

A Computational Reconstruction of Homotopy Type Theory for Finite Types

Abstract

Homotopy type theory (HoTT) relates some aspects of topology, algebra, geometry, physics, logic, and type theory, in a unique novel way that promises a new and foundational perspective on mathematics and computation. The heart of HoTT is the *univalence axiom*, which informally states that isomorphic structures can be identified. One of the major open problems in HoTT is a computational interpretation of this axiom. We propose that, at least for the special case of finite types, reversible computation via type isomorphisms is the computational interpretation of univalence.

1. Introduction

Conventional HoTT/Agda approach We start with a computational framework: data (pairs, etc.) and functions between them. There are computational rules (beta, etc.) that explain what a function does on a given datum.

We then have a notion of identity which we view as a process that equates two things and model as a new kind of data. Initially we only have identities between beta-equivalent things.

Then we postulate a process that identifies any two functions that are extensionally equivalent. We also postulate another process that identifies any two sets that are isomorphic. This is done by adding new kinds of data for these kinds of identities.

Our approach Our approach is to start with a computational framework that has finite data and permutations as the operations between them. The computational rules apply permutations.

HoTT [The Univalent Foundations Program 2013] says id types are an inductively defined type family with `refl` as constructor. We say it is a family defined with `pi` combinators as constructors. Replace path induction with `refl` as base case with our induction.

Generalization How would that generalize to first-class functions? Using negative and fractionals? Groupoids?

In a computational world in which the laws of physics are embraced and resources are carefully maintained (e.g., quantum computing [Abramsky and Coecke 2004; Nielsen and Chuang 2000]), programs must be reversible. Although this is apparently a limiting idea, it turns out that conventional computation can be viewed as a special case of such resource-preserving reversible programs. This thesis has been explored for many years from different perspectives [Bennett 2003, 2010, 1973; Fredkin and Toffoli 1982; Landauer 1961, 1996; Toffoli 1980]. We build on the work of James

and Sabry [2012a] which expresses this thesis in a type theoretic computational framework, expressing computation via type isomorphisms.

2. Condensed Background on HoTT

Informally, and as a first approximation, one may think of HoTT as a variation on Martin-Löf type theory in which all equalities are given *computational content*. We explain the basic ideas below.

2.1 Paths

Formally, Martin-Löf type theory, is based on the principle that every proposition, i.e., every statement that is susceptible to proof, can be viewed as a type. Indeed, if a proposition P is true, the corresponding type is inhabited and it is possible to provide evidence or proof for P using one of the elements of the type P . If, however, a proposition P is false, the corresponding type is empty and it is impossible to provide a proof for P . The type theory is rich enough to express the standard logical propositions denoting conjunction, disjunction, implication, and existential and universal quantifications. In addition, it is clear that the question of whether two elements of a type are equal is a proposition, and hence that this proposition must correspond to a type. In Agda, one may write proofs of this proposition as shown in the two small examples below:

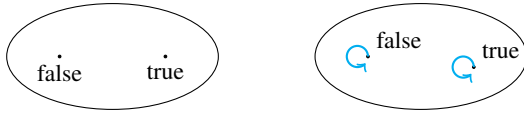
```
i0 : 3 ≡ 3
i0 = refl 3

i1 : (1 + 2) ≡ (3 * 1)
i1 = refl 3
```

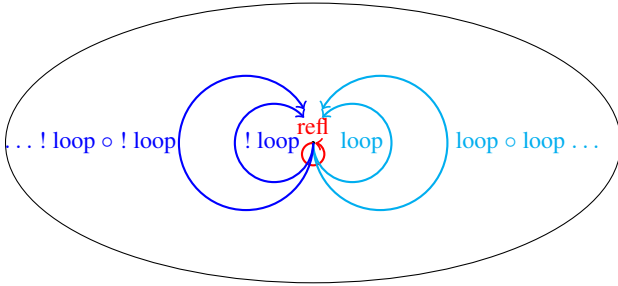
More generally, given two values m and n of type \mathbb{N} , it is possible to construct an element `refl k` of the type $m \equiv n$ if and only if m , n , and k are all “equal.” As shown in example `i1`, this notion of *propositional equality* is not just syntactic equality but generalizes to *definitional equality*, i.e., to equality that can be established by normalizing the two values to their normal forms.

The important question from the HoTT perspective is the following: given two elements p and q of some type $x \equiv y$ with $x, y : A$, what can we say about the elements of type $p \equiv q$. Or, in more familiar terms, given two proofs of some proposition P , are these two proofs themselves “equal.” In some situations, the only interesting property of proofs is their existence, i.e., all proofs of the same proposition are considered equivalent. The twist that dates back to the paper by Hofmann and Streicher [1996] is that proofs actually possess a structure of great combinatorial complexity. HoTT builds on this idea by interpreting types as topological spaces or weak ∞ -groupoids, and interpreting identities between elements of a type $x \equiv y$ as *paths* from the point x to the point y . If x and y are themselves paths, the elements of $x \equiv y$ become paths between paths, or homotopies in the topological language. To be explicit, we will often refer to types as *spaces* composed of *points*, paths, 2-paths, etc. and write \equiv_A for the type of paths in space A .

