

# Polymorphic Variants in Dependent Type Theory

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# Outline

- 1 Goals and Motivations
- 2 Bounded polymorphic variants in type theory
- 3 Conclusions

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# The Expression Problem

Additive expressions:

```
inductive Expr :=
  Const:  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow$  Expr
  | Plus: Expr  $\rightarrow$  Expr  $\rightarrow$  Expr
```

```
let rec eval (E:Expr) :  $\mathbb{N}$  :=
match E with
  Const n  $\Rightarrow$  n
  | Plus E1 E2  $\Rightarrow$  eval E1 + eval E2
```

Multiplicative expressions:

```
inductive Expr :=
  Const:  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow$  Expr
  | Mult: Expr  $\rightarrow$  Expr  $\rightarrow$  Expr
```

```
let rec eval (E:Expr) :  $\mathbb{N}$  :=
match E with
  Const n  $\Rightarrow$  n
  | Mult E1 E2  $\Rightarrow$  eval E1 * eval E2
```

How to  
merge the two datatypes and functions  
reusing the code?

Merge = recursive coalesced sum

# The Dual Problem: Extensible Records

Pretty-printing status :

```
record status :=
{ expr: Expr
; width: ℕ
}
```

Evaluation status:

```
record status :=
{ expr: Expr
; callback: ℕ → unit
}
```

```
let set_width (st:status) w :=
st.width <- w
```

```
let chain_cb (st:status) f :=
st.callback <- st.callback ∘ f
```

How to  
merge the two records and functions  
reusing the code?

Merge = coalesced product

# Solving the Expression Problem

- 1 Temporarily break the recursion
- 2 Implement the coalesced sums/products

# Temporarily breaking the recursion

- Lazy binding (OO languages)

```
class Plus implements Expr =
{ fst : Expr
; snd: Expr
; method eval = fst.eval + snd.eval
}
```

- Monotone functors + Recursive Types (FL)

```
inductive Expr (T) :=
  Const:  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow$  Expr
| Plus:  $T \rightarrow T \rightarrow$  Expr
```

```
let eval (f:  $T \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ) (E:Expr T) :  $\mathbb{N}$  :=
match E with
  Const n  $\Rightarrow$  n
| Plus E1 E2  $\Rightarrow$  f E1 + f E2
```

```
type AddExpr := Expr AddExpr let rec eval_add := eval eval_add
```

# Implement the coalesced sums/products

- First solution: coalesced sum = disjoint sum + quotienting

```
type t1 = A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | B of  $\mathbb{B}$ 
```

```
type t2 = A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | C
```

```
type t1_plus_t2 = Inl of t1 | Inr of t2
```

```
let print_t1_plus_t2 :=
```

```
function
```

```
  Inl x  $\Rightarrow$  print_t1 x
```

```
  | Inr y  $\Rightarrow$  print_t2 y
```

Cons:

- 1 Inl (A 2)  $\simeq$  Inr (A 2) need quotienting (???) or refactoring  
what if  $\text{print\_t1 (A 2)} \neq \text{print\_t2 (A 2)}$ ?
- 2 non associative:  $(t1 + t2) + t3 \neq t1 + (t2 + t3)$
- 3 Inefficient memory representation and pattern matching



# Implement the coalesced sums/products

- First solution: coalesced sum = disjoint sum + quotienting

```
type t1 = A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | B of  $\mathbb{B}$ 
```

```
type t2 = A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | C
```

```
type t1_plus_t2 = Inl of t1 | Inr of t2
```

```
let print_t1_plus_t2 :=
```

```
  function
```

```
    Inl x  $\Rightarrow$  print_t1 x
```

```
  | Inr y  $\Rightarrow$  print_t2 y
```

Pros:

- 1 the sum can always be performed
- 2 separate compilation (but refactoring defeats it)
- 3 no change to the language

# Implement the coalesced sums/products

- Second solution: Garrigue's Polymorphic Variants (dually, Remy's Extensible Records)

```
type t1 = ['A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | 'B of  $\mathbb{B}$ ] type t2 = ['A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | 'C]
```

```
type t1_plus_t2 = [t1 | t2]
```

```
let print_t1_plus_t2 : [< 'A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | 'B of  $\mathbb{B}$  | 'C]  $\rightarrow$   $\mathbb{N}$  :=  
function
```

```
  ('A _ | 'B _) as x  $\Rightarrow$  print_t1 x  
  | ('C) as y  $\Rightarrow$  print_t2 y
```

Pros:

- 1 separate compilation
- 2 order of patterns decides the behaviour
- 3 efficient memory representation and pattern matching (on modern hardware)

