

# Lingo:

A prototypical functional language for linearity  
polymorphism

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# Agenda

1. Lingo Overview
2. Linear Typing Motivation
3. Compiler Architecture
4. Testing
5. Demo
6. Future Work

# Lingo

- Linear Typing
- Functional/Strong type
- Algebraic Data Types
- Pattern matching
- Rank-n polymorphism
- First class functions / lambda calculus
- C interoperability



# Lingo in one Slide



# Lingo in One Slide

External Function  
Declaration

Abstract Data Types

Cases + Pattern  
Matching

```
print_int : Int -> Int;

data Stephen a #p where
  A      : a -p> Stephen a #p;
  Edwards : Maybe a #p;

foo : Int -> Stephen Int #0ne
    = \x. A @Int #0ne x;

foo' m
  : Stephen Int #0ne -> Int
  = case m of
    A i -> i;
    _ -> 0;
  ;

main : Int = print_int (foo' (A @Int #0ne 1));
```

Type and Multiplicity  
Polymorphism

Function Application

Multiplicities  
and Types

# Motivation for Linear Typing

- Want a type system which eliminates classes of bugs violating resource protocols, i.e. double free, closing file pointers, use after free, etc.
- In order to do this, we need to characterize whether/how a function will use or evaluate its argument.



```
int main() {  
    char *foo = malloc(6);  
    *foo = "hello";  
    free(foo);  
    // use after free  
    *foo = "hi";  
}
```

# Linear arrows

- Extend the normal function arrow  $\rightarrow$  with a linear one  $\multimap$ .
- Linear arrow from  $a \multimap b$  functions same as a normal function arrow, with one additional guarantee: if the output of an application, is evaluated once, then the input will be evaluated exactly once.
- Guarantee is enough to ensure that the programmer follows a resource protocols.
  - $f : a \multimap b$
  - $u : a$
  - $f u : b$  (\*  $u$  is used linearly \*)

$(a \rightarrow b)$

$(a \multimap b)$

## Linearity Example

$\text{malloc} : \text{Int} \rightarrow (\text{Mem} \multimap ()) \rightarrow ()$

$\text{free} : (\text{Mem} \multimap ())$

$\text{set} : \text{Int} \rightarrow \text{Byte} \rightarrow \text{Mem} \multimap (\text{Mem} \multimap ()) \rightarrow ()$

$\text{malloc } 5 (\lambda m. \text{set } 0 \ 0 (\lambda m. \text{free } m))$



# A problem with compose

How should the following be typed?

$$\text{compose} : (b \rightarrow c) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow a \rightarrow c = \lambda f.\lambda g.\lambda x.f (g x)$$
$$\text{compose} : (b \multimap c) \rightarrow (a \multimap b) \rightarrow a \multimap c = \lambda f.\lambda g.\lambda x.f (g x)$$
$$\text{compose} : (b \rightarrow c) \rightarrow (a \multimap b) \rightarrow a \rightarrow c = \lambda f.\lambda g.\lambda x.f (g x)$$
$$\text{compose} : (b \multimap c) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow a \rightarrow c = \lambda f.\lambda g.\lambda x.f (g x)$$

Need 4 different types for the same function body. We answer with linearity polymorphism.

# System F

- Extends simply-typed lambda calculus with a new type of abstraction for types denoted by uppercase lambda.
- Types can be applied and they are substituted on the type-level.
- **Idea:** Use this type system to characterize polymorphism in linearity

$$id = \Lambda\alpha.\lambda(x : \alpha).x : \forall\alpha.\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$$
$$foo = id \text{ Int } 0 : \text{Int}$$

# Compose again

$\text{compose} : \forall_m p. \forall_m q. \forall a. \forall b. \forall c. (b \rightarrow_p c) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow_q b) \rightarrow a \rightarrow_{pq} c = \Lambda_m p. \Lambda_m q. \Lambda a. \Lambda b. \Lambda c. \lambda f. \lambda g. \lambda x. f (g x)$



```
print_int : Int -> Int;
succ x : Int -> Int = x + 1;

compose p q a b c f g x : #p #q @a @b @c (b -p> c) -> (a -q> b) -> a -p*q> c = f (g x);
main : Int = (compose #Unr #Unr @Int @Int @Int print_int succ) 100;
```

Demo compose

# Typing rules

$$\frac{x \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : A \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto 1\}} \text{var}$$

