

Type Theory à la Mode

Dependent Type Theory with Multiple Modes and Modalities

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Abstract

We introduce MTT, a dependent type theory which supports multiple modalities. MTT is parameterized by a mode theory which specifies a collection of modes, modalities, and transformations between them. We show that different choices of mode theory allow us to use the same type theory to compute and reason in many modal situations, including guarded recursion, axiomatic cohesion, and parametric quantification. We reproduce examples from prior work in guarded recursion and axiomatic cohesion — demonstrating that MTT constitutes a simple and usable syntax whose instantiations intuitively correspond to previous handcrafted modal type theories. In some cases, instantiating MTT to a particular situation unearths a previously unknown type theory that improves upon prior systems. Finally, we investigate the metatheory of MTT. We prove the consistency of MTT and establish canonicity through an extension of recent type-theoretic gluing techniques. These results hold irrespective of the choice of mode theory, and thus apply to a wide variety of modal situations.

1 The Syntax and Semantics of MTT

Nothing is more arbitrary than a modal logic: “I am done with this logic, may I have another one ?” seems to be the motto of modal logicians.

Jean-Yves Girard
The Blind Spot

The objective of this work is to define and study a *multimode* and *multimodal* dependent type theory.

By ‘multimode’ we mean that each type and term of this type theory can be thought of as being in a particular *mode*. The modes of this type theory may share some common structure—for example, we may be able to form dependent sums in all modes—but some may have their own unique features. In semantic terms, *different modes correspond to different categories*.

Once we have established multiple modes, our type theory will allow us to relate them. In other words, the type theory will feature emergent *modal* behaviour. The various relations between different modes will be known as *modalities*. As we have already taken care to admit multiple modes in our theory, nothing will stop us from admitting multiple modalities between any two such modes. In that sense, this type theory will be not just multimode, but also *multimodal*. For the purposes of this work, we will limit ourselves to simple relations between modes, namely relations of a functional nature. In semantic terms, *our modalities will be functors* with specific properties.

In the past few years there has been considerable interest in and demand for such a type theory. A special workshop on [Geometry in Modal Homotopy Type Theory](#) took place in Pittsburgh during March 2019, and the HoTTTEST seminar by Licata [Lic19] nicely surveys a number of candidate applications that would be enabled by the existence of such a type theory. Already in the literature, there are numerous extensions of type theory based around modalities. For example, modalities have been used to express guarded recursive definitions [Bir+12; Biz+16; BGM17], to internalize parametricity arguments and quantification [NVD17; ND18], to capture proof irrelevance [Pfe01; AS12; ND18], and to define global operations on types and terms (cf. slice-wise) [Lic+18]. There has also been a concerted effort to construct a dependent type theory corresponding to Lawvere’s *axiomatic cohesion* [Law07], which has many interesting applications [Sch13; SS14; Shu18; Gro+17; Kav19].

Despite this recent flurry of developments, a unifying account of modal dependent type theory has yet to emerge. Faced with a new modal situation, the type theorist must handweave a brand new system, and then prove the usual battery of metatheorems. This introduces formidable difficulties on two levels. First, an increasing number of these applications are *multimodal*: they involve multiple interacting modalities, which significantly complicates the design of the appropriate judgmental structure. Second, the technical development of each such system is entirely separate from the others, so it is impossible to share the burden of proof—even between very closely related systems. To take a recent example, there is no easy way to transfer the work done in the 80-page-long normalization proof for MLTT_♯ [GSB19] to a normalization proof for the modal dependent type theory of Birkedal et al. [Bir+18], even though

these systems are only marginally different. Put simply, if one wished to prove that type-checking is decidable for the latter, then one would have to start afresh.

In order to resolve this situation we will follow a different approach. Rather than designing a new dependent type theory for some preordained set of modalities, we will *parameterize* our system by a *mode theory*, i.e. an algebraic specification of a modal situation. The result, which we call MTT, solves both problems at once. First, by instantiating it with different mode theories we will show that MTT can capture a wide class of situations. Some of these, e.g. the one for guarded recursion, leads to a simpler, previously unknown system. Second, the predictable behavior of our rules allows us to prove metatheoretic results—e.g. canonicity—in a way that does not depend on the mode theory. As a result, we only need to prove such results *once*. Returning to the previous example, a careful choice of mode theory yields systems that intuitively correspond to both the calculi of Birkedal et al. [Bir+18] and MLTT_μ [GSB19], so that our single proof of canonicity applies to both.

The work that is closest in spirit to ours is the dependently-typed extension of the Licata-Shulman-Riley (LSR) framework [LSR17]. As of January 2020, this work remains unpublished. Our approach is not as complex as that of *op. cit.* as we have consciously chosen to make our type theory cartesian (i.e. admitting weakening and contraction). This puts us at odds with the goals of the LSR framework, which is meant to encompass linear dependent type theories, with a view to many interesting applications in synthetic homotopy theory. Our decision to remain cartesian puts these examples out of reach. However, we remain practically-minded: we will see in §2 that most of our motivating examples—which largely arise from applications in programming languages—have an intuitive and elegant formulation in our setting.

1.1 Syntax of MTT

We now introduce the syntax of our multimode type theory, MTT, which is a type theory in the style of Martin-Löf. In the interest of conveying the intuitions without becoming overly formal, our description will be in terms of an informal, variable-based syntax, as is common for type theories in the style of Martin-Löf. In [Section 1.2](#) we present the theory formally using *algebraic syntax*, which greatly simplifies the proof of a number of metatheoretic and semantic results.

1.1.1 Informal Syntax

The salient difference between MTT and ordinary Martin-Löf type theory is that the judgments of MTT (contexts, types, and terms) are parameterised by a *mode*. In semantic terms, each mode represents a distinct category. In order to capture the allowed modes we define our judgments parametrically in a small 2-category \mathcal{M} . This category is referred to as the *mode theory* [[Ree09](#); [LS16](#); [LSR17](#)], and it axiomatizes the modalities in scope as well as their interactions. We refer to the objects of \mathcal{M} as *modes*, and to the morphisms between them as *modalities*. In [§](#) we show how we may obtain previously studied modal idioms through a careful choice of mode theory.

Returning to judgments, we will for example write

$$\Gamma \vdash M : A @ m$$

for a term M of type A , in context Γ , at mode $m \in \mathcal{M}$. Many of the usual rules (e.g. those for Σ -types) will be parametric in m . Others, such as the rule for Π -types, will interact in a more intricate manner with the mode. Finally, the modal rules of the type theory will exactly describe the various ways of moving between the different modes.

The ways of moving between different modes are often called *modalities*. In our setting, modalities are specified by the morphisms of the 2-category \mathcal{M} , for which we will write $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$ or $\mu : m \rightarrow n$. Each such morphism introduces a *contravariant functorial action* on contexts. That is: we are allowed to push a context backwards along a modality, which results in an ‘image’ of it in another mode. We notate this functorial action by a *lock*, which is introduced by the rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)}{\Gamma, \mathbf{\mu}_{\mu} \text{ ctx } @ m}$$

The functoriality of this action will be enforced by equalities such as $\Gamma, \mathbf{\mu}_{\nu}, \mathbf{\mu}_{\mu} = \Gamma, \mathbf{\mu}_{\nu \circ \mu} \text{ ctx } @ m$ whenever μ and ν are composable.

The first serious departure from the usual Martin-Löf style occurs in the context extension rule, which encapsulates the idea that *each assumption in the context comes under a modality*. We signify that by writing $x : (\mu \mid A)$ in place of the usual $x : A$. Thus, before extending a context $\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ n$ we need to make sure that the type A by which it is to be extended exists under some modality $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$. That is: A must be a type in mode m . Yet, A must also be a type in context Γ , which is in the wrong mode. To resolve this issue we use the image of Γ under the lock, which lives in the correct mode. These considerations lead to the context extension rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n) \quad \Gamma, \mathbf{\mu}_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type } @ m}{\Gamma, x : (\mu \mid A) \text{ ctx } @ n}$$

This change in the structure of contexts necessitates a change in the *variable rule*. The variable rule is what allows us to use the assumptions found in a context. Recalling that our assumptions are now all modal, it is evident that the variable rule is the central device that generates modal behaviour in our system. Its usual form stipulates that, given a context $\Gamma_0, x : A, \Gamma_1 \text{ ctx}$, we may ‘project’ the assumption $x : A$ to obtain the term $\Gamma_0, x : A, \Gamma_1 \vdash x : A$. This rule is certainly not valid in our system:

given $\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \Gamma_1 \text{ ctx } @ n$, the assumption $x : (\mu \mid A)$ is available under the modality μ , i.e. in the wrong mode, or—equivalently—in a different category.

In order to account for this modal structure, therefore, we give a more refined definition of the variable rule. For the sake of simplicity, suppose that Γ_1 is empty. If $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$, we may construct the context $\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \blacksquare_\mu \text{ ctx } @ m$. This context is at mode m , and it is thus not unreasonable to ask that our variable rule should at the very least allow the inference

$$\frac{\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \blacksquare_\mu \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \blacksquare_\mu \vdash x : A @ m} \quad (1.1)$$

Those familiar with type theories with a comonadic modality might notice that this has the flavour of a *counit* for the comonad generated by a ‘left adjoint’ $-, \blacksquare_\mu$ and a ‘right adjoint’ $(\mu \mid -)$ (but not quite, as those two act on distinct sorts, viz. contexts and types respectively).

However, this is not the full extent of the expressive power we have at our disposal. Recall that the 2-category \mathcal{M} is also equipped with 2-cells, i.e. transformations $\alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu$ between modalities. If each modality $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$ introduces a (contravariant) functorial action $-, \blacksquare_\mu$ from contexts at n to contexts at m , then surely each 2-cell $\alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu$ should (contravariantly) generate a natural transformation from the action $-, \blacksquare_\nu$ to the action $-, \blacksquare_\mu$.¹ Thus, as long as a natural transformation $\alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu$ allows us to adjust a lock to be $-, \blacksquare_\nu$ we should still be able to extract a variable that is available under μ . To wit, our variable rule should allow the inference

$$\frac{\mu, \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n) \quad \alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu}{\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \blacksquare_\nu \vdash x^\alpha : A^\alpha @ m} \quad (1.2)$$

Notice that α has now appeared as a superscript of both the variable x^α and the type A^α . In the first case, α becomes part of the syntax: each variable should come annotated with a rule that indicates which natural transformation allowed us to extricate it from the context. The second case is slightly more complicated. Recall that $\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \blacksquare_\mu \text{ ctx } @ m$ presupposes that $\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{ type } @ m$, and hence that—modulo weakening under the lock— A is indeed in the right context in (1.1). However, in (1.2) we must use the 2-cell α to somehow “act on A ” in order to bring it to the correct context $\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_\nu$, which we can then silently weaken to $\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \blacksquare_\nu$. As types depend on terms, we must define the action of α on a term as well. The good news is that—much like substitution—this metatheoretic action is admissible.

We have thus identified three principles that should be encapsulated by the variable rule:

1. The ability to use a variable depends on what appears *to the right of it* in the context, i.e. it depends on the presence of a suitable lock.
2. The 2-cells express in which way we may *strengthen* locks in order to make them exactly match the pattern $x : (\mu \mid A), \blacksquare_\mu$, in which case we can use the variable.
3. Some additional context weakening needs to be built into the rule.

These guiding principles bring us to the final version. We first define a function that gathers the modalities from all the locks that appear in a telescope. This function is defined by the following clauses:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{locks}(\cdot) &\triangleq 1 \\ \text{locks}(\Gamma, x : (\mu \mid A)) &\triangleq \text{locks}(\Gamma) \\ \text{locks}(\Gamma, \blacksquare_\mu) &\triangleq \text{locks}(\Gamma) \circ \mu \end{aligned}$$

The variable rule then is

$$\frac{\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \Gamma_1 \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \text{locks}(\Gamma_1)}{\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \Gamma_1 \vdash x^\alpha : A^\alpha @ m} \quad (1.3)$$

¹The reason for this double (‘coop’) contravariance will become evident when we discuss the categorical semantics of this type theory in Section 1.4. For now, we just point out that it is in line with thinking of the lock as a left adjoint to the actual modality.

In short: we gather the modalities under which Γ_1 locks the context that precedes it, and we look for a 2-cell that witnesses the fact that μ is strong enough to slide past these locks.

In many examples it will be the case that $\mu = \text{locks}(\Gamma_1)$, and we wish to pick $\alpha = 1$ in order to access the variable. In these cases we will elide the subscript entirely and simply write x . In particular, this means that when accessing a variable modified by 1 and behind no locks we can simply write x .

Remark 1.1.1 (The operation $(-)^{\alpha}$). Even though our formal study will be of the algebraic syntax of [Section 1.2](#), we provide a brief description of how to define, for $\alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu$, the admissible operation

$$\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type @ } m \longmapsto \Gamma_0, \blacksquare_{\nu} \vdash A^{\alpha} \text{ type @ } m$$

As types depend on terms, we also need a similar operation which maps a term $\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M : A @ m$ to a term $\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_{\nu} \vdash M^{\alpha} : A^{\alpha} @ m$. Intuitively, the operation $(-)^{\alpha}$ must whisker appropriately the 2-cell β occurring as part of each variable occurrence x^{β} in M . However, the 2-cell by which it must be whiskered depends on the structure of the context Γ_0 , and becomes more complicated as we recur down the typing derivation for M .

The clearest way to account for this is to define a finite map $\sigma(\Gamma_0, \alpha)$ from variables of Γ_0 to 2-cells by induction on Γ_0 . This map keeps a record of which variable we must whisker by which 2-cell. It is given by the clauses

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\cdot, \alpha) &= \emptyset \\ \sigma(\Gamma, x : (\mu \mid A), \alpha) &= \sigma(\Gamma, \alpha) \cup \{x \mapsto \alpha\} \\ \sigma(\Gamma, \blacksquare_{\mu}, \alpha) &= \sigma(\Gamma, 1_{\mu} \star \alpha) \end{aligned}$$

As we recur past locks in Γ_0 the 2-cell by which we whisker is adjusted, in order to ensure that it has the right boundary. We then define² this admissible operation as follows:

$$A^{\alpha} \triangleq A^{\sigma(\Gamma_0, \alpha)} \qquad M^{\alpha} \triangleq M^{\sigma(\Gamma_0, \alpha)}$$

It remains to define the action A^{σ} and M^{σ} of such a finite map σ on a term A and a type M respectively. For now, we define this just on variables:

$$(x^{\beta})^{\sigma} \triangleq x^{\sigma(x) \circ \beta}$$

We will later extend this to all the type formers we introduce. We will take care so that this extension always satisfies that $\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash x^{\beta} : A^{\beta}$ implies $\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_{\nu} \vdash x^{\sigma(\Gamma_0, \alpha)(x) \circ \beta} : A^{\sigma(\Gamma_0, \alpha)(x) \circ \beta}$.

This operation suffices to yield the full one of (1.3): we can perform a series of silent context conversion steps where we decompose the lock in $\Gamma_0, \blacksquare_{\text{locks}(\Gamma_1)}$ into the locks from which the composition $\text{locks}(\Gamma_1)$ originated, followed by a number of silent weakenings under the appropriate locks. \triangleleft

Our type theory will also have Π -types. These will follow the structure of our context assumptions, which have been altered to include a modality. The formation rule reflects this fact:

$$\frac{\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type @ } n \quad \Gamma, x : (\mu \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type @ } m}{\Gamma \vdash (x : (\mu \mid A)) \rightarrow B \text{ type @ } m}$$

This rule encodes the idea that the variable $x : (\mu \mid A)$ in terms of which B is given is abstracted along with the modality μ . Thus our dependent function spaces are modal. Of course, the usual MLTT function space is recovered by taking $\mu = 1$.

²Note that if $\rho \circ \mu = \mu$ and $\rho \circ \nu = \nu$, and $\Gamma, \blacksquare_{\rho}, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type @ } m$ then A^{α} could be interpreted as either $A^{\sigma(\Gamma, \alpha)}$ or $A^{\sigma((\Gamma, \blacksquare_{\rho}), \alpha)}$. These are not equivalent in general, and so it is necessary to specify Γ_0 .

The introduction rule is predictable: to introduce a function, we λ -abstract:

$$\frac{\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma, x : (\mu \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type } @ m \quad \Gamma, x : (\mu \mid A) \vdash M : B @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. M : (\mu \mid A) \rightarrow B @ m}$$

More crucially, we may only apply functions to arguments that are available in the right mode. The elimination rule is:

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : (\mu \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type } @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \vdash M : (x : (\mu \mid A)) \rightarrow B @ m \quad \Gamma, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash N : A @ n}{\Gamma \vdash M(N) : B[N/x] @ m}$$

Remark 1.1.2 (The operation $(-)^{\alpha}$ on Π -types). We define

$$((x : (\mu \mid A)) \rightarrow B)^{\sigma} = (x : (\mu \mid A^{\sigma'})) \rightarrow B^{\sigma \cup \{x \mapsto 1\}} \quad \text{where } \sigma'(x) = \sigma(x) \star 1_{\mu} \quad \triangleleft$$

Finally, we reify the modalities as operators on types. The introduction rule turns a lock $-, \blacksquare_{\mu}$ into a unary operator on types, which we write as $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$:

$$\frac{\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M : A @ n}{\Gamma \vdash \text{mod}_{\mu}(M) : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle @ m}$$

It is thus evident that $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$ demonstrates behaviour akin to that of a ‘right adjoint’ to $-, \blacksquare_{\mu}$.

The elimination rule is somewhat more complicated. The fundamental intuition is the following: if we have a term $M : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle$, we should be able to substitute it for an assumption of the form $v : (\nu \mid A)$. That is, we should be able to open $\langle \nu \mid A \rangle$ into a variable available under the modality ν . Hence, our elimination rule should have a *positive* flavour, and should moreover admit the inference

$$\frac{\nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \quad \Gamma \vdash M_0 : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle @ n \quad \Gamma, x : (1 \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \vdash B \text{ type } @ n \quad \Gamma, v : (\nu \mid A) \vdash M_1 : B[\text{mod}_{\nu}(v)/x] @ n}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let mod}_{\nu}(v) \leftarrow M_0 \text{ in } M_1 : B[M_0/x] @ n}$$

Notice how the variable x in the motive B is replaced by the modal version of v . This rule encapsulates a form of *modal induction*, viz. that every variable $x : (1 \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle)$ can be assumed to be of the form $\text{mod}_{\nu}(v)$ for some $v : (\nu \mid A)$.

From this point, we only require a small generalisation to reach the final version of the rule. This generalisation is needed to deal with the case where the variable x in the motive B type is not under the identity modality $1 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, n)$, but under a further level of indirection, i.e. a general modality $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)$. In that case, we may absorb the additional modality by using composition in the 2-category \mathcal{M} :

$$\frac{\nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma, \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M_0 : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle @ n \quad \Gamma, x : (\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \vdash B \text{ type } @ m \quad \Gamma, v : (\mu \circ \nu \mid A) \vdash M_1 : B[\text{mod}_{\nu}(v)/x] @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let}_{\mu} \text{mod}_{\nu}(x) \leftarrow M_0 \text{ in } M_1 : B[M_0/x] @ m}$$

Remark 1.1.3 (The operation $(-)^{\alpha}$ on modal types). We define

$$\langle \mu \mid A \rangle^{\sigma} = \langle \mu \mid A^{\sigma'} \rangle \quad \text{where } \sigma'(x) = \sigma(x) \star 1_{\mu} \quad \triangleleft$$

The type theory also includes Σ -types (in negative/projection style), as well as Id-types. However, these are given parametrically in the mode m . In the particular case of the Id-eliminator, J, we simply ensure the assumptions $x : (1 \mid A), y : (1 \mid A), p : (1 \mid \text{Id}_A(x, y))$ are all given under the modality 1.

1.2 Algebraic Syntax

In order to introduce MTT with rigorously we present it as *algebraic syntax* [Car78; Tay99; KKA19]. This is to say that we write out a specification of our type theory in the language of *generalized algebraic theories*. This approach offers a number of technical advantages:

1. We absolve ourselves from having to prove tedious syntactic metatheorems, e.g. admissibility of substitution.
2. We automatically obtain a notion of *model* of our theory, which is given in entirely algebraic terms.
3. In addition to a definition of model, We also automatically obtain a notion of *homomorphism of models*. This might be rather strict and not fit for every purpose, but it does subsume the *semantic interpretation map* (see next points).
4. We automatically obtain an *initial model* for the algebraic theory, which we consider as our main formal object of study.
5. The unique morphism of models from this initial model to any other is the *semantic interpretation map*. We then have no need to explicitly describe these semantic maps and prove that they are well-defined on non-unique derivations, as done in e.g. [Hof97].

Amongst other things, the theorems proven in the aforementioned works imply all of the above points.

While this approach is straightforward and uncluttered, some readers might object to the lack of a more traditional formulation, e.g. a traditional *named syntax* with variables and a substitution operation, like the one we informally presented in Section 1.1. We believe that it is indeed possible to define such a syntax and systematically show how to *elaborate* its terms to the algebraic syntax. Such a named syntax would however not be suitable for implementation.

For implementation purposes, an entirely different *algorithmic syntax* would have to be formulated, with a view towards implementation from the first. We believe that such a syntax can be constructed as an extension of existing *bidirectional* presentations of type theory [Coq96; PT00] as has been done for existing modal calculi [GSB19]. Such a bidirectional presentation would be a midpoint between the maximally annotated algebraic syntax we present here and the more typical unannotated named syntax from Section 1.1; it would contain only a select few annotations to ensure the decidability of typechecking while maintaining readability.

The development of an algorithmic syntax and the proof of its decidability is a substantial endeavor (requiring a proof of normalization) and it is orthogonal to the foundational metatheory of MTT that we are currently developing. We therefore leave the construction of the algorithmic syntax for future work. Moreover, we refrain from developing a formal account of a traditional named syntax which would be superseded by such an algorithmic syntax. Instead, we content ourselves with working formally only with the algebraic syntax at present.

The definition of the algebraic syntax begins by defining the different sorts (contexts, types, terms, etc.) that constitute our type theory. In order to support multiple modes, our sorts will be parameterised in modes. Thus, rather than having e.g. a sort of types, we have a sort of types *at mode* $m \in \mathcal{M}$, and likewise for contexts at mode m , terms at mode m , etc.

Moreover, we take care to index our types by *levels*. The reason for doing so is to introduce a hierarchy of sizes, which we can then use to introduce universes. For simplicity, we stratify our types in two levels, drawn from the set $\mathcal{L} = \{0, 1\}$. There are no technical obstacles on the way to a richer hierarchy, but these two suffice for our purposes: we aim to divide our types into *small types* (i.e. those that can be reified in a universe) and *large types* (which also include the universe itself). This allows a simplified treatment of universes *à la Coquand* [Coq13]. In order to enforce cumulativity we will also include an explicit *coercion* operator, which includes small types into large types.

The levelled approach raises an obvious question: on which level should we admit terms, 0 or 1? We could follow the approach of Sterling [Ste19] in allowing terms at all levels. Unfortunately, this formulation requires the introduction of term-level coercions, which bring with them numerous

equations that relate term formers at different levels with the coercions. Thus, for the sake of simplicity we will only allow the formation of terms at large types. Similarly, we will only allow the extension of a context by a large type.

MTT has four sorts, which are introduced by the following rules:

$$\frac{m : \mathcal{M}}{\text{ctx}_m \text{ sort}} \quad \frac{\ell : \mathcal{L} \quad m : \mathcal{M} \quad \Gamma : \text{ctx}_m}{\text{type}_m^\ell(\Gamma) \text{ sort}} \quad \frac{m : \mathcal{M} \quad \Gamma : \text{ctx}_m \quad A : \text{type}_m^1(\Gamma)}{\text{tm}_m(\Gamma, A) \text{ sort}} \quad \frac{m : \mathcal{M} \quad \Gamma, \Delta : \text{ctx}_m}{\text{sb}_m(\Gamma, \Delta) \text{ sort}}$$

In the interest of clarity, we will use the following shorthands to denote elements of these sorts:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m &\triangleq \Gamma : \text{ctx}_m \\ \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_\ell @ m &\triangleq A : \text{type}_m^\ell(\Gamma) \\ \Gamma \vdash M : A @ m &\triangleq M : \text{tm}_m(\Gamma, A) \\ \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m &\triangleq \delta : \text{sb}_m(\Gamma, \Delta) \end{aligned}$$

Even though we will make ample use of this more familiar notation, we will try to adhere to the rigours of algebraic syntax, in particular by carefully avoiding overloading/ambiguity and enforcing presupposition.

The type theory itself is introduced by the following judgments. In the interest of brevity, we elide the following standard rules:

- the “congruence” rules pushing substitutions inside terms and types;
- the congruence rules pushing explicit lifts inside of type formers;
- the associativity and unit laws for the explicit substitutions;
- the β laws for Π , Σ , \mathbb{B} and Id ;
- the η laws for Π and Σ ;

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m} \\[10pt] \frac{}{\cdot \text{ ctx } @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \text{ ctx } @ n} \\[10pt] \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n}{\Gamma. (\mu \mid A) \text{ ctx } @ m} \\[10pt] \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu. \blacksquare_\nu = \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu \circ \nu} \text{ ctx } @ o} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_1 = \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m} \\[10pt] \boxed{\Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m} \\[10pt] \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \cdot : \cdot @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n}{\Gamma. (\mu \mid A) \vdash \uparrow : \Gamma @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{id} : \Gamma @ m} \\[10pt] \frac{\Gamma, \Delta, \Xi \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \gamma : \Delta @ m \quad \Delta \vdash \delta : \Xi @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \delta \circ \gamma : \Xi @ m} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash \delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} : \Delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} @ n} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \mu, \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \alpha : \nu \Rightarrow \mu}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha} : \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\nu} @ n} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M : A[\delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}] @ n}{\Gamma \vdash \delta. M : \Delta. (\mu \mid A) @ m} \\
\\
\boxed{\Gamma \vdash \gamma = \delta : \Delta @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma_0, \Gamma_1 \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \Delta \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \Delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n) \quad \Gamma_0 \vdash \gamma : \Gamma_1 @ n \quad \Gamma_1 \vdash \delta : \Delta @ n \quad \Gamma_1. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M : A[\delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}] @ m}{\Gamma_0 \vdash (\delta. M) \circ \gamma = (\delta \circ \gamma). M[\gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu}] : \Delta. (\mu \mid A) @ n} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \text{ ctx } @ o \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n) \quad \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, o) \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\nu \circ \mu} \vdash \delta. \blacksquare_{\nu \circ \mu} = \delta. \blacksquare_{\nu}. \blacksquare_{\mu} : \Delta. \blacksquare_{\nu \circ \mu} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \delta. \blacksquare_1 = \delta : \Delta @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash \text{id}. \blacksquare_{\mu} = \text{id} : \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, \Delta, \Xi \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n) \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ n \quad \Delta \vdash \xi : \Xi @ n}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash (\xi \circ \delta). \blacksquare_{\mu} = \xi. \blacksquare_{\mu} \circ \delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} : \Xi. \blacksquare_{\mu} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash \text{id} = \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{1_{\mu}} : \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \text{ ctx } @ n \quad \mu, \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n) \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ n \quad \alpha : \nu \Rightarrow \mu}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha} \circ (\delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}) = (\delta. \blacksquare_{\nu}) \circ \mathfrak{Q}_{\Delta}^{\alpha} : \Delta. \blacksquare_{\nu} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_2 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \alpha_0 : \mu_0 \Rightarrow \mu_1 \quad \alpha_1 : \mu_1 \Rightarrow \mu_2}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu_2} \vdash \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_1 \circ \alpha_0} = \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_0} \circ \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_1} : \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu_0} @ n} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \nu_0, \nu_1 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \quad \mu_0, \mu_1 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \beta : \nu_0 \Rightarrow \nu_1 \quad \alpha : \mu_0 \Rightarrow \mu_1}{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu_0 \circ \nu_0} \vdash \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha \star \beta} = \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha}. \blacksquare_{\nu_1} \circ \mathfrak{Q}_{\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu_0}}^{\beta} : \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu_1 \circ \nu_1} @ o} \\
\\
\boxed{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_{\ell} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbb{B} \text{ type}_{\ell} @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbb{U} \text{ type}_1 @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \mathbb{U} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{El}(M) \text{ type}_0 @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\ell \leq \ell' \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_{\ell} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \uparrow A \text{ type}_{\ell'} @ m}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M, N : \uparrow A @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{Id}_A(M, N) \text{type}_\ell @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ n}{\Gamma \vdash \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \text{type}_\ell @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ n \quad \Gamma. (\mu \mid \uparrow A) \vdash B \text{type}_\ell @ m}{\Gamma \vdash (\mu \mid A) \rightarrow B \text{type}_\ell @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ m \quad \Gamma. (1 \mid \uparrow A) \vdash B \text{type}_\ell @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \sum(A, B) \text{type}_\ell @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Delta \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m}{\Gamma \vdash A[\delta] \text{type}_\ell @ m} \\
\\
\boxed{\Gamma \vdash A = B \text{type}_\ell @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma, \Delta \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m \quad \Delta. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ n}{\Gamma \vdash \langle \mu \mid A \rangle[\delta] = \langle \mu \mid A[\delta. \blacksquare_\mu] \rangle \text{type}_\ell @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \uparrow A = A \text{type}_\ell @ m} \qquad \frac{\ell_0 \leq \ell_1 \leq \ell_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_{\ell_0} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \uparrow \uparrow A = \uparrow A \text{type}_{\ell_2} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\mu \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{type}_\ell @ n \quad \Gamma. (\mu \mid \uparrow A) \vdash B \text{type}_\ell @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \uparrow((\mu \mid A) \rightarrow B) = (\mu \mid \uparrow A) \rightarrow \uparrow B \text{type}_{\ell'} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_0 @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{El}(\text{Code}(A)) = A \text{type}_0 @ m} \\
\\
\boxed{\Gamma \vdash M : A @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n) \quad \Gamma \text{ctx} @ n \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{type}_1 @ m}{\Gamma. (\mu \mid A). \blacksquare_\mu \vdash \mathbf{v}_0 : A[\uparrow. \blacksquare_\mu] @ m} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{tt}, \text{ff} : \mathbb{B} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma. (1 \mid \mathbb{B}) \vdash A \text{type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_t : A[\text{id. tt}] @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_f : A[\text{id. ff}] @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash N : \mathbb{B} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if}(A; M_t; M_f; N) : A[\text{id. } N] @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_0 @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{Code}(A) : \mathbb{U} @ m} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M : A @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{refl}(M) : \text{Id}_A(M, M) @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (1 \mid A). (1 \mid A[\uparrow]). (1 \mid \text{Id}_{A[\uparrow^2]}(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_0)) \vdash B \text{type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (1 \mid A) \vdash M : B[\uparrow. \mathbf{v}_0. \mathbf{v}_0. \text{refl}(\mathbf{v}_0)] @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash N_0, N_1 : A @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash P : \text{Id}_A(N_0, N_1) @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{J}(B, M, P) : B[\text{id. } N_0. N_1. P] @ m}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M : A @ n}{\Gamma \vdash \text{mod}_{\mu}(M) : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \\ \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu}. \blacksquare_{\nu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ o \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M_0 : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle @ n \\ \Gamma. (\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (\mu \circ \nu \mid A) \vdash M_1 : B[\uparrow. \text{mod}_{\nu}(\mathbf{v}_0)] @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let}_{\mu} \text{mod}_{\nu}(_) \leftarrow M_0 \text{ in } M_1 : B[\text{id}. M_0] @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \\ \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n \quad \Gamma. (\mu \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (\mu \mid A) \vdash M : B @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda(M) : (\mu \mid A) \rightarrow B @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n \\ \Gamma. (\mu \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_0 : (\mu \mid A) \rightarrow B @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M_1 : A @ n \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash M_0(M_1) : B[\text{id}. M_1] @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \\ \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (1 \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_0 : A @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_1 : B[\text{id}. M_0] @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash (M_0, M_1) : \sum(A, B) @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (1 \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \sum(A, B) @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{pr}_0(M) : A @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \text{pr}_1(M) : B[\text{id}. \text{pr}_0(M)] @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma, \Delta \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Delta \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m \quad \Delta \vdash M : A @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash M[\delta] : A[\delta] @ m} \\
\\
\boxed{\Gamma \vdash M = N : A @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \mathbf{U} @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{Code}(\text{El}(M)) = M : \mathbf{U} @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \\ \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu}. \blacksquare_{\nu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ o \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_{\mu}. \blacksquare_{\nu} \vdash M_0 : A @ o \\ \Gamma. (\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (\mu \circ \nu \mid A) \vdash M_1 : B[\uparrow. \text{mod}_{\mu}(\mathbf{v}_0)] @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let}_{\nu} \text{mod}_{\mu}(_) \leftarrow \text{mod}_{\nu}(M_0) \text{ in } M_1 = M_1[\text{id}. M_0] : B[\text{id}. \text{mod}_{\nu}(M_0)] @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \\ \Delta, \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m \quad \Delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n \quad \Delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M : A @ n \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{mod}_{\mu}(M)[\delta] = \text{mod}_{\mu}(M[\delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}]) : \langle \mu \mid A[\delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}] \rangle @ m} \\
\\
\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \\ \Gamma, \Delta \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash \delta : \Delta @ m \quad \Delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}. \blacksquare_{\nu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ o \quad \Delta. \blacksquare_{\mu} \vdash M_0 : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle @ n \\ \Delta. (\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Delta. (\mu \circ \nu \mid A) \vdash M_1 : B[\uparrow. \text{mod}_{\mu}(\mathbf{v}_0)] @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{let}_{\nu} \text{mod}_{\mu}(_) \leftarrow M_0 \text{ in } M_1)[\delta] = \text{let}_{\nu} \text{mod}_{\mu}(_) \leftarrow M_0[\delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}] \text{ in } M_1[\delta \circ \uparrow. \mathbf{v}_0] : B[\delta. M_0[\delta. \blacksquare_{\mu}]] @ m}
\end{array}$$

Notation 1.2.1. For the sake of readability, when opening a modal term under the modality 1 we will suppress the 1 in the let_1 part of the term, and write $\text{let mod}_{\mu}(_) \leftarrow M$ in N instead.

Notation 1.2.2. When working informally we will freely use “pattern matching” notation when λ -abstracting over either dependent pairs or modal types. For example, we will write $\lambda(x_0, x_1). x_0$ to mean the term $\lambda u. \text{pr}_0(u)$, and $\lambda\langle\mu \mid x\rangle. N$ to mean the term $\lambda u. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(x) \leftarrow u \text{ in } N$.

Remark 1.2.3. Notice that the locks $-\cdot\mathbf{a}_\mu$ act as functors, and the keys \mathbf{a}_\square act as natural transformations. Consequently, our type theory is forced to contain a calculus of (strict) 2-categories, which comes with equations that govern the behaviour of 1-cells and 2-cells. Indeed, the equations for keys given above suffice to derive the two ways of internally stating the *interchange laws*, viz.

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \nu_0, \nu_1, \nu_2 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \quad \mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_2 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \alpha_0 : \mu_0 \Rightarrow \mu_1 \quad \alpha_1 : \mu_1 \Rightarrow \mu_2 \quad \beta_0 : \nu_0 \Rightarrow \nu_1 \quad \beta_1 : \nu_1 \Rightarrow \nu_2}{\Gamma.\mathbf{a}_{\mu_2 \circ \nu_2} \vdash \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_0 * \beta_0} \circ \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_1 * \beta_1} = \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_1 \circ \alpha_0} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{\nu_0} \circ \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma.\mathbf{a}_{\mu_2}}^{\beta_1 \circ \beta_0} : \Gamma.\mathbf{a}_{\mu_0 \circ \nu_0} @ o}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \nu_0, \nu_1, \nu_2 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \quad \mu_0, \mu_1, \mu_2 : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \alpha_0 : \mu_0 \Rightarrow \mu_1 \quad \alpha_1 : \mu_1 \Rightarrow \mu_2 \quad \beta_0 : \nu_0 \Rightarrow \nu_1 \quad \beta_1 : \nu_1 \Rightarrow \nu_2}{\Gamma.\mathbf{a}_{\mu_2 \circ \nu_2} \vdash \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_0 * \beta_0} \circ \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_1 * \beta_1} = \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma.\mathbf{a}_{\mu_0}}^{\beta_1 \circ \beta_0} \circ \mathbf{a}_{\Gamma}^{\alpha_1 \circ \alpha_0} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{\nu_2} : \Gamma.\mathbf{a}_{\mu_0 \circ \nu_0} @ o}$$

In fact, the second version of the interchange law follows from the first one and the equation that expresses the naturality of \mathbf{a}_\square . Conversely, except the two laws for the identity 2-cell and naturality, the given equations follow from one of the two interchange laws. \triangleleft

Remark 1.2.4 (Universes à la Coquand). It may come as a surprise that, even though the universe of MTT is ‘à la Tarski,’ we do not require rules for introducing *codes* in \mathbf{U} . For example, one would expect a \mathbf{U} -constructor $(\mu \mid A) \widehat{\rhd} B : \mathbf{U}$ that would mimic the Π -formation rule, introduced for example by a rule of the following form:

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \mu \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma.\mathbf{a}_\mu \vdash A : \mathbf{U} @ n \quad \Gamma.(\mu \mid A) \vdash B : \mathbf{U} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash (\mu \mid A) \widehat{\rhd} B : \mathbf{U} @ m}$$

In fact, these codes are *definable*: it suffices to use the ‘inverse’ to $\text{El}(-)$:

$$(\mu \mid A) \widehat{\rhd} B \triangleq \text{Code}((\mu \mid \text{El}(A)) \rightarrow \text{El}(B))$$

This rule automatically satisfies the desired property, i.e. that a Π -code decodes to the actual Π -type. We thus avoid the tedious exercise of postulating enough constructors to construct all the desired universe codes. In an informal sense, $\text{Code}(-)$ and $\text{El}(-)$ witness an *isomorphism* between terms of type U and types of size 0.

In our examples we will often suppress both $\text{El}(-)$ and $\text{Code}(-)$, and in some straightforward cases we even elide the coercion \uparrow . This not only makes our terms more perspicuous, but can also be formally justified by an *elaboration procedure* which inserts the missing isomorphisms and coercions when needed. \triangleleft

1.3 Basic Examples of MTT

We present a few terms that are definable irrespective of the underlying mode theory. We first write these out in informal syntax, and discuss them. Finally, we collect the proper algebraic terms that we formally consider.