# Implement the coalesced sums/products

- Second solution: Garrigue's Polymorphic Variants (dually, Remy's Extensible Records)

```
type t1 = ['A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | 'B of  $\mathbb{B}$ ] type t2 = ['A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | 'C]
```

```
type t1_plus_t2 = [t1 | t2]
```

```
let print_t1_plus_t2 : [ $<$  'A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | 'B of  $\mathbb{B}$  | 'C]  $\rightarrow$   $\mathbb{N}$  :=
```

```
function
```

```
  ('A _ | 'B _) as x  $\Rightarrow$  print_t1 x
```

```
  | ('C) as y  $\Rightarrow$  print_t2 y
```

Cons:

- 1 sums may fail at compile time (very unlikely)
- 2 complex type system and type inference  
(e.g. [ $>$  'A of  $\mathbb{N}$   $<$  'A of  $\mathbb{N}$  | 'B of  $\mathbb{B}$ ])

# Goal of the talk

Can we implement in type theory (Matita/Coq) polymorphic variants/extensible records so that:

- 1 no changes to the language
- 2 separate compilation
- 3 no refactoring
- 4 the extracted code is as memory efficient as standard inductive types
- 5 subtyping coercions are extracted to identity

We solve the problem for **bounded variants/records** giving away separate compilation and a bit of efficiency for polymorphic records.

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# Polymorphic variants

Syntax of types:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T &::= \dots \mid [i]S \mid \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \mid \forall \rho. T \\
 S &::= \emptyset \mid \text{tag} : T, S \mid \rho \\
 L, U &::= \emptyset \mid i, L \\
 K &::= \emptyset \mid K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}
 \end{aligned}$$

- 1  $i$  specifies what tags (constructors) inhabit the type
- 2  $S$  maps tags to their type

# Polymorphic variants

Syntax of types:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T & ::= \dots \mid [i \mid \mathbf{S}] \mid \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \mid \forall \rho. T \\
 \mathbf{S} & ::= \emptyset \mid \mathit{tag} : T, \mathbf{S} \mid \rho \\
 L, U & ::= \emptyset \mid i, L \\
 K & ::= \emptyset \mid K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathbf{S}$  is a list or declarations

# Polymorphic variants

Syntax of types:

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 T &::= \dots \mid [i \mid \mathbf{S}] \mid \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \mid \forall \rho. T \\
 \mathbf{S} &::= \emptyset \mid \mathit{tag} : T, \mathbf{S} \mid \rho \\
 L, U &::= \emptyset \mid i, L \\
 K &::= \emptyset \mid K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\mathbf{S}$  is a list of declarations
- the type is parametrically polymorphic on the types of additional tags (specified by  $\rho$ )



# Polymorphic variants

Syntax of types:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T &::= \dots \mid [i \mid S] \mid \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \mid \forall \rho. T \\
 S &::= \emptyset \mid \text{tag} : T, S \mid \rho \\
 L, U &::= \emptyset \mid i, L \\
 K &::= \emptyset \mid K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}
 \end{aligned}$$

- $i$  specifies what tags (constructors) inhabit the type via bounded parametric polymorphism
- $i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}$  ranges over sets  $A$  of tags such that  $L \subseteq A \subseteq U$

# Polymorphic variants

Syntax of types:

$$\begin{aligned}
 T &::= \dots \mid [i \mid S] \mid \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \mid \forall \rho. T \\
 S &::= \emptyset \mid \text{tag} : T, S \mid \rho \\
 L, U &::= \emptyset \mid i, L \\
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 \end{aligned}$$

- $K$  is a context of constraints

# Polymorphic variants

$$\frac{(L \subseteq L' \quad H \subseteq H')}{K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle} \vdash i \geq \langle L', H' \rangle} \text{ (Ki)} \quad \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \phi \quad K \vdash i \geq \langle \text{tag}, T \rangle}{K; \Gamma \vdash \text{tag}(r) : [i \mid \text{tag} : \phi, T]} \text{ (Kvariant)}$$

$$\frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : [i \mid \{\text{tag}_k : \phi_k\}_1^n, T] \quad K \vdash i \geq \langle \perp, \{\text{tag}_k\}_1^n \rangle \quad K; \Gamma, x_k : \phi_k \vdash r_k : \psi \quad (1 \leq k \leq n)}{K; \Gamma \vdash \text{match } r \text{ with } \{\text{tag}_k(x_k) \Rightarrow r_k\}_1^n : \psi} \text{ (Kmatch)}$$

$$\frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \sigma \quad (\rho \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma))}{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall \rho. \sigma} \text{ (K}\forall\rho\text{)} \quad \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall \rho. \sigma \quad K; \Gamma \vdash s : T}{K; \Gamma \vdash rs : \sigma[\rho := T]} \text{ (Kinst}\rho\text{)}$$

$$\frac{K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}; \Gamma \vdash r : \sigma}{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. \sigma} \text{ (K}\forall i\text{)} \quad \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. \sigma \quad K \vdash i' \geq \langle L, U \rangle}{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \sigma[i := i']} \text{ (Kinsti)}$$

