

# A logical framework for incremental type-checking

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# A paradoxical situation

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We have powerful tools to mechanize the metatheory of (proof) languages

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... And yet,

Workflow of programming and formal mathematics is still largely inspired by legacy software development (emacs, make, svn, diffs...)

*Isn't it time to make these tools metatheory-aware?*

# Incrementality in programming & proof languages

Q : Do you spend more time *writing* code or *editing* code?

Today, we use:

- separate compilation
- dependency management
- version control on the scripts
- interactive toplevel with global rollback (Coq)

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Today, we use:

- separate compilation
- dependency management
- version control on the scripts
- interactive toplevel with global rollback (Coq)

... ad-hoc tools, code duplication, hacks...

## Examples

- `diff`'s language-specific options, lines of context...
- `git`'s merge heuristics
- `ocamldep` *vs.* `ocaml` module system
- `coqtop`'s rigidity

## In an ideal world...

- Edition should be incrementally communicated to the tool
- The impact of changes visible “in real time”
- No need for separate compilation, dependency management...

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## Applications

- non-(linear|batch) user interaction
- typed version control systems
- type-directed programming
- tactic languages

In this talk, we focus on...

... building a procedure to type-check *local changes*

- What data structure for storing type derivations?
- What language for expressing changes?

# Menu

## The big picture

- Incremental type-checking

- Why not memoization?

## Our approach

- Two-passes type-checking

- The data-oriented way

## A metalanguage of repository

- Tools

  - The LF logical framework

  - Monadic LF

- Typing by annotating

- The typing/committing process

  - What does it do?

  - Example

  - Regaining version management

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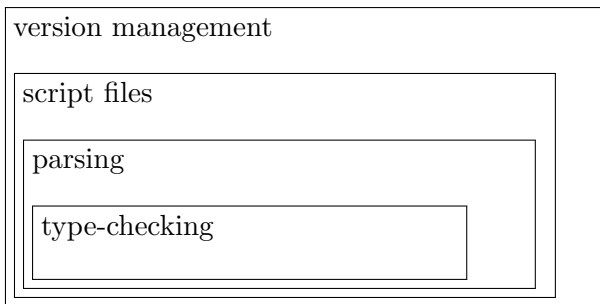
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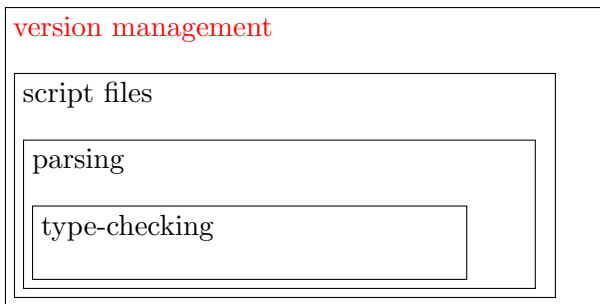
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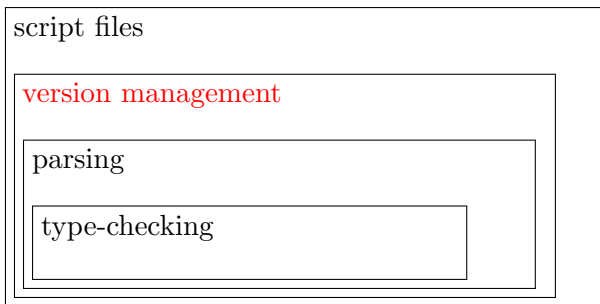
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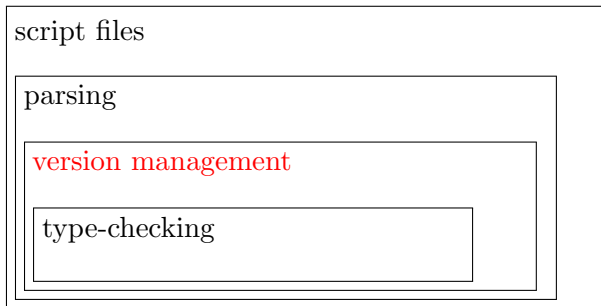
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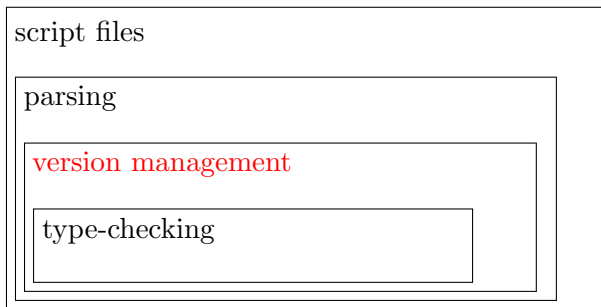
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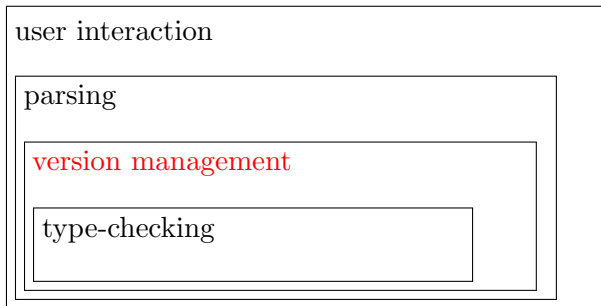


