



Worksheet 8 (Solved)

HoTTEST Summer School 2022

The HoTTEST TAs

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1 (★)

Let A and B be types.

1. Suppose that both A and B are propositions. Prove that $A + B$ is a proposition if and only if $A \rightarrow \neg B$.
2. Let $k : \mathbb{T}$. Suppose that both A and B are $(k + 2)$ -types. Prove that $A + B$ is a $(k + 2)$ -type.

1. Suppose that $A + B$ is a proposition. Let $a : A$ and $b : B$. We have that $\text{inl}(a) = \text{inr}(b)$, which gives us an element of \emptyset .

Conversely, suppose that $A \rightarrow \neg B$. By double induction on $A + B$, we have that $s = t$ for all $s, t : A + B$ because both A and B are propositions.

2. We want to prove that for all $s, t : A + B$, the type $s = t$ is a $(k + 1)$ -type. By induction on $A + B$, it suffices to show that each of

$$\text{inl}(a) = \text{inl}(a')$$

$$\text{inr}(b) = \text{inr}(b')$$

$$\text{inl}(a) = \text{inr}(b)$$

$$\text{inr}(b) = \text{inl}(a)$$

is a $(k + 1)$ -type. The first two types are $(k + 1)$ -truncated because both A and B are $(k + 2)$ -truncated. The last two types are $(k + 1)$ -truncated because the empty type is.

2 (★★)

Let \mathcal{U} be a universe and A be a type. Consider a partial order

$$_ \leq _ : A \rightarrow A \rightarrow \text{Prop}_{\mathcal{U}}$$

on A . Prove that A is a set.

It suffices to find a reflexive binary relation

$$R : A \rightarrow A \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

on A such that for all $x, y : A$,

- **$R(x, y)$ is a proposition and**
- **$R(x, y) \rightarrow (x = y)$.**

Take

$$R(x, y) := (x \leq y) \times (y \leq x).$$

Then R is reflexive because \leq is reflexive. Also, since the Cartesian product of two propositions is again a proposition, we see that $R(x, y)$ is a proposition. Finally, since \leq is anti-symmetric, we have a map $R(x, y) \rightarrow (x = y)$.

3 (★★)

1. Let A be a type and B a set. Suppose that $f : A \rightarrow B$ is an injection in the sense that it has a term

$$c : \prod_{x,y:A} (f(x) = f(y)) \rightarrow (x = y).$$

Prove that f is an embedding, so that A is a set.

2. Prove that the function $n \mapsto m + n$ is an embedding for every $m : \mathbb{N}$. Here, addition is defined by recursion on the *first* argument.

Conclude that

$$(m \leq n) \simeq \sum_{k:\mathbb{N}} m + k = n$$

for every $m, n : \mathbb{N}$.

1. For every $x, y : A$, the map $c_{x,y}$ is a section of $\text{ap}_f(x, y)$ because the codomain $f(x) = f(y)$ of the latter is a proposition. Hence f is an embedding.
2. To see that $n \mapsto m + n$ is an embedding, proceed by induction on \mathbb{N} . The base case amounts to proving that $\text{id}_{\mathbb{N}}$ is an embedding, which is clear. For the induction step, form a commuting diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \text{Eq}_{\mathbb{N}}(m+x, m+y) & & \\
 & \nearrow \simeq & & \nwarrow \simeq & \\
 m+x = m+y & \xrightarrow{\text{ap}_S(m+x, m+y)} & S(m+x) = S(m+y) & & \\
 & \nwarrow \text{ap}_{n \mapsto m+n}(x, y) & & \nearrow \text{ap}_{n \mapsto S(m)+n}(x, y) & \\
 & & x = y & &
 \end{array}$$

for each $x, y : \mathbb{N}$. By three-for-two together with our induction hypothesis, we deduce that $\text{ap}_{n \mapsto S(m)+n}(x, y)$ is an equivalence.

It follows that

$$\text{fib}_{j \mapsto m+j}(n) \doteq \sum_{k:\mathbb{N}} m + k = n$$

is a proposition for every $m, n : \mathbb{N}$. Further, it's easy to check that $m \leq n$ is a proposition by double induction on \mathbb{N} . It's also easy to check that

$$(m \leq n) \leftrightarrow \sum_{k:\mathbb{N}} m + k = n$$

by double induction on \mathbb{N} . This is a logical equivalence of propositions, which gives us an equivalence of types.

4 (★)

Let A and B be types. Prove that the following are logically equivalent.

- Both A and B are contractible.
- The product $A \times B$ is contractible.

Suppose that both A and B are contractible with centers of contraction a_0 and b_0 , respectively. By our characterization of identity types of Σ -types, it's easy to check that $A \times B$ is contractible with center of contraction (a_0, b_0) .

Conversely, suppose that $A \times B$ is contractible with center of contraction s . Note that for every $b : B$,

$$(s = (\text{pr}_1(s), b)) \rightarrow (\text{pr}_2(s) = b) .$$

Thus, B is contractible with center of contraction $\text{pr}_2(s)$. Similarly, A is contractible with center of contraction $\text{pr}_1(s)$.

5 $(\star \star \star)$

Let A be a type and $a : A$. We say that a is an *isolated point* of A if it has a term

$$\tau : \prod_{x:A} (a = x) + (a \neq x).$$

Suppose that a is isolated. Prove that $a = x$ is a proposition for all $x : A$. Conclude that $\text{const}_a : \mathbb{1} \rightarrow A$ is an embedding.

To begin, define four functions

$$B : \prod_{x:A} ((a = x) + (a \neq x)) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_0$$

$$B(x, \text{inl}(p)) := \mathbb{1}$$

$$B(x, \text{inr}(q)) := \emptyset$$

$$f : \prod_{d:(a=a)+(a \neq a)} \sum_{z:a=a} \text{inl}(z) = d$$

$$f(\text{inl}(p)) := (p, \text{refl}_{\text{inl}(p)})$$

$$f(\text{inr}(q)) := \text{ind}_{\emptyset}(q(\text{refl}_a))$$

$$\varphi : \prod_{x:A} (a = x) \rightarrow B(x, \tau(x))$$

$$\varphi_a(\text{refl}_a) := \text{tr}_{B(a,-)}(\text{pr}_2(f(\tau_a)), *)$$

$$\psi : \prod_{x:A} \prod_{d:(a=x)+(a \neq x)} B(x, d) \rightarrow (a = x)$$

$$\psi_x(\text{inl}(p), b) := p$$

$$\psi_x(\text{inr}(q), b) := \text{ind}_{\emptyset}(b).$$

Now, we want to prove that the total space

$$\sum_{x:A} B(x, \tau(x))$$

is contractible with center $(a, \varphi_a(\text{refl}_a))$. It's easy to check that $B(x, t)$ is a proposition for all $x : A$ and $t : (a = x) + (a \neq x)$. Moreover, for every $(x, b) : \sum_{x:A} B(x, \tau(x))$, we have a term $\psi_{x, \tau_x}(b) : a = x$. This implies that $(a, \varphi_a(\text{refl}_a)) = (x, b)$.

By the fundamental theorem of identity types, it follows that φ is a family of equivalences, so that $a = x$ is a proposition for every $x : A$.

Finally, for each $x : A$, the fiber of const_a over x is equivalent to $a = x$ and thus is a proposition. It follows that const_a is an embedding.