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$$K; \Gamma \vdash r : [i \mid \{\text{tag}_k : \phi_k\}_1^n, T] \quad K \vdash i \geq \langle \perp, \{\text{tag}_k\}_1^n \rangle \quad K; \Gamma, x_k : \phi_k \vdash r_k : \psi \quad (1 \leq k \leq n)$$

---

**(Kmatch)**

$$K; \Gamma \vdash \text{match } r \text{ with } \{\text{tag}_k(x_k) \Rightarrow r_k\}_1^n : \psi$$

$$\frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \sigma \quad (\rho \notin \text{ftv}(\Gamma))}{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall \rho. \sigma} \text{ (K}\forall\rho) \quad \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall \rho. \sigma \quad K; \Gamma \vdash s : T}{K; \Gamma \vdash rs : \sigma[\rho := T]} \text{ (Kinst}\rho)$$

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# Polymorphic variants

$$\frac{(L \subseteq L' \quad H \subseteq H')}{K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle} \vdash i \geq \langle L', H' \rangle} \text{ (Ki)} \quad \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \phi \quad K \vdash i \geq \langle \text{tag}, T \rangle}{K; \Gamma \vdash \text{tag}(r) : [i \mid \text{tag} : \phi, T]} \text{ (Kvariant)}$$

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# Bounded polymorphic variants

We assume the types of tags to be fixed in advance in a global

$$S = tag_1 : \phi_{tag_1}, \dots, tag_n : \phi_{tag_n}$$

No separate compilation, adding a new tag will require re-compilation without code refactoring.

Syntax of types:

$$\begin{aligned} T &::= \dots \mid [i] \mid \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \\ L, U &::= \emptyset \mid i, L \\ K &::= \emptyset \mid K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

All types  $[j]$  are just subtypes of  $[i]$  for  $i_{\geq \langle \emptyset, \{tag_i\} \rangle}$ .



# Bounded polymorphic variants

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{(L \subseteq L' \quad H \subseteq H')}{K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle} \vdash i \geq \langle L', H' \rangle} \text{ (Ki)} \quad \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \phi_{tag} \quad K \vdash i \geq \langle tag, \top \rangle}{K; \Gamma \vdash 'tag(r) : [i]} \text{ (Kvariant)} \\
 \\
 \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : [i] \quad K \vdash i \geq \langle \perp, \{tag_k\}_1^n \rangle \quad K; \Gamma, x_k : \phi_{tag_k} \vdash r_k : \psi \quad (1 \leq k \leq n)}{K; \Gamma \vdash \text{match } r \text{ with } \{ 'tag_k(x_k) \Rightarrow r_k \}_1^n : \psi} \text{ (Kmatch)} \\
 \\
 \frac{K \oplus i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}; \Gamma \vdash r : \sigma}{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. \sigma} \text{ (K}\forall\text{i)} \quad \frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. \sigma \quad K \vdash i' \geq \langle L, U \rangle}{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \sigma[i := i']} \text{ (Kinsti)}
 \end{array}$$

# Bounded polymorphic variants in type theory

In a preamble file:

- 1 The algebraic type that declares every constructor

```
inductive Expr (T) :=
  Const:  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Expr } T$ 
  | Plus:  $T \rightarrow T \rightarrow \text{Expr } T$ 
  | Mult:  $T \rightarrow T \rightarrow \text{Expr}$ 
```

- 2 An enumeration of tags (names) for the constructors

```
inductive tag := CONST | PLUS | MULT
```

- 3 Computable equality test

```
definition eq_tags : tag  $\rightarrow$  tag  $\rightarrow$   $\mathbb{B}$ 
```

- 4 Classifier

```
definition tag_of_expr :  $\forall T. \text{Expr } T \rightarrow \text{tag}$ 
```

# Bounded polymorphic variants in type theory

- 1 A function to compute the type of branches during pattern matching

**definition**  $Q\_for\_tag: \forall T. \forall Q : Expr T \rightarrow Prop. tag \rightarrow Prop := \lambda T, Q, tag.$

