

# Lecture 5: Inductive types

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# Primitive recursive functions

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The basic primitive recursive functions consist of:

- constant functions  $c_m^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = m$  for a fixed  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,
- successor function  $S(x) = x + 1$ ,
- identity functions  $\text{id}_k^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_k$ .

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- **Composition.** If  $f : \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $g_i : \mathbb{N}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , then the function  $h : \mathbb{N}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  satisfying

$$h(x_1, \dots, x_m) = f(g_1(x_1, \dots, x_m), \dots, g_n(x_1, \dots, x_m))$$

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- **Composition.** If  $f : \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $g_i : \mathbb{N}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , then the function  $h : \mathbb{N}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  satisfying

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is the composition of  $f$  with  $g_1, \dots, g_n$ .

- **Primitive recursion.** If  $h : \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $g : \mathbb{N}^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  then the unique function  $f : \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} f(0, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= g(x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ f(S(x), x_2, \dots, x_n) &= h(x, f(x, x_2, \dots, x_n), x_2, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

is defined by primitive recursion from  $g$  and  $h$ .

## Digression: partial recursive functions

The class of partial recursive functions is the smallest class of partial functions containing the basic primitive recursive functions and closed under composition, primitive recursion and minimisation.

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**Minimisation.** If  $h : \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  then the minimisation  $f$  of  $h$  is defined as follows:

- if there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $h(x_1, \dots, x_n, m) = 0$  and for all  $i < m$  the value  $h(x_1, \dots, x_n, i)$  is defined and nonzero, then  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = m$ ;
- if such an  $m$  does not exist, then  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is undefined.



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- if such an  $m$  does not exist, then  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is undefined.

The total recursive functions are those partial recursive functions which happen to be total. These are exactly the computable functions on natural numbers.

# Primitive recursion

If  $h : \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $g : \mathbb{N}^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  then the unique function  $f : \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned}f(0, x_2, \dots, x_n) &= g(x_2, \dots, x_n) \\f(S(x), x_2, \dots, x_n) &= h(x, f(x, x_2, \dots, x_n), x_2, \dots, x_n)\end{aligned}$$

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# Primitive recursion

If  $h : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $g \in \mathbb{N}$  then the unique function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned}f(0) &= g \\f(S(x)) &= h(x, f(x))\end{aligned}$$

is defined by primitive recursion from  $g$  and  $h$ .

## Higher-type primitive recursion

If  $\alpha : \mathbf{Type}$  and  $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$  and  $a : \alpha$  then the unique function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \alpha$  satisfying

$$f0 = a$$

$$f(Sn) = hn(fn)$$

is defined from  $a$  and  $h$  by primitive recursion into type  $\alpha$ .

## Higher-type primitive recursion

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$$\begin{aligned}f0 &= a \\ f(Sn) &= hn(fn)\end{aligned}$$

is defined from  $a$  and  $h$  by primitive recursion into type  $\alpha$ .

```
nat_srecα : α -> (nat -> α -> α) -> nat -> α
nat_srecα a h 0 →ℓ a
nat_srecα a h (S n) →ℓ h n (nat_srecα a h n)
```

## Higher-type primitive recursion

If  $\alpha : \mathbf{Type}$  and  $h : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$  and  $a : \alpha$  then the unique function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \alpha$  satisfying

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```
nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  :  $\alpha \rightarrow (\mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \mathbf{nat} \rightarrow \alpha$   
nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  a h 0  $\rightarrow_{\iota}$  a  
nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  a h (S n)  $\rightarrow_{\iota}$  h n (nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  a h n)
```

Using this generalised `nat_srec` and higher-order functions it is possible to define the (non-primitive-recursive) Ackermann function.

## Higher-type primitive recursion

Let  $g : \mathbb{N}^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $h : \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ . By currying/uncurrying we identify  $\mathbb{N}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  with  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  where  $\mathbb{N}$  occurs  $k + 1$  times.

## Higher-type primitive recursion

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The function  $f : \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  defined from  $g$  and

$$h'(x, y) = \lambda x_2 \dots x_n. h(x, y(x_2, \dots, x_n), x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

by primitive recursion into type  $\mathbb{N}^{n-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} f 0 x_2 \dots x_n &= g(x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ f(Sn) x_2 \dots x_n &= h(x, f n x_2 \dots x_n, x_2, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$



# Non-dependent recursors

**Inductive** `nat` := 0 : nat | S : nat -> nat.

`nat_srec $\alpha$`  :  $\alpha \rightarrow (\text{nat} \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \text{nat} \rightarrow \alpha$

`nat_srec $\alpha$`  a f 0  $\rightarrow_\iota$  a

`nat_srec $\alpha$`  a f (S n)  $\rightarrow_\iota$  f n (nat\_srec <sub>$\alpha$</sub>  a f n)

# Non-dependent recursors

