beta_1)$ . Such  $P_1$  is  $R_1$  at (8) because

$$\begin{aligned} R_1(S_1\beta_2) &= P'\beta_2 && \text{by (8)} \\ &= \tau_2 && \text{by the definition of } P' \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_1(S_1\Gamma + x: S_1\beta_1) \\
 &= P'(\Gamma + x: \beta_1) \quad \text{by (8)} \\
 &= PG\Gamma + x: \tau_1 \quad \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin \text{fv}(\Gamma) \\
 &= P\Gamma + x: \tau_1 \quad \text{because } \text{supp}(G) \cap \text{fv}(\Gamma) = \emptyset.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus by induction,  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma + x: S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2)$  at (G.4) succeeds with  $S_2$  such that for a substitution  $R_2$ ,

$$(R_2S_2)\upharpoonright_{New_1} = R_1\upharpoonright_{New_1}. \quad (10)$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{itv}(S_1) &\subseteq \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{fv}(\theta) && \text{by Theorem 1.1} \\
 &\subseteq \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{fv}(\rho) \cup \text{supp}(G)
 \end{aligned}$$

because  $\text{supp}(G) = \text{fv}(\theta) \setminus \text{fv}(\rho)$ , and thus by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$New_1 \cap \text{itv}(S_1) = \emptyset. \quad (11)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 (R_2S_2S_1)\upharpoonright_{New_1} &= (R_2S_2)\upharpoonright_{New_1}S_1 \quad \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (11)} \\
 &= R_1\upharpoonright_{New_1}S_1 \quad \text{by (10)} \\
 &= (R_1S_1)\upharpoonright_{New_1} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (11)} \\
 &= P'\upharpoonright_{New_1} \quad \text{by (8)}. \quad (12)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now we prove the unification  $\mathcal{U}(S_2S_1\theta, S_2S_1\rho)$  at (G.5) succeeds.  $R_2$  unifies  $S_2S_1\theta$  and  $S_2S_1\rho$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_2(S_2S_1\theta) \\
 &= P'\theta \quad \text{by (12) and because } \text{fv}(\theta) \cap New_1 = \emptyset \\
 &= PG\theta \quad \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin \text{fv}(\theta) \\
 &= P\rho \quad \text{by the definition of } G \\
 &= PG\rho \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\rho) \cap \text{supp}(G) = \emptyset \\
 &= P'\rho \quad \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin \text{fv}(\rho) \\
 &= R_2(S_2S_1\rho) \quad \text{by (12) and because } \text{fv}(\rho) \cap New_1 = \emptyset.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification at (G.5) succeeds with  $S_3$  such that for a substitution  $R_3$ ,

$$R_3S_3 = R_2. \quad (13)$$

Hence  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, \lambda x.e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S_3S_2S_1$ , and  $(R_3S_3S_2S_1)\upharpoonright_{New} = P\upharpoonright_{New}$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (R_3S_3S_2S_1)\upharpoonright_{New} \\
 &= (R_2S_2S_1)\upharpoonright_{New} \quad \text{by (13)} \\
 &= P'\upharpoonright_{New} \quad \text{by (12)} \\
 &= P\upharpoonright_{New} \quad \text{because } \text{supp}(G) \cup \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \subseteq New.
 \end{aligned}$$

- **case  $e_1 e_2$  for  $\mathcal{G}$**  : Let the given judgment be  $P\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : P\rho$ , and  $New = \{\beta\} \cup \text{supp}(G_1) \cup \text{supp}(G_2) \cup \text{supp}(G_3) \cup New_1 \cup New_2$ , where  $\beta$  is the new type variable used at (G.6),  $G_1, G_2$  and  $G_3$  are respectively the substitutions for  $\theta_1 \geq \beta \rightarrow \rho$  at (G.6),  $\theta_2 \geq S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$  at (G.7), and  $\theta_3 \geq S_2S_1\beta$  at (G.8), and  $New_1$  and  $New_2$  are respectively the sets of the new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1)$  at (G.6) and  $\mathcal{G}(S_2S_1\Gamma, e_2, \theta_3)$  at (G.8).

By the (APP) rule, there exists a type  $\tau$  such that

$$P\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau \rightarrow P\rho \quad (14)$$

and

$$P\Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau. \quad (15)$$

First, we prove  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1)$  at (G.6) succeeds by induction. Let  $P' = P|_{\{\beta\}} \cup \{\tau/\beta\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} P'G_1\theta_1 &= P'(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by the definition of } G_1 \\ &= \tau \rightarrow P\rho \quad \text{because the new } \beta \notin \text{ftv}(\rho) \end{aligned}$$

and  $P'G_1\Gamma = P\Gamma$  because  $\text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cap (\text{supp}(G_1) \cup \{\beta\}) = \emptyset$ . Hence, applying induction to  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1)$  at (G.6) and (14), there exists a substitution  $R_1$  such that

$$(R_1S_1)|_{\text{New}_1} = (P'G_1)|_{\text{New}_1}. \quad (16)$$

Then  $R_1G_2$  unifies  $S_1\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  at (G.7) because, by noting that

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{ftv}(S_1\theta_1) \cap \text{supp}(G_2) \\ &\subseteq (\text{itv}(S_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\theta_1)) \cap \text{supp}(G_2) \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3} \\ &\subseteq (\text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cup \text{New}_1 \cup \text{ftv}(\theta_1)) \cap \text{supp}(G_2) \quad \text{by Lemma A2.4} \\ &= \emptyset, \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &R_1G_2(S_1\theta_1) \\ &= R_1S_1\theta_1 \quad \text{by (17)} \\ &= P'G_1\theta_1 \quad \text{by (16) and because } \text{ftv}(\theta_1) \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\ &= P'(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by the definition of } G_1 \\ &= P'G_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{because } \text{ftv}(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \cap \text{supp}(G_1) = \emptyset \\ &= R_1S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by (16) and because } \text{ftv}(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\ &= R_1G_2(\theta_2) \quad \text{by the definition of } G_2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification at (G.7) succeeds with  $S_2$  such that for a substitution  $R_2$ ,  $R_2S_2 = R_1G_2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} &(R_2S_2S_1)|_{\text{supp}(G_2) \cup \text{New}_1} \\ &= (R_1G_2S_1)|_{\text{supp}(G_2) \cup \text{New}_1} \\ &= (R_1S_1)|_{\text{supp}(G_2) \cup \text{New}_1} \quad \text{because } \text{supp}(G_2) \cap \text{itv}(S_1) = \emptyset \\ &\quad \text{by Lemma A2.4} \\ &= (P'G_1)|_{\text{supp}(G_2) \cup \text{New}_1} \quad \text{by (16)}. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

In order to apply induction to  $\mathcal{G}(S_2S_1\Gamma, e_2, \theta_3)$  at (G.8) and (15), we must prove that there exists a substitution  $P_1$  such that  $P_1(S_2S_1\Gamma) = P\Gamma$  and  $P_1\theta_3 = \tau$ . Such  $P_1$  is  $R_2G_3$ . First, note that, by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{supp}(G_3) \cap \text{ftv}(S_2S_1\Gamma) = \emptyset \quad (19)$$

because

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{ftv}(S_2S_1\Gamma) \\ &\subseteq \text{itv}(S_2) \cup \text{itv}(S_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3} \\ &\subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta_2) \cup \text{ftv}(\theta_1) \cup \text{New}_1 \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \quad \text{by Theorem 1.1 and Lemma A2.4.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_2 G_3 (S_2 S_1 \Gamma) \\
 &= R_2 S_2 S_1 \Gamma \quad \text{by (19)} \\
 &= P' G_1 \Gamma \quad \text{by (18) and} \\
 & \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\Gamma) \cap (\text{supp}(G_2) \cup \text{New}_1) = \emptyset \\
 &= P\Gamma \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\Gamma) \cap (\{\beta\} \cup \text{supp}(G_1)) = \emptyset.
 \end{aligned}$$