1.3.1 Functoriality of the Modal Types

First, we show that the type former $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ is functorial in the modality μ up to equivalence. To begin, the following terms demonstrate that $\langle 1 \mid A \rangle$ is equivalent to A .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{triv} & : (x : A) \rightarrow \langle 1 \mid A \rangle \\
 \mathbf{triv} & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{mod}_1(x) \\
 \mathbf{triv}^{-1} & : (x : \langle 1 \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow A \\
 \mathbf{triv}^{-1} & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{let mod}_1(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } y \\
 - & : (x : A) \rightarrow \text{ld}_A(x, \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{triv}(x))) \\
 - & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{refl}(x) \\
 - & : (x : \langle 1 \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow \text{ld}_{\langle 1 \mid A \rangle}(x, \mathbf{triv}(\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(x))) \\
 - & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{let mod}_1(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in refl(mod}_1(y))
 \end{aligned}$$

The unnamed paths above then provide internal equalities between $\mathbf{triv}(\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(M))$ and $M : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ and $\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{triv}(N))$ and $N : A$.

Next, we can show how to compose modalities: we construct an equivalence $\langle \nu \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rangle \cong \langle \nu \circ \mu \mid A \rangle$. This equivalence is particularly important, as it enables the interaction between modalities.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu} & : (x : \langle \nu \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rangle) \rightarrow \langle \nu \circ \mu \mid A \rangle \\
 \mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu} & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{let mod}_\nu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in (let}_\nu \text{ mod}_\mu(z) \leftarrow y \text{ in mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(z)) \\
 \mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu}^{-1} & : (x : \langle \nu \circ \mu \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rangle \\
 \mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu}^{-1} & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{let mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in mod}_\nu(\text{mod}_\mu(y)) \\
 - & : (x : \langle \nu \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rangle) \rightarrow \text{ld}_{\langle \nu \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rangle}(x, \mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu}(x))) \\
 - & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{let mod}_\nu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in let}_\nu \text{ mod}_\mu(z) \leftarrow y \text{ in refl(mod}_\nu(\text{mod}_\mu(z))) \\
 - & : (x : \langle \nu \circ \mu \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow \text{ld}_{\langle \nu \circ \mu \mid A \rangle}(x, \mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu}(\mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu}^{-1}(x))) \\
 - & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{let mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in refl(mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(y))
 \end{aligned}$$

This example crucially depends on the additional ν annotation in let_ν . We thus see that the modal elimination rule surreptitiously introduces functoriality with respect to modalities.

1.3.2 Modal Types Preserve Dependent Sums

We can also show that modal types preserve dependent sums up to equivalence. The essential content of this theorem derives from the fact that $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$ behaves in a right-adjoint-like manner.

To begin, we consider the simpler case of products, i.e. the case where B does *not* depend on A .

With some sugar for pattern matching on pairs, we construct the terms

$$\begin{aligned}
p_0 &: (x : \langle \mu \mid \sum(A, B) \rangle) \rightarrow \sum(\langle \mu \mid A \rangle, \langle \mu \mid B \rangle) \\
p_0 &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } (\text{mod}_\mu(\text{pr}_0(y)), \text{mod}_\mu(\text{pr}_1(y))) \\
p_1 &: (x : \sum(\langle \mu \mid A \rangle, \langle \mu \mid B \rangle)) \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid \sum(A, B) \rangle \\
p_1 &\triangleq \lambda(x_0, x_1). \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_0) \leftarrow x_0 \text{ in } (\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_1) \leftarrow x_1 \text{ in } \text{mod}_\mu((y_0, y_1))) \\
- &: (x : \langle \mu \mid \sum(A, B) \rangle) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\langle \mu \mid \sum(A, B) \rangle}(x, p_1(p_0(x))) \\
- &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } \text{refl}(\text{mod}_\mu(y)) \\
- &: (x : \sum(\langle \mu \mid A \rangle, \langle \mu \mid B \rangle)) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\sum(\langle \mu \mid A \rangle, \langle \mu \mid B \rangle)}(x, p_0(p_1(x))) \\
- &\triangleq \lambda(x_0, x_1). \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_0) \leftarrow x_0 \text{ in } (\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_1) \leftarrow x_1 \text{ in } \text{refl}((\text{mod}_\mu(y_0), \text{mod}_\mu(y_1))))
\end{aligned}$$

That the penultimate term typechecks depends on the η -rule for Σ -types, which is part of our system.

Adapting this statement to dependent sums (i.e. the case where B depends on A) is not straightforward. In fact, even the theorem itself is hard to state. Writing $B[a]$ for a type with a free variable $a : A$, one end of the equivalence is $\langle \mu \mid (a : A) \times B[a] \rangle$, but it is not immediately evident what the other one should be: the obvious choice of $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle \times B[a]$ might not even be well-typed, as $B[a]$ is no longer under the modality μ . We must hence apply a *correction*, and replace B with

$$B'[x] \triangleq \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } \langle \mu \mid B[y] \rangle$$

This type opens the modal variable $x : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ and substitutes it in the correct modal context. We can then define

$$\begin{aligned}
p_0 &: (x : \langle \mu \mid (a : A) \times B[a] \rangle) \rightarrow (a : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \times B'[a] \\
p_0 &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } (\text{mod}_\mu(\text{pr}_0(y)), \text{mod}_\mu(\text{pr}_1(y))) \\
p_1 &: (x : (a : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \times B'[a]) \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid (a : A) \times B[a] \rangle \\
p_1 &\triangleq \lambda(x_0, x_1). (\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_0) \leftarrow x_0 \text{ in } (\lambda x'_1. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_1) \leftarrow x_1 \text{ in } \text{mod}_\mu((y_0, y_1))))(x_1) \\
- &: (x : \langle \mu \mid (a : A) \times B[a] \rangle) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\langle \mu \mid (a : A) \times B[a] \rangle}(x, p_1(p_0(x))) \\
- &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } \text{refl}(\text{mod}_\mu(y)) \\
- &: (x : (a : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \times B'[a]) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{(a : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \times B'[a]}(x, p_0(p_1(x))) \\
- &\triangleq \lambda(x_0, x_1). (\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_0) \leftarrow x_0 \text{ in } (\lambda x'_1. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_1) \leftarrow x_1 \text{ in } \text{refl}((\text{mod}_\mu(y_0), \text{mod}_\mu(y_1)))))(x_1)
\end{aligned}$$

1.3.3 Dependent K

Another interesting and useful term that we obtain is a version of *dependent K*, which is a dependent version of the K (for Kripke) axiom of modal logic [Bir+18]. The dependent K axiom states that modal types weakly distribute over dependent products. As before, a slight contortion of the codomain $B[x]$ to

$$B'[x] \triangleq \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } \langle \mu \mid B(y) \rangle$$

is necessary. We can then define the term

$$\begin{aligned}
k &: (x : \langle \mu \mid (a : A) \rightarrow B[a] \rangle) \rightarrow (a : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow B'[a] \\
k &\triangleq \lambda x_0. \lambda x_1. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_0) \leftarrow x_0 \text{ in } \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y_1) \leftarrow x_1 \text{ in } \text{mod}_\mu(y_0(y_1))
\end{aligned}$$

This term will be convenient for some of our central examples. Consequently, in keeping with the literature we will use the shorthand

$$M \otimes_\mu N \triangleq k(M, N)$$

We will also occasionally suppress the subscript when it can be reasonably inferred from context.

1.3.4 2-Cells Between Modalities Induce Natural Transformations

Thus far our tautologies have only dealt with reflecting equalities in the mode theory theory into equivalences in the type theory. We can also reflect the enrichment, 2-cells, into the type theory. These give rise not to equivalences, but functions (natural transformations).

For instance, let us suppose that we have $\alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu$.

$$\begin{aligned} t & : (x : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid A^\alpha \rangle \\ t & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in } \text{mod}_\nu(y^\alpha) \\ t_e & \triangleq \lambda(\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } \text{mod}_\nu(\mathbf{v}_0[\mathbf{q}_{\langle 1 \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle}.^\alpha.(\mu \mid A)]])) \end{aligned}$$

In this case, because the sugared term hides some interesting aspects of the proof, we have also included the explicit term for reference. This term appears frequently in examples, and so we have again fixed some dedicated notation. We will write $\text{coe}[\alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu](M)$ for $t(M)$, and $\text{coe}[\mu \leq \nu](M)$ for the special case that \mathcal{M} is only a poset-enriched category.

1.3.5 The Explicit Terms

$$\begin{aligned} i_0 & : \langle 1 \mid A \rangle \rightarrow A[\uparrow] \\ i_0 & \triangleq \lambda(\text{let } \text{mod}_1(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } \mathbf{v}_0) \\ i_1 & : A \rightarrow \langle 1 \mid A[\uparrow] \rangle \\ i_1 & \triangleq \lambda(\text{mod}_1(\mathbf{v}_0)) \\ c_0 & : \langle \mu \circ \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A[\uparrow] \rangle \rangle \\ c_0 & \triangleq \lambda(\text{let } \text{mod}_{\mu \circ \nu}(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } \text{mod}_\mu(\text{mod}_\nu(\mathbf{v}_1))) \\ c_1 & : \langle \mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mu \circ \nu \mid A[\uparrow] \rangle \\ c_1 & \triangleq \lambda(\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } \text{let}_\mu \text{mod}_\nu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } \text{mod}_{\mu \circ \nu}(\mathbf{v}_0)) \\ B' & \triangleq \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } \langle \mu \mid B[\uparrow^2. \mathbf{q}_\mu. \mathbf{v}_0] \rangle \\ p_0 & : \langle \mu \mid \sum(A, B) \rangle \rightarrow \sum(\langle \mu \mid A \rangle, B') \\ p_0 & \triangleq \lambda(\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } (\text{mod}_\mu(\text{pr}_0(\mathbf{v}_0)), \text{mod}_\mu(\text{pr}_1(\mathbf{v}_0)))) \\ p_1 & : \sum(\langle \mu \mid A \rangle, B') \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid \sum(A, B) \rangle \\ p_1 & \triangleq \lambda((\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \text{pr}_0(\mathbf{v}_1) \text{ in } \lambda(\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } \text{mod}_\mu((\mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_0)))))(\text{pr}_1(\mathbf{v}_0))) \\ k & : \langle \mu \mid A \rightarrow B \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow B' \\ k & \triangleq \lambda(\lambda(\text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_1 \text{ in } \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_1 \text{ in } \text{mod}_\mu(\mathbf{v}_1(\mathbf{v}_0)))) \end{aligned}$$

1.4 Models of MTT

In [Section 1.2](#) we introduced an algebraic syntax for MTT, and stated that this is our main formal object of study. One advantage of this first-order algebraic definition is that it enables us to use a powerful kit of technology [[Car78](#); [Tay99](#); [KKA19](#)] which—amongst other things—automatically guarantees that (a) there exists a *category of models*, and (b) the syntax constitutes an initial object for this category.

However, the models that inhabit this category are exactly algebras for this generalized algebraic theory, which is not the most perspicuous of notions. In this section, we undertake the task of developing an exact decomposition of this algebraic notion of model into smaller, more practicable parcels. These will be given in the style of *natural models* Awodey [[Awo18](#)], which are a category-theoretic reformulation of *categories with families* (CwFs) [[Dyb96](#)]. We find this relatively recent technology helpful, as it concisely encodes the many naturality conditions that are normally required of a CwF. Moreover, natural models also aid with uncovering the implicit universal properties of type-theoretic connectives, which are not evident in a CwF formulation. There is only one caveat, which is that one must gingerly check that these terse definitions are actually satisfied by more concrete models.

In [Section 1.4.1](#) we will deconstruct and analyze the standard notion of model given by the generalized algebraic theory of MTT in terms of natural models. Following that, in [Section 1.4.2](#) we will show that the stronger notion of *dependent right adjoint* can be used to define such a model. Finally, in [Section 1.4.3](#) we will discuss the morphisms between standard models of MTT.

1.4.1 Models of the GAT

Context Structure

First, we observe that a model of our type theory must contain a set of contexts at each mode. Along with the substitutions found at each mode $m \in \mathcal{M}$ —which can be composed associatively and come with a unit—these sets are readily seen to form a category, for which we write $\mathcal{C}[m]$.

Furthermore, the functions that interpret the locks on contexts must be functors: the rules for equality of contexts clearly ask that $-.\mathbf{a}_\mu$ distributes over composition of substitutions, and preserves the identity substitution. Thus, for each modality $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)$ we obtain a functor

$$\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket : \mathcal{C}[m] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[n]$$

Notice that this is contravariant in the modality, as it is *the action of locks on contexts*. Similarly, the equations for each 2-cell $\alpha : \nu \Rightarrow \mu$ in \mathcal{M} induce a natural transformation

$$\llbracket \mathbf{a}^\alpha \rrbracket : \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\nu \rrbracket$$

This is also contravariant in the 2-cell α , as is the action of *keys* on locks.

We can package these aspects of our model in the following definition.

Definition 1.4.1. A *context structure* for a mode theory \mathcal{M} is a (strict) 2-functor

$$\llbracket - \rrbracket : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}_1$$

where $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}}$ is the 2-category \mathcal{M} with the direction of *both* 1-cells and 2-cells reversed, and \mathbf{Cat}_1 is the full subcategory of (large) categories with a terminal object.

Recalling that \mathcal{M} is a small category that is supposed to specify the behaviour of the modal types, the origin of the contravariance is evident. Recall that the 2-category \mathcal{M} specifies the behaviour of the modal types $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$. These are supposed to have a right-adjoint-like behaviour, with the corresponding left-adjoint-like operators being the lock functors $-.\mathbf{a}_\mu$. Being left-adjoint-like, the interpretation $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket$ of each modality will behave with variance opposite to the specification of \mathcal{M} . Of course, this is merely an analogy, as these constructors are not truly adjoints, but only behave as if they were.

Types and Context Extension

We now study the structure necessary to encode types, terms and context extension. We temporarily ignore the universe, the details of which we will discuss in more depth in [Section 1.4.1](#).

We begin with the definition of a representable natural transformation:

Definition 1.4.2 (Representable natural transformation). Let \mathbb{C} be a small category, and let $P, Q : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathbb{C})$ be presheaves on \mathbb{C} . A natural transformation $\alpha : P \Rightarrow Q$ is *representable* just if for every $\Gamma : \mathbb{C}$ and $x : \mathbf{y}(\Gamma) \Rightarrow P$ (equivalently $x \in P(\Gamma)$) there exists a $y : \mathbf{y}(\Delta) \Rightarrow Q$ (equivalently $y \in Q(\Delta)$) and a morphism $\gamma : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma$ in \mathbb{C} such that there is a pullback square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{y}(\Delta) & \xrightarrow{y} & Q \\ \downarrow \mathbf{y}(\gamma) & \lrcorner & \downarrow \alpha \\ \mathbf{y}(\Gamma) & \xrightarrow{x} & P \end{array}$$

The following notion of model of type theory is used by Awodey [[Awo18](#)].

Definition 1.4.3 (Natural model). Let \mathbb{C} be a small category. A *natural model of type theory* is a representable natural transformation $\tau : \tilde{\mathcal{T}} \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$.

It is shown in *op. cit.* that this corresponds to the usual notion of CwF, and that one can use it this formulation to write down very concise definitions of the gadgets necessary to interpret various type formers, and in particular intensional identity types. We note that the representability of the natural transformation $\tau : \tilde{\mathcal{T}} \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ is a clever way to encode context extension and comprehension in a manner that automatically ensures naturality with respect to substitution; see [[Fio12](#); [Awo18](#)] for more details.

We will now adapt the natural models approach to MTT. Our context extension rule postulates that for any object $\Gamma : \mathcal{C}[m]$, modality $\mu \in \text{Hom}(n, m)$ and $A \in \text{type}_n^1(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma))$ there exists an object $\Gamma.(\mu \mid A) : \mathcal{C}[m]$. This construction comes with a morphism $\mathbf{p} : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}[m]}(\Gamma.(\mu \mid A), \Gamma)$, and a term

$$\mathbf{q} \in \text{tm}_n(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)), A[\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket(\mathbf{p})])$$

The object $\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)$ is universal with respect to \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} , in the sense that for any object $\Delta : \mathcal{C}[m]$, morphism $\gamma \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}[m]}(\Delta, \Gamma)$, and term $M \in \text{tm}_n(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma), A[\gamma. \mathbf{A}_\mu])$ there is a *unique* substitution $\gamma.M : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma.(\mu \mid A)$ such that

$$\mathbf{p} \circ (\gamma.M) = \gamma : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma \tag{1.4}$$

$$\mathbf{q}[(\gamma.M). \mathbf{A}_\mu] = M : \text{tm}_n(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma), A[\gamma. \mathbf{A}_\mu]) \tag{1.5}$$

As usual, [Eq. \(1.5\)](#) is only well-typed because of [Eq. \(1.4\)](#). This definition is very close to the ordinary presentation of context extension in CwFs; the main difference is that we must account for the fact that the type by which we extend is found in a different mode than the context that is being extended. Our objective here is thus to adapt the formulation as a representable natural transformation to the multi-mode setting.

To begin, for each mode $\mathcal{C}[m]$ we define two presheaves $\mathcal{T}_m : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$ on the context category $\mathcal{C}[m]$. The first one maps every $\Gamma : \mathcal{C}[m]$ to the set of types $\text{type}_m^1(\Gamma)$ over it, and the second one maps Γ to the pairs $(A \in \text{type}_m^1(\Gamma), M \in \text{tm}_m(\Gamma, A))$, i.e. the set of pointed types). We then obtain a natural transformation $\tau_m : \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}_m$, which maps each term-pair (A, M) to the type A at each context. It follows that the fibres of τ_m are the terms of a given type.

With this in hand, we can encode modal context extension as follows. Writing $\llbracket - \rrbracket$ for the Yoneda isomorphism, we require that for each $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)$, context $\Gamma : \mathcal{C}[m]$, and $A : \text{type}_n^1(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma))$, there is a chosen context Γ' (cf. $\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)$), a chosen morphism $\mathbf{p} : \Gamma' \rightarrow \Gamma$, and a chosen morphism $\llbracket \mathbf{q} \rrbracket : \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma')) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n$ that makes the following square commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma')) & \xrightarrow{\llbracket \mathbf{q} \rrbracket} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\mathbf{p})) \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau_n \\
 \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma)) & \xrightarrow{\llbracket A \rrbracket} & \mathcal{T}_n
 \end{array}$$

We have surreptitiously ‘decoded’ the top arrow into a term $\mathbf{q} \in \text{tm}_n(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma'), A[\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\mathbf{p})])$ by using the Yoneda isomorphism and the fact the square commutes. This is notational convention we will silently use without comment when applicable.

We also require that Γ' , \mathbf{p} , and \mathbf{q} are universal for this diagram. That is, given $\Delta : \mathcal{C}[m]$, $\gamma : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{C}[m]}(\Delta, \Gamma)$, and $\llbracket M \rrbracket : \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Delta)) \Rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n$, there must be a unique morphism $\gamma' : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma'$ (which stands for $\gamma.M$) such that the following square commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Delta)) & \xrightarrow{\llbracket M \rrbracket} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\gamma)) & \searrow \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\gamma')) & \downarrow \tau_n \\
 \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma')) & \xrightarrow{\llbracket \mathbf{q} \rrbracket} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\mathbf{p})) & & \downarrow \tau_n \\
 \mathbf{y}(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma)) & \xrightarrow{\llbracket A \rrbracket} & \mathcal{T}_n
 \end{array}$$

This diagram is not a pullback, but we can use the Yoneda lemma to make it into one. Recall that for any functor $f : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ we can define the precomposition functor $f^* : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$, which on objects is

$$f^*(P) \triangleq \mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{D} \xrightarrow{P} \mathbf{Set}$$

Then, for any $c : \mathcal{C}$ and $Q : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{D})$ we can use the Yoneda lemma to establish a series of natural isomorphisms

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{D})}(\mathbf{y}(f(c)), Q) \cong Q(f(c)) = f^*Q(c) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})}(\mathbf{y}(c), f^*Q)$$

With this in hand, we can *transpose* the diagram, in order to obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 y(\Delta) & \xrightarrow{[M]} & \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow \gamma' & \searrow [q] & \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n \\
 y(\Gamma') & \xrightarrow{[q]} & \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow y(p) & & \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n \\
 y(\Gamma) & \xrightarrow{[A]} & \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_n
 \end{array}
 \quad (1.6)$$

where $\gamma' : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma'$ is the unique arrow that makes the diagram commute.

Observe now that we are able to carry out this step whenever the right hand morphism of the transposed diagram is a natural model. We are thus led to the following definition.

Definition 1.4.4. A *modal natural model* on a context structure $\llbracket - \rrbracket : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}_1$ consists of a family of natural transformations of presheaves

$$\left(\tau_m : \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}_m \right)_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$$

where $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m, \mathcal{T}_m : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$ such that for every $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$ the natural transformation

$$\llbracket \mathbf{a}_m \rrbracket^* \tau_n : \llbracket \mathbf{a}_m \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \Rightarrow \llbracket \mathbf{a}_m \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_n$$

is a natural model.

We will write $\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)$ for the object Γ' that makes (1.6) a pullback, as we do in the type theory.

Remark 1.4.5. Observe that $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket : \mathcal{C}[m] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[n]$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[n]) \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$ are very different functors. The former, which is given as part of the definition of a model, is a functor between categories of contexts, and does not need to satisfy any particular properties. The latter, which is canonically defined once we specify $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket$, acts on *presheaves* on those categories of contexts, and it is well-known that it comes with both a left and a right adjoint, $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket_!$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket_*$, given by left and right Kan extension respectively. This functor is used for technical purposes in the model, does not appear in the type theory, and neither it nor its adjoints need descend from presheaf categories to the (sub)categories of contexts. \triangleleft

An Intermezzo: Higher-Order Abstract Syntax

In order to show how to model the various type formers in the style of natural models we need a mechanism for representing binding structure in $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$. We mostly recapitulate material found in [Awo18], which we then adapt to modal types.

The main device used for encoding binding structure is that of *polynomial endofunctors*. Given a ‘display map’ $\ell : E \rightarrow B$, we may use the internal language of the presheaf topos to define the corresponding polynomial functor $\mathbf{P}_{\ell : E \rightarrow B} : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[n]) \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[n])$ by

$$\mathbf{P}_{\ell : E \rightarrow B}(A) \triangleq \sum_{b : B} A^{\ell^{-1}(b)}$$

When specialised to the ‘modalised’ natural model $\ell \triangleq \llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket^*(\tau_n) : \llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \rightarrow \llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_n$, this functor has a very useful property: morphisms $\mathbf{y}(\Gamma) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_{\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n}(\mathcal{T}_n)$ are in bijection with tuples

$$(A \in \mathcal{T}_n(\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket(\Gamma)), B \in \mathcal{T}_n(\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)))$$

This enables the representation of a type $\Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m$ and a type $\Gamma.(\mu \mid A) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ n$ that modally depends on it as a single morphism $\mathbf{y}(\Gamma) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_{\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n}(\mathcal{T}_n)$. To prove this, we may show a more general

Lemma 1.4.6. *Morphisms $Y \xrightarrow{g} \mathbf{P}_{\ell:E \rightarrow B}(X)$ are in bijection with diagrams*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xleftarrow{g_2} & Y \times_B E & \longrightarrow & E \\ & & \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \ell \\ & & Y & \xrightarrow{g_1} & B \end{array}$$

The proof may be found in the paper by Awodey [Awo18, Lemma 5]. The above bijection is then demonstrated by taking ℓ to be the modalised natural model, $X \triangleq \mathcal{T}_n$, and $Y \triangleq \mathbf{y}(\Gamma)$.

\prod Structure

A model is equipped with a \prod -structure if for $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)$ we have a pullback square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{P}_{\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n}(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m) & \xrightarrow{\text{lam}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\ \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \tau_m \\ \mathbf{P}_{\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n}(\mathcal{T}_m) & \xrightarrow{\prod} & \mathcal{T}_m \end{array}$$

Using the insight provided by Lemma 1.4.6, we see that the morphism \prod models the formation rule, while lam models the introduction rule. The β -law for \prod -types is equivalent to the existence of a mediating morphism given by the pullback, and the η -law follows from its uniqueness. A detailed discussion of these points may be found in Awodey [Awo18].

Σ Structure

A model is equipped with a Σ -structure if for each $m : \mathcal{M}$ we have a pullback square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \sum_{B:\mathcal{T}_m^{\tau_m^{-1}(A)}} \sum_{M:\tau_m^{-1}(B(M))} \tau_m^{-1}(B(M)) & \xrightarrow{\text{pair}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\ \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \tau_m \\ \mathbf{P}_{\tau_m}(\mathcal{T}_m) & \xrightarrow{\Sigma} & \mathcal{T}_m \end{array}$$

As with \prod -types, this precisely corresponds to the usual CwF formulation of Σ -types [Dyb96; Hof97]. Again, a more detailed discussion may be found in [Awo18], and so we omit the details.

Modal Structure

Interpreting the modal types $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ in the natural models style is a little more complicated. The reason for that complication is that $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ behaves very much like a *positive type former*, which comes with a “let-style,” pattern-matching eliminator, and no η -rule. These features render its behaviour closer to that of intensional identity types, and unlike the simpler pullback squares required of \prod and \sum . We will describe this construction in two steps.

First, for each $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)$ the formation and introduction rules for $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$ are given by a commuting square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 [[\bullet_\mu]]^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{mod}_\mu} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 [[\bullet_\mu]]^* \mathcal{T}_n & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{Mod}_\mu} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array} \quad (1.7)$$

It is easy to see that—by Yoneda—the morphism \mathbf{Mod}_μ may be used to map every type $\Gamma. \bullet_\mu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ n$ to a type $\Gamma \vdash \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \text{ type}_1 @ m$, and similarly the arrow \mathbf{mod}_μ can be used to model the introduction rule. Unfortunately, asking that this square be a pullback is too strong a requirement with respect to the elimination rule. In fact, we will see in [Section 1.4.2](#) that it corresponds precisely to \mathbf{Mod}_μ being a *dependent right adjoint* [Bir+18]. We may instead phrase the elimination rule in terms of the existence of a *lifting structure* for the above diagram. Unlike the presentation in [Awo18], we define lifting structures in the internal language of the presheaf topos $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$, which automatically forces them to be *natural*.³

Definition 1.4.7 (Left lifting structure). Given presheaves $\vdash A, I, B$ type, a family $b : B \vdash E[b]$ type and a section $a : A \vdash i[a] : I$, we define the type $\vdash i[-] \pitchfork E[-]$ type of *left lifting structures* for i with respect to E to be

$$i[-] \pitchfork E[-] \triangleq \prod_{C:I \rightarrow B} \prod_{c:\prod_{a:A} E[C(i[a])]} \left\{ j : \prod_{p:I} E[C(p)] \mid \forall a : A. j(i[a]) = c(a) \right\}$$

Informally, left lifting structures provide *diagonal fillers* j for the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\langle C(i[-]), c \rangle} & \sum_{b:B} E[b] \\
 i[-] \downarrow & \nearrow j & \downarrow \pi_1 \\
 I & \xrightarrow{C} & B
 \end{array}$$

Intuitively, $C : I \rightarrow B$ is the *motive* of an elimination, and $c : \prod_{a:A} E[C(i[a])]$ is a given section that describes the computational behaviour of this elimination at the ‘special case’ A . The left lifting structure then provides a section j of the family $E[b]$, which is defined on all of I , is above C , and extends c . NB that the diagonal fillers are *not* by any means required to be unique. Moreover, as this definition is phrased in the internal language of the presheaf topos, the fillers are automatically given naturally up to precomposition.

³This internal formulation has its origins in unpublished work by Jonathan Sterling, Daniel Gratzer, Carlo Angiuli, and Lars Birkedal.

This style of lifting structure is an essential ingredient in recent work on internal presentations of models of cubical type theory, as pioneered by Orton and Pitts [OP18]. Moreover, Awodey [Awo18, Lemma 19] shows that such lifting structures precisely correspond to enriched left lifting properties in the sense of homotopy theory.

We can now approach this in a manner similar to that used for intensional identity types in *op. cit.* Recall that the elimination rule for $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ is

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \\ \Gamma. \mathbf{a}_{\mu}. \mathbf{a}_{\nu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ o \quad \Gamma. \mathbf{a}_{\mu} \vdash M_0 : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle @ n \\ \Gamma. (\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (\mu \circ \nu \mid A) \vdash M_1 : B[\uparrow. \text{mod}_{\nu}(\mathbf{v}_0)] @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let}_{\mu} \text{mod}_{\nu}(_) \leftarrow M_0 \text{ in } M_1 : B[\text{id}. M_0] @ m}$$

We can rephrase this as the existence of a diagonal filler in the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{y}(\Gamma. (\mu \circ \nu \mid A)) & \xrightarrow{[M_1]} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\ \downarrow \mathbf{y}(\uparrow. \text{mod}_{\nu}(\mathbf{v}_0)) & \nearrow [\text{let}_{\nu} \text{mod}_{\mu}(_) \leftarrow \mathbf{v}_0 \text{ in } M_1] & \downarrow \tau_m \\ \mathbf{y}(\Gamma. (\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle)) & \xrightarrow{[B]} & \mathcal{T}_m \end{array}$$

We now show how to use a left lifting structure on a carefully chosen slice category to obtain such diagonal fillers.

First, for $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)$ and $\nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n)$ we define the following pullback:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [\mathbf{a}_{\nu}]^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_o & \xrightarrow{\text{mod}_{\nu}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\ \downarrow m & \nearrow & \downarrow \tau_n \\ [\mathbf{a}_{\nu}]^* \tau_o & \xrightarrow{h} & \mathcal{T}_n \\ & \text{Mod}_{\nu} & \end{array}$$

$M \xrightarrow{\quad} \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n$
 $\downarrow \lrcorner$
 \mathcal{T}_n

The outer commuting square is that given by the formation and introduction for the $\langle \nu \mid - \rangle$ in (1.7). Intuitively, M is a ‘generic ν -modal terms object’ that consists of terms $\Gamma \vdash M : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle @ n$, where $\Gamma. \mathbf{a}_{\nu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ o$. We also know that $[\mathbf{a}_{\nu}]^*$ has a left adjoint, so it preserves pullbacks. We apply it

to the preceding diagram to get the pullback

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_o & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \mathbf{mod}_{\nu} \\
 \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* m & \searrow & \downarrow \\
 \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* M & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* h & \lrcorner & \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \tau_n \\
 \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_n \\
 & \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \mathbf{Mod}_{\nu} &
 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \tag{1.8}$$

We have also used the fact that $(-)^*$ is strictly functorial to contract the two locks into one. Moreover, we get that the unique mediating morphism is indeed $\llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* M$.

From this point onwards we will also work in the slice $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/Z$, where $Z \triangleq \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o$. In order to model the elimination rule we will ask for a left lifting structure *in the slice category*, of type

$$\vdash \mathbf{open}_{\nu}^{\mu} : \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* m \pitchfork Z^*(\tau_m)$$

where both of these are considered as morphisms in the slice $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/Z$, respectively of type

$$\begin{aligned}
 \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* m &: \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o \rightarrow \llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* h \\
 Z^*(\tau_m) &: Z^*(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m) \rightarrow Z^*(\mathcal{T}_m)
 \end{aligned}$$

Following Awodey [Awo18] we may calculate that this models the rule. We suppose its premises,

[illegible]

We write $\sum_Z : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/Z \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$ for the usual domain projection functor, so that $\sum_Z \dashv Z^*$. Now, using the usual *gestalt* approach to slice categories—where the cartesian product \times_Z is the pullback—we see from the diagram that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_C ([A] \times_Z \llbracket \mathbf{a}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \widetilde{\mathcal{T}}_o) &\cong \mathbf{y}(\Gamma.(\mu \circ \nu \mid A)) \\ \sum_Z ([A] \times_Z \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* h) &\cong \mathbf{y}(\Gamma.(\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle)) \\ \sum_Z (\text{id}_{[A]} \times_Z \llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket^* m) &\cong \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{p}.\mathbf{mod}_\nu(\mathbf{q})) \end{aligned} \tag{1.9}$$

Recall that we are trying to find a diagonal filler to the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & \boxed{\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])} \\
 & & \\
 \mathbf{y}(\Gamma.(\mu \circ \nu \mid A)) & \xrightarrow{[M_1]} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 \downarrow \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{p.mod}_\nu(\mathbf{q})) & \nearrow & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 \mathbf{y}(\Gamma.(\mu \mid \mathbf{Mod}_\nu(A))) & \xrightarrow{[B]} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array} \quad (1.10)$$

We use the adjunction $\sum_Z \dashv Z^*$ to transpose this diagram, and we compose with the isomorphisms (1.9) to obtain the following diagram in $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/\llbracket \mathbf{p}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & \boxed{\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/\llbracket \mathbf{p}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o} \\
 & & \\
 [A] \times_Z \llbracket \mathbf{p}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_o & \xrightarrow{[M_1]} & Z^*(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m) \\
 \downarrow \text{id} \times_Z \llbracket \mathbf{p}_\mu \rrbracket^* m & \nearrow \text{open}_\nu^\mu & \downarrow Z^*(\tau_m) \\
 [A] \times_Z \llbracket \mathbf{p}_\mu \rrbracket^* h & \xrightarrow{[B]} & Z^*(\mathcal{T}_m)
 \end{array}$$

Transposing this diagram back along the adjunction provides a filler for (1.10). The naturality of these isomorphisms, transposition, and the lifting structure ensure that this diagonal filler is natural.

Boolean Structure

A boolean structure is defined similarly to the structure for modal types. First, we require two operations:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \mathbf{tt} & \\
 1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 & \mathbf{ff} & \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 1 & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{Bool}} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}$$

For the induction principle, we require a natural left lifting structure for all commuting squares of the following shape:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 1 + 1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 \downarrow [\mathbf{tt}, \mathbf{ff}] & \nearrow & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 \tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Bool}) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}$$

We can capture naturality by again making use of the internal language:

$$\mathbf{if} : [\mathbf{tt}, \mathbf{ff}] \dashv \tau_m[-]$$

Intensional Identity Structure

We model the intensional identity type in exactly the same way as Awodey [Awo18]. First, we ask for a commuting square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{refl}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau_m \\ \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) \times \tau_m^{-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{Id}} & \mathcal{T}_m \end{array}$$

which models the formation and introduction rules for **Id**. Observe that

$$\sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) \times \tau_m^{-1}(A) \cong \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \times_{\mathcal{T}_m} \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m$$

For the path induction principle, we construct the pullback square

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) & & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{refl}} & & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\ & \searrow i & & \searrow & \downarrow \tau_m \\ & I & \xrightarrow{\quad} & & \\ & \downarrow \lrcorner & & & \\ \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) \times \tau_m^{-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{Id}} & & & \mathcal{T}_m \end{array}$$

δ (curved arrow from $\sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A)$ to $\sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) \times \tau_m^{-1}(A)$)

and require a left lifting structure

$$A : \mathcal{T}_m \vdash \mathbf{J} : i(A, -) \dashv \tau_m[-]$$

A detailed proof that this is sound for intensional identity types may be found in [Awo18, §2.4].

The Universe of Small Types

Until this point we have conveniently avoided discussing the difference between small and large types, i.e. whether our types are in type_m^0 or type_m^1 . We were able to do that precisely because *terms can only inhabit large types*, so most of our judgments only mention large types. Of course, this is not the case when it comes to judgments pertaining to the universe.

First, our model comes equipped with a set of small types, viz. a presheaf \mathcal{S}_m for each mode m along with a natural transformation $\mathbf{lift} : \mathcal{S}_m \Rightarrow \mathcal{T}_m$. Moreover, we require that the formation rules for each type factor through \mathcal{S}_m . That is, we require a mediating morphism in each of the following diagrams.

Pi

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\sum_{A: \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket * \mathcal{S}_n} \mathcal{S}_m^{\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket * \tau_n^{-1}(\text{lift}(A))} & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad \quad} & \mathcal{S}_m \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \text{lift} \\
\sum_{A: \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket * \mathcal{T}_n} \mathcal{T}_m^{\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket * \tau_n^{-1}(A)} & \xrightarrow{\quad \Pi \quad} & \mathcal{T}_m
\end{array}$$

Sigma

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\sum_{A: \mathcal{S}_m} \mathcal{S}_m^{\tau_m^{-1}(\text{lift}(A))} & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad \quad} & \mathcal{S}_m \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \text{lift} \\
\sum_{A: \mathcal{T}_m} \mathcal{T}_m^{\tau_m^{-1}(A)} & \xrightarrow{\quad \Sigma \quad} & \mathcal{T}_m
\end{array}$$

 $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket * \mathcal{S}_n & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad \quad} & \mathcal{S}_m \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \text{lift} \\
\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket * \mathcal{T}_n & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{Mod}_\mu \quad} & \mathcal{T}_m
\end{array}$$

Intensional Identity

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\sum_{A: \mathcal{S}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(\text{lift}(A)) \times \tau_m^{-1}(\text{lift}(A)) & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad \quad} & \mathcal{S}_m \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \text{lift} \\
\sum_{A: \mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) \times \tau_m^{-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{Id} \quad} & \mathcal{T}_m
\end{array}$$

Bool

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad \quad} & \mathcal{S}_m \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \text{lift} \\
1 & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{Bool} \quad} & \mathcal{T}_m
\end{array}$$

The existence of these factorisations implies that type formation is closed under the set of small types. Finally, the universe of small types is interpreted by distinguished morphism $1 \xrightarrow{\text{Uni}} \mathcal{T}_m$ for each $m \in \mathcal{M}$, which is such that

$$\tau_m^{-1}(\text{Uni}) \cong \mathcal{S}_m$$

The Full Definition

Collecting our work, we have that

Definition 1.4.8. A model of MTT over \mathcal{M} consists of

- a context structure for \mathcal{M} (Definition 1.4.1), and a
- a modal natural model on that context structure (Definition 1.4.4)

such that the modal natural model supports

- dependent product types
- dependent sum types (at each mode)
- intensional identity types
- modal types
- a boolean type (at each mode), and
- a universe of small types

1.4.2 Models from Dependent Right Adjoints

In Section 1.4.1 we showed how to decompose the algebraic notion of model of MTT into smaller parcels, using the language of Awodey’s [Awo18] natural models. While this presentation is attractive, there is also another general notion of a modality of modal type theories, namely that of a *dependent right adjoint (DRA)* [Bir+18]. In this section we use the language of natural models to rephrase and generalise the definition of DRAs to a multimode setting. Furthermore, we construct a model from multimode DRAs between models of type theory that support a similar array of types (\sum , \prod , Id , \mathbb{B}). This construction demonstrates that DRAs constitute a stronger notion of modality.