```
Inductive list (A : Set) :=
```

```
| nil : list A
```

```
| cons : A -> list A -> list A.
```

```
list_srecA,α : α -> (A -> list A -> α -> α) -> list A -> α
```

```
list_srecA,α a f nil →ℓ a
```

```
list_srecA,α a f (cons x l) →ℓ f x l (list_srecA,α a f l)
```

# Non-dependent recursors

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list_srecA,α a f (cons x l) →ℓ f x l (list_srecA,α a f l)
```

```
List.fold_right : (A -> α -> α) -> α -> list A -> α
```

```
List.fold_right f a = list_srec a (fun x _ acc => f x acc)
```

# Non-dependent recursors

**Inductive** tree (A : Set) :=

| leaf : A -> tree A

| node1 : A -> tree A -> tree A

| node2 : A -> tree A -> tree A -> tree A

| nodeN : (nat -> tree A) -> tree A.

tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> : (A -> α) -> (A -> tree A -> α -> α) ->

(A -> tree A -> α -> tree A -> α -> α) ->

((nat -> tree A) -> (nat -> α) -> α) -> tree A -> α

tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> (leaf x) →<sub>ℓ</sub> f<sub>1</sub> x

tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> (node1 x t) →<sub>ℓ</sub>  
f<sub>2</sub> x t (tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> t)

tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> (node2 x l r) →<sub>ℓ</sub>  
f<sub>3</sub> x l (tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> l)  
r (tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> r)

tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> (nodeN h) →<sub>ℓ</sub>  
f<sub>4</sub> h (fun n => (tree\_srec<sub>A,α</sub> f<sub>1</sub> f<sub>2</sub> f<sub>3</sub> f<sub>4</sub> (h n)))

# Non-dependent recursors

```
Inductive or (A B : Prop) :=  
| or_introl : A -> A \\/ B  
| or_intror : B -> A \\/ B.
```

```
or_srecA,B,α : (A -> α) -> (B -> α) -> A \\/ B -> α  
or_srecA,B,α f1 f2 (or_introl x) →l f1 x  
or_srecA,B,α f1 f2 (or_intror x) →l f2 x
```

# Non-dependent recursors

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or_srecA,B,α f1 f2 (or_introl x) →ℓ f1 x  
or_srecA,B,α f1 f2 (or_intror x) →ℓ f2 x
```

Recall the higher-order encoding of disjunction:

$$\varphi \vee \psi := \forall P. (\varphi \rightarrow P) \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow P) \rightarrow P$$

## Non-dependent recursors

```
Inductive vector (A : Set) : nat -> Set :=  
| nil : vector A 0  
| cons : A -> forall n, vector A n -> vector A (S n).
```

```
vector_srecA,α : α -> (A -> forall n, vector A n -> α -> α) ->  
  forall n, vector A n -> α  
vector_srecA,α f1 f2 0 nil →ℓ f1  
vector_srecA,α f1 f2 (S n) (cons x n v) →ℓ  
  f2 x n v (vector_srecA,α f1 f2 n v)
```

# Non-dependent recursors

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vector_srecA,α : α -> (A -> forall n, vector A n -> α -> α) ->  
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```

```
vector_srecA,α f1 f2 0 nil →ℓ f1
```

```
vector_srecA,α f1 f2 (S n) (cons x n v) →ℓ  
  f2 x n v (vector_srecA,α f1 f2 n v)
```

```
vector_rec : forall (A : Set) (P : nat -> Set),  
  P 0 -> (A -> forall n, vector A n -> P n -> P (S n)) ->  
  forall n, vector A n -> P n
```

```
vector_rec A P f1 f2 0 nil →ℓ f1
```

```
vector_rec A P f1 f2 (S n) (cons x n v) →ℓ  
  f2 x n v (vector_rec A P f1 f2 n v)
```



# Recursors

```
Inductive Even : nat -> Prop :=  
| Even_0 : Even 0  
| Even_1 : forall n, Even n -> Even (S (S n)).  
  
Even_rec : forall P : nat -> Prop,  
  P 0 -> (forall n, Even n -> P n -> P (S (S n))) ->  
  forall n, Even n -> P n  
Even_rec P f1 f2 0 Even_0 →ℓ f1  
Even_rec P f1 f2 (S (S n)) (Even_1 n e) →ℓ  
  f2 n e (Even_rec P f1 f2 n e)
```

## Dependent elimination

```
Inductive Even : nat -> Prop :=  
| Even_0 : Even 0  
| Even_1 : forall n, Even n -> Even (S (S n)).  
  
