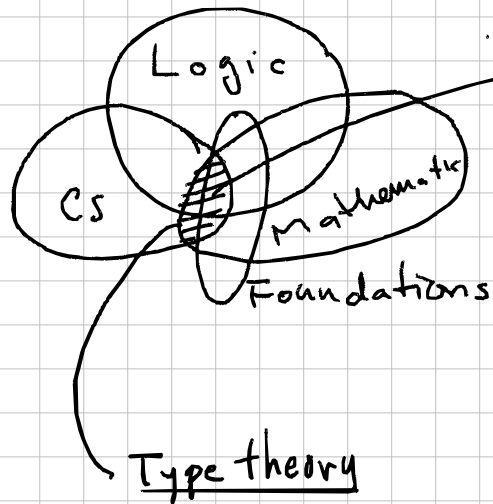


# Lectures on Type Theory

BICMR May 2025



## Proof assistants

Agda } all use a  
Coq } dependent  
Lean } type theory

## I. Martin-Löf Type Theory (MLTT)

Per Martin-Löf

- Formulate mathematical objects, e.g.  $\mathbb{N}$
- Curry-Howard correspondence : Logic internal to MLTT
- Identity Types

## II. Homotopy Type Theory (HoTT)

Vladimir Voevodsky

- Types as Spaces (Homotopy Types)
- Univalence Axiom
- Higher Inductive Types

Types which are not sets

$$\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^1) \cong \mathbb{Z}$$

## References

- HOT Book
- HOTTEST Summer School
- <https://scripta.io/g/jxxcarlson:mltt>

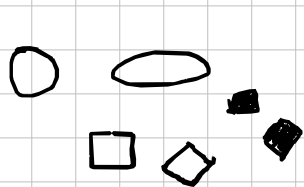
# 1. Sets and Types

# Sets

$S = \underline{\text{collection}}$  of elements

$a \in S$  ,  $a \notin S$  ← these are propositions:  
capable of being  
proved true or false

element | set  
| is a member



$$A = \{ \square, \diamond \}$$

$$B = \{ \blacksquare, \blacklozenge \}$$

$$C = \{ \blacksquare, \square \}$$

We gather a bunch of elements to form a set. We can do this in many ways.

$$\square \in A, \square \notin B \quad (\text{true})$$

$$\blacklozenge \in A \quad (\text{false})$$

# The Set of Natural Numbers

## Von Neumann's natural numbers

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \{ \} & \{ \{ \} \} & \{ \{ \}, \{ \{ \} \} \} & \dots \\ \equiv & \equiv & \equiv & \\ 0_S & 1_S & 2_S & , \text{ etc.} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{N} &= \{ \{ \}, \{ \{ \} \}, \{ \{ \}, \{ \{ \} \} \}, \dots \} \\ &= \{ 0_S, 1_S, 2_S, \dots \} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Evens} = \{ 0_S, 2_S, 4_S, \dots \} \quad \text{Odds} = \{ 1_S, 3_S, 5_S, \dots \}$$

$$\text{Primes} = \{ 2_S, 3_S, 5_S, \dots \}$$

$2_S \in \mathbb{N}, \quad 2_S \in \text{Evens}$

$$0_S \in 1_S \in 2_S \in \dots$$

$$0_S \notin 0_S$$

We collect the numbers  $0_S, 1_S, \dots$  to form the set  $\mathbb{N}$ , Evens, Primes, etc.

## 2. MLTT as a FORMAL SYSTEM

# Parts of the Formal System

Judgments : things we assert — the facts known to the system

Rules of Inference : rules to derive new judgments from existing ones.



# Goncharov's Cherry-Banana Calculus

Symbols :  $\circ, \square$

Grammar :  $X ::= \circ \mid \square \mid \circ X \mid \square X$

Terminal Symbols :  $\circ, \square$       Nonterminals  $X$

Production rules :  $X \rightarrow \circ, X \rightarrow \square, X \rightarrow \circ X, X \rightarrow \square X$

Productions     $X \rightarrow \circ X \rightarrow \circ \circ X \rightarrow \circ \circ \square$

Language : Not too interesting : all nonempty strings in  $\circ$  and  $\square$ .

