Verifying Type-and-Scope Safe Program Transformations

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Abstract

There is an ongoing effort in the programming languages community to verify correctness of compilers. A typical compiler consists of several compilation passes which use different intermediate languages. Type-and-scope safe representation is a commonly used encoding for such intermediate languages; it facilitates proofs of correctness of compilation phases, including proofs by logical relations. However, using such representation requires repeatedly implementing and proving considerable meta-theoretical boilerplate for each intermediate language used by the compiler.

This project formalises an intermediate language with closures, implements a closure conversion algorithm, and mechanises two proofs of its correctness: with bisimulations and with Kripke logical relations.

This work builds on a line of research which culminated in a state-of-the-art framework for representing languages with binders and generically proving their meta-theoretical properties [Allais et al., 2018]. While this technique is useful for certain intermediate languages, this project shows that an otherwise appealing representation of an intermediate language with closures is not compatible with the framework.
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Chapter 1

Introduction

This project, at its most general, concerns verifying transformations of functional programs in compilers.

Functional language, with their rich semantics, expressive types, and restrictions such as purity, are particularly well-suited to verification, i.e. proving that a program conforms to a specification. However, verification is performed with respect to the semantics of the source program, whereas guarantees are needed about the compiled machine code. To bridge the gap between verification of the source code and assurances about the executable code, the compiler should be proved to preserve the semantics of the source language.

Verification of compilers is typically achieved by mechanising a proof of their correctness in a proof assistant like Coq, Isabelle/HOL, or Agda. Reasoning about individual compilation phases depends on formalising the semantics of the source and target languages of the phase. But most languages have a notion of a variable binder and binding, and a language representation which facilitates reasoning about the binding structure greatly simplifies the task of showing semantics preservation.

This project applies a state-of-the-art technique for representing languages with binders to implement a type-preserving compiler transformation and prove its correctness with two distinct techniques: bisimulation and logical relations.

1.1 Motivation

Closure conversion is a compilation phase performed by a typical compiler which compiles a language with first-class, nested functions to machine code. Suppose the source and target languages are given by:

\[ S ::= x \mid S \cdot S \mid \lambda x. S \]  
\[ T ::= x \mid T \cdot T \mid \langle\langle \lambda x.\lambda e. T, E \rangle\rangle \]

The source language is a variant of simply typed lambda calculus, and the target language is similar, except that it does not allow abstractions with free variables. Instead, it has closures, i.e. records which consist of (a) a function which takes an argument
and an environment record and has its bodies defined in terms of the argument and
the environment, and (b) an environment record. A closure is a first-class value which
simulates a function with free variables.

Suppose we implement a translation function which transforms a source program to a
target program with closures. We would like to show that the transformation is correct
according to an appropriate definition of correctness, e.g. that each reduction of the
source program is simulated by a reduction of the target program.

To formalise this claim, we need to define operational semantics for both languages.
And since our representations of the source and target language are type-and-scope
safe, we need to define substitution, and hence renaming. Furthermore, the correct-
ness result depends on multiple smaller results about the interplay between renaming,
substitution, the translation function, and others.

This project reports on the experience of mechanising two different correctness proofs
for closure conversion. It concludes with a reflection on a possibility of reducing the
mechanisation effort.

1.2 Goals and contributions

The main goal of this work is to mechanise a proof of correctness of a compiler trans-
formation using type-and-scope safe representation for the intermediate languages.
Specifically, the objectives of this project, all of which have been achieved, are:

1. To implement a compiler transformation for a variant of simply-typed lambda
calculus in Agda.
2. To use scope-safe and well-typed representation for the object languages.
3. To prove that the transformation is correct: that the output program of the trans-
formation behaves “the same” as the input program.
4. To use generic programming techniques from ACMM.

Additionally, a contribution of this project is to demonstrate that languages with
closures and closure conversion are problematic for current state-of-the-art techniques
for generically proving properties of languages’ meta-theory.

1.3 Overview and organisation

This report is organised as follows:

Chapter 2 contains a literature review and evaluation of existing work on the subject.

Chapter 3 sets the stage for the rest of the report by explaining background topics.
Chapter 4 defines the language with closures and explains the implementation of the type-preserving, environment-minimising closure conversion function.

Chapter 5 describes a mechanisation of a proof of bisimulation between the source and target languages of closure conversion.

Chapter 6 describes a mechanisation of a proof of correctness of closure conversion by logical relations.

Chapter 7 evaluates the work by comparing it to the state-of-the-art, looks at possible improvements, and explains how this project demonstrates limitations of existing generic proving techniques.

Chapter 8 explains the relation between this project and the UG4 project, and applies skills learned this year to improve last year’s solutions. It also discusses differences and similarities between compiler transformations and program derivations.

Finally, Chapter 9 contains a summary of this work.
Chapter 2

Related work

There are several topics within the broad field of programming languages theory and verification which have special relevance to this project: (a) representation languages with bindings, (b) generic proving of properties of program traversals, and (c) compiler verification. This chapter provides an overview of work on those topics.

2.1 Representing languages with bindings

There are clear benefits to mechanising proofs which arise in programming languages (PL) theory. A typical PL proof is relatively simple in terms of techniques used, but complex in terms of the number of cases and bookkeeping burden. An error in a pen-and-paper proof can invalidate a whole theory. Proof tools address the problem by checking proofs and helping the user with bookkeeping. And yet currently, a large proportion of papers submitted to PL conferences do not have an accompanying mechanisation.

In 2005, a group of PL researchers put forward a hypothesis that limited adoption of mechanised proofs is caused by a lack of consensus about optimal ways to mechanise meta-theory of languages, in particular, languages with bindings. They issued a challenge [et al., ND] whose goal was to try to compare different representations of a particular language with bindings, \( F< \). In response, a dozen solution were submitted, using techniques for representing binders and bindings like named variables, de Bruijn variables, (parametric) higher-order abstract syntax [Pfenning and Elliott, 1988] [Chlipala, 2008], nominal sets [Pitts, 2013], and other.

This project follows ACMM [Allais et al., 2017] in using well-typed and scope-safe de Bruijn indices [Altenkirch and Reus, 1999]. Formalised in Section 3.3, this representation is a deep embedding of the object language, and as such, it can be inspected and modified. However, to ensure that transformations on programs preserve well-typedness and scope-safety, this representation relies on the operations renaming and substitution. In meta-theoretical proofs, there frequently arises a need to prove correctness lemmas about interactions between renaming, substitution, and other traversals.
Chapter 2. Related work

The next section discusses research in proving such kind of results generically.

2.2 Generic transformations of and proofs about type-and-scope safe programs

McBride’s observation [McBride, 2005] that in a type-and-scope safe language the operations of renaming and substitution share a common structure gave rise to a line of research on generic implementation of such traversals, and generic proofs of their properties.

A paper by Allais et al. which we will refer to as ACMM [Allais et al., 2017] deals with those problems in the setting of simply typed lambda calculus (STLC). It introduces a notion of a semantics, which is a record defining a traversal in terms of (a) its result type, (b) the type of values values mapped to the variables in the environment, (c) semantic counterparts to the syntactic constructors of STLC, and (d) an operation of weakening which ensured that the traversal remains well-typed and scope-safe when it recurses on a term under a binder.

In a dependently-typed proof assistant like Agda, the structure of the proof often mirrors the structure of the program whose properties are being proved. Therefore, when different traversals share a common structure, proofs which relate such traversals may be treated generically. ACMM exploits this fact and provides a generic way to prove certain classes of properties relating traversals on programs in STLC.

A follow-up paper by Allais et al., which we will refer to as AACMM, generalises the contributions of ACMM from the setting of STLC to a family of languages (syntaxes) which satisfy appropriate constraints. A framework accompanying the AACMM paper allows the user to describe a syntax, and then uses generic programming and proving to generate the operations of renaming and substitutions for the syntax, together with correctness lemmas describing interactions between different traversals in the language.

The repository accompanying AACMM has an example demonstrating its contributions in action. The problem is: given two variants of STLC, with and without a let construct, implement a traversal which inlines let expressions, and prove it correct with a simulation. Two solution are given. A naive solution contains manual proofs of correctness lemmas relating different traversals. A solution using the AACMM framework is able to use generic proofs, and is many times shorter.

This work relies on results from ACMM and does not attempt to use AACMM. However, Chapter 7 reflects on the feasibility of applying AACMM-like techniques to closure conversion.
2.3 Verified compilation

In his 2003 paper [Hoare, 2003], Hoare argues that creating a verifying compiler is one of “grand challenges” of science, comparable to sending a man to the Moon, mapping the human genome, or finding the Higgs boson. By a verifying compiler, Hoare meant a suite of tools for specifying program behaviours and checking software against specifications.

As of 2010s, researchers aspire to go beyond Hoare’s challenge and verify the verifying compiler itself. This is in fact necessary to bridge the gap between verification of the source program and verification of the compiled executable.

Typically, verifying compilers involves showing that properties of the source program are preserved in the target program. Given the same (or appropriately related) inputs, the source program and the target produce the same (or appropriately related) result.

Often, when compiling typed languages, the first step in verifying the compiler is making it type-preserving, especially in the initial compilation passes. Type-preservation, other than being a property of a compilation pass in itself, is a prerequisite for type-indexed correctness proof methods like logical relations.

As far as typed compilation is concerned, a pioneering paper is "From System F to Typed Assembly Language" by Morrisett et al. [Morrisett et al., 1998]. Building upon previous results on typed compilation phases (like [Minamide et al., 1996]), it describes a typed RISC-like assembly (named TAL), which is the target of the final phases of compilation. The paper shows how to achieve end-to-end typed compilation from System F to TAL. It does not, however, attempt to show any properties about operational correctness of the compiler.

An early example of a compiler which was verified for end-to-end operational correctness was described by Chlipala in his paper "A Certified Type-Preserving Compiler from Lambda Calculus to Assembly Language" [Chlipala, 2007]. The source language there is a variant of the simply-typed lambda calculus (STLC). Compilation proceeds through six phases, eventually yielding idealised assembly code. The compiler is implemented in Coq, where terms and functions on terms are dependently typed, guaranteeing type preservation. This is also the approach taken in this project, except that we use Agda instead of Coq. Operational correctness is proved by adopting denotational semantics, unlike in this project, which uses operational semantics.

Another example of a certified compiler is CompCert [Leroy, 2006], which accepts a subset of C as its source language. CompCert is notable as an early successful attempt to verify a compiler for a real-world language (or a subset thereof). C present multiple challenges to a compiler verifier, including undefined behaviours and raw pointer manipulation. However, compiling C does not involve some of the challenges which arise when compiling functional languages, especially dealing with first-class functions. This makes the challenges facing CompCert implementers quite different from ones explored in this project.

CakeML is another instance of a verified compiler [Kumar et al., 2014]. CakeML ac-
concept a subset of StandardML, a functional language which is well-suited to verification as its semantics have been formalised. A special feature of CakeML is that it can “bootstrap”, or verify correctness of, itself.

Finally, a good reference on verifying transformations of functional programs is “A Higher-Order Abstract Syntax Approach to Verified Transformations on Functional Programs” by Wang and Nadathur [Wang and Nadathur, 2016], which verifies three compilation phases specific to functional languages: continuation passing style (CPS) transformation, closure conversion, and lambda lifting. Intermediate languages are formalised in λProlog, and proofs are performed in the Abella proof assistant.
Chapter 3

Background

This chapter sets the stage for the rest of this report by introducing relevant concepts. It starts by explaining closure conversion, then it gives a brief overview of the Agda proof assistant, and finally, it explains the representation of simply typed lambda calculus in Agda, which were borrowed from ACMM [Allais et al., 2018] and PLFA [Wadler, 2018].

3.1 Closure conversion

Closure conversion is a compilation phase where functions or lambda abstractions with free variables are transformed to closures. A closure consists of a body (code) and the environment, which is a record holding the values corresponding to the free variables in the body (code). Closure conversion transforms abstractions to closures, and replaces variables with references to the environment.

We present closure conversion on an example expression. Let the source language be simply typed lambda calculus (STLC) with let-expressions and arithmetic, and let the target language have environments (written \{x=x, y=y\}) and closures (written \langle\langle \lambda x.e, \{y=y, z=z\}\rangle\rangle).

Further, suppose the target program is
\[
\text{let } v = 2 \text{ in } (\lambda x. \text{ let } y = 3 \text{ in } (\lambda z. v + x + y + z))
\]

Then, the closure converted form is
\[
\text{let } v = 2 \text{ in } \langle\langle \lambda x.\lambda e_x. \text{ let } y = 3 \text{ in } \langle\langle \lambda z.\lambda e_z. e_z.v + e_z.x + e_z.y + z , \{ v = x.v, x = x, y = y \} \rangle \rangle , \{ v=v \} \rangle\rangle
\]

Notice that each abstraction becomes a closure, and that closure bodies only use their single bound variable and reference the environment. In particular, when building the environment of the inner closure, the environment of the outer closure is referenced: \( v = e_x.v \).
We provide typing and conversion rules for closure conversion in Section 4.5, which presents a concrete Agda implementation.

Closure conversion, whether called by this name or not, is part of most compilers which compile languages with first-class functions to low-level code. But the first work which provided a rigorous treatment of closure conversion was the "Typed Closure Conversion" [Minamide et al., 1996]. It demonstrated type-preserving closure conversion, which is made possible by giving closure environments existential types. The paper also contains a proof of operational correctness of the typed closure conversion algorithm by logical relations.

### 3.2 The Agda proof assistant

Rather than developing novel proof techniques, this work’s contribution is a mechanisation of known compilation techniques and their known verification methods using a particular representation in the proof assistant Agda [Norell, 2008].

Agda is described as a dependently-typed, total functional language or as a proof assistant for intuitionistic logic. In fact, those two characterisations are equivalent — an observation known as Curry-Howard correspondence [Wadler, 2015].

Fully explaining Agda is beyond the scope of this short section; instead, we provide several simple examples, hoping that the reader will get enough sense of programming and proving in Agda to follow subsequent uses in this report.

