

School on Univalent Mathematics

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I. Type theory

Gialuca Amato

slides mostly stolen from Benedikt Ahrens' ones
errors definitively added by me

Foundation of Mathematics

By the name *foundations of mathematics* we mean the study of *formal systems* that allows us to formalize much if not all of mathematics.

There are several approaches to the foundations of mathematics, which we may mostly divide in two big families:

- *set theories*;
- *type theories*.

Set theories

- everything is a set;
- *naive* set-theory is the de-facto standard for most mathematicians not interested in the foundations of mathematics;
- Example:
a function from A to B is a subset of $A \times B$ such that . . .

Type theories

- everything is a type or a term (program) of a given type;
- Example: a function from A to B is a type, denoted by $A \rightarrow B$;
- Example: the constant function which maps each element of A to the constant b of type B is the term $\lambda(x : A).b$ of type $A \rightarrow B$;
- all type theories contains λ -calculus at their core (a functional programming language) with the infrastructure for writing mathematical proofs;
- in some type theories, to each proposition P corresponds a type P , and proofs of P are terms of type P (*propositions as types*).

Martin-Löf type theory

In this course we will work in the type theory introduced by Per Martin-Löf. Its main characteristics:

- **propositions as types;**
- **dependent types and functions:** a type may depend on a element (term) of an other type:
 - type $\text{Vect}(n)$ of vectors of length n ;
 - $\text{concatenate} : \prod_{m,n:\text{Nat}} \text{Vect}(m) \rightarrow \text{Vect}(n) \rightarrow \text{Vect}(m + n)$;
 - $\text{tail} : \prod_{n:\text{Nat}} \text{Vect}(1 + n) \rightarrow \text{Vect}(n)$;
- all functions are total and computable;

In the following we use the term “type theory” to denote the Martin-Löf type theory.

Multiple interpretations of type theory

There are two basic interpretation of types and terms which help intuition.

Set based a type A is a set;
a term a of type A is an element of the set A .

Logic based a type A is a proposition (or a predicate);
a term a of type A is a proof of A .

More complex interpretations (such as types as **simplicial sets**) are at the basis of the Univalence Foundations of mathematics.

We will not discuss these interpretations in our lecture.

Outline

- 1 Non-dependent types
- 2 Dependent types
- 3 More on propositions as types
- 4 Problem session

Outline

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- 2 Dependent types
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Our goal

Our main goal: to write well-typed terms

In type theory, both the activities of

- defining a mathematical object;
- proving a mathematical statement;

are done by writing well-typed terms.

We hence need to understand the **typing rules** of type theory. These rules are expressed in a logical language consisting of “judgements” and “inference rules”.

Syntax of type theory

Fundamental: **judgment**

context \vdash conclusion

Contexts & judgments

Γ	sequence of variable declarations $(x_1 : A_1), (x_2 : A_2(x_1)), \dots, (x_n : A_n(\vec{x}_i))$
$\Gamma \vdash A$	A is well-formed type in context Γ
$\Gamma \vdash a : A$	term a is well-formed and of type A
$\Gamma \vdash A \equiv B$	types A and B are convertible
$\Gamma \vdash a \equiv b : A$	a is convertible to b in type A

$(x : \text{Nat}), (f : \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Bool}) \vdash f(x) : \text{Bool}$

An example

Suppose you want to write a function `isZero?` of type $\text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$.
You start out with

$$\begin{aligned}\text{isZero?} &: \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \\ \text{isZero?}(n) &:= ??\end{aligned}$$

At this point, you need to write a term $b(n)$ such that

$$(n : \text{Nat}) \vdash b(n) : \text{Bool}$$

Inference rules and derivations (1)

Inference rules allow to derive correct judgments from already proved judgments.