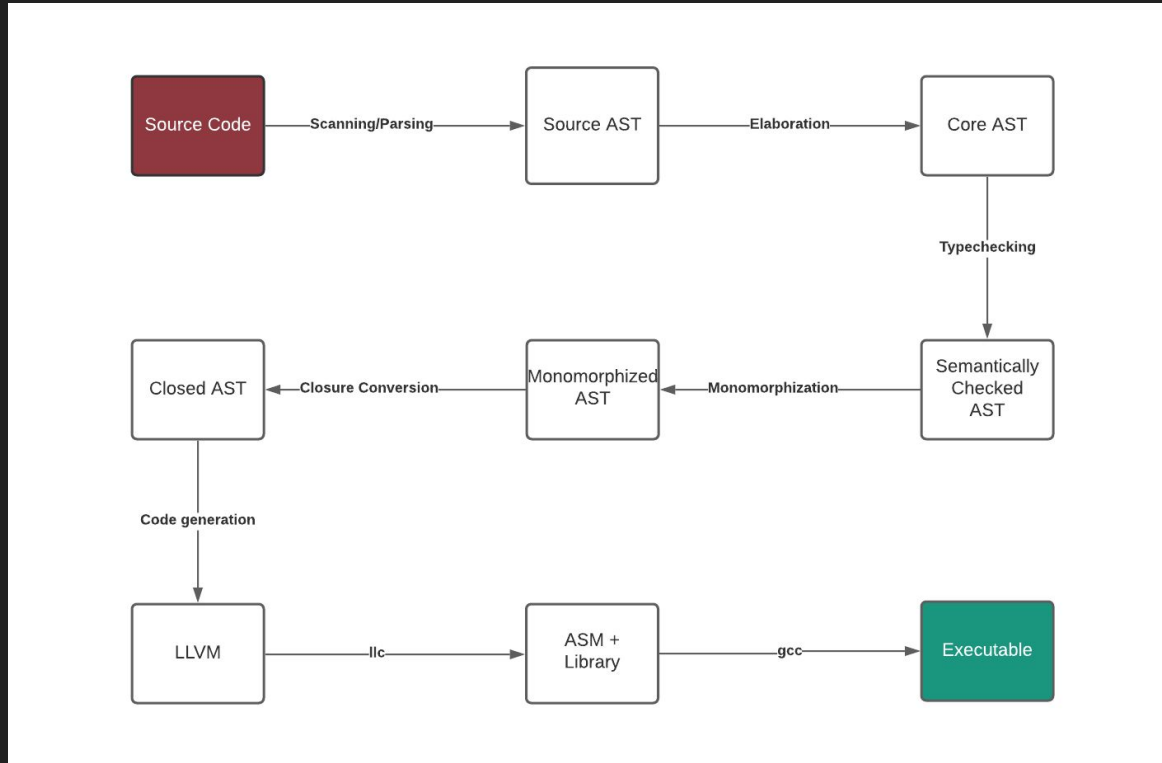
$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash t : B \rightsquigarrow \{x \mapsto \mu, U\} \quad \mu \leq \pi}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda(x :_{\pi} A).t : A \rightarrow_{\pi} B \rightsquigarrow \{U\}} \text{abs}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A \rightarrow_{\pi} B \rightsquigarrow \{U\} \quad \Gamma \vdash u : A \rightsquigarrow \{V\}}{\Gamma \vdash t u : B \rightsquigarrow \{U + \pi V\}} \text{app}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A \rightsquigarrow \{U\} \quad p \text{ fresh for } \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda p.t : \forall p.A \rightsquigarrow \{U\}} \text{m.abs}$$

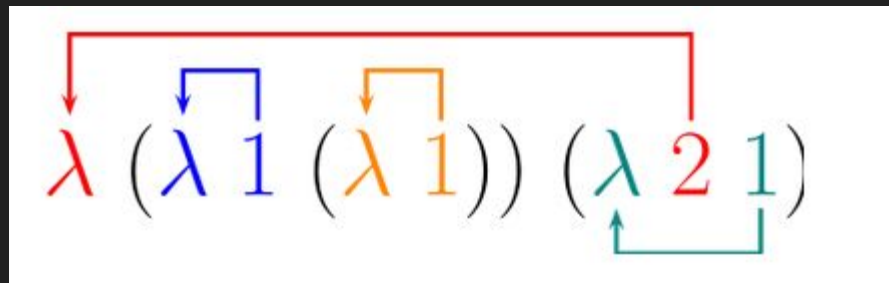
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \forall p.A \rightsquigarrow \{U\}}{\Gamma \vdash t \pi : A[\pi/p] \rightsquigarrow \{U\}} \text{m.app}$$

# Compiler Architecture



# Elaboration

- Source Ast -> Core Ast
- During elaboration, all syntax is expanded into a form which the typechecker can understand.
- This includes
  - Converting all variable names to Debruijn indices
  - Each lambda into their corresponding abstractions (value, type, or multiplicity)
  - Variable lists into nested lambdas.