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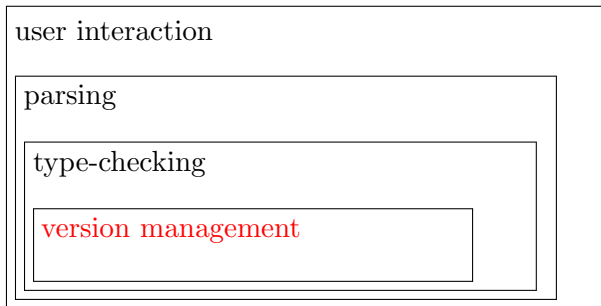
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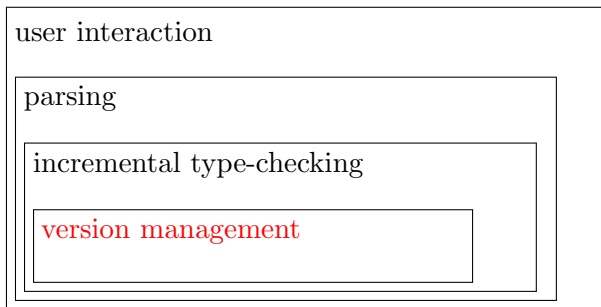
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# The big picture



- AST representation
- Typing annotations

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# A logical framework for incremental **type-checking**

Yes, we're speaking about (any) typed language.

## **A type-checker**

**val** check : env  $\rightarrow$  term  $\rightarrow$  types  $\rightarrow$  bool

- builds and checks the derivation (on the stack)
- conscientiously discards it

# A logical framework for **incremental** type-checking

**Goal** Type-check a large derivation taking advantage of the knowledge from type-checking previous versions

**Idea** Remember all derivations!

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**More precisely**

Given a well-typed  $\mathcal{R} : repository$  and a  $\delta : delta$  and

$apply : repository \rightarrow delta \rightarrow derivation$  ,

an incremental type-checker

$tc : repository \rightarrow delta \rightarrow bool$

decides if  $apply(\delta, \mathcal{R})$  is well-typed in  $O(|\delta|)$ .

(and not  $O(|apply(\delta, \mathcal{R})|)$ )

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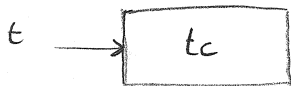


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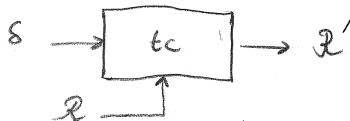
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from



to



## Memoization maybe?

```
let rec check env t a =  
  match t with  
  | ... → ... false  
  | ... → ... true
```

```
and infer env t =  
  match t with  
  | ... → ... None  
  | ... → ... Some a
```