## Inference Rules

axiom

$$\frac{}{\circ}$$

prepend

$$\frac{x}{\square X}$$

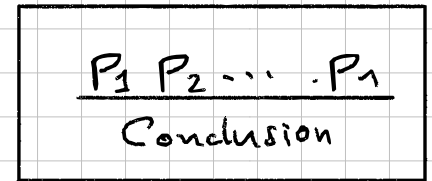
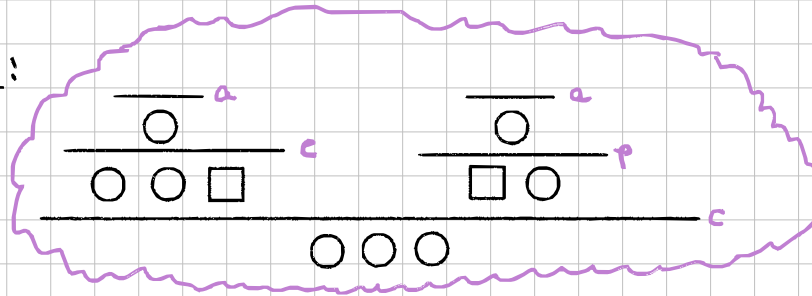
collapse

$$\frac{X \square \quad \square Y}{XY}$$

enclose.

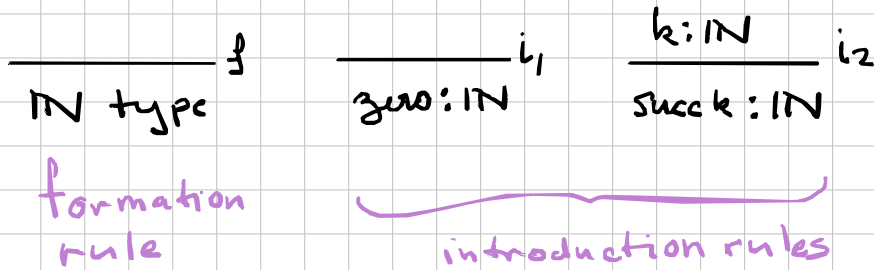
$$\frac{x}{\circ X \square}$$

## Derivation:

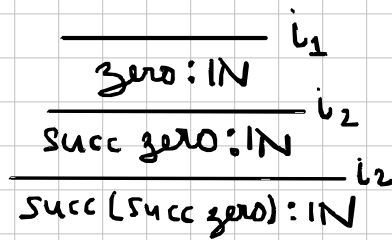


- is an axiom. In this case, the initial judgment
- is derivable: it is a new judgment
- is not derivable

# Natural Numbers



## Derivation



## Terminology

zero and succ  
are constructors  
for  $\mathbb{N}$

Judgments so far :  $\text{zero} : \mathbb{N}$ ,  
 $\text{succ zero} : \mathbb{N}$ ,  
 $\text{succ (succ zero)} : \mathbb{N}$

Aliases  $0 := \text{zero}$ ,  $1 := \text{succ (zero)}$ , ...

# Lambda Calculus

## Syntax for $\lambda$ -terms

1. Variable rule. There is an infinite list of variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots$ . These are  $\lambda$ -terms.
2. Abstraction rule. If  $x$  is a variable and  $b$  is a  $\lambda$ -term, then  $\lambda x. b$  is a  $\lambda$ -term, the abstraction of  $b$  relative to  $x$ .
3. Application rule. If  $a$  and  $b$  are  $\lambda$ -terms, then so is  $ab$ .