As a simple example, we are used to thinking of types as sets of values. So we typically view the type `Bool` as the figure on the left but in HoTT we should instead think about it as the figure on the right where there is a (trivial) path `refl b` from each point b to itself:



In this particular case, it makes no difference, but in general we may have a much more complicated path structure. The classical such example is the topological *circle* which is a space consisting of a point `base` and a *non trivial* path `loop` from `base` to itself. As stated, this does not amount to much. However, because paths carry additional structure (explained below), that space has the following non-trivial structure:



The additional structure of types is formalized as follows. Let x , y , and z be elements of some space A :

- For every path $p : x \equiv_A y$, there exists a path $!p : y \equiv_A x$;
- For every pair of paths $p : x \equiv_A y$ and $q : y \equiv_A z$, there exists a path $p \odot q : x \equiv_A z$;
- Subject to the following conditions:
 - $p \odot \text{refl } y \equiv_{(x \equiv_A y)} p$;
 - $p \equiv_{(x \equiv_A y)} \text{refl } x \odot p$
 - $!p \odot p \equiv_{(y \equiv_A y)} \text{refl } y$
 - $p \odot !p \equiv_{(x \equiv_A x)} \text{refl } x$
 - $!(!p) \equiv_{(x \equiv_A y)} p$
 - $p \odot (q \odot r) \equiv_{(x \equiv_A z)} (p \odot q) \odot r$
- This structure repeats one level up and so on ad infinitum.

2.2 Univalence

In addition to paths between the points `false` and `true` in the space `Bool`, it is also possible to consider paths between the space `Bool` and itself by considering `Bool` as a “point” in the universe `Set` of types. As usual, we have the trivial path which is given by the constructor `refl`:

```
p : Bool ≡ Bool
p = refl Bool
```

There are, however, other non trivial paths between `Bool` and itself and they are justified by *univalence postulate*. As an example, the remainder of this section justifies that there is a path between `Bool` and itself corresponding to the boolean negation function.

We begin by formalizing the equivalence of functions \sim . Intuitively, two functions are equivalent if their results are propositionally equal for all inputs. A function $f : A \rightarrow B$ is called an *equivalence* if there are functions g and h with whom its composition is the identity. Finally we say $A \simeq B$ if there is an equivalence between them:

```
_~_ : ∀ {ℓ ℓ'} → {A : Set ℓ} {P : A → Set ℓ'} →
  (f g : (x : A) → P x) → Set (ℓ ⊔ ℓ')
_~_ {ℓ} {ℓ'} {A} {P} f g = (x : A) → f x ≡ g x

record isequiv {ℓ ℓ'} {A : Set ℓ} {B : Set ℓ'} (f : A → B)
  : Set (ℓ ⊔ ℓ') where
  constructor mkisequiv
  field
    g : B → A
    α : (f ∘ g) ~ id
    h : B → A
    β : (h ∘ f) ~ id

_≅_ : ∀ {ℓ ℓ'} (A : Set ℓ) (B : Set ℓ') → Set (ℓ ⊔ ℓ')
A ≅ B = Σ (A → B) isequiv
```

We can now formally state the univalence axiom:

```
postulate univalence : {A B : Set} → (A ≡ B) ≅ (A ≅ B)
```

A consequence of univalence is that equivalence of spaces implies a path between the spaces. In other words, in order to assert the existence of a path other than the trivial `refl` between `Bool` and itself, we need to find an equivalence between the space `Bool` and itself:

```
not2~id : (not ∘ not) ~ id
not2~id false = refl false
not2~id true  = refl true

notequiv : Bool ≅ Bool
notequiv = (not , record {
  g = not ;
  α = λ b → not2~id b ;
  h = not ;
  β = λ a → not2~id a
})

not≡ : Bool ≡ Bool
not≡ with univalence
... | (_, eq) = isequiv.g eq notequiv
```

2.3 Reversible Functions

Although the code asserting the existence of a non trivial path between `Bool` and itself “compiles,” it is no longer executable as it relies on an Agda postulate. We analyze the situation from the perspective of reversible programming languages based on type isomorphisms [Bowman et al. 2011; James and Sabry 2012a,b].

The conventional HoTT approach starts with two, a priori, different notions: functions and paths, and then postulates an equivalence between a particular class of functions and paths. As illustrated above, functions like `not` correspond to a path like `not≡`. Most functions, however, are evidently unrelated to paths. In particular, any function $A \rightarrow B$ that does not have an inverse $B \rightarrow A$ cannot have any direct correspondence to paths. An interesting question poses itself though: since reversible computational models — in which all functions have inverses — are known to be universal computational models, what would happen if we considered a variant of HoTT based exclusively on reversible functions? Presumably in such a variant, all functions being reversible, would correspond to paths and the distinction between the two notions would vanish making the univalence postulate unnecessary. This is the precise idea we investigate in detail in the remainder of the paper.

3. Computing with Type Isomorphisms

In a computational world in which the laws of physics are embraced and resources are carefully maintained (e.g., quantum computing [Abramsky and Coecke 2004; Nielsen and Chuang 2000]), programs must be reversible. Although this is apparently a limiting idea, it turns out that conventional computation can be viewed as a special case of such resource-preserving reversible programs. This thesis has been explored for many years from different perspectives [Bennett 2003, 2010, 1973; Fredkin and Toffoli 1982; Landauer 1961, 1996; Toffoli 1980]. The main syntactic vehicle for the technical developments in this paper is a simple language called Π whose only computations are isomorphisms between finite types [2012a].