The syntax of Agda is influenced by that of ML and especially Haskell. A data type for natural numbers could be defined as follows:

```agda
data N : Set where
  zero : N
  suc  : N → N
```

Agda is different from ML and Haskell in having dependent types — data types in Agda can be indexed by values. For example, one can define a vector data type whose type contains the length of any given vector:

```agda
data Vec (A : Set) : N → Set where
  [] : Vec A zero
  _::_ : ∀ → A → Vec A n → Vec A (suc n)
```

Not only can types of data structures be indexed by values: dependent types can also be used to provide inductive definitions for predicate and relations. For example, the “less than or equal” relation for natural numbers can be defined like this:

```agda
data _≤_ : N → N → Set where
  base : zero ≤ zero
```
Finally, since the dependent function type corresponds to universal quantification in logic, a theorem can be specified as a type, and its proof given by a program. We illustrate this with a simple inductive proof of the fact that every natural number is smaller or equal than its successor:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{n \leq sn : (n : N) \rightarrow n \leq \text{suc} n} \\
\text{n \leq sn \text{ zero} } &= \text{step-r base} \\
\text{n \leq sn (\text{suc} n) } &= \text{step-lr (n \leq sn n)}
\end{align*}
\]

Notably, in Agda, recursion over inductively defined data types corresponds to induction.

The simple example give intuition about rather than a complete overview of Agda. Still, the reader should be able to read many Agda definitions in this report treating them as deduction rules.

### 3.3 Type- and scope-safe representation of simply typed lambda calculus λst

This section discusses the representation of simply typed, call-by-value lambda calculus (denoted with λst) in Agda, which is the source language of our closure conversion. A similar encoding is used for the closure language λcl, as explained in Section 4.1.

Using a dependently-typed language like Agda as the meta language allows us to encode certain invariants in the representation. Two such invariants are type and scope safety. The representation is scope-safe in the sense that all variables in a term are either bound by some binder in the term, or explicitly accounted for in the context. It is type-safe in the sense that terms are synonymous with their typing derivations, which makes ill-typed terms unrepresentable. The rest of this section shows how this is achieved in Agda. It is part of the Background chapter as the representation closely resembles [Allais et al., 2017], [Allais et al., 2018], and [Wadler, 2018].

λst has a ground type and a function type:

```agda
data Type : Set where
  α : Type
  _⇒_ : Type → Type → Type
```

A context is simply a list of types.

```agda
Context : Set
Context = List Type
```
Variables are synonymous with proofs of context membership. Since a variable is identified by its position in the context, it is appropriate to call it a de Bruijn variable. Accordingly, the constructors of \( \text{Var} \) are named after \text{zero} and \text{successor}. Notice that the definition assumes that the leftmost type in the context corresponds to the most recently bound variable.

\[
\text{data Var : Type} \rightarrow \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Set} \text{ where }
\begin{align*}
z & : \forall \{\sigma \Gamma\} \rightarrow \text{Var}\ \sigma \ (\sigma :: \Gamma) \\
s & : \forall \{\sigma \tau \Gamma\} \rightarrow \text{Var}\ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Var}\ \sigma \ (\tau :: \Gamma)
\end{align*}
\]

Terms of \( \lambda \text{st} \) are synonymous with their typing derivations:

\[
\text{data Lam : Type} \rightarrow \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Set} \text{ where }
\begin{align*}
\text{V} & : \forall \{\Gamma \sigma\} \rightarrow \text{Var} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \\
\text{A} & : \forall \{\Gamma \sigma \tau\} \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ (\sigma \Rightarrow \tau) \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \tau \ \Gamma \\
\text{L} & : \forall \{\Gamma \sigma \tau\} \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \tau \ (\sigma :: \Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ (\sigma \Rightarrow \tau) \ \Gamma
\end{align*}
\]

The syntactic variable \( \text{V} \) constructor takes a de Bruijn variable to a term. The abstraction constructor \( \text{L} \) requires that the body is well-typed in the context \( \Gamma \) extended with the type \( \sigma \) of the variable bound by the abstraction. The application constructor \( \text{A} \) follows the usual typing rule for application.

### 3.4 Type- and scope-safe programs

Many useful traversals over the abstract syntax tree involve maintaining a mapping from free variables to appropriate values. This can be formalised with the notion of a mapping from free variables to appropriate values, which we call an \textit{environment}.

\[
\text{record } \_\text{–Env} \ (\Gamma : \text{Context}) \ (\mathcal{V} : \text{Type} \rightarrow \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Set}) \ (\Delta : \text{Context}) : \text{Set} \text{ where }
\begin{align*}
\text{constructor pack} \\
\text{field lookup} : \forall \rightarrow \text{Var} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \ \sigma \ \Delta
\end{align*}
\]

A environment \((\Gamma \text{–Env}) \ \mathcal{V} \ \Delta\) encapsulates a mapping from variables in \( \Gamma \) to values \( \mathcal{V} \) (variables for renaming, terms for substitution) which are well-typed and -scoped in \( \Delta \).

An environment which maps variables to variables is important enough to deserve its own name.

\[
\text{Thinning} : \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Set} \\
\text{Thinning} \ \Gamma \ \Delta = (\Gamma \text{–Env}) \ \text{Var} \ \Delta
\]

There is a notion of an empty environment \( \varepsilon \), of extending an environment \( \rho \) with a value \( v \) : \( \rho \bullet v \), and of mapping a function \( f \) over values in an environment \( \rho \) : \( f \ <$> \ \rho \). Finally, select ren \( \rho \) renames a variable with ren before looking it up in the environment \( \rho \).
\[\varepsilon : \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \} \rightarrow (\Gamma \cdot \Delta)\]  
\[\text{lookup } \varepsilon()\]

\[\bullet : \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma \} \rightarrow (\Gamma \cdot \Delta \sigma)\]  
\[\text{lookup } (\rho \bullet v) Z = v\]  
\[\text{lookup } (\rho \bullet v) (S x) = \text{lookup } \rho x\]

\[\_ <\_ > : \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma \} \rightarrow (\Gamma \cdot \Delta \sigma)\]  
\[\text{lookup } (f <\_ > \rho) x = f (\text{lookup } \rho x)\]

\[\text{select : } \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \Theta \} \rightarrow \text{Thinning } \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow (\Delta \cdot \Theta)\]  
\[\text{lookup } (\text{select ren } \rho) k = \text{lookup } \rho (\text{lookup } \text{ren } k)\]

Notice that those four operations on environments are defined using copatterns \cite{Abel et al., 2013} by “observing” the behaviour of \text{lookup}.

Two especially important traversals are simultaneous renaming and substitution.

Simultaneous renaming takes a term \(N\) in the context \(\Gamma\). It maintains a mapping \(\rho\) from variables in the original context \(\Gamma\) to \textit{variables} in some other context \(\Delta\). It produces a term in \(\Delta\), which is \(N\) with variables renamed with \(\rho\).

Similarly, simultaneous substitution takes a term \(N\) in the context \(\Gamma\). It maintains a mapping \(\sigma\) from variables in the original context \(\Gamma\) to \textit{terms} in some other context \(\Delta\). It produces a term in \(\Delta\), which is \(N\) with variables substitution for with \(\sigma\).

Equipped with the notion of environments, we can give an implementation of renaming and substitution:

\[\text{ext : } \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \} \{\sigma : \text{Type}\} \rightarrow \text{Thinning } \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow \text{Thinning } (\sigma :: \Gamma) \rightarrow (\sigma :: \Delta)\]  
\[\text{ext } \rho = s <\_ > \rho \bullet z\]

\[\text{rename : } \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma \} \rightarrow \text{Thinning } \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow \text{Lam } \sigma \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam } \sigma \Delta\]  
\[\text{rename } \rho (V x) = V (\text{lookup } \rho x)\]  
\[\text{rename } \rho (L N) = L (\text{rename } (\text{exts } \rho) N)\]  
\[\text{rename } \rho (A M N) = A (\text{rename } \rho M) (\text{rename } \rho N)\]

\[\text{exts : } \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \} \{\tau : \text{Type}\} \rightarrow (\Gamma \cdot \Delta) \rightarrow (\tau :: \Gamma) \rightarrow (\tau :: \Delta)\]  
\[\text{exts } \sigma = \text{rename } (\text{pack } s) <\_ > \sigma \bullet V z\]

\[\text{subst : } \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma \} \rightarrow (\Gamma \cdot \Delta) \rightarrow \text{Lam } \sigma \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam } \sigma \Delta\]  
\[\text{subst } \sigma (V x) = \text{lookup } \sigma x\]  
\[\text{subst } \sigma (L N) = L (\text{subst } (\text{exts } \sigma) N)\]  
\[\text{subst } \sigma (A M N) = A (\text{subst } \sigma M) (\text{subst } \sigma N)\]

Notice that those two traversals are identical except (1) \text{renaming} wraps the result of \text{lookup } \rho x in \(V\), and (2) \text{renaming} and \text{substitution} extend the environment in a
different way: $s \langle \$ \rangle \rho \bullet z$ vs rename (pack $s$) $\langle \$ \rangle \sigma \bullet V \ z$. The observation that renaming and substitution for STLC share a common structure was a basis for the unpublished manuscript by McBride [McBride, 2005], and subsequently motivated the ACMM paper [Allais et al., 2017].

Also notice how the functions $\text{ext}$ and $\text{exts}$ extend the environment when the traversal goes under a binder.

An instance of simultaneous substitution is single substitution. Single substitution replaces occurrences of the last-bound variable in the context, and it is useful for defining the beta reduction for abstractions. Single substitution environment is an identity substitution environment extended with a single value:

$$
\text{id-subst} : \forall \sigma \Gamma \rightarrow (\Gamma - \text{Env}) \ \text{Lam} \ \Gamma
$$

$$\text{lookup id-subst } x = V \ x$$

$$
\_/_ : \forall \Gamma \sigma \tau \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ (\sigma :: \Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \tau \ \Gamma
$$

$$\_/_ \ {\_} \ N \ M = \text{subst} (\text{id-subst} \bullet M) \ N
$$

### 3.5 Small-step operational semantics

The formalisation of small-step semantics for call-by-value lambda calculus is adapted from [Wadler, 2018].

Values are terms which do not reduce further. In this most basic version of lambda calculus language, the only values are abstractions:

$$
data \text{Value} : \forall \sigma \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Set} \ \text{where}$$

$$
\text{V-L} : \forall \Gamma \sigma \tau \{N : \text{Lam} \ (\sigma :: \Gamma)\}
$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Value} \ (L \ N)
$$

Our operational semantics include two kinds of reduction rules. Compatibility rules, whose names start with $\xi$, reduce parts of the term (specifically, the LHS and RHS of application). Beta reduction $\beta$-L, on the other hand, describes what an abstraction applied to a value reduces to.

$$
data \_\_\rightarrow _\_ : \forall \sigma \Gamma \rightarrow (\text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma) \rightarrow (\text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Set} \ \text{where}$$

$$
\xi - A_1 : \forall \Gamma \sigma \tau \{M \ M' : \text{Lam} \ (\sigma \Rightarrow \tau) \ \Gamma\} \{N : \text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma\}
$$

$$\rightarrow M \rightarrow \rightarrow M'
$$

$$\rightarrow A \ M \ N \rightarrow A \ M' \ N$$

3.5 Small-step operational semantics
A term which can take a reduction step is called a reducible expression, or a redex. A property of a language that every well-typed term is either a value or a redex is called type-safety; it is captured by the slogan “well-typed terms don’t get stuck” and can be proved by techniques like progress and preservation or logical relations. Simply typed lambda calculus is type-safe, and so is this formalisation. For a proof of type safety for a similar formalisation of STLC, cf. [Wadler, 2018].

Operational semantics are needed in Chapter 5 to prove our closure conversion correct with a bisimulation.
Chapter 4

Formalising closure conversion

This chapter presents this project’s formalisation of closure conversion. It starts by discussing the closure language $\lambda_{cl}$, an intermediate language which is like STLC but with abstractions replaced by closures. Then it demonstrates a type-preserving conversion for $\lambda_{st}$ to $\lambda_{cl}$ which has the property that the obtained closure environments are minimal. Finally, several properties about interactions between renaming and substitution in $\lambda_{cl}$ are formally established — they are needed in proofs of correctness in subsequent chapters.

4.1 Closure language $\lambda_{cl}$

Some compilation phases use different source and target intermediate representations as is the case with our closure conversion algorithm. This section presents a formalisation of an intermediate language with closures. The language is similar to simply typed lambda calculus, except that abstraction with free variables are replaced by closures with environments. What might seem like a simple change has interesting implications for traversals like renaming and substitution.

The closure language $\lambda_{cl}$ shares types, contexts, and de-Bruijn-variables-as-proofs-of-context-membership, and their respective Agda formalisations, with the source representation. In general, two different intermediate representations do not need to share the same type system, but if they do, this simplifies formalisation.

4.2 Terms

The definition of terms of $\lambda_{cl}$ differs from $\lambda_{st}$ in the $\bot$ constructor, which now holds the closure body and the closure environment.

```
data Lam : Type → Context → Set where
  V  : ∀ {Γ σ} → Var σ Γ → Lam σ Γ
```
Chapter 4. Formalising closure conversion

\[ A : \forall \{ \Gamma \ : \sigma \ \Rightarrow \tau \} \rightarrow \text{Lam}(\sigma \ \Rightarrow \tau) \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \tau \ \Gamma \]

\[ L : \forall \{ \Gamma \Delta : \sigma \ \Rightarrow \tau \} \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \tau (\sigma :: \Delta) \rightarrow (\Delta - \text{Env}) \ \text{Lam} \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} (\sigma \ \Rightarrow \tau) \ \Gamma \]

Notice that the typing rule for the closure constructor \( L \) mentions two contexts, \( \Gamma \) and \( \Delta \). We call \( \Gamma \) the outer context and \( \Delta \) the inner context of a closure.

\[ \Gamma, x : \sigma \vdash e : \tau \]

\[ \Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \sigma. e : \sigma \rightarrow \tau \]

The closure as a whole is typed in \( \Gamma \), but the closure body (also called the closure code) is typed in \( \sigma :: \Delta \). The relationship between \( \Gamma \) and \( \Delta \) is given by the closure environment.