Even_elim : forall P : forall n, Even n -> Prop,  
  P 0 Even_0 ->  
  (forall n (e : Even n),  
    P n e -> P (S (S n)) (Even_1 n e)) ->  
  forall n (e : Even n), P n e  
Even_elim P f1 f2 0 Even_0 →ℓ f1  
Even_elim P f1 f2 (S (S n)) (Even_1 n e) →ℓ  
  f2 n e (Even_elim P f1 f2 n e)
```

# Dependent elimination

```
Inductive nat : Set := 0 : nat | S : nat -> nat.
```

```
nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  :  $\alpha$  -> (nat ->  $\alpha$  ->  $\alpha$ ) -> nat ->  $\alpha$ 
```

```
nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  a f 0  $\rightarrow_{\iota}$  a
```

```
nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  a f (S n)  $\rightarrow_{\iota}$  f n (nat_srec $_{\alpha}$  a f n)
```

```
nat_elim : forall P : nat -> Set,
```

```
  P 0 -> (forall n, P n -> P (S n)) -> forall n, P n
```

```
nat_elim P a f 0  $\rightarrow_{\iota}$  a
```

```
nat_elim P a f (S n)  $\rightarrow_{\iota}$  f n (nat_elim P a f n)
```

# Dependent elimination

```
Inductive list (A : Set) : Set :=  
| nil : list A  
| cons : A -> list A -> list A.
```

```
list_srecA,α : α -> (A -> list A -> α -> α) -> list A -> α  
list_srecA,α a f nil →ℓ a  
list_srecA,α a f (cons x l) →ℓ f x l (list_srecA,α a f l)
```

```
list_elim : forall A (P : list A -> Set),  
  P nil -> (forall x l, P l -> P (cons x l)) ->  
  forall l, P l  
list_elim A P a f nil →ℓ a  
list_elim A P a f (cons x l) →ℓ f x l (list_elim A P a f l)
```

# Dependent elimination

```
Inductive tree (A : Set) : Set :=
```

```
| leaf : A -> tree A
```

```
| node1 : A -> tree A -> tree A
```

```
| node2 : A -> tree A -> tree A -> tree A
```

```
| nodeN : (nat -> tree A) -> tree A.
```

```
tree_srecA,α : (A -> α) -> (A -> tree A -> α -> α) ->  
  (A -> tree A -> α -> tree A -> α -> α) ->  
  ((nat -> tree A) -> (nat -> α) -> α) -> tree A -> α
```

```
tree_elim : forall (A : Set) (P : tree A -> Set),  
  (forall x, P (leaf x)) ->  
  (forall x t, P t -> P (node1 x t)) ->  
  (forall x l, P l -> forall r, P r -> P (node2 x l r)) ->  
  (forall (f : nat -> tree A),  
    (forall n, P (f n)) -> P (nodeN f)) ->  
  forall t : tree A, P t
```

# Dependent elimination

```
Inductive or (A B : Prop) : Prop :=  
| or_introl : A -> A \\/ B  
| or_intror : B -> A \\/ B.
```

```
or_srecA,B,α : (A -> α) -> (B -> α) -> A \\/ B -> α  
or_srecA,B,α f1 f2 (or_introl x) →ℓ f1 x  
or_srecA,B,α f1 f2 (or_intror x) →ℓ f2 x
```

```
or_elim : forall (A B : Prop) (P : A \\/ B -> Prop),  
  (forall x : A, P (or_introl x)) ->  
  (forall x : B, P (or_intror x)) ->  
  forall p : A \\/ B, P p  
or_elim A B P f1 f2 (or_introl x) →ℓ f1 x  
or_elim A B P f1 f2 (or_intror x) →ℓ f2 x
```

# Dependent elimination

```
Inductive vector (A : Set) : nat -> Set :=  
| nil : vector A 0  
| cons : A -> forall n, vector A n -> vector A (S n).
```

```
vector_srecA,α : α -> (A -> forall n, vector A n -> α -> α) ->  
  forall n, vector A n -> α
```

```
vector_srecA,α f1 f2 0 nil →ℓ f1
```

```
vector_srecA,α f1 f2 (S n) (cons x n v) →ℓ  
  f2 x n e (vector_srecA,α f1 f2 n v)
```

```
vector_elim : forall (A : Set),  
  forall (P : forall n : nat, vector A n -> Set),  
  P 0 nil ->  
  (forall x n (v : vector A n),  
    P n v -> P (S n) (cons x n v)) ->  
  forall (n : nat) (v : vector A n), P n v
```