3.1 Syntax and Examples

The set of types τ includes the empty type 0, the unit type 1, and conventional sum and product types. The values classified by these types are the conventional ones: $()$ of type 1, $\text{inl } v$ and $\text{inr } v$ for injections into sum types, and (v_1, v_2) for product types:

(Types)	$\tau ::= 0 \mid 1 \mid \tau_1 + \tau_2 \mid \tau_1 * \tau_2$
(Values)	$v ::= () \mid \text{inl } v \mid \text{inr } v \mid (v_1, v_2)$
(Combinator types)	$\tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2$
(Combinators)	$c ::= [\text{see Table I}]$

The interesting syntactic category of Π is that of *combinators* which are witnesses for type isomorphisms $\tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2$. They consist of base combinators (on the left side of Table 1) and compositions (on the right side of the same table). Each line of the table on the left introduces a pair of dual constants¹ that witness the type isomorphism in the middle. This set of isomorphisms is known to be complete [Fiore 2004; Fiore et al. 2006] and the language is universal for hardware combinational circuits [James and Sabry 2012a].²

3.2 Semantics

From the perspective of category theory, the language Π models what is called a *symmetric bimonoidal category* or a *commutative rig category*. These are categories with two binary operations \oplus and \otimes satisfying the axioms of a rig (i.e., a ring without negative elements also known as a semiring) up to coherent isomorphisms. And indeed the types of the Π -combinators are precisely the semiring axioms. A formal way of saying this is that Π is the *categorification* [Baez and Dolan 1998] of the natural numbers. A simple (slightly degenerate) example of such categories is the category of finite sets and permutations in which we interpret every Π -type as a finite set, the values as elements in these finite sets, and the combinators as permutations. Another common example of such categories is the category of finite dimensional vector spaces and linear maps over any field. Note that in this interpretation, the Π -type 0 maps to the 0-dimensional vector space which is *not* empty. Its unique element, the zero vector — which is present in every vector space — acts like a “bottom” everywhere-undefined element and hence the type behaves like the unit of addition and the annihilator of multiplication as desired.

Operationally, the semantics consists of a pair of mutually recursive evaluators that take a combinator and a value and propagate the value in the “forward” \triangleright direction or in the “backwards” \triangleleft direction. We show the complete forward evaluator; the backwards

evaluator differs in trivial ways:

$\text{identl}_+ \triangleright (\text{inr } v)$	$= v$
$\text{identr}_+ \triangleright v$	$= \text{inr } v$
$\text{swap}_+ \triangleright (\text{inl } v)$	$= \text{inr } v$
$\text{swap}_+ \triangleright (\text{inr } v)$	$= \text{inl } v$
$\text{assocl}_+ \triangleright (\text{inl } v)$	$= \text{inl } (\text{inl } v)$
$\text{assocl}_+ \triangleright (\text{inr } (\text{inl } v))$	$= \text{inl } (\text{inr } v)$
$\text{assocl}_+ \triangleright (\text{inr } (\text{inr } v))$	$= \text{inr } v$
$\text{assocr}_+ \triangleright (\text{inl } (\text{inl } v))$	$= \text{inl } v$
$\text{assocr}_+ \triangleright (\text{inl } (\text{inr } v))$	$= \text{inr } (\text{inl } v)$
$\text{assocr}_+ \triangleright (\text{inr } v)$	$= \text{inr } (\text{inr } v)$
$\text{identl}_* \triangleright ((), v)$	$= v$
$\text{identr}_* \triangleright v$	$= ((), v)$
$\text{swap}_* \triangleright (v_1, v_2)$	$= (v_2, v_1)$
$\text{assocl}_* \triangleright (v_1, (v_2, v_3))$	$= ((v_1, v_2), v_3)$
$\text{assocr}_* \triangleright ((v_1, v_2), v_3)$	$= (v_1, (v_2, v_3))$
$\text{dist} \triangleright (\text{inl } v_1, v_3)$	$= \text{inl } (v_1, v_3)$
$\text{dist} \triangleright (\text{inr } v_2, v_3)$	$= \text{inr } (v_2, v_3)$
$\text{factor} \triangleright (\text{inl } (v_1, v_3))$	$= (\text{inl } v_1, v_3)$
$\text{factor} \triangleright (\text{inr } (v_2, v_3))$	$= (\text{inr } v_2, v_3)$
$\text{id} \triangleright v$	$= v$
$(\text{sym } c) \triangleright v$	$= c \triangleleft v$
$(c_1 \circ c_2) \triangleright v$	$= c_2 \triangleright (c_1 \triangleright v)$
$(c_1 \oplus c_2) \triangleright (\text{inl } v)$	$= \text{inl } (c_1 \triangleright v)$
$(c_1 \oplus c_2) \triangleright (\text{inr } v)$	$= \text{inr } (c_2 \triangleright v)$
$(c_1 \otimes c_2) \triangleright (v_1, v_2)$	$= (c_1 \triangleright v_1, c_2 \triangleright v_2)$

4. The Space of Types

Instead of modeling the semantics of Π using *permutations*, which are set-theoretic functions after all, we use *paths* from the HoTT framework. More precisely, we model the universe of Π types as a space whose points are the individual Π -types and we will consider that there is path between two points τ_1 and τ_2 if there is a Π combinator $c : \tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2$. If we focus on 1-paths, this is perfect as we explain next.

Note. But first, we note that this is a significant deviation from the HoTT framework which fundamentally includes functions, which are specialized to equivalences, which are then postulated to be paths by the univalence axiom. This axiom has no satisfactory computational interpretation, however. Instead we completely bypass the idea of extensional functions and use paths directly. Another way to understanding what is going on is the following. In the conventional HoTT framework:

- We start with two different notions: paths and functions;
- We use extensional non-constructive methods to identify a particular class of functions that form isomorphisms;
- We postulate that this particular class of functions can be identified with paths.