- An inference rule is an implication of judgments,

$$\frac{J_1 \quad J_2 \quad \dots}{J}$$

e.g.,

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f : \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash n : \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash f(n) : \text{Bool}}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \equiv b : A}{\Gamma \vdash b \equiv a : A}$$

- A **derivation of a judgment** is a tree of inference rules.
e.g., writing Γ for the context $(f : \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Bool}), (n : \text{Nat})$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f : \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \quad \Gamma \vdash n : \text{Nat}}{\Gamma \vdash f(n) : \text{Bool}}$$

Inference rules and derivations (2)

We will be more informal in this presentation:

- We sometimes omit the context when writing judgments.
- We will use english for writing inference rules.

e.g., by writing

“ If $a \equiv b$, then $b \equiv a$ ”

instead of

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \equiv b : A}{\Gamma \vdash b \equiv a : A}$$

Important facts about judgments

- term a does not exist independently of its type A
- If $x : A$ and $A \equiv B$ then $x : B$;
- a well-formed term a has exactly one type up to \equiv
(whereas an element a can be member of many different sets)
- \equiv is a congruence, e.g., if $a \equiv a'$ and $f \equiv f'$, then $f(a) \equiv f'(a')$.

Declaring types & terms

Any type and its terms are declared by giving 4 (groups of) rules:

Formation a way to construct a new type

Introduction way(s) to construct **canonical terms** of that type

Elimination ways to use a term of the new type to construct terms

Conversion what happens when one does Introduction followed by Elimination

The type of functions $A \rightarrow B$

Formation If A and B are types, then $A \rightarrow B$ is a type

(sets: set of functions from A to B)

(logics: A implies B)

Introduction If $x : A \vdash b : B$, then $\vdash \lambda(x : A).b : A \rightarrow B$

(b may contain some occurrences of x)

Elimination If $f : A \rightarrow B$ and $a : A$, then $f(a) : B$

Conversion $(\lambda(x : A).b)(a) \equiv b[a/x]$

substitution $b[a/x]$ is built-in and not part of the language of terms

Conversion and computation

The judgment

$$(\lambda(x : A).b)(a) \equiv b[a/x]$$

(and others we will see later) may be given a computational meaning by orienting the equivalence from left to right:

$$(\lambda(x : A).b)(a) \Longrightarrow b[a/x]$$

Rewriting terms according to \Longrightarrow gives us an algorithm that

- always terminates;
- transforms every term to a **normal form**;
- may be used to decide whether two terms are convertible.

The singleton type

Formation $\mathbf{1}$ is a type

(sets: a one-element set $\{t\}$)

(logic: the true proposition \top)

Introduction $t : \mathbf{1}$

(sets: the only element of $\mathbf{1}$)

(logic: the trivial proof that \top is true)

Elimination If $x : \mathbf{1}$ and C is a type and $c : C$, then $\text{rec}_1(C, c, x) : C$

(rec_1 is called a **recursor**)

(rec_1 is not very useful until we introduce dependent types)

Conversion $\text{rec}_1(C, c, t) \equiv c$

Booleans

Exercise: Define the type of boolean values, with two elements.

Formation

Introduction

Elimination

Conversion

Booleans

Formation Bool is a type
(sets: a two element set {true, false})

Introduction true : Bool, false : Bool

Elimination If $x : \text{Bool}$ and C is a type and $c, c' : C$,
then $\text{rec}_{\text{Bool}}(C, c, c', x) : C$
(interpretation: if $x = \text{true}$ then c else c')

Conversion $\text{rec}_{\text{Bool}}(C, c, c', \text{true}) \equiv c$
 $\text{rec}_{\text{Bool}}(C, c, c', \text{false}) \equiv c'$

The empty type

Formation \mathbf{o} is a type

(sets: the empty set)

(logic: the false proposition)

Introduction

Elimination If $x : \mathbf{o}$ and C is a type, then $\text{rec}_{\mathbf{o}}(C, x) : C$

(logic: from falsehood, anything)

Conversion

- Exercise: Define a function of type $\mathbf{o} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$.