Second,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_2 G_3 (\theta_3) \\
 &= R_2 S_2 S_1 \beta \quad \text{by the definition of } G_3 \\
 &= P' G_1 \beta \quad \text{by (18) and because } \beta \notin \text{supp}(G_2) \cup \text{New}_1 \\
 &= P' \beta \quad \text{because } \beta \notin \text{supp}(G_1) \\
 &= \tau \quad \text{by the definition of } P'.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus by induction,  $(\mathcal{G}.8)$  succeeds with  $S_3$  such that for a substitution  $R_3$ ,

$$(R_3 S_3) \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_2} = (R_2 G_3) \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_2}. \quad (20)$$

Moreover, note that

$$(R_3 S_3) \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_2 \cup \text{supp}(G_3)} = R_2 \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_2 \cup \text{supp}(G_3)}. \quad (21)$$

Then  $R_3$  unifies  $S_3 S_2 S_1 \theta_1$  and  $S_3 S_2 S_1 (\beta \rightarrow \rho)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.9)$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_3 S_3 S_2 S_1 \theta_1 \\
 &= R_2 S_2 S_1 \theta_1 \quad \text{by (21) and} \\
 & \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\theta_1) \cap (\text{New}_2 \cup \text{supp}(G_3)) = \emptyset \\
 &= P' G_1 \theta_1 \quad \text{by (18) and} \\
 & \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\theta_1) \cap (\text{New}_1 \cup \text{supp}(G_2)) = \emptyset \\
 &= P' (\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by the definition of } G_1 \\
 &= P' G_1 (\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \cap \text{supp}(G_1) = \emptyset \\
 &= R_2 S_2 S_1 (\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by (18) and} \\
 & \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \cap (\text{New}_1 \cup \text{supp}(G_2)) = \emptyset \\
 &= R_3 S_3 S_2 S_1 (\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by (21) and} \\
 & \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \cap (\text{New}_2 \cup \text{supp}(G_3)) = \emptyset.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification at  $(\mathcal{G}.9)$  succeeds with  $S_4$  such that for a substitution  $R_4$ ,

$$R_4 S_4 = R_3. \quad (22)$$

Finally,  $R_4$  unifies  $S_4 S_3 \theta_3$  and  $S_4 S_3 S_2 S_1 \beta$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.10)$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_4 (S_4 S_3 \theta_3) \\
 &= R_3 S_3 \theta_3 \quad \text{by (22)} \\
 &= R_2 G_3 \theta_3 \quad \text{by (20) and because } \text{fv}(\theta_3) \cap \text{New}_2 = \emptyset \\
 &= R_2 S_2 S_1 \beta \quad \text{by the definition of } G_3 \\
 &= R_4 (S_4 S_3 S_2 S_1 \beta) \quad \text{by (21) and (22), and} \\
 & \quad \text{because } \beta \notin \text{New}_2 \cup \text{supp}(G_3).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification at  $(\mathcal{G}.10)$  succeeds with  $S_5$  such that for a substitution  $R_5$ ,

$$R_5 S_5 = R_4. \quad (23)$$

Hence  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, e_2, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S_5 S_4 S_3 S_2 S_1$ .

Now we prove the rest that  $(R_5 S_5 S_4 S_3 S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} = P \upharpoonright_{New}$ . Note that, by Lemma A2.3 and A2.4 and Theorem 1.1,  $itv(S_2 S_1) \subseteq fiv(\Gamma) \cup fiv(\theta_1) \cup fiv(\theta_2) \cup New_1$ , hence by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$itv(S_2 S_1) \cap (New_2 \cup supp(G_3)) = \emptyset. \quad (24)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & (R_5 S_5 S_4 S_3 S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} \\ &= (R_4 S_4 S_3 S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} && \text{by (23)} \\ &= (R_3 S_3 S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} && \text{by (22)} \\ &= ((R_3 S_3) \upharpoonright_{New_2 \cup supp(G_3)} S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} && \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (24)} \\ &= (R_2 \upharpoonright_{New_2 \cup supp(G_3)} S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} && \text{by (21)} \\ &= (R_2 S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} && \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (24)} \\ &= (P' G_1) \upharpoonright_{New} && \text{by (18)} \\ &= P \upharpoonright_{New} && \text{because } (\{\beta\} \cup supp(G_1)) \subseteq New. \end{aligned}$$

• **case**  $e_1 e_2$  for  $\mathcal{G}^R$  :

Let the given judgment be  $P\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : P\rho$ , and  $New = \{\beta\} \cup supp(G) \cup New_1 \cup New_2$ , where  $\beta$  is the new type variable used at (G.18),  $G$  is the substitution for  $\theta \geq S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$  at (G.19), and  $New_1$  and  $New_2$  are respectively the sets of the new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_2, \beta)$  at (G.18) and  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma, e_1, \theta)$  at (G.19).

By the (APP) rule, there exists a type  $\tau$  such that

$$P\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau \rightarrow P\rho \quad (25)$$

and

$$P\Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau. \quad (26)$$

First, we prove that  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_2, \beta)$  at (G.18) succeeds by induction. Let  $P' = P \upharpoonright_{\{\beta\}} \cup \{\tau/\beta\}$ . Then  $P'\beta = \tau$  and  $P'\Gamma = P\Gamma$  because  $\beta \notin fiv(\Gamma)$ . Hence by induction,  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_2, \beta)$  at (G.18) and (26) imply that there exists a substitution  $R_1$  such that

$$(R_1 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New_1} = P' \upharpoonright_{New_1}. \quad (27)$$

Moreover, note that

$$(R_1 S_1) \upharpoonright_{\{\beta\} \cup New_1} = P \upharpoonright_{\{\beta\} \cup New_1}. \quad (28)$$

In order to apply induction to  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma, e_1, \theta)$  at (G.19) and (25), we must find a substitution  $P_1$  such that  $P_1 S_1\Gamma = P\Gamma$  and  $P_1\theta = \tau \rightarrow P\rho$ . Such  $P_1$  is  $R_1 G$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1 G(S_1\Gamma) \\ &= R_1 S_1\Gamma && \text{because } supp(G) \cap fiv(S_1\Gamma) = \emptyset \\ & && \text{by Lemma A2.3 and A2.4} \\ &= P\Gamma && \text{by (28) and because } fiv(\Gamma) \cap (\{\beta\} \cup New_1) = \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_1 G(\theta) \\
 &= R_1 S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by the definition of } G \\
 &= P'(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by (27) and because } \text{ftv}(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\
 &= \tau \rightarrow P' \rho \quad \text{by the definition of } P' \\
 &= \tau \rightarrow P \rho \quad \text{because } \beta \notin \text{ftv}(\rho).
 \end{aligned}$$

Then by induction,  $(\mathcal{G}.19)$  succeeds with  $S_2$  such that for a substitution  $R_2$ ,

$$(R_2 S_2)|_{\text{New}_2} = (R_1 G)|_{\text{New}_2}. \quad (29)$$

Moreover, note that

$$(R_2 S_2)|_{\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2} = R_1|_{\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2}. \quad (30)$$

Then  $R_2$  unifies  $S_2 \theta$  and  $S_2 S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.20)$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
 & R_2 S_2 \theta \\
 &= R_1 G \theta \quad \text{by (29) and } \text{ftv}(\theta) \cap \text{New}_2 = \emptyset \\
 &= R_1 S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by the definition of } G \\
 &= R_2 S_2 S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \quad \text{by (30) and because, by Lemma A2.3 and A2.4,} \\
 & \quad \text{ftv}(S_2 S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho)) \cap (\text{supp}(G) \cap \text{New}_2) = \emptyset.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification at  $(\mathcal{G}.20)$  succeeds with  $S_3$  such that for a substitution  $R_3$ ,

$$R_3 S_3 = R_2. \quad (31)$$

Hence  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1 e_2, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S_3 S_2 S_1$ .

