

Homotopy Type Theory

- (formal) foundation of mathematics (\leftrightarrow ZF set theory, \leftrightarrow LEAN mathlib foundation)
- sheds some new light on mathematical concepts & way of thinking

I. Type Theory

What are types?

Sets like mathematicians want them to be

I.1. Primitive notions of type theory

types X

objects $x: X$ of type X

judgmental / definitional equalities of objects of the same type

$$x \equiv y : X$$

ZF set theory: sets, \in ,
first-order predicate logic with $=$

• all objects MUST have a type

• types are objects in a universe U \rightsquigarrow hierarchy of universe

I.2. Rules to construct types, objects of a certain type and judgmental equalities

= deductive system with decidable & terminating checks for object-type relations & judgmental equalities

(similar to syntax checks in programming languages)

\rightsquigarrow safety of proof checkers

• A, B types \rightsquigarrow function type $A \rightarrow B$

$f: A \rightarrow B$ function $\rightsquigarrow f \equiv \lambda(x:A), f x$

$a:A \rightsquigarrow (\lambda(x:A), f x) a \equiv f a$

$\text{fun } (x:A) \mapsto f x$

λ -calculus

Example: identity function $id_A \equiv \lambda(x:A), x$

• Dependent function type: $A:U$, type family $B:A \rightarrow U \rightsquigarrow \prod(a:A), B a : U$

dependent pairs = Σ -type: $\rightsquigarrow \sum(a:A), B a : U$

special case: function & pairs: $A:U, C:U \rightsquigarrow f: \prod(a:A), C \equiv A \rightarrow C$

Example 1: magma = type with binary operation & $(a,c): \sum(a:A), C \equiv A \times C$

\rightsquigarrow family of types

$\lambda(x:U), x \rightarrow (x \rightarrow x) : U \rightarrow U$

type of a magma:

$\sum(x:U), x \rightarrow x \rightarrow x$

Example 2: surjective functions

$f: A \rightarrow B \rightsquigarrow \prod(b:B), \sum(a:A), f a = b \equiv ! \text{ is_surjective } f$

not yet defined

property of being surjective

(surjective functions have type $\sum(f: A \rightarrow B), \text{is_surjective } f$)

I.3. Inductive Types

Example 1: Construct type \mathbb{N} of natural numbers inductively

• 0 is a natural number $\rightsquigarrow 0: \mathbb{N}$

• successor $S(n)$ of a natural number n is a natural number $\rightsquigarrow S: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ } Constructors

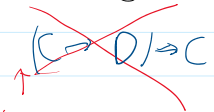
\rightsquigarrow recursion that is terminating

Construction of function $add: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by induction:

Construction of function $add: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by induction:

- $n + 0 \equiv n$
- $n + S(m) \equiv S(n+m)$

↳ recursion that is terminating



not allowed as constructor

(0) $S(0) + S(0) \equiv S(S(0) + 0) \equiv S(S(0)) ; \mathbb{N}$

↑
normal form

equality is inductively defined

(1) $\forall n, m: \mathbb{N}, S(n) + m \equiv S(n+m)$

Construction of an object, using inductive eliminator

Assume $n, m: \mathbb{N}$. Do induction on m :

tactics $\rightarrow S(n) + 0 \equiv S(n) \equiv S(n+0)$

$\lambda n, m: \mathbb{N} \cdot S(n) + S(m') \equiv S(S(n) + m') \stackrel{IH}{=} S(S(n+m')) \equiv S(n + S(m'))$

(2) $\forall n: \mathbb{N} : 0 + n = n$

Assume $n: \mathbb{N}$. Do induction on n :

- $0 + 0 \equiv 0$
- $0 + S(n') \equiv S(0 + n') \stackrel{IH}{=} S(n')$

(3) $\forall n, m: \mathbb{N}, n + m = m$

Assume $n, m: \mathbb{N}$. Do induction on m :

- $n + 0 \equiv n \stackrel{(2)}{=} 0 + n$
- $n + S(m') \equiv S(n + m') \stackrel{IH}{=} S(m' + n) \stackrel{(1)}{=} S(m') + n$

L Curry-Howard isomorphism: Proofs are objects, type is the statement to prove

↓
program

Example 2: Σ -types $\Sigma(a:A), B a$ as inductive type

constructor: $dpair: \prod(a:A), B a \rightarrow \Sigma a:A, B a$ $dpair\ a\ b \equiv \langle a, b \rangle$

eliminator: $ind_{\Sigma(a:A), B a}: \prod(C: \Sigma(a:A), B a \rightarrow U), (\prod(a:A)(b:B a), C \langle a, b \rangle) \rightarrow \prod(p: \Sigma(a:A), B a), C p$

$ind_{\Sigma(a:A), B a} (C, h, \langle a, b \rangle) \equiv h(a, b)$

$\underbrace{C \langle a, b \rangle}_{C \langle a, b \rangle}$

$pr_1: \Sigma(a:A), B a \rightarrow A$

$ind_{\Sigma(a:A), B a} (\lambda(p: \Sigma(a:A), B a), A), (\lambda(a:A)(b:B a), a)$