The type of natural numbers

Formation Nat is a type
(sets: the set of natural numbers)

Introduction $0 : \text{Nat}$
if $n : \text{Nat}$, then $S(n) : \text{Nat}$

Elimination If C is a type and $c_0 : C$ and $c_s : C \rightarrow C$ and $x : \text{Nat}$
then $\text{rec}_{\text{Nat}}(C, c_0, c_s, x) : C$
$$\left(\text{rec}_{\text{Nat}}(C, c_0, c_s, x) = \begin{cases} c_0 & \text{if } x = 0; \\ c_s(\text{rec}_{\text{Nat}}(C, c_0, c_s, y)) & \text{if } x = S(y) \end{cases} \right)$$

Conversion $\text{rec}_{\text{Nat}}(C, c_0, c_s, 0) \equiv c_0$
 $\text{rec}_{\text{Nat}}(C, c_0, c_s, S(n)) \equiv c_s(\text{rec}_{\text{Nat}}(C, c_0, c_s, n))$

Using the nat recursor

Exercise: Define a function `isZero? : Nat → Bool`

Using the nat recursor

Exercise: Define a function $\text{isZero?} : \text{Nat} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Solution:

$$\text{isZero?} := \lambda(x : \text{Nat}). \text{rec}_{\text{Nat}}(\text{Bool}, \text{true}, \lambda(x : \text{Bool}). \text{false}, x)$$

whose meaning is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{isZero?} &:= \lambda(x : \text{Nat}). \text{if } x = 0 \text{ then true} \\ &\quad \text{else } (\lambda(x : \text{Bool}). \text{false})(\text{isZero?}(x - 1)) \end{aligned}$$

Pattern matching

- Programming in terms of the recursors `rec` is cumbersome.
- Equivalently, we can specify functions by **pattern matching**:
A function $A \rightarrow C$ is specified completely if it is specified on the **canonical elements of A** .

`isZero? : Nat → Bool`

`isZero?(0) := true`

`isZero?(S(n)) := false`

- The “specifying equations” correspond to the computation rules.

Pattern matching for **0**, **1**, Bool

How to define a map

- $\mathbf{0} \rightarrow A$

Nothing to do

- $\mathbf{1} \rightarrow A$

$f(t) := ?? : A$

- $f : \text{Bool} \rightarrow A$

$f(\text{true}) := ?? : A$

$f(\text{false}) := ?? : A$

The type of pairs $A \times B$

Formation If A and B are types, then $A \times B$ is a type

(sets: Cartesian product of sets A and B)

(logic: $A \wedge B$)

Introduction If $a : A$ and $b : B$, then $\langle a, b \rangle : A \times B$

(logic: given proofs a, b of A and B , we get a proof of $A \wedge B$)

Elimination If C is a type, and $p : A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$ and $t : A \times B$, then

$\text{rec}_\times(A, B, C, p, t) : C$

Conversion $\text{rec}_\times(A, B, C, p, \langle a, b \rangle) \equiv p(a)(b)$

Exercises

- Define $\text{fst} : A \times B \rightarrow A$ and $\text{snd} : A \times B \rightarrow B$
 - using the eliminator
 - by pattern matching
- Compute $\text{fst}(\langle a, b \rangle)$ and $\text{snd}(\langle a, b \rangle)$

Exercises

- Define $\text{fst} : A \times B \rightarrow A$ and $\text{snd} : A \times B \rightarrow B$
 - using the eliminator

$$\text{fst} := \lambda(t : A \times B).\text{rec}_\times(A, B, A, \lambda(x : A).\lambda(y : B).x, t)$$

- by pattern matching

$$\text{fst}(\langle a, b \rangle) := a$$

- Compute $\text{fst}(\langle a, b \rangle)$ and $\text{snd}(\langle a, b \rangle)$

Exercises

- Given types A and B , write a function `swap` of type $A \times B \rightarrow B \times A$.
- What is the type of `swap(<t, false>)`? Compute the result.