Dependent Right Adjoints in Natural Models

First, let us observe that a dependent right adjoint can be nicely characterized in a natural models setting. A dependent right adjoint modifies the notion of an adjunction to have an action on types and terms, and not just categories. In particular, given a pair of natural models $(\mathcal{C}, \tau_{\mathcal{C}})$ and $(\mathcal{D}, \tau_{\mathcal{D}})$, the data of a dependent right adjoint comprises of a functor between context categories $L : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$ as well as a pullback square of the following shape in $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{D})$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} L^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{r} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathcal{D}} \\ \downarrow L^* \tau_{\mathcal{C}} & \lrcorner & \downarrow \tau_{\mathcal{D}} \\ L^* \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{R} & \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{D}} \end{array}$$

Here R is the action of the dependent right adjoint on types and r is the action on terms. It is straightforward to check that this pullback square indeed forces (R, r) to behave as a dependent right adjoint in the sense of Birkedal et al. [Bir+18]. We must further require that our DRA preserves size if we wish to have a small modal type, as well as a large one. In this case, we require the following commuting

diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 L^* \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{\quad R' \quad} & \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{D}} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{lift} \\
 L^* \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{\quad R \quad} & \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{D}}
 \end{array}$$

Remark 1.4.9. This definition is slightly more general than the one presented in Birkedal et al. [Bir+18], which forced the adjunction to be an *endoadjunction*. Rather than involving two natural models, there was only one and the left adjoint was required to be an endofunctor.

There are no technical obstacles to generalizing any of the results in the paper to this setting, though the syntax must be made more general (permitting two modes, instead of just one). \triangleleft

Remark 1.4.10. With a proper definition of a *morphism* of models, it can be shown that an adjunction between categories of contexts gives rise to a dependent right adjoint when the right adjoint is part of a morphism of models [Nuy18a]. The converse is not in general true: a dependent right adjoint need not have any action on the full category of contexts. If, however, the category of contexts is entirely generated by \cdot and $\Gamma.A$ (if the model is *democratic*), the converse is true [Bir+18]. \triangleleft

When \mathbf{Mod}_{μ} is a DRA

Let us suppose that we have an indexed collection of models of intensional Martin-Löf Type Theory: $(\mathcal{C}[m], \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \xrightarrow{\tau_m} \mathcal{T}_m)_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$. Let us further suppose that we have functorial choice of size-preserving dependent right adjoints, $(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket, \mathbf{Mod}_{\mu}, \mathbf{mod}_{\mu})$ from $(\mathcal{C}[m], \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \xrightarrow{\tau_m} \mathcal{T}_m)$ to $(\mathcal{C}[n], \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \xrightarrow{\tau_n} \mathcal{T}_n)$ for each modality $\mu \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$. Finally, we will assume that there exists a functorial choice of natural transformations $\llbracket \mathbf{Q}^{\alpha} \rrbracket : \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu} \rrbracket \Rightarrow \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket$ for each $\alpha : \mu \Rightarrow \nu$.

We would like to show that this data can be assembled into a single model of MTT.

Theorem 1.4.11. *We can assemble $(\mathcal{C}[m], \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \xrightarrow{\tau_m} \mathcal{T}_m)_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$ and $(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket, \mathbf{Mod}_{\mu}, \mathbf{mod}_{\mu})_{\mu}$ into a model of MTT such that the model restricts to $(\mathcal{C}[m], \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \xrightarrow{\tau_m} \mathcal{T}_m)$ for each mode.*

Proof. We will go through the construction of this model point by point. First, we define the 2-functor from $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ with $m \mapsto \mathcal{C}[m]$, $\mu \mapsto \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket$, and $\alpha \mapsto \llbracket \mathbf{Q}^{\alpha} \rrbracket$. We now turn to equipping these categories with the necessary structure.

CwF Structure

In order to define the cwf structure from Section 1.4.1, suppose we have an arrow, $\mathbf{y}(\Gamma) \xrightarrow{A} \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n$, we wish to construct a pullback square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{y}(\Gamma') & \xrightarrow{\quad [q'] \quad} & \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow \mathbf{y}(p') & \lrcorner & \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \tau_n \\
 \mathbf{y}(\Gamma) & \xrightarrow{\quad [A] \quad} & \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_n
 \end{array}$$

Let us choose $\Gamma' = \Gamma.\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A)$. We can then paste the pullback square for the dependent right adjoint, \mathbf{Mod}_μ , with the pullback square from the natural model:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 y(\Gamma.\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A)) & \xrightarrow{\widehat{[q]}} & [[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{mod}_\mu} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 \downarrow y(p) & & \downarrow [[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \tau_n & & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 y(\Gamma) & \xrightarrow{[A]} & [[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \mathcal{T}_n & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{Mod}_\mu} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}$$

By the pullback lemma, because the outer square is a pullback and so is the rightmost square, the leftmost square must be as well. Therefore, our choice of $\Gamma.(\mu \mid A) = \Gamma.\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A)$ is a valid choice of context extension and makes each τ_m into a natural model.

Pi Structure

Equipping each natural model, $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \xrightarrow{\tau_m} \mathcal{T}_m$ with a Pi structure is straightforward after the following observation:

$$P_{[[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \tau_n}(X) \cong \sum_{A: [[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \mathcal{T}_n} X^{\tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Mod}_\mu A)}$$

This isomorphism results from the fact that $\Gamma.\mathbf{Mod}_\mu A = \Gamma.(\mu \mid A)$ (by definition of the latter!) and a similar proof to the one found in Awodey [Awo18] and Section 1.4.1. With this isomorphism in hand, we can construct the more general modal \prod out of the “mode local” \prod in each natural model that we have assumed and \mathbf{Mod}_μ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 P_{[[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \tau_n}(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{lam}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 P_{[[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \tau_n}(\mathcal{T}_m) & \xrightarrow{\prod(\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(-), -)} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}$$

Sigma, Boolean, Intensional Identity, and Small Type and Universe Structures

The construction of the structures for \sum , **Bool**, **Id**, and **Uni** are straightforward because they are *mode local*, even in Section 1.4.1 there is no mention of different modes or modalities. Therefore, we can simply reuse the dependent sum, boolean, and intensional identity structures that each $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \xrightarrow{\tau_m} \mathcal{T}_m$.

Modal Structure

By far the most interesting part of this proof is the adaptation of dependent right adjoints to the modal structure from Section 1.4.1. First, we require a commuting square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 [[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{mod}_\mu} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 [[\mathbf{A}_\mu]]^* \mathcal{T}_n & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{Mod}_\mu} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}$$

This square obviously commutes in our case where \mathbf{Mod}_μ is part of a dependent right adjoint; in fact it is a pullback!

Let us consider the pullback defining M , the object used in the lifting condition for \mathbf{Mod}_μ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_o & \xrightarrow{\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* \text{mod}_\nu} & \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* m & \searrow & \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n \\
 \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* M & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\
 \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* \tau_n \\
 \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o & \xrightarrow{\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* \text{Mod}_\nu} & \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_n
 \end{array}$$

Let us recall that $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^*$ preserves pullbacks, and so $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* m$ must be an isomorphism. The elimination rule for $\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A)$ requires us to construct a left-lifting structure:

$$\vdash \text{open}_\nu^\mu : (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* m) \pitchfork ((\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o)^*(\tau_m[-]))$$

However, since $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* m$ is an isomorphism, we can construct this left-lifting structure as $\text{open}_\nu^\mu \triangleq \lambda C. \lambda c. c \circ \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^*(m^{-1})$. \square

Corollary 1.4.12. *MTT is consistent (there is no term $\vdash M : \text{Id}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{tt}, \text{ff}) @ m$) for any mode theory \mathcal{M} .*

Proof. Let us suppose that at we have some model of Martin-Löf Type Theory with one universe in some category \mathcal{C} . We can construct a functor $\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ which sends every mode to \mathcal{C} , and every modality and 2-cell to the identity functor or natural transformation. It is clear that this is 2-functorial, and it is easily shown that the identity functor is a dependent right adjoint. Using this 2-functor, [Theorem 1.4.11](#) tells us that there is a model of MTT with each mode being interpreted in \mathcal{C} . Therefore, if such a term M was possible to construct in MTT, it would be possible to construct it in every model of MLTT, and it would be provable in MLTT. The fact that MLTT is consistent, and therefore that no such term exists, is already well-studied in the literature (with Coquand [\[Coq18\]](#) presenting a particularly short proof). \square

1.4.3 Morphisms of Models

Returning to the models induced by the generalized algebraic syntax, we observe that not only does a GAT induce a collection of models, it determines a notion of morphism between models which forms a category. Though traditionally neglected, homomorphisms of models are of fundamental importance to our proof of canonicity. Accordingly, we take the time to discuss them here.

These morphisms of models are extremely strict compared to some of the morphisms of CwFs previously considered [\[CD14; Bir+18\]](#), as befits a purely algebraic notion of homomorphism⁴. While one can prove a biequivalence or biadjunction relating these to more semantically natural morphisms [\[Uem19\]](#), this is unrelated to our current goals.

⁴The reader should compare these morphisms to group homomorphisms

Definition 1.4.13. A morphism of natural transformations, $(\mathcal{C}, \tilde{\tau}_c \xrightarrow{\tau_c} \mathcal{T}_c)$ to $(\mathcal{D}, \tilde{\tau}_d \xrightarrow{\tau_d} \mathcal{T}_d)$ is comprised of a functor $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ as well as a commuting square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_c & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\varphi}} & F^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_d \\ \tau_c \downarrow & & \downarrow F^* \tau_d \\ \mathcal{T}_c & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & F^* \mathcal{T}_d \end{array}$$

Moreover, we require that $F(\Gamma.A) = F(\Gamma).\varphi(A)$.

We can lift these natural transformations to the formation data of the connectives (making special use of the final equality for the polynomial functors). For instance:

$$\mathbf{P}_{\tau_c}(\mathcal{T}_c) \xrightarrow{(\varphi, \varphi)} \mathbf{P}_{F^* \tau_d}(F^* \mathcal{T}_d)$$

We then require that all our connectives, \prod , \sum , **refl**, strictly commute with these morphisms. Finally, we can extend this to a model of MTT by requiring not just a functor, but a natural transformation from $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$, where $\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ satisfying the obvious generalizations of the conditions written above. Specifying this formally:

Definition 1.4.14. A morphism between two models of MTT, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} , is given by a 2-natural transformation: $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$. Moreover, we require a choice of commuting squares:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_{\mathcal{C}[m]} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\varphi}_m} & F_m^* \tilde{\mathcal{U}}_{\mathcal{D}[m]} \\ \tau_{\mathcal{C}[m]} \downarrow & & \downarrow F^* \tau_{\mathcal{D}[m]} \\ \mathcal{U}_{\mathcal{C}[m]} & \xrightarrow{\varphi_m} & F^* \mathcal{U}_{\mathcal{D}[m]} \end{array}$$

Moreover, we require that $(\varphi, \tilde{\varphi})$ strictly commutes with all operations.

$$\begin{array}{ll} F_m(\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)) = F_m(\Gamma).(\mu \mid \varphi(A)) & \text{lam} \circ (\varphi, \tilde{\varphi}) = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{lam} \\ \prod \circ (\varphi, \varphi) = \varphi \circ \prod & \text{pair} \circ (\varphi, \tilde{\varphi}) = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{pair} \\ \sum \circ (\varphi, \varphi) = \varphi \circ \sum & \text{mod}_\mu \circ [\![\bullet_\mu]\!]^* \tilde{\varphi} = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{mod}_\mu \\ \text{Mod}_\mu \circ [\![\bullet_\mu]\!]^* \varphi = \varphi \circ \text{Mod}_\mu & \text{open}_\mu^\nu \circ (\tilde{\varphi}, [\![\bullet_\mu]\!]^* \tilde{\varphi}) = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{open}_\mu^\nu \\ \text{Bool} = \varphi \circ \text{Bool} & \text{tt} = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{tt} \quad \text{ff} = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{ff} \\ \text{Id} \circ (\varphi, \tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{\varphi}) = \varphi \circ \text{Id} & \text{if} \circ (\tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{\varphi}) = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{if} \\ & \text{refl} \circ \tilde{\varphi} = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \text{refl} \\ & \mathbf{J} \circ (\tilde{\varphi}, \tilde{\varphi}) = \tilde{\varphi} \circ \mathbf{J} \end{array}$$

Remark 1.4.15 (The Initiality of Syntax). Under this definition of homomorphism, we immediately have an initial model [Car78; KKA19]. We will *define* this model to be our syntax and designate it $(\mathbb{S}[m])_{m \in \mathcal{M}}$. \triangleleft

1.5 Canonicity

At this point we have developed a rich theory of the syntax of MTT as well as the models it induces. With this theory we can instantiate the syntax with different mode theories in order to obtain various existing and new modal calculi. We would like, however, to show that irrespective of the mode theory the syntax for MTT is well-behaved. In this section we establish one of the basic properties which measures this: canonicity.

Proposition 1.5.1 (Closed Term Canonicity). *If $\vdash M : \mathbb{B} @ m$, then $\vdash M = \text{tt} : \mathbb{B} @ m$ or $\vdash M = \text{ff} : \mathbb{B} @ m$.*

Traditionally this conjecture might be established by equipping our system with a rewriting system and proving a lengthy PER model construction. Instead, we will opt for a proof given by constructing a *glued* model of MTT [KHS19].

Remark 1.5.2. In what follows, we will assume the existence of two Grothendieck universes $\mathcal{V}' \subset \mathcal{V} : \mathbf{Set}$. This could be reduced to only one at the expense of some contortions but it is both unnecessary and uninteresting. We will also assume that the sets of contexts, substitutions, types, and terms from the syntactic model are \mathcal{V}' -small. \triangleleft

We will define a model of MTT in which contexts and types are pairs of a syntactic context or type, and a proof-relevant predicate upon their elements.

1.5.1 Defining the Glued Model

We now turn to defining the rest of the gluing model.

The Glued Context Categories

Definition 1.5.3 (Glued Contexts). A glued context at mode m is a pair of $\Gamma^\triangleleft \in \text{ctx}_m$, and a predicate $\Gamma^\blacktriangleright \in \mathcal{V}$ with a map of the following shape:

$$\phi_\Gamma : \Gamma^\blacktriangleright \rightarrow (n : \mathcal{M}) \times (\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)) \times \text{sb}_m(\cdot, \blacksquare_\mu, \Gamma^\triangleleft)$$

Remark 1.5.4. We will generally use the metavariable Γ to range over *glued contexts* henceforth and explicitly specify when we intend it to range over syntactic contexts. \triangleleft

Remark 1.5.5. Rather than repeatedly quantifying over n and then $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$, we will instead write $\mu \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, -)$. \triangleleft

Definition 1.5.6 (Glued Substitutions). A glued substitution from Δ to Γ at mode m is a pair of $\gamma^\triangleleft \in \text{sb}_m(\Delta^\triangleleft, \Gamma^\triangleleft)$ together with a function $\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Delta^\blacktriangleright \rightarrow \Gamma^\blacktriangleright$ satisfying $\phi_\Gamma \circ \gamma^\blacktriangleright = \gamma^\triangleleft \circ \phi_\Delta$.

These two definitions define a category. In fact, this category is *precisely* the category $(1_{\mathcal{V}} \downarrow (\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, -)) \times \text{Hom}(\cdot, \blacksquare_\mu, -))$. We will write $\mathcal{C}[m]$ for this category. Next, we can define a 2-functor from \mathcal{M} sending each m to $\mathcal{C}[m]$. We define the one cells (functors $\llbracket \blacksquare_\mu \rrbracket : \mathcal{C}[n] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[m]$ for each $\mu \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$) as follows. Suppose we are given the following arrow in $\mathcal{C}[n]$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Delta^\blacktriangleright & \xrightarrow{\gamma^\blacktriangleright} & \Gamma^\blacktriangleright \\ \downarrow \phi_\Delta & & \downarrow \phi_\Gamma \\ (\nu : \text{Hom}(n, -)) \times \text{sb}_n(\cdot, \blacksquare_\nu, \Delta^\triangleleft) & \xrightarrow{\langle 1, \gamma^\triangleleft \circ - \rangle} & (\nu : \text{Hom}(n, -)) \times \text{sb}_n(\cdot, \blacksquare_\nu, \Gamma^\triangleleft) \end{array}$$

We will send it to the following arrow in $\mathcal{C}[m]$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Delta^\blacktriangleright & \xrightarrow{\gamma^\blacktriangleright} & \Gamma^\blacktriangleright \\
 \downarrow \phi_\Delta(-).\mathbf{a}_\nu & & \downarrow \phi_\Gamma(-).\mathbf{a}_\nu \\
 (\nu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \times \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\nu, \Delta^\triangleleft.\mathbf{a}_\mu) & \xrightarrow{\langle 1, (\gamma^\triangleleft.\mathbf{a}_\mu) \circ - \rangle} & (\nu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \times \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\nu, \Gamma^\triangleleft.\mathbf{a}_\mu)
 \end{array}$$

Here, we have adopted the notation $\phi_\Delta - .\mathbf{a}_\mu$ for the following function:

$$\phi_\Delta(x).\mathbf{a}_\nu = (\xi \circ \nu, \delta.\mathbf{a}_\nu) \text{ where } \phi_\Delta(x) = (\xi, \delta)$$

Observe that we take advantage of the fact that $\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\xi.\mathbf{a}_\nu = \cdot.\mathbf{a}_{\xi \circ \nu}$.

Next, we can define two-cells between $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\nu \rrbracket$ if $\alpha : \nu \Rightarrow \mu$. The appropriate component of the natural transformation is as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Gamma^\blacktriangleright & \xlongequal{\quad} & \Gamma^\blacktriangleright \\
 \downarrow \phi_\Gamma(-).\mathbf{a}_\mu & & \downarrow \phi_\Gamma(-).\mathbf{a}_\nu \\
 (\xi : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \times \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\xi, \Gamma^\triangleleft.\mathbf{a}_\mu) & \xrightarrow{\langle 1, \mathbf{a}_\Gamma^\alpha \circ - \rangle} & (\xi : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \times \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\xi, \Gamma^\triangleleft.\mathbf{a}_\nu)
 \end{array}$$

The naturality of these morphisms follows from the naturality axioms we imposed in [Section 1.2](#) on \mathbf{a}_Γ^α . Together, this defines the appropriate 2-functor specified by [Section 1.4.1](#).

The Glued CwF Structure

Next we must define the modal CwF structure for each category of contexts. In order to do this, we define the following presheaves over $\mathcal{C}[m]$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{T}_m(\Gamma) &\triangleq \{ \\
 &A^\triangleleft \in \text{type}_m^1(\Gamma^\triangleleft); \\
 &A^\blacktriangleright : (\mu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\triangleleft : \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\mu, \Gamma^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma^\blacktriangleright(\mu, \gamma)) \rightarrow \text{tm}_m(\Gamma^\triangleleft, A^\triangleleft) \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \\
 &\} \\
 \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m(\Gamma) &\triangleq \{ \\
 &A^\triangleleft \in \text{type}_m^1(\Gamma^\triangleleft); \\
 &A^\blacktriangleright : (\mu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\triangleleft : \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\mu, \Gamma^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma^\blacktriangleright(\mu, \gamma)) \rightarrow \text{tm}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\mu, A^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]) \rightarrow \mathcal{V} \\
 &M^\triangleleft \in \text{tm}_m(\Gamma^\triangleleft, A^\triangleleft); \\
 &M^\blacktriangleright : (\mu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\triangleleft : \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\mu, \Gamma^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma^\blacktriangleright(\mu, \gamma)) \rightarrow A^\blacktriangleright(\gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright, M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]) \\
 &\} \\
 \tau_m(\Gamma) &\triangleq (A^\triangleleft, A^\blacktriangleright, M^\triangleleft, M^\blacktriangleright) \mapsto (A^\triangleleft, A^\blacktriangleright)
 \end{aligned}$$

The reindexing action of these presheaves is defined by the substitution actions on, for instance, $\text{type}_m^1(-)$.

We must show that this defines a representable natural transformation in the sense of [Section 1.4.1](#). Suppose that we have a morphism $[A] \in \text{Hom}(\mathbf{y}(\Gamma), [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \mathcal{T}_n)$, where $\mu \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m)$. We will show that the following object in $\mathcal{C}[n]$ satisfies the required universal property:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma.(\mu \mid A)^\triangleleft &= \Gamma^\triangleleft.(\mu \mid A^\triangleleft) \\ \Gamma.(\mu \mid A)^\blacktriangleright &= \lambda\nu, (\gamma^\triangleleft.M^\triangleleft). (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma^\blacktriangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft)) \times A^\blacktriangleright(\nu \circ \mu, \gamma^\triangleleft.\mathbf{a}_\mu, \gamma^\blacktriangleright, M^\triangleleft) \end{aligned}$$

In this definition we have made use of an often convenient maneuver and considered $\Gamma^\blacktriangleright$ as a type-theoretic predicate $\Gamma^\triangleleft \rightarrow \mathcal{V}$. It is routine to reorient this into an object fibered over $(\mu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \times \text{sb}_m(\cdot.\mathbf{a}_\mu, \Gamma)$ as is required by the definition of $\mathcal{C}[m]$. It remains to show that this fits into the appropriate pullback square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{y}(\Delta) & \xrightarrow{[M]} & [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\ \downarrow [\gamma] & \searrow [\mathbf{q}] & \downarrow [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \tau_n \\ \mathbf{y}(\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)) & \xrightarrow{[\mathbf{q}]} & [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\ \downarrow \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{p}) & & \downarrow [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \tau_n \\ \mathbf{y}(\Gamma) & \xrightarrow{[A]} & [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \mathcal{T}_n \end{array}$$

It is straightforward to define \mathbf{p} and \mathbf{q} :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}^\triangleleft &= \uparrow & \mathbf{q}^\triangleleft &= \mathbf{v}_0 \\ \mathbf{p}^\blacktriangleright &= \pi_0 & \mathbf{q}^\blacktriangleright &= \pi_1 \end{aligned}$$

We must verify that this cocone is universal. To this end, consider the Δ in the diagram above. We wish to define the unique map into $\Gamma.(\mu \mid A)$. We define this map as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (\gamma.M)^\triangleleft &= \gamma^\triangleleft.M^\triangleleft \\ (\gamma.M)^\blacktriangleright &= \lambda\nu, \delta^\triangleleft, \delta^\blacktriangleright. (\gamma^\blacktriangleright(\nu, \delta^\triangleleft, \delta^\blacktriangleright), M^\blacktriangleright(\nu \circ \mu, \delta^\triangleleft.\mathbf{a}_\mu, \delta^\blacktriangleright)) \end{aligned}$$

It is routine to calculate that this diagram commutes, and, moreover, that these maps are universal (we have axiomatically ensured that $\gamma^\triangleleft.M^\triangleleft$ is universal).

The Glued Modal Structure

We will now show that the glued model supports modal types, $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle$. This is the main new feature of the system, and correspondingly the most novel part of this proof. To begin with, we must define a pair of maps making the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n & \xrightarrow{\text{mod}_\mu} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \tau_m \\ [\![\mathbf{a}_\mu]\!]^* \mathcal{T}_n & \xrightarrow{\text{Mod}_\mu} & \mathcal{T}_m \end{array}$$

We will define these maps as follows (where $\mu : \text{Hom}(m, n)$):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A)^\triangleleft &= \langle \mu \mid A^\triangleleft \rangle \\ \mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A)^\triangleright &= \lambda \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, M^\triangleleft. (N^\triangleleft \in \text{tm}_n(\cdot. \mathbf{a}_{\nu \circ \mu}, A^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu])) \times A^\triangleright(\nu \circ \mu, \gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu, \gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleleft) \times (\text{mod}_\mu(N^\triangleleft) = M^\triangleleft) \\ \mathbf{mod}_\mu(M)^\triangleleft &= \text{mod}_\mu(M^\triangleleft) \\ \mathbf{mod}_\mu(M)^\triangleright &= \lambda \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright. (M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu], M^\triangleright(\nu \circ \mu, \gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu, \gamma^\triangleright), \star) \end{aligned}$$

Here we have only specified the parts of \mathbf{mod}_μ which are not forced by commutativity. That is, we have defined $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m$ as essentially a sigma of a dependent type indexed over \mathcal{T}_m and so here we have only specified the dependent portion, and observed that the index is forced to be $\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A)$.

This is the natural way to write these objects when working type-theoretically, as opposed to categorically, and we are assured that there is no loss of precision because one can always pass back and forth between the two styles. To be explicit, we could have defined \mathbf{mod}_μ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{mod}_\mu(\Gamma)(A^\triangleleft, A^\triangleright, M^\triangleleft, M^\triangleright) = \{ & \\ & \langle \mu \mid A^\triangleleft \rangle; \\ & \lambda \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, M^\triangleleft. (N^\triangleleft \in \text{tm}_n(\cdot. \mathbf{a}_{\nu \circ \mu}, A^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu])) \times A^\triangleright(\nu \circ \mu, \gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu, \gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleleft) \times (\text{mod}_\mu(N^\triangleleft) = M^\triangleleft); \\ & \text{mod}_\mu(M^\triangleleft); \\ & \lambda \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright. (M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu], M^\triangleright(\nu \circ \mu, \gamma^\triangleleft. \mathbf{a}_\mu, \gamma^\triangleright), \star) \\ & \} \end{aligned}$$

This definition, however, is far harder to read. Instead, we have allowed ourselves to elide the index of the fiber (the first two components of this record) and work only with the last two. This passage between the internal and external style is both a complication and a strength of the gluing style; we can pick whichever is more convenient for the task at hand. One can observe that this style is precisely equivalent to working with $\tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(A))$.

Next, we must define the left lifting structure specifying the data of the elimination rule. Let us first inspect the pullback from [Section 1.4.1](#) used in the definition of m with $\mu : \text{Hom}(m, n)$ and $\nu : \text{Hom}(n, o)$:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \boxed{\text{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[o])} \\ & \text{[[a}_{\nu \circ \mu}\text{]]}^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m & \xrightarrow{\text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* \mathbf{mod}_\mu \\ & \downarrow \text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* m & \\ & \text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* M & \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_n \\ & \downarrow \lrcorner & \downarrow \text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* \tau_n \\ & \text{[[a}}_{\nu \circ \mu}\text{]]}^* \mathcal{T}_m & \xrightarrow{\text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* \mathbf{Mod}_\mu \text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* \mathcal{T}_n \\ & \downarrow \text{[[a}}_{\nu \circ \mu}\text{]]}^* \tau_m & \\ & \text{[[a}}_{\nu \circ \mu}\text{]]}^* \mathcal{T}_m & \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{[[a}}_{\nu}\text{]]}^* \mathcal{T}_n \end{array}$$

We can unfold definitions to see that M is defined as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* M)(\Gamma) = \{ \\
& \quad A^\triangleleft : \text{type}_m^1(\Gamma, \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu}); \\
& \quad A^\blacktriangleright : (\xi : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\triangleleft : \text{sb}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\xi, \Gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu})) \rightarrow (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma, \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu}^\blacktriangleright(\xi, \gamma^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow \text{tm}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\xi, A^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}; \\
& \quad M^\triangleleft : \text{tm}_n(\Gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_\nu, \langle \mu \mid A \rangle); \\
& \quad M^\blacktriangleright : (\xi : \text{Hom}(n, -)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\triangleleft : \text{sb}_n(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\xi, \Gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_\nu)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma, \mathbf{A}_\nu^\blacktriangleright(\xi, \gamma^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow \\
& \quad \quad (N^\triangleleft : \text{tm}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu}, A^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu}^\triangleleft])) \times A^\blacktriangleright(\xi \circ \nu \circ \mu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_\mu, \gamma^\blacktriangleright, N^\triangleleft) \times (\text{mod}_\mu(N^\triangleleft) = M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]); \\
& \}
\end{aligned}$$

Further unfolding definitions, we can see that $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* m$ sends a quadruple from $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m$ to M by sending $(A^\triangleleft, A^\blacktriangleright, M^\triangleleft, M^\blacktriangleright)$ to the quadruple $(A^\triangleleft, A^\blacktriangleright, \text{mod}_\mu(M)^\triangleleft, \text{mod}_\mu(M)^\blacktriangleright)$.

We will now unfold the definition of the left lifting structure under discussion:

$$(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* m) \dashv (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_m)^*(\tau_o[-])$$

This is a type living in a slice of the presheaf topos, and so it suffices to construct an element of it for each $\Gamma : \mathcal{C}[o]$ and $A \in (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_o)(\Gamma)$, naturally in both. Let us fix $\Gamma : \mathcal{C}[o]$ and some $A \in \llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_m(\Gamma)$ and compute the following (in **Set** now, not the slice):

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* m \dashv (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \mathcal{T}_m)^*(\tau_o))(\Gamma, A) = \\
& \prod_{C: [(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* M)^{-1}(A) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_o](\Gamma)} \prod_{c: [(a: (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \tau_m)^{-1}(A)) \rightarrow \tau_o^{-1}(C(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* \text{mod}_\mu(a)))](\Gamma)} \\
& \quad \left\{ j : \left[\prod_{p: (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* M)^{-1}(A)} \tau_o^{-1}(C(p)) \right](\Gamma) \mid \forall a : (\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \tau_m)^{-1}(A). j(\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* \text{mod}_\mu(a)) = c(a) \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

At this point we remind the reader of the observations of [Section 1.4.1](#), which tells us that exponentiation by $(\llbracket \mu \circ \nu \rrbracket^* \tau_o)^{-1}(A)$ is equivalent to considering the codomain at the context $\Gamma.(\mu \circ \nu \mid A)$. This, along with similar observations, allows us to switch freely between seeing c and C as functions or as terms in an extended context. Moreover, in the fiber over Γ, A , we can simplify $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\nu \circ \mu} \rrbracket^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket^* M$ because their type components must be A and $\text{Mod}_\mu(A)$ respectively. In particular, we can treat M as $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket^* \tau_n^{-1}(\text{Mod}_\mu(A))$.

We can now simply write down the term witnessing this type.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{open}_\mu^\nu(\Gamma)(C, c, M)^\triangleleft = \text{let}_\nu \text{mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow M^\triangleleft \text{ in } c^\triangleleft[\text{id}, \mathbf{v}_0] \\
& \text{open}_\mu^\nu(\Gamma)(C, c, M)^\blacktriangleright = \lambda \xi, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright. c^\blacktriangleright(\xi, \gamma^\triangleleft, \pi_0(M^\blacktriangleright(\xi \circ \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_\nu, \gamma^\blacktriangleright)), (\gamma^\blacktriangleright, \pi_1(M^\blacktriangleright(\xi \circ \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_\nu, \gamma^\blacktriangleright)))) \\
& \quad \text{where } \pi_2(M^\blacktriangleright(\xi \circ \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_\nu, \gamma^\blacktriangleright)) : \text{mod}_\mu(\pi_0(M^\blacktriangleright(\xi \circ \nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{A}_\nu, \gamma^\blacktriangleright))) = M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]
\end{aligned}$$

It is routine to calculate that this satisfies the required equality for open_μ^μ , completing the required construction. We are required to show that this definition is natural in Γ and A , but this can be shown by a tedious computation. The essence of this computation hinges on the fact that all the isomorphisms used are natural in Γ, A and the definitions of $\text{open}_\nu^\mu(\dots)^\triangleleft$ and $\text{open}_\nu^\mu(\dots)^\blacktriangleright$ are built out of natural components.

The Glued Pi Structure

We are fortunate in the case of the pi structure because, while these definitions are not entirely mode local, the construction essentially mirrors the standard definitions in a glued model:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Pi(A, B)^\triangleleft &= (\mu \mid A^\triangleleft) \rightarrow B^\triangleleft \\
\Pi(A, B)^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu. \lambda\gamma^\triangleleft. \lambda\gamma^\triangleright. \lambda M^\triangleleft. \\
&\quad (N^\triangleleft : \mathbf{tm}_n(\cdot, \mathbf{a}_{\nu \circ \mu}, A^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{a}_\mu])) \rightarrow \\
&\quad (N^\triangleright : A^\triangleright(\nu \circ \mu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{a}_\mu, \gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow \\
&\quad B^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, N^\triangleleft, (\gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleright), M^\triangleleft(N^\triangleleft)) \\
\mathbf{lam}(M)^\triangleleft &= \lambda(M^\triangleleft) \\
\mathbf{lam}(M)^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleleft, N^\triangleright. M^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, N^\triangleleft, (\gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleright))
\end{aligned}$$

We now wish to show that these arrows are part of a pullback square. To this end, suppose that we have some context Δ and a pair of arrows $[M] : \mathbf{y}(\Delta) \rightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m$ and $([A], [B]) : \mathbf{y}(\Delta) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_{[\mathbf{a}_\mu]}^*(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m)$. We wish to construct a unique arrow factoring this through $\mathbf{P}_{[\mathbf{a}_\mu]}^*(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m)$ such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathbf{y}(\Delta) & \xrightarrow{[M]} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
\downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \tau_m \\
\mathbf{P}_{[\mathbf{a}_\mu]}^*(\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m) & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{lam}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\mathbf{P}_{[\mathbf{a}_\mu]}^*(\mathcal{T}_m) & \xrightarrow{\Pi} & \mathcal{T}_m
\end{array}$$

(Note: A dashed arrow also points from $\mathbf{y}(\Delta)$ to $\mathbf{P}_{[\mathbf{a}_\mu]}^*(\mathcal{T}_m)$ via $([A], [B])$.)

We will define this unique arrow as $([A], [M_0])$, where M_0 is a term in $\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m(\Delta.(\mu \mid A))$ which lies over B . We know that M lies over $\Pi(A, B)$, and so we can define N as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
M_0^\triangleleft &= M^\triangleleft[\uparrow](\mathbf{v}_0) \\
M_0^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleleft, N^\triangleright. M^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleleft, N^\triangleright)
\end{aligned}$$

In order to show that this commutes, observe that $\mathbf{lam}(M_0)^\triangleleft = \lambda(M^\triangleleft[\uparrow](\mathbf{v}_0))$, which using the η rule for dependent products is equal to M . This same observation guarantees unicity for the syntactic half: given some M_1 such that $\lambda(M^\triangleleft[\uparrow](\mathbf{v}_0)) = \lambda(M_1^\triangleleft)$, we would have that $M_1^\triangleleft = M^\triangleleft[\uparrow](\mathbf{v}_0)$ by congruence and β . By applying essentially the same argument for the *meta* function space, we also obtain the fact that the semantic side of M_0 commutes and is unique with this property.

The Glued Sigma Structure

The glued sigma structure is identical to the one found in, for instance, Kaposi, Huber, and Sattler [KHS19]. We wish to construct the following pullback

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \sum_{B:\mathcal{T}_m^{-1}(A)} \sum_{M:\tau_m^{-1}(B)} \tau_m^{-1}(B(M)) & \xrightarrow{\text{pair}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\
 \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \tau_m \\
 \mathbf{P}_{\tau_m}(\mathcal{T}_m) & \xrightarrow{\Sigma} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}$$

We will define Σ and **pair** over it as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Sigma(A, B)^\triangleleft &= \Sigma(A^\triangleleft, B^\triangleleft) \\
 \Sigma(A, B)^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, (M^\triangleleft, N^\triangleleft). (M^\triangleright : A^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright)) \times B^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft.M^\triangleleft, (\gamma^\triangleright, M^\triangleright)) \\
 \text{pair}(M, N)^\triangleleft &= (M^\triangleleft, N^\triangleleft) \\
 \text{pair}(M, N)^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, (M^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright), N^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright))
 \end{aligned}$$

The verification that this forms a pullback and commutes is entirely routine and thus elided in the first iteration of this proof.