# Typechecking

- Core ast -> semantically checked **Sast** with annotated types.
- linearity checking and type checking happens.
- Multiplicities are stripped out
- If there is a type or multiplicity mismatch of any sort, or any other type related error, the typechecker will throw an error.



# Monomorphization

- polymorphic / rank-n code -> non-polymorphic / rank-1 code.
- LLVM doesn't have polymorphism!
- Our strategy: **BoxT**, a single type which represents all polymorphic variables.
- Convert to and from **BoxT** through the use of new expressions **Box** and **Unbox**.
- **Box**: turns any value into a **BoxT**
- **Unbox**: turns any **Box** value back into a given type.
- Application to a lambda of type **BoxT** -> **BoxT** boxes the argument and unboxes the result.
- Later down the pipeline during code gen, this will result in a simple cast in LLVM.

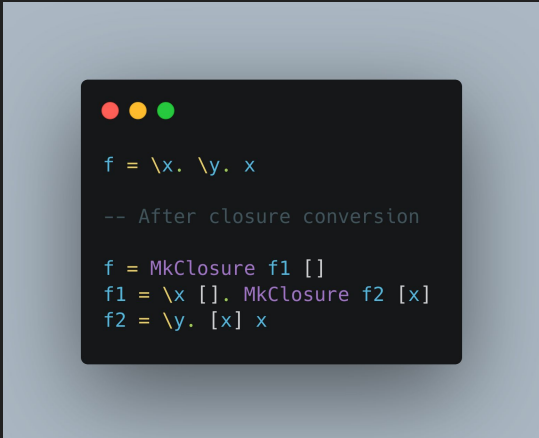
```
id : @a a -> a = \a. \x. x;
main : Int = id @Int 0;

--- After monomorphization

id : BoxT -> BoxT = \x. x;
main : Id = Unbox (id (Box 0));
```

# Closure Conversion

- **Mast** -> performs lambda lifting until everything is a **top level** declaration
- Uniquely named lambdas
- Takes every free variable and adds it to a closure environment



```
f = \x. \y. x

-- After closure conversion

f = MkClosure f1 []
f1 = \x []. MkClosure f2 [x]
f2 = \y. [x] x
```

# Code Generation

- Conversion of Closure Converted Cast  
-> llvm IR
- Abstract data types become tagged unions, i.e. { i64, i8\* }. The first parameter, the tag, tells us what constructor is pointed to as the second parameter.
- Everything becomes function application and building closures.
- External C Calls

```
struct List_Int {  
    int tag;  
    union {  
        struct Nil {} *nil;  
        struct Cons {  
            int x;  
            struct List_Int *xs;  
        } cons;  
    } value;  
};
```

# Testing

- Testing run inside docker container before every git commit
- Passing and Failing Tests
- Syntax
- Memory Allocation
- Function Composition
- Polymorphism
- Basic Operations
- Abstract Data Types

```
def run_test(src_file):
    lingo_file = f'{src_file}.lingo'
    llvm_file = f'{llvm_dir}/{src_file}.llvm'
    asm_file = f'{asm_dir}/{src_file}.s'
    execu_file = f'{exec_dir}/{src_file}.exe'
    expected_out_file = f'{out_dir}/{src_file}.out'
    out_file = f'{out_dir}/{src_file}.actual.out'
    diff_file = f'{diff_dir}/{src_file}.diff'

    log(f'{bcolors.WARNING}----- TESTING '
        f'{lingo_file}... -----{bcolors.ENDC}')

    try:
        get_llvm(lingo_file, llvm_file)
        build_asm(llvm_file, asm_file)
        build_exec(asm_file, execu_file)
        run_exec(execu_file, out_file)
    except RunException as err:
        _, _, _, stderr = err.tuple()
        with open(out_file, 'w') as file:
            file.write(stderr.decode('utf-8'))

    diff_output(lingo_file, expected_out_file, out_file, diff_file)
```

Demo Safe File (Time Permitting)

# Future Work

- Better monomorphization? (may be intractable)
- Qualified types and interfaces
- Replace current type checker with quantitative type theory (dependent types + linear types)
  - This actually may have been easier to implement in the long-run as types and terms exist on the same level. Typechecking will become a little more costly, however.
- Garbage Collection / better memory management
- Fix bugs (hopefully there are no big ones :))
  - “A segfault a day keeps the sanity away” - Ben Flin



# Thank You

Questions?