## Memoization maybe?

```
let table = ref ([] : environ × term × types) in  
let rec check env t a =  
  if List.mem (env,t,a) !table then true else  
    match t with  
    | ... → ... false  
    | ... → ... table := (env,t,a)::!table; true  
and infer env t =  
  try List.assoc (env,t) !table with Not_found →  
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```

# Memoization maybe?

Syntactically

+ lightweight, efficient implementation

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- + lightweight, efficient implementation
- + *repository* = **table**, *delta* = **t**
- syntactic comparison (no quotient on judgements)
  - What if I want *e.g.* weakening or permutation to be taken into account?

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## Syntactically

+ lightweight, efficient implementation

+ *repository* = `table`, *delta* = `t`

– syntactic comparison (no quotient on judgements)

What if I want *e.g.* weakening or permutation to be taken into account?

## Semantically

– external to the type system (meta-cut)

What does it mean logically?

$$\frac{J \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash J \text{ wf} \Rightarrow \Gamma} \qquad \frac{\Gamma_1 \vdash J_1 \text{ wf} \Rightarrow \Gamma_2 \quad \dots \quad \Gamma_{n-1}[J_{n-1}] \vdash J_n \text{ wf} \Rightarrow \Gamma_n}{\Gamma_1 \vdash J \text{ wf} \Rightarrow \Gamma_n[J_n][J]}$$

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– imperative (introduces a dissymmetry)

Mixes two goals: *derivation synthesis* & *object reuse*

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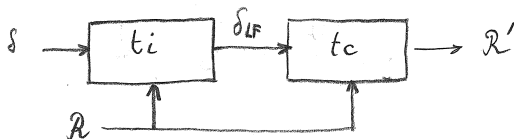
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## Two-passes type-checking



$ti$  = type inference = derivation delta synthesis

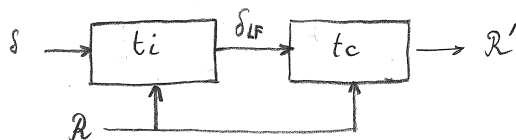
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$\delta$  = program delta

$\delta_{LF}$  = derivation delta

$\mathcal{R}$  = repository of derivations

## Two-passes type-checking



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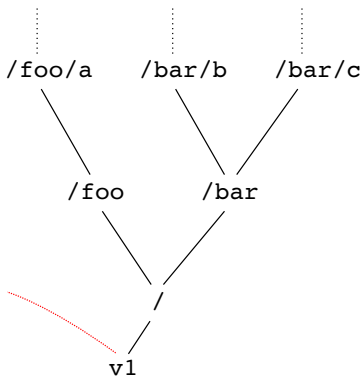
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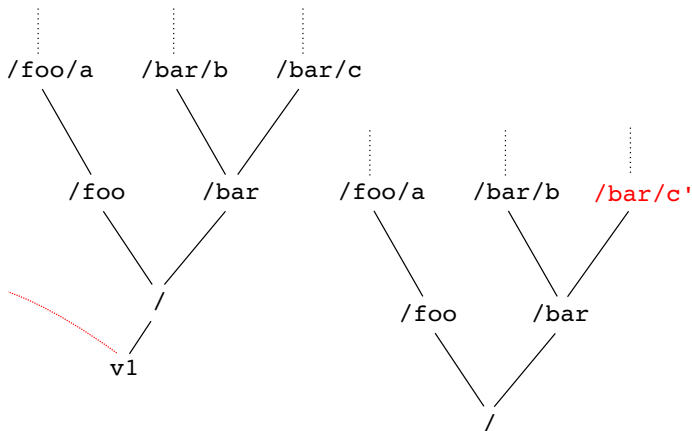
$\mathcal{R}$  = repository of derivations

*Shift of trust:* ti (complex, ad-hoc algorithm)  $\rightarrow$  tc (simple, generic kernel)

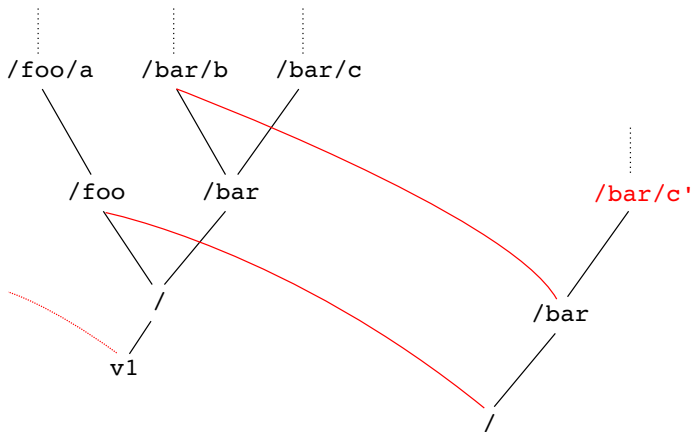
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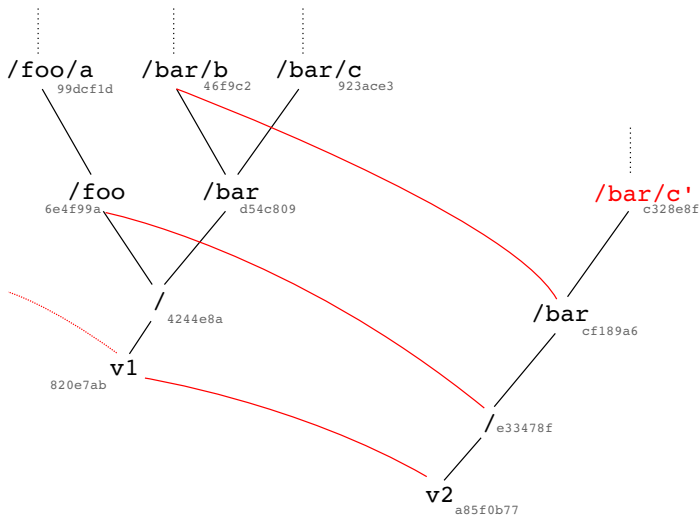
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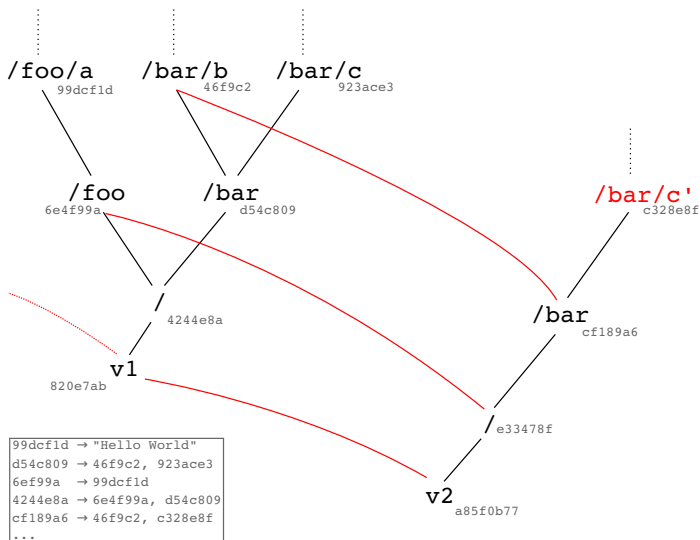




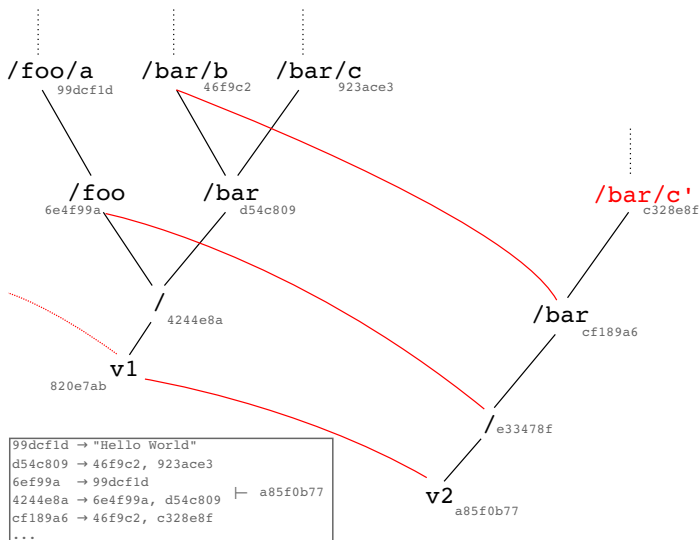
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The repository  $\mathcal{R}$  is a pair  $(\Delta, x)$ :

$$\Delta : x \mapsto (\text{Commit } (x \times y) \mid \text{Tree } \vec{x} \mid \text{Blob } string)$$

## Operations

`commit`  $\delta$

- extend the database with `Tree`/`Blob` objects
- add a `Commit` object
- update head

`checkout`  $v$

- follow  $v$  all the way to the `Blobs`

`diff`  $v_1$   $v_2$

- follow simultaneously  $v_1$  and  $v_2$
- if object names are equal, stop (content is equal)
- otherwise continue

...

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## Invariants

- $\Delta$  forms a DAG
- if  $(x, \text{Commit } (y, z)) \in \Delta$  then
  - ▶  $(y, \text{Tree } t) \in \Delta$
