Scott's Representation Theorem and the Univalent Karoubi Envelope

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joint work with Arnoud van der Leer and Kobe Wullaert



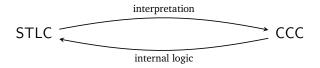


ITP 2025

Outline

- 1 Overview of Our Work
- 2 Review: Univalent Foundations and Category Theory
- 3 Interpretation of Lambda Theories
- 4 A Tactic for Rewriting
- **5** Conclusion

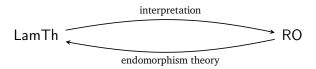
Simply-Typed Lambda Calculi and Cartesian Closed Categories



Theorem (Joachim Lambek & Phil Scott)

"Interpretation" and "internal logic" form an equivalence of categories.

This Work: Untyped Lambda Calculus and Reflexive Objects



Here, RO is the collection of Cartesian closed categories equipped with a reflexive object *A*:



Theorem (Dana Scott 1980, Martin Hyland 2012)

 $E: \mathsf{LamTh} \to \mathsf{RO}$ has a section $I: \mathsf{RO} \to \mathsf{LamTh}$, that is, every lambda theory is the endomorphism theory of some reflexive object.

Our Work

- Formalization of the constructions of Scott and Hyland in UniMath, a computer-checked library of univalent mathematics in Rocq
- 2. Explanation of the difference between these constructions using notions of univalent foundations
- Implementation of an extensible tactic for automated rewriting (not just) lambda terms, used in the formalization of Scott's construction

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Univalent Foundations

Setting

Martin-Löf type theory + Univalence Axiom

Homotopy Levels

Type X is

- a set if it satisfies Uniqueness of Identity Proofs
- a **groupoid** if a = b is a set for any a, b : X

Univalence Axiom

$$(X = Y) \simeq (X \simeq Y)$$

Two Category Theories

Definition

A category C consists of

- 1. a type of objects C_o
- 2. a family of **sets** C(a,b) for objects $a,b:C_0$
- 3. composition, identity

C is called

- **set category** if **C**_o is a set
- univalent category if $(a = b) \simeq (a \cong b)$

Lemma

In a univalent category, the type of objects is a groupoid.

Set Category Theory vs Univalent Category Theory

Set Category Theory

Constructions are invariant under isomorphism of categories

$$(C = D) \simeq (C \cong D)$$

- Examples
 - Finite categories
 - Categories built from syntax

Univalent Category Theory

• Constructions are invariant under equivalence of categories

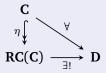
$$(C = D) \simeq (C \simeq D)$$

- Examples
 - Category of sets, of groups, of rings, of set categories, ...
 - Functor category, if target category is univalent

The Rezk Completion

Theorem (Ahrens, Kapulkin, Shulman)

For any category C, there is a univalent category RC(C) and $\eta: C \to RC(C)$ such that any functor $F: C \to D$ with D univalent factors uniquely via η .

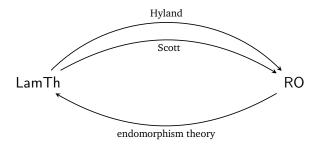


Provides a systematic way to turn a (set) category into a univalent one.

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Lambda Theories and Reflexive Objects



Remarks

- Constructions are taken from Hyland's "Classical Lambda Calculus in Modern Dress"
- Translation into univalent foundations mostly straightforward
- Relating Scott's and Hyland's constructions is our work

Lambda Theories

Definition (Algebraic Theory)

terms sets L_n variables $x_{n,i}: L_n$ substitution $(\bullet): L_m \times L_n^m \to L_n$ laws $x_i \bullet g = g_i, \quad f \bullet (x_{l,i})_i = f$ and $(f \bullet g) \bullet h = f \bullet (g_i \bullet h)_i$

Definition (Lambda Theory)

algebraic theory L abstraction $\lambda_n: L_{n+1} \to L_n$ application $\rho_n: L_n \to L_{n+1}$ laws $\lambda_m(f) \bullet h = \lambda_n(f \bullet ((\iota_{n,1}(h_i))_i + (x_{n+1})))$ $\rho_n(g \bullet h) = \rho_m(g) \bullet ((\iota_{n,1}(h_i))_i + (x_{n+1}))$ β -equality $\rho_n \circ \lambda_n = \operatorname{id}_{L_n}$

Endomorphism Theory of a Reflexive Object

Definition

Let $(X, \lambda : X^X \to X, \rho : X \to X^X)$ be a reflexive object in a Cartesian closed category **C**.

The **endomorphism theory** E(X) of X is the lambda theory given by

```
terms E(X)_n := \mathbf{C}(X^n, X)

variables x_{n,i} : X^n \to X

substitution f : X^m \to X and g_1, \dots, g_m : X^n \to X yield substitution f \circ \langle g_i \rangle_i : X^n \to X

abstraction using \lambda

application using \rho
```

Interpretation à la Scott

$$\mathsf{LamTh} \overset{\mathsf{Scott}}{\underset{E}{\longleftrightarrow}} \mathsf{RO}$$

Sketch of Scott's construction: given lambda theory *L*

- Build a category from L_0 (terms in empty context): objects $A: L_0$ such that $A \circ A = A$ morphisms $f: A \to B$ is $f: L_0$ such that $B \circ f \circ A = f$
- This category is Cartesian closed.
- The object $\lambda x.x$ is a reflexive object in this category.
- $E(\operatorname{Scott}(L)) \cong L$