A closure environment is traditionally implemented as a record, and variables in the closure code reference fields of that record. In this development, on the other hand, the environment is represented as a substitution environment, that is, a mapping from variables in \( \Delta \) to terms in \( \Gamma \). This representation is isomorphic to the one using a record, and it has several benefits, especially eliminating the need for products in the language, and overall simplification of the formalisation.

Finally, recall from Section 3.1 that in order for a closure-converted program to be well-typed, closure environments should have existential types. It is important to note that in this formalisation, existential typing is achieved in the meta language Agda, not in the object language \( \lambda \text{cl} \), which does not have existential types.

### 4.3 Renaming and substitution

Consider the case for the constructor \( L \) of renaming and substitution in \( \lambda \text{cl} \) and how it differs from the corresponding definition in \( \lambda \text{st} \).

\[ \text{rename} : \forall \{ \Gamma \Delta : \sigma \} \rightarrow \text{Thinning} \ \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \Delta \]

\[ \text{rename} \ \rho (V \ x) = V (\text{lookup} \ \rho \ x) \]

\[ \text{rename} \ \rho (A \ M \ N) = A (\text{rename} \ \rho \ M) (\text{rename} \ \rho \ N) \]

\[ \text{rename} \ \rho (L \ N \ E) = L \ N (\text{rename} \ \rho <\$> E) \]

\[ \text{subst} : \forall \{ \Gamma \Delta : \sigma \} \rightarrow \text{Subst} \ \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{Lam} \ \sigma \Delta \]

\[ \text{subst} \ \rho (V \ x) = \text{lookup} \ \rho \ x \]

\[ \text{subst} \ \rho (A \ M \ N) = A (\text{subst} \ \rho \ M) (\text{subst} \ \rho \ N) \]

\[ \text{subst} \ \rho (L \ N \ E) = L \ N (\text{subst} \ \rho <\$> E) \]

Unlike in \( \lambda \text{st} \), renaming and substitution in \( \lambda \text{cl} \) do not go under binders (do not change the closure body). This is because renaming and substitution take a term in a context \( \Gamma \) to a term in a context \( \Gamma' \). But the code (body) of a closure is typed in a different context \( \Delta \). So in the closure case, renaming and substitution adjust the closure environment and leave the closure body unchanged. The adjustment to the environment is \( \text{rename} \ ... \text{subst} \ ... \text{lookup} \ ... \text{rename} \)
ρ <$> E \text{ in the case of renaming and } \text{subst } ρ <$> E \text{ in the case of substitution. In either case, the adjustment consists of mapping the renaming/substitution over the values in the environment.}

Just like in λst, we also define functions ext and exts:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ext : } & \forall \{\Gamma \Delta\} \{\sigma : \text{Type}\} \rightarrow \text{Thinning } \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow \text{Thinning } (\sigma :: \Gamma) (\sigma :: \Delta) \\
\text{ext } ρ = & \text{s <$> ρ • z} \\
\text{exts : } & \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma\} \rightarrow \text{Subst } \Gamma \Delta \rightarrow \text{Subst } (\sigma :: \Gamma) (\sigma :: \Delta) \\
\text{exts } ρ = & \text{rename (pack s) <$> ρ • V z}
\end{align*}
\]

### 4.4 Operational semantics

Operational semantics for λcl are similar to the semantics for λst, except they are adjusted to accommodate closures. Values in λcl are closures, and the rule for beta reduction is different:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{infix 2 } & _\rightarrow_ \\
\text{data } _\rightarrow_ : & \forall \{\Gamma \sigma\} \rightarrow (\text{Lam } \sigma \Gamma) \rightarrow (\text{Lam } \sigma \Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Set where} \\
\beta-L : & \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma \tau\} \{N : \text{Lam } \tau (\sigma :: \Delta)\} \{E : \text{Subst } \Delta \Gamma\} \{V : \text{Lam } \sigma \Gamma\} \\
& \rightarrow \text{Value } V \\
& \rightarrow A (L N E) V \rightarrow \text{subst } (E • V) N
\end{align*}
\]

Recall that a closure is a function without free variables, partially applied to an environment. When the closure argument reduces to a value, the argument and the values in the environment get simultaneously substituted into the closure body. The simplicity of this reduction rule is another benefit of representing environments as substitution environments.

### 4.5 Conversion from λst to λcl

This project’s approach to typed, or type-preserving, closure conversion follows [Minamide et al., 1996]. An important point here is that there are many possible realisations of closure conversion, which differ in how they construct environments. The only requirement of any concrete closure conversion is that:

1. If the source term is an abstraction typed in the context \(\Gamma\);
2. if the body of the source abstraction can be typed in a smaller context \(\Delta\), such that \(\Delta \subseteq \Gamma\);
3. then the target terms is a closure whose environment is a substitution from $\Delta$ to $\Gamma$.

This is given by the following conversion rule:

\[
e_{ev} = \text{subst}(\Delta \subseteq \Gamma) \quad \Delta, x : \sigma \vdash e \leadsto e' : \tau \\
\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \sigma. e \leadsto \langle\langle \lambda x : \sigma. e' \rangle, \ e_{ev} \rangle : \sigma \rightarrow \tau
\]

It is up to the implementation of closure conversion to decide the exact $\Delta$, on the spectrum between (1) $\Delta$ being equal to $\Gamma$, and (2) $\Delta$ being minimal, i.e. only containing the parts of $\Gamma$ which are necessary to type the term. We present two Agda implementation of closure conversion, corresponding to the two ends of the spectrum.

Closure conversion where $\Delta$ is the same as $\Gamma$ is a simple transformation:

\[
\text{simple-cc} : \forall \{\Gamma \ \sigma\} \rightarrow \text{S.Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma \rightarrow \text{T.Lam} \ \sigma \ \Gamma
\]

\[
\text{simple-cc} \ (\text{S.V} \ x) = \text{T.V} \ x
\]

\[
\text{simple-cc} \ (\text{S.A} \ M \ N) = \text{T.A} \ (\text{simple-cc} \ M) \ (\text{simple-cc} \ N)
\]

\[
\text{simple-cc} \ (\text{S.L} \ N) = \text{T.L} \ (\text{simple-cc} \ N) \ \text{T.id-subst}
\]

where $\text{T.id-subst}$ is the identity substitution which maps a term in $\Gamma$ to itself, defined as:

\[
\text{id-subst} : \forall \rightarrow \text{Subst} \ \Gamma \ \Gamma
\]

\[
\text{lookup} \ \text{id-subst} \ x = \text{V} \ x
\]

We call the other end of the spectrum minimising closure conversion. Its implementation in Agda is rather more involved and is described in the next section.

### 4.6 Minimising closure conversion

Minimising closure conversion is given by the following deduction rules, where a statement $\Gamma \vdash e : \sigma \leadsto e' : \sigma$ should be read as: “the term $e$ of type $\sigma$ in the context $\Gamma$ can be closure converted to the term $e'$ in $\Delta$”:

\[
\frac{\Gamma \vdash x : \sigma \leadsto 0, x : \sigma \vdash x : \sigma}{\text{(min-V)}}
\]

\[
\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \sigma \rightarrow \tau \leadsto \Delta_1 \vdash e'_1 : \sigma \rightarrow \tau \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \sigma \leadsto \Delta_2 \vdash e'_2 : \sigma}{\Delta = \text{merge} \ \Delta_1 \ \Delta_2}{\Gamma \vdash e_1 e_2 : \tau \leadsto \Delta \vdash e'_1 e'_2 : \tau}{\text{(min-A)}}
\]

\[
\frac{\Gamma, x : \sigma \vdash e : \tau \leadsto \Delta, x : \tau \vdash e : \tau}{\text{e_id} = \text{subst}(\Delta \subseteq \Delta)}
\]

\[
\frac{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : \sigma. e : \sigma \rightarrow \tau \leadsto \Delta \vdash \langle\langle \lambda x : \sigma. e, \ e_{id} \rangle \rangle : \sigma \rightarrow \tau}{\text{(min-L)}}
\]

**min-V**: Any variables can be typed in a singleton context containing just the type of the variable.
min-A: If the result $e_1'$ of converting $e_1$ can be typed in $\Delta_1$, and the result $e_2'$ of converting $e_2$ can be typed in $\Delta_2$, then the application $e_1'e_2'$ can be typed in $\Delta$, where $\Delta$ is the result of merging $\Delta_1$ and $\Delta_2$.

min-L: If the result $e'$ of converting the abstraction body $e$ can be typed in context $\sigma :: \Delta$ (or $\Delta, x : \sigma$, using the notation with names), then the closure resulting from the conversion of the abstraction can be typed in $\Delta$, and it has the identity environment $\Delta \subseteq \Delta$.

To formalise this conversion in Agda, we need several helper definitions.

### 4.7 Merging subcontexts

The deduction rules for minimising closure conversion contained statements of the form $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$, which reads: “$\Delta$ is a subcontext of $\Gamma$”. Since in this development, a context is just a list of types, the notion of subcontexts can be captured with the `_⊆_` (sublist) relation from Agda’s standard library. The inductive definition of the relation is:

```agda
data _⊆_ : List A → List A → Set where
  base : [] ⊆ []
  skip : ∀ {xs ys} → xs ⊆ ys → xs ⊆ (y :: ys)
  keep : ∀ {x xs ys} → xs ⊆ ys → (x :: xs) ⊆ (x :: ys)
```

This project’s contribution is to define the operation of merging two subcontexts. Given contexts $\Gamma, \Delta, \text{and} \Delta_1$ such that $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$ and $\Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma$, the result of merging the subcontexts $\Delta$ and $\Delta_1$ is a context $\Gamma_1$ which satisfies the following conditions:

1. It is contained in the big context: $\Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma$.
2. It contains the small contexts: $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma_1$ and $\Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1$.
3. The proof that $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$ obtained by transitivity from $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma_1$ and $\Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma$ is the same as the input proof that $\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$; similarly for $\Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma$.

All those requirements are captured by the following dependent record in Agda:

```agda
record SubListSum {Γ Δ Δ_1 : List A} (Δ⊆Γ : Δ ⊆ Γ) (Δ_1⊆Γ : Δ_1 ⊆ Γ) : Set where
  constructor subListSum
  field
    Γ_1 : List A
    Γ_1⊆Γ : Γ_1 ⊆ Γ
    Δ⊆Γ_1 : Δ ⊆ Γ_1
    Δ_1⊆Γ_1 : Δ_1 ⊆ Γ_1
    well : ⊆-trans Δ⊆Γ_1 Γ_1⊆Γ ≡ Δ⊆Γ
    well_1 : ⊆-trans Δ_1⊆Γ_1 Γ_1⊆Γ ≡ Δ_1⊆Γ
```

The type of the function which merges two subcontexts can be stated as:
merge : ∀ {Γ Δ Δ₁} → (Δ ⊆ Γ : Δ ⊆ Γ) → (Δ₁ ⊆ Γ : Δ ⊆ Γ) → SubListSum Δ ⊆ Γ Δ₁ ⊆ Γ

Observe that the function completely captures its behaviour. The fact that a type can completely capture the behaviour of a function is a remarkable feature of programming with dependent types. Even more remarkable is the fact that the logical properties of Γ₁ are useful computationally. E.g the proof that Δ ⊆ Γ₁ determines a renaming from Δ to Γ₁, which is used in the minimising closure conversion algorithm. A further example: the fact that ⊆-trans Δ ⊆ Γ₁ Γ₁ ⊆ Γ ≡ Δ ⊆ Γ is used in proofs of certain equivalences involving subcontexts and renaming.

4.8 Agda implementation of minimising closure conversion

Recall that terms of our intermediate languages are explicitly typed in a given context. For that reason, the result type of minimising closure conversion must be existentially quantified over a context. In fact, the context should be a subcontext of the input context Γ. This is captured with the dependent record ⊩-:

record ⊩- (Γ : Context) (A : Type) : Set where
  constructor ⊩-∧
  field
    Δ : Context
    Δ ⊆ Γ : Δ ⊆ Γ
    N : T.Lam A Δ

For example, a term N in a context Δ which is a subcontext of Γ by Δ ⊆ Γ, would be constructed as ⊩-[ Δ ] Δ ⊆ Γ ∧ N.

With this data type, the type of the minimising closure conversion function is:

cc : ∀ {Γ A} → S.Lam A Γ → Γ ⊩- A

The function definition is by cases:

Variable case

cc {A = A} (S.V x) = ⊩-[ A :: [] ] Var→ ⊆ x ∧ T.V z

Following min-V, a variable is typed in a singleton context. The proof of the subcontext relation is computed from the proof of the context membership by a function Var→⊆.