```
vector_elim A P f1 f2 0 nil →ℓ f1
```

```
vector_elim A P f1 f2 (S n) (cons x n v) →ℓ  
  f2 x n v (vector_elim A P f1 f2 n v)
```

## Dependent elimination = `fix` + `match`

In contrast to e.g. Martin-Löf type theory, in Coq the eliminators are not primitive constants, but can be implemented using `fix` and `match`.



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- `fix` implements the “structural recursion” aspect of an eliminator.

## Dependent elimination = `fix` + `match`

In contrast to e.g. Martin-Löf type theory, in Coq the eliminators are not primitive constants, but can be implemented using `fix` and `match`.

- `fix` implements the “structural recursion” aspect of an eliminator.
- `match` implements the “reasoning by cases” aspect of an eliminator.

# The `fix` expressions

`fix F :  $\tau$  := b`

where  $\tau = \forall(x_1 : \sigma_1) \dots (x_k : \sigma_k). \rho$  and  $\sigma_k$  is an inductive type.

# The `fix` expressions

`fix`  $F : \tau := b$

where  $\tau = \forall(x_1 : \sigma_1) \dots (x_k : \sigma_k). \rho$  and  $\sigma_k$  is an inductive type.

- The  $k$ -th argument is the principal argument.

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- The definition needs to be guarded, meaning that in each recursive call the principal argument needs to structurally decrease.

# The `fix` expressions

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- The  $k$ -th argument is the principal argument.
- The definition needs to be guarded, meaning that in each recursive call the principal argument needs to structurally decrease.
- For precise definitions see: Giménez, “Codifying guarded definitions with recursive schemes”, TYPES 1994.

## Reduction of fixpoints

$$(\text{fix } F : \tau := b) \ a_1 \ \dots \ a_k \rightarrow_\iota$$
$$b[(\text{fix } F : \tau := b)/F] \ a_1 \ \dots \ a_k$$

where  $a_k$  is the principal argument and it begins with a constructor:

$a_k = ct_1 \dots t_n$ .

## Reduction of fixpoints

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where  $a_k$  is the principal argument and it begins with a constructor:

$$a_k = ct_1 \dots t_n.$$

NOTE:

$$(\text{fix } F \ (x : A) : \tau := b) \equiv (\text{fix } F : A \rightarrow \tau := \text{fun } x \Rightarrow b)$$



# Reduction of fixpoints

$$(\text{fix } F : \tau := b) \ a_1 \ \dots \ a_k \rightarrow_\iota \\ b[(\text{fix } F : \tau := b)/F] \ a_1 \ \dots \ a_k$$

where  $a_k$  is the principal argument and it begins with a constructor:  
 $a_k = ct_1 \dots t_n$ .

NOTE:

$$(\text{fix } F \ (x : A) : \tau := b) \equiv (\text{fix } F : A \rightarrow \tau := \text{fun } x \Rightarrow b)$$

BTW, this “argument shifting” also works for **Definition**, **Lemma**, etc.:

**Definition**  $F \ (x : A) : \tau := b$ .

$\equiv$

**Definition**  $F : A \rightarrow \tau := \text{fun } x \Rightarrow b$ .

## The match expressions

```
Inductive nat : Set := 0 : nat | S : nat -> nat.
```

```
nat_elim : forall P : nat -> Set,  
  P 0 -> (forall n, P n -> P (S n)) -> forall n, P n  
nat_elim P a f 0 →ℓ a  
nat_elim P a f (S n) →ℓ f n (nat_elim P a f n)
```

```
match n as x in nat return P x with  
| 0 => a  
| S n => b  
end
```

## The match expressions

```
Inductive nat : Set := 0 : nat | S : nat -> nat.
```

```
nat_elim : forall P : nat -> Set,  
  P 0 -> (forall n, P n -> P (S n)) -> forall n, P n  
nat_elim P a f 0 →ℓ a  
nat_elim P a f (S n) →ℓ f n (nat_elim P a f n)
```

```
match n as x in nat return P x with  
| 0 => a  
| S n => b  
end
```

```
P : nat -> Set  
a : P 0  
(fun n => b) : forall n, P (S n)
```

## The match expressions

```
Inductive nat : Set := 0 : nat | S : nat -> nat.
```

```
nat_elim : forall P : nat -> Set,  
  P 0 -> (forall n, P n -> P (S n)) -> forall n, P n  
nat_elim P a f 0 →ℓ a  
nat_elim P a f (S n) →ℓ f n (nat_elim P a f n)
```

```
match n as x in nat return P x with  
| 0 => a  
| S n => b  
end
```

```
P : nat -> Set  
a : P 0  
(fun n => b) : forall n, P (S n)
```

```
nat_elim P a f :=  
  fix F (n : nat) : P n := match n as x return P x with  
    | 0 => a  
    | S n => f n (F n)  
  end
```

## The match expressions

```
match n as x in nat return P x with  
| 0 => a  
| S y => b  
end
```

$P : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

$a : P\ 0$

$(\text{fun } y \Rightarrow b) : \text{forall } y, P\ (S\ y)$

The type of the entire match expression is  $P\ n$ .

## The match expressions

```
match n as x in nat return P x with
| 0 => a
| S y => b
end
```

$P : \text{nat} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

$a : P\ 0$

$(\text{fun } y \Rightarrow b) : \text{forall } y, P\ (S\ y)$

The type of the entire match expression is  $P\ n$ .