  - ▶  $(z, \text{Commit } (t, v)) \in \Delta$
- if  $(x, \text{Tree}(\vec{y})) \in \Delta$  then  
for all  $y_i$ , either  $(y_i, \text{Tree}(\vec{z}))$  or  $(y_i, \text{Blob}(s)) \in \Delta$

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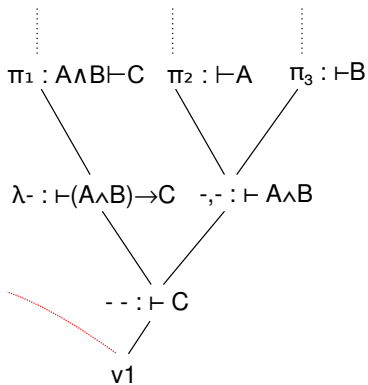
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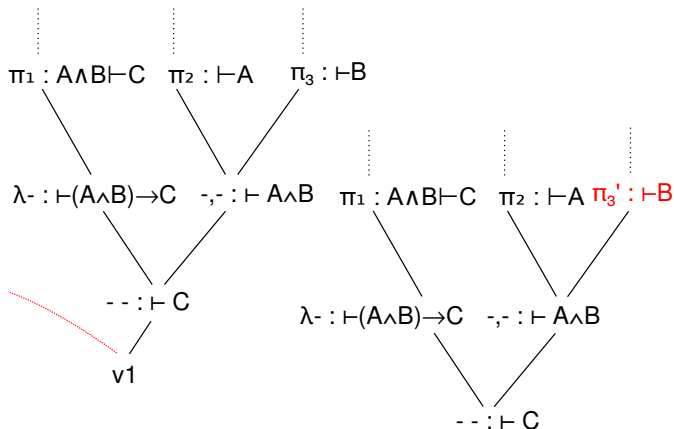
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Let's do the same with *proofs*

## A *typed* repository of proofs

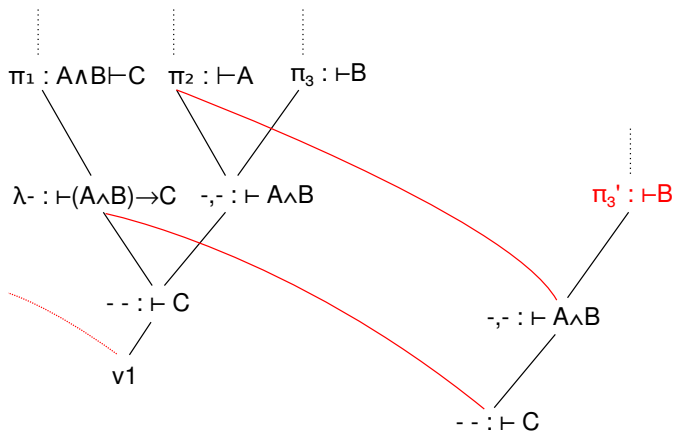


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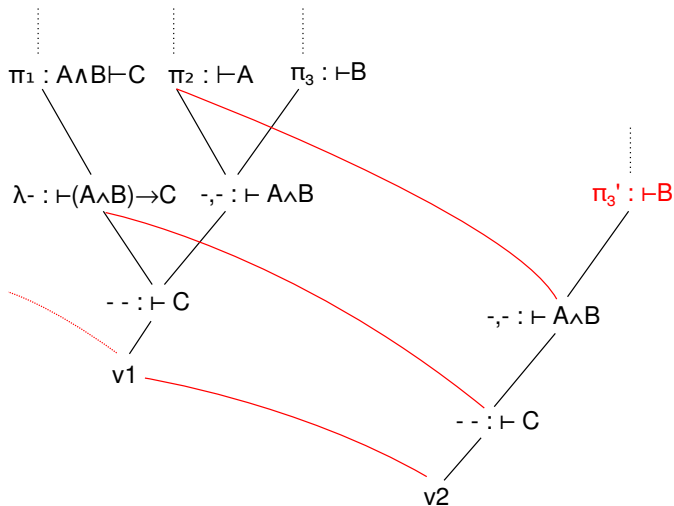




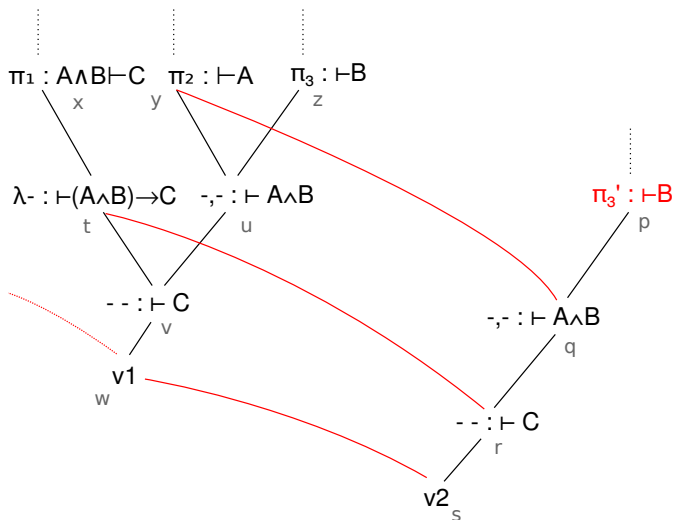
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$y = \dots : \vdash A$

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$t = \lambda a : A \wedge B . x : \vdash A \wedge B \rightarrow C$

$u = (y, z) : \vdash A \wedge B$

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## A data-oriented notion of delta

- A delta is a term  $t$  with *variables*  $x, y$ , defined in the repository

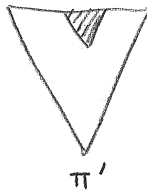


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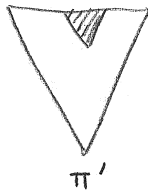
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- Incrementality by *sharing* common subterms



## Invariants

- $\mathcal{R}$  forms a DAG
- Annotations are valid *wrt.* proof rules

# Higher-order notion of delta

## Problem

Proofs are higher-order objects by nature:

## Example

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{[ \vdash x : A ]}{\vdash t : B}}{\vdash \lambda x. t : A \rightarrow B} \quad \vdash u : C}{\vdash \langle \lambda x. t, u \rangle : (A \rightarrow B) \times C}$$

We can't allow sharing in  $\vdash t : B$  without instantiating  $\vdash x : A$  (scope escape)

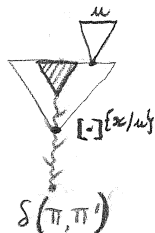
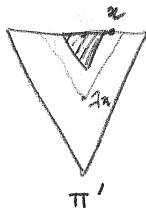
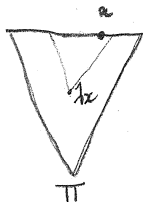
# Higher-order notion of delta

## Solutions

- “first-orderize” your logic (de Bruijn indices,  $\Gamma$  is a list...)
  - + we’re done
  - weakening, permutation, substitution etc. become explicit operations
  - delta application possibly has to rewrite the repository (lift)
  - dull dull dull...
- “let *meta* handle it” (the delta language)
  - + known technique (HOAS)
  - + implicit environments = weakening, permutation, substitution for free
  - have to add an instantiation operator

# Higher-order notion of delta

## Solution



A delta is a term  $t$  with variables  $x, y$  and boxes  $[t]_{y.n}^u$  to jump over lambdas in the repository

# Towards a metalanguage of proof repository

## Repository language

1. name all proof steps
2. annotate them by their judgement

## Delta language

1. address sub-proofs (variables)
2. instantiate lambdas (boxes)
3. check against  $\mathcal{R}$

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## A **logical framework** for incremental type-checking

LF [Harper et al. 1992] (a.k.a.  $\lambda\Pi$ ) provides a **meta-logic** to represent and validate syntax, rules and proofs of an **object language**, by means of a typed  $\lambda$ -calculus.

**dependent types** to express object-judgements

**signature** to encode the object language

**higher-order abstract syntax** to easily manipulate hypothesis

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## Examples