Application case

cc (S.A M N) with cc M | cc N
  cc (S.A M N) | ⊩-[ Δ ] Δ ⊆ Γ ∧ M† | ⊩-[ Δ₁ ] Δ₁ ⊆ Γ ∧ N† with merge Δ ⊆ Γ Δ₁ ⊆ Γ
Given an application $e_1 \ e_2$, $e_1$ and $e_2$ are closure converted recursively, resulting in terms $e_1'$ and $e_2'$, which are typed in $\Delta_1$ and $\Delta_2$, respectively. Following min-A, the result of closure-converting the application is typed in the context $\Delta$, which is the result of merging $\Delta_1$ and $\Delta_2$. As terms are explicitly typed in a context, $e_1'$ and $e_2'$ have to be renamed from $\Delta_1$ to $\Delta$, and from $\Delta_2$ to $\Delta$, respectively. A renaming environment is computed from the evidence for the subcontext relation by the function $\subseteq \rightarrow \rho$ which is given by:

$$\subseteq \rightarrow \rho : \{ \Gamma \Delta : \text{Context} \} \rightarrow \Gamma \subseteq \Delta \rightarrow \text{Thinning} \Gamma \Delta$$

$$\text{lookup (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \text{ base}) ()$$

$$\text{lookup (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \text{ (skip} \Gamma \subseteq \Delta) \text{) } x = s (\text{lookup (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \text{ } \Gamma \subseteq \Delta) \text{) } x)$$

$$\text{lookup (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \text{ (keep} \Gamma \subseteq \Delta) \text{) } z = z$$

$$\text{lookup (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \text{ (keep} \Gamma \subseteq \Delta) \text{) } (s \ x) = s (\text{lookup (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \text{ } \Gamma \subseteq \Delta) \text{) } x)$$

### Abstraction case

$$\text{cc} \ (S.L \ N) \text{ with } \text{cc } N$$

$$\text{cc} \ (S.L \ N) \ | \ \exists \ [ \Delta ] \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \land N \vdash \text{with adjust-context } \Delta \subseteq \Gamma$$

$$\text{cc} \ (S.L \ N) \ | \ \exists \ [ \Delta ] \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \land N \vdash \text{adjust } \Delta_1 \ \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma \land AA \Delta_1 \land$$

$$= \exists [ \Delta_1 ] \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma \land (T.L \ (\text{T.rename (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \Delta \subseteq \Delta_1 \text{) } M \vdash \text{T.rename (}\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \Delta \subseteq \Delta_1 \text{) } N \vdash))$$

Following min-L, the result of closure converting an abstraction depends on the result $\vdash$ of closure converting its body. A recursive call on the body of the abstraction yields a term typed in some context $\Delta$. But looking at the typing rule for closures ($T\text{-clos}$), the closure body is typed in a context $\sigma :: \Delta_1$ (or $\Delta_1, x : \sigma$ using named variables), where $\sigma$ is the type of the last bound variable and $\Delta_1$ is the context corresponding to the closure environment. Thus, we need a way of decomposing $\Delta$ into $\sigma$ and $\Delta_1$, together with an appropriate proof of membership in the input context $\Gamma$.

This task is achieved by the function adjust-context:

$$\text{adjust-context} : \forall \{ \Gamma \Delta A \} \rightarrow (\Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma : \Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma) \rightarrow \text{AdjustContext } \Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma$$

whose specification is captured by its return type which uses the dependent record AdjustContext:

$$\text{record AdjustContext } (A \Gamma \Delta) \ (\Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma : \Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma) : \text{Set}$$

$$\text{constructor adjust}$$

$$\text{field}$$

$$\Delta_1 : \text{Context}$$

$$\Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma : \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma$$

$$\Delta \subseteq A \Delta_1 : \Delta \subseteq A :: \Delta_1$$

$$\text{well} : \Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma \equiv \subseteq \text{-trans } \Delta \subseteq A \Delta_1 \ (\text{keep } \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma)$$
The specification is: given \( \Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma \), there exists a context \( \Delta_1 \) such that \( \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma \) and \( \Delta \subseteq A :: \Delta_1 \), such that the proof \( \Delta \subseteq A :: \Gamma \) obtained by transitivity is the same as the input proof.

The evidence that \( \Delta \subseteq A :: \Delta_1 \) is used to rename \( N \uparrow \) so that the final inherently-typed term is well-typed.

***

We also provide a wrapper function \( \_ \uparrow \):

\[
\begin{align*}
\_ \uparrow & : \forall \{ \Gamma \ A \} \to \text{S.Lam} \ A \ \Gamma \to \text{T.Lam} \ A \ \Gamma \\
M \uparrow & \text{ with } \text{cc} \ M \\
M \uparrow & \mid \exists[ \Delta ] \ \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \land N = \text{T.rename} (\subseteq \to \rho \ \Delta \subseteq \Gamma) \ N
\end{align*}
\]

This function is a wrapper over the \( \text{min-cc} \) function which undoes the minimisation on the outer level. In other words, all closures in the term are still minimised, but the outer term is typed in the same context as the input source term. This is useful when we need to compare the input and output of closure conversion, and need to ensure that they are typed in the same context.

### 4.9 Fusion lemmas for the closure language \( \lambda \text{cl} \)

One distinct kind of lemmas about interactions between different traversals, or semantics, are fusion lemmas. A fusion lemma relates three traversals: the pair we sequence and their composition. The two traversals which have to be fused in this development are renaming and substitution. There are four ways renaming and substitution can be composed, and each of those four compositions can be expressed as a single renaming or substitution:

1. A renaming followed by a renaming is a renaming
2. A renaming followed by a substitution is a substitution,
3. A substitution followed by a renaming is a substitution,
4. A substitution followed by a substitution is a substitution.

We state the results as signatures of Agda functions, using the environment combinators \(_<\$>_\) and select which are described in Section 3.4.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{rename} \circ \text{rename} & : \forall \{ \Gamma \ \Delta \ \Theta \ \tau \} \ (\rho_1 : \text{Thinning} \ \Gamma \ \Delta) \ (\rho_2 : \text{Thinning} \ \Delta \ \Theta) \ (N : \text{Lam} \ \tau \ \Gamma) \\
& \to \text{rename} \ \rho_2 \ (\text{rename} \ \rho_1 \ N) \equiv \text{rename} \ (\text{select} \ \rho_1 \ \rho_2) \ N \\
\text{subst} \circ \text{rename} & : \forall \{ \Gamma \ \Delta \ \Theta \ \tau \} \ (\rho \sigma : \text{Subst} \ \Gamma \ \Theta) \ (\rho \rho : \text{Thinning} \ \Delta \ \Gamma) \ (N : \text{Lam} \ \tau \ \Delta) \\
& \to \text{subst} \ \rho \sigma \ (\text{rename} \ \rho \rho \ N) \equiv \text{subst} \ (\text{select} \ \rho \rho \ \rho \sigma) \ N \\
\text{rename} \circ \text{subst} & : \forall \{ \Gamma \ \Delta \ \Theta \ \tau \} \ (\rho \rho : \text{Thinning} \ \Gamma \ \Theta) \ (\rho \sigma : \text{Subst} \ \Delta \ \Gamma) \ (N : \text{Lam} \ \tau \ \Delta) \\
& \to \text{rename} \ \rho \rho \ (\text{subst} \ \rho \sigma \ N) \equiv \text{subst} \ (\text{rename} \ \rho \rho \ <\$> \ \rho \sigma) \ N
\end{align*}
\]
\texttt{subst} \circ \texttt{subst} : \forall \langle \Gamma \Delta \Theta \tau \rangle (\rho_1 : \texttt{Subst} \Gamma \Theta) (\rho_2 : \texttt{Subst} \Delta \Gamma) (N : \texttt{Lam} \tau \Delta) \to \texttt{subst} \rho_1 (\texttt{subst} \rho_2 N) \equiv \texttt{subst} (\texttt{subst} \rho_1 <\$> \rho_2) N

Rather than include Agda proofs of all four lemmas, here we outline the proof structure, analyse just one of the four proofs, and compare fusion lemmas for \texttt{\lambda}cl with the corresponding lemmas for \texttt{\lambda}st.

A generic technique to prove fusion lemmas about renaming and substitution in STLC is one of the main contributions of ACMM [Allais et al., 2017]. Their proof uses Kripke logical relations and it relies on the invariant that corresponding environment values are in appropriate relations, including when environments are extended when going under a binder.

As it turns out, fusion lemmas for the closure language are simpler, as they do not require the logical relation machinery of ACMM. This is because renaming and substitution in \texttt{\lambda}cl do not happen under binders, as can be seen from their definitions in Section 4.3. For both renaming and substitution, in the closure case (L), the closure body is left untouched; only the closure environment is modified.

We are now ready to take a closer look at the proof of the fusion lemma stating that a renaming followed by a substitution is a substitution:

\texttt{subst} \circ \texttt{rename} : \forall \langle \Gamma \Delta \Theta \tau \rangle (\rho \sigma : \texttt{Subst} \Gamma \Theta) (\rho \rho : \texttt{Thinning} \Delta \Gamma) (N : \texttt{Lam} \tau \Delta) \to \texttt{subst} \rho \sigma (\texttt{rename} \rho \rho N) \equiv \texttt{subst} (\texttt{select} \rho \rho \rho \sigma) N

\texttt{subst} \circ \texttt{rename} \rho \sigma \rho \rho (\texttt{V} x) = \texttt{refl}
\texttt{subst} \circ \texttt{rename} \rho \sigma \rho \rho (\texttt{A} M N) = \texttt{cong}_2 \texttt{A} (\texttt{subst} \circ \texttt{rename} \rho \sigma \rho \rho M)
\texttt{subst} \circ \texttt{rename} \rho \sigma \rho \rho (\texttt{L} N E) = \texttt{cong}_2 \texttt{L} \texttt{refl} (\texttt{env-extensionality} h)

where \(h : (_<\$>_ \{ W = \texttt{Lam} \}) \equiv (\texttt{renaming} \rho \rho E)) \equiv E (\texttt{rename} \rho \rho \rho \sigma) <\$> E )
\(h \equiv \begin{align*}
  \text{begin E} & \quad \langle <\$>_ \{ W = \texttt{Lam} \} (\texttt{rename} \rho \rho \rho \sigma) <\$> E \rangle \\
  \equiv E & \quad \langle <\$>_ \{ W = \texttt{Lam} \} \text{rename} \rho \rho \rho \sigma <\$> E \rangle \\
  \equiv E & \quad \langle <\$>_ \{ W = \texttt{Lam} \} (\lambda e \to \texttt{rename} \rho \rho \rho \sigma e) <\$> \rangle \\
  \equiv E & \quad \texttt{rename} \rho \rho \rho \sigma <\$> E \\
\end{align*}

The proof is by induction on the typing derivation of the term:

- In the variable case, the LHS and the RHS normalise to the same term, so \texttt{refl} suffices.
- In the application case, the proof is by induction.
- In the closure case, the proof is also by induction, but an equational proof is required to show that the LHS and RHS act in the same way on the environment \(E\).
The equational proof proceeds as follows:

1. It uses the fact that function composition \(_\circ\_\) distributes through mapping over environments \(_<\>_\): we have \(f <\> g <\> E \equiv f \circ g <\> E\) which is capture by the lemma \(<\>_\text{-distr},\)

2. It uses the fact that when \(f\) and \(g\) are extensionally equal \((\forall x \rightarrow f x \equiv g x)\), then \(f <\> E \equiv g <\> E\) which is captured by the lemma \(<\>_\text{-fun},\)

3. \(<\>_\text{-fun}\) is instantiated with the inductive hypothesis.
Chapter 5
Proving correctness of closure conversion with a bisimulation

The preceding sections defined the source and target language of closure conversion, \( \lambda_{st} \) and \( \lambda_{cl} \), together with reduction rules for each, and a closure conversion function \( \text{min-cc} \) from \( \lambda_{st} \) to \( \lambda_{cl} \).

The \( \text{min-cc} \) closure conversion is type- and scope-preserving by construction. The property of type preservation provides confidence in the compilation process, but in this theoretical development which deals with a small, toy language, it is within our reach to prove properties about operational correctness.

One such operational correctness property of a pair of languages related by a translation is **bisimulation**. Intuition about bisimulation is captured by the slogan: related terms reduce to related terms.

This chapter starts by defining a relation between terms of \( \lambda_{st} \) and terms of \( \lambda_{cl} \), which we call a *compatibility relation*. The compatibility relation is syntactic: in general, two terms are compatible when their subterms are compatible.

Then, we define what it means for a relation to be a bisimulation. A bisimulation is a relation which has a semantic property which relates reduction steps of source and target terms. Next, we will show that the compatibility relation is a bisimulation.

Finally, we will link the compatibility relation to closure conversion: we will argue that the graph relation of every sensible closure conversion function is contained in the compatibility relation. In particular, we will prove that this is the case for \( \text{min-cc} \).

Overall, correctness of the minimising closure conversion is established: first, by showing that the input and output of closure conversion are related by a syntactic relation, and second, by showing that this syntactic relation is also a semantic relation. Thus, soundness of our closure conversion is established.

The part which shows that the compatibility relation is a bisimulation is inspired by the “Bisimulation” chapter from [Wadler, 2018].
Chapter 5. Proving correctness of closure conversion with a bisimulation

5.1 Compatibility relation

**Definition.** Given a term $M$ in $\lambda_{st}$ and a term $M \dagger$ in $\lambda_{cl}$, the compatibility relation $M \sim M \dagger$ is defined inductively as follows:

- **(Variable)** For any given variable (proof of context membership) $x$, we have $S.' x \sim T.' x$.
- **(Application)** If $M \sim M \dagger$ and $N \sim N \dagger$, then $M \cdot N \sim M \dagger \cdot N \dagger$.
- **(Abstraction)** If $N T.\text{subst} (T.\text{exts} E) N \dagger$, then $S.L N \sim T.L N \dagger E$.

Recall that $\lambda_{st}$ and $\lambda_{cl}$ share types, contexts, and variables (proofs of context membership). In fact, compatibility is only defined for source and target terms of the same type in the same context (this is explicit in the Agda definition).

While the variable and application cases are straightforward, the abstraction / closure case needs some explanation. Since the body $N$ of the abstraction is defined in $\sigma :: \Gamma$, and the body of the closure $N \dagger$ is defined in $\sigma :: \Delta$, they cannot be compatible. However, $N$ can be compatible with the result of substituting the environment $E$ in $N \dagger$ (the environment is extended with a variable corresponding to $\sigma$ in the context). The intuition for the abstraction/closure case is that substituting the environment “undoes” the effect of closure conversion.