In our case,

- We start with a constructive characterization of *reversible functions* or *isomorphisms* built using inductively defined combinators;
- We blur the distinction between such combinators and paths from the beginning. We view computation as nothing more than *following paths*! As explained earlier, although this appears limiting, it is universal and regular computation can be viewed as a special case of that.

Construction. We have a universe U viewed as a groupoid whose points are the types Π -types τ . The Π -combinators of Table 1 are viewed as syntax for the paths in the space U . We need to show that the groupoid path structure is faithfully represented. The

¹ where swap_+ and swap_* are self-dual.

² If recursive types and a trace operator are added, the language becomes Turing complete [Bowman et al. 2011; James and Sabry 2012a]. We will not be concerned with this extension in the main body of this paper but it will be briefly discussed in the conclusion.

$identl_+ :$	$0 + \tau \leftrightarrow \tau$	$: identr_+$	$\frac{}{\vdash id : \tau \leftrightarrow \tau}$	$\frac{\vdash c : \tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2}{\vdash sym\ c : \tau_2 \leftrightarrow \tau_1}$
$swap_+ :$	$\tau_1 + \tau_2 \leftrightarrow \tau_2 + \tau_1$	$: swap_+$	$\frac{}{\vdash c_1 : \tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2} \quad \frac{}{\vdash c_2 : \tau_2 \leftrightarrow \tau_3}$	
$assocl_+ :$	$\tau_1 + (\tau_2 + \tau_3) \leftrightarrow (\tau_1 + \tau_2) + \tau_3$	$: assocr_+$	$\frac{}{\vdash c_1 \circ c_2 : \tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_3}$	
$identl_* :$	$1 * \tau \leftrightarrow \tau$	$: identr_*$	$\frac{}{\vdash c_1 : \tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2} \quad \frac{}{\vdash c_2 : \tau_3 \leftrightarrow \tau_4}$	
$swap_* :$	$\tau_1 * \tau_2 \leftrightarrow \tau_2 * \tau_1$	$: swap_*$	$\frac{}{\vdash c_1 \oplus c_2 : \tau_1 + \tau_3 \leftrightarrow \tau_2 + \tau_4}$	
$assocl_* :$	$\tau_1 * (\tau_2 * \tau_3) \leftrightarrow (\tau_1 * \tau_2) * \tau_3$	$: assocr_*$	$\frac{}{\vdash c_1 : \tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2} \quad \frac{}{\vdash c_2 : \tau_3 \leftrightarrow \tau_4}$	
$dist_0 :$	$0 * \tau \leftrightarrow 0$	$: factor_0$	$\frac{}{\vdash c_1 \otimes c_2 : \tau_1 * \tau_3 \leftrightarrow \tau_2 * \tau_4}$	
$dist :$	$(\tau_1 + \tau_2) * \tau_3 \leftrightarrow (\tau_1 * \tau_3) + (\tau_2 * \tau_3)$	$: factor$		

Table 1. Π -combinators [James and Sabry 2012a]

combinator id introduces all the $refl\ \tau : \tau \equiv \tau$ paths in U . The adjoint $sym\ c$ introduces an inverse path $!p$ for each path p introduced by c . The composition operator \circ introduce a path $p \circ q$ for every pair of paths whose endpoints match. In addition, we get paths like $swap_+$ between $\tau_1 + \tau_2$ and $\tau_2 + \tau_1$. The existence of such paths in the conventional HoTT developed is *postulated* by the univalence axiom. The \otimes -composition gives a path $(p, q) : (\tau_1 * \tau_2) \equiv (\tau_3 * \tau_4)$ whenever we have paths $p : \tau_1 \equiv \tau_3$ and $q : \tau_2 \equiv \tau_4$. A similar situation for the \oplus -composition. The structure of these paths must be discovered and these paths must be *proved* to exist using path induction in the conventional HoTT development. So far, this appears too good to be true, and it is. The problem is that paths in HoTT are subject to rules discussed at the end of Sec. 2. For example, it must be the case that if $p : \tau_1 \equiv_U \tau_2$ that $(p \circ refl\ \tau_2) \equiv_{\tau_1 \equiv_U \tau_2} p$. This path lives in a higher universe: nothing in our Π -combinators would justify adding such a path as all our combinators map types to types. No combinator works one level up at the space of combinators and there is no such space in the first place. Clearly we are stuck unless we manage to express a notion of higher-order functions in Π . This would allow us to internalize the type $\tau_1 \leftrightarrow \tau_2$ as a Π -type which is then manipulated by the same combinators one level higher and so on.

To make the correspondence between Π and the HoTT concepts more apparent we will, in the remainder of the paper, use $refl$ instead of id and $!$ instead of sym when referring to Π combinators when viewed as paths. Similarly we will use \rightarrow instead of the Π -notation \leftrightarrow or the HoTT notation \equiv to refer to paths.

