

# Part I

## Expressions and Types

What is the type of the following expression?

```
{lambda {x} {+ x 1}}
```

**Answer:** Yet another trick question; it's not an expression in our typed language, because the argument type is missing

But it seems like the answer *should* be (*num* → *num*)

# Type Inference

**Type inference** is the process of inserting type annotations where the programmer omits them

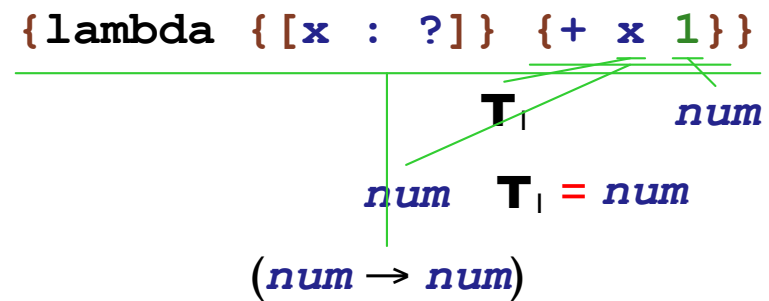
We'll use explicit question marks, to make it clear where types are omitted

```
{lambda {[x : ?]} {+ x 1}}
```

```
<Type> ::= num  
        | bool  
        | (<Type> -> <Type>)  
        | ?
```

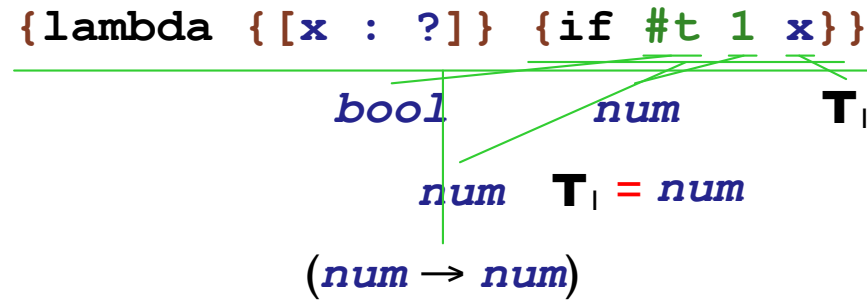
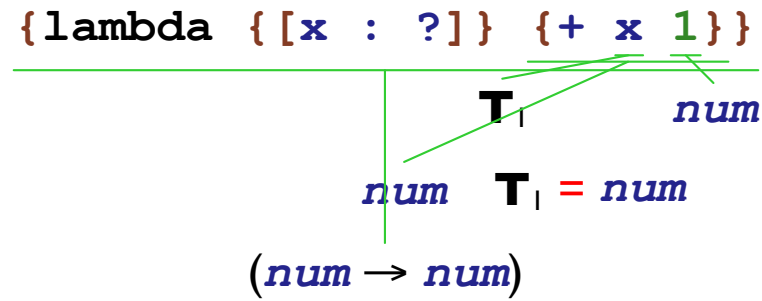
## Part 2

# Type Inference



- Create a new type variable for each ?
- Change type comparison to install type equivalences

# Type Inference



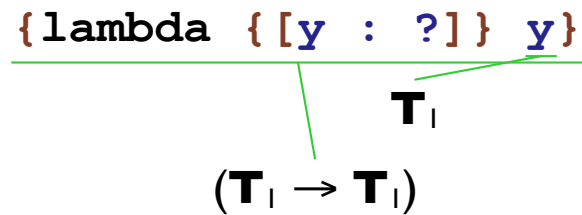
## Type Inference: Impossible Cases

```
{lambda {[x : ?]} {if x 1 x}}
```