Now we prove the rest that  $(R_3 S_3 S_2 S_1)|_{\text{New}} = P|_{\text{New}}$ . Note that, by Lemma A2.4,  $\text{itv}(S_1) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cup \{\beta\} \cup \text{New}_1$ , hence by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{itv}(S_1) \cap (\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2) = \emptyset. \quad (32)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (R_3 S_3 S_2 S_1)|_{\text{New}} \\
 &= (R_2 S_2 S_1)|_{\text{New}} \quad \text{by (31)} \\
 &= ((R_2 S_2)|_{\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2} S_1)|_{\text{New}} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (32)} \\
 &= (R_1|_{\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2} S_1)|_{\text{New}} \quad \text{by (30)} \\
 &= (R_1 S_1)|_{\text{New}} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (32)} \\
 &= P|_{\text{New}} \quad \text{by (28)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

- **case** let  $x=e_1$  in  $e_2$ : Let the given judgment be  $P\Gamma \vdash \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2 : P\rho$ , and  $\text{New} = \{\beta\} \cup \text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_1 \cup \text{New}_2$ , where  $\beta$  is the new type variable introduced at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$ ,  $G$  is the substitution for  $\theta \geq S_1 \rho$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.12)$ , and  $\text{New}_1$  and  $\text{New}_2$  are respectively the sets of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \beta)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$  and  $\mathcal{G}(S_1 \Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma}(S_1 \beta), e_2, \theta)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.12)$ .

By the (LET) rule, there exists a type  $\tau$  such that

$$P\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau \quad (33)$$

and

$$P\Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{P\Gamma}(\tau) \vdash e_2 : P\rho. \quad (34)$$

Let  $P' = P|_{\{\beta\}} \cup \{\tau/\beta\}$ . Then  $P'\beta = \tau$  and  $P'\Gamma = P\Gamma$  because  $\beta \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma)$ . Hence by induction,  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \beta)$  at (G.11) and (33) imply that there exists a substitution  $R_1$  such that

$$(R_1 S_1)|_{\text{New}_1} = P'|_{\text{New}_1}. \quad (35)$$

Moreover,

$$(R_1 S_1)|_{\{\beta\} \cup \text{New}_1} = P|_{\{\beta\} \cup \text{New}_1}. \quad (36)$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1 G(S_1 \Gamma) \\ &= R_1 S_1 \Gamma \quad \text{because } \text{supp}(G) \cap \text{ftv}(S_1 \Gamma) = \emptyset \\ & \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3 and A2.4} \\ &= P\Gamma \quad \text{by (36) and because } \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cap (\{\beta\} \cup \text{New}_1) = \emptyset, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1 G(\text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma}(S_1 \beta)) \\ &> \text{Clos}_{R_1 G S_1 \Gamma}(R_1 G S_1 \beta) \quad \text{by Lemma A2.1} \\ &= \text{Clos}_{P\Gamma}(R_1 S_1 \beta) \quad \text{because } \text{supp}(G) \cap \text{ftv}(S_1 \beta) = \emptyset \\ & \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3 and A2.4} \\ &= \text{Clos}_{P\Gamma}(P'\beta) \quad \text{by (35) and because } \beta \notin \text{New}_1 \\ &= \text{Clos}_{P\Gamma}(\tau) \quad \text{by the definition of } P'; \end{aligned}$$

that is,  $R_1 G(S_1 \Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma}(S_1 \beta)) > P\Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{P\Gamma}(\tau)$ . Then by Lemma A2.2 and (34),

$$R_1 G(S_1 \Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma}(S_1 \beta)) \vdash e_2 : P\rho. \quad (37)$$

In order to apply induction to  $\mathcal{G}(S_1 \Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma}(S_1 \beta), e_2, \theta)$  at (G.12) and (37), we have to prove that  $R_1 G\theta = P\rho$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1 G(\theta) \\ &= R_1 S_1 \rho \quad \text{by the definition of } G \\ &= P\rho \quad \text{by (36) and because } \text{ftv}(\rho) \cap (\{\beta\} \cup \text{New}_1) = \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

Thus by induction,  $\mathcal{G}(S_1 \Gamma + x : \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma}(S_1 \beta), e_2, \theta)$  at (G.12) succeeds with  $S_2$  such that for a substitution  $R_2$ ,

$$(R_2 S_2)|_{\text{New}_2} = (R_1 G)|_{\text{New}_2}. \quad (38)$$

Moreover, note that

$$(R_2 S_2)|_{\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2} = R_1|_{\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2}. \quad (39)$$

Then  $R_2$  unifies  $S_2 \theta$  and  $S_2 S_1 \rho$  at (G.13) because

$$\begin{aligned} & R_2(S_2 \theta) \\ &= R_1 G\theta \quad \text{by (38) and because } \text{ftv}(\theta) \cap \text{New}_2 = \emptyset \\ &= R_1 S_1 \rho \quad \text{by the definition of } G \\ &= R_2(S_2 S_1 \rho) \quad \text{by (39) and because, by Lemma A2.3 and A2.4,} \\ & \quad \text{ftv}(S_1 \rho) \cap (\text{supp}(G) \cup \text{New}_2) = \emptyset. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification at (G.13) succeeds with  $S_3$  such that for a substitution  $R_3$ ,

$$R_3 S_3 = R_2. \quad (40)$$

Hence,  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e_2, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S_3 S_2 S_1$ .



Now we prove the rest that  $(R_3S_3S_2S_1)|_{New} = P|_{New}$ . Note that, by Lemma A2.4,  $itv(S_1) \subseteq ftv(\Gamma) \cup \{\beta\} \cup New_1$ , hence by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$itv(S_1) \cap (supp(G) \cup New_2) = \emptyset. \quad (41)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & (R_3S_3S_2S_1)|_{New} \\ &= (R_2S_2S_1)|_{New} && \text{by (40)} \\ &= ((R_2S_2)|_{supp(G) \cup New_2} S_1)|_{New} && \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (41)} \\ &= (R_1|_{supp(G) \cup New_2} S_1)|_{New} && \text{by (39)} \\ &= (R_1S_1)|_{New} && \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (41)} \\ &= P|_{New} && \text{by (36)}. \end{aligned}$$

- **case**  $\text{fix } f \lambda x.e$ : Let the given judgment be  $P\Gamma \vdash \text{fix } f \lambda x.e : P\rho$  where  $P\rho = \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$  and  $New = \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup supp(G_1) \cup supp(G_2) \cup New'$  where  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are new type variables used at  $(\mathcal{G}.15)$ ,  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are substitutions for  $\theta_1 \geq \rho$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.14)$  and  $\theta_2 \geq \theta_1$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.15)$ , and  $New'$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma_1 + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.15)$ .

