

An introduction to homotopy type theory

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Outline

Type theory

Homotopy type theory

Directions

Constructivism (1930 - 1970)

Moral 1: Proofs should be programs.

The proof of a statement like “For every foo, there exists a bar,” should be an algorithm that constructs a bar from a foo.

(Avoid axiom of choice and the law of excluded middle.)

Moral 2: Identify propositions with underlying math objects.

For example, a theorem like “A space X is contractible,” is identified with the space of pairs (x, s) where $x \in X$ and s is a section of π_X ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & \longrightarrow & X^{[0,1]} \\ \downarrow \pi_X & & \downarrow \text{ev}_0 \times \text{ev}_1 \\ * \times X & \xrightarrow{x \times \text{id}_X} & X \times X \end{array}$$

and proofs of this theorem are identified with points of the space.

Types as propositions, sets, or program specifications

Types	Propositions	Sets	Program specifications
A TYPE	A is a proposition	A is a set	A is a program specification
$a : A$	a is a witness of A	$a \in A$	a meets A
	$A \wedge B$	$A \times B$	Do A and B
	$A \vee B$	$A + B$	Do A or B
	$A \implies B$	$A \rightarrow B$	Turn any program that does A into a program that does B
	\top	$*$	Do nothing
	\perp	\emptyset	Do the impossible
	$\neg A$	$A \rightarrow \emptyset$	Turn any program that does A into an impossible program

Types as propositions, sets, or program specifications

Types	Propositions	Sets	Program specifications
A TYPE $a : A$	A is a proposition a is a witness of A $A \wedge B$ $A \vee B$ $A \implies B$ \top \perp $\neg A$	A is a set $a \in A$ $A \times B$ $A + B$ $A \rightarrow B$ $*$ \emptyset $A \rightarrow \emptyset$	A is a program specification a meets A Do A and B Do A or B Turn any program that does A into a program that does B Do nothing Do the impossible Turn any program that does A into an impossible program

Dependent types

- ▶ Types and terms often depend on ‘contexts’.
- ▶ $n : \mathbb{N} \vdash 2n : \mathbb{N}$
- ▶ $n : \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{isEven}(2n)$
- ▶ $x : X \vdash \text{Sections}(\pi_x)$

Martin-Löf Type Theory (1970's)

System of dependent type theory with type and term formers generally given *inductively* by 4 rules.

- ▶ \mathbb{B} -formation

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \mathbb{B} \text{ TYPE}}$$

- ▶ \mathbb{B} -introduction

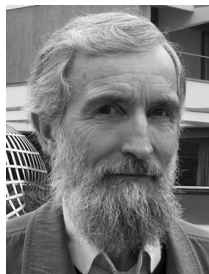
$$\frac{}{0 : \mathbb{B}} \quad \frac{}{1 : \mathbb{B}}$$

- ▶ \mathbb{B} -elimination

$$\frac{\Gamma, b : \mathbb{B} \vdash D(b) \quad \Gamma \vdash z : D(0) \quad \Gamma \vdash o : D(1)}{\Gamma, b : \mathbb{B} \vdash j(b) : D(b)}$$

- ▶ \mathbb{B} -computation

$$\frac{\Gamma, b : \mathbb{B} \vdash D(b) \quad \Gamma \vdash z : D(0) \quad \Gamma \vdash o : D(1)}{\Gamma \vdash j(0) \equiv z : D(0) \quad \Gamma \vdash j(1) \equiv o : D(1)}$$



Another example: coproduct

- ▶ +-formation

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ TYPE} \quad \Gamma \vdash B \text{ TYPE}}{\Gamma \vdash A + B \text{ TYPE}}$$

- ▶ +-introduction

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inl}(a) : A + B} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash b : B}{\Gamma \vdash \text{inr}(b) : A + B}$$

- ▶ +-elimination

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma, p : A + B \vdash D(p) \text{ TYPE} \\ \Gamma, a : A \vdash d(a) : D(\text{inl}(a)) \quad \Gamma, b : B \vdash e(b) : D(\text{inr}(b)) \end{array}}{\Gamma, p : A + B \vdash f(p) : D(p)}$$