5. Agda Model

- Level 0:
- Types at this level are just plain sets with no internal path structure.
- The path structure is defined at levels 1 and beyond.

```
data U : Set where
  ZERO  : U
  ONE   : U
  PLUS  : U → U → U
  TIMES : U → U → U

[ ] : U → Set
[ ZERO ] = ⊥
[ ONE ] = ⊤
[ PLUS t1 t2 ] = [ t1 ] ⊔ [ t2 ]
[ TIMES t1 t2 ] = [ t1 ] × [ t2 ]
```

- Programs
- We use pointed types; programs map a pointed type to another.
- In other words, each program takes one particular value
- want to work on another value, we generally use another program

```
record U• : Set where
```

```
constructor •[_,_]
field
  |_ : U
  • : [ ]
```

```
open U•
```

```
Space : (t• : U•) → Set
Space •[ t, v ] = [ t ]
```

```
point : (t• : U•) → Space t•
point •[ t, v ] = v
```

- examples of plain types, values, and pointed types

```
ONE• : U•
ONE• = •[ ONE, tt ]
```

```
BOOL : U
BOOL = PLUS ONE ONE
```

```
BOOL2 : U
BOOL2 = TIMES BOOL BOOL
```

```
TRUE : [ BOOL ]
TRUE = inj1 tt
```

```
FALSE : [ BOOL ]
FALSE = inj2 tt
```

```
BOOL•F : U•
BOOL•F = •[ BOOL, FALSE ]
```

```
BOOL•T : U•
BOOL•T = •[ BOOL, TRUE ]
```

- The actual programs are the commutative semiring isomorphisms between pointed types.

```
data _ ↔ _ : U• → U• → Set where
  unite+ : ∀ {t v} → •[ PLUS ZERO t, inj2 v ] ↔ •[ t, v ]
  uniti+ : ∀ {t v} → •[ t, v ] ↔ •[ PLUS ZERO t, inj2 v ]
  swap1+ : ∀ {t1 t2 v1} → •[ PLUS t1 t2, inj1 v1 ] ↔ •[ PLUS t2 t1, inj2 v1 ]
  swap2+ : ∀ {t1 t2 v2} → •[ PLUS t1 t2, inj2 v2 ] ↔ •[ PLUS t2 t1, inj1 v2 ]
  assocl1+ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v1} →
    •[ PLUS t1 (PLUS t2 t3), inj1 v1 ] ↔
    •[ PLUS (PLUS t1 t2) t3, inj1 (inj1 v1) ]
  assocl2+ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v2} →
    •[ PLUS t1 (PLUS t2 t3), inj2 (inj1 v2) ] ↔
    •[ PLUS (PLUS t1 t2) t3, inj1 (inj2 v2) ]
  assocl3+ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v3} →
    •[ PLUS t1 (PLUS t2 t3), inj2 (inj2 v3) ] ↔
    •[ PLUS (PLUS t1 t2) t3, inj2 v3 ]
  assocr1+ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v1} →
```

```

    •[PLUS (PLUS t1 t2) t3, inj1 (inj1 v1)] ↔
    •[PLUS t1 (PLUS t2 t3), inj1 v1]
  assocr2+ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v2} →
    •[PLUS (PLUS t1 t2) t3, inj1 (inj2 v2)] ↔
    •[PLUS t1 (PLUS t2 t3), inj2 (inj1 v2)]
  assocr3+ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v3} →
    •[PLUS (PLUS t1 t2) t3, inj2 v3] ↔
    •[PLUS t1 (PLUS t2 t3), inj2 (inj2 v3)]
  unite★ : ∀ {t v} → •[TIMES ONE t, (tt, v)] ↔ •[t, v]
  uniti★ : ∀ {t v} → •[t, v] ↔ •[TIMES ONE t, (tt, v)]
  swap★ : ∀ {t1 t2 v1 v2} →
    •[TIMES t1 t2, (v1, v2)] ↔ •[TIMES t2 t1, (v2, v1)]
  assocl★ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v1 v2 v3} →
    •[TIMES t1 (TIMES t2 t3), (v1, (v2, v3))] ↔
    •[TIMES (TIMES t1 t2) t3, ((v1, v2), v3)]
  assocr★ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v1 v2 v3} →
    •[TIMES (TIMES t1 t2) t3, ((v1, v2), v3)] ↔
    •[TIMES t1 (TIMES t2 t3), (v1, (v2, v3))]
  distz : ∀ {t v absurd} →
    •[TIMES ZERO t, (absurd, v)] ↔ •[ZERO, absurd]
  factorz : ∀ {t v absurd} →
    •[ZERO, absurd] ↔ •[TIMES ZERO t, (absurd, v)]
  dist1 : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v1 v3} →
    •[TIMES (PLUS t1 t2) t3, (inj1 v1, v3)] ↔
    •[PLUS (TIMES t1 t3) (TIMES t2 t3), inj1 (v1, v3)]
  dist2 : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v2 v3} →
    •[TIMES (PLUS t1 t2) t3, (inj2 v2, v3)] ↔
    •[PLUS (TIMES t1 t3) (TIMES t2 t3), inj2 (v2, v3)]
  factor1 : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v1 v3} →
    •[PLUS (TIMES t1 t3) (TIMES t2 t3), inj1 (v1, v3)] ↔
    •[TIMES (PLUS t1 t2) t3, (inj1 v1, v3)]
  factor2 : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v2 v3} →
    •[PLUS (TIMES t1 t3) (TIMES t2 t3), inj2 (v2, v3)] ↔
    •[TIMES (PLUS t1 t2) t3, (inj2 v2, v3)]
  id↔ : ∀ {t v} → •[t, v] ↔ •[t, v]
  sym↔ : ∀ {t1 t2 v1 v2} → (•[t1, v1] ↔ •[t2, v2]) →
    (•[t2, v2] ↔ •[t1, v1])
  _⊗_ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 v1 v2 v3} → (•[t1, v1] ↔ •[t2, v2]) →
    (•[t2, v2] ↔ •[t3, v3]) →
    (•[t1, v1] ↔ •[t3, v3])
  _⊕1_ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 t4 v1 v2 v3 v4} →
    (•[t1, v1] ↔ •[t3, v3]) → (•[t2, v2] ↔ •[t4, v4]) →
    (•[PLUS t1 t2, inj1 v1] ↔ •[PLUS t3 t4, inj1 v3])
  _⊕2_ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 t4 v1 v2 v3 v4} →
    (•[t1, v1] ↔ •[t3, v3]) → (•[t2, v2] ↔ •[t4, v4]) →
    (•[PLUS t1 t2, inj2 v2] ↔ •[PLUS t3 t4, inj2 v4])
  _⊗_ : ∀ {t1 t2 t3 t4 v1 v2 v3 v4} →
    (•[t1, v1] ↔ •[t3, v3]) → (•[t2, v2] ↔ •[t4, v4]) →
    (•[TIMES t1 t2, (v1, v2)] ↔ •[TIMES t3 t4, (v3, v4)])