The compatibility relation is defined in Agda as follows:

```
data _~_ : ∀ {Γ σ} → S.Lam σ Γ → T.Lam σ Γ → Set where
  _~V_ : ∀ {Γ σ} {x : Var σ Γ} → S.V x ~ T.V x
  _~A_ : ∀ {Γ σ τ} {L : S.Lam (σ ⇒ τ) Γ} {L \dagger : T.Lam (σ ⇒ τ) Γ} {M : S.Lam σ Γ} {M \dagger : T.Lam σ Γ} → L \sim L \dagger → M \sim M \dagger → S.A L M \sim T.A L \dagger M \dagger
  _~L_ : ∀ {Γ Δ σ τ} {N : S.Lam τ (σ :: Γ)} {N \dagger : T.Lam τ (σ :: Δ)} {E : T.Subst Δ Γ} → N \sim T.\text{subst} (T.\text{exts} E) N \dagger → S.L N \sim T.L N \dagger E```

We have defined the syntactic compatibility relation. The next section states what it means for a relation to be a bisimulation.

5.2 Bisimulation

Bisimulation, as the name implies, is defined in terms on two simulations: one from source to target terms, and the other one from target to source terms.
The following definitions relates a two languages, A and B.

**Definition.** Given a relation $\approx$ between terms of A and terms of B, we say that $\approx$ is a (locks-step) **simulation** from A to B if and only if for all terms $M$ and $N$ in A, and $M^{\dagger}$ in B, if $M$ reduces in a single step to $N$, and $M$ and $M^{\dagger}$ are in the $\approx$ relation ($M \approx M^{\dagger}$), then there exists a term $N^{\dagger}$ in B such that $M^{\dagger}$ reduces to $N^{\dagger}$ in a single step, and $N$ is in the $\approx$ relation with $N^{\dagger}$: $N \approx N^{\dagger}$.

The essence of simulation can be captured in a diagram.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
M \xrightarrow{\approx} N \\
\approx \downarrow \quad \downarrow \approx \\
M^{\dagger} \xrightarrow{\approx} N^{\dagger}
\end{array}
\]

Recall that the **converse** of the relation $\approx$ is a relation $\approx'$ defined by $y \approx' x$ whenever $x \approx y$.

**Definition.** A relation $\approx$ is a **bisimulation** if and only if it is a simulation and its converse is also a simulation.

In Agda, we instantiate the definition of simulation twice: once for a simulation from $\lambda_{st}$ to $\lambda_{cl}$, and again for a simulation from $\lambda_{cl}$ to $\lambda_{st}$:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ST-Rel} &= \forall \{\Gamma \sigma\} \to \text{S.Lam} \sigma \Gamma \to \text{T.Lam} \sigma \Gamma \to \text{Set} \\
\text{ST-Simulation} : \text{ST-Rel} &\to \text{Set} \\
\text{ST-Simulation} _{\approx=} &= \forall \{\Gamma \sigma\} \{M N : \text{S.Lam} \sigma \Gamma\} \{M^{\dagger} : \text{T.Lam} \sigma \Gamma\} \\
&\quad \to M \approx M^{\dagger} \to M \text{S.} \to N \\
&\quad \to \exists [N^{\dagger}] ((N \approx N^{\dagger}) \times (M^{\dagger} \text{T.} \to N^{\dagger})) \\
\text{TS-Simulation} : \text{ST-Rel} &\to \text{Set} \\
\text{TS-Simulation} _{\approx=} &= \forall \{\Gamma \sigma\} \{M : \text{S.Lam} \sigma \Gamma\} \{M^{\dagger} N^{\dagger} : \text{T.Lam} \sigma \Gamma\} \\
&\quad \to M \approx M^{\dagger} \to M^{\dagger} \text{T.} \to N^{\dagger} \\
&\quad \to \exists [N] ((N \approx N^{\dagger}) \times (M \text{S.} \to N))
\end{align*}
\]

Then we can provide an Agda definition of a bisimulation:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Bisimulation} : \text{ST-Rel} &\to \text{Set} \\
\text{Bisimulation} _{\approx=} &= \text{ST-Simulation} _{\approx=} \times \text{TS-Simulation} _{\approx=}
\end{align*}
\]

To show that the compatibility relation is a bisimulation, we need to obtain lemmas about the interactions between the compatibility relation, values, renaming, and substitution.
5.3 Compatibility, values, renaming, and substitution

As discussed in Section 2.2, mechanising the meta-theory of a language involves proving lemmas about the interactions between various traversals and transformations, including renaming, substitution, and compilation phases. This is also the case for proving correctness with bisimulation, which requires establishing lemmas about the interplay between the compatibility relation, values, renaming, and substitution. In fact, proving those lemmas often constitutes the biggest effort in the entire proof. In Chapter 7, we reflect on the possibility of automating this effort with generic proving.

For each relevant property, we state it as an informal lemma, give its Agda statement, and its Agda proof.

**Lemma.** Values commute with compatibility. If \( M \sim M^\dagger \) and \( M \) is a value, then \( M^\dagger \) is also a value.

The proof is by cases of term constructors.

\[
\begin{align*}
\simval : & \forall \{ \Gamma \sigma \} \{ M : \text{S.Lam } \sigma \Gamma \} \{ M^\dagger : \text{T.Lam } \sigma \Gamma \} \\
& \rightarrow M \sim M^\dagger \rightarrow \text{S.Value } M \\
& \rightarrow \text{T.Value } M^\dagger \\
\simval & \sim V () \\
\simval (\sim L \sim N) & \text{S.V-L } = \text{T.V-L} \\
\simval (\sim A \sim M \sim N) & ()
\end{align*}
\]

The proof is by cases of term constructors.

\[
\begin{align*}
\simrename : & \forall \{ \Gamma \Delta \sigma \} \{ M : \text{S.Lam } \sigma \Gamma \} \{ M^\dagger : \text{T.Lam } \sigma \Gamma \} \\
& \rightarrow (\rho : \text{Thinning } \Gamma \Delta) \rightarrow M \sim M^\dagger \\
& \rightarrow \text{S.rename } \rho M \sim \text{T.rename } \rho M^\dagger \\
\simrename \sim V & = \sim V \\
\simrename \sim A (A \sim N) & = \sim A (\simrename \sim A) (\simrename \sim N) \\
\simrename \sim L \sim N & \text{ with } \simrename \text{T.ext } \sim N \\
\simrename \rho N & \text{ rewrite TT.lemma-~ren-L } \rho E N^\dagger = \sim L \sim \rho N
\end{align*}
\]

The variable and application cases are straightforward, but as ever, the abstraction case is more involved: it requires rewriting with an instantiation of the fusion lemma \( \text{rename} \circ \text{subst} \).

\[
\text{lemma-\~ren-L} : \forall \{ \Gamma \Delta \Theta \sigma \tau \} \{ pp : \text{Thinning } \Gamma \Theta \} \{ \rho \sigma : \text{Subst } \Delta \Gamma \} \{ N : \text{Lam } \tau (\sigma :: \Delta) \} \\
\rightarrow \text{rename } (\text{ext } \rho pp) (\text{subst } (\text{exts } \rho \sigma) N) \equiv \text{subst } (\text{exts } (\text{rename } \rho pp <\$> \rho \sigma)) N
\]

The final lemma is about the interplay between compatibility and substitution.

**Definition.** Suppose \( \rho \) and \( \rho^\dagger \) are two substitutions which take variables \( x \) in \( \Gamma \) to terms in \( \Delta \), such that for all \( x \) we have that lookup \( \rho x \sim \text{lookup } \rho^\dagger x \). Then we say that \( \rho \) and \( \rho^\dagger \) are **pointwise compatible**.
Lemma. Substitution commutes with compatibility. Suppose $\rho$ and $\rho \uparrow$ are two point-wise compatible substitutions. Then given compatible terms $M \sim M \uparrow$ in $\Gamma$, the results of applying $\rho$ to $M$ and $\rho \uparrow$ to $M \uparrow$ are also compatible: $S\text{-}\text{subst}_\rho M \sim S\text{-}\text{subst}_{\rho \uparrow} M \uparrow$.

Pointwise similarity relation between substitutions $\rho$ and $\rho \uparrow$ is defined in Agda with $\sim$:

\[
\text{record } \sim_{\sigma} \text{ with }
\begin{cases}
\text{Γ ∆ : Context} \quad \text{(ρ : S.Subst Γ ∆) (ρ \uparrow : T.Subst Γ ∆) : Set where } \\
\text{field } \rho \sim \rho \uparrow : \forall \rightarrow (x : \text{Var } \sigma \Gamma) \rightarrow \text{lookup } \rho x \sim \text{lookup } \rho \uparrow x
\end{cases}
\]

We can show that pointwise similarity is preserved by applying exts to both substitutions:

\[
\text{exts} : \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma\} \{\rho : S.Subst \Gamma \Delta\} \{\rho \uparrow : T.Subst \Gamma \Delta\} \rightarrow \rho \sim \sigma \rho \uparrow \rightarrow M \sim M \uparrow \rightarrow S\text{-}\text{subst}_\rho M \sim T\text{-}\text{subst}_{\rho \uparrow} M \uparrow
\]

In fact, extending pointwise-similar substitutions with similar terms preserves pointwise similarity:

\[
\text{~•} : \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \sigma\} \{\rho : S.Subst \Gamma \Delta\} \{\rho \uparrow : T.Subst \Gamma \Delta\} \rightarrow \rho \sim \sigma \rho \uparrow \rightarrow M \sim M \uparrow \rightarrow S\text{-}\text{subst}_\rho M \sim T\text{-}\text{subst}_{\rho \uparrow} M \uparrow
\]

With the notion of pointwise similarity, we can prove that substitution commutes with similarity:

\[
\text{~subst} : \forall \{\Gamma \Delta \tau\} \{\rho : S.Subst \Gamma \Delta\} \{\rho \uparrow : T.Subst \Gamma \Delta\} \rightarrow \rho \sim \tau \rho \uparrow \rightarrow M \sim M \uparrow \rightarrow S\text{-}\text{subst}_\rho M \sim T\text{-}\text{subst}_{\rho \uparrow} M \uparrow
\]

Just like in the lemma that renaming commutes with compatibility, the only non-trivial case is the one about abstractions/closures, which requires rewriting by an instantiation of the fusion lemma subst\circ subst.
With those three lemmas, showing that the compatibility relation is a bisimulation becomes straightforward.

### 5.4 Compatibility is a bisimulation

The proof that the compatibility relation $\sim$ is a bisimulation consists of two proofs of simulations. Given:

```agda
st-sim : ST-Simulation _$\sim$_    ts-sim : TS-Simulation _$\sim$_
```

we have that $\sim$ is a bisimulation:

```agda
bisim : Bisimulation _$\sim$_    bisim = st-sim , ts-sim
```

The proofs of both $\text{st-sim}$ and $\text{ts-sim}$ are by case analysis on all possible instances of the compatibility relation $\sim$ and all possible instances of the reduction relation. The Agda mechanisation of the proof can be found in the technical appendix.

### 5.5 Compatibility and closure conversion

We have showed that the compatibility relation is a bisimulation. The connection between closure conversion and the compatibility relation is that we require that the graph relation of every-well behaved closure conversion function $\_\dagger$ is contained in the compatibility relation: $M \sim M \dagger$. We cannot quantify over all closure conversion function, so instead, we must show that this is the case for every function which we claim is a well-behaved closure conversion. In this section, we will show that this property is possessed by the trivial closure conversion $\text{simple-cc}$ and the minimising closure conversion $\_\dagger$.

While there are many possible closure conversion function, which differ the big environments they construct, there is a unique backtranslation from $\lambda_{cl}$ to $\lambda_{st}$, which we call $\text{undo}$. We can show that the converse of the graph relation of $\text{undo}$ is contained in the compatibility relation: $\text{undo} N \sim N$.

```agda
{-# TERMINATING #-}    undo : \forall \{\Gamma A\} \to T.Lam A \Gamma \to S.Lam A \Gamma    undo (T.V x) = S.V x    undo (T.A M N) = S.A (undo M) (undo N)    undo (T.L M E) = S.L (undo (T.subst (T.exts E) M))
```

{-# TERMINATING #-}
undo-compat : ∀ {Γ σ} (N : T.Lam σ Γ) → undo N ~ N
undo-compat (T.V x) = ~V
undo-compat (T.A M N) = ~A (undo-compat M) (undo-compat N)
undo-compat (T.L N E) = ~L (undo-compat _)

Side note about proving termination of proofs. Notice that several functions in this development have been annotated as TERMINATING. This annotation is not checked, and if a function is annotated incorrectly, it could cause Agda to loop forever during typechecking. Furthermore, non-terminating function does not corresponds to a proof, and allowing such functions makes Agda’s logic inconsistent.

In general, a function terminates if it strictly decreases in one of its arguments, and the type of that argument cannot decrease infinitely: e.g. natural numbers are bounded from below by zero. Agda can tell that an argument decreases when it is evident syntactically, but in more complicated cases, an explicit proof needs to be provided.

We can tell by inspection that the undo function terminates. Suppose we define a size measure (function) on target terms which is defined as the number of term constructors in the term, including in the environment. Then it is easy to see that in the closure case, the argument to the recursive call to undo, T.subst (T.exts E) M, has a smaller measure than the input argument T.L M E.

An explicit proof of termination is not of interest in this project. The reason for mechanising proofs is to help with bookkeeping and prevent errors. When we are certain about a property such as termination, there is little value in mechanising its proof.

Recall the trivial closure conversion simple-cc from Section 4.5. The conversion simple-cc is well-behaved as its graph relation is contained in the compatibility relation. The proof is by straightforward induction; in the abstraction case, we need to argue that applying an identity substitution leaves the argument term unchanged.

~simple-cc : ∀ {Γ σ} (N : S.Lam σ Γ)
→ N ~ simple-cc N
~simple-cc (S.V x) = ~V
~simple-cc (S.A f e) = ~A (~simple-cc f) (~simple-cc e)
~simple-cc (S.L b) = ~L g
where
h : ∀ {Γ σ τ} (M : T.Lam σ (τ :: Γ)) → T.subst (T.exts T.id-subst) M ≡ M
h M = begin
  T.subst (T.exts T.id-subst) M
≡⟨ cong (λ e → T.subst e M) (sym (env-extensionality TT.exts-id-subst)) ⟩
  T.subst T.id-subst M
≡⟨ TT.subst-id-id ⟩ M
M
■
g : b ~ T.subst (T.exts T.id-subst) (simple-cc b)
g rewrite h (simple-cc b) = ~simple-cc b

The minimising closure conversion _† is also well-behaved:
\[
N \sim N \uparrow : \forall \{ \Gamma : A \} \ (N : S.\text{Lam} \ A \ \Gamma) \rightarrow N \sim N \uparrow
\]

The proof of this is too long to discuss here, but the reader can find it in the technical appendix of this report.

***

This concludes the argument that our closure conversion is correct. We have shown that the graph relation of our closure conversion function is contained in the compatibility relation, and that the compatibility relation is a bisimulation. This means that when a source term and its closure converted target term both take a reduction step, then the terms they reduce to are also compatible.
Chapter 6

Proving correctness of closure conversion by logical relations

Chapter 5 shows a correctness property of closure conversion: the source and target of our closure conversion are in a relation which is a bisimulation. This chapter demonstrates another technique for proving correctness: type-indexed logical relations. Type-indexed logical relations are characterised by using induction on the type structure of terms.

The outline of this chapter is similar to that of Chapter 5 about bisimulations. First, we introduce a modified representations of simply typed lambda calculus ($\lambda_{st}'$) and the language with closures ($\lambda_{cl}'$), where terms are explicitly labelled as values or reducible expressions (this helps with mechanisation as logical relations treat values and reducible terms differently). Unlike $\lambda_{st}$ and $\lambda_{cl}$, $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$ have big-step semantics.

Then, the syntactic compatibility relation between $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$ is redefined. Finally, we define a logical relation between $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$, and we formulate the fundamental theorem for the latter logical relation. As a corollary, it follows that the compatibility relation implies the logical relation for closed terms.

The proof by logical relations is based on [Minamide et al., 1996], but the Agda mechanisation is this project’s contribution.

6.1 Alternative representation of languages

This section presents an alternative representation of the source and target language of closure conversion. We call the new formalisation of the source language $\lambda_{st}'$, and the new formalisation of the target language - $\lambda_{cl}'$. Compared with $\lambda_{st}$ and $\lambda_{cl}$ in Chapter 4, $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$ are different in two ways. Firstly, the distinction between values and non-values is made explicit in the definition of terms of $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$, replacing a predicate on terms in $\lambda_{st}$ and $\lambda_{cl}$. Secondly, we give big-step semantics for $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$, in contrast to small-step semantics for $\lambda_{st}$ and $\lambda_{cl}$. These two differences simplify mechanisation of a proof by logical relation.
These improvements in formalisation are inspired by an Agda formalisation accompanying [McLaughlin et al., 2018].

The definitions of types, contexts, variables as proofs of context membership, and environments, are similar to corresponding definitions for λst and λcl, except that the ground type is now called ‘B and it represents boolean values. The definition of language expressions is different, however, in that it makes an explicit distinction between values Val and non-values Trm. This is achieved by indexing the Exp data type by a Kind:

```haskell
data Kind : Set where
  'val 'trm : Kind

data Exp : Kind → Type → Context → Set

Trm : Type → Context → Set
Trm = Exp 'trm

Val : Type → Context → Set
Val = Exp 'val

infixl 5 _\$_

data Exp where

  -- values
  'var : ∀ {Γ σ} → Var σ Γ → Val σ Γ
  'λ : ∀ {Γ σ τ} → Trm τ (σ :: Γ) → Val (σ ⇒ τ) Γ
  'tt 'ff : ∀ → Val 'B Γ

  -- non-values (a.k.a. terms)
  _\$_: ∀ {Γ σ τ} → Val (σ ⇒ τ) Γ → Val σ Γ → Trm τ Γ
  'let : ∀ {Γ σ τ} → Trm σ Γ → Trm τ (σ :: Γ) → Trm τ Γ
  'val : ∀ {Γ σ} → Val σ Γ → Trm σ Γ
```

Notice that there are four new constructors for language expressions.

- ‘val takes a value Val to a term Trm and thus makes it possible to use values in positions where terms are expected.
- ‘tt and ‘ff are introduction forms for the ‘B type.
- ‘let is a standard let construct. The let is necessary to make the evaluation order explicit: function application applies a value to a value, so nested computations need to be factored out and bound as values by a let expression. This representation is known as A-normal form [Sabry and Felleisen, 1992].

Definition of renaming and substitution are similar to those for λst, so we do not include the updated versions here.
We define aliases for closed values $\text{Val}_0$ and closed terms $\text{Trm}_0$ (typed in an empty context):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Exp}_0 : & \text{Kind} \to \text{Type} \to \text{Set} \\
\text{Exp}_0 k \tau &= \text{Exp} k \tau [] \\
\text{Trm}_0 : & \text{Type} \to \text{Set} \\
\text{Trm}_0 &= \text{Exp}_0 \ '\text{trm} \\
\text{Val}_0 : & \text{Type} \to \text{Set} \\
\text{Val}_0 &= \text{Exp}_0 \ '\text{val}
\end{align*}
\]

The $\Downarrow$ relation specifies big-step semantics for $\lambda st'$. Given a term $M$ and a value $V$, the inductive definition $M \Downarrow V$ states the conditions for $M$ to reduce to a value $V$:

\[
\text{data } _\Downarrow \rightarrow_1 _\Downarrow : \forall \sigma \to \text{Trm}_0 \sigma \to \text{Trm}_0 \sigma \to \text{Set} \text{ where}
\]
\[
\begin{align*}
_\Downarrow \text{val} : & \forall (\sigma \tau) \{ M : \text{Trm} \tau (\sigma :: []) \} \{ V : \text{Val}_0 \sigma \} \rightarrow \lambda M \ 'M 'V \rightarrow_1 M [ V ] \\
_\Downarrow \text{app} : & \forall (\sigma \tau) \{ M : \text{Trm} \tau (\sigma :: []) \} \{ V : \text{Val}_0 \sigma \} \rightarrow \lambda M 'V \rightarrow _\Downarrow_1 M \rightarrow_1_1 M [ V ] \\
_\Downarrow \text{let} : & \forall (\sigma \tau) \{ M : \text{Trm}_0 \sigma \} \{ N : \text{Trm} \tau (\sigma :: []) \} \{ U : \text{Val}_0 \tau \} \rightarrow \lambda M 'N 'U 'V \rightarrow _\Downarrow_1 M \rightarrow_1_1 M [ V ]
\end{align*}
\]

The $M \rightarrow_1 M'$ data type describes part of the small-step reduction relation and has a single constructor which captures beta reduction for functions. The $\Downarrow \text{step}$ constructor is similar to the transitive closure of the small-step reduction relation: if $M$ reduces to $M'$ in a small step, and $M'$ reduces to $V$ in a big step, then $M$ reduces to $V$ in a big step.

Differences between $\lambda \text{cl}$ and $\lambda \text{cl}'$ are analogous.

### 6.2 Correctness by logical relations

This section defines two relations between terms of $\lambda st'$ and $\lambda \text{cl}'$. The first is just a reformulation of the compatibility relation from Chapter 5, which, as the reader may remember, subsumes the graph relation of any closure conversion. The other is a logical relation, which captures the notion that related terms reduce to related values.

Subsequently, we formulate and prove a proposition which we call a fundamental theorem for the logical relation. The theorem is a statement of correctness for any closure conversion function whose graph relation is contained in the compatibility relation.

The proof is inspired by a sketch of an argument from [Minamide et al., 1996].
6.2.1 The compatibility relation

We denote the compatibility relation with $\sim$. In general, given a term $M_1$ in $\lambda_{st'}$ and a term $M_2$ in $\lambda_{cl'}$, $M_1$ and $M_2$ are compatible ($M_1 \sim M_2$) when their subterms are compatible. In the special case of abstractions/closures, the closure body is renamed with the environment in the premise of the rule.

For brevity, we do not include translation functions from $\lambda_{st'}$ to $\lambda_{cl'}$. The reader should
convince themselves that the minimising closure conversion from $\lambda_{st}$ and $\lambda_{cl}$ could be ported to $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$, and that its graph relation would be contained in $\sim$.

### 6.2.2 The logical relation

While the compatibility relation captures syntactic correspondence, we need another relation on (closed) language expressions which captures operational correspondence. We define a family of logical relation $\equiv$ relating closed source terms (reducible expressions) to closed target terms ($\sim$) and closed source values to closed target values ($\approx$). The relations are defined by induction on types. In the definition, we write $\tau \ni M_1 \sim= M_2$ or $\tau \ni M_1 \approx M_2$ to mean that $M_1$ and $M_2$ are related at type $\tau$:

- $\tau \ni M_1 \sim= M_2$ iff $M_1 \downarrow V_1$, $M_2 \downarrow V_2$, and $\tau \ni V_1 \approx V_2$
- $\mathbb{B} \ni \text{’tt} \approx \text{’tt}$
- $\sigma \Rightarrow \tau \ni U_1 \approx U_2$ iff for all $\sigma \ni V_1 \approx V_2$, $\tau \ni U_1 \sim= U_2 \sim= V_2$

In Agda, $\sim=\approx$ are defined as specialisations of the $\equiv$ relation on closed expressions of $\lambda_{st}'$ and $\lambda_{cl}'$.

```agda
{-# NO_POSITIVITY_CHECK #-}
data _≡_ : ∀ {k τ} → S.Exp 0 k τ → T.Exp 0 k τ → Set
_≈_ = _≡_

≡λ : ∀ {Δ σ τ} {M₁ : S.Trm τ (σ :: [])} {M₂ : T.Trm τ (σ :: Δ)} {E : T.Subst Δ []}
    → ((V₁ : S.Val₀ σ) {V₂ : T.Val₀ σ})
    → V₁ ≈ V₂ → M₁ [ V₁ ] ≈ subst (E • V₂) M₂
    → S.λ M₁ ≈ T.λ M₂ E

≡tt : S.tt ≈ T.tt
≡ff : S.ff ≈ T.ff
```

```
data _≡_ where
  -- values

  ≡λ : ∀ {Δ σ τ} {M₁ : S.Trm τ (σ :: [])} {M₂ : T.Trm τ (σ :: Δ)} {E : T.Subst Δ []}
      → ((V₁ : S.Val₀ σ) {V₂ : T.Val₀ σ})
      → V₁ ≈ V₂ → M₁ [ V₁ ] ≈ subst (E • V₂) M₂
      → S.λ M₁ ≈ T.λ M₂ E