Exercises

- Given types A and B , write a function `swap` of type $A \times B \rightarrow B \times A$.

Solution

$$\text{swap} := \lambda(x : A \times B). (\text{snd}(x), \text{fst}(x))$$

- What is the type of `swap($\langle t, \text{false} \rangle$)`? Compute the result.

Solution

$$\text{swap}(\langle t, \text{false} \rangle) : \text{Bool} \times \mathbf{1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{swap}(\langle t, \text{false} \rangle) &\equiv \langle \text{snd}(\langle t, \text{false} \rangle), \text{fst}(\langle t, \text{false} \rangle) \rangle \\ &\equiv \langle \text{false}, t \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Associativity of cartesian product

Exercise

Write a function `assoc` of type $(A \times B) \times C \rightarrow A \times (B \times C)$.

Associativity of cartesian product

Exercise

Write a function `assoc` of type $(A \times B) \times C \rightarrow A \times (B \times C)$.

Solution

$$\text{assoc} := \lambda(x : (A \times B) \times C). \langle \text{fst}(\text{fst}(x)), \langle \text{snd}(\text{fst}(x)), \text{snd}(x) \rangle \rangle$$

or

$$\text{assoc}((x,y),z) := (x, (y,z))$$

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- 2 **Dependent types**
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Type dependency

In particular: dependent type B over A

$$x : A \vdash B(x)$$

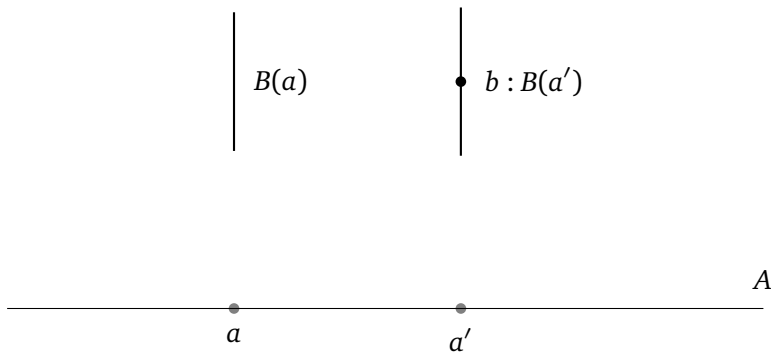
“family B of types indexed by A ”

- Example: type of vectors (with entries from, e.g., `Bool`) of length n

$$n : \text{Nat} \vdash \text{Vect}(n) \quad (= \text{Bool}^n)$$

- A type can depend on several variables

Dependent types in pictures



Universes

Universes

- There is also a type `Type`. Its elements are types, $A : \text{Type}$;
- The judgment $x : A \vdash B$ may be viewed as $x : A \vdash B : \text{Type}$;
- $(n : \text{Nat}), (A : \text{Type}) \vdash \text{Vect}(A, n) : \text{Type}$.

What is the type of `Type`?

- Actually, hierarchy $(\text{Type}_i)_{i \in I}$ to avoid paradoxes.

$$\text{Type}_0 : \text{Type}_1 : \text{Type}_2 : \dots$$

- But we ignore this for the most part, and only write `Type`.

The type of dependent functions $\prod_{x:A} B$

Formation If $x : A \vdash B(x)$, then $\prod_{x:A} B(x)$ is a type.

(sets: mapping each $x \in A$ to the set $B(x)$)

(logic: $\forall x : A, B(x)$)

Introduction If $(x : A) \vdash b : B$, then $\lambda(x : A).b : \prod_{x:A} B$.

