

# Gradual Typing from a Categorical Perspective

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**Abstract**

TODO

## 1 Introduction

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## 2 Categorical Model

**Definition 1.** Suppose  $\mathcal{C}$  is a category. Then an object  $A$  is a **retract** of an object  $B$  if there are morphisms  $i : A \rightarrow B$  and  $r : B \rightarrow A$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{i} & B \\ & \searrow & \downarrow r \\ & & A \end{array}$$

**Definition 2.** An **untyped  $\lambda$ -model**,  $(\mathcal{C}, ?, \text{split}, \text{squash})$ , is a cartesian closed category  $\mathcal{C}$  with a distinguished object  $?$  and two morphisms  $\text{squash} : (? \rightarrow ?) \rightarrow ?$  and  $\text{split} : ? \rightarrow (? \rightarrow ?)$  making the object  $? \rightarrow ?$  a retract of  $?$ .

**Theorem 3** (Scott [1980]). An untyped  $\lambda$ -model is a sound and complete model of the untyped  $\lambda$ -calculus.

**Definition 4.** An object  $\mathbb{N}$  of a category  $\mathcal{C}$  with a terminal object  $1$  is a **natural number object (NNO)** if and only if there are morphisms  $z : 1 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $s : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that for any other object  $A$  and morphisms  $z' : 1 \rightarrow A$  and  $s' : A \rightarrow A$  there is a unique morphism  $u : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$  making the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 1 & \xrightarrow{z} & \mathbb{N} & \xrightarrow{s} & \mathbb{N} \\ & \searrow z' & \downarrow u & & \downarrow u \\ & & A & \xrightarrow{s'} & A \end{array}$$

**Definition 5.** A *gradual  $\lambda$ -model*,  $(\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{C}, ?, \top, \text{split}, \text{squash}, \text{box}, \text{unbox})$ , where  $\mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  are cartesian closed categories with NNOS,  $(\mathcal{C}, ?, \text{split}, \text{squash})$  is an untyped  $\lambda$ -model,  $\top : \mathcal{T} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is a cartesian closed embedding – a full and faithful cartesian closed functor that is injective on objects and preserves the NNO – and for every object,  $A$ , of  $\mathcal{T}$  there are morphisms  $\text{box}_A : TA \longrightarrow ?$  and  $\text{unbox}_A : ? \longrightarrow TA$  making  $TA$  a retract of  $?$ .

### 3 Grady

### References

Dana Scott. Relating theories of the lambda-calculus. In *To H.B. Curry: Essays on Combinatory Logic, Lambda-Calculus and Formalism* (eds. Hindley and Seldin), pages 403–450. Academic Press, 1980.

## A The Complete Spec of Grady

<i>termvar</i> , $x, z$	
<i>index</i> , $k$	
$t$	$::=$
	term
$x$	variable
$\text{triv}$	unit
$\text{squash}$	injection of the retract
$\text{split}$	surjection of the retract
$\text{box}_T$	generalize to the untyped universe
$\text{unbox}_T$	specialize the untyped universe to a specific type
$\lambda x : A. t$	$\lambda$ -abstraction
$t_1 t_2$	function application
$(t_1, t_2)$	pair constructor
$\text{fst } t$	first projection
$\text{snd } t$	second projection
$\text{succ } t$	successor function
$0$	zero
$(t)$	S
$h$	$::=$
	head-normal forms
$\text{triv}$	
$\text{split}$	
$\text{squash}$	
$\text{box}_T$	
$\text{unbox}_T$	
$\lambda x : A. t$	

	$(t_1, t_2)$
	$\text{fst } t$
	$\text{snd } t$
	$\text{succ } t$
	$0$

$T$	$::=$	terminating types
	$1$	unit type
	$\mathbb{N}$	natural number type
	$T_1 \rightarrow T_2$	function type
	$T_1 \times T_2$	cartesian product type
	$(T)$	S

$A$	$::=$	type
	$1$	unit type
	$\mathbb{N}$	natural number type
	$?$	untyped universe
	$A_1 \rightarrow A_2$	function type
	$A_1 \times A_2$	cartesian product type
	$(A)$	S

$\Gamma$	$::=$	typing context
	$\cdot$	empty context
	$\Gamma, x : A$	cons

$vd$	$::=$	
	$\vdash$	
	$\nVdash$	

$\boxed{\Gamma vdt : A}$      $t$  has type  $A$  in context  $\Gamma$

$\frac{x : A \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : A}$	VAR
$\overline{\Gamma \vdash \text{box}_T : T \rightarrow ?}$	BOX
$\overline{\Gamma \vdash \text{unbox}_T : ? \rightarrow T}$	UNBOX
$\overline{\Gamma \vdash \text{squash} : (? \rightarrow ?) \rightarrow ?}$	SQUASH
$\overline{\Gamma \vdash \text{split} : ? \rightarrow (? \rightarrow ?)}$	SPLIT
$\overline{\Gamma \vdash \text{triv} : 1}$	UNIT
$\overline{\Gamma \vdash 0 : \mathbb{N}}$	ZERO