## Semantics: $\beta$ -reduction

$$(\lambda x. b) a = \lambda x. b[a/x] = b[a/x]$$

↑ body of  $\lambda$ -abstraction

replace all occurrences of  $x$  by  $a$

## Examples

•  $(\lambda x.x) a = a$  —  $\lambda x.x$  is the identity function

•  $(\lambda x.\lambda y.x) 1 2 \xrightarrow{\beta} (\lambda y.1) 2 \xrightarrow{\beta} 1$       FIRST

•  $(\lambda x.\lambda y.y) 1 2 \xrightarrow{\beta} (\lambda y.y) 2 \xrightarrow{\beta} 2$       SECOND

# Function Types

$$\frac{A \text{ type} \quad B \text{ type}}{(A \rightarrow B) \text{ type}} \text{ formation}$$

constructor =  $\rightarrow$

$$\frac{x:A \vdash b:B}{\lambda x. b:A \rightarrow B} \text{ intro}$$

$$\frac{f:A \rightarrow B \quad a:A}{f(a):B} \text{ elim}$$

$$\frac{x:A \vdash b:B \quad a:A}{(\lambda x. b) a = b[a/x]:B} \text{ comp.}$$

## Functions of Several Variables

Given types  $A, B, C$ :

$$(1) \frac{B \text{ type} \quad C \text{ type}}{(B \rightarrow C) \text{ type}}$$

$$(2) \frac{A \text{ type} \quad (B \rightarrow C) \text{ type}}{A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \text{ type}}$$

Convention: Function of Types  
is right-associative

$$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$$

$$\frac{A \text{ type} \quad \frac{B \text{ type} \quad C \text{ type}}{(B \rightarrow C) \text{ type}}}{A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \text{ type}}$$

## Evaluation

$$f : A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C$$

$$a : A$$

$$\begin{array}{c} * \quad f(a) : B \rightarrow C \quad \leftarrow \\ \hline b : B \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$** \quad f(a)(b) : C$$

## Alternate notation

$f a$  instead of  $f(a)$

$$f a : B \rightarrow C$$

$$(f a) b : C \quad \text{write } f a b$$

## Convention

function application  
is left-associative

$$f a b : C$$

# The Boolean Type

$\mathbb{B}$  type formation

$\text{true} : \mathbb{B}$        $\text{false} : \mathbb{B}$       intro.

The constructors of  $\mathbb{B}$  are true and false

To define  $g : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow C$ :

$C$  type     $t : C$      $f : C$      $b : \mathbb{B}$       elim  
 $\text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(t, f, b) : C$

$t : C$      $f : C$   
 $\text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(t, f, \text{true}) \equiv t : C$

$t : C$      $f : C$   
 $\text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(t, f, \text{false}) \equiv f : C$

} comp.

$\text{not} : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$

$\text{not } b = \text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{false}, \text{true}, b)$

$\text{not true} = \text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{false}, \text{true}, \text{true})$   
 $= \text{false}$

$\text{not} = \lambda b. \text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{false}, \text{true}, b)$

$\text{not false} =$

$(\lambda b. \text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{false}, \text{true}, b)) \text{false} =$   
 $\text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{false}, \text{true}, \text{false}) =$   
 $\text{true}$

Pattern-matching defn.

$\text{not} : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$

$\text{not true} = \text{false}$

$\text{not false} = \text{true}$



# Boolean type — elimination rule

$\text{and} : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$

(1)  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{and true true} = \text{true} \\ \text{and true false} = \text{false} \\ \text{and false true} = \text{false} \\ \text{and false false} = \text{false} \end{array} \right\} \text{definition by pattern-matching}$

(2)  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{and } \_ \text{ false} = \text{false} \\ \text{and } x \text{ true} = x \end{array} \right\} \text{better def by pattern-matching}$

Definition via the eliminator:

$\text{and} = \lambda b_1. \lambda b_2. \text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(b_2, \text{false}, b_1)$

$\text{and } x \text{ false} = \text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{false}, \text{false}, x) \equiv \text{false}$

$\text{and } x \text{ true} = \text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{true}, \text{false}, x) \equiv x$

$$\frac{t : \quad f : \mathbb{C}}{\text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(t, f, \text{true}) \equiv t : \mathbb{B}}$$

$$\frac{t : \mathbb{C} \quad f : \mathbb{C}}{\text{elim}_{\mathbb{B}}(t, f, \text{false}) \equiv f : \mathbb{B}}$$

---

Note Nondependent pattern-matching definitions can always be translated into eliminator-style definitions. This done automatically by Agda, Coq, and Lean.

Pattern-matching defs are better for humans, eliminator-style is better for machines.