The Glued Intensional Identity Structure

The intensional identity structure is a standard construction. It is still complex, however, because lifting structures are troublesome to write down in the standard setting as well as ours. First, however, we define the formation rules as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{Id}(A, M_0, M_1)^\triangleleft &= \mathbf{Id}_{A^\triangleleft}(M_0^\triangleleft, M_1^\triangleleft) \\
 \mathbf{Id}(A, M_0, M_1)^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, N^\triangleleft. (M_0^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft] = M_1^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]) \times (M_0^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright) = M_1^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright)) \times (N^\triangleleft = \text{refl}(M_0^\triangleleft)) \\
 \text{refl}(M)^\triangleleft &= \text{refl}(M^\triangleleft) \\
 \text{refl}(M)^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright. (\star, \star, \star)
 \end{aligned}$$

For the left lifting structure, bearing in mind the observations made in the construction of open_μ we write the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{J}(C, c, N)^\triangleleft &= \mathbf{J}(C^\triangleleft, c^\triangleleft, M^\triangleleft) \\
 \mathbf{J}(C, c, N)^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright. c^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft.M_0^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft], (\gamma^\triangleright, M_0^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright))) \\
 &\quad \text{where } N^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright) : (M_0^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft] = M_1^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]) \times (M_0^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright) = M_1^\triangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright)) \times (N^\triangleleft = \text{refl}(M_0^\triangleleft))
 \end{aligned}$$

The Glued Boolean Structure

For the boolean case, we once again must contend with a lifting structure but a far simpler one because \mathbb{B} is a closed type. For the formation and introduction rules, we have the following definitions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbf{Bool}^\triangleleft &= \mathbb{B} & \mathbf{Bool}^\triangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\triangleright, M^\triangleleft. (M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft] = \text{tt}) + (M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft] = \text{ff}) \\
 \text{tt}^\triangleleft &= \text{tt} & \text{tt}^\triangleright &= \lambda_. \iota_0(\star) \\
 \text{ff}^\triangleleft &= \text{ff} & \text{ff}^\triangleright &= \lambda_. \iota_1(\star)
 \end{aligned}$$

We must now define the left lifting structure we called $\mathbf{if} : [\mathbf{tt}, \mathbf{ff}] \dashv \tau_m$. We can just write out the term without further remark in this case:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{if}(C, [c_0, c_1], M)^\triangleleft &= \mathbf{if}(C^\triangleleft; c_0^\triangleleft; c_1^\triangleleft; M^\triangleleft) \\ \mathbf{if}(C, [c_0, c_1], M)^\blacktriangleright &= \lambda\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright. \begin{cases} c_0^\blacktriangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright) & M^\blacktriangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright) = \iota_0(\star) \\ c_1^\blacktriangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright) & M^\blacktriangleright(\nu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright) = \iota_1(\star) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

The Glued Universe Structure

The construction of the glued structure on universes as been a source of consternation in many previous gluing proofs. We can, however, adapt the methodology of Coquand [Coq18] in order to make this more or less immediate. First, let us recall that we have a subuniverse $\mathcal{V}' \subset \mathcal{V}$. Next, let us define the presheaf of small types as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}_m(\Gamma) &\triangleq \{ \\ &A^\triangleleft \in \text{type}_m^0(\Gamma^\triangleleft); \\ &A^\blacktriangleright : (\mu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\triangleleft : \text{sb}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\mu, \Gamma^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma^\blacktriangleright(\mu, \gamma)) \rightarrow \text{tm}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\mu, \uparrow A^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft]) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}' \\ &\} \end{aligned}$$

We can then define an inclusion of \mathcal{S}_m into \mathcal{T}_m : $\mathbf{lift}(A^\triangleleft, A^\blacktriangleright) = (\uparrow A^\triangleleft, A^\blacktriangleright)$. Notice that we have made use of the fact that $\mathcal{V}' \subset \mathcal{V}$ to make the coercion on A^\blacktriangleright entirely silent. Next, we observe that each of the semantic predicates on π , σ , $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$, the identity types, and booleans all preserve \mathcal{V}' smallness. If the inputted semantic predicates are \mathcal{V}' small, then so are the outputted predicates. Therefore, each of these restricts to a small type in \mathcal{S}_m , using the lifting operators in the syntax. What remains is to construct an element of \mathcal{T}_m which pulls-back to something isomorphic to \mathcal{S}_m . For this, we pick the following:

$$\mathbf{Uni}(\star) = (\mathbf{U}, \lambda\mu, \gamma^\triangleleft, \gamma^\blacktriangleright, M^\triangleleft. \text{tm}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\mu, \uparrow \text{El}(M^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}')$$

Crucially here, \mathcal{V}' is small enough to fit in a proof-relevant predicate valued in \mathcal{V} . The pullback of τ_m along \mathbf{Uni} can be calculated to be isomorphic to the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Uni})(\Gamma) &\cong \{ \\ &M^\triangleleft \in \text{tm}_m(\Gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{U}); \\ &M^\blacktriangleright : (\mu : \text{Hom}(m, -)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\triangleleft : \text{sb}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\mu, \Gamma^\triangleleft)) \rightarrow (\gamma^\blacktriangleright : \Gamma^\blacktriangleright(\gamma)) \rightarrow \text{tm}_m(\cdot, \mathbf{A}_\mu, \uparrow \text{El}(M^\triangleleft[\gamma^\triangleleft])) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}' \\ &\} \end{aligned}$$

However, we may now use that $\text{Code}(-)$ and $\text{El}(-)$ provide isomorphisms natural in Γ^\triangleleft between $\text{type}_m^0(\Gamma^\triangleleft)$ and $\text{tm}_m(\Gamma^\triangleleft, \mathbf{U})$ to conclude that \mathbf{Uni} is the desired glued universe.

1.5.2 Deriving Canonicity

With the gluing model constructed, the rest of the proof is surprisingly easy and boils down to one fact:

Theorem 1.5.7. *The natural transformation $\pi : \mathcal{C}[m] \mapsto \mathbb{S}[m]$ from the glued model to the syntactic model is a morphism of models.*

Proof. This is immediate by inspection of the constructions in the previous section: each construction uses the corresponding syntactic operation and so projecting this out constitutes a morphism of models. \square

Corollary 1.5.8. *For any closed term $\vdash M : A @ m$, there is a witness for $\llbracket A \rrbracket^\blacktriangleright(M)$*

Proof. Immediate by initiality and **Theorem 1.5.7**, we must have $\pi(\llbracket M \rrbracket) = M$, and so $\llbracket M \rrbracket^\blacktriangleright$ is the desired witness. \square

Theorem 1.5.9 (Closed Term Canonicity). *If $\cdot \vdash_{\mu} M : A @ m$ is a closed term, then the following conditions hold:*

- *If $A = \mathbb{B}$ then $\cdot \vdash_{\mu} M = \text{tt} : \mathbb{B} @ m$ or $\cdot \vdash_{\mu} M = \text{ff} : \mathbb{B} @ m$.*
- *If $A = \text{Id}_{A_0}(N_0, N_1)$ then $\cdot \vdash_{\mu} N_0 = N_1 : A_0 @ m$ and $\cdot \vdash_{\mu} M = \text{refl}(N_0) : \text{Id}_{A_0}(N_0, N_1) @ m$.*
- *If $A = \langle \nu \mid A_0 \rangle$ then there is a term $\cdot \vdash_{\mu \circ \nu} N : A_0 @ n$ such that $\cdot \vdash_{\mu} M = \text{mod}_{\nu}(N) : \langle \nu \mid A_0 \rangle @ m$.*

Proof. Immediate by **Corollary 1.5.8** and the definition of the semantic predicates at \mathbb{B} , $\text{Id}_{A_0}(N_0, N_1)$, and $\langle \mu \mid A_0 \rangle$ respectively. \square

1.6 A Strictification Conjecture

When constructing models of MTT, it will often prove more convenient to use [Theorem 1.4.11](#), but this theorem still requires *strict* models of type theory, and a *strict* 2-functor between them. It has long been understood that many semantic situations are too weak, and require strictification in order to be assembled into a valid model of type theory.

Just as some models require strictification for the interpretation of substitution, some natural applications of MTT will require strictification of the interpretation of locks. Recall from [Section 1.4.1](#) that we require a 2-functor interpreting the modes as categories, the locks as functors, and the 2-cells as natural transformations. In many cases, we will not obtain the equation $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{\mu \circ \nu} \rrbracket = \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket \circ \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$, instead we will only get a unique natural isomorphism between the two. Just as with substitution, one can attempt to find some special property of $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$ or $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket$ which admits a suitably strict interpretation, but it will prove more fruitful to instead construct a general procedure for replacing a pseudo-functorial interpretation with a strictly functorial choice. The question of strictification for pseudo-functors has been well-studied in category theory [Pow89; Lac02]. In particular, for any pseudo-functorial map $F : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$, we can construct a 2-functor $F' : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ together with a natural equivalence $E : F' \simeq F$.⁵

We conjecture that $F'(m)$ supports a model of Martin-Löf Type Theory when $F(m)$ can be equipped with a model, and moreover that if $F(\mu)$ is part of a dependent right adjoint, so is $F'(\mu)$. Moreover, we believe that E lifts to an equivalence of models, such that working with F' is equivalent to working in F .

If these conjectures are true, then we may use this strictification of pseudo-functors to obtain a general strictification result about models of MTT:

Conjecture 1.6.1. *Given a pseudo-functor $F : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$, such that $F(m)$ is equipped with a model of Martin-Löf Type Theory and $F(\mu)$ is the left part of a dependent right adjoint between these models, there exists a 2-functor F' , such there is a natural equivalence of models $F(m) \simeq F'(m)$. Moreover, F' is a model of MTT with the mode theory \mathcal{M} .*

At this stage, we do not attempt to prove this conjecture, and consider only suitably strict models in §2.

⁵This procedure is akin to the well-known result that any cloven fibration can be replaced with a *split* cloven fibration [Str18].

1.7 Additions and Modifications to MTT

In some of the applications of MTT, we will want to change MTT in order to facilitate an apples-to-apples comparison with some other modal type theory. For instance, Bizjak et al. [Biz+16] made use of an extensional dependent type theory. In order to reproduce the examples from this paper in MTT, it is helpful to change MTT to also have an extensional, rather than an intensional, equality type. Similarly, we may wish to add new base types in order to describe a particular example.

Despite the utility of these extensions, they should not be added to the formal definition of MTT in Section 1.2. Either they will disrupt metatheoretic properties (like extensional equality) or drown out the salient aspects of the type theory with irrelevant details (the host of new base types). Instead, we collect these extensions here for future reference, but refrain from reproving results like Theorems 1.4.11 and 1.5.7.

1.7.1 Extensional Equality

We can replace the intensional identity with an extensional identity type. We will remove the $\text{Id}_A(M, N)$ type and all the rules associated with it and replace them with the following:

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_\ell @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_0, M_1 : \uparrow A @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{Eq}_A(M_0, M_1) \text{ type}_\ell @ m}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M : A @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{refl}(M) : \text{Eq}_A(M, M) @ m}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_0, M_1 : A @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash P : \text{Eq}_A(M_0, M_1) @ m}{\Gamma \vdash M_0 = M_1 : A @ m}$$

The model theory must change as well. Rather than demanding a lifting structure, we ask that the formation rule and introduction rules form a pullback, rather than merely a commuting square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{\text{refl}} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m \\ \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \tau_m \\ \sum_{A:\mathcal{T}_m} \tau_m^{-1}(A) \times \tau_m^{-1}(A) & \xrightarrow{\text{Eq}} & \mathcal{T}_m \end{array}$$

1.7.2 Natural Numbers

The addition of natural numbers is standard:

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{Nat} \text{ type}_\ell @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{zero} : \text{Nat} @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \text{Nat} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{succ}(M) : \text{Nat} @ m}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M_z : A[\text{id.zero}] @ m \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma.(1 \mid \text{Nat}) \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{rec}(A; M_z; M_s; N) : A[\text{id.N}] @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma.(1 \mid \text{Nat}).(1 \mid A) \vdash M_s : A[\uparrow^2.\text{succ}(v_1)] @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash N : \text{Nat} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{rec}(A; M_z; M_s; N) : A[\text{id.N}] @ m}$$

The addition to the model theory is slightly complex, though the introduction and formation rules are similar to the ones for booleans:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m & \\
 \text{zero} \nearrow & \downarrow \tau_m & \\
 1 & \xrightarrow{\mathbf{Nat}} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_m & \\
 \text{succ} \nearrow & \downarrow \tau_m & \\
 \tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Nat}) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \mathcal{T}_m
 \end{array}$$

The complex part of this definition is the elimination rule. We cannot just use a lifting structure because of the inductive or recursive component of the natural numbers. The problem stems from the fact that the premises of the data of the elimination depend on the motive. Therefore, we cannot even write down the morphism we must lift against. This can be resolved in a few different ways. The most direct solution is to make use of the internal language to write out the data of the elimination rule:

$$\mathbf{rec} : \prod_{A:\tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Nat}) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_m} A(\mathbf{zero}) \rightarrow \left(\prod_{n:\tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Nat})} A(n) \rightarrow A(\mathbf{succ}(n)) \right) \rightarrow \prod_{n:\tau_m^{-1}(\mathbf{Nat})} A(n)$$

While this approach is correct, it is also slightly unsatisfying, providing no general insights into natural numbers.

Let us take a moment to consider a more general problem. Suppose we are given an enriched⁶ functor $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m]) \xrightarrow{T} \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])$. The enrichment ensures that we have an appropriately natural map $Y^X \rightarrow T(Y)^{T(X)}$. Let us further suppose we are given a T -algebra for some element $A : \mathcal{T}_m$. That is, $T(\tau_m^{-1}(A)) \xrightarrow{\iota} \tau_m^{-1}(A)$. Using this morphism, we can restrict T to the slice $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/\tau_m^{-1}(A)$. This restriction sends $X \xrightarrow{f} \tau_m^{-1}(A)$ to $T(X) \xrightarrow{\iota \circ T(f)} \tau_m^{-1}(A)$. Now, the lifting of ι into this category gives us a T -algebra structure on the terminal object. That is, a map $T(1) \rightarrow 1$ in $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/\tau_m^{-1}(A)$. We then ask that this map is naturally weakly initial among certain other T -algebras. In particular, we demand the following structure (still inside $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}[m])/\tau_m^{-1}(A)$):

$$\prod_{C:\mathcal{T}_m} \prod_{c:T(\tau_m^{-1}(C)) \rightarrow \tau_m^{-1}(C)} \{h : 1 \rightarrow \tau_m^{-1}(C) \mid h \circ ! = c \circ T(h)\}$$

This structure generalizes [Definition 1.4.7](#) (pick T to be a constant functor), but it is also flexible enough to capture natural numbers and other inductive types. For natural numbers we pick $T(X) = 1 + X$ and $\mathbf{Nat} : 1 \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_m$ and require such a lifting structure.

⁶Recall that any category with exponentials admits a canonical “self-enrichment”.

1.8 Related Work

Modal type theory has been an active area of research for several decades and, as with any active field, a precise taxonomy of modal type theories would be a paper in and of itself. Accordingly, we have not attempted such a task here, and have chosen instead to focus on separating modal type theories into distinct strands based on the judgmental structures underlying them. Our characterization is slightly artificial in some cases, and these lines of work are not nearly so separate as our description might suggest. We feel, however, that this is the simplest way to place MTT in relation to the current work surrounding the interactions of modalities and dependent types.

1.8.1 Dual-Context Modal Calculi

One of the first papers on modal type theory was by Pfenning and Davies [PD01],⁷ which constructed a proof theory for S4, i.e. a comonadic modality. The central idea of this approach was to reflect the distinction between the truth and validity of a proposition in the judgmental structure of the system itself, rather than attempting to construct it after the fact. The judgments for this calculus then contained not just a context of true propositions, but rather two contexts: one for true propositions, and one for valid propositions. By structuring the system around this distinction from the beginning, incorporating a \Box comonad is straightforward; $\Box A$ just internalizes an artifact already present in the system:

$$\frac{\Delta; \cdot \vdash A \text{ true}}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \Box A \text{ true}} \quad \frac{A \in \Delta \cup \Gamma}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash A \text{ true}} \quad \frac{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash \Box A \text{ true} \quad \Delta, A; \Gamma \vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta; \Gamma \vdash B \text{ true}}$$

It was apparent from the beginning that this proof theory could be fruitfully interpreted as a type theory, and Pfenning and Davies [PD01] already begin to develop the metatheory of such a system. Other work picked up where Pfenning and Davies [PD01] had left off and began to develop the theory of dual-context lambda calculi. Recently, Kavvos [Kav17] presented a unified picture of several different modal logics into this proof theory. On the type-theoretic side, it has long been believed that the dual-context calculus should generalize to support full dependent types. This generalization is reflected in both de Paiva and Ritter [dR15] and Shulman [Shu18]. Similarly, contextual modal type theory [NPP08; BP11; BS15; Pie+19] has used a dual-context-like structure in order to give a systematic account of higher-order abstract syntax.

Recent work by Zwanziger [Zwa19] continues this program by formulating a precise categorical semantics based on natural models [Awo18] for a dependent type theory with either an adjunction (**AdjTT**) or comonad (**CoTT**). The categorical semantics of MTT and **AdjTT** are closely related, though with minor differences in the precise definition of the modality. For instance, in MTT only the \Box operator is required to act upon the context, while in **AdjTT** the modalities themselves must extend to contexts.⁸ These differences arise because Zwanziger [Zwa19] characterizes only a certain, semantically well-behaved, subclass of models, while Section 1.4 describes models which capture not only these situations, but the syntactic model as well as the gluing model from Theorem 1.5.9. Syntactically, **AdjTT** is multimode type theory, including a mode for “both ends” of the adjunction, but it is not multimodal and allows for only one adjunction.

The limitation of this dual-context style is its lack of generality. As the complexity of the modal situation increases, the complexity of the context structure must increase. Moreover, this increased complexity is not linear in the number of distinct modalities, and it quickly becomes unmanageable. Moreover, the structure of a dependent dual-context type theory enforces that a valid type (one belonging to Δ) may not depend on a true type (one belonging to Γ). This is a reasonable enough restriction

⁷Unfortunately, even this first statement is gross revisionism; the idea of dual-contexts was present well before 2001 [And92; Gir93; Plo93].

⁸This is similar to the relation between a CwF+A and a CwDRA from Birkedal et al. [Bir+18], and we expect a similar relation to exist between the semantics of MTT with a single modality and **AdjTT**.

in the case of \Box , but it is already somewhat limiting. For instance, it should be allowed for a valid type to depend on a merely true type if that type is $\Box A$, or equivalent to one of this shape. Making such an adjustment would not only present a typographical problem (with a type occurring to the left of one of its dependencies), it would render the introduction rule for $\Box A$ nonsensical.

This restriction proves even more difficult to manage once there is not merely one modality, but two distinct modalities within the system, say μ and ν . Should the μ -modified types be allowed to depend on ν -modified types? Vice-versa? Should there be three contexts: μ -modified, ν -modified, unmodified? Or perhaps a fourth, $\mu\nu$ -modified? These questions can be addressed for each specific modal situation, indeed both Shulman [Shu18] and Zwanziger [Zwa19] both hand-craft a system for two modalities, but these systems must be constructed for each case specifically.

Indeed, there is very little to complain about for any given dual-context calculi. Many of these type theories satisfy desirable meta-theoretic properties, well-defined semantics, and are reasonable for programming [Vez18]. What is lacking with the dual-context style is the ability to work systematically with a large class of modal situations without reconsidering the properties of the system in each case. Some of MTT's rules can be directly traced to rules in dual-context calculi (in particular, the elimination rule for modal types) but the structure of the context is radically different in order support a wide variety of modal situations out of the box.

1.8.2 Modal Type Theories based on Left-Division

Developed concurrently with the dual-context calculi has been a series of modal type theories based on what Nuyts, Vezzosi, and Devriese [NVD17] called “left division”. Under this discipline, rather than having a fixed set of contexts, there is a single context consisting of variables annotated with modal annotations. We trace this structure to Pfenning [Pfe01], where the annotations described the relevance of the variable. For instance, a variable could be tagged as *irrelevant*, which could only be used in other irrelevant positions and could be skipped over when checking terms for conversion.

In a non-dependent type system, the distinction between annotations and different contexts is a little artificial: we could simply sort variables by their annotation and obtain different context zones. Once generalized to a dependent type theory, annotated contexts do not require the same fixed discipline for which zones may depend on others. Instead, a type may depend on anything prior in the context, but the nature of that dependence is moderated through their annotations.

The term “left division” is chosen to describe this structure because of the behavior of the introduction rules for modal types. For instance, in Pfenning [Pfe01], there is a rule for introducing a term in an irrelevant context:

$$\frac{\Gamma^\oplus \vdash M : A}{\Gamma \vdash M \mathrel{::}_{\text{irr}} A}$$

Here $\mathrel{::}^\oplus$ is a metaoperation defined by traversing the context and modifying the annotations by removing irrelevant annotations. The effect of this is that all the variables in Γ^\oplus can be used freely, which is sufficient when type-checking M because M itself is irrelevant. If one is sufficiently careful, one can construe this operation as a division operation, we divide all the annotations in Γ by *irr*. The metatheory of a full dependent type theory based on this idea was considered by Abel and Scherer [AS12], which ensures the soundness and decidability of modeling irrelevance in this way.

More recently, Nuyts, Vezzosi, and Devriese [NVD17], and especially Nuyts and Devriese [ND18] have carried this idea to its natural conclusion and incorporated modalities for more modes of use than “irrelevant”, “relevant”, or “intensional”. By including these extra modalities, in addition to modeling irrelevance Nuyts and Devriese [ND18] can prove and internalize the identity extension lemma of relational parametricity [Rey83] even for large types. We will explore the relation between MTT and Nuyts and Devriese [ND18] in greater detail (Section 2.4), but for the moment we content ourselves with discussing the relationship between this left-division style and MTT.

In a related but distinct line of work, the Granule Project [Gab+16; OLE19] has exploited a similar structure to give a systematic account of substructurality. There is ongoing work to extend this to a full dependent type theory.

The structure of MTT’s contexts is closely related to the contexts of these calculi. Contrasting MTT with Pfenning [Pfe01] in particular, we find that in both of these calculi the contexts are generated by different sorts of variables. For instance, Pfenning [Pfe01] has normal variables (written $x : A$), irrelevant variables ($x \div A$), and valid variables ($x :: A$). Each sort of context entry acts a different modal modifier: $x \div A$ marks x as irrelevant, and prevents us from using it as a normal term and on the opposite end, $x :: A$ marks a variable as treated “intensionally”. MTT could accommodate this setup with a single mode that has three endomodalities: irrelevance, extensionality (the identity modality), and intensionality. A composition table for these modalities can be built by sorting out what is the strongest modality under which the composite function can be defined in Pfenning’s calculus.

The rules for interacting with the modalities in Pfenning’s system traverse the context and modify the binding used for each variable. Suppose, for example, we are typing $M(N)$, where M is a function marked as irrelevant in its first argument, we then typecheck N in a modified context in which all variables $x \div A$ have been replaced with $x : A$. Dually, if M is tagged as being intensional in its argument we replace all the occurrences of $x : A$ with $x \div A$, ensuring that we do not depend on variables which are not themselves intensional.

This bulk operation is different than MTT-style locks, but amounts to the same constraints on variable use. By tagging the context with a lock, every time we use a variable we must ensure that the modality tagging the variable is sufficiently strong. When we bulk-update the context, the same restrictions occur but they are done “eagerly”.

The use of “lazy” locks has several advantages over eager bulk updates:

- We do not have to explain what it means to divide one modality by another,
- We can allow non-trivial 2-cells: with the bulk-update strategy there is no place for the user to specify how a variable is extracted from under the modality,
- When interpreting the calculus in a model, we do not have to sort out how a variable by variable modality update affects the interpretation of the entire context (which Nuyts [Nuy18a] found to be a somewhat painful endeavour).

We remark that admissibility of the left division operation on both contexts and substitutions is not that hard to prove for a general mode theory for which left division ($\mu \setminus -$) is defined on modalities and is left adjoint [Abe06; Abe08] to postcomposition ($\mu \circ -$). This is in contrast to certain lock or variable removal operations necessary in Fitch-style approaches (Section 1.8.3).

1.8.3 Modal Type Theories Based on The Fitch Style

A recent series of paper [BGM17; Bir+18; GSB19] have used a similar judgmental structure to manage a variety of modalities. This judgmental structure, often informally referred to as the “Fitch-style” [Clo18], divides the context into regions of variables separated by locks. Locks are dynamically included or removed throughout the typing derivation of a term.

The central advantage of the Fitch-style is the impressively simple introduction rule for modalities: whenever we wish to introduce a modality we simply append a lock to the context to tag the modal shift and continue. We do not, in particular, ever need to remove variables from the context during the introduction of a modal term, which alleviates a significant sore point of the dual-context calculi. Of course, this style of rule is only sound for a modality which comes equipped with some sort of left adjoint, but this restriction is also present in MTT.

Another desirable property of the Fitch-style calculi are their strong elimination rules for modalities. Rather than the pattern matching-style rules of other systems, Fitch-style calculi have had an *open-scope* elimination rule for their modalities. This stronger rule also often permits a definitional η -rule for $\Box A$.

The elimination rule is generally of the following shape:

$$\frac{F(\Gamma) \vdash M : \Box A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{open}(M) : A}$$

In this rule, F is a meta-theoretic operation on contexts which removes some number of locks and variables from Γ . For instance, in Birkedal et al. [Bir+18], $F(\Gamma)$ was defined as follows:

$$F(\Gamma, \blacksquare, \Gamma') = \Gamma \text{ where } \blacksquare \notin \Gamma'$$

This rule is convenient, and also strictly more powerful than the elimination rule in MTT (see [Sections 1.4.2 and 2.6](#)) but rules which remove elements of the context are traditionally problematic in type theory. The source of the trouble in this case is that we must show that substitutions can be commuted past open. For instance, suppose we have some substitution $\gamma : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma, \blacksquare, \Gamma'$. It is necessary to ensure that this substitution uniquely gives rise to a substitution $F(\gamma) : F(\Delta) \rightarrow \Gamma$, and this is not at all guaranteed. For instance, in Birkedal et al. [Bir+18], an induction over the structure of the substitutions is needed to produce γ , and it cannot be done without knowing both Δ and Γ' in advance. In Gratzer, Sterling, and Birkedal [GSB19], it is laboriously proven that if $\gamma : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma$, then $\gamma : F(\Delta) \rightarrow F(\Gamma)$, but at the expense of several complex and artificial typing rules. The situation is in some ways similar to dual-context calculi, where each modal situation requires expert attention in order to show that the elimination rule is syntactically well-behaved.

The other, more serious, issue with the Fitch-style is the difficulty of accounting for multiple distinct modalities. Intuitively, each modality should give rise to a different lock but the structural rules governing their interactions are complex even in relatively simple cases. For instance, it is well-understood how to model the \blacktriangleright modality in a Fitch-style type theory, and Gratzer, Sterling, and Birkedal [GSB19] developed an extensive account of the \Box modality, but it is exceptionally difficult to combine the two. There is work to this effect in a simple type theory [BGM19], but even in this case there are restrictions on \Box and \blacktriangleright which prevent recovering, e.g. Gratzer, Sterling, and Birkedal [GSB19] as a subsystem.

The root of the issue seems to mirror the problems in [Section 1.8.1](#), having a rule which removes elements of the context is difficult to account for in more complex situations. Drawing on this intuition, MTT has adopted the simple introduction rules from Fitch-style calculi, but not the elimination rules. The result is that MTT has a less powerful elimination rule, and a weaker definitional equality than Fitch-style calculi. In particular, there is no equivalent of the definitional η -equality. In return for these weaker rules, MTT can smoothly incorporate multiple interacting modalities.

1.8.4 Other General Modal Frameworks

A recent line of work [LS16; LSR17] has tackled the same question as MTT: how to design one calculus which can be systematically adapted to many different modal situations. Currently, there is ongoing work to extend Licata, Shulman, and Riley [LSR17] to a full dependent type theory, as of January 2020 this work remains unpublished.

In fact, this line of research (which we refer to as LSR after the authors), is more general still. LSR is designed to handle a wide variety of modal situations *as well as* a variety of different structural principles. This is an axis of generalization entirely outside the scope of MTT, promising to address the some of the major shortcomings in the interaction between dependent types and substructural logics. Owing, however, to the fact that MTT is a firmly structural type theory, we will focus on the modal aspects of LSR.

The very idea of parametrizing a type theory by a mode theory, as we have done with MTT, originates with LSR [LS16]. Indeed, the modal situations that can be handled by MTT are a strict subset of those which can be handled by LSR; LSR not only includes a modal connective for the right adjoint described in the mode theory, but the left adjoint as well. For instance, in [Section 2.8](#), we will discuss

how MTT can model an adjunction of modalities, but this situation is limited to the case where the left adjoint has a further left adjoint. LSR has no such restrictions, and can freely talk about arbitrary adjunctions inside the type theory.

The contribution of MTT is not increased generality of LSR. Instead, we have focused on ensuring that MTT is a simpler type theory which still accounts for some of the interesting modal situations that LSR handles. In particular, by explicitly avoiding substructurality, MTT has a simpler syntax which is amenable to current proof and implementation techniques. This is reflected in our proof of canonicity ([Theorem 1.5.9](#)), and our experimental implementation efforts [[Nuy19](#)]. We therefore believe that MTT is a natural halfway point between current modal type theories (which are custom-fitted for each modal situation) and the full generality of LSR.

2 *Applications of MTT*

The slogan is “Adjoint functors arise everywhere.”

Saunders Mac Lane
*Categories for the Working
Mathematician*

Thus far we have studied the properties of MTT which are invariant under the choice of mode theory. These general theorems are precisely the reason why MTT is useful: we do not have to replicate a proof of, say, canonicity for each modal situation MTT is used for. Instead, we have proven canonicity once and reuse it in each new situation. Likewise, we have no need to redesign syntax, or describe the models of a new modal type theory each time we wish to add a modality.

Of course, these general theorems come at a price: we must limit the modal situations we can talk about to those that can be expressed by our mode theories. In particular, we can only handle weak dependent right adjoints, so that arbitrary functors or even left adjoints are in general beyond our reach. In the extreme case, one could imagine a definition of mode theory which prohibited any modality beyond the identity! While our notion of mode theory is not nearly that restrictive, it still is important to validate the applicability of MTT, not just its metatheoretic properties and this can only be done by applying it to a wide variety of concrete modal situations. In this chapter, we demonstrate that MTT not only is broadly applicable, but that it is tractable to program with MTT in a way that improves upon existing calculi in several cases.

2.1 Constructing Dependent Right Adjoints

As a general rule, the construction of a model of MTT will factor through [Theorem 1.4.11](#). That is, we will construct several models of standard Martin-Löf Type Theory in different categories and then relate them through dependent right adjoints. In many of our examples, we will be working with categories which have a well-known interpretation of Martin-Löf Type Theory (e.g. **Set** or presheaf categories) and so the hard work is concentrated in the second step.

In this section we will collect a few general results regarding lifting a standard right adjoint to a dependent right adjoint. In some applications, then, we can reduce the construction of a model to a few well-known facts and an application of one of these lemmas.

All of these lemmas have been produced in the literature previously [[Bir+18](#); [Nuy18a](#)], but we have reproduced them here in more standard notation for the sake of being self-contained.

Remark 2.1.1. Recall that a dependent right adjoint is stronger than what is required for a model of MTT. We only need an action on terms and types with an appropriate lifting rule. In all the models we consider, however, there is a full dependent right adjoint and this weaker concept is an artifact of the syntax. \triangleleft

To begin with, we show that an adjunction between context categories subject to a few conditions induces a dependent right adjoint.

Definition 2.1.2. A weak morphism of natural models $F : (\mathcal{C}_0, \tau_0) \rightarrow (\mathcal{C}_1, \tau_1)$ is a functor $F : \mathcal{C}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_1$ which preserves the terminal object, together with a commuting square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_0 & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\mathcal{T}}_F} & F^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_1 \\ \tau_0 \downarrow & & \downarrow F^* \tau_1 \\ \mathcal{T}_0 & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{T}_F} & F^* \mathcal{T}_1 \end{array}$$

Moreover, we require that the canonical morphism $F(\Gamma.A) \rightarrow F(\Gamma).\mathcal{T}_F(A)$ is invertible. We will say F preserves size if there is a further commuting square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{S}_0 & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}_F} & F^* \mathcal{S}_1 \\ \text{lift} \downarrow & & \downarrow F^* \text{lift} \\ \mathcal{T}_0 & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{T}_F} & F^* \mathcal{T}_1 \end{array}$$

Lemma 2.1.3. Suppose that $(\mathcal{C}, \tau_{\mathcal{C}})$ and $(\mathcal{D}, \tau_{\mathcal{D}})$ are two models of type theory. Furthermore, suppose that $L \dashv R$ is an adjunction between \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} . If the right adjoint extends to a weak morphism of natural models, then $L \dashv R$ gives rise to a dependent right adjoint. Moreover, this adjoint is size-preserving if R is size-preserving.

Proof. We choose L as the left adjoint, and we must now construct a pullback square:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 L^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{r} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathcal{D}} \\
 \downarrow L^* \tau_{\mathcal{C}} & & \downarrow \tau_{\mathcal{D}} \\
 L^* \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{R} & \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{D}}
 \end{array}$$

Using the fact that $L \dashv R$, we may conclude that $L^* \dashv R^*$. Therefore, we can choose $R = \widehat{\mathcal{T}}_R$ and $r = \widehat{\mathcal{T}}_R$. Explicitly, this sends $A \in \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}}(L(\Gamma)) \mapsto \mathcal{T}_R(A) \cdot \eta$ and likewise for terms.

We must show that this square defines a pullback, so suppose we have some Δ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & & \text{y}(\Delta) \xrightarrow{M} \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathcal{D}} \\
 & \nearrow A & \\
 L^* \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{r} & \tilde{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathcal{D}} \\
 \downarrow L^* \tau_{\mathcal{C}} & & \downarrow \tau_{\mathcal{D}} \\
 L^* \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}} & \xrightarrow{R} & \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{D}}
 \end{array}$$

We now observe that we must have a unique factorization $\langle \eta, M \rangle : \text{y}(\Delta) \rightarrow \text{y}(R(L(\Delta)).\mathcal{T}_R(A))$. Using the fact that R preserves context extension, we see that this factorization goes through $\text{y}(\Delta) \rightarrow \text{y}(R(L(\Delta).A))$. Now, transposing, we obtain an arrow $\text{y}(L(\Delta)) \rightarrow \text{y}(L(\Delta).A)$, and thus the required unique map into $L^* \mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{C}}$ as required.

It is routine to show that this is size-preserving, using the fact that \mathcal{T}_R preserves size. \square

Lemma 2.1.4. *Given a functor $\mu : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$, the precomposition functor $\mu^* : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ induces a dependent right adjoint. Moreover, μ^* is size-preserving for any Grothendieck universe.*

Proof. It is well-known that this functor has a left adjoint (via Kan extension). It therefore suffices to show that it satisfies the other requirements of a dependent right adjoint, namely that it induces a natural action on types and terms and preserves context extension and the empty context up to isomorphism.

Let us recall that the standard CwF structure on $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{D})$ defines types in context Γ as the objects $\mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)$ and the terms as the global sections of these objects. We can lift the action of μ^* to these terms as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu^* A \in \mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu^* \Gamma) &= (C : \mathcal{C}, a \in \Gamma(\mu(C))) \mapsto A(\mu(C), a) \\
 \mu^* M \in \text{Hom}(1, \mu^* A) &= (C : \mathcal{C}, a \in \Gamma(\mu(C))) \mapsto M(\mu(C), a)
 \end{aligned}$$

It is routine to check that these are functorial (respectively natural) using the fact that A and M both satisfy the corresponding condition. In order to show that these commute with substitution, we use

the functoriality of μ . For instance, suppose that we have $\delta : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma$ and $A \in \mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)$.

$$\begin{aligned} (\mu^* A)[\mu^* \delta] &= ((C, a) \mapsto A(\mu(C), a))[\mu^* \delta] \\ &= (C, a) \mapsto A(\mu(C), (\mu^* \delta)_C(a)) \\ &= (C, a) \mapsto A(\mu(C), \delta_{\mu(C)}(a)) \\ &= (C, a) \mapsto (A[\delta])(\mu(C), a) \\ &= \mu^*(A[\delta]) \end{aligned}$$

The proof for terms is similar.

The preservation of the terminal context is immediate: a terminal object is always preserved by a right adjoint. Context extension is preserved up to isomorphism by a simple calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^*(\Gamma.A) &= \mu^*(D \mapsto (\gamma \in \Gamma(D)) \times A(D, \gamma)) \\ &= C \mapsto (\gamma \in \mu^*\Gamma(C)) \times A(\mu(C), \gamma) \\ &\cong \mu^*\Gamma.\mu^*A \end{aligned}$$

□

In order to show size preservation, we recall that A is said to be \mathcal{V} -small if each fiber of A is \mathcal{V} -small. Since, however, the fibers of μ^*A are a subset of those of A , it is immediate that μ^*A is \mathcal{V} -small whenever A satisfies this condition.

Lemma 2.1.5. *Given a functor $\mu : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$, the right adjoint to precomposition, $\mu_* : \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{D})$ induces a dependent right adjoint. Moreover, μ_* is size-preserving for any Grothendieck universe.*

Proof. At this point we have a left adjoint to μ_* , namely μ^* , so it again suffices to show that this functor lifts to a natural action on types and terms and that the functor respects context extension.

We define the lifting of μ_* as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_* A \in \mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu_* \Gamma) &= (D : \mathcal{D}, a \in \mu_* \Gamma(D)) \mapsto \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu^*(\mathbf{y}(D)))}(1, A[\widehat{[a]}]) \\ \mu_* M \in \text{Hom}(1, \mu_* A) &= (D : \mathcal{D}, a \in \mu_* \Gamma(D)) \mapsto (\widehat{[a]})^* M \end{aligned}$$

In these definitions, $\widehat{[a]} \in \text{Hom}(\mu^*(\mathbf{y}(D)), \Gamma)$.

The presheaf action. The fact that $\mu_* A$ results in a presheaf is subtle, and we take a moment to specify its action. Given $f : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{D}}(D', D)$, $a \in \mu_* \Gamma(D)$, $A \in \mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)$, and $x \in \mu_* A(D, a)$, we define $x \cdot f$ as follows:

$$x \cdot f : \mu_* A(D', a \cdot f) \triangleq (\mu^* \mathbf{y}(f))^* x$$

In order to see that this typechecks, recall that $(\mu^* \mathbf{y}(f))^* x$ is an element of the following set:

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu^*(\mathbf{y}(D')))}((\mu^* \mathbf{y}(f))^* 1, A[\widehat{[a]} \circ \mu^* \mathbf{y}(f)])$$

We can immediately see that $(\mu^* \mathbf{y}(f))^* x = 1$, since reindexing is a right adjoint. Moreover, we have the following chain of equalities:

$$\widehat{[a]} \circ \mu^* \mathbf{y}(f) = \widehat{[a]} \circ \widehat{\mathbf{y}(f)} = \widehat{a \cdot f}$$

Therefore, this term is an element of $\mu_* A(D', a \cdot f)$ as required. The fact that this action respects composition and identity follows from the fact that reindexing respects composition and identity.

Naturality. We must show that both of these definitions are natural with respect to substitutions. That is, $(\mu_*\gamma)^*(\mu_*A) = \mu_*(\gamma^*A)$ and similarly for terms. Again, we will show only the case for types, which is representative for the case on terms.

Suppose we are given $\gamma : \Gamma' \rightarrow \Gamma$ and $A \in \mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)$. We wish to show that the following sets are equal:

$$\left(\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu^*\mathbf{y}(-))} (1, A[\widehat{[-]}]) \right) [\mu_*\gamma] = \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu^*\mathbf{y}(-))} (1, A[\widehat{\gamma \circ [-]}])$$

Unfolding the definition of reindexing, we see that the left-hand side of this equation is the following:

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu^*\mathbf{y}(-))} (1, A[\widehat{[\gamma(-)]}])$$

However, the naturality of Yoneda means that $\gamma \circ [x]$ is identical to $[\gamma(x)]$. Therefore, these two sides are identical.