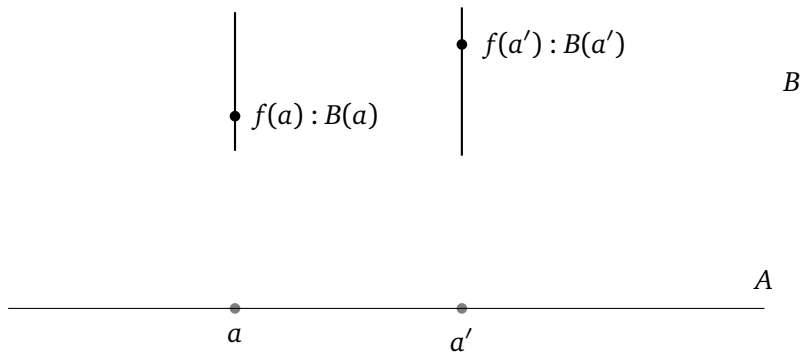
Elimination If $f : \prod_{x:A} B$ and $a : A$, then $f(a) : B[x/a]$

Conversion $(\lambda(x : A).b)(a) \equiv b[x/a]$

The case $A \rightarrow B$ is a special case, where B does not depend on $x : A$

A dependent function in pictures

$$f : \prod_{x:A} B(x)$$



Pattern matching for **0**, **1**, Bool

To specify a dependent function

- $f : \prod_{x:0} A(x)$

Nothing to do

- $f : \prod_{x:1} A(x)$

$$f(t) := ?? : A(t)$$

- $f : \prod_{x:\text{Bool}} A(x)$

$$f(\text{true}) := ?? : A(\text{true})$$

$$f(\text{false}) := ?? : A(\text{false})$$

The type of dependent pairs $\sum_{x:A} B$

Formation If $x : A \vdash B(x)$, then $\sum_{x:A} B(x)$ is a type
(sets: disjoint union $\coprod_{x:a} B(x)$)
(logic: $\exists x : A, B(x)$)

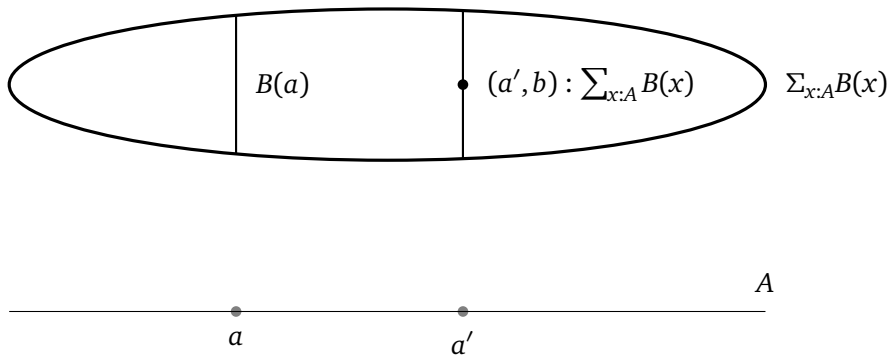
Introduction If $a : A$ and $b : B[x/a]$, then $\langle a, b \rangle : \sum_{x:A} B$

Elimination ...

Conversion ...

The case $A \times B$ is a special case, where B does not depend on $x : A$

Σ -type in pictures



The identity type

Formation If $a : A$ and $b : A$, then $\text{Id}_A(a, b)$ is a type
(logic: the equality predicate $a = b$)

Introduction If $a : A$, then $\text{refl}(a) : \text{Id}_A(a, a)$
(the trivial proof that a is equal to itself)

Elimination If
 $(x, y : A), (p : \text{Id}_A(x, y)) \vdash C(x, y, p)$
and
 $(x : A) \vdash t(x) : C(x, x, \text{refl}(x))$
then
 $(x, y : A), (p : \text{Id}_A(x, y)) \vdash \text{ind}_{\text{Id}}(t; x, y, p) : C(x, y, p)$

Conversion ...

Exercise

- Write a term of type $\text{Id}_A(\text{snd}(\langle t, \text{false} \rangle), \text{false})$.