### 3. Comparing Sets and Types

# Sets vs Types : Comparison

- The numbers  $0_s, 1_s, 2_s, \dots$  exist independently of any set into which they may be gathered.

- Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the set of prime numbers  
Then  $7_s \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $7_s \in \mathcal{P}$ .

But a term cannot be a term of more than one type:

zero is a term of  $\mathbb{N}$   
and no other type

or (and (or true false) true) false  
→ or (and true true) false  
→ or true false  
→ true

# Russell's Paradox

1902, letter to Frege

$$R = \{x \mid x \notin x\}$$

$$0 \in R, 1 \in R, \dots, \mathbb{N} \in R, \dots$$

Question  $R \in R$ ? Def  $\Rightarrow R \notin R$  Contradiction!  
 $R \notin R$ ? Def  $\Rightarrow R \in R$  Contradiction!

The problem: unrestricted set comprehension  
self-referentiality

Russell's solution ... a theory of types  
that restricts the way sets are formed.

# Universes

universe of small types

Postulate a hierarchy of universes:  $U_0 : U_1 : U_2 \dots$   
↑ level

Henceforth: write the rules to take into account universes:

$$\frac{}{N : U_0}$$

$$\frac{A : U_n \quad B : U_n}{A \rightarrow B : U_n}$$

Universes are cumulative

if  $A : U_i$ , then  $A : U_j$  for  $j > i$

Populating a universe

$$\frac{}{N : U_0}, \quad \frac{N : U_0}{N \rightarrow N : U_0}$$

Now  $U_0$  has two terms,  $N$  and  $N \rightarrow N$

# Large Types

$f: A \rightarrow U_0$  — a type family where  $A: U_0$

Since  $U_0: U_1$ ,  $A$  is a term of  $U_1$  also

$$\frac{A: U_1 \quad U_0: U_1}{(A \rightarrow U_0): U_1}$$

Formation rule for  
function type

$$\frac{A: U_n \quad B: U_n}{(A \rightarrow B): U_n}$$

Conclude: the type of  $f$ ,  $A \rightarrow U_0$  is  $U_1$

Example:  $0 =_{\mathbb{N}} n: U_0$

$$f(n) = (0 =_{\mathbb{N}} n).$$

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow U_0$$

$$\mathbb{N} \rightarrow U_0: U_1$$

large type

The type of such  
families is in  $U_1$

## 4. Functions out of $\mathbb{N}$

(towards the eliminator)  
for  $\mathbb{N}$

## Functions out of $\mathbb{N}$

Official method: Elimination Rule (later)

But we will use pattern-matching for now

### Examples (Definition by pattern-matching)

$\text{double} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$\text{double zero} = \text{zero}$

$\text{double} (\text{succ } n) = \text{succ} (\text{succ} (\text{double } n))$

$\text{fact} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$\text{fact zero} = \text{succ zero}$

$\text{fact} (\text{succ } n) = (\text{succ } n) * (\text{fact } n)$

$\text{add} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$\text{add zero } n = n$

$\text{add} (\text{succ } m) n = \text{succ} (\text{add } m n)$

General form of function definitions:

- Type signature
- One equation for each constructor

All these definitions  
use recursion.

All computations  
terminate

The recursion is  
primitive



## Sample computation

double 2

double (succ (succ (zero)))

succ (succ (double (succ (zero))))

succ (succ (succ (succ (double zero))))

succ (succ (succ (succ (zero))))

---

4

- The number of constructors in the argument of double decreases at each step
- This  $\implies$  termination
- Computation = Evaluation = Reduction

## Bad Definitions

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$f \text{ zero} = \text{zero}$  --> Error: incomplete pattern matching for  $f$ . Missing cases:  $f(\text{succ } x)$

$$f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$f \text{ zero} = \text{zero}$$

$f(\text{succ } n) = f(\text{succ } n)$  -- Error: Termination checking failed for the following functions:  $f$   
Problematic calls:  $f(\text{succ } n)$

# The Addition Operator

$$+_{} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$\text{zero} + n = n$$

$$(\text{succ } m) + n = \text{succ } (m + n)$$

## Exercises:

1) Compute `add 2 2`

2) Compute `2+2`

3) Compute `fact 3`

An operator is a function of two arguments, where one argument comes before the function symbol, the other comes after.