Context Extension. We now must show that this functor preserves context extension up to isomorphism. Let us consider the following morphism:

$$\mu_*(\Gamma.A) \xrightarrow{\langle \mu_*\mathbf{p}, \mu_*\mathbf{q} \rangle} \mu_*\Gamma.\mu_*A$$

We wish to show that this is invertible. To start with, we consider a global element $\mathbf{y}(D) \xrightarrow{e} \mu_*(\Gamma.A)$. We can transpose and then decompose e to obtain a pair of maps:

$$\mu^*\mathbf{y}(D) \xrightarrow{e_0} \Gamma \qquad 1 \xrightarrow{e_1} e_0^*A$$

Here e_1 is a morphism in $\mathbf{PSh}(\int \mu^*\mathbf{y}(D))$. We can unfold definitions to see that this is equivalent to $e_1 \in \mu_*(A)(D, [\widehat{e_0}])$. Next, we can compute the action of $\langle \mu_*\mathbf{p}, \mu_*\mathbf{q} \rangle$ on this e , to observe that it reduces to $\langle \widehat{e_0}, e_1 \rangle$:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mu_*\mathbf{p}, \mu_*\mathbf{q} \rangle \circ e &= \langle \mu_*(\mathbf{p}) \circ e, e^*(\mu_*\mathbf{q}) \rangle \\ &= \langle \mathbf{p} \circ \widehat{\langle e_0, e_1 \rangle}, \widehat{e^*\mathbf{q}} \rangle \\ &= \langle \widehat{e_0}, \langle e_0, e_1 \rangle^*\mathbf{q} \rangle \\ &= \langle \widehat{e_0}, e_1 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

We can now define an inverse to this map at the level of global elements, sending $\langle \gamma, M \rangle$ to the transpose of $\langle \widehat{\gamma}, M \rangle$.

Size preservation is an easy result of the definition: if A is small, so are its reindexings and so are the collection of its points in each slice. \square

2.2 Multiple Presheaf Categories

As a warm up to some of the more interesting applications of MTT, we will start by showing how MTT can model the internal type theories of multiple presheaf categories, interconnected by a graph of essential geometric morphisms. Unlike the rest of §2, this section is not motivated by a particular modal situation in the literature. Accordingly, it is perhaps less interesting than the remaining applications. It does, however, give a good overview of how to apply MTT in a setting where there are relatively few irrelevant details obscuring the main ideas.

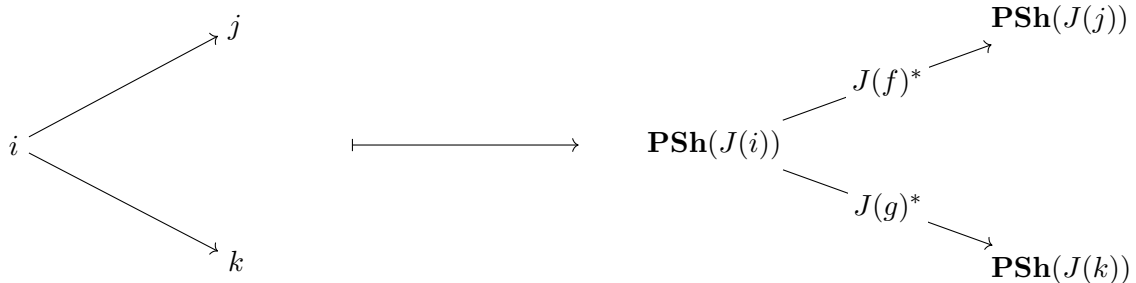
Suppose we have some small 2-category \mathcal{I} and a functor $J : \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$. We will construct a model of MTT for reasoning about the internal type theories of $\mathbf{PSh}(J(i))$, for each $i : \mathcal{I}$. More interestingly, we will allow these type theories to interact through the functors $J(f)_*$, for each $f \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{I}}(i_0, i_1)$.

Now that we have an intended model, we must construct a mode theory that allows us to capture it with MTT. Our mode theory in this case is easy to find in the case, it is \mathcal{I} . Instantiating MTT with \mathcal{I} immediately gives us a type theory, but it remains to show that we can interpret this type theory in the situation we described above. We want to show that there is an interpretation of MTT with $\mathcal{C}[i]$ being sent to $\mathbf{PSh}(J(i))$ and with $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_f \rrbracket$ being $J(f)^*$. We need to show that this is a contravariant functor, but this is immediate because $J(f)^* \circ J(g)^* = (J(g) \circ J(f))^* = J(g \circ f)^*$.

Remark 2.2.1. Already there is a point worth discussing: why should $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_f \rrbracket$ to be $J(f)^*$, when we want a modality corresponding to $J(f)_*$? Recall from Section 1.4.1 that a model of MTT is determined by a map $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$. In this case, we have $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{I}$ (which has discrete 1-cells, so the $-^{\text{co}}$ has no effect), so if we define $\mathcal{C}[i]$ to be $J(i)_*$ then $J(f)_*$ would point the wrong way.

One might wonder why specify a model as a functor out of $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}}$ in the first place, if it only leads to this contravariance. This choice, however, is forced: recall that the modalities in MTT do *not* necessarily have to have an action on contexts. Modalities are only required to be defined on types and terms while their adjoints twins, \mathbf{a}_μ , only act on contexts. This is why Section 1.4 requires that the functor interpreting the mode theory picks out the interpretation of \mathbf{a}_μ , not $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$: asking for the latter would not always be possible. The end result of these technicalities is that our interpretation of \mathbf{a}_f should pick out the left adjoint of $J(f)^*$, being $J(f)_!$.

This is particularly confusing in this instance because in this model $J(f)_*$ *does* have an action on contexts, not just types and terms. In fact, this will be the case in many models because many of our models are democratic [CD14]. Moreover, $J(f)_*$ is a dependent right adjoint, and so it uniquely determines the interpretation of \mathbf{a}_f because adjoints are unique. Therefore, in this particular instance we could write a description of the interpretation of the modalities, not the locks, and deduce from it the input required by Theorem 1.4.11. When this occurs in applications going forward, we will skip straight to this more natural description and illustrate our interpretation with a diagram like the following:



◁

Now that we have chosen a collection of categories and morphisms between them, we must show two more facts in order to apply Theorem 1.4.11.

1. We must show that each $\mathcal{C}[i]$, $\mathbf{PSh}(J(i))$, supports a model of Martin-Löf Type Theory.

2. We must show that $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_f \rrbracket$ is left adjoint to a dependent right adjoint.

For the first point, recall that a presheaf topos always gives rise to a quite rich model of type theory, supporting dependent sums and products, extensional identity types (which are sufficient to model intensional identity types), and general indexed inductive types. A standard reference for this model can be found in Hofmann [Hof97] and a description of the interpretation of universes can be found in Coquand [Coq13] or Hofmann and Streicher [HS97]. Again, to make this paper more self-contained, we briefly recall the interpretation of sorts, types, and terms here.

Contexts Γ are interpreted as objects of the presheaf category $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$. A type is not interpreted as an object of $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})/\Gamma$, as this would lead to strictness issues with substitution. If we were working in an arbitrary locally cartesian closed category, we would be forced to interpret types in this manner, and then apply a strictification theorem [Hof94; LW15]. In the particular case of presheaves, we have a richer model and do not need to resort to such contortions. Instead, types are interpreted as objects of $\mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)$, which is justified by the equivalence $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})/\Gamma \simeq \mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)$. A term of type A is then a section of A in $\mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)$, a morphism $\text{Hom}_{\mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma)}(1, A)$.

The crucial fact for this model is the interpretation of substitution. Any morphism $\gamma : \Delta \rightarrow \Gamma$ gives rise to a functor $\gamma^* : \mathbf{PSh}(\int \Gamma) \rightarrow \mathbf{PSh}(\int \Delta)$, defined by essentially precomposition. These functors are then necessarily strictly functorial, $\gamma^* \circ \delta^* = (\delta \circ \gamma)^*$, justifying the interpretation of substitutions by γ^* .

Remark 2.2.2 (Size Issues). There is a small issue of size in considering $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ as a model of type theory in general, and MTT in particular. We have defined a category of contexts to be a *small* category so that the category of models can be formulated without issue. $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$, however, is certainly not small. This obstacle can be avoided with the introduction of Grothendieck universes into our metatheory. Instead of considering presheaves valued in all of \mathbf{Set} , we consider presheaves valued in \mathcal{V} . There is no loss of expressivity, because \mathcal{V} is closed under all set-theoretic operations. With this restriction, $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ is small.

These maneuvers with Grothendieck universes are technically necessary, but fundamentally uninteresting. To a type theorist, this is just the standard technique of “bumping a universe level” when using $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ as a model. With this justification, we shall not remark further on issues of size and will assume the Grothendieck universe axiom to ensure an ample supply of universes. For instance, the interpretation of universes will require that the choice of Grothendieck universe for $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathcal{C})$ be large enough to contain an inner universe of its own. \triangleleft

Now that we have addressed the “mode local” models of type theory, we must show that $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_f \rrbracket = L(f)^*$ forms the left half of a dependent right adjoint. This follows from Lemma 2.1.5 and the standard fact that $L(f)^* \dashv L(f)_*$. All that remains to complete the construction of this model is to apply Theorem 1.4.11.

This instantiation of MTT gives us a way to reason simultaneously in multiple presheaf categories at once, passing back and forth using the modal types. It also illustrates the standard process for constructing a model of MTT: picking a mode theory and interpretation, constructing mode-local models of type theory, and applying Theorem 1.4.11. This example also would easily scale up to incorporate non-trivial 2-cells, or modalities of other shapes to this type theory. All that is needed is to add these to \mathcal{I} and explain how the new components are interpreted.

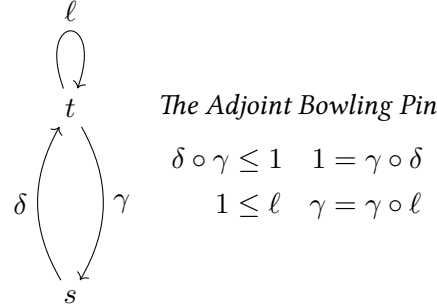
Remark 2.2.3 (Interpreting the Modality as Precomposition). In this example we have interpreted the modality as the direct image of a functor, F_* , and the lock is interpreted as the left adjoint to this functor, F^* . One might wish to instead interpret the modality as F^* , this is a right adjoint as well as left adjoint with $F_! \dashv F^*$.

The construction of this model is not quite as simple as the model using F_* . The issue is a strictness mismatch: we have $F_! \circ G_! \cong (G \circ F)_!$, but this isomorphism is not an equality as required by Theorem 1.4.11. On the other hand, if we assume Conjecture 1.6.1, then this mismatch can be papered over

by replacing the pseudo-functor interpreting one-cells with $F_!$ with an equivalent strict functor. In fact, assuming this conjecture we can freely mix modalities which are interpreted using both $-^*$ and $-_*$ in the same type theory. \triangleleft

2.3 Guarded Recursion

In this application we wish to study the simplest form of guarded recursion. Let's start by picking the following mode theory, \mathcal{M} :



We wish to construct an interpretation of this mode theory with s being interpreted as **Set** and t being interpreted as $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$. Moreover, we will want the interpretation of $\langle \ell \mid A \rangle$ to be induced by the adjunction $\blacktriangleleft \dashv \blacktriangleright^1$ from Birkedal et al. [Bir+12], $\langle \delta \mid A \rangle$ by $\Pi_0 \dashv \Delta$, and $\langle \gamma \mid A \rangle$ by $\Delta \dashv \Gamma$. To begin with, we must construct a 2-functor, L , from $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}}$ to **Cat**.

Rather than constructing L directly, it proves simpler to factor it through the 2-functor $\mathbf{PSh}(-) : \mathbf{Pos}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$. The advantage of this factorization is that **Pos** is poset-enriched, like \mathcal{M} , and so checking the enrichment of the factorization is far simpler. We will write the factorization $L = \mathbf{PSh}(-) \circ L'$ and define L' as follows on the 0- and 1-cells:

$$\begin{array}{ll} L'(s) = \star & L'(\ell) = n \mapsto n + 1 \\ L'(t) = \omega & L'(\delta) = \star \mapsto 0 \\ & L'(\gamma) = n \mapsto \star \end{array}$$

What remains is to show that there exist the required (in)equalities between the interpretation of the 1-cells. There is no extra data to be conveyed here: there is at most one inequality between maps between posets. We must show the following (in)equalities

$$\begin{array}{ll} \delta \circ \gamma \leq 1 & 1 = \gamma \circ \delta \\ 1 \leq \ell & \gamma = \gamma \circ \ell \end{array}$$

Each of these can be checked calculation. We will show $\delta \circ \gamma \leq 1$ for a representative example. We must show for all n , that $L'(\delta \circ \gamma)(n) \leq n$. We can unfold $L'(\delta \circ \gamma)(n)$ as follows:

$$L'(\delta \circ \gamma)(n) = L'(\delta)(L'(\gamma)(n)) = L'(\delta)(\star) = 0$$

Since $0 \leq n$ for any n , this inequality holds. Having constructed with L' , we post-compose it with $\mathbf{PSh}(-)$ to construct the required 2-functor $M^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$. We can unfold the definitions to see that we have interpreted the 0- and 1-cells in the expected way:

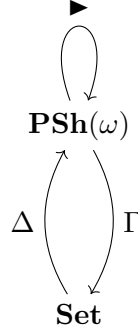
$$\begin{array}{ll} L(s) = \mathbf{Set} & L(\ell) = \blacktriangleleft \\ L(t) = \mathbf{PSh}(\omega) & L(\delta) = \Pi_0 \\ & L(\gamma) = \Delta \end{array}$$

These computations tell us that L is a valid 2-functor $M^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$. Additionally, because **Set** and $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$ are both presheaf categories, we have a standard model of Martin-Löf Type Theory in both. Finally, we may apply [Lemma 2.1.5](#) to the adjunctions $\blacktriangleleft \dashv \blacktriangleright$, $\Delta \dashv \Gamma$, and $\Pi_0 \dashv \Delta$ to see that each of these adjunctions gives rise to a dependent right adjoint. This is all the data needed to apply [Theorem 1.4.11](#) and so we have the following.

¹ \blacktriangleleft is induced by precomposition with $n \mapsto n + 1$, this adjunction is proven in Birkedal et al. [Bir+12].

Theorem 2.3.1. *There is a model of MTT with mode theory \mathcal{M} interpreting s as **Set**, t as $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$. Furthermore, this model interprets δ by the dependent right adjoint arising from $\Pi_0 \dashv \Delta$, γ by $\Delta \dashv \Gamma$, and ℓ by $\blacktriangleleft \dashv \blacktriangleright$.*

We can summarize this theorem diagrammatically, by saying that we can interpret MTT into the following diagram:



Of course, this simple diagram is capturing a great deal of information. It is asserting the existence of model of type theory in both **Set** and $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$, as well as a left adjoint to each of the three functors, an extension of each of the functors as *dependent* right adjoints, not merely right adjoints, as well as the validity of all the equalities and 2-cells of \mathcal{M} .

Remark 2.3.2 (Key Substitutions). This mode theory is merely poset-enriched, as opposed to being a proper 2-category. As a result, the key substitutions for navigating between $\Gamma.\blacktriangleleft_\mu$ and $\Gamma.\blacktriangleleft_\nu$ must be considerably simpler. In particular, for any μ, ν , there is at most one such key substitution $\Gamma.\blacktriangleleft_\mu \vdash \mathcal{Q}_\Gamma^{\mu \geq \nu} : \Gamma.\blacktriangleleft_\nu @ m$. This property means that we can (without any ambiguity) elide key substitutions entirely in our terms: they can always be uniquely inferred.

This, however, leads to terms that are more difficult to type-check, so we adopt a compromise in what follows. We will write $A^{\nu \leq \mu}$ or $M^{\nu \leq \mu}$ for the application of the unique key substitution in context $\Gamma.\blacktriangleleft_\mu$ induced by $\mu \geq \nu$. For instance, given a type $\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_\ell @ t$, we could form $\Gamma \vdash \langle \ell \mid A^{1 \leq \ell} \rangle \text{ type}_\ell @ t$. \triangleleft

2.3.1 Specializing MTT

Now that we have specified our mode theory and explained the intended model, we will specialize our notation and syntax for this application. We fix the following shorthands:

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \delta \circ \gamma \\ \square A &= \langle b \mid A \rangle \\ \blacktriangleright A &= \langle \ell \mid A \rangle \\ \Gamma A &= \langle \gamma \mid A \rangle \\ \Delta A &= \langle \delta \mid A \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The first is a definition in \mathcal{M} , while all the rest are definitions of types. We would like to establish that MTT with this mode theory specializes in two important ways:

1. The modalities on mode t should give rise to the standard modalities and operations from Guarded Type Theory [Biz+16] inside the type theory.²
More explicitly, we will show that \square is an idempotent comonad by constructing a map $\square A \rightarrow A$, and $\square A \rightarrow \square \square A$ and showing that they satisfy the expected laws. Additionally, we will

²These facts are certainly true in our intended model, but we wish to go a step further and show that this structure can be constructed inside MTT.

construct the operations and proofs to demonstrate that \blacktriangleright is an applicative functor [MP08] and that $\square \blacktriangleright A \simeq \square A$.

2. The type theory when restricted to mode s is standard Martin-Löf Type Theory.

First, we can show that \square is an idempotent comonad using the following operations (using terms from Section 1.3):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dup}_A & : \square \square A \rightarrow \square A \\ \text{dup}_A(x) & \triangleq \mathbf{comp}_{b,b}^{-1}(x) \\ \text{extract}_A & : \square A \rightarrow A^{b \leq 1} \\ \text{extract}_A(x) & \triangleq \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](x)) \end{aligned}$$

We still have the K operator from Section 1.3.3: $f \otimes_b a$. We wish to show that these operations together give us an (idempotent) comonad. We must show the following equalities:

$$(x : \square A) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\square A}(x, \text{box}(\text{extract}) \otimes \text{dup}(x)) \quad (2.1)$$

$$(x : \square A) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\square A}(x, \text{extract}(\text{dup}(x))) \quad (2.2)$$

$$(x : \square A) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\square \square A}(\text{dup}(\text{dup}(x)), \text{box}(\text{dup}) \otimes \text{dup}(x)) \quad (2.3)$$

These terms can be constructed essentially by induction and unfolding. In order to make the proofs slightly more accessible, we have presented them not as terms, but as a series of equational steps. In what follows, understand that $=$ denotes mere internal equality, *not* judgmental equality. First, for 2.1

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{box}(\text{extract}) \otimes \text{dup}(x) \\ &= \text{mod}_b(\lambda x. \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](x))) \otimes \mathbf{comp}_{b,b}^{-1}(x) \\ & \quad \text{Use induction to consider the case where } x = \text{mod}_b(y) \\ &= \text{mod}_b(\lambda x. \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](x))) \otimes \mathbf{comp}_{b,b}^{-1}(\text{mod}_b(y)) \\ &= \text{mod}_b(\lambda x. \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](x))) \otimes \text{mod}_b(\text{mod}_b(y)) \\ &= \text{mod}_b((\lambda x. \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](x)))(\text{mod}_b(y))) \\ &= \text{mod}_b(\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](\text{mod}_b(y)))) \\ &= \text{mod}_b(y) \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

The calculation for 2.2 is similar, proceeding by expanding all relevant definitions and performing induction.

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{extract}(\text{dup}(x)) \\ &= \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](\mathbf{comp}_{b,b}^{-1}(x))) \quad \text{replace } x \text{ with } \text{mod}_b(y) \\ &= \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](\mathbf{comp}_{b,b}^{-1}(\text{mod}_b(y)))) \\ &= \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{coe}[b \leq 1](\text{mod}_b(\text{mod}_b(y)))) \\ &= \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\text{mod}_1(\text{mod}_b(y))) \\ &= \text{mod}_b(y) \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

The proof of 2.3 is more of the same, and thus we have elided it.

We immediately have that \blacktriangleright is an applicative functor: this is guaranteed by Section 1.3.3. We additionally have that \blacktriangleright has an appropriate point: $\text{next}(x) = \mathbf{coe}[1 \leq \ell](\mathbf{triv}(x))$.

The importance of the inclusion of \square into our type theory is the interaction between \square and \blacktriangleright , namely that $\square \blacktriangleright A \simeq \square A$. We can recover this interaction inside our type theory, with the function $\square \blacktriangleright A \rightarrow \square A$ coming from Section 1.3.1: $\text{now}(x) = \mathbf{comp}_{b,\ell}^{-1}(x)$.

As a final check, we can ensure that the following transformation is the identity:

$$\Box A \xrightarrow{\text{box}(\text{next}) \otimes -} \Box \blacktriangleright A \xrightarrow{\text{box}(\text{now}) \otimes -} \Box A$$

The calculation is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{comp}_{b,\ell}(\text{mod}_b(\text{coe}[1 \leq \ell](\text{triv}(-))) \otimes x) && \text{By induction, suppose } x = \text{mod}_b(y) \\ &= \text{comp}_{b,\ell}(\text{mod}_b(\text{coe}[1 \leq \ell](\text{triv}(-))) \otimes \text{mod}_b(y)) \\ &= \text{comp}_{b,\ell}(\text{mod}_b(\text{mod}_\ell(y))) \\ &= \text{comp}_{b,\ell}(\text{mod}_b(\text{mod}_\ell(y))) \\ &= \text{mod}_b(y) \\ &= x \end{aligned}$$

For the second point, we wish to show that if we restrict our attention to only types of mode s and endomodalities $\mu \in \text{Hom}(s, s)$, the result is Martin-Löf Type Theory. A routine calculation shows that any such modality μ must be equal to 1, using induction and the fact that $\gamma \circ \ell^n \circ \delta = 1$. This implies that $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ is also equivalent to A , using $\text{triv}(-)$. Finally, we can specialize our variable rule further, as there is no non-trivial 2-cell $1 \Rightarrow 1$:

$$\frac{\mu \in \text{Hom}(s, s) \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ s \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_\ell @ s \quad (x : (\mu \mid A)) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : A @ s}$$

Remark 2.3.3. This same rule does not hold true if we assume that $\mu \in \text{Hom}(s, t)$. Consider $\mu = \ell \circ \delta$, if we think in terms of the semantics with $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$, we then have $\mathbf{Mod}_\mu = \blacktriangleright \circ \Delta$. However, we then can see that $\mathbf{Mod}_\mu(\emptyset)$ is *not* just $_ \mapsto \emptyset$, because it is represented by $\blacktriangleright 0$ which is locally non-zero. \triangleleft

2.3.2 Reasoning about Guarded Streams

We now turn to putting MTT to work. Specifically, we wish to use this modal situation to reason about infinite streams, the canonical coinductive data type.

Remark 2.3.4 (Historical Context). Using guarded type theories to reason about coinduction is a long running program, and in this section we will draw on examples presented first in Bizjak et al. [Biz+16]. This type theory was similar to MTT, using the later modality and Löb induction to construct guarded fixed-points, which could then be refined to true coinductive definitions. Unlike MTT, however, this second step used *clocks* [AM13]. In essence, Bizjak et al. [Biz+16] does not have a single \blacktriangleright modality, but rather an entire collection of them, each indexed by a clock name. There is a quantifier which allows clock names to be bound inside a particular type, and a crucial isomorphism:

$$\forall \kappa. \blacktriangleright^\kappa A \cong \forall \kappa. A \tag{*}$$

This work, however, suffered from several technical complications. For instance, Bizjak et al. [Biz+16] is forced to use *delayed substitutions* in order to handle the combination of dependent types and modalities. Delayed substitutions pollute the equational theory and are well-known to be obstacles to providing an implementation of **gDTT**. This issue was later resolved by Clocked Type Theory (CloTT) [BGM17], which introduced a judgmental structure to capture the later modality and proved a normalization result. It is conjectured that type-checking is decidable for CloTT and there is ongoing implementation work.

The other issue, however, is the inherent complexity in using clocks to obtain Eq. (*). This complexity is reflected in the syntax, but it is more serious in the models. Rather than just being interpreted into $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$, CloTT is modeled in a collection of different presheaf categories, with functors

navigating between them [MM18]. These models are well-studied, but it was hoped that some of the complexity could be circumvented by introducing a second modality rather than clocks. In Clouston et al. [Clo+15], for instance, rather than using clock quantifiers a new modality is introduced to capture the same phenomenon in a simple type theory. In particular, Eq. (*) is replaced by the following:

$$\Box \blacktriangleright A \cong \Box A \quad (\dagger)$$

The main advantage of \Box is that $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$ is once again a valid model. On the other hand, the interactions between \Box and \blacktriangleright have proven difficult to capture inside a dependent type theory; indeed, merely adding \Box to a dependent type theory has proven to be a significant technical challenge. Recently, Gratzer, Sterling, and Birkedal [GSB19] constructed a complete story for the addition of \Box to a full dependent type theory, building on previous work [BGM17; Bir+18; Shu18]. Despite this effort, however, there are still serious technical obstacles to the addition of \blacktriangleright to Gratzer, Sterling, and Birkedal’s [GSB19] type theory. This instantiation of MTT continues this line of research by eschewing clocks in favor of \Box , but by providing a sufficiently flexible syntax to incorporate both \Box , \blacktriangleright , and Eq. (\dagger). \triangleleft

We will demonstrate that MTT with this mode theory is sufficiently expressive to carry out the coinductive constructions from the clocked setting by reproducing an example from Bizjak et al. [Biz+16]: we will show that $\text{zipWith}(f)$ on a coinductive stream is commutative if f itself is commutative. Prior to constructing these programs, however, we will alter MTT in a few ways:

1. We replace the intensional equality $\text{Id}_A(M_0, M_1)$ with extensional equality $\text{Eq}_A(M_0, M_1)$.
2. We add Löb induction as an axiom.

The first change is easily accommodated by our intended model in $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$ and \mathbf{Set} : the interpretation of intensional identity was already a valid interpretation of the stronger extensional version. The switch to extensional equality is not strictly necessary: we could carry out the following examples in an intensional identity setting. Doing so, however, would make the proof terms more verbose (much more so than is pleasant on paper!) and we would have to add a functional extensionality axiom. Moreover, Bizjak et al. [Biz+16] is an extensional type theory, and we will copy this decision to better facilitate a comparison between MTT and \mathbf{gDTT} .

The second addition is more subtle, but Löb induction is a crucial *modal specific* operator which cannot be captured directly by a framework like MTT. To be more precise, we add the following rules to MTT:

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ t \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ t}{\Gamma \vdash \text{löb} : (\blacktriangleright A^{1 \leq \ell} \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A @ t} \quad \frac{\Gamma \text{ctx} @ t \quad \Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ t \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \blacktriangleright A^{1 \leq \ell} \rightarrow A @ t}{\Gamma \vdash \text{löb}(M) = M(\text{next}(\text{löb}(M))) : (\blacktriangleright A^{1 \leq \ell} \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A @ t}$$

Notice that these rules are not added at both s and t , these rules admit only a sensible interpretation in mode t . This new operation admits a sound interpretation in $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$, which justifies adding them to the theory. We have also added a definitional unfolding for Löb (which is additionally validated by $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$), this certainly disrupts normalization but also provides a pleasant experience in actually working with guarded fixed points.

Theorem 2.3.5. $\text{löb}(M)$ is (internally) the unique fixed point of M , i.e. there is a term of the following type:

$$(A : \mathbf{U})(x : \text{El}(A)) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(A)}(M(\text{next}(x)), x) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(A)}(\text{löb}(M), x)$$

Proof. The term witnessing this construction is just $\lambda A. \text{löb}(\lambda f. \lambda x. \lambda p. \text{refl}(x))$. This type-checks thanks to the equality reflection rule, though it is less than informative!

We will instead present the equational reasoning that leads to this term being well-typed. Let us suppose that we have $A : \mathbf{U}$, $f : \blacktriangleright((x : \text{El}(A)) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(A)}(M(\text{next}(x)), x) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(A)}(\text{löb}(M), x))$,

$x : A$ and $p : \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(A)}(M(\text{next}(x)), x)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{löb}(M) &= M(\text{next}(\text{löb}(M))) && \text{Unfolding rule for löb} \\
 &= M(\text{next}(x)) && \text{Reflecting } f \otimes \text{next}(x) \otimes \text{next}(p) : \blacktriangleright \text{Eq}_A(\text{löb}(M), x) \\
 &= x && \text{Reflecting } p : \text{Eq}_A(M(\text{next}(x)), x) \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

This proof uses a general technique that we will note explicitly here: when we have an equality under a \blacktriangleright , we can use it to rewrite terms which appear next (more generally, in a locked context).

We can use Löb operator to form guarded recursive types. We will now fix the primary object of study in the rest of this section:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Str}' &: (\delta \mid \text{U}) \rightarrow \text{U} @ t \\
 \text{Str}' &\triangleq \lambda A. \text{löb}(\lambda x. (\Delta A) \times \text{let mod}_\ell(x') \leftarrow x \text{ in } \blacktriangleright x') \\
 \text{Str} &: \text{U} \rightarrow \text{U} @ s \\
 \text{Str} &\triangleq \lambda A. \Gamma(\text{Str}'(A))
 \end{aligned}$$

We have separated this definition of coinductive streams into two halves: Str' uses löb to form a guarded fixed-point on U which defines infinite streams, while Str does the required modal plumbing to move this definition from mode t to mode s . This definition is the first example of mixing two modalities, so we will take a moment to type-check $\text{Str}(A)$ more explicitly. We end up needing to show the following:

$$\cdot, A : (1 \mid \text{U}). \blacksquare_\gamma \vdash \text{Str}'(A) : \text{U} @ t$$

It suffices to check that $\cdot, A : (1 \mid \text{U}). \blacksquare_\gamma. \blacksquare_\delta \vdash A : \text{U} @ s$. This is not entirely obvious, A is under two locks but only modified by 1, so it may not be accessible. However, our mode theory tells us that $\gamma \circ \delta = 1$, and so our context is equal to $\cdot, A : (1 \mid \text{U}). \blacksquare_1$, and in this context we can use A .

With this definition of streams in hand, we can start by defining a few operations for constructing and deconstructing streams.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{cons} &: (A : \text{U}) \rightarrow \text{El}(A) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \\
 \text{cons}_A(h, t) &\triangleq \text{let mod}_\gamma(t') \leftarrow t \text{ in mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(t'))) \\
 \text{head} &: (A : \text{U}) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \rightarrow \text{El}(A) \\
 \text{head}_A(s) &\triangleq \text{let mod}_\gamma(s') \leftarrow s \text{ in } \text{triv}^{-1}(\text{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_0(s')))) \\
 \text{tail} &: (A : \text{U}) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \\
 \text{tail}_A(s) &\triangleq \text{let mod}_\gamma(s') \leftarrow s \text{ in } \text{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_1(s')))
 \end{aligned}$$

Those familiar with prior work on guarded streams may be surprised by the type of tail . The typical definition of guarded streams would have a type more like $\text{Str}(A) \rightarrow \blacktriangleright \text{Str}(A)$, owing the fact that Str is defined by a guarded fixed-point. In our case, however, the Γ modality is sufficiently strong to “absorb” this extra \blacktriangleright , similar to [Eq. \(†\)](#). In fact, the “obvious” definition of tail would be the following:

$$\text{tail}_A(s) \stackrel{?}{=} \text{let mod}_\gamma(s') \leftarrow s \text{ in mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_1(s'))$$

This definition has the type $\text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \rightarrow \Gamma(\blacktriangleright \text{El}(\text{Str}'(A)))$. However, we can now make use the equality $\gamma \circ \ell = \gamma$ in \mathcal{M} and use [Section 1.3.1](#) to adjust by the isomorphism $\Gamma \cong \Gamma \circ \blacktriangleright$ to obtain the proper version of tail . This small difference is the crucial difference which will make $\text{Str}(A)$ a final coalgebra, as we shall demonstrate presently.

Lemma 2.3.6. *These operations satisfy the expected β and η laws. That is, there are terms of the following types:*

1. $(h : \text{El}(A))(t : \text{El}(\text{Str}(A))) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(A)}(\text{head}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, t)), h)$
2. $(h : \text{El}(A))(t : \text{El}(\text{Str}(A))) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(\text{Str}(A))}(\text{tail}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, t)), t)$
3. $(h : \text{El}(A))(t : \text{El}(\text{Str}(A))) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(\text{Str}(A))}(s, \text{cons}_A(\text{head}_A(s), \text{tail}_A(s)))$

Proof. We will prove these case by case:

1. First, let us suppose we have some $h : \text{El}(A)$ and $t : \text{El}(\text{Str}(A))$. We will show that $\text{refl}(h)$ has the appropriate type. In order to do this, we must reduce $\text{head}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, t))$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{head}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, t)) &= \text{head}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, \text{mod}_\gamma(t'))) \\
 &\quad \text{Using induction to replace } t \text{ with } \text{mod}_\gamma(t') \\
 &= \text{head}_A(\text{let } \text{mod}_\gamma(x) \leftarrow \text{mod}_\gamma(t') \text{ in } \text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(x)))) \\
 &= \text{head}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(t')))) \\
 &= \text{let } \text{mod}_\gamma(s') \leftarrow \text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(t'))) \text{ in } \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_0(s')))) \\
 &= \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_0((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(t')))))) \\
 &= \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{mod}_\delta(h)))) \\
 &= \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\text{mod}_1(h)) \\
 &= h
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Again, assuming that we have an appropriate h and t , we claim that $\text{refl}(t)$ has the appropriate type. In order to show this, we will reduce $\text{tail}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, t))$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{tail}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, t)) &= \text{tail}_A(\text{cons}_A(h, \text{mod}_\gamma(t'))) \\
 &\quad \text{Using induction to replace } t \text{ with } \text{mod}_\gamma(t') \\
 &= \text{tail}_A(\text{let } \text{mod}_\gamma(x) \leftarrow \text{mod}_\gamma(t') \text{ in } \text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(x)))) \\
 &= \text{tail}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(t')))) \\
 &= \text{let } \text{mod}_\gamma(s') \leftarrow \text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(t'))) \text{ in } \mathbf{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_1(s'))) \\
 &= \mathbf{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_1((\text{mod}_\delta(h), \text{next}(t'))))) \\
 &= \mathbf{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{next}(t'))) \\
 &= \text{mod}_\gamma(t') \\
 &= t
 \end{aligned}$$

3. Finally, we assume that we have $s : \text{El}(\text{Str}(A))$. We will show that $\text{refl}(s)$ has the appropriate type. For this, we must calculate on $\text{cons}_A(\text{head}_A(s), \text{tail}_A(s))$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{cons}_A(\text{head}_A(s), \text{tail}_A(s)) &= \text{cons}_A(\text{head}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma(s')), \text{tail}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma(s'))) \\
 &\quad \text{Using induction to replace } s \text{ with } \text{mod}_\gamma(s') \\
 &= \text{cons}_A(\text{head}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma(s')), \text{tail}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma(s'))) \\
 &= \text{cons}_A(\text{let } \text{mod}_\gamma(s') \leftarrow \text{mod}_\gamma(s') \text{ in } \mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_0(s')))), \text{tail}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma(s'))) \\
 &= \text{cons}_A(\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_0(s')))), \text{tail}_A(\text{mod}_\gamma(s'))) \\
 &= \text{cons}_A(\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_0(s')))), \mathbf{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{pr}_1(s')))) \\
 &\quad \text{Write } s' = (h, t) \\
 &= \text{cons}_A(\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(h))), \mathbf{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(t))) \\
 &\quad \text{Use induction to replace } h \text{ with } \text{mod}_\delta(h') \text{ and } t \text{ with } \text{mod}_\ell(t') \\
 &= \text{cons}_A(\mathbf{triv}^{-1}(\mathbf{comp}_{\delta, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{mod}_\delta(h')))), \mathbf{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{mod}_\gamma(\text{mod}_\ell(t'))))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \text{cons}_A(h', \text{mod}_\gamma(t')) \\
&= \text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h'), \text{next}(t'))) \\
&= \text{mod}_\gamma((\text{mod}_\delta(h'), \text{mod}_\ell(t'))) \\
&= \text{mod}_\gamma((h, t)) \\
&= \text{mod}_\gamma(s') \\
&= s
\end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 2.3.7. *Given an element $A : \mathbf{U}$, the function $\lambda B. A \times B$ of elements of \mathbf{U} is an internal endofunctor (considering the category of elements $A : \mathbf{U}$ and maps as functions $\text{El}(A) \rightarrow \text{El}(B)$).*

Proof.

□

Theorem 2.3.8. *$\text{Str}(A)$ is the final coalgebra for $B \mapsto A \times B$.*

Proof. First, given some $A : \mathbf{U}$, we must construct a map $\text{uncons} : \text{Str}(A) \rightarrow (A \times \text{Str}(A))$. We can construct this map as follows:

$$\text{uncons}(s) \triangleq (\text{head}_A(s), \text{tail}_A(s))$$

We must now show that this coalgebra is final. For this, suppose that we have some B and $b : B \rightarrow \text{El}(A) \times B$. We start by constructing a map of coalgebras $b \rightarrow \text{uncons}$. This must be a function $f : B \rightarrow \text{Str}(A)$ which satisfies the following equation:

$$\text{uncons}(f(x)) = (\text{pr}_0(b(x)), f(\text{pr}_1(b(x))))$$

We will define f as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
f' &: \Delta(B \rightarrow \text{El}(A) \times B) \rightarrow \Delta B \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}'(A)) \\
f'(b) &\triangleq \text{let } \text{mod}_\delta(b') \leftarrow b \text{ in } \text{löb}(\lambda f'. x. (h, t)) \\
&\quad \text{where } h = \text{let } \text{mod}_\delta(x') \leftarrow x \text{ in } \text{mod}_\delta(\text{pr}_0(b'(x))) \\
&\quad \text{and } t = \text{let } \text{mod}_\delta(x') \leftarrow x \text{ in } f' \otimes_\ell \text{next}(\text{mod}_\delta(\text{pr}_1(b'(x)))) \\
f &: B \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \\
f(x) &\triangleq \text{mod}_\gamma(f'(\text{mod}_\delta(b), \text{mod}_\delta(x)))
\end{aligned}$$

This can be shown to satisfy the equation for a morphism of coalgebras by more or less direct computation. Suppose that we have some $x : B$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{uncons}(f(x)) &= (\text{head}_A(f(x)), \text{tail}_A(f(x))) \\
&= (\text{pr}_0(b(x)), \text{tail}_A(f(x))) \\
&= (\text{pr}_0(b(x)), \text{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{next}(\text{löb}(\dots)) \otimes_\ell \text{next}(\text{mod}_\delta(\text{pr}_1(b'(x))))) \\
&= (\text{pr}_0(b(x)), \text{comp}_{\ell, \gamma}(\text{next}(f(\text{pr}_1(b(x))))) \\
&= (\text{pr}_0(b(x)), f(\text{pr}_1(b(x))))
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, we must show that f is unique with this property. This is essentially a corollary of [Theorem 2.3.5](#) because we can phrase the property of being a coalgebra as being a solution to a guarded fixed point. □

We conclude this section by showing how we can actually use these mechanisms to prove properties of coinductive programs. Specifically, we will replicate proof from Bizjak et al. [[Biz+16](#)] which shows

that the `zipWith` operator on streams preserves commutativity. We start by defining the `zipWith` function:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{zipWith}' & : \Delta(\text{El}(A) \rightarrow \text{El}(B) \rightarrow \text{El}(C)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}'(A)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}'(B)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}'(C)) \\ \text{zipWith}'(f) & \triangleq \text{l\"ob}(\lambda r. \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y), r \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(x) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(y))) \\ \text{zipWith} & : (\text{El}(A) \rightarrow \text{El}(B) \rightarrow \text{El}(C)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(A)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(B)) \rightarrow \text{El}(\text{Str}(C)) \\ \text{zipWith}(f) & \triangleq \lambda x, y. \text{mod}_{\gamma}(\text{zipWith}'(\text{mod}_{\delta}(f))) \otimes_{\gamma} x \otimes_{\gamma} y \end{aligned}$$

This is a common pattern when programming in this implementation of guarded recursion: we have a helper function which lives in mode t , uses L\"ob induction, and performs the majority of the work. Then, on top of this, the main function is just a thin wrapper which takes care of the modal plumbing.