(Hint: remember the important facts about \equiv)

Exercise

- Write a term of type $\text{Id}_A(\text{snd}(\langle t, \text{false} \rangle), \text{false})$.

(Hint: remember the important facts about \equiv)

Solution

We have

$$\text{snd}(\langle t, \text{false} \rangle) \equiv \text{false}$$

and hence

$$\text{Id}_A(\text{snd}(t, \text{false}), \text{false}) \equiv \text{Id}_A(\text{false}, \text{false})$$

Since

$$\text{refl}(\text{false}) : \text{Id}_A(\text{false}, \text{false})$$

we also have

$$\text{refl}(\text{false}) : \text{Id}_A(\text{snd}(t, \text{false}), \text{false})$$

The elimination principle for Id_A

- By pattern matching, to specify a map on a family of identities $\text{Id}_A(x,y)$, it suffices to specify its image on $\text{refl}(x)$ for some x .
- For instance, to define

$$\text{sym} : \prod_{x,y:A} \text{Id}(x,y) \rightarrow \text{Id}(y,x)$$

it suffices to specify its image on $(x,x, \text{refl}(x))$

$$\text{sym}(x,x, \text{refl}(x)) :=$$

The elimination principle for Id_A

- By pattern matching, to specify a map on a family of identities $\text{Id}_A(x,y)$, it suffices to specify its image on $\text{refl}(x)$ for some x .
- For instance, to define

$$\text{sym} : \prod_{x,y:A} \text{Id}(x,y) \rightarrow \text{Id}(y,x)$$

it suffices to specify its image on $(x,x, \text{refl}(x))$

$$\text{sym}(x,x, \text{refl}(x)) := \text{refl}(x)$$

More about identities

Exercise: Using pattern matching, construct a term trans of type

$$\prod_{x,y:A} \text{Id}(x,y) \rightarrow \prod_{z:A} \text{Id}(y,z) \rightarrow \text{Id}(x,z)$$

More about identities

Exercise: Using pattern matching, construct a term `trans` of type

$$\prod_{x,y:A} \text{Id}(x,y) \rightarrow \prod_{z:A} \text{Id}(y,z) \rightarrow \text{Id}(x,z)$$

$$\text{trans}(x,x, \text{refl}(x), z, p) := p$$

Transport

Exercise

Given $x : A \vdash B$, define a function of type

$$\text{transport}^B : \prod_{x,y:A} \text{Id}(x,y) \rightarrow B(x) \rightarrow B(y)$$

Transport

Exercise

Given $x : A \vdash B$, define a function of type

$$\text{transport}^B : \prod_{x,y:A} \text{Id}(x,y) \rightarrow B(x) \rightarrow B(y)$$

Solution

$$\text{transport}^B(x, x, \text{refl}(x), b) := b$$

Exercise: swap is involutive

Exercise

Given types A and B , write a function of type

$$\prod_{t:A \times B} \text{Id}(\text{swap}(\text{swap}(t)), t)$$

Exercise: swap is involutive

Exercise

Given types A and B , write a function of type

$$\prod_{t:A \times B} \text{Id}(\text{swap}(\text{swap}(t)), t)$$

Solution

$$f(\langle a, b \rangle) := \text{refl}(\langle a, b \rangle)$$

Why is f a solution?

The disjoint sum $A + B$

Formation If A and B are types, then $A + B$ is a type

(sets: disjoint union)

(logic: constructive disjunction $A \vee B$)

Introduction If $a : A$, then $\text{inl}(a) : A + B$

If $b : B$, then $\text{inr}(b) : A + B$

Elimination If $f : A \rightarrow C$ and $g : B \rightarrow C$, then

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

Conversion $\text{rec}_+(C, f, g)(\text{inl}(a)) \equiv f(a)$

$\text{rec}_+(C, f, g)(\text{inr}(b)) \equiv g(b)$

- Exercise: write down the dependent eliminator for $A + B$
- What is the pattern matching principle for $A + B$?