- ▶ +-computation

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma, p : A + B \vdash D(p) \text{ TYPE} \\ \Gamma, a : A \vdash d(a) : D(\text{inl}(a)) \quad \Gamma, b : B \vdash e(b) : D(\text{inr}(b)) \end{array}}{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma, a : A \vdash d(a) \equiv f(\text{inl}(a)) : D(\text{inl}(a)) \\ \Gamma, b : B \vdash e(b) \equiv f(\text{inr}(b)) : D(\text{inr}(b)) \end{array}}$$

Another example: natural numbers

- ▶ \mathbb{N} -formation

$$\overline{\Gamma \vdash \mathbb{N} \text{ TYPE}}$$

- ▶ \mathbb{N} -introduction

$$\frac{}{0 : \mathbb{N}} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash n : \mathbb{N}}{\Gamma \vdash s(n) : \mathbb{N}}$$

- ▶ \mathbb{N} -elimination

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash z : D(0) \quad \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash D(n) \quad \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N}, p : D(n) \vdash q(n, p) : D(s(n))}{\Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash f(n) : D(n)}$$

- ▶ \mathbb{N} -computation

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash z : D(0) \quad \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash D(n) \quad \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N}, p : D(n) \vdash q(n, p) : D(s(n))}{\Gamma \vdash f(0) \equiv z : D(0)}$$
$$\Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash f(s(n)) \equiv q(n, f(n)) : D(s(n))$$

The weird example: equality

- ▶ Id-formation

$$\frac{A \text{ TYPE} \quad a : A \quad b : A}{\text{Id}_A(a, b) \text{ TYPE}}$$

- ▶ Id-introduction

$$\frac{a : A}{r_a : \text{Id}_A(a, a)}$$

- ▶ Id-elimination

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash D(a, b, p) \\ a : A \vdash d(a) : D(a, a, r(a)) \end{array}}{a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash j(a, b, p) : D(a, b, p)}$$

- ▶ Id-computation

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Calculation: addition

We can define addition: $m : \mathbb{N}, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{sum}(m, n) : \mathbb{N}$ using \mathbb{N} -elimination.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash z : D(0) \quad \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash D(n) \quad \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N}, p : D(n) \vdash q(n, p) : D(sn)}{\Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash f(n) : D(n)}$$

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We can show $n : \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{Id}_{\mathbb{N}}(0 + n, n)$ or $0 + n = n$.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash D(n) \\ \Gamma \vdash z : D(0) \quad \Gamma, n : \mathbb{N}, p : D(n) \vdash q(n, p) : D(sn) \end{array}}{\Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash f(n) : D(n)}$$

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$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} n : \mathbb{N} \vdash 0 + n = n \\ \vdash z : 0 + 0 = 0 \quad n : \mathbb{N}, p : 0 + n = n \vdash q(n, p) : 0 + sn = sn \end{array}}{n : \mathbb{N} \vdash f(n) : 0 + n = n}$$

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Calculation: Id is an equivalence relation

We can show that Id is symmetric:

$a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash p^{-1} : \text{Id}_A(b, a).$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash D(a, b, p) \\ a : A \vdash d(a) : D(a, a, r_a) \end{array}}{a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash j(a, b, p) : D(a, b, p)}$$

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We can show that Id is transitive:

$a : A, b : A, c : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b), q : \text{Id}_A(b, c) \vdash p * q : \text{Id}_A(a, c).$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} a : A, b : A, c : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b), q : \text{Id}_A(b, c) \vdash \text{Id}_A(a, c) \\ b : A \vdash p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \end{array}}{a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash p * q : \text{Id}_A(a, c)}$$

Outline

Type theory

Homotopy type theory

Directions

From sets to homotopy types

Axiom: Uniqueness of Identity Proofs

For any $p, q : a = b$, we have $p = q$.

Set model (folk)

Sets obey the rules of Martin-Löf type theory. Dependent types $a : A \vdash B(a)$ TYPE correspond to indexed families $\{B(a)\}_{a \in A}$ or functions $B \rightarrow A$.

$$\text{Id}_X(x, y) = \begin{cases} * & \text{if } x = y \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Groupoid model (Hofmann & Streicher)

Groupoids obey the rules of Martin-Löf type theory. Dependent types $a : A \vdash B(a)$ TYPE correspond to functors $A \rightarrow \mathcal{G}rp$ or isofibrations $B \rightarrow A$.

$$\text{Id}_{\mathcal{G}}(X, Y) = \text{hom}_{\mathbb{G}}(X, Y)$$

Voevodsky's Univalent Foundations



Univalence axiom

There are universe types, and
 $(X =_U Y) \rightarrow (X \simeq Y)$ is an equivalence.