By the (FIX) rule,  $P\Gamma + f : P\rho \vdash \lambda x.e : P\rho$ . Because  $(supp(G_1) \cup supp(G_2)) \cap ftv(\Gamma) = \emptyset$  and  $\rho = G_1\theta_1 = G_1G_2\theta_2$ ,

$$PG_1G_2\Gamma + f : PG_1\theta_1 \vdash \lambda x.e : PG_1G_2\theta_2.$$

Because  $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma + f : \theta_1$  by  $(\mathcal{G}.14)$ , and  $ftv(\theta_1) \cap supp(G_2) = \emptyset$ ,

$$PG_1G_2\Gamma_1 \vdash \lambda x.e : PG_1G_2\theta_2. \quad (42)$$

First, we prove the unification  $\mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta_2)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.15)$  succeeds. Let  $P' = (PG_1G_2)|_{\{\beta_1, \beta_2\}} \cup \{\tau_1/\beta_1, \tau_2/\beta_2\}$ . Then  $P'$  unifies  $\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2$  and  $\theta_2$  because

$$\begin{aligned} P'\theta_2 &= PG_1G_2\theta_2 && \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin ftv(\theta_2) \\ &= PG_1\theta_1 && \text{by the definition of } G_2 \\ &= P\rho && \text{by the definition of } G_1 \\ &= \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 && \text{by the assumption} \\ &= P'(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2) && \text{by the definition of } P'. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

Thus by Theorem 1.1, the unification at  $(\mathcal{G}.15)$  succeeds with  $S_1$  such that for a substitution  $R_1$ ,

$$R_1S_1 = P'. \quad (44)$$

By the (FN) rule and because  $PG_1G_2\theta_2 = \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$  by (43), (42) implies

$$PG_1G_2\Gamma_1 + x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2. \quad (45)$$

To apply induction to  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma_1 + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.16)$  and (45), we must prove that there exists a substitution  $P_1$  such that  $\tau_2 = P_1(S_1\beta_2)$  and  $PG_1G_2\Gamma_1 + x : \tau_1 = P_1(S_1\Gamma_1 + x : S_1\beta_1)$ . Such  $P_1$  is  $R_1$  at (44) because

$$\begin{aligned} R_1(S_1\beta_2) &= P'\beta_2 && \text{by (44)} \\ &= \tau_2 && \text{by the definition of } P' \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& R_1(S_1\Gamma_1 + x: S_1\beta_1) \\
&= P'(\Gamma_1 + x: \beta_1) \quad \text{by (44)} \\
&= PG_1G_2\Gamma_1 + x: \tau_1 \quad \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin \text{fv}(\Gamma_1).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus by induction,  $\mathcal{G}(S_1\Gamma_1 + x: S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2)$  at (G.16) succeeds with  $S_2$  such that for a substitution  $R_2$ ,

$$(R_2S_2)|_{New'} = R_1|_{New'}. \quad (46)$$

Note that, because  $\text{supp}(G_1) = \text{fv}(\theta_1) \setminus \text{fv}(\rho)$  and  $\text{supp}(G_2) = \text{fv}(\theta_2) \setminus \text{fv}(\theta_1)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{itv}(S_1) \\
&\subseteq \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{fv}(\theta_2) \quad \text{by Theorem 1.1} \\
&\subseteq \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{fv}(\theta_1) \cup \text{supp}(G_2) \\
&\subseteq \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{fv}(\rho) \cup \text{supp}(G_1) \cup \text{supp}(G_2)
\end{aligned}$$

and thus by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$New' \cap \text{itv}(S_1) = \emptyset. \quad (47)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
(R_2S_2S_1)|_{New'} &= (R_2S_2)|_{New'}S_1 \quad \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (47)} \\
&= R_1|_{New'}S_1 \quad \text{by (46)} \\
&= (R_1S_1)|_{New'} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.5 and (47)} \\
&= P'|_{New'} \quad \text{by (44)}. \quad (48)
\end{aligned}$$

Now we prove the unification  $\mathcal{U}(S_2S_1\theta_1, S_2S_1\theta_2, S_2S_1\rho)$  at (G.16) succeeds.  $R_2$  unifies  $S_2S_1\theta_1$ ,  $S_2S_1\theta_2$ , and  $S_2S_1\rho$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
& R_2(S_2S_1\theta_2) \\
&= P'\theta_2 \quad \text{by (48) and because } \text{fv}(\theta_2) \cap New' = \emptyset \\
&= PG_1G_2\theta_2 \quad \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin \text{fv}(\theta_2) \\
&= PG_1\theta_1 \quad \text{by the definition of } G_2 \quad (49) \\
&= PG_1G_2\theta_1 \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\theta_1) \cap \text{supp}(G_2) = \emptyset \\
&= P'\theta_1 \quad \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin \text{fv}(\theta_1) \\
&= R_2(S_2S_1\theta_1) \quad \text{by (48) and because } \text{fv}(\theta_1) \cap New' = \emptyset.
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& R_2(S_2S_1\rho) \\
&= P\rho \quad \text{by (49) and the definition of } G_1 \\
&= PG_1\rho \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\rho) \cap \text{supp}(G_1) = \emptyset \\
&= PG_1G_2\rho \quad \text{because } \text{fv}(\rho) \cap \text{supp}(G_2) = \emptyset \\
&= P'\rho \quad \text{because the new } \beta_1, \beta_2 \notin \text{fv}(\rho) \\
&= R_2(S_2S_1\rho) \quad \text{by (48) and because } \text{fv}(\rho) \cap New' = \emptyset.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification at (G.16) succeeds with  $S_3$  such that for a substitution  $R_3$ ,

$$R_3S_3 = R_2. \quad (50)$$

Hence  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, \text{fix } f \lambda x.e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S_3S_2S_1$ , and  $(R_3S_3S_2S_1)|_{New'} = P|_{New'}$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (R_3 S_3 S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} \\
 &= (R_2 S_2 S_1) \upharpoonright_{New} \quad \text{by (50)} \\
 &= P' \upharpoonright_{New} \quad \text{by (48)} \\
 &= P \upharpoonright_{New} \quad \text{because } \text{supp}(G_1) \cup \text{supp}(G_2) \cup \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \subseteq \text{New}.
 \end{aligned}$$

■

### §A3 Proof of Lemma A2.4

We prove by structural induction on  $e$ .

- **case**  $()$  : By Theorem 1.1,  $\text{itv}(\mathcal{U}(\rho, \iota)) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup \text{ftv}(\iota) = \text{ftv}(\rho)$ .
- **case**  $x$  :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{itv}(\mathcal{U}(\rho, \{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau)) \\
 & \subseteq \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup \text{ftv}(\{\vec{\beta}/\vec{\alpha}\}\tau) \quad \text{by Theorem 1.1} \\
 & \subseteq \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup (\text{ftv}(\tau) \setminus \vec{\alpha}) \cup \vec{\beta} \\
 & = \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup \text{ftv}(\forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau) \cup \vec{\beta} \\
 & = \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma(x)) \cup \vec{\beta} \quad \text{because } \Gamma(x) = \forall \vec{\alpha}. \tau \\
 & \subseteq \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cup \vec{\beta}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\vec{\beta}$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, x, \rho)$ .

- **case**  $\lambda x.e$  : Let  $G$  be the substitution for  $\theta \geq \rho$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.3)$ . Note that all the type variables in  $\text{supp}(G)$  are new by definition.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{itv}(S_1) \\
 & \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta) \cup \text{ftv}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2) \quad \text{by Theorem 1.1} \\
 & \subseteq \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup \text{supp}(G) \cup \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \quad \text{because } \text{supp}(G) = \text{ftv}(\theta) \setminus \text{ftv}(\rho), \\
 & \text{itv}(S_2) \\
 & \subseteq \text{ftv}(S_1 \Gamma) \cup \text{ftv}(S_1 \beta_1) \cup \text{ftv}(S_1 \beta_2) \cup \text{New}_1 \quad \text{by induction} \\
 & \subseteq \text{itv}(S_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cup \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{New}_1 \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3}
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\text{New}_1$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(S_1 \Gamma + x : S_1 \beta_1, e, S_1 \beta_2)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.4)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{itv}(S_3) \\
 & \subseteq \text{ftv}(S_2 S_1 \theta) \cup \text{ftv}(S_2 S_1 \rho) \quad \text{by Theorem 1.1} \\
 & \subseteq \text{itv}(S_2) \cup \text{itv}(S_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\theta) \cup \text{ftv}(\rho) \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3} \\
 & \subseteq \text{itv}(S_2) \cup \text{itv}(S_1) \cup \text{supp}(G) \cup \text{ftv}(\rho).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\text{itv}(S_3 S_2 S_1) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\Gamma) \cup \text{ftv}(\rho) \cup (\text{supp}(G) \cup \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{New}_1)$ . Note that  $\text{supp}(G) \cup \{\beta_1, \beta_2\} \cup \text{New}_1$  is the set of new type variables used by  $\mathcal{G}(\Gamma, \lambda x.e, \rho)$ .