```
match 0 as x in nat return P x with
| 0 => a
| S y => b
end  $\rightarrow_{\iota} a$ 
```

```
match S n as x in nat return P x with
| 0 => a
| S y => b
end  $\rightarrow_{\iota} b[n/y]$ 
```

## The match expressions

```
Inductive list (A : Set) : Set :=
```

```
| nil : list A
```

```
| cons : A -> list A -> list A.
```

```
list_elim : forall A (P : list A -> Set),
```

```
  P nil -> (forall x l, P l -> P (cons x l)) ->
```

```
  forall l, P l
```

```
list_elim A P a f nil  $\rightarrow_l$  a
```

```
list_elim A P a f (cons x l)  $\rightarrow_l$  f x l (list_elim A P a f l)
```

```
match l as x in list _ return P x with
```

```
| nil => a
```

```
| cons x l' => b
```

```
end
```

```
P : list A -> Set
```

```
a : P nil
```

```
(fun x l' => b) : forall x l', P (cons x l')
```

The type of the entire match expression is  $P\ l$ .

## The match expressions

```
Inductive list (A : Set) : Set :=  
| nil : list A  
| cons : A -> list A -> list A.
```

```
list_elim : forall A (P : list A -> Set),  
  P nil -> (forall x l, P l -> P (cons x l)) ->  
  forall l, P l
```

```
list_elim A P a f :=  
  fix F (l : list A) : P l :=  
    match l as x return P x with  
    | nil => a  
    | cons x l' => f x l' (F l')  
  end
```



# The match expressions

```
Inductive vector (A : Set) : nat -> Set :=  
| nil : vector A 0  
| cons : A -> forall n, vector A n -> vector A (S n).
```

```
vector_elim : forall (A : Set),  
  forall (P : forall n : nat, vector A n -> Set),  
  P 0 nil ->  
  (forall x n (v : vector A n),  
    P n v -> P (S n) (cons x n v)) ->  
  forall (n : nat) (v : vector A n), P n v
```

```
match v as x in vector _ m return P m x with  
| nil => a  
| cons x y u => b  
end
```

```
P : forall n, vector A n -> Set  
a : P 0 nil  
(fun x y u => b) : forall x y (u : vector A y), P (S y) (cons x y u)
```

If the actual type of  $v$  is  $\text{vector } A \ n$ , then the type of the entire match expression is  $P \ n \ v$ .

## The match expressions

```
Inductive vector (A : Set) : nat -> Set :=  
| nil : vector A 0  
| cons : A -> forall n, vector A n -> vector A (S n).
```

```
vector_elim : forall (A : Set),  
  forall (P : forall n : nat, vector A n -> Set),  
  P 0 nil ->  
  (forall x n (v : vector A n),  
    P n v -> P (S n) (cons x n v)) ->  
  forall (n : nat) (v : vector A n), P n v  
vector_elim A P f1 f2 0 nil →ℓ f1  
vector_elim A P f1 f2 (S n) (cons x n v) →ℓ  
  f2 x n v (vector_elim A P f1 f2 n v)
```

```
vector_elim A P f1 f2 :=  
  fix F (n : nat) (v : vector A n) {struct v} : P n v :=  
    match v as x in vector _ m return P m x with  
    | nil => f1  
    | cons x y u => f2 x y u (F y u)  
  end
```

# General form of an inductive definition

```
Inductive I ( $p_1 : \rho_1$ ) ... ( $p_k : \rho_k$ ) :  
  forall ( $i_1 : A_1$ ) ... ( $i_m : A_m$ ),  $\mathcal{U} :=$   
|  $c_1 : \text{forall } (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
...  
|  $c_n : \text{forall } (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$ 
```

# General form of an inductive definition