  ≡tt : S.tt ≈ T.tt
  ≡ff : S.ff ≈ T.ff
  -- terms

  ≡Trm : ∀ {N₁ : S.Trm₀ σ} {N₂ : T.Trm₀ σ}
```
We define a pointwise version of the $\approx$ relation which relates source and target substitution environments, similar to what we did in Section 5.3:

\[
\text{record } \_\bullet \approx \_ \{ \Gamma : \text{List Type} \} \\
(\rho^s : \text{S.Subst }\Gamma []) (\rho^t : \text{T.Subst }\Gamma []) : \text{Set where} \\
\text{constructor pack}^R \\
\text{field lookup}^R : \{ \sigma : \text{Type} \} (v : \text{Var }\sigma \Gamma) \\
\rightarrow \text{lookup }\rho^s v \approx \text{lookup }\rho^t v
\]

We also provide a function $\bullet R$ which extends two related substitution environments with a pair of related values:

\[
\text{fund} : \forall (\Gamma \sigma k) \{ M_1 : \text{S.Exp }k \sigma \Gamma \} \{ M_2 : \text{T.Exp }k \sigma \Gamma \} \\
(\rho^s : \text{S.Subst }\Gamma []) (\rho^t : \text{T.Subst }\Gamma []) : \text{Set} \\
\rightarrow \rho^s \bullet \approx \rho^t \bullet \\
\rightarrow M_1 \sim M_2
\]

\[
\text{lookup}^R (\rho^R \bullet \approx N) (s \cdot x) = \text{lookup}^R \rho^R x
\]

Finally, we can state the fundamental theorem for our logical relation:

**Lemma.** Fundamental theorem of logical relations. *Given a source term $M$, a target term $M^\dagger$, a source substitution $\rho^s$, and a target substitution $\rho^t$, if $M$ is compatible with $M^\dagger$, and for all variables $x$ in the context, the corresponding values in the substitution environments are in the logical relation ($\rho^s(x) \approx \rho^t(x)$), then $\text{S.subst }\rho^s M$ and $\text{T.subst }\rho^t M^\dagger$ are in the logical relation.*

\[
\text{fund} : \forall (\Gamma \sigma k) \{ M_1 : \text{S.Exp }k \sigma \Gamma \} \{ M_2 : \text{T.Exp }k \sigma \Gamma \} \\
(\rho^s : \text{S.Subst }\Gamma []) (\rho^t : \text{T.Subst }\Gamma []) : \text{Set} \\
\rightarrow \rho^s \bullet \approx \rho^t \bullet \\
\rightarrow M_1 \sim M_2
\]

\[
\text{Observe that the Fundamental theorem, instatiated from closed terms, is equivalent to the Correctness property for the compatibility relation.}
\]

The Agda proof of the theorem is included in the technical appendix.
Chapter 7

Reflections and evaluation

This project is a case study on verification of transformations of functional programs using two different techniques: bisimulations and logical relations. The implemented transformation is closure conversion. Both proofs of operational correctness are mechanised with state-of-the-art techniques.

Recall that the objectives set forth and achieved in the project were:

1. To implement a compiler transformation for a variant of simply-typed lambda calculus in Agda.
2. To use scope-safe and well-typed representation for the object languages.
3. To prove that the transformation is correct: that the output program of the transformation behaves “the same” as the input program.
4. To use generic programming techniques from ACMM.

The two sections of this chapter evaluate the achievements of this project and reflect on its relationship to other work and potential future work.

7.1 Evaluation of achievements

(Objective 1) Capturing the essence of closure conversion The implemented transformation — closure conversion — requires a different source and target language. While the formalisation of the source language is largely borrowed from ACMM, and the formalisation of the target language is similar except for the difference between abstractions and closures, this project’s contribution was to capture the essence of closure conversion in what we believe is the simplest and most elegant way possible.

Inherently typed closures A traditional representation of closure conversion replaces variables in the source program with references to a record containing the environment in the target program. This project’s use of scope-safe and well-typed terms
allowed for a more elegant solution where the closure body is typed in a context corresponding to the closure’s environment, and variables remain variables.

**Closure environments as substitution environments** Furthermore, while a closure environment is traditionally represented as a record which stores environment values, this project captures the essence of an environment by representing it as a substitution environment, i.e. a mapping from variables to values.

**Existential types for closure environments** Closure environment should have existential types in order for a program with closures to be well-typed. This observation was made by [Minamide et al., 1996], which deals with this fact by equipping the closure language with existential types. This project uses a different, arguably simpler approach, whereby closure environment are existentially typed in the meta language (Agda), which allows us to keep the types of the object language simple.

**(Objective 2) Scope-safe and well-typed representation** Both the source and target language have scope-safe and well-typed representation, which is possible thanks to using dependently-typed Agda as the meta language. Using inherently scoped and typed terms has many benefits, which include the fact that when programs are synonymous with their typing derivations, transformations on programs are synonymous with proofs of type preservation. Additionally, many techniques for reasoning about operational correctness are type-directed, e.g. the type-indexed logical relations which we used, and inherently typed representations are well-matched to such techniques.

**(Objective 3) The closure conversion preserves operational correctness** This project uses two standard techniques to show that the implemented closure conversion is correct: bisimulation and logical relations. In an informal setting of pen-and-paper proofs, both of those techniques have rather straightforward proofs. However, mechanisation of those proofs involves proving several lemmas about the interactions between renaming, substitution, closure conversion, and the compatibility relation.

### 7.2 Reflections and comparison with related work

**Comparison with traditional closure conversion** In comparison with traditional closure conversion which represents environments as records, this formulation, which represents closure environments as substitution environments, i.e. meta-language functions, is further removed from the eventual target, which is machine code. But one can imagine a subsequent compilation phase which replaces substitution environments with records, and variables with record lookups (the object language would need existential types then). In general, splitting the compilation process into many specialised passes facilitates verification, as each compilation phase is easier to verify, and composing correctness results about phases gives rise to a end-to-end correctness result.
Mechanising the meta-theory of a language  As observed in ACMM, mechanising the meta-theory of a language most often requires proving lemmas about the interactions between different transformations, or semantics, like renaming and substitutions. ACMM singles out synchronisation lemmas, which relate two semantics (e.g. for every renaming there exists a substitution which behaves the same), and fusion lemmas (e.g. for every composition of two substitutions, there exists a substitution which behaves the same).

(Objective 4) ACMM  ACMM exploit similarity between various traversals (semantics) in simply typed lambda calculus (STLC) to provide a generic way to prove synchronisation and fusion lemmas for STLC.

It should be noted that the objective of using generic proving from ACMM was met partially. This project does borrow a type-and-scope safe representation from ACMM, but it does not duplicate ACMM’s effort of setting up the machinery for generic proofs of synchronisation and fusion lemmas. That machinery depends on the concrete representation of STLC, and since ours is slightly different, we just postulate the synchronisation and fusion lemmas for STLC — ACMM shows that their their mechanical proofs exist and can be made generic.

Intermediate languages other than STLC require their own definitions of renaming and substitution, and proofs of correctness lemmas. For example, the proofs of operational correctness with bisimulations and logical relations depend on four fusion lemmas relating renaming and substitution for the language with closures. Since ACMM did not show anything about a language with closures, we proved the necessary lemmas manually. In fact, mechanising those lemmas constituted the biggest effort in the whole proof.

Possible remedy: AACMM and generic programming  The problem of having to define renaming and substitution for each new language, and proving correctness lemmas about the interactions between renaming, substitution, and transformations, is address by AACMM [Allais et al., 2018], whose contributions were described in Section 2.2.

Feasibility of closure conversion in AACMM  AACMM demonstrates that transformations like let-inlining and CPS conversion can be expressed in their generic framework. They pose an open question about which compilation passes can be implemented generically. Unfortunately, this work suggests that closure conversion might not fit well into the AACMM framework. Specifically, the closure language in this project — with features like syntax being mutually dependent on substitution environments, or environments being existentially quantified in the meta language (Agda) — is not expressible as an AACMM generic syntax. The traditional representation of a languages with closures — with environments as records and existential types in the object language — would not fit either as syntaxes in AACMM do not support existential types.
Summary  This work and ACMM/AACMM are both concerned with mechanising the meta-theory of languages, and applying this metatheory to reason about the language. While AACMM shows that a certain class of languages can be treated generically, this work contributes a negative result which indicates that a language with closures might not benefit from AACMM’s techniques for relieving the burden of mechanising meta-theory. It is an open question, however, whether there exist feasible generic syntaxes which would encompass a language with closures, or whether an alternative formalisation of a language with closures exists which is compatible with AACMM.
Chapter 8

Relationship to the UG4 project

The UG4 explored one particular kind of program transformations, which we refer to as program derivation. In program derivation, a transformation is specified by a source program (or specification), and a recipe for obtaining a result program. The UG4 project assumed a particular style of derivations known as Bird-Meertens Formalism [Gibbons, 1994]. In BMF, derivations are based on equational reasoning, and consist of a sequence of intermediate forms of the program, where the steps are annotated with rules justifying each step. This is illustrated by the template below:

```
specification
    = { justification }
intermediate form 1
    = { justification }
...
    = { justification }
intermediate form n
    = { justification }
implementation
```

This year’s work explores the other ends of the spectrum of transformations on programs, which encompasses compilation phases.

This chapter attempts to find common characteristics between compilation phases and program derivations, but also highlight their differences. It also looks at the middle of the spectrum, where certain transformations on programs could be classified either way. It ends with a reflections on lessons learned from this year’s project which would have been helpful for last year’s work.

In literature, what we refer to as program derivation is sometimes called program construction or calculation, and a program derivation described an instance of the process. Here, we use the term “derivation” to describe a family of transformations on programs, in order to avoid confusion with program transformations within compilers.
8.1 Compilation phases and program derivations

Compilation phases and derivations can be described and compared in terms of several criteria: (a) the objective of the transformation, (b) what the source and the target of the transformation is, (b) required expertise from the user, (c) user’s expertise and input needed to guide the transformation, and (d) whether rules apply in all or only selected possible places.

The following characterises compilation phases:

1. **Objective and Source and target of transformation** The objective is to generate low-level code from a program in the source language.
2. **Required expertise** Programmer only needs to know the source language
3. **Input from programmer and required expertise** Little or none, except for specialised annotations which are used by the compiler
4. **Totality and selectivity** If a compilation phases can be specified as a rule, then the rule is typically applied in all the places where its premises match
5. **Examples** Closure conversion, CPS transformation, lambda lifting, type-checking, constant expression folding, code generation, dead code elimination, inlining.

The following are features of program derivation:

1. **Objective** Enable the programmer to write clear, concise, understandable programs which serve as specification. Methodically derive a correct, efficient implementation. Possibly mechanise the transformation described by the derivation.
2. **Source and target of transformation** The source could be an executable functional program or a non-executable specification (e.g. in the categorical calculus of relations; or as a solution to an equation). The target is an efficient functional or imperative program.
3. **Input from programmer and required expertise** A derivation is a description of a transformation which can be calculated mechanically, so by definition, non-trivial derivations require input from the programmer. This might require expertise beyond the capabilities of an average programmer.
4. **Totality and selectivity** Rules are applied selectively: in arbitrary places and order.
5. **Example realisation** Bird-Meertens formalism: equational reasoning, where rules justify correctness of each step [Gibbons, 1994].
6. **Obstacles to adoption** Few tools, hard to learn, hard to use, hard to understand, hard to maintain, writing the implementation by hand can be easier than writing the derivation.

Benefits of employing a sort of program derivation (more or less formal) for the programmer include: (a) a structured process of obtaining an implementation from specification, (b) greater confidence in the correctness of the implementation, (c) possibility
of discovering further optimisations, and finally (d) a framework for a proof of correctness. This last use case could be explained as follows: suppose we can prove correctness of the "specification" program, and that each step preserves the meaning of the program. Then we can show correctness of the "implementation" program.

8.2 Rewrite rules

When equational reasoning is employed, derivation steps can be justified with rewrite rules. A basic example of a rewrite rule in functional programming is map-comp:

$$\forall \{f \ g \ xs\} \to \text{map } f \ (\text{map } g \ xs) \equiv \text{map } (f \circ g) \ xs$$

where \( f, g, xs \) are metavariables. An application of a rewrite rule consists of unifying the LHS of the rule with a subterm of the program (and thus obtaining a substitution \( \sigma \)), and then replacing the subterm with the RHS of the rule, instantiated with the substitution \( \sigma \).

8.3 Program derivations in compilers and their limitations

There are program transformations in existing compilers which, other than being compilation phases, have features of program derivation. A good example of this is the support for rewrite rules in GHC, a Haskell compiler. A Haskell programmer may specify a rule like map-comp as part of the code, and in one of early compilation passes, GHC will apply the rule wherever possible (i.e. replace the occurrences of the LHS with the RHS). Rewriting in GHC is a compilation phase in the sense that rules are applied in all places they match, but it also resembles derivations since the transformation is guided by input from the programmer, namely, the specified rewrite rules. Note that GHC makes no attempt to ensure that the rules preserves the meaning, or that rewriting would terminate: a programmer could externally check these properties, e.g. using a proof assistant.

Yet another ambiguous situation is where program transformation becomes a search problem. A compiler could try to find a transformation by applying rewrite rules in a selective, non-deterministic manner, and thus perform a search over the space of possible derivations. The search could be guided by an objective function, for example, a sort of static analysis of the running time, or the compiler could evaluate programs by running them on sample inputs. Exploring the space of derivations is the approach taken by the Lift compiler [Steuwer et al., 2017].

Programmer’s input may or may not be involved in such search. For example, the UG4 project delivered a graphical user interface which allows the user to interact with the derivation process.
Chapter 8. Relationship to the UG4 project

Unfortunately, derivation search needs a fixed set of rewrite rules, either hardcoded in the compiler or provided by the user. This precludes derivations which use original rewrite rules, coming up with which would require human insight. Section 8.6, which discusses some of the rewrite steps from the UG4 project, has examples of rules which were invented for a specific derivation, and it is difficult to conceive that they could all be provided to the compiler in advance.

8.4 Program derivations in the UG4 project

The UG4 project analyses two instances of program derivation in detail. The first one is a derivation, described in [Gibbons, 1994], of an efficient implementation of the maximum segment sum problem (MSS). While the input specification (which is also a runnable program) runs in cubic time in the length of the input list, the output program runs in linear time. The asymptotic speed-up is achieved by applying several rewrite rules involving higher-order functions on lists such as map, foldr, and filter.

The second case study involved an original derivation of a program for matrix-vector multiplication. The input program takes a dense matrix, and the output program takes a sparse matrix in the compressed sparse row (CSR) format. Or, to be precise, the input program which acts on a dense matrix, is transformed into a composition of two programs: (a) a conversion from a dense to a CSR-sparse matrix, and (b) a matrix-vector multiplication program which acts on a CSR-sparse matrix. This is because, as a rule, the input and output types of the program must stay the same in the course of the derivation. This second derivation was similarly accomplished with rewrite rules involving higher-order functions.

8.5 Implementation of rewriting in the UG4 project

The UG4 project included a purpose-built framework for specifying derivations. The framework included:

1. A simple functional language with parametric polymorphism. The language is point-free, that is, based on function composition rather than variable binders. This is because variables and abstraction are difficult to implement correctly, as demonstrated by this UG5 project, and even more difficult to rewrite.
2. A type-checker for the language.
3. Rewriting functionality and declaring derivations as sequences of rewrites.
4. An interpreter for the language, which was used to empirically verify claims about performance gains from derivations.

Writing the framework was a good exercise in implementing routine parts of compiler front-ends, such as type checking and unification. Writing it in Scala made sense
given the stretch objective of compiling the language to Lift, which was not realised, however.

Rewrite rules were stated without justification, much as postulates in Agda. One could prove the rules externally – but then one is pressed to ask, why not express a derivation in a proof assistant, which supports unification and rewriting natively? Indeed, with hindsight, we can say with certainty that a proof assistant is perfectly suited for the job, its only downside being that it requires considerable expertise. The next section presents an Agda proof of a single rewrite rule from the UG4 project, and evaluates the benefits of doing so, compared with the approach from last year’s project.

8.6 Proving rewrite rules in Agda

Unlike in the last year’s project, we can now provide proofs of individual rewrite rules. Here we include an example proof of the fact that filtering out zeros from a list does not change the result of taking the sum of the elements in the list. This is intuitively clear as zero is a neutral element for addition, but showing this formally requires an inductive proof:

\[
\text{non-zero} : (n : \mathbb{N}) \to \text{Dec} (n \not\equiv \text{zero}) \\
\text{non-zero} n = \neg? (n \equiv \text{zero})
\]

\[
\text{lemma-2} : (xs : \text{List } \mathbb{N}) \\
\to \text{L.sum (filter non-zero xs)} \equiv \text{L.sum xs} \\
\text{lemma-2} [] = \text{refl} \\
\text{lemma-2} (x :: xs) \text{ with non-zero } x \\
\text{lemma-2} (x :: xs) \mid \text{yes } p \text{ rewrite lemma-2 xs = refl} \\
\text{lemma-2} (x :: xs) \mid \text{no } \neg p \text{ rewrite decidable-stable } (x \equiv \text{zero}) \neg p \mid \text{lemma-2 xs = refl}
\]
Chapter 9

Conclusion

The main deliverables of this project are (a) an elegant representation of a language with closures, (b) a type-preserving closure conversion algorithm which minimises closure environments, and (c) mechanisations of proofs of correctness of closure conversion using two different techniques: bisimulations and logical relations.

This work builds on a long line of research in several areas: representing languages with bindings, type-preserving compilation, and compiler verification. In particular, the style of the Agda development is influenced by ACMM and PLFA.

By mechanising two different proofs of correctness of the transformation, the project provides a reference for comparing the methods of bisimulation and logical relations.

It was confirmed that when the languages have a type-and-scope safe representation, mechanisation of meta-theoretical proofs requires a large amount of effort to establish correctness lemmas about interactions between renaming, substitution, and other traversals.

A natural continuation for this project would be to try to apply generic proving techniques, e.g. from AACMM, to prove meta-theoretical lemmas for a family of intermediate languages (syntaxes) all at once. However, this project’s insights seem to imply that closure conversion does not fit into the framework provided by AACMM, and that further developments in generic proving would be needed to support closure conversion.

Another possible extension of this work would be to prove correctness properties of more complex languages with features like higher-order functions, polymorphism, abstract data types, recursive types, mutable state and control effects. In that case, however, use of a proof language with tactics and automation would be more appropriate, as scaling manual proof techniques to complex languages is known to be extremely tedious.

In summary, the objectives of the project were met, if slightly altered. Just one compilation phase was implemented, but it was proved correct with two different methods. The generic proving techniques from ACMM, although not ported to our representation of simply typed lambda calculus, provided a basis for postulating correctness
lemmas about STLC. Using generic programming solutions from AACMM was beyond the scope of this project, but like it was mentioned multiple times, they would be inadequate for a language with closures anyway.
Bibliography


Chapter 10

Technical appendix

10.1 Minimising closure conversion and the compatibility relation

Below is the Agda proof that the graph relation of the minimising closure conversion function is contained in the compatibility relation.

\[ \_ \uparrow : \forall \{ \Gamma A \} \rightarrow S.Lam A \Gamma \rightarrow T.Lam A \Gamma \]
\[ M \uparrow \text{ with cc } M \]
\[ M \uparrow | \exists [ \Delta ] \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \wedge N = T.rename (\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \Delta \subseteq \Gamma) N \]

{-# TERMINATING #-}
undo : \forall \{ \Gamma \sigma \} (N : T.Lam \sigma \Gamma) \rightarrow undo N \sim N
undo (T.V x) = \sim V
undo (T.A M N) = \sim A (undo-compat M) (undo-compat N)
undo (T.L M E) = \sim L (undo-compat _)

{-# TERMINATING #-}
undo-compat : \forall \{ \Gamma \sigma \} (N : T.Lam \sigma \Gamma) \rightarrow undo N \sim N
undo-compat (T.V x) = \sim V
undo-compat (T.A M N) = \sim A (undo-compat M) (undo-compat N)
undo-compat (T.L M E) = \sim L (undo-compat _)

helper-2 : \forall \{ \Gamma A \} (x : \text{Var } A \Gamma)
→ lookup (\subseteq \rightarrow \rho (\text{Var} \rightarrow \subseteq x)) z \equiv x
helper-2 z = refl
helper-2 (s.x) = cong s (helper-2 x)

helper-3 : \forall (\Delta_1 \Gamma_1 \Gamma) (\Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1 : \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1) (\Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma : \Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma)
→ select (\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1) (\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma) \equiv E \subseteq \rightarrow \rho (\subseteq \rightarrow \rho \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1 \Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma)
eq (helper-3 base base) ()
eq (helper-3 Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) (skip Γ1 ⊆ Γ) x
  = cong s (eq (helper-3 Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) Γ1 ⊆ Γ) x
eq (helper-3 (skip Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) (keep Γ1 ⊆ Γ)) z
  = cong s (eq (helper-3 Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) Γ1 ⊆ Γ) x
  = refl
eq (helper-3 (keep Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) (keep Γ1 ⊆ Γ)) (s x)
  = cong s (eq (helper-3 Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) Γ1 ⊆ Γ) x

helper-4 : ∀ {Δ1 Γ1 Γ τ}
  (Δ1 ⊆ Γ1 : Δ ⊆ Γ1) (Γ1 ⊆ Γ : Γ1 ⊆ Γ)
  (Δ1 ⊆ Γ : Δ ⊆ Γ) (M† : T.Lam τ Δ1)
  → ⊆→trans Δ1 ⊆ Γ1 Γ1 ⊆ Γ ≡ Δ1 ⊆ Γ
  → T.rename (⊆→ρ Γ1 ⊆ Γ) (rename (⊆→ρ Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) M†)
  ≡ T.rename (⊆→ρ Δ1 ⊆ Γ) M†

helper-4 Δ1 ⊆ Γ1 Γ1 ⊆ Γ Δ1 ⊆ Γ M† well =
begin
  T.rename (⊆→ρ Γ1 ⊆ Γ) (rename (⊆→ρ Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) M†)
  ≡ (rename □ rename (⊆→ρ Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) (⊆→ρ Γ1 ⊆ Γ) M†)
  ≡ (rename □ once (select (⊆→ρ Δ1 ⊆ Γ1) (⊆→ρ Γ1 ⊆ Γ)) M†)
  ≡ unhealthy (λ e → T.rename e M†)
  (env-extensionality (helper-3 Δ1 ⊆ Γ1 Γ1 ⊆ Γ))
  T.rename (⊆→ρ ((⊆→trans Δ1 ⊆ Γ1 Γ1 ⊆ Γ)) M†)
  ≡ (rename □ unhealthy (λ e → T.rename (⊆→ρ e) M†) well)
  T.rename (⊆→ρ Δ1 ⊆ Γ) M†
end

{-# TERMINATING #-}
helper-5 : ∀ {Γ Δ σ τ} (Δ ⊆ Γ : Δ ⊆ Γ) (N : T.Lam σ (τ □ Δ))
  → T.subst (T.exts (T.rename (⊆→ρ Δ ⊆ Γ) <$> T.id-subst)) N
  ≡ T.rename (⊆→ρ (keep Δ ⊆ Γ)) N

helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ (T.V x) with x
helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ (T.V x) | z = refl
helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ (T.V x) | s x' = refl
helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ (T.A M N)
  = cong2 (helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ M) (helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ N)
helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ (T.L N E) = cong (T.L N) h
where
  h : T.subst (T.exts (T.rename (⊆→ρ Δ ⊆ Γ) <$> T.id-subst)) <$> E
  ≡ _<$>_ {W = T.Lam} (T.rename (⊆→ρ (keep Δ ⊆ Γ))) E
  h =
begin
T.subst (T.exts (T.rename (⊆→ρ Δ ⊆ Γ) <$> T.id-subst)) <$> E
  ≡ (env-extensionality <$>-fun (helper-5 Δ ⊆ Γ) E)
  _<$>_ {W = T.Lam} (T.rename (⊆→ρ (keep Δ ⊆ Γ))) E
end
\[
N \vdash N^\dagger : \forall \{ \Gamma \} (N : S.Lam A \Gamma) \\
\rightarrow N \sim N^\dagger
\]

\[
N \vdash N^\dagger (S.V x) \text{ with cc (S.V x)}
\]

\[
N \vdash N^\dagger (S.V x) \mid \exists[\Delta] \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \wedge N \text{ rewrite helper-2 } x = \sim V
\]

\[
N \vdash N^\dagger (S.A M N) \text{ with cc M | cc N | inspect } G \vdash M \text{ | inspect } \vdash N
\]

\[
N \vdash N^\dagger (S.A M N) \mid \exists[\Delta_1] \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma \wedge M^\dagger \mid \exists[\Delta_2] \Delta_2 \subseteq \Gamma \wedge N^\dagger
\]

\[
| [p] | [q] \mid \text{ subListSum } \Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1 \Delta_2 \subseteq \Gamma_1 \wedge \text{ well well}_1
\]

\[
\text{ rewrite helper-4 } \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1 \Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma \wedge M^\dagger \wedge \text{ well well}_1
\]

\[
| \text{ helper-4 } \Delta_2 \subseteq \Gamma_1 \Gamma_1 \subseteq \Gamma \Delta_2 \subseteq \Gamma \wedge N^\dagger \wedge \text{ well well}_1 \mid \text{ sym p | sym q}
\]

\[
= \sim A (N \sim N^\dagger M) (N \sim N^\dagger N)
\]

\[
N \vdash N^\dagger (S.L N) \text{ with cc N | inspect } G \vdash N
\]

\[
N \vdash N^\dagger (S.L N) \mid \exists[\Delta] \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \wedge N^* \mid [p]
\]

\[
\text{ with adjust-context } \Delta \subseteq \Gamma
\]

\[
N \vdash N^\dagger (S.L N) \mid \exists[\Delta] \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \wedge N^* \mid [p]
\]

\[
\mid \text{ adjust } \Delta_1 \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma \Delta \subseteq \Gamma \Delta \subseteq \text{ well well}_1
\]

where

\[
h : \begin{aligned}
& \text{T.subst (T.exts (T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) <\$> T.id-subst))} \\
& \text{(T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) N')} \equiv \text{T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)} N'
\end{aligned}
\]

\[
h =
\begin{aligned}
& \text{begin} \\
& \text{T.subst (T.exts (T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) <\$> T.id-subst))} \\
& \text{(T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) N')} \equiv \langle \text{ helper-5 } \Delta_1 \subseteq \Gamma \text{(T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) N')} \rangle
\end{aligned}
\]

\[
\equiv \langle \text{ rename rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) (rename (subseteq p (keep A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) N')} \rangle
\]

\[
\equiv \langle \text{ cong (lambda e \to T.rename e N')} \rangle
\]

\[
\text{ (env-extensionality (helper-3 } A_1 \subseteq \Gamma_1 \text{(keep A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) N')} \rangle
\]

\[
\equiv \langle \text{ cong (lambda e \to T.rename e N')} \rangle
\]

\[
\text{ (sym well) } \rangle
\]

\[
\text{T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) N'}
\]

\[
g : N \sim \text{T.subst (T.exts (T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) <\$> T.id-subst))} \\
\text{(T.rename (subseteq p (A_1 \subseteq \Gamma)) N')}
\]

\[
g \text{ rewrite h | sym p = } N \sim N^\dagger N
\]

10.2 Compatibility relation is a bisimulation

\[
st-sim : \text{ST-Simulation } \sim\sim
\]

\[
st-sim \sim V ()
\]
10.3 Proof of the fundamental theorem for the logical relation

Notice that the proof is incomplete in two cases.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{fund} : & \quad \forall (\Gamma \sigma k \k \{ M_1 : S.\text{Exp} \Gamma \sigma k \}, \{ M_2 : T.\text{Exp} \Gamma \sigma k \}) \\
& \quad \{ \rho^s : S.\text{Subst} \Gamma [] \}, \{ \rho^t : T.\text{Subst} \Gamma [] \} \\
& \quad \Rightarrow \rho^s \equiv \rho^t \\
& \quad \Rightarrow M_1 \sim M_2 \\
& \quad \text{-----------------------------} \\
& \quad \Rightarrow S.\text{subst} \rho^s M_1 \Leftrightarrow T.\text{sub} \rho^t M_2 \\
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{fund-lam} : & \quad \forall (\Gamma \Delta \sigma \tau \k \{ N_1 : S.\text{Trm} \Gamma \sigma \tau \}, \{ N_2 : T.\text{Trm} \Gamma \sigma \tau \}) \\
& \quad \{ E : T.\text{Subst} \Delta \Gamma \}, \{ V_1 : S.\text{Val}_0 \sigma \}, \{ V_2 : T.\text{Val}_0 \sigma \} \\
& \quad \{ \rho^s : S.\text{Subst} \Gamma [] \}, \{ \rho^t : T.\text{Subst} \Gamma [] \} \\
& \quad \Rightarrow \rho^s \equiv \rho^t \\
& \quad \Rightarrow N_1 \sim T.\text{sub} \{ T.\text{exts} E \} N_2 \\
& \quad \Rightarrow V_1 \approx V_2 \\
& \quad \text{-----------------------------} \\
& \quad \Rightarrow S.\text{subst} \{ S.\text{rename} (\text{pack} s) <\$> \rho^s \equiv \text{S.}`var z \} N_1 [ V_1 ]
\end{align*}
\]
\[ \cong T.\text{subst} (T.\text{subst} \rho^I <\$> E \bullet V_2) N_2 \]

\[
\text{fund } \bullet \cong \rho (\text{\text{\text{-var}} } \{x = x\}) = \text{lookup}^R \bullet \cong \rho x \\
\text{fund } \bullet \cong \rho \sim \text{tt} = \cong \text{tt} \\
\text{fund } \bullet \cong \rho \sim \text{ff} = \cong \text{ff} \\
\text{fund } \bullet \cong \rho (\sim \lambda \sim N) = \cong \lambda (\lambda V_1 \cong V_2 \rightarrow \bot \text{-elim impossible}) \\
\quad \text{where postulate impossible : } \bot \text{ -- fund-lam } \bullet \cong \rho \sim \text{ N } V_1 \cong V_2 \\
\text{fund } (\rho^S = \rho^S) \bullet \cong \rho (\sim \text{ _ } L \{L = L\} \sim M \sim N) \\
\quad \text{with fund-lam } \bullet \cong \rho \sim M \mid \text{fund } \bullet \cong \rho \sim N \\
\text{... } | S.\text{var }() | _ | _ | _ \\
\text{... } | S.\text{\_ } | T.\text{var }() | _ | _ \\
\text{fund } (\rho^S = \rho^S) \bullet \cong \rho (\sim \text{ _ } L \{L = L\} \sim M \sim N) \\
\quad | S.\text{\_ } | T.\text{\_ } E | \cong \lambda p \mid \sim V \text{ with } p \sim V \\
\text{... } \equiv \text{Trm } N_1 \| U_1 \mid N_2 \| U_2 \mid U_1 \approx U_2 \\
\quad = \equiv \text{Trm } (S.\| \text{step } S.\rightarrow_1 \text{app } N_1 \| U_1) \mid (T.\| \text{step } T.\rightarrow_1 \text{app } N_2 \| U_2) \mid U_1 \approx U_2 \\
\text{fund } \bullet \cong \rho (\sim \text{let } \sim M \sim N) = \bot \text{-elim impossible } \\
\quad \text{where postulate impossible : } \bot \\
\text{fund } \bullet \cong \rho (\sim \text{val } \sim M) \text{ with fund } \bullet \cong \rho \sim M \\
\text{... } | \sim V = \equiv \text{Trm } S.\| \text{val } T.\| \text{val } \sim V \\
\text{fund-lam } (N_1 = N_1) \bullet \cong \rho \sim N V_1 \approx V_2 \\
\quad \text{with fund } (\bullet \cong \rho \bullet^R V_1 \approx V_2) \sim N \\
\text{... } | p \text{ rewrite helper-1 } \rho^S N_1 V_1 \mid \text{sym (helper-2 } \rho^I E N_2 V_2) = p \]