- $$\frac{\begin{array}{c} [x : A] \\ \vdots \\ t : B \end{array}}{\lambda x \cdot t : A \rightarrow B} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \text{is-lam} : \quad \Pi A, B : \text{ty} \cdot \Pi t : \text{tm} \rightarrow \text{tm} \cdot \\ (\Pi x : \text{tm} \cdot \text{is } x \text{ } A \rightarrow \text{is } (t \text{ } x) \text{ } B) \rightarrow \\ \text{is } (\text{lam } A \text{ } (\lambda x \cdot t \text{ } x)) (\text{arr } A \text{ } B)$$
- $$\frac{[x : \mathbb{N}]}{\lambda x \cdot x : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \text{is-lam nat nat } (\lambda x \cdot x) \text{ } (\lambda yz \cdot z) \\ : \text{is } (\text{lam nat } (\lambda x \cdot x)) (\text{arr nat nat})$$

# A logical framework for incremental type-checking

## Syntax

$$K ::= \Pi x : A \cdot K \mid *$$
$$A ::= \Pi x : A \cdot A \mid a(l)$$
$$t ::= \lambda x \cdot t \mid x(l) \mid c(l)$$
$$l ::= \cdot \mid t, l$$
$$\Sigma ::= \cdot \mid \Sigma[c : A] \mid \Sigma[a : K]$$

## Judgements

- $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} K$

- $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} A$

- $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} t : A$

- $\Gamma, A \vdash_{\Sigma} l : A$

- $\vdash \Sigma$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : A \quad \Gamma, B[x/t] \vdash l : B}{\Gamma, \Pi x : A \cdot B \vdash t, l : C}$$

## Remarks

- the spine-form, **canonical** flavor ( $\beta$  and  $\eta$ -long normal)
- substitution is **hereditary** (*i.e.* cut-admissibility / big-step reduction)

# Naming of proof steps

## Remark

In LF, proof step = term application spine

**Example** is-lam nat nat  $(\lambda x \cdot x)$   $(\lambda yz \cdot z)$

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## Monadic Normal Form (MNF)

Program transformation, IR for FP compilers

**Goal:** sequentialize all computations by naming them (lets)

$$\begin{array}{lcl} t & ::= & \lambda x \cdot t \mid t(l) \mid x \\ l & ::= & \cdot \mid t, l \end{array} \implies \begin{array}{lcl} \underline{t} & ::= & \text{ret } \underline{v} \mid \text{let } x = \underline{v}(\underline{l}) \text{ in } \underline{t} \mid \underline{v}(\underline{l}) \\ \underline{l} & ::= & \cdot \mid \underline{v}, \underline{l} \\ \underline{v} & ::= & x \mid \lambda x \cdot \underline{t} \end{array}$$

## Examples

- $f(g(x)) \notin \text{MNF}$
- $\lambda x \cdot f(g(\lambda y \cdot y, x)) \implies \text{ret } (\lambda x \cdot \text{let } a = g(\lambda y \cdot y, x) \text{ in } f(a))$

# Naming of proof steps

## Positionality inefficiency

Order of lets is irrelevant, we just want non-cyclicity and fast access.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{let } x = \dots \text{ in} \\ \quad \text{let } y = \dots \text{ in} \\ \quad \quad \text{let } z = \dots \text{ in} \\ \quad \quad \quad \vdots \\ \quad \quad \quad \underline{v}(l) \end{array} \implies \left( \begin{array}{c} x = \dots \\ y = \dots \\ z = \dots \\ \vdots \end{array} \right) \vdash \underline{v}(l)$$

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## Non-positional monadic calculus