```
Inductive I ( $p_1 : \rho_1$ ) ... ( $p_k : \rho_k$ ) :  
  forall ( $i_1 : A_1$ ) ... ( $i_m : A_m$ ),  $\mathcal{U} :=$   
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...  
|  $c_n : \text{forall } (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m}$ .  
· Parameters:  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ .
```

# General form of an inductive definition

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I}$   $(p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
    **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
|  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
...  
|  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$

- Parameters:  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ .
- Indices:  $i_1, \dots, i_m$ .

# General form of an inductive definition

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I} (p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
    **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
|  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
...  
|  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$

- Parameters:  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ .
- Indices:  $i_1, \dots, i_m$ .
- Arity: **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U}$ .

# General form of an inductive definition

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I}$   $(p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
    **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
|  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
...  
|  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$

- Parameters:  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ .
- Indices:  $i_1, \dots, i_m$ .
- Arity: **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U}$ .
- Constructors:  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ .

# General form of an inductive definition

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I}$   $(p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
  **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
  |  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
  ...  
  |  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$

- Parameters:  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ .
- Indices:  $i_1, \dots, i_m$ .
- Arity: **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U}$ .
- Constructors:  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ .
- The declared type of the constructor  $c_j$  is  
  **forall**  $(x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}),$   
     $\mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$



# General form of an inductive definition

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I}$   $(p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
  **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
  |  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
  ...  
  |  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$

- Parameters:  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ .
- Indices:  $i_1, \dots, i_m$ .
- Arity: **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U}$ .
- Constructors:  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ .

- The declared type of the constructor  $c_j$  is

**forall**  $(x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}),$   
   $\mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$

- The type of constructor  $c_j$  is actually

**forall**  $(p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k),$   
**forall**  $(x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}),$   
   $\mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$

i.e., the declared type of  $c_j$  with quantification over the parameters prepended.

# The strict positivity restriction

**Inductive**  $\mathbb{I} (p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
    **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
|  $c_1 : \text{forall } (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbb{I} p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
...  
|  $c_n : \text{forall } (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbb{I} p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$

# The strict positivity restriction

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I} (p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
    **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
|  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
...  
|  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m}.$

The declared type of each constructor  $c_j$

**forall**  $(x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}.$

is required to satisfy the positivity condition, meaning that:

- $I$  does not occur in any of  $p_1, \dots, p_k, u_{j,1}, \dots, u_{j,m}$ ; and
- $I$  may occur only strictly positively in each  $\tau_{j,i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l_j$ , i.e., either  $I$  does not occur in  $\tau_{j,i}$  at all or  $\tau_{j,i}$  has the form:

**forall**  $(y_1 : \sigma_1) \dots (y_r : \sigma_r), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k \ w_1 \dots w_m.$

where  $I$  does not occur in  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r, p_1, \dots, p_k, w_1, \dots, w_m$ .

# The strict positivity restriction

```
Inductive I (p1 : ρ1) ... (pk : ρk) :  
  forall (i1 : A1) ... (im : Am), U :=  
  | c1 : forall (x1,1 : τ1,1) ... (x1,l1 : τ1,l1), I p1 ... pk u1,1 ... u1,m  
  ...  
  | cn : forall (xn,1 : τn,1) ... (xn,ln : τn,ln), I p1 ... pk un,1 ... un,m.
```

The declared type of each constructor  $c_j$

```
forall (xj,1 : τj,1) ... (xj,lj : τj,lj), I p1 ... pk uj,1 ... uj,m.
```

is required to satisfy the positivity condition, meaning that:

- $I$  does not occur in any of  $p_1, \dots, p_k, u_{j,1}, \dots, u_{j,m}$ ; and
- $I$  may occur only strictly positively in each  $\tau_{j,i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l_j$ , i.e., either  $I$  does not occur in  $\tau_{j,i}$  at all or  $\tau_{j,i}$  has the form:

```
forall (y1 : σ1) ... (yr : σr), I p1 ... pk w1 ... wm.
```

where  $I$  does not occur in  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r, p_1, \dots, p_k, w_1, \dots, w_m$ .

Actually, in Coq the strict positivity condition is slightly more liberal than described above, with  $I$  allowed to occur, under certain restrictions, in the parameters of another inductive type in the target of a constructor type. See the Coq reference manual for details: <https://coq.inria.fr/distrib/current/refman/language/cic.html#inductive-definitions>.

## The strict positivity restriction

The declared type of each constructor  $c_j$

**forall**  $(x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}.$

is required to satisfy the positivity condition, meaning that:

- $I$  does not occur in any of  $p_1, \dots, p_k, u_{j,1}, \dots, u_{j,m}$ ; and
- $I$  may occur only strictly positively in each  $\tau_{j,i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l_j$ , i.e., either  $I$  does not occur in  $\tau_{j,i}$  at all or  $\tau_{j,i}$  has the form:

**forall**  $(y_1 : \sigma_1) \dots (y_r : \sigma_r), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ w_1 \dots w_m.$

where  $I$  does not occur in  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r, p_1, \dots, p_k, w_1, \dots, w_m$ .

This is valid:

**Inductive**  $\text{I} : \text{Set} := \text{c} : (\text{nat} \rightarrow \text{I}) \rightarrow \text{I}.$

## The strict positivity restriction

The declared type of each constructor  $c_j$

**forall**  $(x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}.$

is required to satisfy the positivity condition, meaning that:

- $I$  does not occur in any of  $p_1, \dots, p_k, u_{j,1}, \dots, u_{j,m}$ ; and
- $I$  may occur only strictly positively in each  $\tau_{j,i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l_j$ , i.e., either  $I$  does not occur in  $\tau_{j,i}$  at all or  $\tau_{j,i}$  has the form:

**forall**  $(y_1 : \sigma_1) \dots (y_r : \sigma_r), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ w_1 \dots w_m.$

where  $I$  does not occur in  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r, p_1, \dots, p_k, w_1, \dots, w_m$ .

This is valid:

**Inductive**  $\text{ I } : \text{ Set } := \text{ c } : (\text{ nat } \rightarrow \text{ I }) \rightarrow \text{ I }.$

This is not valid:

**Inductive**  $\text{ I } : \text{ Set } := \text{ c } : (\text{ I } \rightarrow \text{ I }) \rightarrow \text{ I }.$

# The strict positivity restriction

The declared type of each constructor  $c_j$

**forall**  $(x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}.$

is required to satisfy the positivity condition, meaning that:

- $I$  does not occur in any of  $p_1, \dots, p_k, u_{j,1}, \dots, u_{j,m}$ ; and
- $I$  may occur only strictly positively in each  $\tau_{j,i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l_j$ , i.e., either  $I$  does not occur in  $\tau_{j,i}$  at all or  $\tau_{j,i}$  has the form:

**forall**  $(y_1 : \sigma_1) \dots (y_r : \sigma_r), \text{ I } p_1 \dots p_k \ w_1 \dots w_m.$

where  $I$  does not occur in  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r, p_1, \dots, p_k, w_1, \dots, w_m$ .

This is valid:

**Inductive**  $\text{ I : Set := c : (nat -> I) -> I.}$

This is not valid:

**Inductive**  $\text{ I : Set := c : (I -> I) -> I.}$

This is not valid either:

**Inductive**  $\text{ I : Set := c : ((I -> nat) -> I) -> I.}$

# The strict positivity restriction

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I} (p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
  **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
  |  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
  ...  
  |  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m}.$

The declared type of each constructor  $c_j$

**forall**  $(x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}.$

is required to satisfy the positivity condition, meaning that:

- $I$  does not occur in any of  $p_1, \dots, p_k, u_{j,1}, \dots, u_{j,m}$ ; and
- $I$  may occur only strictly positively in each  $\tau_{j,i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l_j$ , i.e., either  $I$  does not occur in  $\tau_{j,i}$  at all or  $\tau_{j,i}$  has the form:

**forall**  $(y_1 : \sigma_1) \dots (y_r : \sigma_r), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k w_1 \dots w_m.$

where  $I$  does not occur in  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r, p_1, \dots, p_k, w_1, \dots, w_m$ .

**Relaxing the strict positivity restriction may result in undecidability of type checking or even inconsistency!**



# Universe constraints

**Inductive**  $\mathbf{I} (p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) :$   
    **forall**  $(i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m), \mathcal{U} :=$   
|  $c_1 : \mathbf{forall} (x_{1,1} : \tau_{1,1}) \dots (x_{1,l_1} : \tau_{1,l_1}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{1,1} \dots u_{1,m}$   
...  
|  $c_n : \mathbf{forall} (x_{n,1} : \tau_{n,1}) \dots (x_{n,l_n} : \tau_{n,l_n}), \mathbf{I} p_1 \dots p_k u_{n,1} \dots u_{n,m} .$

The declared type of each constructor needs to be in  $\mathcal{U}$ :

$$\Gamma, p_1 : \rho_1, \dots, p_k : \rho_k, I : \forall (i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m). \mathcal{U} \vdash \\ (\forall (x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}). I p_1 \dots p_k u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}) : \mathcal{U}$$

# Universe constraints

The declared type of each constructor needs to be in  $\mathcal{U}$ :

$$\Gamma, p_1 : \rho_1, \dots, p_k : \rho_k, I : \forall (p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) (i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m). \mathcal{U} \vdash \\ (\forall (x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}). I p_1 \dots p_k u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}) : \mathcal{U}$$

# Universe constraints

The declared type of each constructor needs to be in  $\mathcal{U}$ :

$$\Gamma, p_1 : \rho_1, \dots, p_k : \rho_k, I : \forall (p_1 : \rho_1) \dots (p_k : \rho_k) (i_1 : A_1) \dots (i_m : A_m). \mathcal{U} \vdash \\ (\forall (x_{j,1} : \tau_{j,1}) \dots (x_{j,l_j} : \tau_{j,l_j}). I p_1 \dots p_k u_{j,1} \dots u_{j,m}) : \mathcal{U}$$

This is valid:

**Inductive**  $I \ (A : \mathbf{Set}) : \mathbf{Set} := \mathbf{cI} : I \ A.$

because  $A : \mathbf{Set}, I : \mathbf{Set} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set} \vdash IA : \mathbf{Set}.$

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This is valid:

**Inductive** I (A : Set) : Set := cI : I A.

because  $A : \text{Set}, I : \text{Set} \rightarrow \text{Set} \vdash IA : \text{Set}$ .

This is not valid:

**Inductive** I : Set  $\rightarrow$  Set := cI : forall A : Set, I A.

because **forall** A : Set, I A is in  $\text{Type}_1$  but not in Set.

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This is valid:

**Inductive**  $I : \mathbf{Prop} := \mathbf{cI} : \mathbf{forall} \ A : \mathbf{Prop}, \ A \rightarrow I.$

because  $\mathbf{Prop}$  is impredicative.

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This is valid:

**Inductive** I : **Prop** := cI : forall A : **Prop**, A -> I.

because **Prop** is impredicative.

This is valid:

**Inductive** I : **Type** := cI : forall A : **Type**, A -> I.

because the inferred implicit indices for **Type** are:

**Inductive** I : **Type**<sub>i+1</sub> := cI : forall A : **Type**<sub>i</sub>, A -> I.

# Large inductive types

A large inductive type is an inductive type such that the declared type of one of its constructors quantifies over a universe.

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Examples:

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Inductive I (A : Set) : Prop := cI : forall B : Type, B -> I A.
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Large inductive types either are in `Prop` or they are in `Typei` with the universes quantified over in declared constructor types all in `Typei`.

## General form of match expressions