$T_1$  *num*  $T_1$

**no type:**  $T_1$  can't be both *bool* and *num*

## Type Inference: Many Cases



- Sometimes, more than one type works

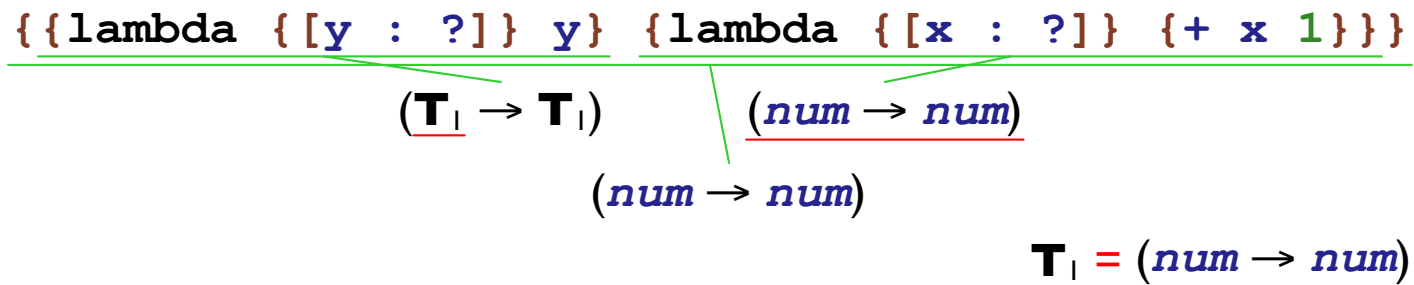
- (*num* → *num*)
- (*bool* → *bool*)
- ((*num* → *bool*) → (*num* → *bool*))

so the type checker leaves variables in the reported type

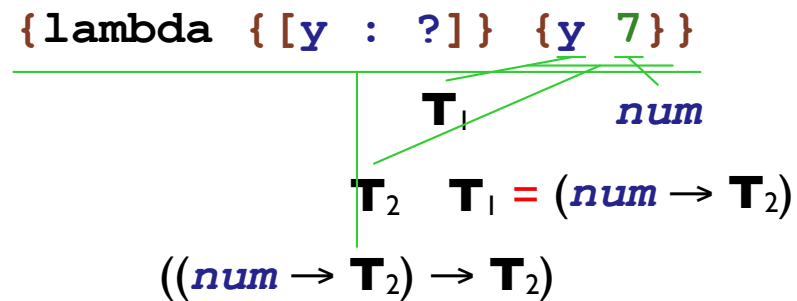


## Part 3

## Type Inference: Function Calls



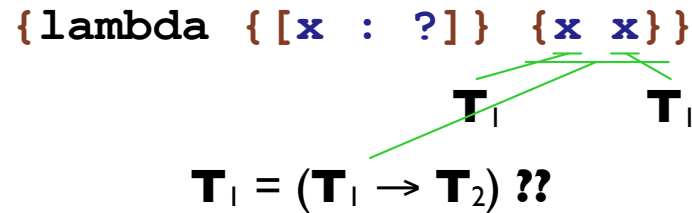
## Type Inference: Function Calls



- In general, create a new type variable record for the result of a function call

## Part 4

## Type Inference: Cyclic Equations



$\mathbf{T}_1 = (\mathbf{T}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{T}_2) = ((\mathbf{T}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{T}_2) \rightarrow \mathbf{T}_2) \dots$  no solution

The **occurs check**:

- When installing a type equivalence, make sure that the new type for  $\mathbf{T}$  doesn't already contain  $\mathbf{T}$

## Part 5

# Type Unification

For comparing types, replace

```
equal? : (Type Type -> Boolean)
```

with

```
unify! : (Type Type -> ())
```

# Type Unification

For comparing types, replace

```
equal? : (Type Type -> Boolean)
```

with

```
unify! : (Type Type Exp -> ())
```

To simplify by substituting with discovered equivalences:

```
resolve : (Type -> Type)
```



## Type Unification

- **resolve**  $\mathbf{T}_1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{T}_1$

- **unify!**  $\mathbf{T}_1$  with **num**

Then, **resolve** of  $\mathbf{T}_1 = \mathbf{num}$

- So far, **resolve** of  $(\mathbf{T}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{T}_2) = (\mathbf{num} \rightarrow \mathbf{T}_2)$

