

# Univalent Involutions

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*In this paper I prove that isomorphisms are isomorphic to Univalent Involutions.*

An isomorphism<sup>[1]</sup> from a Category<sup>[2]</sup> theoretic view is a morphism  $f$  with an inverse  $g$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} f \cdot g &\leq id_B \\ g \cdot f &\leq id_A \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f &: A \rightarrow B \\ g &: B \rightarrow A \end{aligned}$$

An involution<sup>[3]</sup> is a morphism  $h$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} h \cdot h &\leq id_T \\ h &: T \rightarrow T \end{aligned}$$

Every involution is an isomorphism, but not every isomorphism is an involution.

It turns out that every isomorphism can be turned into a Univalent Involution:

$$h := \lambda(x : T) = \text{if let some}(a) = h'_A{}^{-1}(x) \{ h'_B(f(a)) \} \\ \text{else if let some}(b) = h'_A{}^{-1}(b) \{ h'_A(g(b)) \} \\ \text{else } \{ \text{unreachable!}() \}$$

$T := A \mid B$	$T$ is the sum type of $A$ and $B$
$h'_A : A \rightarrow T$	Lifts $A$ into $T$
$h'_B : B \rightarrow T$	Lifts $B$ into $T$
$h'_A{}^{-1} : T \rightarrow \text{opt}[A]$	Takes $A$ out of some $T$
$h'_B{}^{-1} : T \rightarrow \text{opt}[B]$	Takes $B$ out of some $T$

The univalent involution  $h$  has the following normal paths (where  $\text{opt}$  is used as a functor):

$$\begin{aligned} h[h'_A{}^{-1} \rightarrow h'_B{}^{-1}] &\leq \text{opt}(f) \\ h[h'_B{}^{-1} \rightarrow h'_A{}^{-1}] &\leq \text{opt}(g) \end{aligned}$$

A Univalent Involution differs from ordinary involutions by the property it can be turned back into a heterogenous isomorphism, kind of like a tuple  $(a, b)$  can be turned into  $a$  and  $b$ :

$$\begin{aligned} h.0 &\leq f \\ h.1 &\leq g \end{aligned}$$

Since equality in Intuitionistic Logic<sup>[4]</sup> using types is a tuple  $(f, g)$ , this particular form of involution is thought to be univalent<sup>[5]</sup>.

## References:

- [1] “Isomorphism”  
Wikipedia  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isomorphism>
- [2] “Category (mathematics)”  
Wikipedia  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category\\_\(mathematics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category_(mathematics))
- [3] “Involution (mathematics)”  
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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Involution\\_\(mathematics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Involution_(mathematics))
- [4] “Intuitionistic logic”  
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[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intuitionistic\\_logic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intuitionistic_logic)
- [5] “Homotopy type theory”  
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