Interpretation à la Hyland

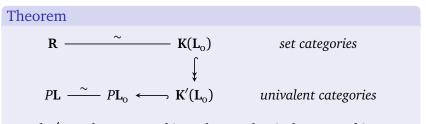
$$\mathsf{LamTh} \overset{\mathsf{Hyland}}{\underset{E}{\longleftrightarrow}} \mathsf{RO}$$

Sketch of Hyland's construction: given lambda theory *L*

- Consider the category of presheaves over the Lawvere theory induced by *L*.
- This category is Cartesian closed.
- The "theory presheaf" induced by *L* is a reflexive object in this category.
- $E(Hyland(L)) \cong L$

Relation Between Scott's and Hyland's Construction

	Scott	Hyland
Category	R	P L
Objects	Terms A s.t. $A \circ A = A$	Functors from L ^{op} to SET
Reflexive object	$\lambda x.x$	Theory presheaf
3		1 4 1



K and K' are the set Karoubi envelope and univalent Karoubi envelope, respectively, and $K(L_o) \hookrightarrow K'(L_o)$ is the Rezk completion.

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Challenge: Rewriting Lambda Terms

Challenge

- Scott's construction involves reasoning about elements of a lambda theory
- Manual rewriting is tedious
- Automation is avoided in UniMath

Solution

An automated tactic propagate_subst that produces a proof script with a sequence of refine tactics.

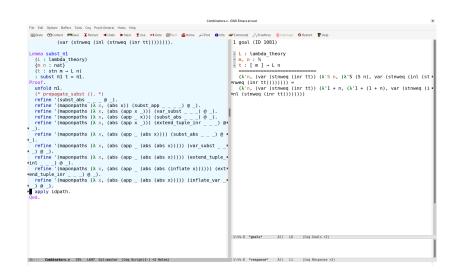
Preparing the Goal

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                                                                               1 goal (ID 761)
    intro i:
    exact (extend tuple inl ).
Oed.
                                                                                L : lambda theory
                                                                                - m. n : N
(** * 5. Pair projections *)
                                                                                - t : [ m ] → L n
                                                                                  -----
Definition π1
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 {L : lambda theory}
                                                                               *nl (stnweg (inr tt))))))) * t =
                                                                                  (\lambda'n, (var (stnweg (inr tt)) (\lambda'1 + n, (\lambda'1 + (1 + n), var (stnweg (i
  {n : nat}
  : Ln
                                                                               snl (stnweg (inr tt)))))))
  := abs
    (app
      (var (stnweg (inr tt)))
      (abs
        (abs
           (var (stnweg (inl (stnweg (inr tt))))))),
Lemma subst π1
  (L : lambda theory)
  {m n : nat}
  (t : stn m → L n)
  : subst π1 t = π1.
Proof.
  unfold ml.
                                                                                U:%-D *goals* All L8 (Coq Goals +2)
U:**- Combinators.v 33% L686 Git-master (Cog Script(1-) +2 Holes)
                                                                               | U:%-D *response* All L1 (Cog Response +1)
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Running the Tactic

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                                                                                                                                                                    1 goal (ID 2340)
         intro i:
        exact (extend tuple inl ).
Oed.
                                                                                                                                                                       - L : lambda theory
                                                                                                                                                                       - m. n : N
(** * 5. Pair projections *)
                                                                                                                                                                      - t : [ m ] → L n
                                                                                                                                                                           -----
Definition ml
                                                                                                                                                                           (λ'n, (var (stnweg (inr tt)) (λ'S n, (λ'S (S n), var (stnweg (inl (st
    {L : lambda theory}
                                                                                                                                                                    *nweg (inr tt)))))) =
    {n : nat}
                                                                                                                                                                           (λ'n, (var (stnweg (inr tt)) (λ'S n, (λ'S (S n), var (stnweg (inl (st
    : Ln
                                                                                                                                                                    *nweq (inr tt)))))))
    := abs
         (app
              (var (stnweg (inr tt)))
             (abs
                 (abs
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Proof.
    unfold ml.
    propagate subst ().
                                                                                                                                                                      U:%%-D *goals* All L8 (Cog Goals +2)
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                                                                                                                                                                      refine '(maponpaths (λ x, (abs x)) (subst app
                                                                                                                                                                       refine '(maponpaths (λ x, (abs (app x _))) (var_subst _ _ _) @ _).
                                                                                                                                                                       refine '(maponpaths (λ x, (abs (app x))) (subst abs ) @ ).
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U:**- Combinators.v 33% L686 Git-master (Cog Script(1-) +2 Holes)
                                                                                                                                                                      U:%-D *response* All L10 (Cog Response +2)
```

Replacing the Tactic with the Generated Proof Script



An Extensible Tactic for Rewriting

Benefits

fast Sequence of refine tactics runs in a fraction of the time that proof search takes

modular Built from tactics, e.g., generic traversal of terms

extensible Can add more language constructions and equations governing their behavior after initial setup

generalizable A variant has been applied in domain of hyperdoctrines

Things to Improve

usage Awkward copy-pasting not complete Not all goals are solved entirely

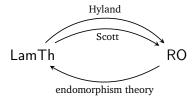
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About the Formalization

- Integrated into UniMath, a library of univalent mathematics
- > 11,000 loc, for instance:
 - Basic categories involved in Scott's and Hyland's constructions (3,000)
 - Reasoning about lambda terms (3,000)
 - Karoubi envelope (2,000)
 - Examples of algebraic theories (1,000)
 - Diagram relating different constructions (1,000)
 - . . .
- Use of displayed categories for building complicated categories layer-wise

Summary



Intuition of difference between Scott and Hyland,

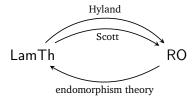
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A tactic for rewriting

Thanks for your attention!