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Interpreting types as sets

Syntax	Set interpretation
A	set A
$a : A$	$a \in A$
$A \times B$	cartesian product
$A \rightarrow B$	set of functions $A \rightarrow B$
$A + B$	disjoint union $A \amalg B$
$x : A \vdash B(x)$	family B of sets indexed by A
$\sum_{x:A} B(x)$	disjoint union $\amalg_{x:A} B(x)$
$\prod_{x:A} B(x)$	dependent function
$\text{Id}_A(a, b)$???

Interpreting types as propositions

Syntax	Logic
A	proposition A
$a : A$	a is a proof of A
$\mathbf{1}$	\top
$\mathbf{0}$	\perp
$A \times B$	$A \wedge B$
$A \rightarrow B$	$A \Rightarrow B$
$A + B$	$A \vee B$
$x : A \vdash B(x)$	predicate B on A
$\sum_{x:A} B(x)$	$\exists x \in A, B(x)$
$\prod_{x:A} B(x)$	$\forall x \in A, B(x)$
$\text{Id}_A(a, b)$	equality $a = b$

- The connectives \vee and \exists thus obtained behave constructively.

Negation

Definition

$$\neg A := A \rightarrow \mathbf{o}$$

Exercise

- 1 Construct a term of type $A \rightarrow \neg\neg A$
- 2 Try to construct a term of type $\neg\neg A \rightarrow A$

Summary: Logic in type theory

Curry-Howard correspondence resp. Brouwer-Heyting-Kolmogorov interpretation:

- propositions are types
- proofs of P are terms of type P

Hence

- In principle, all types could be called propositions.
- To prove a proposition P means to construct a term of type P .
- In UF, only some types are called ‘propositions’, cf later.

Convention

For type X , we also say “**Show** X ” or “**Prove** X ” for “**Construct a term of type** X ”.

true is not false

Exercise

Construct a term of type $\neg(\text{Id}(\text{true}, \text{false}))$.

Hint: use transport^B with a suitable $B : \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Type}$

Solution

Set $B := \text{rec}_{\text{Bool}}(\text{Type}, \mathbf{1}, \mathbf{0}) : \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Type}$.

Then $B(\text{true}) \equiv \mathbf{1}$ and $B(\text{false}) \equiv \mathbf{0}$. Hence

$$\lambda p : \text{Id}(\text{true}, \text{false}). \text{transport}^B(p, t) : \text{Id}(\text{true}, \text{false}) \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$$

Exercise: Dependent elimination rules

Write down the dependent elimination rule for

- If $x : \mathbf{0} \vdash C(x)$ is a type family and $x : \mathbf{0}$, then
 $\text{ind}_{\mathbf{0}}(C, x) : C(x)$
- 1 If $x : \mathbf{1} \vdash C(x)$ is a type family and $c_t : C(t)$ and $x : \mathbf{1}$,
then $\text{ind}_{\mathbf{1}}(C, c, x) : C(x)$
- Bool If $x : \text{Bool} \vdash C(x)$ is a type family and $c_{\text{true}} : C(\text{true})$
and $c_{\text{false}} : C(\text{false})$ and $x : \text{Bool}$, then
 $\text{ind}_{\text{Bool}}(C, c, c', x) : C(x)$

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Problems

- Solve the exercises from the lecture.
- Define addition $+$ of natural numbers in terms of the eliminator, and via pattern matching.
- Give a proof of $\text{ld}(2 + 2, 4)$. Explain how/why your proof works.
- Given types A , B , and C , define maps between $A \times (B + C)$ and $A \times B + A \times C$. Show that they are pointwise inverses.
- For A , B , and $P : A \rightarrow \text{Type}$, give maps between $\sum_{x:A} B \times P(x)$ and $B \times \sum_{x:A} P(x)$. Show that they are pointwise inverses.
- Prove that, for any $x : \mathbf{1}$, $\text{ld}(x, t)$.