## 5. Primitive Recursion and the Eliminator

# PRIMITIVE RECURSION ...

A scheme for setting up recursive computations  
that always terminate

$$\text{fact} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$\text{fact zero} = \text{succ zero}$$

base case

$$\text{fact}(\text{succ } n) = (\text{succ } n) * (\text{fact } n)$$

$$= \text{step } n (\text{fact } n) \quad \text{— where}$$

where  $\text{step } n \ v = (\text{succ } n) * v$

Recursion scheme

$$f \text{ zero} = \text{base}$$

$$f(\text{succ } n) = \text{step } n (f \ n)$$

$$\text{base} : C$$

$$\text{step} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow C \rightarrow C$$

# The non-dependant eliminator for $\mathbb{N}$

Data needed to construct  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow C$

- (i)  $C: \mathcal{U}$
- (ii)  $\text{base}: C$
- (iii)  $\text{step}: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow C \rightarrow C$

Make up a type that consumes these data and produces  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow C$ .

$$\text{rec}_{\mathbb{N}}: (C: \mathcal{U}) \rightarrow C \rightarrow (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow C \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow C)$$

the  
recursor

$$f_n = \text{rec}_{\mathbb{N}} C \text{ base step}$$

where

$$\text{rec}_{\mathbb{N}} C \text{ base step } 0 = \text{base}$$

$$\text{rec}_{\mathbb{N}} C \text{ base step } (\text{succ } n) = \text{step } n (\text{rec}_{\mathbb{N}} C \text{ base step } n)$$

Example

$$[\text{step } n \ v = (\text{succ } n) * v]$$

$$\text{fact} = \text{rec}_{\mathbb{N}} \mathbb{N} \ \text{zero} \ (\lambda n \ v \rightarrow (\text{succ } n) * v)$$

$\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$add : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N})$

$add\ zero\ n = n$

$add\ (succ\ m)\ n = succ\ (add\ m\ n)$

Then

$\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$base = add\ zero = \lambda n. n$

$step : maps\ add\ m\ as\ a\ function\ of\ n\ to\ add\ (succ\ m)\ as\ a\ function\ of\ n$

$\left\{ \begin{aligned} add\ (succ\ m)\ n &= succ\ (add\ m\ n) \\ \lambda n. (add\ (succ\ m)\ n) &= \end{aligned} \right.$

Want:

$step\ n'\ (add\ m) = add\ (succ\ m)$

$step\ n'\ \lambda n. (\underbrace{\lambda n. (add\ m)}_g)\ n = \lambda n. (add\ (succ\ m)\ n)$

$= \lambda n. (succ\ (add\ m)\ n) \rightarrow \lambda n. (succ\ (g\ n))$

$step\ n'\ g = \lambda n. (succ\ (g\ n))$

Recursion scheme

$f\ zero = base$

$f\ (succ\ m) = step\ m\ (f\ n)$

$base : \mathbb{C}$

$step : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$\lambda n. (\underbrace{\lambda n. (add\ m)}_g)\ n$

$\rightarrow \lambda n. (g\ n)\ n$

$\rightarrow g\ n$

< AGDA >

# Pattern-matching vs the Eliminator

## Pattern-matching definition

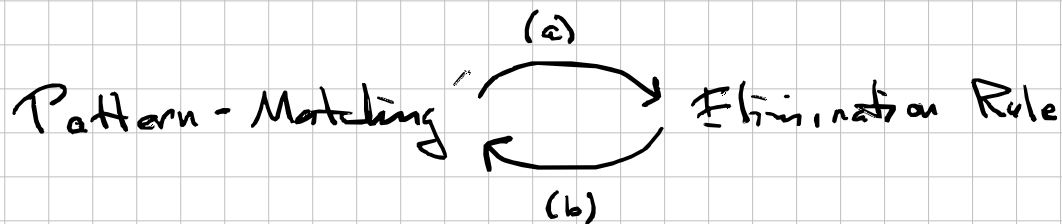
$$\text{fact} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad (1a)$$

$$\text{fact zero} = \text{succ zero}$$

$$\text{fact (succ } n) = (\text{succ } n) * (\text{fact } n) \quad (2a)$$

## Eliminator Definition (1b)

$$\text{fact} = \text{rec}_{\mathbb{N}} \mathbb{N} (\text{succ zero}) (\lambda n v \rightarrow (\text{succ } n) * v) \quad (2b)$$