Theorem 2.3.9. *If f is commutative then $\text{zipWith}(f)$ is commutative. That is, given $A, B : \mathbf{U}$ and $f : \text{El}(A) \rightarrow \text{El}(A) \rightarrow \text{El}(B)$ there is a term of the following type:*

$$\begin{aligned} ((a_0, a_1 : \text{El}(A)) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(B)}(f(a_0, a_1), f(a_1, a_0))) \rightarrow \\ (s_0, s_1 : \text{El}(\text{Str}(A))) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(\text{Str}(B))}(\text{zipWith}(f, s_0, s_1), \text{zipWith}(f, s_1, s_0)) \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let us suppose that we have $e : (a_0, a_1 : \text{El}(A)) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(B)}(f(a_0, a_1), f(a_1, a_0))$ as well as $s_0, s_1 : \text{El}(\text{Str}(A))$. We wish to show that the term $\text{refl}(\text{zipWith}(f, s_0, s_1))$ is the desired proof. We will do this by showing that $\text{zipWith}(f, s_0, s_1)$ is convertible with $\text{zipWith}(f, s_1, s_0)$. We will freely make use of equality reflection throughout this proof.

For a first step, we note is clearly sufficient to construct a term of the following type (and then to reflect it):

$$(t_0, t_1 : \text{El}(\text{Str}'(A))) \rightarrow \text{Eq}_{\text{El}(\text{Str}(B))}(\text{zipWith}'(\text{mod}_{\delta}(f), t_0, t_1), \text{zipWith}'(\text{mod}_{\delta}(f), t_1, t_0))$$

In order to construct this term, it is sufficient to prove the following equality:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{l\"ob}(\lambda r. \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y), r \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(x) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(y))) = \\ \text{l\"ob}(\lambda r. \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), r \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(y) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(x))) \end{aligned}$$

We will write $\text{l\"ob}(F_0)$ for the left hand side of this equation and $\text{l\"ob}(F_1)$ for the right.

Now, using [Theorem 2.3.5](#), it then suffices to show that $\text{l\"ob}(F_1)$ a fixed-point of F_0 :

$$\text{l\"ob}(F_1) = F_0(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1))) \tag{2.4}$$

We will now use l\"ob to construct a term in $\text{Eq}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1), F_0(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1))))$.

$$\begin{aligned} F_0(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1))) &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y), \text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1)) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(x) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(y)) \\ &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), \text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1)) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(x) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(y)) \\ &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), \text{next}(F_0(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1)))) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(x) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(y)) \\ &\quad \text{Using induction to replace } \text{pr}_1(x) \text{ and } \text{pr}_1(y) \text{ with } \text{mod}_{\ell}(t'_0) \text{ and } \text{mod}_{\ell}(t'_1) \\ &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), \text{next}(F_0(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1)))) \otimes_{\ell} \text{mod}_{\ell}(t'_0) \otimes_{\ell} \text{mod}_{\ell}(t'_1)) \\ &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), \text{next}(F_0(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1))), t'_0, t'_1)) \\ &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), \text{next}(F_1(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1))), t'_1, t'_0)) \\ &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), \text{next}(F_1(\text{next}(\text{l\"ob}(F_1)))) \otimes_{\ell} \text{mod}_{\ell}(t'_1) \otimes_{\ell} \text{mod}_{\ell}(t'_0)) \\ &= \lambda x, y. (f \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(y) \otimes_{\delta} \text{pr}_0(x), \text{next}(F_1) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(y) \otimes_{\ell} \text{pr}_1(x)) \\ &= \text{l\"ob}(F_1) \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

2.4 Degrees of Relatedness

Of all type systems present in the literature, the most similar to MTT is probably that of Degrees of Relatedness [ND18]. In Section 2.4.1, we discuss at a conceptual level how Reynolds’ original formulation of parametricity [Rey83] was gradually generalized to dependent types. In Section 2.4.2, we explain how modalities can help to validate the identity extension lemma for large types [NVD17]. In Section 2.4.3, we discuss Degrees of Relatedness proper, and in Section 2.4.4, we consider how MTT can serve as an internal language in which one could build a model of Degrees of Relatedness.

2.4.1 Parametricity, from System F to dependent types

We discuss parametricity in System F [Rey83], System $F\omega$ [Atk12], and dependent type theory [AGJ14; BCM15; Mou16].

System F

System F is relationally parametric [Rey83]. If we think of proof-irrelevant relations $R : \text{Rel}(A, B)$ as notions of heterogeneous equality between elements of A and elements of B , and write $a \asymp_R b$ for $R(a, b)$ in order to emphasize this perspective, then we can conceptually describe proof-relevant relational parametricity as follows:

- Type-level operations $F : * \rightarrow *$ preserve (meta-theoretical) equality,³
- Type-level operations $F : * \rightarrow *$ preserve relations,
 - sending the equality relation on X to the equality relation on FX (this is the identity extension lemma),
- Parametric functions $f : \forall X. FX$ send relations to proofs of heterogeneous equality,
- Term-level operations $hX : FX \rightarrow GX$ preserve heterogeneous equality.

The identity extension lemma asserts that our use of the name ‘heterogeneous equality’ is sensible: in the homogeneous case, it boils down to mathematical equality.

We can represent this diagrammatically as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A = B & \xrightarrow{F=} & FA = FB \\
 \text{Eq} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{Eq} \\
 \text{Rel}(A, B) & \xrightarrow{F_{\text{Rel}}} & \text{Rel}(FA, FB)
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 A = B & & fA \asymp_{F_{\text{Rel}}R} fB \\
 \text{Eq} \downarrow & \nearrow f_{\text{Rel}} & \\
 R : \text{Rel}(A, B) & &
 \end{array}$$

$$a \asymp_{F_{\text{Rel}}R} b \xrightarrow{h_{\text{Rel}}R} hAa \asymp_{G_{\text{Rel}}R} hBb$$

These diagrams are a bit awkward in the sense that some of their nodes are meta-theoretic propositions whereas others are meta-theoretic sets. For example, the arrow $\text{Eq} : A = B \rightarrow \text{Rel}(A, B)$ is to be read as: if A and B are really the same thing, then Eq will pick out a relation Eq_A between A and B , namely the identity relation. Set theorists who do not balk at dealing with large objects, may prefer to write this as $\text{Eq} \in \prod_A \text{Rel}(A, A)$. Commutativity of the diagram simply means that $F_{\text{Rel}}\text{Eq}_A = \text{Eq}_{FA}$.

The arrow $f_{\text{Rel}} : (R : \text{Rel}(A, B)) \rightarrow fA \asymp_{F_{\text{Rel}}R} fB$ means: for any relation $R : \text{Rel}(A, B)$, the relation $F_{\text{Rel}}R$ will relate fA and fB . This would be more typically written as $\forall (R \in \text{Rel}(A, B)). (fA, fB) \in F_{\text{Rel}}R$.

³A sane meta-theory will not allow the creation of anything that doesn’t.

An alternative way to make sense of the diagram is by translating every proposition P to the subsingleton $\{*\mid P\}$.

System $F\omega$

Atkey [Atk12] extends Reynolds' ideas to System $F\omega$. Every kind κ is equipped with a 'native' proof-relevant relation $\curvearrowright_\kappa : \kappa \times \kappa \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$, such that $\curvearrowright_* = \mathbf{Rel}$.⁴ We say that $K_1, K_2 : \kappa$ are **related** if we can give an element of $K_1 \curvearrowright_\kappa K_2$.⁵ Similarly, for every $K : \kappa$, we get a proof $\mathbf{refl}(K) : K \curvearrowright_\kappa K$ such that for $X : *$ we get $\mathbf{refl}(X) = \mathbf{Eq}_X : \mathbf{Rel}(X, X)$. We can then generalize our description of relational parametricity:

- Type-level operations $F : \theta \rightarrow \kappa$ preserve equality,
- Type-level operations $F : \theta \rightarrow \kappa$ preserve relatedness,
 - sending $\mathbf{refl}(X)$ to $\mathbf{refl}(FX)$ (this is the identity extension lemma),
- Parametric functions $f : \forall(X : \kappa). FX$ send related types to heterogeneously equal terms,
- Term-level operations $hX : FX \rightarrow GX$ preserve heterogeneous equality.

Diagrammatically (the same interpretation remarks apply as for the System F diagrams above):

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A =_\theta B & \xrightarrow{F=} & FA =_\kappa FB \\
 \downarrow \mathbf{refl} & & \downarrow \mathbf{refl} \\
 A \curvearrowright_\theta B & \xrightarrow{F\curvearrowright} & FA \curvearrowright_\kappa FB
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 A =_\kappa B & & fA \asymp_{F\curvearrowright R} fB \\
 \downarrow \mathbf{refl} & \nearrow f\curvearrowright & \\
 R : A \curvearrowright_\kappa B & &
 \end{array}$$

$$a \asymp_{F\curvearrowright R} b \xrightarrow{h\curvearrowright R} hAa \asymp_{G\curvearrowright R} hBb$$

Following Robinson and Rosolini [RR94] and Hasegawa [Has94a; Has94b], Atkey structured all of this in a reflexive graph model. A reflexive graph Γ is a (contravariant) presheaf over the category \mathbf{RG} generated by the following diagram, subject to the following equations:⁶

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \mathbf{s} & \\
 \mathbf{n} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\quad} \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} \end{array} & \mathbf{e} \\
 & \mathbf{r} & \\
 & \mathbf{t} &
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{lcl}
 \mathbf{r} \circ \mathbf{s} & = & \mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{n}}, \\
 \mathbf{r} \circ \mathbf{t} & = & \mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{n}}.
 \end{array}$$

The idea is that $\Gamma \mathbf{n}$ is the set of nodes, $\Gamma \mathbf{e}$ is the set of edges, and that $(-)\mathbf{s}, (-)\mathbf{t} : \Gamma \mathbf{e} \rightarrow \Gamma \mathbf{n}$ extract the source and target of an edge, whereas $(-)\mathbf{r} : \Gamma \mathbf{n} \rightarrow \Gamma \mathbf{e}$ produces the reflexive edge on a node. The equations assert that the edge $x\mathbf{r}$ really goes from x to x .

In this reflexive graph model, kinds κ are interpreted as large reflexive graphs $\llbracket \kappa \rrbracket$. The nodes in $\llbracket \kappa \rrbracket \mathbf{n}$ are the semantic elements of κ , whereas the edges in $\llbracket \kappa \rrbracket \mathbf{e}$ can be seen as a triple of two elements $K_1, K_2 : \kappa$ wrapped up with a proof of $K_1 \curvearrowright_\kappa K_2$. The kind $*$ specifically is interpreted as the reflexive graph $\llbracket * \rrbracket$ whose nodes are small sets and whose edges are proof-irrelevant relations, the reflexive edges

⁴We ignore size issues in this introductory exposition.

⁵Note that any two types $T_1, T_2 : *$ are related. However, as \curvearrowright_* is a proof-relevant relation, we care not only for the truth value (whether types are related) but also for the particular proof we choose to give (the relation $R : T_1 \curvearrowright_* T_2$ that we consider between T_1 and T_2).

⁶Readers who expected the opposite of \mathbf{RG} are likely thinking of *covariant* functors to \mathbf{Set} , whereas we take presheaves to be contravariant functors to \mathbf{Set} .

being the equality relations. An open type $\Gamma \vdash K : \kappa$ is then a reflexive graph morphism (i.e. a presheaf morphism) $\llbracket K \rrbracket : \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \kappa \rrbracket$. The fact that these preserve reflexive edges (for $*$ this means the equality relation), expresses the identity extension lemma.

This means that a closed type $\cdot \vdash T : *$ is essentially a small discrete reflexive graph, i.e. a small reflexive graph whose only edges are the reflexive ones. To see this, note that the empty context is interpreted as the terminal reflexive graph $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$, having a single node \bullet and a single reflexive edge $\bullet \mathbf{r}$. This node \bullet is then mapped to a small set $\llbracket T \rrbracket \bullet$, and the edge $\bullet \mathbf{r}$ to a relation $\llbracket T \rrbracket (\bullet \mathbf{r})$ on that set. However, since graph morphisms map reflexive edges to reflexive edges, and reflexive edges in $\llbracket * \rrbracket$ are the equality relations, we see that

$$\llbracket T \rrbracket (\bullet \mathbf{r}) = (\llbracket T \rrbracket \bullet) \mathbf{r} = \text{Eq}_{\llbracket T \rrbracket \bullet}.$$

i.e. $\llbracket T \rrbracket$ is a set equipped with its equality relation.

A general (open) type $\Gamma \vdash T : *$ can be reorganized to be seen as a reflexive graph $\llbracket \Gamma | T \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$ over $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$ that lifts reflexive edges (i.e. edges over reflexive edges are reflexive, this is again the identity extension lemma), and equality of edges (i.e. edges over the same edge in $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$ are necessarily equal, expressing prove irrelevance). A term $\Gamma \mid \Theta \vdash t : T$ is then interpreted as a morphism from $\llbracket \Gamma | \Theta \rrbracket \rightarrow \llbracket \Gamma | T \rrbracket$ in the slice category over $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$; in particular a closed term is a section.

Dependent type theory

As dependent type theory is not just a programming language but also a logic, we can distinguish *three* approaches to parametricity:

- In the external approach, we state *and* prove parametricity theorems in the meta-theory. This is the only possible approach in System F and $F\omega$.
- In the admissible approach, we state the parametricity theorems in some very similar (ideally the same) type system, and we give a metatheoretic proof that every program is parametric. That is, we give a meta-theoretic function that maps program derivation trees to derivation trees of proofs of the statement that the program is parametric.
- In the internal approach, we have an internal operator that essentially inhabits the theorem “every program is parametric”. This operator will again have type dependencies, and self-application should prove that it is parametric. This phenomenon is called iterated parametricity, and generally needs to be modelled in higher-dimensional reflexive graphs, i.e. cubical sets.

External parametricity, with identity extension only for small types Atkey, Ghani, and Johann [AGJ14] have reorganized Atkey’s [Atk12] model to a model of dependent type theory. Essentially, they start from the standard presheaf model of dependent type theory in reflexive graphs [Hof97, Ch. 4] (see Section 2.2 for a summary). The idea is that nodes of large types (kinds) represent their elements, whereas edges represent proofs of relatedness (\curvearrowright_κ). For small types, nodes are again elements, but edges should be proofs of heterogeneous equality (\simeq_R , where R is the corresponding edge between the types).

The desired identity extension lemma can now be rephrased as: homogeneous edges (edges living above reflexive edges in the context) should be reflexive. In order to validate this lemma, we could naively require all internal types to be discrete, i.e. to satisfy this condition. However, the problem is that the universe does *not* satisfy it. Indeed, a homogeneous edge in the universe is like a proof of $A \curvearrowright_* B$ in System $F\omega$, which is essentially a relation between A and B . Surely, the existence of a relation $R : \text{Rel}(A, B)$ does not imply that $A = B$ and $R = \text{Eq}_A$. So the universe is not discrete as it has non-reflexive homogeneous edges.

For this reason, Atkey, Ghani, and Johann [AGJ14] only adapt the Hofmann-Streicher universe of small types [HS97] by restricting it to small discrete proof-irrelevant types. Types in general are allowed

to be non-discrete, and hence identity extension is only proven for small types. Proof-irrelevance is required in order to model function types: for function types to be discrete, we either need to work in proof-irrelevant graphs, or we need higher-dimensional structure (cubical sets) in order to reason about equality of functions' actions on edges.

Writing $e : x \dot{\div}_A y$ for a homogeneous edge in type A (which generalizes both $e : x \frown_A y$ and $e : x \asymp_A y$), and $e : x \dot{\div}_R y$ for a heterogeneous edge where $R : A \dot{\div}_\cup B$, we can summarize the behaviour of dependent functions $f : (x : A) \rightarrow B(x)$ in Atkey, Ghani, and Johann [AGJ14] in a single diagram:⁷

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 x =_A y & \xrightarrow{f=} & f(x) =_{B(x)} f(y) \\
 \downarrow (-)\mathbf{r} & & \downarrow (-)\mathbf{r} \\
 e : x \dot{\div}_A y & \xrightarrow{f\dot{\div}} & f(x) \dot{\div}_{B\dot{\div}(e)} f(y)
 \end{array}$$

In this diagram, $=_A$ denotes mathematical equality. E.g. the arrow $(-)\mathbf{r} : x =_A y \rightarrow x \dot{\div}_A y$ means: if x and y are really the same node of A , then $x\mathbf{r}$ is an edge of A whose source $x\mathbf{rs}$ equals x and whose target $x\mathbf{rt}$ equals y .

Admissible parametricity The work on admissible parametricity generally uses different techniques and is in this sense much less relevant in this historical resume. We cite some important works for completeness:

- Takeuti [Tak01] gives a parametric translation from every system in the Lambda Cube to a richer system in the Lambda Cube, and proves soundness of identity extension (calling it the “axiom of parametricity”) for small types.
- Bernardy, Jansson, and Paterson [BJP12] give a parametric translation from a general pure type system to (in general) a different pure type system. Identity extension is not considered.
- Keller and Lasson [KL12] give a parametric translation from a variation of the calculus of inductive constructions to itself. They use this as a basis to implement the paramcoq plugin for Coq.⁸ Identity extension is not considered.

Internal parametricity, without identity extension Bernardy, Coquand, and Moulin [BCM15] and Moulin [Mou16] have introduced internal operators that allow the creation of proof terms for parametricity theorems, and provide a model in (unary) cubical sets.

Their system is about unary parametricity and hence cannot feature identity extension, but it can be converted to a binary system straightforwardly in which we could either postulate the identity extension lemma for small types as an axiom⁹, or create a universe of types that satisfy the lemma and is closed under small type formers.

(Binary) cubical sets can be seen as higher-dimensional graphs, which feature not just nodes and edges, but also squares, cubes, and higher-dimensional cubes. This higher-dimensional structure is necessary to model iterated parametricity (see above), as well as to prove the identity extension lemma for the function type if you want to allow parametricity to be applied to proof-relevant relations.

⁷The bottom arrow in this diagram can be generalized to act on heterogeneous edges (by replacing A with an edge in the universe); however then the left side of the diagram would be ill-typed. Dependent diagrams are always a bit awkward.

⁸<https://github.com/coq-community/paramcoq>

⁹This axiom would be partly justified by a cubical generalization of Atkey, Ghani, and Johann’s [AGJ14] model, but Moulin’s [Mou16] model is more subtle in that it uses *refined* presheaves (based on I -sets) to strictify certain isomorphisms related to the internal parametricity operators. To our knowledge no one has created a refined presheaf model of identity extension.

Motivation

- **Paths** $p : x \asymp y$ generalize equality of types and heterogeneous equality of terms in System F ω ,
- **Bridges** $b : x \smile y$ generalize relatedness of types.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & s & & \\
 & \swarrow & & \searrow & \\
 n & \xleftarrow{r} & p & \xleftarrow{u} & b \\
 & \nwarrow & & \nearrow & \\
 & & t & &
 \end{array}$$

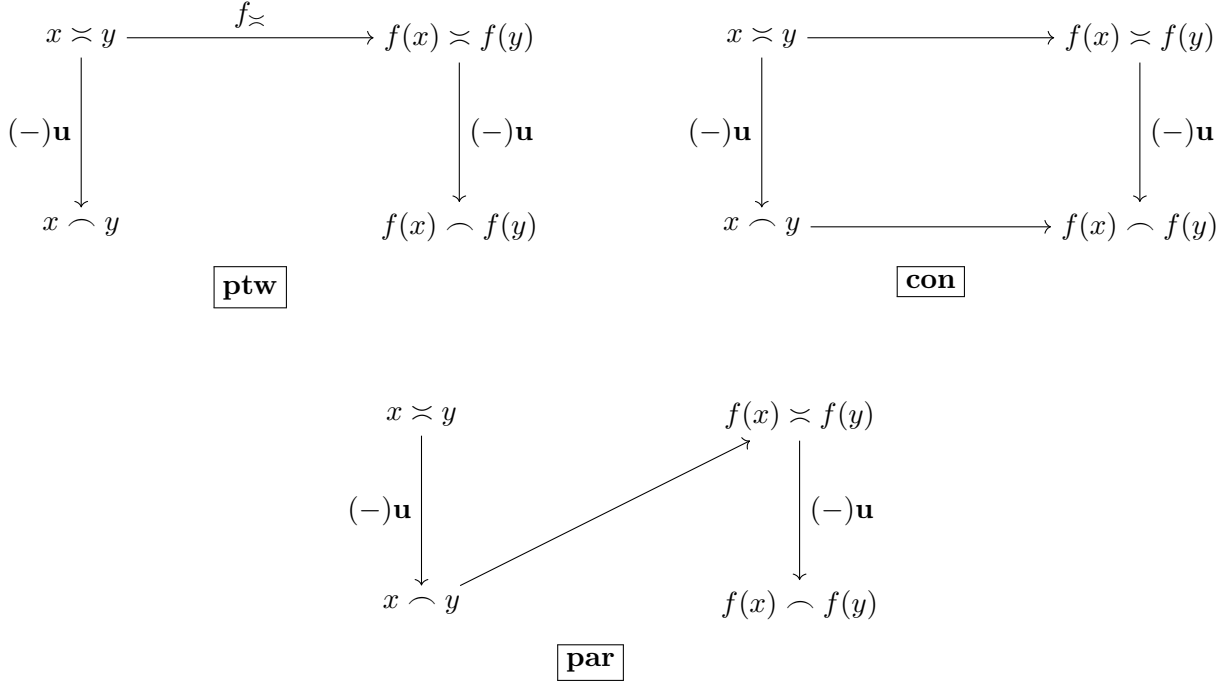
$$\begin{aligned}
 r \circ u \circ s &= 1_n, \\
 r \circ u \circ t &= 1_n.
 \end{aligned}$$

However, because the bridges in the universe — which will be relations between types — are inherently proof-relevant, we need a model that accommodates proof-relevant parametricity. Furthermore, because the aim is to provide internal parametricity operators, it is desirable to accommodate iterated parametricity. For these two reasons, we need a cubical model. Indeed, **ParamDTT** is modelled in bridge/path cubical sets, which are presheaves over the category **BPCube** which is the free cartesian monoidal category over **BPRG** with the same terminal object **n**. In other words, the objects of **BPCube** are finite products of **b** and **p** and the morphisms are generated by weakening ($\mathbf{r} : \mathbf{p} \rightarrow ()$), exchange ($v \times w \rightarrow w \times v$), contraction ($w \rightarrow w \times w$) and $\mathbf{u} : \mathbf{b} \rightarrow \mathbf{p}$.

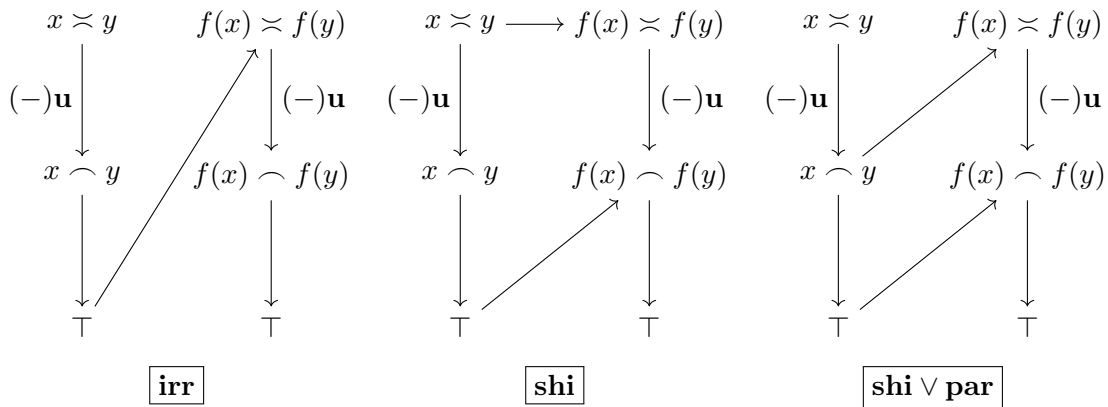
A **pointwise** function $f : (x : (\mathbf{ptw} \mid A)) \rightarrow B(x)$ maps path-connected inputs $p : x \asymp y$ to path-connected outputs $f_{\asymp}(p) : f(x) \asymp f(y)$, witnessing that it preserves heterogeneous equality. However, it has no action on bridges $b : x \smile y$, meaning that bridge-related inputs may be mapped to arbitrary outputs. In particular, pointwise quantification over types has no action on relations between types. The only way to assert bridge-connected outputs from a pointwise function, is by feeding it path-connected inputs; then $f_{\asymp}(p)\mathbf{u}$ is the desired bridge. The pointwise modality may be used to soundly assume the law of excluded middle:

A **continuous** function $f : (x : (\mathbf{con} \mid A)) \rightarrow B(x)$ sends path-connected inputs $p : x \asymp y$ to path-connected outputs $f_{\asymp}(p) : f(x) \asymp f(y)$, and bridge-connected inputs $b : x \frown y$ to bridge-connected outputs $f_{\frown}(b) : f(x) \frown f(y)$. Thus, it preserves heterogeneous equality *and* relatedness. This corresponds to the behaviour of a type-level operation in System F ω .

A **parametric** function $f : (x : (\mathbf{par} \mid A)) \rightarrow B(x)$ sends bridge-connected inputs $b : x \frown y$ to path-connected outputs $f_{\frown}(b) : f(x) \asymp f(y)$. Hence, it also sends paths $p : x \asymp y$ to paths $f_{\asymp}(p\mathbf{u}) : f(x) \asymp f(y)$ and bridges $b : x \frown y$ to bridges $f_{\frown}(b)\mathbf{u} : f(x) \frown f(y)$. In particular, a function $f : (X : (\mathbf{par} \mid \mathbf{U})) \rightarrow T(X)$ sends a relation $B : X \frown Y$ to a proof $f_{\frown}(B) : f(X) \asymp f(Y)$ that the instantiations $f(X)$ and $f(Y)$ are heterogeneously equal according to the relation $T_{\frown}(B) : T(X) \frown T(Y)$.¹⁰



Remark 2.4.1. We remark that Vezzosi's ParamDTT implementation `agda-parametric` [NVD17] features three additional and at the time experimental modalities, for which we need to include a trivially satisfied relation sending x and y to the singleton \top : irrelevance (**irr**), shape-irrelevance (**shi**), and the join of shape-irrelevance and parametricity (**shi** \vee **par**):



◁

The Mode Theory and the Corresponding Instance of MTT

Definition 2.4.2. The mode theory for ParamDTT is the poset-enriched category

¹⁰The codomain T is required to be continuous for the parametric function type to be well-formed.

- that has a single object $*$,
- such that $\text{Hom}(*, *) = \{\mathbf{ptw} < \mathbf{con} < \mathbf{par}\}$,
- where \mathbf{con} is the identity and composition is given by

$\downarrow \circ \rightarrow$	\mathbf{ptw}	\mathbf{con}	\mathbf{par}
\mathbf{ptw}	\mathbf{ptw}	\mathbf{ptw}	\mathbf{par}
\mathbf{con}	\mathbf{ptw}	\mathbf{con}	\mathbf{par}
\mathbf{par}	\mathbf{ptw}	\mathbf{par}	\mathbf{par}

It is clear that the identity function is continuous. The modality of a composite function, can be found by pasting together the above diagrams, which yields the above composition table.

Note also that, using $(-)\mathbf{u}$, we can prove that all parametric functions are continuous. All continuous functions are clearly also pointwise (as we can forget the action on bridges), which confirms the postulated order on modalities.

Theorem 2.4.3. *The instantiation of MTT with the mode theory for ParamDTT yields a type system ParamMTT which can be modelled in the category $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathbf{BPCube})$ as an instance of Section 2.2. ParamMTT is not the system ParamDTT [NVD17].*

Remark 2.4.4. ParamDTT deviates from MTT in two important respects:

- It uses eager left division $\mu \setminus \Gamma$, rather than lazy locks Γ, \mathbf{u}_μ (see Section 1.8.2),
- It features a parametric type decoding rule

$$\frac{\mathbf{par} \setminus \Gamma \vdash T : \mathbf{U} @ *}{\Gamma \vdash T \text{ type}_\ell @ *} \quad (2.5)$$

which has the effect of making variables available in a term and its type (or more precisely its type's code) by a different modality (e.g. parametric functions have continuous type).

Furthermore, it lacks all system-specific features, such as internal parametricity operators. \triangleleft

Lemma 2.4.5. *We have three adjoint functors $\int \dashv \flat \dashv \sharp : \mathbf{BPCube} \rightarrow \mathbf{BPCube}$ which are the cartesian monoidal functors such that:*

$$\begin{aligned} \int \mathbf{p} &= (), & \flat \mathbf{p} &= \mathbf{b}, & \sharp \mathbf{p} &= \mathbf{p}, \\ \int \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{b}, & \flat \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{b}, & \sharp \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{p}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Left as an exercise to the reader, but note that these functors are definable on \mathbf{BPRG} and that the adjunctions can be proven there and carry over. \square

Proof of Theorem 2.4.3. We need to find a functor $J : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ where \mathcal{M} is the mode theory for ParamDTT, such that $J(\mu)_*$ is a good interpretation of the dependent right adjoint. Clearly, we will take $J(*) = \mathbf{BPCube}$.

Before we define the action of J on morphisms, we will define $K : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$, and then we will construct J so that $J(\mu) \dashv K(\mu)$. This means that $K(\mu)^*$ will be naturally isomorphic to $J(\mu)_*$. Of course all of this is only well typed assuming we take $K(*) = J(*) = \mathbf{BPCube}$.

In general, $K(\mu)\mathbf{b}$ should be the weakest relation (represented by an object of \mathbf{BPCube}) such that a μ -modal function will send $K(\mu)\mathbf{b}$ -related inputs to bridge-related outputs. Similarly, $K(\mu)\mathbf{p}$ should be the weakest relation such that a μ -modal function will send $K(\mu)\mathbf{p}$ -related inputs to path-equal outputs.

For \mathbf{con} , which is the identity modality, this means $K(\mathbf{con}) = 1$. For parametricity, a bridge in the domain is sufficient to guarantee either a path or a bridge in the codomain, so we take $K(\mathbf{par}) = \mathbf{b}$. For pointwise functions, we need a path in the domain to guarantee either a path or a bridge in the codomain, so we take $K(\mathbf{ptw}) = \sharp$. This is immediately seen to reverse 2-cells.

For J then, we simply take the left adjoints:

$$J(\mathbf{con}) = 1, \quad J(\mathbf{par}) = \int, \quad J(\mathbf{ptw}) = \flat. \quad \square$$

Let us now map concepts from System $F\omega$ to those of ParamDTT by looking for similarities between the corresponding diagrams. Type level operators in $F\omega$ become continuous functions in ParamDTT. Parametric functions in System $F\omega$ become parametric functions in ParamDTT. One can imagine a modal extension of System $F\omega$ that allows ad hoc polymorphism, so that we can have a `typecase` operator or postulate a non-parametric law of excluded middle. The latter is sound in ParamDTT.

When we consider term level functions in System $F\omega$, we notice an awkward aspect of the model of ParamDTT, namely that small types, too, come equipped with a path (\asymp) and a bridge (\frown) relation. In System $F\omega$ on the other hand, we could only consider heterogeneous equality (\asymp) for elements of small types. In fact, we have no need for these two relations, and unless we allow HITs with bridge constructors, all small closed types will be bridge-discrete, meaning essentially that $(-)\mathbf{u}$ is an isomorphism. An immediate consequence is that if a function's domain is a small closed type, then its modality does not matter. However, the type system does distinguish between the corresponding function types and has no way of coercing upstream against the order on the modality monoid. This shortcoming is addressed in Nuyts and Devriese [ND18] (Section 2.4.3) by having a separate mode for types that have no bridge relation, thus conflating the different modalities.

Remark 2.4.6. If we add **shi**, **irr** and **shi** \vee **par** (Remark 2.4.1), then the inequality relation is given by

$$\mathbf{ptw} < \mathbf{con} < \frac{\mathbf{par}}{\mathbf{shi}} < (\mathbf{shi} \vee \mathbf{par}) < \mathbf{irr}, \quad (2.6)$$

and **shi** and **par** are incomparable. Composition is given by

$\downarrow \circ \rightarrow$	ptw	con	par	shi	shi \vee par	irr
ptw	ptw	ptw	par	ptw	par	irr
con	ptw	con	par	shi	shi \vee par	irr
par	ptw	par	par	irr	irr	irr
shi	shi	shi	shi \vee par	shi	shi \vee par	irr
shi \vee par	shi	shi \vee par	shi \vee par	irr	irr	irr
irr	irr	irr	irr	irr	irr	irr

Since **ptw** \circ **shi** = **ptw** $<$ **con** and **con** $<$ **shi** = **shi** \circ **ptw**, we see that **ptw** \dashv **shi**. Furthermore, **shi** \vee **par** = **shi** \circ **par** and **irr** = **par** \circ **shi**. These observations inspire us to extend the semantics from Theorem 2.4.3 with:

$$J(\mathbf{shi}) = \sharp, \quad J(\mathbf{shi} \vee \mathbf{par}) = \sharp \circ \int, \quad J(\mathbf{irr}) = \int \circ \sharp.$$

Together, these are all 6 ‘relation shifting’ modalities whose modal functions still preserve path-equality. If we want to also classify functions that do not preserve path-equality, then we get 4 more modalities, but their locks cannot be interpreted as inverse images, so we would have to rely on Remark 2.2.3 and Conjecture 1.6.1 to build a model. \triangleleft

Extending the MTT instance to ParamDTT_♣

While ParamMTT is not ParamDTT, we can extend it soundly and come pretty close. The main remaining differences will be:

- The use of locks,
- That face restrictions on the context will have a modality annotation, which we consider an improvement over ParamDTT proper.

Theorem 2.4.7. *We can soundly extend ParamMTT to a system ParamDTT_♠ by adding:*

1. *Bridge interval variables, face propositions, Glue- and Weld-types [NVD17],*
2. *A judgement form for discrete types $\Gamma \vdash T \text{ dtype}_\ell @ *$ which is closed under discreteness-preserving type formers with modality annotations as in MTT and such that*

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T \text{ dtype}_\ell @ *}{\Gamma \vdash T \text{ type}_\ell @ *} \quad (2.7)$$

3. *The degeneracy axiom, stating that homogeneous paths in discrete types are constant,*¹¹
4. *Parametric existential quantifiers,*
5. *A universe $\vdash U^{\text{DD}} \text{ dtype}_\ell @ *$ which is closed under discreteness-preserving type formers with modality annotations as in ParamDTT, which features a parametric decoding rule*

$$\frac{\Gamma, \mathbf{\text{par}} \vdash T : U^{\text{DD}} @ *}{\Gamma \vdash \text{El}(T) \text{ dtype}_\ell @ *}. \quad (2.8)$$

Note that discreteness-preserving type formers most notably exclude the Hofmann-Streicher universe and $\langle \mathbf{\text{par}} \mid - \rangle$,¹² which is why parametric existentials are explicitly listed as a separate addition.

Proof. 1. The bridge interval is simply interpreted by $\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{b})$. Glue and Weld exist in any presheaf category. We refer to the original work [NVD17; Nuy18a] for details.

2. The semantics of this judgement is simply a type which satisfies the degeneracy axiom.
3. This is then trivial.
4. Because discreteness is a robust notion of fibrancy [Nuy18b; Nuy18a], the discrete replacement commutes with substitution. Thus, we can simply take the Σ -type over $\langle \mathbf{\text{par}} \mid A \rangle$ and then take the discrete replacement of that.
5. Using standard techniques, we obtain a closed type U^{NDD} that is a classifier for the discrete typing judgement but is itself not discrete and still has a continuous decoding rule [Nuy18a]. It's symbol stands for 'non-discrete universe of discrete types'. Then we define $U^{\text{DD}} \triangleq (\#) * U^{\text{NDD}}$, as motivated below. \square

Remark 2.4.8 (Construction of U^{DD}). The non-discrete universe U^{NDD} behaves like the Hofmann-Streicher universe, only it classifies discrete types.

A bridge $B : X \curvearrowright_{U^{\text{NDD}}} Y$ then encodes a notion of heterogeneous bridges $(x : X) \curvearrowright_B (y : Y)$, and path $P : X \asymp_{U^{\text{NDD}}} Y$ encodes notions of paths $(x : X) \asymp_P (y : Y)$ and also a notion of bridges $(x : X) \curvearrowright_{P\mathbf{u}} (y : Y)$. The latter is inevitable, as P must contain all information needed to form the bridge $P\mathbf{u} : X \curvearrowright_{U^{\text{NDD}}} Y$. It is immediately clear that the existence of a P does not assert that $X = Y$, i.e. U^{NDD} is not itself discrete.

In the desired discrete universe of discrete types U^{DD} , all paths are reflexive, i.e. we would like to have $U^{\text{DD}}\mathbf{p} = U^{\text{NDD}}()$.