**unify!**  $\mathbf{T}_1$  with  $\mathbf{T}_2$

Then, **resolve** of  $\mathbf{T}_2 = \mathbf{num}$

## Part 6

## Type Grammar, Again

```
<Type> ::= num  
        | bool  
        | (<Type> -> <Type>)  
        | ?
```

## Representing Type Variables

```
(define-type Type
  (numT)
  (boolT)
  (arrowT [arg : Type]
          [result : Type])
  (varT [is : (Boxof (Optionof Type))]))

(varT (box (none)))
```

## Representing Type Variables

```
(define-type Type
  (numT)
  (boolT)
  (arrowT [arg : Type]
          [result : Type])
  (varT [is : (Boxof (Optionof Type))]))
```

```
(varT (box (some (numT))))
```

## Representing Type Variables

```
(define-type Type
  (numT)
  (boolT)
  (arrowT [arg : Type]
          [result : Type])
  (varT [is : (Boxof (Optionof Type))]))

(define (unify! [t1 : Type] [t2 : Type] [expr : Exp])
  ....
  (type-case Type t1
    ...
    [(varT b)
     .... (set-box! b (some (resolve t2))) ....]
    ...)
  ....)
```

## Part 7

## Unification Examples

```
(test (unify! (numT)
              (numT))
      (values))
```



## Unification Examples

```
(test (unify! (boolT)
             (boolT))
      (values))
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test/exn (unify! (numT)
                  (boolT))
          "no type")
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test (unify! (varT (box (none)))  
             (numT))  
      (values))
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test (unify! (varT (box (some (numT))))  
            (numT))  
      (values))
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test/exn (unify! (varT (box (some (boolT))))  
                (numT))  
          "no type")
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test/exn (let ([t (varT (box (none)))])  
  (begin  
    (unify! t  
            (numT))  
    (unify! t  
            (boolT))))  
"no type")
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test (let ([t (varT (box (none)))])
  (begin
    (unify! t
             (numT))
    (unify! t
             (numT))))
(values))
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test (let ([t (varT (box (none)))])
  (begin
    (unify! (arrowT t (boolT))
            (arrowT (numT) (boolT)))
    (unify! t
            (numT))))
(values))
```



## Unification Examples

```
(test/exn (let ([t (varT (box (none)))])  
             (unify! (arrowT t (boolT))  
                     t))  
          "no type")
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test (let ([t1 (varT (box (none)))]  
           [t2 (varT (box (none)))])  
      (unify! t1  
              t2))  
      (values))
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test/exn (let ([t1 (varT (box (none)))]  
                [t2 (varT (box (none)))])  
  (begin  
    (unify! t1  
            t2)  
    (unify! t1  
            (numT))  
    (unify! t2  
            (boolT))))  
"no type")
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test/exn (let ([t1 (varT (box (none)))]  
                [t2 (varT (box (none)))])  
  (begin  
    (unify! t1  
            t2)  
    (unify! t2  
            (boolT))  
    (unify! t1  
            (numT))))  
"no type")
```

## Unification Examples

```
(test/exn (let ([t1 (varT (box (none)))]  
                [t2 (varT (box (none)))])  
  (begin  
    (unify! t1  
            (arrowT t2 (boolT)))  
    (unify! t1  
            (arrowT (numT) t2))))  
"no type")
```

## Part 8

## Type Unification

**unify!** a type variable  $\mathbf{T}$  with a type  $\tau_2$ :

- If  $\mathbf{T}$  is set to  $\tau_1$ , **unify!**  $\tau_1$  with  $\tau_2$  **(resolve  $\tau_2$ ) is  $\mathbf{T}$ ?**
- If  $\tau_2$  is already equivalent to  $\mathbf{T}$ , succeed
- If  $\tau_2$  contains  $\mathbf{T}$ , then fail **(occurs?  $\mathbf{T}$  (resolve  $\tau_2$ ))**
- Otherwise, set  $\mathbf{T}$  to  $\tau_2$  and succeed