Other cases can be similarly proven. ■

### §A4 Relative Earliness Proof

#### Theorem 2.3

Let  $A$  and  $A'$  be instances of  $\mathcal{G}$  such that  $A \sqsubseteq A'$ ,  $\Gamma_0$  be a type environment,  $e_0$  be an expression, and  $\rho_0$  be a type. If  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma, e, \rho)^{d/u}$ , then  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e, \rho')^{d/u}$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  and  $R\rho' = \rho$ . The theorem also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

The proof of Theorem 2.3 uses Lemmas A4.1 and A4.2.

**Lemma A4.1 (Lee and Yi<sup>10</sup>)**

If  $\Gamma \succ \Gamma'$  then  $Clos_{\Gamma}(\tau) \succ Clos_{\Gamma'}(\tau)$ .

**Lemma A4.2**

Let  $A$  and  $A'$  be instances of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\Gamma$  and  $\Gamma'$  be type environments, and  $\rho$  and  $\rho'$  be types such that  $R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  and  $R\rho' = \rho$  for a substitution  $R$ . If  $A(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S$ , then  $A'(\Gamma', e, \rho')$  succeeds with  $S'$  and there exists a substitution  $R'$  such that  $(R'S')|_{New} = (SR)|_{New}$  where  $New$  is the set of new type variables used by  $A'(\Gamma', e, \rho')$ . The lemma also holds for  $\mathcal{G}^R$ .

**Proof**

Because  $A(\Gamma, e, \rho)$  succeeds with  $S$ , by the soundness of  $A$ ,

$$S\Gamma \vdash e : S\rho.$$

By Lemma A1.2,  $SR\Gamma' \succ S\Gamma$  and  $S\rho = SR\rho'$ . Thus by Lemma A2.2,

$$SR\Gamma' \vdash e : SR\rho'.$$

By the completeness of  $A'$ ,  $A'(\Gamma', e, \rho')$  succeeds with  $S'$  and there exists a substitution  $R'$  such that

$$(R'S')|_{New} = (SR)|_{New}.$$

■

**Proof of Theorem 2.3**

We prove by induction on the length of the prefixes of  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$ , and we prove for  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}^R$  simultaneously. We add superscript prime ( $'$ ) to all names used by  $A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0)$ .

- **base case:** When the prefixes are of length 1, they represent the initial calls where  $e$  is  $e_0$ . Then the identity substitution  $R$  satisfies  $R\Gamma_0 \succ \Gamma_0$  and  $R\rho_0 = \rho_0$ .

Followings are inductive cases. We first prove for the case that the string ends with a return:  $(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0)^d \cdots (\Gamma, e, \rho)^u$ .

- **case of the return from  $e$ :** The case means that  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, e, \rho)^d \cdots (\Gamma, e, \rho)^u.$$

By induction hypothesis,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\rho' = \rho$  and  $R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$ . Then by Lemma A4.2,  $A'(\Gamma', e, \rho')$  succeeds; that is,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e, \rho')^u$ .

Now we prove the cases that the string ends with a call:  $(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \cdots (\Gamma, e, \rho)^d$ .

- **case  $e$  in  $\lambda x.e$ :** that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, \lambda x.e, \rho)^d (S_1\Gamma + x : S_1\beta_1, e, S_1\beta_2)^d$$

where  $S_1 = \mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.3)$ , and  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are the new type variables at  $(\mathcal{G}.3)$ . By induction,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', \lambda x.e, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\rho' = \rho$  and

$$R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma. \tag{51}$$

In order for  $A'(\Gamma', \lambda x.e, \rho')$  to have a call for  $e$ , the unification at (G.3) must hold. Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$ , there exists a substitution  $P$  such that

$$\theta = (R_{\uparrow_{\text{supp}(P)}} \cup P)\theta' \quad (52)$$

and  $\text{supp}(P) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta') \setminus \text{ftv}(\rho')$ . Note that by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{supp}(P) \cap \text{ftv}(\Gamma') = \emptyset. \quad (53)$$

Let  $R_0 = R_{\uparrow_{\{\beta'_1, \beta'_2\} \cup \text{supp}(P)}} \cup P \cup \{\beta_1/\beta'_1, \beta_2/\beta'_2\}$  where  $\beta'_1$  and  $\beta'_2$  are the new type variables of  $A'$  introduced at (G.3). Then  $S_1 R_0$  unifies  $\beta'_1 \rightarrow \beta'_2$  and  $\theta'$  at (G.3) because

$$\begin{aligned} & S_1 R_0(\theta') \\ &= S_1(R_{\uparrow_{\text{supp}(P)}} \cup P)\theta' \quad \text{because the new } \beta'_1, \beta'_2 \notin \text{ftv}(\theta') \\ &= S_1\theta \quad \text{by (52)} \\ &= S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2) \quad \text{by (G.3)} \\ &= S_1 R_0(\beta'_1 \rightarrow \beta'_2) \quad \text{by the definition of } R_0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification of  $A'$  at (G.3) succeeds with  $S'_1$ , hence  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(S'_1 \Gamma' + x: S'_1 \beta'_1, e, S'_1 \beta'_2)^d$ .

Now we prove the rest that there exists a substitution  $R'$  such that  $R'(S'_1 \Gamma' + x: S'_1 \beta'_1) \succ (S_1 \Gamma + x: S_1 \beta_1)$  and  $R'(S'_1 \beta'_2) = S_1 \beta_2$ . Because (G.3) succeeds with  $S'_1$ , by Theorem 1.1, there exists a substitution  $R_1$  such that

$$S_1 R_0 = R_1 S'_1. \quad (54)$$

Then such  $R'$  is  $R_1$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1(S'_1 \Gamma' + x: S'_1 \beta'_1) \\ &= S_1 R_0(\Gamma' + x: \beta'_1) \quad \text{by (54)} \\ &= S_1((R_{\uparrow_{\text{supp}(P)}} \cup P)\Gamma' + x: R_0 \beta'_1) \\ & \quad \text{because the new } \beta'_1, \beta'_2 \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \\ &= S_1(R\Gamma' + x: \beta_1) \quad \text{by (53) and the definition of } R_0 \\ &\succ S_1(\Gamma + x: \beta_1) \quad \text{by (51) and Lemma A1.2} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} R_1(S'_1 \beta'_2) &= S_1 R_0 \beta'_2 \quad \text{by (54)} \\ &= S_1 \beta_2 \quad \text{by the definition of } R_0. \end{aligned}$$

- **case  $e$  in  $e_2$  for instances of  $\mathcal{G}$ :** that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, e, e_2, \rho)^d(\Gamma, e, \theta_1)^d$$

where  $\theta_1$  is the type relaxed from  $\beta \rightarrow \rho$  at (G.8). By induction hypothesis,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e, e_2, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\rho' = \rho$  and

$$R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma. \quad (55)$$

Thus by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e, \theta'_1)^d$  where  $\theta'_1$  is the type relaxed from  $\beta' \rightarrow \rho'$  at (G.8).