Simplicial set model

Kan complexes obey the rules of Martin-Löf type theory. Dependent types $a : A \vdash B(a) \text{ TYPE}$ correspond to Kan fibrations $B \rightarrow A$.

$\text{Id}_K(x, y)$ is the Kan complex of paths from x to y

Dependent sums and products

We can take the dependent sum of $a : A \vdash B(a)$ to get $\vdash \Sigma_{a:A} B(a)$. It has a canonical element for each pair $a : A$, $b : B(a)$.

We can take the dependent product of $a : A \vdash B(a)$ to get $\vdash \Pi_{a:A} B(a)$. It has a canonical element for each $a : A \vdash b(a) : B(a)$.

Types	Propositions	Sets	Program specifications
$\Sigma_{a:A} B(a)$	$\exists_{a:A} B(a)$	$\bigcup_{a:A} B(a)$	Do $B(a)$ for some a
$\Pi_{a:A} B(a)$	$\forall_{a:A} B(a)$	$\Pi_{a:A} B(a)$	Do $B(a)$ for all a

Connection with model category theory

► Id-elimination

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash D(a, b, p) \\ a : A \vdash d(a) : D(a, a, r(a)) \end{array}}{a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash j(a, b, p) : D(a, b, p)}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{d} & D \\ \downarrow r & \nearrow \text{dashed} & \downarrow \pi \\ \text{Id}(A) & \xlongequal{\quad} & \text{Id}(A) \end{array}$$

Theorem (Gambino-Garner)

Any model of type theory comes with a weak factorization system $(\mathcal{D}^{\square}, \square(\mathcal{D}^{\square}))$.

Connection with model category theory

- Id-elimination

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash D(a, b, p) \\ a : A \vdash d(a) : D(a, a, r(a)) \end{array}}{a : A, b : A, p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \vdash j(a, b, p) : D(a, b, p)}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{d} & D \\ \downarrow r & \nearrow \text{---} & \downarrow \pi \\ \text{Id}(A) & \longrightarrow & B \end{array}$$

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Outline

Type theory

Homotopy type theory

Directions

Synthetic homotopy theory

- ▶ Constructivize and computer-check classical homotopy theory.
 - ▶ Homotopy groups of spheres
 - ▶ Blakers-Massey theorem
 - ▶ Localization (Christensen)
 - ▶ Symmetry Book
- ▶ Invent homotopical mathematics
 - ▶ Higher groups (Buchholtz & Rijke)

Homotopy levels

Homotopy levels

A type is of *h-level* 0 if it is contractible and of *h-level* $n + 1$ if its identity types are of *h-level* n . (So empty or contractible types are level 1, 'sets' are level 2, 'groupoids' are level 3...)

Groups

A *group* is a set S with a specified element, unary and binary operations, and witnesses for the axioms.

$$\begin{aligned} Grp := \sum_{S:U, w:ishlevel(2,U), e:S, m:S \times S \rightarrow S, i:S \rightarrow S} \prod_{r,s,t:S} m(s, e) = s \\ \times m(e, s) = s \times m(s, i(s)) = s \times m(i(s), s) = e \times \dots \end{aligned}$$

The type of groups is a 3-type.

Homotopical higher category theory

We could define a *category* as having a set of objects and a set of morphisms.

Univalent category

A *univalent category* consists of a type of objects O and a set $\text{hom}(X, Y)$ for every $X, Y : O$

- ▶ satisfying the axioms of a category, and
- ▶ such that the $(X = Y) \rightarrow (X \cong Y)$ is an equivalence.

Under the simplicial set interpretation, these correspond to complete Segal spaces.

Proposition

For two univalent categories \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D} , the morphism $(\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{D}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C} \simeq \mathcal{D}$ is an equivalence.

Flavours of type theory

- ▶ Cubical type theory
 - ▶ Semantics in cubical sets
 - ▶ The Univalence Axiom is a theorem (more constructive).
- ▶ Type theory for $(\infty, 1)$ -categories
- ▶ Directed homotopy type theory
- ▶ Two-level type theory
- ▶ Propositional type theory
- ▶ Modal type theories

Initiality conjecture

Conjecture

A type theory T is the initial object of its models.

- ▶ Done for individual basic type theories
- ▶ Define models for different type theories by hand
- ▶ Problem is largely to define the terms in the conjecture.