Meanwhile, we want to model the parametric decoding rule by making sure that there exists a function $\text{El}(-) : \langle \mathbf{\text{par}} \mid U^{\text{DD}} \rangle \rightarrow U^{\text{NDD}}$. This means that a bridge in U^{DD} must be (at least) a path in

¹¹This is the internalization of the identity extension lemma.

¹²as well as $\langle \mathbf{\text{shi}} \mid - \rangle$, $\langle \mathbf{\text{shi}} \vee \mathbf{\text{par}} \mid - \rangle$ and $\langle \mathbf{\text{irr}} \mid - \rangle$.

\mathcal{U}^{NDD} . We can achieve this if $\mathcal{U}^{\text{DD}}\mathbf{b} = \mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}\mathbf{p}$:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 X \asymp_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{DD}}} Y & \equiv & X =_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}} Y & & X \asymp_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}} Y \\
 \downarrow (-)\mathbf{u} & & \downarrow (-)\mathbf{r} & \nearrow \text{El} \frown & \downarrow (-)\mathbf{u} \\
 X \frown_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{DD}}} Y & \equiv & X \asymp_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}} Y & & X \frown_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}} Y \\
 & & \boxed{\text{par}} & &
 \end{array}$$

Both equations are satisfied by taking $\mathcal{U}^{\text{DD}} = (\# \frown)^* \mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}$, since

$$\# \frown \mathbf{p} = \# () = (), \quad \# \frown \mathbf{b} = \# \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{p}, \quad (2.9)$$

(and $\# \frown$ is the unique cartesian monoidal functor respecting these equations). \triangleleft

The attentive reader might wonder why we found it appropriate to discard the bridge relation $\frown_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}}$ when building \mathcal{U}^{DD} . The unsatisfactory answer is that the path relation $\asymp_{\mathcal{U}^{\text{NDD}}}$ contains more information and that we ran out of slots so we had to discard something. An issue that can be traced back to this discarding, is that the internal parametricity operators of ParamDTT have an extremely contagious pointwise dependency that essentially renders proofs of parametricity theorems non-parametric themselves, getting in the way of iterated parametricity despite having a cubical model.

Wrapping up

In ParamDTT, ParamMTT and ParamDTT \mathbf{a} , we see two important causes of discomfort: we have too many relation slots in small types (which feature an unnecessary bridge relation), and we have one too few in the universe. In Degrees of Relatedness (Section 2.4.3), small types are equipped with just a single relation, and every universe has one relation slot more than the types that it classifies.

2.4.3 Degrees of Relatedness

In comparison to ParamDTT [NVD17], the type system RelDTT [ND18] makes two improvements:

- It officially contains modalities that interact with the trivially and uniquely provable relation \top (which were already available in *agda-parametric* but not in ParamDTT or its model),
- It addresses the aforementioned shortcomings of ParamDTT by moving to a multimode system in which types come equipped with a different number of relations, depending on their mode.

We focus on the second improvement. The modes of RelDTT (called **depths**) are integers starting from -1 and types of mode m are equipped with $m + 1$ relations called \frown_0 through \frown_m . The mode m segment of the type system is modelled in ‘depth m cubical sets’, which are presheaves over \mathbf{Cube}_m ,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \mathbf{s} & & & & \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & & & \\ \mathbf{n} & \xleftarrow{\mathbf{r}} & \mathbf{e}_0 & \xleftarrow{\mathbf{u}_0^1} & \mathbf{e}_1 & \xleftarrow{\mathbf{u}_1^2} & \dots & \xleftarrow{\mathbf{u}_{m-1}^m} & \mathbf{e}_m \\ & \nwarrow & & \swarrow & & \nwarrow & & \swarrow & \\ & & \mathbf{t} & & & & & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r} \circ \mathbf{u}_0^1 \circ \dots \circ \mathbf{u}_{m-1}^m \circ \mathbf{s} &= 1_{\mathbf{n}}, \\ \mathbf{r} \circ \mathbf{u}_0^1 \circ \dots \circ \mathbf{u}_{m-1}^m \circ \mathbf{t} &= 1_{\mathbf{n}}. \end{aligned}$$

The modalities $\mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, n)$ will be, essentially, all diagrams from m ordered relations (and \top) to n ordered relations (and \top) such that a 0-edge in the domain always gives rise to a 0-edge in the codomain, and such that we can also map from \top to \top .

Definition 2.4.9. The mode theory for RelDTT is the poset-enriched category

- whose objects are integers starting from -1 ,
- such that $\text{Hom}(m, n)$ is the set of increasing functions

$$\mu : \{0 < 1 < \dots < n\} \rightarrow \{0 < 1 < \dots < m < \top\} : i \mapsto i \cdot \mu,$$

also denoted $\langle 0 \cdot \mu, \dots, n \cdot \mu \rangle$,

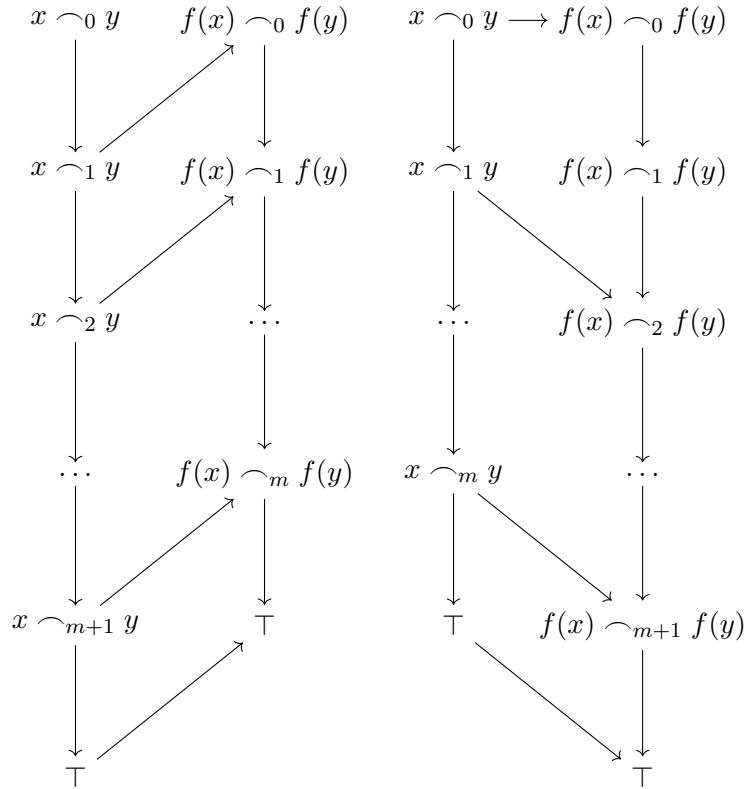
- where the identity modality **con** is given by $i \cdot \mathbf{con} = i$ and composition is given by

$$i \cdot (\nu \circ \mu) = \begin{cases} (i \cdot \nu) \cdot \mu & \text{if } i \cdot \nu \neq \top, \\ \top & \text{if } i \cdot \nu = \top, \end{cases}$$

where $\mu \leq \nu$ whenever $i \cdot \mu \leq 1 \cdot \nu$ for all i .

Example 2.4.10. We refer to Nuyts and Devriese [ND18] for a compendium of interesting modalities. Here, we just mention parametricity $\mathbf{par} : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m+1, m)$ for which $i \cdot \mathbf{par} = i+1$ and its right adjoint structurality $\mathbf{str} : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, m+1)$ for which $0 \cdot \mathbf{str} = 0$ and $(i+1) \cdot \mathbf{str} = i$. They have the

following form:



◁

Theorem 2.4.11. *The instantiation of MTT with the mode theory for RelDTT yields a type system RelMTT which can be modelled in the categories $\mathbf{PSh}(\mathbf{Cube}_m)$ as an instance of [Section 2.2](#). RelMTT is not the system RelDTT [ND18].*

Remark 2.4.4 applies also for RelMTT vs. RelDTT.

Lemma 2.4.12. *The modalities $\mu : \text{Hom}(m, n)$ are, by Galois connection $(\kappa \dashv \mu)$, in 1-1 correspondence with increasing functions*

$$\kappa : \{0 < 1 < \dots < m\} \rightarrow \{(\text{=}) < 0 < 1 < \dots < n\} : j \mapsto j \cdot \kappa,$$

which are called **contramodalities**. □

Proof of Theorem 2.4.11. We define the 2-functor $J : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ that sends modes to base categories. Of course, we need $J(m) = \mathbf{Cube}_m$. In order to define $J(\mu)$, let $\kappa \dashv \mu$ be the corresponding contramodality. Since $J(\mu)_*$ is going to be the interpretation of the DRA of μ , we can think of $J(\mu)^*$ as the interpretation of κ . Hence, we define $J(\mu)$ to be the cartesian monoidal functor such that $J(\mu)\mathbf{e}_i = \mathbf{e}_{i \cdot \kappa}$ if $i \cdot \kappa \neq (\text{=})$, and to the terminal object otherwise. □

Proposition 2.4.13. *ParamMTT is a subsystem of RelMTT with the same semantics. Concretely, we have a functor $I : \mathcal{M}_{\text{ParamDTT}} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{\text{RelDTT}}$, invertible on Hom-posets, from the mode theory of ParamDTT to the mode theory of RelDTT such that the following diagram commutes if we identify $\mathbf{BPCube} = \mathbf{Cube}_1$:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{M}_{\text{ParamDTT}} & \xrightarrow{I} & \mathcal{M}_{\text{RelDTT}} \\ & \searrow J & \downarrow J \\ & & \mathbf{Cat} \end{array}$$

This still works if we include the modalities from [Remark 2.4.6](#).

Proof. The following definition of I does the job:

$$\begin{aligned} I(*) &= 1, & I(\mathbf{ptw}) &= \langle 0, 0 \rangle, & I(\mathbf{con}) &= \langle 0, 1 \rangle, & I(\mathbf{par}) &= \langle 1, 1 \rangle, \\ & & I(\mathbf{shi}) &= \langle 0, \top \rangle, & I(\mathbf{shi} \vee \mathbf{par}) &= \langle 1, \top \rangle, & I(\mathbf{irr}) &= \langle \top, \top \rangle. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Again, we can extend RelMTT to something that differs from RelDTT mainly in the use of locks vs. left division:

Theorem 2.4.14. *We can soundly extend RelMTT to a system RelDTT_■ by adding:*

1. Interval variables, face propositions, Glue- and Weld-types,
2. A judgement form for discrete types $\Gamma \vdash T \text{ dtype}_\ell @ m$ which is closed under discreteness-preserving type formers with modality annotations as in MTT and such that

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T \text{ dtype}_\ell @ m}{\Gamma \vdash T \text{ type}_\ell @ m} \quad (2.10)$$

3. The degeneracy axiom, stating that homogeneous 0-edges in discrete types are constant,¹³ or at mode -1 that elements of the same type are equal,
4. Modal existential quantifiers for modalities μ such that $0 \cdot \mu \neq 0$,
5. A universe $\vdash \mathbf{U}^{\text{DD}} \text{ dtype}_\ell @ m + 1$ which is closed under discreteness-preserving type formers with modality annotations as in RelDTT, which features a parametric decoding rule

$$\frac{\Gamma, \mathbf{■}_{\text{par}} \vdash T : \mathbf{U}^{\text{DD}} @ m + 1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{El}(T) \text{ dtype}_\ell @ m}. \quad (2.11)$$

Note that discreteness-preserving type-formers most notably exclude the Hofmann-Streicher universe and $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$ when $0 \cdot \mu \neq 0$, which is why existentials for those modalities are explicitly listed as a separate addition.

Proof. All points but the last are proved as in [Theorem 2.4.7](#).

Using standard techniques, we obtain a non-discrete universe of discrete types \mathbf{U}^{NDD} at every mode m . Then we define $\mathbf{U}^{\text{DD}} \triangleq J(\mathbf{par})^* \mathbf{U}^{\text{NDD}}$ (where J is defined as in the proof of [Theorem 2.4.3](#)), which lives at mode $m + 1$. Note that $J(\mathbf{par})$ sends \mathbf{e}_0 to the terminal object and \mathbf{e}_{i+1} to \mathbf{e}_i . Hence, the 0-edges of \mathbf{U}^{DD} are the points of \mathbf{U}^{NDD} (so it is discrete) and we shove aside all other relations so that the $(i + 1)$ -edges of \mathbf{U}^{DD} are the i -edges of \mathbf{U}^{NDD} . This indexation shift allows for a parametric function $\langle \mathbf{par} \mid \mathbf{U}^{\text{DD}} \rangle \rightarrow \mathbf{U}^{\text{NDD}}$. \square

In this system, we can think of terms at mode -1 as proofs, at mode 0 as programs, at mode 1 as types, at mode 2 as kinds, etc.

2.4.4 MTT as an internal language of the model

As mentioned, neither ParamDTT nor RelDTT are themselves instances of MTT, their most stark deviation being the parametric type decoding rule which causes both systems to enforce different modalities for terms and their types (e.g. parametric functions have continuous types and irrelevant functions have shape-irrelevant types).

Fleshing out the semantics of both systems was a major effort and produced a technical report [\[Nuy18a\]](#), some parts of which could be classified as ‘write-only’. It would have been desirable to carry out these proofs in a proof-assistant, i.e. internal to another type system. For the authors, this has

¹³This is the internalization of the identity extension lemma.

the advantage that a lot of tedious bookkeeping could be done automatically, and RelDTT's end users would of course have more confidence in the system.

As both models start with an instantiation of [Section 2.2](#), MTT seems quite well-suited as a metatheory in which discreteness, \mathcal{U}^{NDD} and \mathcal{U}^{DD} could be defined, and ParamDTT and RelDTT could be shallowly embedded. This is in fact one of the central motivations behind the Menkar project [\[Nuy19\]](#).

There is one important difficulty, namely that the creation of \mathcal{U}^{DD} out of \mathcal{U}^{NDD} needs to insert an equality relation in relation slot 0, which the internal modalities of ParamDTT and RelDTT are unable to do. A contramodality $\kappa \dashv \mu$ has the capacity to do so, however. If in the above construction, we set $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\kappa \rrbracket = J(\mu)!$, then an i -edge in $\langle \kappa \mid A \rangle$ is an $(i \cdot \kappa)$ -edge in A , or an equality proof if $i \cdot \kappa = (=)$.

On the other hand, modalities such as irrelevance and shape-irrelevance interact with \top and as such are not contramodalities. So an ideal metatheory in which to embed RelDTT, has as its dependent right adjoints both inverse and direct images, which may compose to DRAs that are neither. As such, it becomes difficult to provide semantics that are strictly functorial on locks, and we need to invoke [Remark 2.2.3](#) and [Conjecture 1.6.1](#) to model an appropriate metatheory.

Definition 2.4.15. The mode theory for the model of RelDTT is the poset-enriched category

- whose objects are integers starting from -1 ,
- such that $\text{Hom}(m, n)$ is the set of increasing functions

$$\mu : \{0 < 1 < \dots < n\} \rightarrow \{ (=) < 0 < 1 < \dots < m < \top \} : i \mapsto i \cdot \mu,$$

- where the identity modality **con** is given by $i \cdot \mathbf{con} = i$ and composition is given by

$$i \cdot (\nu \circ \mu) = \begin{cases} (i \cdot \nu) \cdot \mu & \text{if } i \cdot \nu \notin \{ (=), \top \}, \\ (=) & \text{if } i \cdot \nu = (=), \\ \top & \text{if } i \cdot \nu = \top, \end{cases}$$

where $\mu \leq \nu$ whenever $i \cdot \mu \leq i \cdot \nu$ for all i .

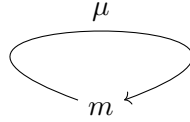
Theorem 2.4.16. Assuming [Conjecture 1.6.1](#), there is a model in categories equivalent to \mathbf{Cube}_m for MTT over the mode theory for the model of RelDTT.

Proof. Every modality of this mode theory can be written as a composite of a modality μ of RelDTT and a contramodality κ of RelDTT. We can interpret $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\mu \rrbracket = J(\mu)^*$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{a}_\kappa \rrbracket = J(\nu)!$ where $\kappa \dashv \nu$. One can show that this constitutes a pseudofunctor.¹⁴ As inverse and direct images are always DRAs, we can invoke [Conjecture 1.6.1](#). \square

¹⁴E.g. by noting that the category of presheaves over \mathbf{Cube}_m is equivalent to the category of 0-discrete sheaves over \mathbf{Cube}_{m+1} and interpreting the modalities strictly functorially in the sheaf categories.

2.5 Idempotent S4

One of the most studied modal logics is **S4** [PD01; Shu18; GSB19; Zwa19]. This system includes a single comonad, traditionally written \Box . Here, we consider an instantiation of MTT which models an idempotent version of **S4**. The mode theory, \mathcal{M} , consists of a single mode m , and a single idempotent endomorphism μ :



We have required $\mu \circ \mu = \mu$, so $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, m) = \{1, \mu\}$. We further specify a single inequality between modalities: $\mu \leq 1$. This mode theory is merely poset enriched, but if we wished to model a non-strictly idempotent comonad we would need to use a non-posetal 2-category.

Notation 2.5.1. We will write $\Box A$ for $\langle \mu \mid A \rangle$ in keeping with more traditional calculi for **S4**.

Theorem 2.5.2. *In MTT with \mathcal{M} , $\Box A$ is an idempotent comonad internally to the type theory.*

Proof. In order to show this, we must exhibit a function $\Box A \rightarrow A$ and $\Box A \rightarrow \Box \Box A$ which satisfy the comonad equations. Both of these functions can be taken wholesale from Section 1.3.1. The first is $\text{coe}[\mu \leq 1](-)$, and the second is $\text{triv}^{-1}(\text{comp}_{\mu, \mu}(-))$. The equations hold up to internal equality and follow from a straightforward calculations. \square

We can do better than merely showing that \Box behaves like a comonad, this instantiation of MTT has a very similar flavor to a dependent version of Pfenning and Davies [PD01] (such as Shulman [Shu18]). In particular, because there are precisely two modalities in the system, there are two variable rules:

$$\frac{\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \Gamma_1 \text{ ctx } @ m}{\Gamma_0, x : (\mu \mid A), \Gamma_1 \vdash x : A @ m} \qquad \frac{\Gamma_0, x : (1 \mid A), \Gamma_1 \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \text{locks}(\Gamma_1) = 1}{\Gamma_0, x : (1 \mid A), \Gamma_1 \vdash x : A @ m}$$

One should contrast this with the variable rule for accessing a valid variable and the rule for accessing an ephemeral variable. One major difference between our system and a dual-context approach is that our style of context management is based on locks, rather than a pair of static zones. This allows for valid types to depend on ephemeral variables, in a limited way of course.

2.6 Dependent Right Adjoints

A closely related modal type theory is the calculus of *dependent right adjoint*, developed in Birkedal et al. [Bir+18]. We have already discussed some of the relation between dependent right adjoints and MTT's notion of modalities (e.g. Section 1.4.2). In this section, we attempt to compare the expressivity of both systems.

Birkedal et al. [Bir+18] has a single modality (written \Box) which encodes the rules of a dependent right adjoint. In order to represent this syntax for MTT, we instantiate \mathcal{M} to a category with a single mode, m , and one generator for $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, m)$:



We impose no further equations on this category (so in particular, $\mu \circ \mu \neq \mu$).

Theorem 2.6.1. *Any model of Birkedal et al. [Bir+18] is a model of this instantiation of MTT*

Proof. This is an immediate corollary of Theorem 1.4.11. □

This result tells us our syntax is certainly sound with respect to the calculus of dependent right adjoints. At a more intuitive level, we can encode the contexts from MTT as contexts in the calculus of dependent right adjoints as follows:

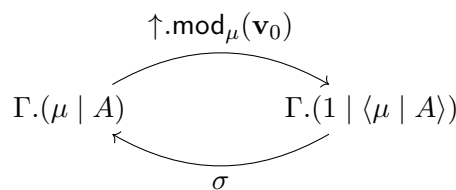
$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket &= \cdot \\ \llbracket \Gamma.(\mu^n \mid A) \rrbracket &= \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket. \Box^n A \\ \llbracket \Gamma. \mathbf{let}_{\mu} \mu^n \rrbracket &= \llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket. \mathbf{let}^n \end{aligned}$$

MTT is certainly not complete for the calculus of dependent right adjoints. The central issue is precisely the mismatch described in Theorem 1.4.11: our calculus does not require that the same strong elimination rule as Birkedal et al. [Bir+18]. Moreover, we cannot encode the open-scope eliminator for \Box , **open**, in MTT.

To what extent does this matter? It is not evident that the loss of this stronger elimination rule is as significant as it may appear. For instance, we are certainly still capable of proving the dependent axiom K (function application under \Box).

Moreover, while it is difficult to prove without a normalization result, it is reasonable to conjecture that MTT is complete for *closed* terms. That is, given any closed term in the DRA calculus, there is a (non-compositional!) translation of it to MTT. Such a result would allow us to definitively prove that it is sufficient to work with MTT, even though it may be less convenient in some circumstances. With the addition of appropriate commuting conversions for $\text{let}_{\mu} \text{mod}_{\mu}(_) \leftarrow M_0$ in M_1 , this result may even extend to open terms.

This mismatch is clearly related to the distinction between the Fitch-style calculi and the dual-context calculi for \Box [PD01; Kav17; Shu18]. In order to further crystallize this divide, let us suppose that we have a substitution inverse to $\uparrow.\text{mod}_{\mu}(\mathbf{v}_0)$:



This inverse substitution can be defined with the stronger, open-scope version of **open**: $\sigma = \uparrow.\mathbf{open}(\mathbf{v}_0)$. However, the existence of σ is also *sufficient* to define the stronger elimination rule:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \Box A}{\Gamma.\mathbf{\text{open}}(M) : A} \triangle \\
\\
\frac{\frac{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{id} : \Gamma @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbf{id}.M : \Gamma.(1 \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) @ m} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle @ m}{\Gamma.(1 \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \vdash \sigma : \Gamma.(\mu \mid A) @ m}}{\Gamma \vdash \sigma \circ (\mathbf{id}.M) : \Gamma.(\mu \mid A) @ m} \\
\frac{\Gamma.(\mu \mid A).\mathbf{\text{open}}_\mu \vdash \mathbf{v}_0 : A @ m}{\Gamma.\mathbf{\text{open}}_\mu \vdash (\sigma \circ (\mathbf{id}.M)).\mathbf{\text{open}}_\mu : \Gamma.(\mu \mid A).\mathbf{\text{open}}_\mu @ m} \\
\hline
\Gamma.\mathbf{\text{open}}_\mu \vdash \mathbf{v}_0[(\sigma \circ (\mathbf{id}.M)).\mathbf{\text{open}}_\mu] : A @ m
\end{array}$$

With the introduction of this primitive substitution σ , we can no longer trivially resolve all explicit substitutions by just pushing them in towards variables and this stronger version of **open** is an example of such a stuck term. Substitution is still likely admissible, but it would no longer be automatic and must be established quite carefully [GSB19].

Therefore, while MTT is certainly sound for the calculus of dependent right adjoints, it is not complete, and the failure of completeness is precisely the lack of an inverse to the substitution $\uparrow.\text{mod}_\mu(\mathbf{v}_0)$. It is not clear whether this loss of power is truly problematic, and it is reasonable to conjecture that it is unimportant overall.

2.7 Warps

Nakano’s [Nak00] later modality, written \blacktriangleright , marks a type as producing information one timestep later. By capturing this information in the types, Nakano’s [Nak00] system is able to provide an abstract characterization of productive definitions; one that is immune to refactoring or restructuring the definitions.

This system has proven to be a tantalizing formulation of coinduction, but in order to capture coinductive types it is necessary to add more modalities. In particular, Bizjak et al. [Biz+16] showed how a combination of \blacktriangleright and \square could capture coinductive types, while \blacktriangleright alone could not. There are technical complications from combining these two modalities, however, and the interactions between \square and \blacktriangleright have proven to be a major challenge for guarded type theories. In Section 2.3, we demonstrated that MTT could reconcile these two modalities and thus provide a type theory which can smoothly model coinduction.

Another line of research [Gua18] proposes a way to avoid these challenges by capturing \square and \blacktriangleright as instantiations of the same parametrized modality. Therefore, rather than dealing with the actions of two a priori unrelated modalities, Guatto [Gua18] can just provide a type theory with one modality; one which is sufficiently flexible to capture both \square and \blacktriangleright as instances. In particular, Guatto defines this übermodality, $*_p$, which is parameterized by a warp: an abstract description of the rate at which the computation produces information. To be precise, we will define a warp to be a monotone function from $\omega + 1 \rightarrow \omega + 1$ which preserves all joins and sends ω to ω .

Remark 2.7.1. This is a deviation from Guatto [Gua18] which only required that only that p preserves all joins, a weaker condition allowing $\alpha \mapsto 0$ as a valid warp. We have chosen to restrict warps in this way because it allows us to work with a semantics in $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$ without undue effort, and it still includes both \square and \blacktriangleright . \triangleleft

A program of type $\langle *_p \mid A \rangle$ then describes a computation which at stage n has produced the information required by A at stage $p(n)$. For instance, \blacktriangleright would be modeled as $*_{n \mapsto n-1}$:¹⁵ at stage n this type has only produced the information for step $n - 1$. On the other hand, \square can be defined as $*_{n \mapsto \omega}$, because at stage n the information for stage ω is already available. Monotonicity ensures that a type cannot suddenly lose information that it had previously produced, and requiring that ω be sent to ω ensures that globally a warp does not cause a computation to lose information.

It was challenging to explain how \blacktriangleright and \square should interact when they were separate modalities, however, there is a simple method for combining them when viewed as particular warps: $*_p \circ *_q \cong *_{q \circ p}$. Simple computation assures us that our encodings of \square and \blacktriangleright combine as expected, e.g. $\square \circ \blacktriangleright \cong \square$. Even though the generality of $*_p$ can be motivated by just two instances (\square and \blacktriangleright), there are many, many warps beyond just these two. This extra flexibility turns out to be useful in capturing more complex guarded programs, in which information is produced at various rates. We refer the reader to Guatto [Gua18] for further details and examples.

Despite the advantages provided by the warp modalities, the calculus is still complex and Guatto’s [Gua18] system is unsuitable for generalizing to a dependent type theory. The central issue is, as always, the management of the modal context: the proposed warp calculus does not satisfy a general substitution principle. With the machinery of MTT, however, there is a simple way to recover this calculus.

For a mode theory, we consider the poset-enriched category with a single object m and a 1-cell, \bar{p} for each cocontinuous function $p : \omega + 1 \rightarrow \omega + 1$. We order these 1-cells such that $\bar{p} \geq \bar{q}$ if $p(\alpha) \leq q(\alpha)$ for every α .

The induced calculus is equipped with a modality for each warp, and Section 1.3 ensures that the subtyping rules of Guatto [Gua18] become natural transformations in MTT. There is no term corre-

¹⁵Like Guatto, we only give a warp’s action on finite non-zero ordinals; its action on 0 and ω is forced.

sponding to Löb induction, nor can there be: MTT does not ensure the existence of any “modal-specific” operations and only provides the operations enforced by the mode theory. One can add Löb induction as an axiom, but showing this is sound requires constructing a model of MTT which satisfies Löb induction.

We now turn to constructing a model of MTT in $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$, with $*_{-1}$ and $*_{\omega}$ being sent to the familiar \blacktriangleright and \square in this model [Bir+12], thereby showing the soundness of Löb induction. More generally, we shall arrange matters so that $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_{*p} \rrbracket$ is \hat{p}^* , where \hat{p} is the restriction of the left Galois connection for a warp p . This Galois connection can be constructed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{p} : \omega + 1 &\rightarrow \omega + 1 \\ \hat{p}(\alpha) &= \bigwedge \{n \in \omega \mid \alpha \leq p(n)\}\end{aligned}$$

Moreover, using the requirement that $p(\omega) = \omega$ and the fact that p is monotone, we can conclude that the only situation when $p(\alpha) = \omega$ is $\alpha = \omega$. To see this, observe that if $\alpha = n < \omega$, then $p(\omega) = \omega > n$. We have required that $p(\omega) = \bigvee_m p(m)$, so there must exist some m such that $p(m) \geq n$ because n is compact. Therefore, $m \in \{n \mid n \leq p(n)\}$ and so $\hat{p}(n) \leq m < \omega$.

Next, let us observe that \hat{p} is cocontinuous (as a left adjoint), and therefore fully determined by its restriction to ω . We have concluded that $\hat{p}(n) \in \omega$ for all $n \in \omega$, and so \hat{p} is fully determined as a map $\omega \rightarrow \omega$.

Lemma 2.7.2. *There is a 2-equivalence between $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}}$ and \mathcal{M}' . Here \mathcal{M}' is the poset-enriched category with one object, an endomorphism for each monotone function $\omega \rightarrow \omega$ which preserves zero, and with $f \leq g$ when $f(n) \geq g(n)$ for all n .*

Proof. This proof is a standard application of some adjoint calculus. First, we observe that since adjoints (Galois connections) are unique up to isomorphism, the procedure sending $p : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(m, m)$ to \hat{p} is injective. Moreover, it is bijective because every monotone and 0-preserving function $q : \omega \rightarrow \omega$ extends uniquely to a cocontinuous function $q^+ : \omega + 1 \rightarrow \omega + 1$, moreover, transposing this function gives $p : \omega + 1 \rightarrow \omega + 1$ such that $\hat{p} = q$. Here, p is determined by the following formula:

$$p(\alpha) = \bigvee \{n \in \omega \mid q(n) \leq \alpha\}$$

In this case, we must have that $p(\omega) = \bigvee \{n \in \omega \mid q(n) \leq \omega\}$, and since $q(n) < \omega$ by definition, we must have that $p(\omega) \geq n$, for all n . Therefore, $p(\omega) = \omega$ and so p constitutes a valid 1-cell in \mathcal{M} .

This shows that this functor is full and faithful, so it only remains to show that it respects the ordering of 1-cells. To show this, it suffices to recall the standard fact that if $p \leq p'$, then $\hat{p} \geq \hat{p}'$. \square

Lemma 2.7.3. *\mathcal{M}' is the full subcategory of $\mathbf{Pos}^{\text{coop}}$ when we restrict to precisely one object: ω .*

Proof. This follows immediately by unfolding the definitions of the 1- and 2-cells in \mathcal{M}' . \square

With this lemma in hand, we will construct our desired model:

Theorem 2.7.4. *There exists a model of MTT with \mathcal{M} where the mode is interpreted as the standard model of type theory on $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$, and each modality p is interpreted by a dependent right adjoint extending $\hat{p}^* \dashv (\hat{p})_*$. In particular, -1 is interpreted by the adjunction $\blacktriangleleft \dashv \blacktriangleright$ and $_ \mapsto \omega$ is interpreted by $\blacklozenge \dashv \square$.*

Proof. We will use Theorem 1.4.11 to construct this model. First, we must define a 2-functor $L : \mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$. We will define this functor by factoring through the functor $\mathbf{PSh}(-) : \mathbf{Pos}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$. In particular, we define the functor $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Pos}^{\text{coop}}$ by composing with the equivalence of Lemma 2.7.2 and the inclusion of Lemma 2.7.3.

This gives a 2-functor $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ which sends the unique object to $\mathbf{PSh}(\omega)$ and interprets each lock as an appropriate inverse image functor. We may then apply Lemma 2.1.5 to conclude that each

lock is then part of an adjunction which induces a dependent right adjoint. Therefore, **Theorem 1.4.11** gives an appropriate model. For the final part of the theorem, we can simply calculate the behavior of -1 and $_ \mapsto \omega$ as they are fed through various equivalences to see that they indeed come out to the desired values.

For instance:

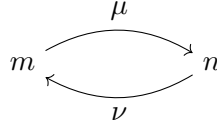
$$\widehat{-1}(n) = \bigwedge \{m \mid n \leq m - 1\} = n + 1$$

Therefore, $\llbracket \mathbf{lock}_{-1} \rrbracket = (n \mapsto n + 1)^* = \blacktriangleleft$, and therefore $\mathbf{Mod}_{-1} = \blacktriangleright$ as expected. □

2.8 Internal Adjoints

In this section we consider two modalities which are adjoint *to each other*. We require that all modalities are a weak form of dependent right adjoint, so they all must have a left adjoint on the context. In this section, however, we wish to internalize one of these left adjoints so that it can be applied to types. This is a fundamental example arising in many different settings [SS14; ND18; Shu18].

We define a mode theory freely generated by the following diagram



and the following two-cells, subject to the given equalities:

$$\begin{aligned} \eta : 1 &\Rightarrow \mu \circ \nu & \epsilon : \nu \circ \mu &\Rightarrow 1 \\ 1_\mu &= (1_\mu \star \epsilon) \circ (\eta \star 1_\mu) & 1_\nu &= (\epsilon \star 1_\nu) \circ (1_\nu \star \eta) \end{aligned}$$

This 2-category could be called the “walking adjunction”; a 2-functor out of it classifies an adjunction in the codomain. It is routine to calculate that this category is also “self-dual” as a two-category: $M^{\text{coop}} \simeq M$ (of course, the equivalence swaps m and n , μ and ν , and η and ϵ). Therefore, a model of this instantiation of MTT must start from a pair of categories, representing the two sorts of contexts, and an adjunction between them. We wish to show that this relationship extends to the modal types themselves, so that $\langle \nu \mid - \rangle \dashv \langle \mu \mid - \rangle$. We will prove this by exhibiting the unit and counit of such an adjunction, and show that they satisfy the required properties.

$$\begin{aligned} u &: (x : A) \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A[\mathbf{Q}_{\cdot, x:(1|A)}^\eta] \rangle \rangle \\ u &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{mod}_\mu(\text{mod}_\nu(x^\eta)) \\ e &: (x : \langle \nu \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rangle) \rightarrow A[\mathbf{Q}_{\cdot, x:(1|\langle \nu \mid \langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rangle)}^\epsilon] \\ e &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\nu(y_0) \leftarrow x \text{ in let}_\nu \text{mod}_\mu(y_1) \leftarrow y_0 \text{ in } y_1^\epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2.8.1. *The terms u and e satisfy the triangle equalities up to internal equality, e.g.:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \nu & \xrightarrow{\nu \star \eta} \nu \circ \mu \circ \nu & \xrightarrow{\epsilon \star \nu} \nu \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ & 1_\nu & \\ \mu & \xrightarrow{\eta \star \mu} \mu \circ \nu \circ \mu & \xrightarrow{\mu \star \eta} \mu \\ & \searrow & \nearrow \\ & 1_\mu & \end{array}$$

Proof. We construct the terms witnessing these internal equalities as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} - &: (x : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle}(x, e(\text{mod}_\nu(u) \circledast_\nu x)) \\ - &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\nu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in refl}(\text{mod}_\nu(y)) \\ - &: (x : \langle \mu \mid A \rangle) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\langle \mu \mid A \rangle}(x, \text{mod}_\mu(e) \circledast_\mu u(x)) \\ - &\triangleq \lambda x. \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(y) \leftarrow x \text{ in refl}(\text{mod}_\mu(y)) \end{aligned}$$

Recall that \circledast is the term for axiom K constructed in Section 1.3. The proof that this term typechecks is involved and relies on interchange law from Section 1.2. For the sake of explicitness, we present part

of this proof for the first equality. When type-checking this proof, we must show that $\text{refl}(\text{mod}_\nu(y))$ has the type $\text{Id}_{\langle \nu|A \rangle}(x, e(\text{mod}_\nu(u) \otimes_\nu \text{mod}_\mu(y)))$. Let us consider the rightmost term of this equality type:

$$\begin{aligned}
e(\text{mod}_\nu(u) \otimes_\nu \text{mod}_\mu(y)) &= e(\text{mod}_\nu(u(y))) \\
&= e(\text{mod}_\nu(\text{mod}_\mu(\text{mod}_\nu(y^\eta)))) \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y^\eta)^\epsilon \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y[\mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma, \mathbf{A}_\nu}^\eta][\mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma}^\epsilon]) \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y[\mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma, \mathbf{A}_\nu \circ \mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma, \mathbf{A}_\nu}^\epsilon}^\eta]) \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y[\mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\nu \star \eta} \circ \mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\epsilon \star \nu}]) \tag{*} \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y[\mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma}^{\epsilon \star \nu \circ \nu \star \eta}]) \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y[\mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma}^{1_\mu}]) \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y[\text{id}]) \\
&= \text{mod}_\nu(y)
\end{aligned}$$

The crucial move here is to observe that as part of a two-functor, $-.\mathbf{A}_\nu$ and $\mathcal{Q}_{\Gamma}^\square$ preserve whiskering, as was used in (*). This preservation is ensured, in particular, by the interchange law demanded in [Section 1.2](#). (The line above (*) just swaps both substitutions visually due to 2-contravariance.) \square

Theorem 2.8.2. *If \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} are two categories which can be equipped with models of type theory, and there is a pair of dependent right adjoints between them, $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket, \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket$, where the left adjoints (the maps between categories of contexts) are adjoint, $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket \dashv \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$, then \mathcal{C} and \mathcal{D} model MTT with \mathcal{M} .*

Proof. A straightforward application of [Theorem 1.4.11](#). \square

Theorem 2.8.3. *Any model of \mathcal{M} must interpret $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket$ as adjoint functors. Moreover, if Mod_μ and Mod_ν are induced by the adjunctions $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket \dashv R_\mu$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket \dashv R_\nu$ lifted to a dependent right adjoints ([Lemma 2.1.3](#)), then $R_\nu \dashv R_\mu$.*

Proof. The first claim is a result of the fact that adjoint functors are precisely adjoint morphisms in the 2-category, \mathbf{Cat} . Since adjoint morphisms are preserved by 2-functors, and ν and μ in $\mathcal{M}^{\text{coop}}$ are internally adjoint, $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket$ and $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$ are necessarily adjoint: $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket \dashv \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$.

Moreover, if $\llbracket \mathbf{A}_\nu \rrbracket \dashv R_\nu$, where R_ν lifts to Mod_ν , by the uniqueness of adjoints we must have that $R_\nu \cong \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$. If we also have that Mod_μ is induced by a functor $R_\mu \vdash \llbracket \mathbf{A}_\mu \rrbracket$, we then have $R_\nu \dashv R_\mu$. \square

2.8.1 When is Transposition Internally Definable?

In Licata et al. [[Lic+18](#)], a crucial move in the construction of the univalent universe is a right adjoint to the path type. The addition of this adjoint is difficult, however, because the adjoint does not internalize in a pleasant way. In particular, Licata et al. [[Lic+18](#)] showed that *if* the transposition action of the adjunction is definable inside the type theory, then the interval is trivial. Thus far, we have avoided such issues in our treatment of adjoints and worked exclusively with the unit and counit. However, since the adjoint to $-^\mathbb{I}$ is definable as an adjoint in the above sense, somewhere this issue must emerge.