6. Type Theory  $\Rightarrow$  Logic

# Propositions as Types

Type theory provides its own logic  
via the dictionary below (Curry-Howard)

Propositions  $P$   $\leftrightarrow$  Types  $P$

Proofs

$\leftrightarrow$  Terms  $p:P$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P \text{ is inhabited} \\ P \text{ has a witness } p \end{array} \right\}$

Implication  $P \Rightarrow Q$   $\leftrightarrow$  Function type  $P \rightarrow Q$

False

$\leftrightarrow$  Empty type  $\perp$

Negation  $\neg P$   $\leftrightarrow$  Function type  $P \rightarrow \perp$

...

...

A theorem, lemma, etc is a proposition + proof:  $x:P$

# Propositional Logic

Example: Modus Ponens

Given  $p:P$ ,  $f:P \rightarrow Q$

Construct  $f p:Q$

Example: Contrapositive.

Given:  $f:P \rightarrow Q$  and  $ng:Q \rightarrow \perp$

$P \xrightarrow{f} Q \xrightarrow{ng} \perp$

Construct:  $ng \circ f: P \rightarrow \perp$

# Curry-Howard Correspondence

## Logic

- 1 ✓ Proposition  $P$
- 2 ✓ Proof of  $P$
- 3 ✓  $P \Rightarrow Q$
- 4  $P \wedge Q$
- 5  $P \vee Q$
- 6 ✓  $\neg P$
- 7  $\forall x. P(x)$
- 8  $\exists x. P(x)$

## Type Theory

Type  $P$

Term  $x$  of  $P$

$P \rightarrow Q$

Function type

$P \times Q$

Product type

$P + Q$

Sum type

$P \rightarrow \perp$

$(x:P) \rightarrow Q(x)$

Dependent function

$\sum (x:P). Q(x)$

Dependent sum

also

$\prod (x:P) Q(x)$

$\sum (x:P), Q(x)$

# Curry-Howard Correspondence

## Logic

- 1 ✓ Proposition  $P$
- 2 ✓ Proof of  $P$
- 3 ✓  $P \Rightarrow Q$
- 4  $P \wedge Q$
- 5  $P \vee Q$
- 6 ✓  $\neg P$
- 7  $\forall x. P(x)$
- 8  $\exists x. P(x)$

## Type Theory

Type  $P$

Term  $x$  of  $P$

$P \rightarrow Q$

Function type

$P \times Q$

Product type

$P + Q$

Sum type

$P \rightarrow \perp$

$(x:P) \rightarrow Q(x)$

Dependent function

$\sum (x:P). Q(x)$

Dependent sum

also

$\prod (x:P) Q(x)$

$\sum (x:P), Q(x)$

# Conjunction (Products)

$$\frac{A:U \quad B:U}{A \times B:U} \text{ formation}$$

$$\frac{a:A \quad b:B}{(a,b):A \times B} \text{ introduction}$$

$$\frac{p:A \times B}{\text{fst } p:A} \quad \frac{p:A \times B}{\text{snd } (p):A \times B} \text{ elimination}$$

$$\text{fst}(a,b) = a \quad \text{snd}(a,b) = b \text{ computation}$$

Lemma:  $A \wedge B \Leftrightarrow B \wedge A$

Lemma:  $A \times B \rightarrow B \times A$  and  $B \times A \rightarrow A \times B$

proof  $(a,b) = (b,a)$  *pattern matching*

Dependent Sums: These generalize products

Recall product type  $A \times B$   
terms are pairs  $(a, b)$ ,  
with  $a:A$  and  $b:B$ .