```
match t as x in I _ ... _ i1 ... im return P i1 ... im x with  
| c1 _ ... _ x1,1 ... x1,l1 => b1  
...  
| cn _ ... _ xn,1 ... xn,ln => bn  
end
```

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```
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  forall (i1 : A1) ... (im : Am), U :=  
  | c1 : forall (x1,1 : τ1,1) ... (x1,l1 : τ1,l1), I p1 ... pk u1,1 ... u1,m  
  ...  
  | cn : forall (xn,1 : τn,1) ... (xn,ln : τn,ln), I p1 ... pk un,1 ... un,m.
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· t : I q1 ... qk a1 ... am .
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- $t : I q_1 \dots q_k a_1 \dots a_m$ .
- $x, i_1, \dots, i_m$  are fresh variables.
- The motive  $P$  has type  $\forall (i_1 : A'_1) \dots (i_m : A'_m). I q_1 \dots q_k i_1 \dots i_m \rightarrow \mathcal{U}'$   
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- The type of the entire match expression is  $Pa_1 \dots a_mt$ .



# Valid elimination universes

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match t as x in I _ ... _ i1 ... im return P i1 ... im x with
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  - In other words, matching on proofs to produce programs/types (elements of a type in any of the “computational” universes) is not allowed.
  - Except in one situation...

## Small propositional inductive types

A small propositional inductive type is an inductive type  $I$  in **Prop** with at most one constructor with declared type

$$\forall (x_1 : \tau_1) \dots (x_l : \tau_l). I p_1 \dots p_k u_1 \dots u_m$$

such that all  $\tau_j$  are in **Prop**.



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Examples:

```
Inductive False :=
```

```
Inductive and (A B : Prop) : Prop := conj : A -> B -> A /\ B.
```

```
Inductive eq (A : Type) (x : A) : A -> Prop := eq_refl : x = x.
```

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- If  $\mathcal{U} = \mathbf{Prop}$  and  $I$  is a small propositional inductive type then  $\mathcal{U}'$  can be arbitrary.

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Large elimination (or strong elimination) is elimination from  $\mathcal{U}$  to  $\mathcal{U}'$  when  $\mathcal{U} : \mathcal{U}'$ .

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Examples:

```
match t in bool return Set with
| true => nat
| false => bool
end
```

```
match t in bool return Prop with
| true => True
| false => False
end
```

Note:  $\text{bool} : \text{Set}$ ,  $\text{Set} : \text{Type}_1$  and  $\text{Prop} : \text{Type}_1$ , so in both examples  $\mathcal{U} = \text{Set}$  and  $\mathcal{U}' = \text{Type}_1$ .

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Large elimination (or strong elimination) is elimination from  $\mathcal{U}$  to  $\mathcal{U}'$  when  $\mathcal{U} : \mathcal{U}'$ .

- Unrestricted large elimination of large inductive types from an impredicative universe leads to inconsistency.

Jacobs, “The inconsistency of higher-order extensions of Martin-Löf’s type theory”, Journal of Philosophical Logic, 1989

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- In Coq, large elimination from **Prop** is allowed only for small propositional inductive types.
- In Coq, without large elimination from **Set** it is not possible to prove the distinctness of constructors, e.g., that  $0 \neq 1$ .