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{t} &::= \text{ret } \underline{v} \mid \text{let } x = \underline{v}(l) \text{ in } \underline{t} \mid \underline{v}(l) \\ \underline{l} &::= \cdot \mid \underline{v}, \underline{l} \\ \underline{v} &::= x \mid \lambda x \cdot \underline{t} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\underline{l} ::= \cdot \mid \underline{v}, \underline{l}$$

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$$\underline{\sigma} ::= \cdot \mid \underline{\sigma}[x = \underline{v}(l)]$$



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# Monadic LF

$$K ::= \Pi x : A \cdot K \mid *$$

$$A ::= \Pi x : A \cdot A \mid \sigma \vdash a(l)$$

$$t ::= \text{ret } v \mid \sigma \vdash v(l)$$

$$h ::= x \mid c$$

$$l ::= \cdot \mid v, l$$

$$v ::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x \cdot t$$

$$\sigma : x \mapsto h(l)$$

$$\Sigma ::= \cdot \mid \Sigma[c : A] \mid \Sigma[a : K]$$

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## Definition

$$.* : \text{LF} \rightarrow \text{monadic LF}$$

One-pass, direct style version of [Danvy 2003]

# Type annotation

## Remark

In LF, judgement annotation = type annotation

## Example

is-lam nat nat  $(\lambda x \cdot x)$   $(\lambda yz \cdot z)$   
: is (lam nat  $(\lambda x \cdot x)$ ) (arr nat nat)

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# The repository language

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$$\mathcal{R} ::= \underline{\sigma} \vdash \underline{v} : a(\underline{l})$$

$$\underline{h} ::= x \mid a$$

$$\underline{l} ::= \cdot \mid \underline{v}, \underline{l}$$

$$\underline{v} ::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x : \underline{A} \cdot \mathcal{R}$$

$$\underline{\sigma} : x \mapsto \underline{h}(\underline{l}) : a(\underline{l})$$

$$\underline{\Sigma} ::= \cdot \mid \underline{\Sigma}[c : \underline{A}] \mid \underline{\Sigma}[a : \underline{K}]$$



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$$\mathcal{R} ::= \underline{\sigma} \vdash \underline{v} : a(\underline{l}) \quad \longleftarrow \underline{\sigma} \text{ DAG, binds in } \underline{v} \text{ and } \underline{l}$$

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$\underline{v} ::= c \mid x \mid \lambda x : \underline{A} \cdot \mathcal{R}$

$\underline{\sigma} : x \mapsto \underline{h}(\underline{l}) : a(\underline{l}) \quad \longleftarrow \text{named implementation}$

$\underline{\Sigma} ::= \cdot \mid \underline{\Sigma}[c : \underline{A}] \mid \underline{\Sigma}[a : \underline{K}]$

# The delta language

## Syntax

$$K ::= \Pi x : A \cdot K \mid *$$
$$A ::= \Pi x : A \cdot A \mid a(l)$$
$$t ::= \lambda x \cdot t \mid x(l) \mid c(l) \mid [t]_{x.n}^t$$
$$l ::= \cdot \mid t, l$$
$$\Sigma ::= \cdot \mid \Sigma[c : A] \mid \Sigma[a : K]$$

## Judgements

- $\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash K \rightarrow \underline{K}$
- $\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash A \rightarrow \underline{A}$
- $\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash t : \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{t}$
- $\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma}, \underline{A} \vdash l \rightarrow \underline{l} : \underline{A}$
- $\vdash \Sigma \rightarrow \underline{\Sigma}$

## Informally

- $\mathcal{R}, \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} x \Rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  means  