Now we prove the rest. Let  $R_0 = R_{\uparrow_{\{\beta'\}}} \cup \{\beta/\beta'\}$  where  $\beta$  and  $\beta'$  are respectively the new type variables of  $A$  and  $A'$  at (G.6). Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  and

$$\begin{aligned} R_0(\beta' \rightarrow \rho') &= \beta \rightarrow R\rho' \quad \text{because the new } \beta' \notin \text{ftv}(\rho') \\ &= \beta \rightarrow \rho, \end{aligned}$$

there exists a substitution  $P$  such that

$$(R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\theta'_1 = \theta_1$$

and  $\text{supp}(P) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta'_1) \setminus \text{ftv}(\beta' \rightarrow \rho')$ . Note that  $\text{supp}(P) \cap \text{ftv}(\Gamma') = \emptyset$  by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & (R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)(\Gamma') \\ &= R\Gamma' && \text{because } (\{\beta\} \cup \text{supp}(P)) \cap \text{ftv}(\Gamma') = \emptyset \\ &\succ \Gamma && \text{by (55)}. \end{aligned}$$

- **case  $e$  in  $e_1 e$  for instances of  $\mathcal{G}$ :** that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, e_1 e, \rho)^d (\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1)^d \cdots (\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1)^u (S_2 S_1 \Gamma, e, \theta_3)^d$$

where  $\theta_1, \theta_2$ , and  $\theta_3$  are respectively the relaxed types of  $A$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.6)$ ,  $(\mathcal{G}.7)$ , and  $(\mathcal{G}.8)$ ,  $S_1 = \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.6)$ , and  $S_2 = \mathcal{U}(S_1 \theta_1, \theta_2)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.7)$ .

By induction hypothesis,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e_1 e, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\rho' = \rho$  and

$$R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma. \quad (56)$$

In order for  $A'(\Gamma', e_1 e, \rho')$  to have a call for  $e$ , its call for  $e_1$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.6)$  must return and the unification at  $(\mathcal{G}.7)$  must succeed.

- $A'(\Gamma', e_1, \theta'_1)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.6)$  returns: Let  $R_0 = R \upharpoonright_{\{\beta\}} \cup \{\beta/\beta'\}$  where  $\beta$  and  $\beta'$  are the new type variables of  $A$  and  $A'$ , respectively, introduced at  $(\mathcal{G}.6)$ . Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  and

$$\begin{aligned} R_0(\beta' \rightarrow \rho') &= \beta \rightarrow R\rho' && \text{because the new } \beta' \notin \text{ftv}(\rho') \\ &= \beta \rightarrow \rho, \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

there exists a substitution  $P_1$  such that

$$\theta_1 = (R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1)\theta'_1 \quad (58)$$

and  $\text{supp}(P_1) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta'_1) \setminus \text{ftv}(\beta' \rightarrow \rho')$ . Note that by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{supp}(P_1) \cap (\text{ftv}(\Gamma') \cup \text{ftv}(\beta' \rightarrow \rho')) = \emptyset \quad (59)$$

and thus

$$\begin{aligned} (R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1)\Gamma' &= R\Gamma' && \text{by (59) and } \beta' \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \\ &\succ \Gamma && \text{by (56)}. \end{aligned} \quad (60)$$

Because  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma, e_1, \theta_1)^u$ ,  $(R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1)\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  (60), and  $(R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1)\theta'_1 = \theta_1$  (58), by Lemma A4.2,  $A'(\Gamma', e_1, \theta'_1)$  succeeds with  $S'_1$  such that for a substitution  $R_1$ ,

$$(R_1 S'_1) \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_1} = (S_1 (R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1)) \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_1} \quad (61)$$

where  $\text{New}_1$  is the set of new type variables used by  $A'(\Gamma', e_1, \theta'_1)$ .

- $\mathcal{U}(S'_1 \theta'_1, \theta'_2)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.7)$  succeeds: Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  and

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1(S'_1(\beta' \rightarrow \rho')) \\ &= S_1(R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1)(\beta' \rightarrow \rho') \\ &\quad \text{by (61) and because } \text{ftv}(\beta' \rightarrow \rho') \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\ &= S_1 R_0(\beta' \rightarrow \rho') && \text{by (59)} \\ &= S_1(\beta \rightarrow \rho) && \text{by (57),} \end{aligned} \quad (62)$$

there exists a substitution  $P_2$  such that

$$\theta_2 = (R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_2)} \cup P_2) \theta'_2 \quad (63)$$

and  $\text{supp}(P_2) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta'_2) \setminus \text{ftv}(S'_1(\beta' \rightarrow \rho'))$ . Note that  
 $\text{ftv}(S'_1 \theta'_1) \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1 \beta') \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1 \Gamma')$   
 $\subseteq \text{itv}(S'_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\theta'_1) \cup \{\beta'\} \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma')$  by Lemma A2.3  
 $\subseteq \text{New}_1 \cup \text{ftv}(\theta'_1) \cup \{\beta'\} \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma')$  by Lemma A2.4  
 and thus by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{supp}(P_2) \cap (\text{ftv}(S'_1 \theta'_1) \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1 \beta') \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1 \Gamma')) = \emptyset \quad (64)$$

Then  $S_2(R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_2)} \cup P_2)$  unifies  $S'_1 \theta'_1$  and  $\theta'_2$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.7)$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & S_2(R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_2)} \cup P_2)(S'_1 \theta'_1) \\ &= S_2 R_1 S'_1 \theta'_1 && \text{by (64)} \\ &= S_2 S_1 (R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1) \theta'_1 && \text{by (61) and} \\ & && \text{because } \text{ftv}(\theta'_1) \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\ &= S_2 S_1 \theta_1 && \text{by (58)} \\ &= S_2 \theta_2 && \text{by } (\mathcal{G}.7) \\ &= S_2 (R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_2)} \cup P_2) (\theta'_2) && \text{by (63).} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification of  $A'$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.7)$  succeeds with  $S'_2$ .

Therefore  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(S'_2 S'_1 \Gamma', e, \theta'_3)^d$ .

Now we prove the rest that there exists a substitution  $R'$  such that  $R' \theta'_3 = \theta_3$  and  $R'(S'_2 S'_1 \Gamma') \succ S_2 S_1 \Gamma$ . Because  $(\mathcal{G}.7)$  succeeds with  $S'_2$ , by Theorem 1.1, there exists a substitution  $R_2$  such that

$$R_2 S'_2 = S_2 (R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_2)} \cup P_2). \quad (65)$$

Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  and

$$\begin{aligned} R_2(S'_2 S'_1 \beta') &= S_2 (R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_2)} \cup P_2) S'_1 \beta' && \text{by (65)} \\ &= S_2 R_1 S'_1 \beta' && \text{by (64)} \\ &= S_2 S_1 \beta && \text{by (62),} \end{aligned}$$

there exists a substitution  $P_3$  such that

$$\theta_3 = (R_2 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_3)} \cup P_3) \theta'_3$$

and  $\text{supp}(P_3) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta'_3) \setminus \text{ftv}(S'_2 S'_1 \beta')$ . Note again that, by Lemma A2.3 and A2.4 and Theorem 1.1,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ftv}(S'_2 S'_1 \Gamma') \\ & \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\theta_2) \cup \text{New}_1 \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \\ & \subseteq \text{supp}(P_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\beta \rightarrow \rho) \cup \text{supp}(P_2) \cup \text{New}_1 \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \end{aligned}$$

and thus by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{supp}(P_3) \cap \text{ftv}(S'_2 S'_1 \Gamma') = \emptyset. \quad (66)$$

