

Reduction of Proofs With Multiple Constraints

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When you have a variable `a` with multiple constraints:

$$a : [f] b \wedge [g] c$$
$$f : A \rightarrow B$$
$$g : A \rightarrow C$$

This is equivalent to:

$$a : [f\{[g] c\}] b \wedge [g\{[f] b\}] c$$

One could reason that type checking requires only proving that the existential path of either sub-type returns `true`. If one of the existential paths returns `true`, then the other must also return `true`.

$$b : [\exists f\{[g] c\}] \text{true} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad c : [\exists g\{[f] b\}] \text{true}$$
$$\exists f\{[g] c\} : B \rightarrow \text{bool}$$
$$\exists g\{[f] b\} : C \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

This is a way to reduce the amount of proof burden required to check for consistency. It works even when the sub-types are defined by two different types.

For example:

$$a : (< 100) \wedge \text{even}$$
$$a : [(< 100)] \text{true} \wedge [\text{even}] \text{true}$$
$$a : [(< 100)\{\text{even}\}] \text{true} \wedge [\text{even}\{[(< 100)] \text{true}\}] \text{true}$$
$$(< 100)\{\text{even}\} : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{bool}$$
$$\text{even}\{[(< 100)] \text{true}\} : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{bool}$$

If you take the existential path of numbers that are less than 100, constrained by the even numbers, then we know it returns `true` for even numbers less than 100 and `false` otherwise. Likewise, if you take the existential path of even numbers, constrained by numbers less than 100, then we know it returns `true` for even numbers less than 100 and `false` otherwise.

$$\text{true} : [\exists (< 100)\{\text{even}\}] \text{true} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{true} : [\exists \text{even}\{[(< 100)] \text{true}\}] \text{true}$$
$$\exists (< 100)\{\text{even}\} \Leftrightarrow \text{true}_1$$
$$\exists \text{even}\{[(< 100)] \text{true}\} \Leftrightarrow \text{true}_1$$

$\exists(< 100)\{[even] \text{ true} \} : \text{bool} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
 $\exists_{\text{even}}\{[(< 100)] \text{ true} \} : \text{bool} \rightarrow \text{bool}$

Another example:

$a : [(\% 3)] 0 \wedge [even] \text{ true}$
 $a : [(\% 3)\{[even] \text{ true}\}] 0 \wedge [even]\{[(\% 3)] 0\} \text{ true}$

$(\% 3)\{[even] \text{ true} \} : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{nat}$
 $even\{[(\% 3)] 0\} : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{bool}$

In this case the sub-types are defined by different types, and the existential paths are of different types:

$0 : [\exists(\% 3)\{[even] \text{ true}\}] \text{ true} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{true} : [\exists_{\text{even}}\{[(\% 3)] 0\}] \text{ true}$

$\exists(\% 3)\{[even] \text{ true} \} : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{bool}$
 $\exists_{\text{even}}\{[(\% 3)] 0\} : \text{bool} \rightarrow \text{bool}$

There are both even and odd numbers which are divisible by 3, and therefore the domain constraint has no effect. Still, the sub-type is only consistent if the existential path returns `true`, which it does on `0`.

$\exists(\% 3)\{[even] \text{ true} \} \Rightarrow \exists(\% 3)$
 $\exists(\% 3)\{[even] \text{ true} \} := \lambda(x : \text{nat}) = x < 3$
 $\exists_{\text{even}}\{[(\% 3)] 0\} \Leftrightarrow \text{true}_1$
 $(\exists(\% 3)\{[even] \text{ true} \})(0) = 0 < 3 = \text{true}$
 $(\exists_{\text{even}}\{[(\% 3)] 0\})(\text{true}) = \text{true}$

These two types of existential paths might seem different, but they are secretly connected to each other. If one of them returns `true`, then the other must return `true`. If one returns `false`, then the other can not return `true`, so it must return `false`.

Here is another example:

$a : [(\% k)] 1 \wedge [even] \text{ true}$

For which values of `k` is this sound? If `k` is even, the modulus lines up with even numbers:

$\exists(\% k)\{[even] \text{ true} \} := \lambda(x : \text{nat}) = x < k \ \&\& \ (\neg \text{even}(k) \parallel \text{even}(x))$
 $(\exists(\% k)\{[even] \text{ true} \})(1) = 1 < k \ \&\& \ (\neg \text{even}(k) \parallel \text{even}(1))$
 $(\exists(\% k)\{[even] \text{ true} \})(1) = 1 < k \ \&\& \ (\neg \text{even}(k) \parallel \text{false})$
 $(\exists(\% k)\{[even] \text{ true} \})(1) = 1 < k \ \&\& \ \neg \text{even}(k)$

Therefore, it is only sound when `k` is greater than `1` and `k` is not even. One could also say:

$k : [\text{linear}(3, 2)] \text{ true}$