**match tag with**

  CONST  $\Rightarrow \forall n. Q(\text{Const } n)$   
 | PLUS  $\Rightarrow \forall E1, E2. Q(\text{Plus } E1 \ E2)$   
 | MULT  $\Rightarrow \forall E1, E2. Q(\text{Mult } E1 \ E2)$

- 2 A proof of exhaustivity of pattern matching

**theorem**  $Q\_holds\_for\_tag: \forall T. \forall Q: Expr T \rightarrow Prop.$   
 $\forall x: Expr T. Q\_for\_tag \ T \ Q \ (tag\_of\_expr \ T \ x) \rightarrow Q \ x.$

# Bounded polymorphic variants in type theory

The encoding :

$$\llbracket \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \rrbracket = \bigcap_{i:\text{list tag}. L \subseteq i \wedge i \subseteq U. \llbracket T \rrbracket}$$

$$\llbracket [i] \rrbracket = \Sigma x : \text{Expr } T. \text{tag\_of\_expr } x \in i$$

$$\llbracket 'tag_i(t) \rrbracket = \langle \text{tag}_i(\llbracket t \rrbracket), \rho \rangle$$

$$\llbracket \begin{array}{l} \text{match } x \text{ with} \\ \{ 'tag_i(x) \Rightarrow t_i \} \end{array} \rrbracket = \begin{array}{l} \text{match } x \text{ with} \\ \{ 'tag_i(x) \Rightarrow \lambda H : \text{tag\_of\_expr } x \in i. \llbracket t_i \rrbracket \\ \quad \_ \Rightarrow \lambda H : \text{tag\_of\_expr } x \in i. \perp_e(\rho) \} \end{array}$$

$$\text{induction} = \text{application of } Q\_holds\_for\_tag$$

Optimization: if  $L = [tag_1; \dots; tag_n]$  then

$$\llbracket \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \rrbracket = \bigcap_{j:\text{list tag}. \text{let } i := L @ j \text{ in } i \subseteq U. \llbracket T \rrbracket}$$

$$\llbracket 'tag_i(t) \rrbracket = \langle \text{tag}_i(\llbracket t \rrbracket), \star \rangle$$

# Bounded polymorphic variants in type theory

The encoding after code extraction:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \llbracket \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle}. T \rrbracket &= \llbracket T \rrbracket \\
 \llbracket [i] \rrbracket &= \text{Expr } T \\
 \llbracket 'tag_i(t) \rrbracket &= tag_i(\llbracket t \rrbracket) \\
 \llbracket \text{match } x \text{ with} \\
 &\quad \{ 'tag_i(x) \Rightarrow t_i \} \rrbracket &= \text{match } x \text{ with} \\
 &\quad \{ 'tag_i(x) \Rightarrow \llbracket t_i \rrbracket \\
 &\quad \quad - \Rightarrow \perp_e \}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Subtyping

Slogan: “*structural subtyping as instantiation*”

$$\frac{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle} . \sigma \quad K \vdash i' \geq \langle L, U \rangle}{K; \Gamma \vdash r : \sigma[i := i']} \text{ (Kinsti)}$$

In the encoding:

$$\frac{r : \llbracket \forall i_{\geq \langle L, U \rangle} . \sigma \rrbracket \quad p : L \subseteq i' \subseteq U}{r \ i' \ p : \llbracket \sigma \rrbracket [i := i']} \text{ (Kinsti)}$$

But also: explicit structural subtyping via coercions.

**definition** coerce:  $\forall l_1, l_2 : \text{list tag}. l_1 \subseteq l_2 \rightarrow \llbracket [l_1] \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket [l_2] \rrbracket$

(extracts to identity)

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# Conclusions

A lightweight encoding of bounded polymorphic variants in type theory

- 1 in user space only
- 2 adding a tag requires a change to the global preamble and recompilation, but no refactoring
- 3 maximally efficient code after code extraction
- 4 the proof obligations are handled by trivial automation
- 5 heavily used in the EU project CerCo to formalize the 8051 microprocessor (almost every opcode takes a different subset of the allowed operand modes)



# Bounded extensible records

The encoding is less satisfactory:

**record** status := { field<sub>1</sub>: option T<sub>1</sub>; ...; field<sub>n</sub>: option T<sub>n</sub> }

$\llbracket \{i\} \rrbracket = \Sigma s : \text{status.all\_fields\_set } i \text{ s}$

## Related work

Polymorphic variants not in Haskell: explicit use of functors and fixpoints in “datatypes à la carte”

Can be made to work with dependent types too  
(see Matteo Acerbi’s Master Thesis, based on indexed descriptions, implemented in Agda)

Way more cumbersome for the user, slightly less efficient, requires code refactoring or quotienting (??).