$pr_2: \prod(p: \Sigma(a:A), B a), B(pr_1(p)) \equiv$ Assume $p: \Sigma(a:A), B a$. Do induction on p :
 $pr_2 \langle a, b \rangle \equiv b : B a$

→ Calculus of Inductive Constructions

rich enough deductive systems for all of mathematics

I.4. Logic

True : inductive type with constructor tt : True

False : inductive type without constructor

Induction on ff : False \rightarrow yields everything

Ex Falso quodlibet

Not $\equiv \neg$: $\prod (A : \mathcal{U}), A \rightarrow \text{False}$

And $\equiv \times$: Inductive Type with constructor $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \times B$

Or $\equiv +$: Inductive type with two constructors $wl : A \rightarrow A + B$
 $wr : B \rightarrow A + B$

For all : $\prod (a : A), P a$ where $P : A \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$

There exists : $\sum (a : A), P a$

(1) $A \times B \rightarrow B \times A$: Assume $ass : A \times B$ Do induction on ass
 $(a, b) \mapsto (b, a) : B \times A$

(2) $A \rightarrow \neg \neg A \equiv (A \rightarrow \text{False}) \rightarrow \text{False}$: Assume $a : A$, Assume $na : A \rightarrow \text{False}$
Do induction on $na a$.

(3) $A + \neg A$: Cannot be proven = no object of this type can be constructed
Excluded Middle can be stated as an axiom
 \hookrightarrow Logic is constructor

(4) $A \rightarrow \prod (a : A), P a \rightarrow \sum (a : A), P a$: Assume $a : A$, $f : \prod (a : A), P a$
Take $(a, f a) : \sum (a : A), P a$

II. Equality & Univalence

II.1. Equality

family of inductive types $\text{Id}_A : A \rightarrow A \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ with indices $a, b : A \rightarrow \text{Id}_A(a, b) \equiv a =_A b$

one constructor : $\text{idpath}_A a : a =_A a$

Martin Lof equality = propositional equality

judgmental equality $a \equiv b : A \rightsquigarrow$ object $\text{idpath } c$ (or a, a or b)
 $\begin{matrix} a & \equiv & b & : & A \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ c & & c & & \end{matrix}$ proofs of statements in \mathbb{N} : $1+1=2$

induction only works for the whole type family : To obtain $c : C$ from $p : a = b$
 a and b must be arbitrary independent objects in A

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transport over equality through family of types:

$B : A \rightarrow U$, $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 : A$, $p : \alpha_1 = \alpha_2$, $b_1 : B \alpha_1 \mapsto b_2 : B \alpha_2$: Do induction on p
 $p_* (b_1)$ $p : \alpha_1 = \alpha_2$. Take $b_2 : B \alpha_2$

homotopy interpretation:

equality $p : a =_A b \iff$ path from a to b in A



(path) induction on $p \iff$ base point free paths are homotopic to constant paths (in connected spaces)

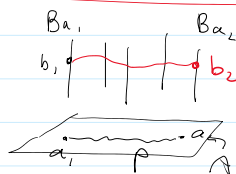
equality of equalities \iff homotopy between paths with fixed endpoints

$p, q : a =_A b \rightsquigarrow p =_{a=b} q$

$p \neq q \iff$ paths are not homotopic

Existence of non-equal equalities is the big difference to "standard" dependent type theory, as used e.g. for LEAN's mathlib

transport over $p : \alpha_1 =_A \alpha_2$ in $B : A \rightarrow U$



inductive construction of equalities in inductive types

Example: $P : A \rightarrow U$ type family, $w, w' : \sum (a : A), P a$

(1) $f : \prod_{w, w'} (w = w') \rightarrow \sum (p : pr_1(w) = pr_1(w')), p_* (pr_2(w)) = pr_2(w')$:

Do induction on $p \rightsquigarrow p \equiv \text{idpath } w$

Take $\text{idpath } pr_1(w), \text{idpath } pr_2(w)$

\hookrightarrow Note $(\text{idpath}_A pr_1(w))_* pr_2(w) \equiv pr_2(w)$

(2) $g : \prod_{w, w'} \sum (p : pr_1(w) = pr_1(w')), p_* (pr_2(w)) = pr_2(w') \rightarrow w = w'$:

Do induction on $w, w' \rightsquigarrow w \equiv (a, b), w' \equiv (a', b')$ (& calculate)

Do induction on $p \rightsquigarrow p \equiv \text{idpath}_A a, q \equiv (\text{idpath } a)_* b = b' \equiv b = b'$

Do induction on $q \rightsquigarrow q \equiv \text{idpath}_{P a} b$

Take $\text{idpath}_{\sum (a : A), P a} (a, b)$

(3) $f(g(r)) = r$: Do induction on w, w', r (& calculate using the inductive definition of f and g)

Do path induction on the two components of r

Take idpath

(4) $g(f(p)) = p$: Do induction on $p \rightarrow p: w = w$
Do induction on w (& calculate)
Take icpath

What about equalities of functions $f, g: A \rightarrow B$? Equalities of types A, B ?