Therefore, such  $R'$  is  $(R_2 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_3)} \cup P_3)$  because

$$\begin{aligned}
& (R_2 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_3)} \cup P_3)(S'_2 S'_1 \Gamma') \\
&= R_2 S'_2 S'_1 \Gamma' && \text{by (66)} \\
&= S_2 (R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_2)} \cup P_2) S'_1 \Gamma' && \text{by (65)} \\
&= S_2 R_1 S'_1 \Gamma' && \text{by (64)} \\
&= S_2 S_1 (R_0 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P_1)} \cup P_1) \Gamma' && \text{by (61) and because} \\
& && \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\
&\succ S_2 S_1 \Gamma && \text{by (60) and Lemma A1.2.}
\end{aligned}$$

- **case  $e$  in  $e_1 e$  for instances of  $\mathcal{G}^R$ :** that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, e_1 e, \rho)^d (\Gamma, e, \beta)^d$$

where  $\beta$  is the new type variable introduced at (G.18). By induction,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e_1 e, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  and  $R\rho' = \rho$ . By the definition of  $\mathcal{G}^R$ ,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e, \beta')^d$  where  $\beta'$  is the new type variable introduced at (G.18). Let  $R_0 = R \upharpoonright_{\{\beta'\}} \cup \{\beta/\beta'\}$ . Then  $R_0\Gamma' = R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  and  $R_0\beta' = \beta$ .

- **case  $e$  in  $e_2$  for instances of  $\mathcal{G}^R$ :** that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, e e_2, \rho)^d (\Gamma, e_2, \beta)^d \dots (\Gamma, e_2, \beta)^u (S_1 \Gamma, e, \theta)^d$$

where  $\beta$  is the new type variable introduced at (G.18),  $\theta$  is the relaxed type at (G.19), and  $S_1 = \mathcal{G}^R(\Gamma, e_2, \beta)$  at (G.18).

By induction,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e e_2, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\rho' = \rho$  and

$$R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma. \quad (67)$$

Let  $R_0 = R \upharpoonright_{\{\beta'\}} \cup \{\beta/\beta'\}$  where  $\beta'$  is the new type variable introduced at (G.18). Then  $R_0\beta' = \beta$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
R_0\Gamma' &= R\Gamma' && \text{because the new } \beta' \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \\
&\succ \Gamma && \text{by (67)}.
\end{aligned} \quad (68)$$

Thus by Lemma A4.2,  $A'(\Gamma', e_2, \beta')$  at (G.18) succeeds with  $S'_1$ , hence  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(S'_1 \Gamma', e_1, \theta')^d$ .

Now we prove the rest that there exists a substitution  $R'$  such that  $R'\theta' = \theta$  and  $R'S'_1\Gamma' \succ S_1\Gamma$ . Because (G.18) succeeds with  $S'_1$ , by Lemma A4.2, there is a substitution  $R_1$  such that

$$(R_1 S'_1) \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_1} = (S_1 R_0) \upharpoonright_{\text{New}_1} \quad (69)$$

where  $\text{New}_1$  is the set of new type variables used by  $A'(\Gamma', e_2, \beta')$ .

Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
& R_1(S'_1 \rho') \\
&= S_1 R_0 \rho' && \text{by (69) and because } \text{ftv}(\rho') \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\
&= S_1 R \rho' && \text{because the new } \beta' \notin \text{ftv}(\rho') \\
&= S_1 \rho,
\end{aligned}$$

there exists a substitution  $P$  such that

$$(R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\theta' = \theta$$

and  $\text{supp}(P) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta') \setminus \text{ftv}(S'_1 \rho')$ . Note that

$$\text{supp}(P) \cap (\text{ftv}(S'_1 \Gamma') \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1 \beta')) = \emptyset. \quad (70)$$



by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ftv}(S'_1\Gamma') \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1\beta') \\ & \subseteq \text{itv}(S'_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \cup \{\beta'\} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3} \\ & \subseteq \text{New}_1 \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \cup \{\beta'\} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.4.} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, such  $R'$  is  $(R_1 \downarrow_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & (R_1 \downarrow_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)(S'_1\Gamma') \\ & = R_1(S'_1\Gamma') \quad \text{by (70)} \\ & = S_1R_0\Gamma' \quad \text{by (69) and because } \text{New}_1 \cap \text{ftv}(\Gamma') = \emptyset \\ & \succ S_1\Gamma \quad \text{by (68) and Lemma A1.2.} \end{aligned}$$

- **case  $e$  in** (let  $x=e$  in  $e_2$ ): that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, \text{let } x=e \text{ in } e_2, \rho)^d(\Gamma, e, \beta)^d$$

where  $\beta$  is the new type variable introduced at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$ . By induction,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', \text{let } x=e \text{ in } e_2, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  and  $R\rho' = \rho$ . By the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', e_1, \beta')^d$  where  $\beta'$  is the new type variable introduced at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$ . Let  $R_0 = R \downarrow_{\{\beta'\}} \cup \{\beta/\beta'\}$ . Then  $R_0\Gamma' = R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma$  and  $R_0\beta' = \beta$ .

- **case  $e$  in** (let  $x=e_1$  in  $e$ ): that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, \text{let } x=e_1 \text{ in } e, \rho)^d(\Gamma, e, \beta)^d \cdots (\Gamma, e, \beta)^u(S_1\Gamma + x: \text{Clos}_{S_1\Gamma}(S_1\beta), e, \theta)^d$$

where  $\beta$  is the new type variable introduced at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$ ,  $\theta$  is the relaxed type at  $(\mathcal{G}.12)$ , and  $S_1 = \mathcal{G}(\Gamma, e_1, \beta)$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$ .

By induction,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', \text{let } x=e \text{ in } e_2, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\rho' = \rho$  and

$$R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma. \quad (71)$$

Let  $R_0 = R \downarrow_{\{\beta'\}} \cup \{\beta/\beta'\}$  where  $\beta'$  is the new type variable introduced at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$ . Then  $R_0\beta' = \beta$  and

$$\begin{aligned} R_0\Gamma' & = R\Gamma' \quad \text{because the new } \beta' \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \\ & \succ \Gamma \quad \text{by (71).} \end{aligned} \quad (72)$$

Thus by Lemma A4.2,  $A'(\Gamma', e_1, \beta')$  at  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$  succeeds with  $S'_1$ , hence  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(S'_1\Gamma' + x: \text{Clos}_{S'_1\Gamma'}(S'_1\beta'), e_2, \theta')^d$ .

Now we prove the rest that there exists a substitution  $R'$  such that  $R'\theta' = \theta$  and  $R'(S'_1\Gamma' + x: \text{Clos}_{S'_1\Gamma'}(S'_1\beta')) \succ S_1\Gamma + x: \text{Clos}_{S_1\Gamma}(S_1\beta)$ . Because  $(\mathcal{G}.11)$  succeeds with  $S'_1$ , by Lemma A4.2, there is a substitution  $R_1$  such that

$$(R_1S'_1) \downarrow_{\text{New}_1} = (S_1R_0) \downarrow_{\text{New}_1} \quad (73)$$

where  $\text{New}_1$  is the set of new type variables used by  $A'(\Gamma', e_1, \beta')$ .

Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$  and

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1(S'_1\rho') \\ & = S_1R_0\rho' \quad \text{by (73) and because } \text{ftv}(\rho') \cap \text{New}_1 = \emptyset \\ & = S_1R\rho' \quad \text{because the new } \beta' \notin \text{ftv}(\rho') \\ & = S_1\rho, \end{aligned}$$

there exists a substitution  $P$  such that

$$(R_1 \downarrow_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\theta' = \theta$$

and  $\text{supp}(P) \subseteq \text{ftv}(\theta') \setminus \text{ftv}(S'_1 \rho')$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ftv}(S'_1 \Gamma') \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1 \beta') \\ & \subseteq \text{itv}(S'_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \cup \{\beta'\} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.3} \\ & \subseteq \text{New}_1 \cup \text{ftv}(\Gamma') \cup \{\beta'\} \quad \text{by Lemma A2.4} \end{aligned}$$

and thus by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{supp}(P) \cap (\text{ftv}(S'_1 \Gamma') \cup \text{ftv}(S'_1 \beta')) = \emptyset. \quad (74)$$

Therefore, such  $R'$  is  $(R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & (R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)(S'_1 \Gamma') \\ & = R_1(S'_1 \Gamma') \quad \text{by (74)} \\ & = S_1 R_0 \Gamma' \quad \text{by (73) and because } \text{New}_1 \cap \text{ftv}(\Gamma') = \emptyset \\ & \succ S_1 \Gamma' \quad \text{by (72) and Lemma A1.2} \end{aligned} \quad (75)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & (R_1 \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)(\text{Clos}_{S'_1 \Gamma'}(S'_1 \beta')) \\ & = R_1 \text{Clos}_{S'_1 \Gamma'}(S'_1 \beta') \quad \text{by (74)} \\ & \succ \text{Clos}_{R_1 S'_1 \Gamma'}(R_1 S'_1 \beta') \quad \text{by Lemma A2.1} \\ & \succ \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma'}(R_1 S'_1 \beta') \quad \text{by (75) and Lemma A4.1} \\ & = \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma'}(S_1 R_0 \beta') \quad \text{by (73) and } \beta' \notin \text{New}_1 \\ & = \text{Clos}_{S_1 \Gamma'}(S_1 \beta) \quad \text{by the definition of } R_0. \end{aligned}$$

- **case  $e$  in  $(\text{fix } f \lambda x.e)$ :** that is,  $\llbracket A(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has

$$(\Gamma, \text{fix } f \lambda x.e, \rho)^d (S_1 \Gamma_1 + x : S_1 \beta_1, e, S_1 \beta_2)^d$$

where  $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma + f : \theta_1$  at (G.14),  $S_1 = \mathcal{U}(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2, \theta)$  at (G.15), and  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are the new type variables at (G.15). By induction,  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(\Gamma', \text{fix } f \lambda x.e, \rho')^d$  and there exists a substitution  $R$  such that  $R\rho' = \rho$  and

$$R\Gamma' \succ \Gamma. \quad (76)$$

In order for  $A'(\Gamma', \text{fix } f \lambda x.e, \rho')$  to have a call for  $e$ , the unification at (G.15) must hold. Because  $A \sqsubseteq A'$ , there exists a substitution  $P$  such that

$$\theta_1 = (R \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\theta'_1, \quad (77)$$

$$\theta_2 = (R \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\theta'_2, \quad (78)$$

and  $\text{supp}(P) \subseteq (\text{ftv}(\theta_1) \cup \text{ftv}(\theta_2)) \setminus \text{ftv}(\rho')$ . Note that by the definition of  $\mathcal{G}$ ,

$$\text{supp}(P) \cap \text{ftv}(\Gamma') = \emptyset. \quad (79)$$

Let  $R_0 = R \upharpoonright_{\{\beta'_1, \beta'_2\} \cup \text{supp}(P)} \cup P \cup \{\beta_1/\beta'_1, \beta_2/\beta'_2\}$  where  $\beta'_1$  and  $\beta'_2$  are the new type variables of  $A'$  introduced at (G.15). Then  $S_1 R_0$  unifies  $\beta'_1 \rightarrow \beta'_2$  and  $\theta'_2$  at (G.15) because

$$\begin{aligned} & S_1 R_0(\theta'_2) \\ & = S_1(R \upharpoonright_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\theta'_2 \quad \text{because the new } \beta'_1, \beta'_2 \notin \text{ftv}(\theta'_2) \\ & = S_1 \theta_2 \quad \text{by (78)} \\ & = S_1(\beta_1 \rightarrow \beta_2) \quad \text{by (G.15)} \\ & = S_1 R_0(\beta'_1 \rightarrow \beta'_2) \quad \text{by the definition of } R_0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the unification of  $A'$  at (G.15) succeeds with  $S'_1$ , hence  $\llbracket A'(\Gamma_0, e_0, \rho_0) \rrbracket$  has  $(S'_1 \Gamma'_1 + x : S'_1 \beta'_1, e, S'_1 \beta'_2)^d$ .

Now we prove the rest that there exists a substitution  $R'$  such that  $R'(S'_1\Gamma'_1 + x: S'_1\beta'_1) \succ (S_1\Gamma_1 + x: S_1\beta_1)$  and  $R'(S'_1\beta'_2) = S_1\beta_2$ . Because (G.15) succeeds with  $S'_1$ , by Theorem 1.1, there exists a substitution  $R_1$  such that

$$S_1R_0 = R_1S'_1. \quad (80)$$

Then such  $R'$  is  $R_1$  because

$$\begin{aligned} & R_1(S'_1\Gamma'_1 + x: S'_1\beta'_1) \\ &= S_1R_0(\Gamma'_1 + x: \beta'_1) && \text{by (80)} \\ &= S_1((R_1|_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\Gamma'_1 + x: R_0\beta'_1) && \text{because the new } \beta'_1, \beta'_2 \notin \text{fv}(\Gamma'_1) \\ &= S_1((R_1|_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)\Gamma'_1 + x: \beta_1) && \text{by the definition of } R_0 \\ &= S_1((R_1|_{\text{supp}(P)} \cup P)(\Gamma' + f: \theta'_1) + x: \beta_1) && \text{by (G.14)} \\ &= S_1(R\Gamma' + f: \theta_1 + x: \beta_1) && \text{by (77) and (79)} \\ &\succ S_1(\Gamma + f: \theta_1 + x: \beta_1) && \text{by (76) and Lemma A1.2} \\ &= S_1(\Gamma_1 + x: \beta_1) && \text{by (G.14)} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} R_1(S'_1\beta'_2) &= S_1R_0\beta'_2 && \text{by (80)} \\ &= S_1\beta_2 && \text{by the definition of } R_0. \end{aligned}$$

■



**Hyunjun Eo:** He is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Computer Science at KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology). He received his bachelor's degree and master's degree in Computer Science from KAIST in 1996 and 1998, respectively. His research interest has been on static program analysis, fixpoint iteration algorithm and higher-order and typed languages. From fall 1998, he has been a research assistant of the National Creative Research Initiative Center for Research on Program Analysis System. He is currently working on developing a tool for automatic generation of program analyzer.



**Oukseh Lee:** He is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Computer Science at KAIST (Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology). He received his bachelor's and master's degree in Computer Science from KAIST in 1995 and 1997, respectively. His research interest has been on static program analysis, type system, program language implementation, higher-order and typed languages, and program verification. From 1998, he has been a research assistant of the National Creative Research Initiative Center for Research on Program Analysis System. He is currently working on compile-time analyses and verification for the memory behavior of programs.



**Kwangkeun Yi, Ph.D.:** His research interest has been on semantic-based program analysis and systems application of language technologies. After his Ph.D. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign he joined the Software Principles Research Department at Bell Laboratories, where he worked on various static analysis approaches for higher-order and typed programming languages. For 1995 to 2003 he was a faculty member in the Department of Computer Science, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. Since fall 2003, he has been a faculty member in the School of Computer Science and Engineering, Seoul National University.