In dependent sums,  
pairs  $(a, b)$ , where  
 $a:A$ ,  $b:B(a)$ , where  
 $B(a)$  is a type depending on  $a$

Example

$$\text{divides } d \ n = \sum_{(q:\mathbb{N})} (q, d * q = n)$$

proof that  
 $d * q = n$   
[these will be  
mostly empty]

Model existential quantification

$$\exists d, \text{ divides } n$$

# Disjunction (Coproducts, Sum type)

$A:U \quad B:U$  formation  
 $A+B:U$

$\frac{a:A}{\text{inl } a : A+B}$  intro (left-injection)

$\frac{b:B}{\text{inr } b : A+B}$  intro (right-injection)

Sum Type (Coproduct, Disjunction)

Lemma  $A \vee B \Leftrightarrow B \vee A$

Lemma  $A+B \rightarrow B+A$  and  $B+A \rightarrow A+B$

proof:  $A+B \rightarrow B+A$

proof e =

$\text{inl}_{A+B} a \rightarrow \text{inr}_{B+A} a$

$\text{inr}_{A+B} b \rightarrow \text{inl}_{B+A} b$



## Elimination Rule for Coproducts

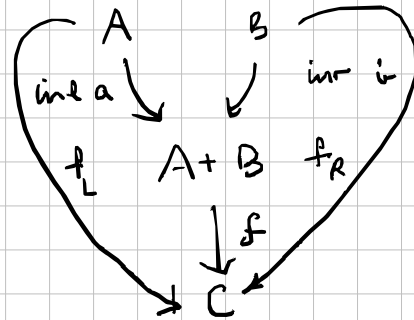
To define  $f: A + B \rightarrow C$

you need  $f_L: A \rightarrow C$ ,  $f_R: B \rightarrow C$ .

$$\text{elim}_+(f_L, f_R, \text{incl } a) = f_L(a)$$

$$\text{elim}_+(f_L, f_R, \text{inr } b) = f_R(b)$$

Then  $f x = \text{elim}_+(f_L, f_R, x)$



$$\text{rec}_{A+B} : (A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A+B \rightarrow C)$$

### Examples

$$\bullet \begin{cases} f : A+B \rightarrow B+A \\ f x = \text{elim}_+(\text{inr}_{B+A}, \text{incl}_{B+A}, x) \end{cases}$$

$$\bullet \begin{cases} f : \mathbb{N} + \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \\ f x = \text{elim}_+(\lambda x. x+1, \lambda x. 2*x, x) \end{cases}$$

# Elimination Rule for the Empty Type    The Principle of Explosion

"From a falsehood,  
everything."

Empty type:  $\perp : \mathcal{U}$     formation

- No introduction rules, no constructors
- No way to construct terms

## Elimination rule

$$\frac{t : \perp \quad c : \mathcal{U}}{\perp\text{-elim}(t, c) : C}$$

$$\perp\text{-elim} : (C : \mathcal{U}) \rightarrow (\perp \rightarrow C)$$

{ if there is a term of  $\perp$ ,  
there is a function  
 $f : \perp \rightarrow C$  }

Corollary If there is a witness  
to  $\perp$ , there is a witness to  $C$

William of Soissons, 14<sup>th</sup> c; Philo the Dialectician "material conditional"  
c. 300 BCE

# Law of the Excluded Middle (LEM) Aristotle 4C BCE

$$\text{lem}: (P:\mathcal{U}) \rightarrow P + (P \rightarrow \perp)$$

for all  $P:\mathcal{U}$ , there is a term  $t: P + (P \rightarrow \perp)$

Case (1):  $\text{inl } t: P$       --  $P$  is proved

Case (2)  $\text{inr } t: P \rightarrow \perp$       --  $\neg P$  is proved

Constructive logic + LEM  $\Rightarrow$  universal mechanism  
for either proving or refuting  $P$  for all  $P$  (!!)

## Notes

BHK: Brouwer, Heyting, Kolmogorov (Intuitionistic Logic)

Heyting: LEM is not derivable in Intuitionistic Logic

Extended Example: All natural numbers are either even or odd.