“I am what  $x$  stands for, in  $\Gamma$  or in  $\mathcal{R}$  (and produce  $\mathcal{R}$ )”.
- $\mathcal{R}, \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} [t]_{y.n}^u \Rightarrow \mathcal{R}'$  means  
“Variable  $y$  has the form  $c(v_1 \dots v_{n-1}(\lambda x \cdot \mathcal{R}'')) \dots$  in  $\mathcal{R}$ .  
Make all variables in  $\mathcal{R}''$  in scope for  $t$ , taking  $u$  for  $x$ .  
In this new scope,  $t$  will produce  $\mathcal{R}'$ ”

# The typing/committing process

$$\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash t : \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{t}$$

What does it do?

- puts  $t$  in non-pos. MNF ( $O(t)$ )
- type-checks  $t$  wrt.  $\mathcal{R}$  and
- returns  $\underline{t}$  i.e.  $t$  annotated with types ( $O(t)$ )

## Typing by annotating

**partial translation** : monadic LF  $\rightarrow$  annotated monadic LF

VLAM

$$\frac{\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma}[x : \underline{A}] \vdash t : \underline{B} \rightarrow \underline{t}}{\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash \lambda x \cdot t : \Pi x : \underline{A} \cdot \underline{B} \rightarrow \lambda x : \underline{A} \cdot \underline{t}}$$

## Typing by annotating

**partial translation** : monadic LF  $\rightarrow$  annotated monadic LF

$$\frac{\text{HVAR} \quad \underline{\Gamma}(x) : \underline{A} \quad \text{or} \quad \underline{\sigma}(x) : \underline{A}}{(\underline{\sigma} \vdash \underline{v}), \underline{\Gamma} \vdash x \rightarrow \underline{A}}$$

## Typing by annotating

**partial translation** : monadic LF  $\rightarrow$  annotated monadic LF

LCONS

$$\frac{\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash v : \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{v} \quad \mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma}, \underline{B}[[x/\underline{v}]] \vdash l \rightarrow \underline{l} : a(\underline{l})}{\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma}, \Pi x : \underline{A} \cdot \underline{B} \vdash v, l \rightarrow \underline{v}, \underline{l} : a(\underline{l})}$$

## Typing by annotating

**partial translation** : monadic LF  $\rightarrow$  annotated monadic LF

OBox

$$\frac{\mathcal{R}|_p = \lambda x : \underline{B} \cdot \mathcal{R}' \quad \mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash u : \underline{B} \rightarrow (\underline{\sigma} \vdash \underline{h} : a(\underline{l})) \quad \mathcal{R}' \cup \underline{\sigma}[x = \underline{h} : a(\underline{l})], \underline{\Gamma} \vdash t : \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{t}}{\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash [t]_p^u : \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{t}}$$



# Typing by annotating

**partial translation** : monadic LF  $\rightarrow$  annotated monadic LF

$$(\Pi x : \underline{A} \cdot \underline{B})\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket = \Pi x : \underline{A}\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket \cdot \underline{B}\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket$$

$$(\underline{\sigma} \vdash a(\underline{l}))\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket = \underline{\sigma}\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket \vdash a(\underline{l}\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket)$$