Indeed, the crucial issue is that not all modalities give rise to an *internal functor*. Categorically, an internal functor is one whose action on morphisms can be defined as an arrow $A^B \rightarrow F(B)^{F(A)}$.¹⁶ Of course, an immediate problem is that these two arrows do not live in the same category in our case: one lives in mode m and the other in mode n . Even supposing we are considering an endoadjunction, such

¹⁶This is a special case of an enriched functor, making use of the observation that a cartesian closed category is self-enriched.

a term could still not be constructed. The functorial action of a modality does not extend to arbitrary terms. That is, for the walking adjunction we do not have a term of the following type:¹⁷

$$(A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid B \rangle)$$

Instead, we have something akin to axiom K, which gives us $\langle \mu \mid A \rightarrow B \rangle \rightarrow (\langle \mu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid B \rangle)$. Taking advantage of the fact that any term constructible in a closed context is constructible under a modality, this yields a functor on *closed terms*. In general, therefore, we cannot define the transposition operator one might hope for, some isomorphism

$$(\langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow B) \cong (A \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid B \rangle)$$

Instead, we have a pair of terms where $\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\nu \circ \mu} \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m$ and $\Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m$ for the first and $\Gamma. \blacksquare_\nu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m$ and $\Gamma. \blacksquare_{\nu \circ \mu} \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m$ for the second:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{transp}_{\nu \dashv \mu}^{\rightarrow} &: \langle \mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow B \rangle \rightarrow A[\mathbf{q}_{\mu \circ \nu}^1[\eta]] \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid B \rangle \\ \mathbf{transp}_{\nu \dashv \mu}^{\rightarrow} &\triangleq \lambda f. \lambda x. f \otimes_\mu u(x) \\ \mathbf{transp}_{\nu \dashv \mu}^{\leftarrow} &: \langle \nu \mid A \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid B \rangle \rangle \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow B[\mathbf{q}_1^{\nu \circ \mu}[\epsilon]] \\ \mathbf{transp}_{\nu \dashv \mu}^{\leftarrow} &\triangleq \lambda f. \lambda x. e(f \otimes_\nu x) \end{aligned}$$

In certain cases we can simplify these operations, albeit with loss of power. For instance, if these are endoadjunctions and we have an initial modality \perp , then we could construct transpositions of the following type:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \perp \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow B \rangle &\rightarrow \langle \perp \mid A[\mathbf{q}_{\perp}^{\perp \circ \nu}] \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid B[\mathbf{q}_{\perp}^{\perp \circ \mu}] \rangle \\ \langle \perp \mid A \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid B \rangle \rangle &\rightarrow \langle \perp \mid \langle \nu \mid A[\mathbf{q}_{\perp}^{\perp \circ \nu}] \rangle \rightarrow B[\mathbf{q}_{\perp}^{\perp \circ \mu}] \rangle \end{aligned}$$

In the case of Licata et al. [Lic+18] this \perp modality is precisely the global sections modality and these operators are the appropriate transpositions required by their constructions.¹⁸

The status of transposition in MTT is therefore complex, the naïve transposition operation is not even well-typed, and there are variety of possible replacements. It is worth emphasizing, however, that these replacements do not require extensions to the mode theory: they are all constructible from the unit and counit, for which there is no problem of internal versus external.

2.8.2 Crisp or Modal Induction Principles

Recall the typing rule for $\text{let}_\nu \text{ mod}_\mu(_) \leftarrow M_0$ in M_1 from Section 1.2:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \nu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(o, n) \\ \mu : \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{M}}(n, m) \quad \Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu. \blacksquare_\nu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ o \quad \Gamma. \blacksquare_\mu \vdash M_0 : \langle \nu \mid A \rangle @ n \\ \Gamma. (\mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle) \vdash B \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma. (\mu \circ \nu \mid A) \vdash M_1 : B[\uparrow. \text{mod}_\nu(\mathbf{v}_0)] @ m \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{let}_\mu \text{ mod}_\nu(_) \leftarrow M_0 \text{ in } M_1 : B[\text{id}. M_0] @ m}$$

Notice that there is an “extra” modality parameterizing this rule, ν , which modifies M_0 as well as the data supplied to M_1 . This extra generality is not frivolous; we can only define $\mathbf{comp}_{\nu, \mu}$ in Section 1.3.1 because we can eliminate a modality “under” another.

¹⁷Indeed, if we had a term of this type, we could easily show that all modalities contain a point (a map $A \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid A \rangle$) which would trivialize any comonads.

¹⁸Note that, while Licata et al. [Lic+18] have the internal types $\langle \nu \mid - \rangle = \wp$ and $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle = \surd$, the type system they use has only special judgemental support for the global sections modality \flat and not for ν and μ .

One might hope that a similar level of flexibility for all pattern matching-type elimination rules. However, the current rule for booleans does not include this extra modality:

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ ctx } @ m \quad \Gamma.(1 \mid \mathbb{B}) \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_t : A[\text{id.tt}] @ m \quad \Gamma \vdash M_f : A[\text{id.ff}] @ m \quad \Gamma.\mathbf{1}_1 \vdash N : \mathbb{B} @ m}{\Gamma \vdash \text{if}(A; M_t; M_f; N) : A[\text{id.N}] @ m}$$

Indeed, if we changed 1 to an arbitrary ν , then this rule would state something considerably stronger: not only do we have the expected elimination principle for \mathbb{B} , but all of our modalities would have to *preserve* \mathbb{B} . Semantically, this is nonsense: modalities correspond to right adjoints and right adjoints do not necessarily preserve colimits. For a concrete example, consider axiomatizing the irrelevance modality. This modality preserves all limits, and we can arrange it into a dependent right adjoint. If we could somehow prove the “stronger” boolean elimination rule, we would be able to case on \mathbb{B} when it appears in an irrelevant term. This would mean that we could construct two computations which behave differently when supplied with different “irrelevant” arguments, which was precisely what irrelevance was meant to prevent. The issue here is that while irrelevance preserves limits, it does *not* preserve colimits, and in particular it does not preserve \mathbb{B} .

In what circumstances can we safely recover the stronger elimination rules? If the stronger boolean elimination principle corresponded to the preservation of booleans, it seems reasonable to expect that we can recover it when ν is a left adjoint: left adjoints preserve colimits. This idea underlies the *crisp induction principles* in Shulman [Shu18]. There, the adjunction $\flat \dashv \sharp$ was sufficient to recover modalized elimination principles for the identity type, coproducts, and others. We will demonstrate that the same principle can be applied to MTT when the mode theory specifies an adjunction of modalities.

Theorem 2.8.4. $\langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle \simeq \mathbb{B}$

Proof. Rather than directly constructing the equivalence, it will prove slightly easier to factor this process into two steps:

1. First, we define a general purpose *crisp induction principle* for $\langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle$. This construction mirrors the one in Shulman [Shu18], though generalized slightly to not rely on the idempotence of any modalities.
2. We use this crisp induction principle to construct both the maps *and* the proofs that these maps are suitably inverse to each other.

For the definition of crisp if, parameterize what follows by the motive, $\Gamma.\mathbf{1}_{\nu \circ \mu}(\nu \mid \mathbb{B}) \vdash C \text{ type}_1 @ m$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma.\mathbf{1}_\nu \vdash h & : (b : \mathbb{B}) \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid C(\text{tt}) \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid C(\text{ff}) \rangle \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid C[\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_\mu.b^\eta] \rangle @ n \\ h(b, t, f) & \triangleq \text{if}(b, \langle \mu \mid C(b^\eta) \rangle; t; f; b) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma \vdash \text{crisp_if}_C & : (b : (\nu \mid \mathbb{B})) \rightarrow \langle \nu \circ \mu \mid C(\text{tt}) \rangle \rightarrow \langle \nu \circ \mu \mid C(\text{ff}) \rangle \rightarrow C[(\mathbf{1}_\Gamma^\epsilon \circ \uparrow).b] @ m \\ \text{crisp_if}_C(b, t, f) & \triangleq e(\text{mod}_\nu(h(b)) \otimes_\nu t \otimes_\nu f) \end{aligned}$$

It is slightly subtle to see that this definition is well-typed. In particular, in order to see that the substitution applied to C is correct, we make use of the following calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_\mu \cdot \mathbf{v}_0[\mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.\mathbf{1}_\nu.(1 \mid \mathbb{B})}^\eta] \right) \circ \left(\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_\nu \cdot \mathbf{v}_0.\mathbf{1}_\mu \right) \circ \mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^\epsilon \\ &= \left(\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_{\nu \circ \mu} \cdot \mathbf{v}_0[\mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.\mathbf{1}_\nu.(1 \mid \mathbb{B})}^\eta \circ \uparrow.\mathbf{1}_\nu \cdot \mathbf{v}_0.\mathbf{1}_{\mu \circ \nu}] \right) \circ \mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^\epsilon \\ &= \left(\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_{\nu \circ \mu} \cdot \mathbf{v}_0[\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_\nu \cdot \mathbf{v}_0 \circ \mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^\eta.\mathbf{1}_\mu] \right) \circ \left(\mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^\epsilon.\mathbf{1}_\mu \right) \\ &= \left(\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_{\nu \circ \mu} \cdot \mathbf{v}_0[\mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^\eta.\mathbf{1}_\mu] \right) \circ \mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^\epsilon \\ &= \left(\uparrow.\mathbf{1}_{\nu \circ \mu} \circ \mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^\epsilon \cdot \mathbf{v}_0[\mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^{\nu \star \eta} \circ \mathbf{1}_{\Gamma.(\nu \mid \mathbb{B})}^{\epsilon \star \nu}] \right) \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_{\Gamma}^\epsilon \circ \uparrow) \cdot \mathbf{v}_0 \end{aligned}$$

This uses the triangle identities again. The calculation is very similar to the reasoning used in order to show that e and u satisfies the triangle identities.

With crisp_if in hand, we can take actually construct the required equivalence.

$$\begin{aligned}
b & : \langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{B} @ m \\
b(x) & \triangleq \text{let } \text{mod}_\nu(x') \leftarrow x \text{ in } h(x') \\
& \quad \text{where } h(x) \triangleq \text{crisp_if}_{\mathbb{B}}(\text{mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(\text{tt}), \text{mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(\text{ff}), x) \\
b^{-1} & : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle @ m \\
b^{-1} & \triangleq \lambda x. \text{if}(_, \langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle; \text{mod}_\nu(\text{tt}); \text{mod}_\nu(\text{ff}); x) \\
- & : (b : \langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle}(b, b^{-1}(b(b))) @ m \\
-(x) & \triangleq \text{let } \text{mod}_\nu(x') \leftarrow x \text{ in } h(x') \\
& \quad \text{where } h(x) \triangleq \text{crisp_if}_{b, \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid \mathbb{B} \rangle}(\text{mod}_\nu(b), b^{-1}(h(b)))}(\text{mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(\text{refl}(\text{mod}_\nu(\text{tt}))), \text{mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(\text{refl}(\text{mod}_\nu(\text{ff}))), x) \\
- & : (b : \mathbb{B}) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\mathbb{B}}(b, b(b^{-1}(b))) @ m \\
-(x) & \triangleq \text{if}(b, \text{Id}_{\mathbb{B}}(b, b(b^{-1}(b))); \text{refl}(\text{tt}); \text{refl}(\text{ff}); x)
\end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 2.8.5. $\langle \nu \mid \text{Id}_A(M_0, M_1) \rangle \simeq \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle}(\text{mod}_\nu(M_0), \text{mod}_\nu(M_1))$

Proof. As in [Theorem 2.8.4](#), we will start by constructing a general modal induction principle and then use this induction principle to prove this equivalence.

For the definition of crisp J , let us fix $\Gamma, \blacksquare_\nu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ mn$ and the motive:

$$\Gamma, \blacksquare_{\nu \circ \mu}, x_0 : (\nu \mid A^{\nu \star \eta}), x_1 : (\nu \mid A^{\nu \star \eta}), p : (\nu \mid \text{Id}_{A^{\nu \star \eta}}(x_0, x_1)) \vdash C \text{ type}_1 @ m$$

We now define crisp J as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\Gamma, \blacksquare_\nu \vdash h & : (x_0, x_1 : A)(p : \text{Id}_A(x_0, x_1)) \rightarrow \\
& \quad \langle \mu \mid (a : (\nu \mid A^{\nu \star \eta})) \rightarrow C(a, a, \text{refl}(a)) \rangle \rightarrow \\
& \quad \langle \mu \mid C[\uparrow^3 \cdot \blacksquare_\mu \cdot x_0^\eta \cdot x_1^\eta \cdot p^\eta] \rangle @ n \\
h(x_0, x_1, p, b) & \triangleq J(a_0, a_1, p, \langle \mu \mid C(x_0^\eta, x_1^\eta, p^\eta) \rangle, b, p) \\
\Gamma \vdash \text{crisp_J}_C & : (x_0, x_1 : (\nu \mid A))(p : (\nu \mid \text{Id}_A(x_0, x_1))) \rightarrow \\
& \quad \langle \nu \circ \mu \mid (a : (\nu \mid A^{\nu \star \eta})) \rightarrow C(a, a, \text{refl}(a)) \rangle \rightarrow \\
& \quad C[(\mathcal{Q}_\Gamma^\epsilon \circ \uparrow^3) \cdot x_0 \cdot x_1 \cdot p] @ m \\
\text{crisp_J}_C(x_0, x_1, p, b) & \triangleq e(\text{mod}_\nu(h(x_0, x_1, p)) \otimes_\nu b)
\end{aligned}$$

We can now construct the desired equivalence directly. Let us suppose we have $\Gamma, \blacksquare_\nu \vdash A \text{ type}_1 @ \nu$

and $\Gamma, \mathbf{A}_\nu \vdash M_0, M_1 : A @ \nu$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{id} & : \langle \nu \mid \text{Id}_A(M_0, M_1) \rangle \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle}(\text{mod}_\nu(M_0), \text{mod}_\nu(M_1)) @ m \\
\text{id}(p) & \triangleq \text{let mod}_\nu(p') \leftarrow p \text{ in } h(p') \\
& \quad \text{where } h(p) \triangleq \text{crisp_J}_{x_0, x_1, p. \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle} \star \eta \rangle(x_0, x_1)}(\text{mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(\lambda a. \text{refl}(\text{mod}_\nu(a))), M_0, M_1, p) \\
\text{id}^{-1} & : \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle}(\text{mod}_\nu(M_0), \text{mod}_\nu(M_1)) \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid \text{Id}_A(M_0, M_1) \rangle @ m \\
\text{id}^{-1}(p) & \triangleq \text{J}(M, x. \text{let mod}_\nu(x') \leftarrow x \text{ in mod}_\nu(\text{refl}(x')), p) \\
& \quad \text{where } M(\text{mod}_\nu(x_0), \text{mod}_\nu(x_1), p) \triangleq \langle \nu \mid \text{Id}_A(x'_0, x'_1) \rangle \\
- & : (p : \langle \nu \mid \text{Id}_A(M_0, M_1) \rangle) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid \text{Id}_A(M_0, M_1) \rangle}(p, \text{id}^{-1}(\text{id}(p))) @ m \\
-(p) & \triangleq \text{let mod}_\nu(p') \leftarrow p \text{ in } h(p') \\
& \quad \text{where } h(p) \triangleq \text{crisp_J}_{x_0, x_1, p. \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid \text{Id}_A \rangle} \star \eta \rangle(x_0, x_1)}(\text{mod}_\nu(p), \text{id}^{-1}(h(p))) (\text{mod}_{\nu \circ \mu}(\lambda x. \text{refl}(\text{mod}_\nu(\text{refl}(x)))), M_0, M_1, p) \\
- & : (p : \text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle}(\text{mod}_\nu(M_0), \text{mod}_\nu(M_1))) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle}(\text{mod}_\nu(M_0), \text{mod}_\nu(M_1))}(p, \text{id}(\text{id}^{-1}(p))) @ m \\
-(p) & \triangleq \text{J}(M, x. \text{let mod}_\nu(x') \leftarrow x \text{ in mod}_\nu(\text{refl}(x')), p) \\
& \quad \text{where } M(\text{mod}_\nu(x_0), \text{mod}_\nu(x_1), p) = \text{Id}_{\text{Id}_{\langle \nu \mid A \rangle}(\text{mod}_\nu(x_0), \text{mod}_\nu(x_1))}(p, \text{id}(\text{id}^{-1}(p)))
\end{aligned}$$

For the last equality proof we have adopted the informal pattern matching syntax one might expect in an implementation of MTT; without this syntactic nicety the motive is too unreadable for a paper proof. \square

2.9 Relative Realizability

Thus far we have limited our examples to certain *presheaf toposes*. This simplifies matters because the semantics of dependent type theory and dependent right adjoints are both well understood in this context. There is, however, no fundamental restriction in MTT that requires us to work with presheaves.

In this section we turn our attention to examples arising in categorical realizability. These include the category of assemblies, triposes, and realizability toposes. The use of assemblies as a model of dependent type theory is far from novel, but we recall some definitions and details here.

2.9.1 Preliminary Aspects of Categorical Realizability

To begin with, our notion of realizability isolates a particular abstract model of computation: a PCA. This is a combinatorial definition which is concise to state and easy to work with, if inconvenient to actually program in. We refer the reader to Van Oosten [Oos08] and Longley and Normann [LN15] for a comprehensive summary.

Definition 2.9.1 (Partial Combinatory Algebra). A partial combinatory algebra is a set A equipped with a partial operator $\cdot : A \times A \rightharpoonup A$. This operator represents application and associates to the left, we will often suppress it entirely, writing ab . Moreover, there must be distinguished elements $S, K \in A$ satisfying the following:

- $S \cdot a, S \cdot a \cdot b$ are both defined for all $a, b \in A$.
- $S \cdot a \cdot b \cdot c \simeq (a \cdot c) \cdot (b \cdot c)$.
- $K \cdot a$ is defined for all $a \in A$.
- $K \cdot a \cdot b = a$

With this abstract notion of computation, we can construct a category which “glues” the category of sets to A , such that arrows between these sets are computable.

Definition 2.9.2 (Assembly). An assembly is a pair (X, Φ) of a set X and a map $X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A) \setminus \{\emptyset\}$. A morphism between assemblies $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ is a set-theoretic function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ such that there exists an element $a \in A$ satisfying $\forall x \in X, b \in \Phi_X(x). ab \in \Phi_Y(f(x))$. We will say that a *tracks* f and write $a \Vdash f$.

Theorem 2.9.3. *The category of assemblies over a PCA, $\mathbf{Asm}(A)$ is a locally cartesian closed regular category.*

Proof. This is a standard result. A detailed textbook proof is given by Van Oosten [Oos08] for regularity and cartesian closure. \square

Definition 2.9.4 (Uniform Family). A uniform family (I, X_i) is a pair of an assembly I and a family of assemblies $(X_i)_I$ indexed over the underlying set of I . A morphism of uniform families is a pair of two functions, $(I, X_i) \xrightarrow{(f, g)} (J, Y_j)$ where $f : I \rightarrow J$ is a map of assemblies, and $g : X_i \rightarrow Y_j$ is an indexed family of maps $g_i : X_i \rightarrow Y_{f(i)}$. Moreover, we require that g be *uniformly tracked*, that is, there a code $a \in A$ such that for all $i \in I$ and $n \in \Phi_I(i)$, $e \cdot i \Vdash g_i$.

Theorem 2.9.5. $\mathbf{UFam}(A)$ is a split fibration of $\mathbf{Asm}(A)$ and equivalent to $\text{cod} : \mathbf{Asm}(A)^{\rightarrow} \rightarrow \mathbf{Asm}(A)$.

Proof. Another standard result, proven in Jacobs [Jac99] for example. We observe that the splitting induces a functor $\mathbf{Asm}(A)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ which acts by precomposition on families. That is, $f^*((I, (X_i)_{i \in I})) = (J, (X_{f(j)})_{j \in J})$. \square

Corollary 2.9.6. $\mathbf{UFam}(A)$ is a model of (extensional) dependent type theory, with contexts being drawn from $\mathbf{Asm}(A)$ and types in context X being uniform families over X .

Proof. This is proven in Jacobs [Jac99] using categories with attributes rather than natural models. We will discuss this difference in greater detail in a moment. \square

Theorem 2.9.7. *Each Grothendieck universe \mathcal{V} induces a universe in $\mathbf{UFam}(A)$, generic for all (fiberwise) \mathcal{V} -small types.*

Proof. The universe is given by the following uniform family over 1 (which is just an assembly) $U = ((X \in \mathcal{V}) \times X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(A), \lambda_{\cdot}. A)$. The generic fibration is given by U together with the following assembly over it:

$$\tilde{U} = (\sum_{(A, \Phi_A) \in U} A, \lambda((A, \Phi_A), x). \Phi_A(x))$$

A textbook account of this proof can be found in Luo [Luo94]. \square

Note that we are not asking of for the *impredicative* universe of modest sets [Jac99], merely the standard predicative universes induced by our ambient set theory. While an impredicative universe could be incorporated into our framework, there is no need for impredicativity in what follows.

Corollary 2.9.8. *$\mathbf{UFam}(A)$ is a model of Martin-Löf Type Theory with a hierarchy of universes à la Coquand.*

Proof. This is an immediate corollary of Theorems 2.9.5 and 2.9.7. Since, however, we have used natural models throughout the rest of this work we will take a moment to show how this structure explicitly lifts to a natural model. The distinction is purely formal: full, split comprehension categories, cwfs, and natural models are all equivalent.

First, we take the category of contexts to be $\mathbf{Asm}(A)$. The presheaf of types over it is defined by sending Γ to the uniform families over Γ . The presheaf of terms consists is defined as follows:

$$\Gamma \mapsto \sum_{(\Gamma, A): \mathbf{UFam}(A)} \mathbf{Hom}_{\mathbf{UFam}(A)}((\Gamma, 1), A)$$

In both cases, the action of substitution is given by precomposition and changing the indices appropriately in the families.

Context extension comes from the comprehension structure, but explicitly given an assembly Γ and a uniform family A over it:

$$\Gamma.A \triangleq (\Gamma \times A, \lambda(\gamma, a). \Phi_{\Gamma}(\gamma) \wedge \Phi_{A(\gamma)}(a))$$

Where \wedge is the standard “cartesian product” of sets of a realizers:

$$U \wedge V = \{a \in A \mid \pi_1 \cdot a \in U \wedge \pi_2 \cdot a \in V\}$$

It is a routine calculation to show that this induces the required natural model structure. The remaining definitions of dependent sums, products, equality, etc. are likewise transported between the equivalence of cwfs and categories with attributes. We do not actually need to inspect how these are constructed in what follows, however, we will not write out the definitions here. The full proof may be found in Hofmann [Hof97]. \square

Already in this framework there are evident modalities. For instance, the discrete functor $\nabla : \mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \mathbf{Asm}(A)$ induces a size-preserving dependent right adjoint.¹⁹ This allows us to embed non-computable data into a universe of computable functions. Further adjoints, however, naturally arise in the context of *relative realizability*.

¹⁹It is perhaps confusing that objects $\nabla(A)$ are called *discrete objects* in realizability theory, because ∇ behaves precisely like the *codiscrete* functor in axiomatic cohesion.

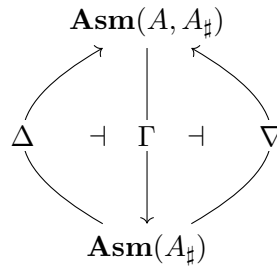
2.9.2 Preliminary Definitions for Relative Realizability

Definition 2.9.9 (Relative PCA). A relative PCA is a PCA with a chosen subset $A_\# \subseteq A$ which is closed under application and contains S and K

One should intuitively see $A_\#$ as the collection of computable elements of A while A itself may contain other (continuous) elements. See Birkedal [Bir00] for examples of relative PCAs.

Definition 2.9.10 (Relative Assemblies). The category of relative assemblies, $\mathbf{Asm}(A, A_\#)$ has as objects the objects of $\mathbf{Asm}(A)$, but morphisms are required to be tracked by an element of $A_\#$.

We can now define the functors we wish to interpret in our modal type theory:



First, the definition of Δ is the straightforward inclusion. We know that $A_\# \subseteq A$, and so an assembly over $A_\#$ is a specific case of an assembly over A . Moreover, the definition of morphism is the same in these two categories so this functor is full and faithful. The definition of Γ is only moderately more complex:

$$\Gamma(X, \Phi_X) = (X, \lambda x. A_\# \cap \Phi_X(x))$$

In other words, Γ removes the non-computable realizers from each assembly. The definition on morphisms is trivial since we have already required that morphisms be computable and $A_\#$ is closed under application. Finally, the definition of ∇ . This is intuitively meant to “pad” each set of realizers with arbitrary computable data, but its definition is slightly more complex than this:

$$\nabla(X, \Phi_X) = (X, \lambda x. \bigcup_{\phi \subseteq A} \phi \wedge (\phi \cap A_\# \supset \Phi_X(x)))$$

In this definition we have used some notation common to tripos theory and categorical realizability more generally. In particular,

$$\begin{aligned} U \wedge V &= \{a \in A \mid \pi_1 \cdot a \in U \wedge \pi_2 \cdot a \in V\} \\ U \supset V &= \{a \in A \mid \forall b \in U. a \cdot b \in V\} \end{aligned}$$

We now wish to show that Γ and ∇ can be extended to functors with an action on $\mathbf{UFam}(A_\#)$ and $\mathbf{UFam}(A, A_\#)$. The action on objects is obvious for both, sending $(I, X_{i \in I})$ to $(F(I), (F(X_i))_{i \in F(I)})$. This definition is taking advantage of the fact that both of these maps behave as the *identity* on all the set structure. So, for instance, Γ has no impact on the underlying set of the indexing assembly I . The more difficult question is to see that this has an action on terms (which is sufficient to see that that this has an action on terms).

Lemma 2.9.11. Γ lifts to a dependent right adjoint.

Proof. We have already defined how Γ acts on types, it remains to show how it acts on terms (morphisms in the $\mathbf{UFam}(A_\#)$ fibers) and to show that it respects context extension weakly and substitution strictly.

First, for the action on arrows in $\mathbf{UFam}(A_\#)$, given an arrow $(j, y) : (I, X_{i \in I}) \rightarrow (J, Y_{j \in J})$, we must show that $(j, y) : (\Gamma(I), (\Gamma(X_i))_{i \in I}) \rightarrow (\Gamma(J), (\Gamma(Y_j))_{j \in J})$ is tracked. We know that there is some $e_j \Vdash j$ in $\mathbf{Asm}(A, A_\#)$. Therefore, this same e_j tracks $\Gamma(I) \xrightarrow{j} \Gamma(J)$ in $\mathbf{Asm}(A_\#)$. Next, we must also have that there is a realizer $e_g \in A_\#$, such that for all i and $a_i \in \Phi_I(i)$, $e_g \cdot i \Vdash y_i$. By precisely the same argument as for e_j , we can see that e_g is also a valid realizer for g . This definition ensures that Γ has an extension to types and terms.

Next, it is immediate that this functor strictly preserve substitution, as substitution is given essentially by “precomposition” in the index of the family. What remains to be shown is that context extension is preserved up to isomorphism.

Recall that context extension in $\mathbf{Asm}(A)$ is defined as follows:

$$\Delta.A = (\sum_{\gamma \in \Delta} A_\gamma, \lambda(\gamma, a). \Phi_\Delta(\gamma) \wedge \Phi_{A_\gamma}(a))$$

However, taking the intersection of $U \wedge V$ with $A_\#$ is computably equivalent to $(U \cap A_\#) \wedge (V \cap A_\#)$. Therefore $\Gamma(\Delta.A) \cong \Gamma(\Delta). \Gamma(A)$, as required. \square

Lemma 2.9.12. ∇ extends to a dependent right adjoint.

Proof. We have exactly the same proof obligations as **Lemma 2.9.12**. To start with, suppose again that we have $(j, y) : (I, X_{i \in I}) \rightarrow (J, Y_{j \in J})$ in $\mathbf{UFam}(A_\#)$, we wish to show that $F(j, y)$ induces an arrow in $\mathbf{UFam}(A, A_\#)$. As before, we keep the same set-theoretic arrows. What remains to be shown is that they are still tracked. We had a realizer $e_j \Vdash j$ before, the new realizer is defined as $\lambda^* \langle p, a \rangle. \langle p, \lambda^* x. e_j(a(x)) \rangle$. In order to show that this is type-correct, let us first suppose that we have some realizer $\langle p, a \rangle \in \Phi_{\nabla I}(i)$. We then have that $p \in \phi \subseteq A$ and $a \in (\phi \cap A_\# \supset \Phi_X(x))$. Therefore, we can pick the same ϕ to instantiate the existential quantifier in $\Phi_{\nabla J}(f(i))$, and it is easily observed that $\langle p, \lambda^* x. e_j(a(x)) \rangle$ indeed has the correct type. Now, the same basic procedure applies to the uniform realizer in the fibers. Given e_g which tracks g uniformly in each fiber, we define the following:

$$\lambda^* i. \lambda^* \langle p, a \rangle. \langle p, \lambda^* x. e \cdot i \cdot (a \cdot x) \rangle$$

It is another tedious but routine inspection to see that this has the correct type. It is again easily seen that this strictly commutes with substitution. It remains to show that this preserves context extension. Suppose again we have Δ and $\Delta \vdash A$. We know that the following defines context extension:

$$\Delta.A = (\sum_{\gamma \in \Delta} A_\gamma, \lambda(\gamma, a). \Phi_\Delta(\gamma) \wedge \Phi_{A_\gamma}(a))$$

Now, $\nabla(\Delta.A)$ is therefore equipped with the following set of realizers for $\langle \gamma, a \rangle$:

$$\bigcup_{\phi \subseteq A} \phi \wedge (\phi \cap A_\# \supset \Phi_\Delta(\gamma) \wedge \Phi_{A_\gamma}(a))$$

Now, on the other hand, at $\langle \gamma, a \rangle$, we have that $\nabla(\Gamma). \nabla(A)$ has the following set of realizers:

$$\left(\bigcup_{\phi \subseteq A} \phi \wedge (\phi \cap A_\# \supset \Phi_\Delta(\gamma)) \right) \wedge \left(\bigcup_{\phi \subseteq A} \phi \wedge (\phi \cap A_\# \supset \Phi_{A(\gamma)}(a)) \right)$$

In order to complete the isomorphism, it suffices to give any pair of realizers (not necessarily inverses!) which go between these two sets. It is obvious how to from first to the second. Going from the second to the first requires a small degree of creativity:

$$\lambda^* \langle \langle p_1, a_1 \rangle, \langle p_2, a_2 \rangle \rangle. \langle \langle p_1, p_2 \rangle, \lambda^* \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle. \langle a_1 \cdot x_1, a_2 \cdot x_2 \rangle \rangle$$

In particular, we vary the choice of ϕ between the two. If we are given realizers at ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 , we produce a realizer at $\phi_1 \wedge \phi_2$. \square

Lemma 2.9.13. *Both Γ and ∇ preserve \mathcal{U} -smallness.*

Proof. This follows from the fact that both Γ and ∇ have a trivial action on the sets underlying the assemblies. \square

These results together tell us that the adjoint situation induced by relative realizability is entirely within the grasp of MTT.

2.9.3 MTT for Relative Realizability

Now that we have proven that these categories of assemblies are models of type theory and that the functors between them are dependent right adjoints, it is straightforward to use MTT to reason about this situation.

For our mode theory, we pick the following:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mu & \\ m & \xrightarrow{\quad} & n \\ & \nu & \end{array}$$

We demand that these form an internal adjoint, following [Section 2.8](#):

$$\begin{array}{ll} \eta : 1 \Rightarrow \mu \circ \nu & \epsilon : \nu \circ \mu \Rightarrow 1 \\ 1_\mu = (\mu \star \epsilon) \circ (\eta \star \mu) & 1_\nu = (\epsilon \star \nu) \circ (\nu \star \eta) \end{array}$$

We will interpret μ as ∇ and ν as Γ in our intended model. Under this interpretation, we would also like to ensure that ν is full and faithful. This can be enforced in the mode theory by requiring η to be an isomorphism.

It follows from the calculations in [Section 2.8](#) that they are adjoint to each other. We therefore will content ourselves with showing that Γ is full and faithful in this subsection.

First, let us recall the standard categorical argument that if the unit is an isomorphism then the left adjoint is full and faithful.

Lemma 2.9.14. *Given an adjunction $L \dashv R$, if η is an isomorphism then L is full and faithful.*

Proof. We wish to show that $\text{Hom}(A, B) \cong \text{Hom}(L(A), L(B))$. We observe from the adjoint $L \dashv R$ that $\text{Hom}(L(A), L(B))$ is isomorphic to $\text{Hom}(A, R(L(B)))$. However, we can post-compose with the isomorphism η^{-1} and conclude that $\text{Hom}(A, R(L(B))) \cong \text{Hom}(A, B)$, completing the proof. \square

A complication emerges when we attempt to replay this argument in MTT. As discussed in length in [Section 2.8.1](#), it is not easy to internalize transposition inside MTT. We therefore cannot hope for an equivalence $(A \rightarrow B) \simeq (\langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid B \rangle)$. Indeed, such a thing is not even possible to state as written, since A, B must live in mode n , and yet $\langle \nu \mid A \rangle, \langle \nu \mid B \rangle$ must live in mode m . Instead, we can obtain a similar statement.

Theorem 2.9.15. *Assuming function extensionality, $(A \rightarrow B) \simeq \langle \mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid B \rangle \rangle$*

Proof. We have already seen most of the left-to-right direction:

$$\begin{array}{l} h_0 : (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow \langle \mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid B \rangle \rangle \\ h_0(f) \triangleq \text{let } \text{mod}_\mu(f') \leftarrow \mathbf{comp}_{\mu, \nu}(u(f)) \text{ in } \text{mod}_\mu(\lambda a. f' \circ_\nu a) \end{array}$$

For the reverse, we use the following map:

$$\begin{aligned} h_1 & : \langle \mu \mid \langle \nu \mid A \rangle \rightarrow \langle \nu \mid B \rangle \rangle \rightarrow A \rightarrow B \\ h_1(f, a) & \triangleq \mathbf{coe}[\eta^{-1} : \mu \circ \nu \Rightarrow 1](f \otimes_{\mu} u(a)) \end{aligned}$$

The proof that these are appropriately mutually inverse requires function extensionality. With function extensionality, however, it follows the expected patten of “induct and reduce”. \square

3 Conclusions

We have contributed MTT, a type theory for working with multiple interacting modalities. In §1, we developed a precise account of MTT’s metatheory and semantics. In §2, we explored the applicability of MTT and demonstrated its utility in working with realistic modal situations.

Towards an Implementation of MTT A major point of future work is the development of an implementation of MTT. Substantial preliminary implementation efforts are already underway with Menkar [Nuy19]. In addition to the engineering effort, a systematic account for an algorithmic syntax of MTT as well as proof of normalization is needed. We believe that the general ideas of Gratzer, Sterling, and Birkedal [GSB19] are applicable to this situation and a similar series of proofs could be carried out for MTT, perhaps applying more modern *gluing* techniques [Coq18]. The hope would be to prove that the judgments $\Gamma \vdash M = N : A @ m$ and $\Gamma \vdash A = B \text{ type}_\ell @ m$ are decidable relative to a decision procedure for equality in the underlying mode theory.

We have largely ignore the issue of the decidability of our mode theories in §2, but this issue is central to any implementation of MTT. In particular, some of the mode theories considered in, e.g. Section 2.7, are clearly undecidable. In the case of Section 2.7 for instance, it would be necessary to construct a fixed set of warps for which equality is decidable, but which are still expressive enough to recover most of the original mode theory.

Left Adjoints As discussed in Section 1.8.4, MTT trades a measure of generality for a degree of simplicity compared to LSR. One might hope, however, that it would be possible to include a connective for *left adjoints*, as well as the current connective which models right adjoints without losing all of this simplicity. It is not obvious that this can be done without significantly changing MTT; the introduction rule for modalities is exceptionally specific to a right adjoint. This additionally flexibility would allow us to model several modalities which are currently out of reach. For instance, when modeling an adjoint chain we cannot model the final adjoint. If we could include left adjoints, this would no longer be an issue.

Directed Type Theory and op In directed type theory [Nor19], there are a wide variety of modalities. One, however, stands out as a distinctly unique phenomenon: A^{op} . However, this does *not* seem to fit into our framework, because $-^{op}$ does not seem to be part of a dependent right adjoint. Essentially, the left adjoint must be $-^{op}$ when constructing the term part of the DRA, and the left adjoint must be 1 (or $-^{co}$ when working in 2-categories) when constructing the type part of the DRA. It does not seem possible, therefore, to make directed type theory with an opposite modality a straightforward instance of MTT.

In Section 2.4, we built extensions of MTT (Theorems 2.4.7 and 2.4.14) in which terms and their types’ codes use the available variables with a different modality. It is not unimaginable that the technique used there may provide a solution to directed type theory.

Modalities which Model Effects Unfortunately, it is highly unlikely that any modality which captures an effect would form a modality suitable for MTT. Recall that modalities in MTT preserve products and

will also preserve a unit type, if one were added to MTT. This would give us the following equivalence:

$$\langle \mu \mid 1 \rangle \simeq 1$$

If $\langle \mu \mid - \rangle$ is intended to represent an effectful computation, this equivalence tells us that there are no interesting effects possible. If there were, we would have at least 2 distinct inhabitants in $\langle \mu \mid 1 \rangle$: the computation which has an effect and the computation which does not. This immediately rules out modeling Moggi [Mog91] within MTT. Additionally, it means that while Call-by-Push-Value [Lev12] can be partially incorporated in MTT, we can only model one of the two modalities. That is, while we can model the inclusion of values into computations, the reverse is not a (weak) dependent right adjoint.

A framework sufficiently general to include arbitrary monads as modalities must have a notion of modality which does not assume the existence of a left adjoint, and therefore must look quite different than MTT. Since, however, any monad can be decomposed into the composition of a left and right adjoint, a framework which can model left adjoints could likely handle this application.

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