Plan

(1) Define a type family  $\text{Even } n$

(2) Define a type family  $\text{Odd } n$

(3) The proposition is

$$(n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Even } n + \text{Odd } n$$

$$\forall n, n \text{ is even or odd}$$

(4) Construct a witness to the proposition

Note: universal quantification is encoded  
by a dependent function

$$\forall n, P(n) \text{ true} \rightarrow (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow P n$$

$$f : (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow P n \quad \text{or} \quad \text{For every } n : \mathbb{N} \quad f n : P n$$

(1a) Define Even as a type

form.  $\text{Even} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$

intro.  $\text{evenZero} : \text{Even } 0$

intro.  $\text{evenSS} : (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Even } n \rightarrow \text{Even } (\text{succ } (\text{succ } n))$

Even is a type family with  
constructors evenZero and evenSS

Terms are constructed recursively

$\text{even evenZero} : \text{Even } 0$

$\text{evenSS } (\text{even evenZero}) : \text{Even } 2$

$\text{evenSS } (\text{evenSS } (\text{even evenZero})) : \text{Even } 4$

...

The type  $\text{Even } n$  exists  
for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The types  
 $\text{Even } 0, \text{Even } 2, \text{Even } 4, \dots$   
are inhabited. The types  
 $\text{Even } 1, \text{Even } 3, \text{Even } 5, \dots$   
are empty

(1b)  $\text{Odd} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$

$\text{oddOne} : \text{Odd } 1$

$\text{oddSS} : (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Odd } n \rightarrow \text{Odd } (\text{succ } (\text{succ } n))$

...

## Witness to (proof of) the theorem

$$\text{evenOrOdd} : (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{Even } n + \text{Odd } n$$

$$\text{evenOrOdd } 0 = \text{inl evenZero}$$

$$\text{evenOrOdd } 1 = \text{inr oddOne}$$

Now construct the remaining terms recursively:

- if we have a witness  $e : \text{Even } n$ , we produce  $\text{inl (evenSS } e) : \text{Even (succ (succ } n))$
- if we have a witness  $o : \text{Odd } n$ , we produce  $\text{inr (oddSS } o) : \text{Odd (succ (succ } n))$

Let motif = constant family  $C(x) = \text{Even (succ (succ } n)) + \text{Odd (succ (succ } n))$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{evenOrOdd (succ (succ } n)) = \\ \text{elim}_+ (\lambda x. \text{Even (succ (succ } n)) + \text{Odd (succ (succ } n)), \\ \lambda e. \text{inl (evenSS } e), \\ \lambda o. \text{inr (oddSS } o), \\ \text{evenOrOdd } n) \end{aligned}$$

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## Non-Dependent Eliminator

$$\text{elim}_+ : (C : \mathcal{U}) \rightarrow (a : A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (b : B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow A + B \rightarrow C$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{elim}_+(C, f_L, f_R, \text{inl } a) = f_L a \\ \text{elim}_+(C, f_L, f_R, \text{inr } b) = f_R b \end{array} \quad \Bigg| \quad f x = \text{elim}_+(C, f_L, f_R, x)$$

## Dependent Eliminator

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{elim}_+ : (C : A + B \rightarrow \mathcal{U}) \rightarrow ((a : A) \rightarrow C(\text{inl } a)) \\ \quad \rightarrow ((b : B) \rightarrow C(\text{inr } b)) \rightarrow ((x : A + B) \rightarrow C(x)) \end{array}$$

$$\text{elim}_+(C, f_L, f_R, \text{inl } a) = f_L(\text{inl } a)$$

$$\text{elim}_+(C, f_L, f_R, \text{inr } b) = f_R(\text{inr } b)$$

$$f x = \text{elim}_+(C, f_L, f_R, x)$$

## Universal Quantification

$\forall n, P(n)$  - universally quantified proposition

How can we formulate this in MLTT?

$f: n \mapsto \text{proof of } P(n)$

a type that  
depends on  $n$

Therefore

$f = \underline{\text{dependent function}}$  from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $P(n)$

$f: (n: \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow P(n)$

To prove  $\forall n: \mathbb{N}, P(n) = \mathcal{U}(n)$  we need identity types.