$$(\underline{\sigma}[y = x(\underline{l}) : a(\underline{m})])\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket = (\underline{\sigma}\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket)[y = x(\underline{l}\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket) : a(\underline{m}\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket)]$$

$$(\underline{\sigma}[y = z(\underline{l}) : a(\underline{m})])\llbracket z/\underline{v} \rrbracket = \text{red}_{\underline{\sigma}}^y(\underline{v}, \underline{l})$$

$$\text{red}_{\underline{\sigma}}^y(\underline{h} : a(\underline{l}), \cdot) = \underline{\sigma}[y = \underline{h} : a(\underline{l})]$$

$$\text{red}_{\underline{\sigma}}^y(\lambda x : \underline{A} \cdot \underline{t}, (\underline{v}, \underline{l})) = \text{red}_{\underline{\sigma} \cup \underline{\rho}}^y(\underline{w}, \underline{l}) \quad \text{if} \quad \underline{t}\llbracket x/\underline{v} \rrbracket = (\underline{\rho} \vdash \underline{w})$$

$\vdots$

# Properties of the translation

Work in progress...

## Theorem (Soundness)

*if  $\Gamma \vdash t : A$  then  $\vdash \Gamma^* \rightarrow \underline{\Gamma}$  and  $(\cdot \vdash \cdot), \underline{\Gamma} \vdash A^* \rightarrow \underline{A}$  and  $(\cdot \vdash \cdot), \underline{\Gamma} \vdash t^* : \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{t}$*

## Definition (Checkout)

Let  $\cdot^-$  be the back-translation function of a repository into an LF term.

## Theorem (Completeness)

*if  $(\cdot \vdash \cdot), \underline{\Gamma} \vdash t^* : \underline{A} \rightarrow \underline{t}$  then  $\underline{\Gamma}^- \vdash \underline{t}^- : \underline{A}^-$*

## Theorem (Substitution)

*If  $\mathcal{R}, \underline{\Gamma} \vdash u : \underline{B} \rightarrow (\underline{\sigma} \vdash y : \underline{B})$  and  $\underline{\Gamma}^-[x : B] \underline{\Delta}^- \vdash t : A$  then  $(\underline{\sigma} \vdash y : \underline{B}), \underline{\Gamma} \underline{\Delta} \{x/y\} \vdash t\{x/y\} : \underline{B}\{x/y\} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}'$*

# Example

## Signature

$A \ B \ C \ D : *$

$a : (D \rightarrow B) \rightarrow C \rightarrow A$

$b \ b' : C \rightarrow B$

$c : D \rightarrow C$

$d : D$

## Terms

$t_1 = a(\lambda x \cdot b(c(x)), c(d))$

$\mathcal{R}_1 = [v = c(d) : C]$

$[u = a(\lambda x : D \cdot [w = c(x) : C][w' = b(w) : B] \vdash w' : B, v) : A]$

$\vdash u : A$

$t_2 = a(\lambda y \cdot [b'(w)]_1^x y)$

$\mathcal{R}_2 = [v = c(d) : C]$

$[u = a(\lambda y : D \cdot [x = y][w = c(x) : C][w' = b(w) : B] \vdash w' : B, v) : A]$

$\vdash u : A$

## Regaining version management

Just add to the signature  $\Sigma$ :

Version : \*

Commit0 : Version

Commit :  $\Pi t : \text{tm} \cdot \text{is}(t, \text{unit}) \rightarrow \text{Version} \rightarrow \text{Version}$

Commit  $t$

if  $\mathcal{R} = \sigma \vdash v : \text{Version}$       and       $\mathcal{R}, \cdot \vdash_{\Sigma} t : \text{is}(p, \text{unit}) \Rightarrow (\rho \vdash k)$

then

$$\rho[x = \text{Commit}(p, k, v)] \vdash x : \text{Version}$$

is the new repository

## Further work

- metatheory of annotated monadic LF
- from terms to derivations (ti)
- diff on terms
- mimick other operations from VCS (Merge)

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*Thank you!*