**unify!** a type  $\tau_1$  to type  $\tau_2$ :

- If  $\tau_2$  is a type variable  $\mathbf{T}$ , then **unify!**  $\mathbf{T}$  and  $\tau_1$
- If  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  are both *num* or *bool*, succeed
- If  $\tau_1$  is  $(\tau_3 \rightarrow \tau_4)$  and  $\tau_2$  is  $(\tau_5 \rightarrow \tau_6)$ , then
  - **unify!**  $\tau_3$  with  $\tau_5$
  - **unify!**  $\tau_4$  with  $\tau_6$
- Otherwise, fail

## Part 9



# Type Unification

```
(define (unify! [t1 : Type] [t2 : Type] [expr : Exp])
  (type-case Type t1
    [(varT is1)
     ...]
    [else
     (type-case Type t2
       [(varT is2) (unify! t2 t1 expr)]
       [(numT) (type-case Type t1
                  [(numT) (values)]
                  [else (type-error expr t1 t2)])]
       [(boolT) (type-case Type t1
                   [(boolT) (values)]
                   [else (type-error expr t1 t2)])]
       [(arrowT a2 b2) (type-case Type t1
                          [(arrowT a1 b1)
                           (begin
                              (unify! a1 a2 expr)
                              (unify! b1 b2 expr))]
                          [else (type-error expr t1 t2)])])])])])])
```

# Type Unification

```
(define (unify! [t1 : Type] [t2 : Type] [expr : Exp])
  (type-case Type t1
    [(varT is1) (type-case (Optionof Type) (unbox is1)
      [(some t3) (unify! t3 t2 expr)]
      [(none) (local [(define t3 (resolve t2))]
        (if (eq? t1 t3)
            (values)
            (if (occurs? t1 t3)
                (type-error expr t1 t3)
                (begin
                  (set-box! is1 (some t3))
                  (values))))))]
    [else ...]))
```

## Type Unification Helpers

```
(define (resolve [t : Type]) : Type
  (type-case Type t
    [(varT is)
     (type-case (Optionof Type) (unbox is)
       [(none) t]
       [(some t2) (resolve t2)]))]
    [else t]))

(define (occurs? [r : Type] [t : Type]) : Boolean
  (type-case Type t
    [(numT) #f]
    [(boolT) #f]
    [(arrowT a b)
     (or (occurs? r a)
         (occurs? r b))]
    [(varT is) (or (eq? r t)
                   (type-case (Optionof Type) (unbox is)
                     [(none) #f]
                     [(some t2) (occurs? r t2)])))]))
```

## Part 10

## Type Checker with Inference

```
(define typecheck : (Exp Type-Env -> Type)
  (lambda (a tenv)
    (type-case Exp a
      ...
      [(numE n) (numT)]
      ...)))
```

## Type Checker with Inference

```
(define typecheck : (Exp Type-Env -> Type)
  (lambda (a tenv)
    (type-case Exp a
      ...
      [(plusE l r)
       (begin
         (unify! (typecheck l env) (numT) l)
         (unify! (typecheck r env) (numT) r)
         (numT))]
      ...)))
```

## Type Checker with Inference

```
(define typecheck : (Exp Type-Env -> Type)
  (lambda (a tenv)
    (type-case Exp a
      ...
      [(idE name) (get-type name env)]
      [(lamE n arg-type body)
       (arrowT arg-type
                (typecheck body (aBind name
                                       arg-type
                                       env)))]
      ...)))
```

## Type Checker with Inference

```
(define typecheck : (Exp Type-Env -> Type)
  (lambda (a tenv)
    (type-case Exp a
      ...
      [(appE fn arg)
       (local [(define result-type (varT (box (none))))])
       (begin
         (unify! (arrowT (typecheck arg env)
                        result-type)
                 (typecheck fn env)
                 fn)
         result-type))])
    ...)))
```



## Part II

## Type Errors

Checking — report that an expression doesn't have an expected type (expressed as a string):

```
type-error : (Exp String -> ...)
```

Inference — report that, near some expression, two types are incompatible:

```
type-error : (Exp Type Type -> ...)
```