```

- example programs

```

NOT•T : •[BOOL, TRUE] ↔ •[BOOL, FALSE]
NOT•T = swap1+

```

```

NOT•F : •[BOOL, FALSE] ↔ •[BOOL, TRUE]
NOT•F = swap2+

```

```

CNOT•Fx : {b : [ BOOL ]} →
  •[BOOL2, (FALSE, b)] ↔ •[BOOL2, (FALSE, b)]
CNOT•Fx = dist2 ⊗ ((id↔ ⊗ NOT•F) ⊕2 id↔) ⊗ factor2

```

```

CNOT•TF : •[BOOL2, (TRUE, FALSE)] ↔ •[BOOL2, (TRUE, TRUE)]
CNOT•TF = dist1 ⊗
  ((id↔ ⊗ NOT•F) ⊕1 (id↔ {TIMES ONE BOOL} {(tt, TRUE)}))
  factor1

```

```

CNOT•TT : •[BOOL2, (TRUE, TRUE)] ↔ •[BOOL2, (TRUE, FALSE)]

```

```

CNOT•TT = dist1 ⊗
  ((id↔ ⊗ NOT•T) ⊕1 (id↔ {TIMES ONE BOOL} {(tt, TRUE)}))
  factor1

```

- The evaluation of a program is not done in order to figure out the final value. Both the input and output values are encoded in the program; what the evaluation does is follow the path to reach the output value from the input value. Even though the paths are different, the final value is the same.
- same pointed types are, by definition, observationally equivalent.
- may follow different paths. At this point, we simply decide that the programs are "the same." At the next level, we will weaken this equivalence and reason about which paths can be ignored.
- irrelevant equivalence and reason about which paths can be ignored.
- other paths via 2paths etc.

- Even though individual types are sets, the universe of types is a groupoid. The objects of this groupoid are the pointed types, and the morphisms are the programs; and the equivalence of programs is the observational equivalence that equates every program that is observationally equivalent.
- are extensionally equivalent.

```

_obs≅_ : {t1 t2 : U•} → (c1 c2 : t1 ↔ t2) → Set
c1 obs≅ c2 = ⊤

```

UG : 1Groupoid

```

UG = record
{ set = U•
; _↔_ = λ _ _ → _↔_
; _≈_ = λ _ _ → _obs≅_
; id = id↔
; _o_ = λ y↔z x↔y → x↔y ⊗ y↔z
; _i_ = sym↔
; lneutr = λ _ → tt
; rneutr = λ _ → tt
; assoc = λ _ _ _ → tt
; equiv = record { refl = tt
; sym = λ _ → tt
; trans = λ _ _ → tt
}
; linv = λ _ → tt
; rinu = λ _ → tt
; o-resp-≈ = λ _ _ → tt
}

```

- Simplify various compositions

```

simplifySym : {t1 t2 : U•} → (c1 : t1 ↔ t2) → (t2 ↔ t1)
simplifySym unite+ = unite+
simplifySym uniti+ = uniti+
simplifySym swap1+ = swap1+
simplifySym swap2+ = swap2+
simplifySym assocl1+ = assocl1+
simplifySym assocl2+ = assocl2+
simplifySym assocl3+ = assocl3+
simplifySym assocr1+ = assocr1+
simplifySym assocr2+ = assocr2+
simplifySym assocr3+ = assocr3+
simplifySym unite★ = unite★
simplifySym uniti★ = uniti★
simplifySym swap★ = swap★
simplifySym assocl★ = assocl★
simplifySym assocr★ = assocr★
simplifySym distz = factorz
simplifySym factorz = distz
simplifySym dist1 = factor1
simplifySym dist2 = factor2
simplifySym factor1 = dist1
simplifySym factor2 = dist2

```

```

simplifySym id $\leftrightarrow$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifySym (sym $\leftrightarrow$  c) = c
simplifySym (c1  $\otimes$  c2) = simplifySym c2  $\otimes$  simplifySym c1
simplifySym (c1  $\oplus$  1 c2) = simplifySym c1  $\oplus$  1 simplifySym c2
simplifySym (c1  $\oplus$  2 c2) = simplifySym c1  $\oplus$  2 simplifySym c2
simplifySym (c1  $\otimes$  c2) = simplifySym c1  $\otimes$  simplifySym c2