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \mathbb{N}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{succ } t : \mathbb{N}} \quad \text{SUCC} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash (t_1, t_2) : A_1 \times A_2} \quad \text{PAIR} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } t : A_1} \quad \text{FST} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } t : A_2} \quad \text{SND} \\
\frac{\Gamma, x : A_1 \vdash t : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A_1. t : A_1 \rightarrow A_2} \quad \text{LAM} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_1}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 : A_2} \quad \text{APP} \\
\boxed{\Gamma \vdash t_1 \rightsquigarrow t_2 : A} \quad t_1 \text{ reduces to } t_2 \text{ with type } A \text{ in context } \Gamma \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unbox}_T (\text{box}_T t) \rightsquigarrow t : T} \quad \text{RD\_RETRACT} \\
\frac{\Gamma \not\vdash t : T}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unbox}_T (\text{box}_{T'} t) \rightsquigarrow \text{wrong} : \text{TypeError}} \quad \text{RD\_TWRONG} \\
\frac{h \neq \text{box}_T t}{\Gamma \vdash \text{unbox}_T h \rightsquigarrow \text{wrong} : \text{TypeError}} \quad \text{RD\_HWRONG} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : ? \rightarrow ?}{\Gamma \vdash \text{split} (\text{squash } t) \rightsquigarrow t : ? \rightarrow ?} \quad \text{RD\_RETRACTU} \\
\frac{\Gamma, x : A_1 \vdash t_2 : A_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1}{\Gamma \vdash (\lambda x : A_1. t_2) t_1 \rightsquigarrow [t_1/x] t_2 : A_2} \quad \text{RD\_BETA} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \quad x \notin \text{FV}(t)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A_1. t x \rightsquigarrow t : A_1 \rightarrow A_2} \quad \text{RD\_ETA} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } (t_1, t_2) \rightsquigarrow t_1 : A_1} \quad \text{RD\_PROJ1} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } (t_1, t_2) \rightsquigarrow t_2 : A_2} \quad \text{RD\_PROJ2} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{fst } t, \text{snd } t) \rightsquigarrow t : A_1 \times A_2} \quad \text{RD\_ETAP} \\
\frac{\Gamma, x : A_1 \vdash t \rightsquigarrow t' : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A_1. t \rightsquigarrow \lambda x : A_1. t' : A_1 \rightarrow A_2} \quad \text{RD\_LAM} \\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 \rightsquigarrow t'_1 : A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_1}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_1 t_2 : A_2} \quad \text{RD\_APP1}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_2 : A_1}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 \rightsquigarrow t_1 t'_2 : A_2} \quad \text{RD\_APP2} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t \rightsquigarrow t' : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } t \rightsquigarrow \text{fst } t' : A_1} \quad \text{RD\_FST} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t \rightsquigarrow t' : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } t \rightsquigarrow \text{snd } t' : A_2} \quad \text{RD\_SND} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 \rightsquigarrow t'_1 : A_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash (t_1, t_2) \rightsquigarrow (t'_1, t_2) : A_1 \times A_2} \quad \text{RD\_PAIR1} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 \rightsquigarrow t'_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash (t_1, t_2) \rightsquigarrow (t_1, t'_2) : A_1 \times A_2} \quad \text{RD\_PAIR2}
\end{array}$$

## B The Complete Spec of $\lambda_{\rightarrow}^{\langle A \rangle}$ -Calculus

*termvar*,  $x, z$

*index*,  $k$

$t$	$::=$	term
$x$		variable
$\text{triv}$		unit
$\langle A \rangle t$		type cast
$\lambda x : A. t$		$\lambda$ -abstraction
$t_1 t_2$		function application
$(t_1, t_2)$		pair constructor
$\text{fst } t$		first projection
$\text{snd } t$		second projection
$\text{succ } t$		successor function
$0$		zero
$(t)$	S	
$A, B, C$	$::=$	type
$1$		unit type
$\mathbb{N}$		natural number type
$?$		untyped universe
$A_1 \rightarrow A_2$		function type
$A_1 \times A_2$		cartesian product type
$(A)$	S	
$\Gamma$	$::=$	typing context
$\cdot$		empty context
$x : A$		cons

$vd ::=$   
 $\quad \mid \quad \vdash$   
 $\quad \mid \quad \not\vdash$

$\boxed{A \sim B}$      $A$  is consistent with  $B$

$\frac{}{A \sim A}$     REFL

$\frac{}{A \sim ?}$     BOX

$\frac{}{? \sim A}$     UNBOX

$\frac{A_1 \sim A_2 \quad B_1 \sim B_2}{A_1 \rightarrow B_1 \sim A_2 \rightarrow B_2}$     ARROW

$\frac{A_1 \sim A_2 \quad B_1 \sim B_2}{A_1 \times B_1 \sim A_2 \times B_2}$     PROD

$\boxed{\Gamma vdt : A}$      $t$  has type  $A$  in context  $\Gamma$

$\frac{x : A \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : A}$     VAR

$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{triv} : 1}$     UNIT

$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash 0 : \mathbb{N}}$     ZERO

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : \mathbb{N}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{succ } t : \mathbb{N}}$     SUCC

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash (t_1, t_2) : A_1 \times A_2}$     PAIR

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } t : A_1}$     FST

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A_1 \times A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } t : A_2}$     SND

$\frac{\Gamma, x : A_1 \vdash t : A_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A_1. t : A_1 \rightarrow A_2}$     LAM

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_1 : A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash t_2 : A_1}{\Gamma \vdash t_1 t_2 : A_2}$     APP

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A \quad A \sim B}{\Gamma \vdash \langle B \rangle t : B}$     CAST