```

```

simplify $\otimes$  : {t1 t2 t3 : U $\bullet$ }  $\rightarrow$  (c1 : t1  $\leftrightarrow$  t2)  $\rightarrow$  (c2 : t2  $\leftrightarrow$  t3)  $\rightarrow$  (t1  $\leftrightarrow$  t3)
simplify $\otimes$  id $\leftrightarrow$  c = c
simplify $\otimes$  unite+ unite+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  uniti+ unite+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  swap1+ swap2+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  swap2+ swap1+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assoc1+ assoc1+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assoc2+ assoc2+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assoc3+ assoc3+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assocr1+ assocr1+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assocr2+ assocr2+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assocr3+ assocr3+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  unite $\star$  unite $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  uniti $\star$  unite $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  swap $\star$  swap $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assocl $\star$  assocl $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  assocr $\star$  assocr $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  factorz distz = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  dist1 factor1 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  dist2 factor2 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  factor1 dist1 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  factor2 dist2 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplify $\otimes$  (c1  $\otimes$  c2) c3 = c1  $\otimes$  (c2  $\otimes$  c3)
simplify $\otimes$  (c1  $\oplus$  1 c2) swap1+ = swap1+  $\otimes$  (c2  $\oplus$  2 c1)
simplify $\otimes$  (c1  $\oplus$  2 c2) swap2+ = swap2+  $\otimes$  (c2  $\oplus$  1 c1)
simplify $\otimes$  ( _  $\otimes$  _ {ONE} ) {ONE} c1 c2 unite $\star$  = unite $\star$   $\otimes$  c2
simplify $\otimes$  (c1  $\otimes$  c2) swap $\star$  = swap $\star$   $\otimes$  (c2  $\otimes$  c1)
simplify $\otimes$  (c1  $\otimes$  c2) (c3  $\otimes$  c4) = (c1  $\otimes$  c3)  $\otimes$  (c2  $\otimes$  c4)
simplify $\otimes$  c1 c2 = c1  $\otimes$  c2

```

```

simplifyr $\otimes$  : {t1 t2 t3 : U $\bullet$ }  $\rightarrow$  (c1 : t1  $\leftrightarrow$  t2)  $\rightarrow$  (c2 : t2  $\leftrightarrow$  t3)  $\rightarrow$  (t1  $\leftrightarrow$  t3)
simplifyr $\otimes$  c id $\leftrightarrow$  = c
simplifyr $\otimes$  unite+ unite+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  uniti+ unite+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  swap1+ swap2+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  swap2+ swap1+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assoc1+ assocr1+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assoc2+ assocr2+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assoc3+ assocr3+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assocr1+ assocl1+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assocr2+ assocl2+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assocr3+ assocl3+ = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  unite $\star$  unite $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  uniti $\star$  unite $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  swap $\star$  swap $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assocl $\star$  assocr $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  assocr $\star$  assocl $\star$  = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  factorz distz = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  dist1 factor1 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  dist2 factor2 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  factor1 dist1 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  factor2 dist2 = id $\leftrightarrow$ 
simplifyr $\otimes$  (c1  $\otimes$  c2) c3 = c1  $\otimes$  (c2  $\otimes$  c3)
simplifyr $\otimes$  (c1  $\oplus$  1 c2) swap1+ = swap1+  $\otimes$  (c2  $\oplus$  2 c1)
simplifyr $\otimes$  (c1  $\oplus$  2 c2) swap2+ = swap2+  $\otimes$  (c2  $\oplus$  1 c1)
simplifyr $\otimes$  ( _  $\otimes$  _ {ONE} ) {ONE} c1 c2 unite $\star$  = unite $\star$   $\otimes$  c2
simplifyr $\otimes$  (c1  $\otimes$  c2) swap $\star$  = swap $\star$   $\otimes$  (c2  $\otimes$  c1)
simplifyr $\otimes$  (c1  $\otimes$  c2) (c3  $\otimes$  c4) = (c1  $\otimes$  c3)  $\otimes$  (c2  $\otimes$  c4)
simplifyr $\otimes$  c1 c2 = c1  $\otimes$  c2

```

6. Examples

Let's start with a few simple types built from the empty type, the unit type, sums, and products, and let's study the paths postulated by HoTT.

For every value in a type (point in a space) we have a trivial path from the value to itself:

In addition to all these trivial paths, there are structured paths. In particular, paths in product spaces can be viewed as pair of paths. So in addition to the path above, we also have:

7. Theory

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$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{}{() : 1} \quad \frac{v_1 : t_1}{\text{inl } v_1 : t_1 + t_2} \quad \frac{v_2 : t_2}{\text{inr } v_2 : t_1 + t_2} \quad \frac{v_1 : t_1 \quad v_2 : t_2}{(v_1, v_2) : t_1 * t_2} \quad \frac{}{\text{inr } v \xrightarrow{\text{identl}_+} v : \text{inr } v \equiv_{\text{identl}_+} v} \\
\\
\frac{}{v \xrightarrow{\text{identr}_+} \text{inr } v : v \equiv_{\text{identr}_+} \text{inr } v} \quad \frac{}{\text{inl } v \xrightarrow{\text{swap}_+} \text{inr } v : \text{inl } v \equiv_{\text{swap}_+} \text{inr } v} \quad \frac{}{\text{inr } v \xrightarrow{\text{swap}_+} \text{inl } v : \text{inr } v \equiv_{\text{swap}_+} \text{inl } v} \\
\\
\frac{}{\text{inl } v \xrightarrow{\text{assocl}_+} \text{inl } (\text{inl } v) : \text{inl } v \equiv_{\text{assocl}_+} \text{inl } (\text{inl } v)} \quad \frac{}{\text{inr } (\text{inl } v) \xrightarrow{\text{assocl}_+} \text{inl } (\text{inr } v) : \text{inr } (\text{inl } v) \equiv_{\text{assocl}_+} \text{inl } (\text{inr } v)} \\
\\
\frac{}{\text{inr } (\text{inr } v) \xrightarrow{\text{assocl}_+} \text{inr } v : \text{inr } (\text{inr } v) \equiv_{\text{assocl}_+} \text{inr } v} \quad \frac{}{\text{inl } (\text{inl } v) \xrightarrow{\text{assocr}_+} \text{inl } v : \text{inl } (\text{inl } v) \equiv_{\text{assocr}_+} \text{inl } v} \\
\\
\frac{}{\text{inl } (\text{inr } v) \xrightarrow{\text{assocr}_+} \text{inr } (\text{inl } v) : \text{inl } (\text{inr } v) \equiv_{\text{assocr}_+} \text{inr } (\text{inl } v)} \quad \frac{}{\text{inr } v \xrightarrow{\text{assocr}_+} \text{inr } (\text{inr } v) : \text{inr } v \equiv_{\text{assocr}_+} \text{inr } (\text{inr } v)} \\
\\
\frac{}{((), v) \xrightarrow{\text{identl}_*} v : ((), v) \equiv_{\text{identl}_*} v} \quad \frac{}{v \xrightarrow{\text{identr}_*} ((), v) : v \equiv_{\text{identr}_*} ((), v)} \quad \frac{}{((v_1, v_2) \xrightarrow{\text{swap}_*} (v_2, v_1) : (v_1, v_2) \equiv_{\text{swap}_*} (v_2, v_1))} \\
\\
\frac{}{(v_1, (v_2, v_3)) \xrightarrow{\text{assocl}_*} ((v_1, v_2), v_3) : (v_1, (v_2, v_3)) \equiv_{\text{assocl}_*} ((v_1, v_2), v_3)} \quad \frac{}{((v_1, v_2), v_3) \xrightarrow{\text{assocr}_*} (v_1, (v_2, v_3)) : ((v_1, v_2), v_3) \equiv_{\text{assocr}_*} (v_1, (v_2, v_3))} \\
\\
\frac{}{(\text{inl } v_1, v_2) \xrightarrow{\text{dist}} \text{inl } (v_1, v_2) : (\text{inl } v_1, v_2) \equiv_{\text{dist}} \text{inl } (v_1, v_2)} \quad \frac{}{(\text{inr } v_1, v_2) \xrightarrow{\text{dist}} \text{inr } (v_1, v_2) : (\text{inr } v_1, v_2) \equiv_{\text{dist}} \text{inr } (v_1, v_2)} \\
\\
\frac{}{\text{inl } (v_1, v_2) \xrightarrow{\text{factor}} (\text{inl } v_1, v_2) : \text{inl } (v_1, v_2) \equiv_{\text{factor}} (\text{inl } v_1, v_2)} \quad \frac{}{\text{inr } (v_1, v_2) \xrightarrow{\text{factor}} (\text{inr } v_1, v_2) : \text{inr } (v_1, v_2) \equiv_{\text{factor}} (\text{inr } v_1, v_2)} \\
\\
\frac{}{v \xrightarrow{\text{id}} v : v \equiv_{\text{id}} v} \quad \frac{p : v_2 \equiv_c v_1}{!p : v_1 \equiv_{\text{sym } c} v_2} \quad \frac{p : v_1 \equiv_{c_1} v_2 \quad q : v_2 \equiv_{c_2} v_3}{p \bullet^{v_2} q : v_1 \equiv_{c_1 \circ c_2} v_3} \quad \frac{p : v \equiv_{c_1} v'}{\text{inl } p : \text{inl } v \equiv_{c_1 \oplus c_2} \text{inl } v'} \\
\\
\frac{p : v \equiv_{c_2} v'}{\text{inr } p : \text{inr } v \equiv_{c_1 \oplus c_2} \text{inr } v'} \quad \frac{p : v_1 \equiv_{c_1} v'_1 \quad q : v_2 \equiv_{c_2} v'_2}{(p, q) : (v_1, v_2) \equiv_{c_1 \otimes c_2} (v'_1, v'_2)} \quad \frac{p : v \equiv_c v'}{(v \xrightarrow{\text{id}} v) \bullet^v p \xrightarrow{\text{lid}} p : (v \xrightarrow{\text{id}} v) \bullet^v p \equiv_{\text{id}} p} \\
\\
\frac{p : v' \equiv_c v}{p \bullet^v (v \xrightarrow{\text{id}} v) \xrightarrow{\text{rid}} p : p \bullet^v (v \xrightarrow{\text{id}} v) \equiv_{\text{rid}} p} \quad \frac{}{!(\text{inr } v \xrightarrow{\text{identl}_+} v) \xrightarrow{!} v \xrightarrow{\text{identr}_+} \text{inr } v} \quad \frac{}{(!p \bullet^{v'} p) \xrightarrow{!} (v \xrightarrow{\text{id}} v) : (!p \bullet^{v'} p) \equiv_{!} (v \xrightarrow{\text{id}} v)} \\
\\
\frac{}{? : ? \equiv_{r!} ?} \quad \frac{}{? : ? \equiv_{!!} ?} \quad \frac{}{? : ? \equiv_{\circ} ?}
\end{array}$$