

## The fundamental theorem of identity types

### § What are identity types?

P.O.V. #2: Martin-Löf gave the following axioms for identity types for any type  $A$  in any context.

- there is a type family: given  $x:A$   $y:A$  the  $x =_A y$  is a type.
- for any  $x:A$  there is a term  $\text{refl}_x : x =_A x$
- for any family of types  $P(x,y,p)$  depending on  $x:A, y:A$  and  $p : x =_A y$  to inhabit the type  $\prod_{x:A} \prod_{y:A} \prod_{p:x=_A y} P(x,y,p)$  it suffices to inhabit the type  $\prod_{z:A} P(z,z,\text{refl}_z)$ , i.e.,  

$$\text{path-ind} : \left( \prod_{z:A} P(z,z,\text{refl}_z) \right) \rightarrow \left( \prod_{x:A} \prod_{y:A} \prod_{p:x=_A y} P(x,y,p) \right)$$
- for any  $\delta : \prod_{z:A} P(z,z,\text{refl}_z)$  the  $\text{path-ind}(\delta, z, z, \text{refl}_z) \doteq \delta(z)$  for any  $z:A$

P.O.V. #2 For a particular type  $A$  in a context you might already know how to identify terms. A type  $A$  might be given an observational equality type family.

Ex Observational equality on the natural numbers defines a type family  $\text{Eq}_{\mathbb{N}} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  which may be defined by induction:

$$\text{Eq}_{\mathbb{N}}(0, 0) = 1$$

$$\text{Eq}_{\mathbb{N}}(s(m), 0) := \emptyset$$

$$\text{Eq}_{\mathbb{N}}(0, s(n)) := \emptyset$$

$$\text{Eq}_{\mathbb{N}}(s(m), s(n)) = \text{Eq}_{\mathbb{N}}(m, n)$$

Ex Given types A and B we may define observational equality for  $A+B$ , this being a type family  $\text{Eq}_{A+B} : (A+B) \rightarrow (A+B) \rightarrow M$

$$\text{Eq}_{A+B}^+ (\text{inl}(a), \text{inl}(a')) := (a =_A a')$$

$$\text{Eq}_{A+B}^+ (\text{inl}(a), \text{inr}(b)) := \emptyset$$

$$\text{Eq}_{A+B}^+ (\text{inr}(b), \text{inl}(a)) := \emptyset$$

$$\text{Eq}_{A+B}^+ (\text{inr}(b), \text{inr}(b')) := (b =_B b')$$

AIM: develop a technique to recognize when another type family is equivalent to an identity type family.

### { Families of equivalences

For any family of maps  $f : \prod_{x:A} B(x) \rightarrow C(x)$

there is a map  $\text{tot}(f) : \left( \sum_{x:A} B(x) \right) \rightarrow \left( \sum_{x:A} C(x) \right)$

defined by  $\text{tot}(f) := \lambda(x,y). (x, f(x,y))$

Theorem For any family of maps  $f : \prod_{x:A} B(x) \rightarrow C(x)$  the following are logically equivalent:

- (i)  $f$  is a family of equivalences:  $f(x) : B(x) \rightarrow C(x)$  is an equivalence for each  $x$
- (ii)  $\text{tot}(f)$  is an equivalence.

$$\prod_{x:A} \text{is-equiv}(f(x)) \longleftrightarrow \text{is-equiv}(\text{tot}(f))$$

Proof: Recall equivalences are contractible maps, meaning maps whose fibers are contractible. So it suffices to show for all  $x:A$  and each  $c: C(x)$  that  $\text{fib}_{f(x)} c$  is contractible iff the fiber  $\text{fib}_{\text{tot}(f)}(x,c)$  is contractible. It turns out these fibers are equivalent.  $\square$

Lemma For any family of maps  $f: \prod_{x:A} B(x) \rightarrow C(x)$  and any term  $t: \sum_{x:A} C(x)$  there is an equivalence

$$\text{fib}_{\text{tot}(f)} t \simeq \prod_{x:A} f(x, \text{pr}_x t).$$

Proof: By a lot of induction.  $\square$

### § The fundamental theorem

The fundamental theorem characterizes one-sided identity types

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma, x:A \vdash a =_A x \text{ type}}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash a : A \\ \Gamma \vdash \text{refl}_a : P(a, \text{refl}_a) \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{path-nd}_a : \prod_{x:A} \prod_{p:a=x} P(x, p)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{refl}_a : a =_A a}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma \vdash \text{path-nd}_a(q, a, \text{refl}_a) = q : P(a, \text{refl}_a)}$$

The identity type family has the form  $\lambda x. a = x : A \rightarrow U$  and has a special term  $\text{refl}_a : a =_A a$ .

We'll consider arbitrary type families with a similar form

$E : A \rightarrow U$  with  $r : E(a)$  in a context with a type  $A$  and  $a : A$ .

This theorem will allow us to recognize a family of equivalences

$$\text{path-nd}_A(r) : \prod_{x:A} (a=x) \rightarrow E(x) \quad \text{defined by } (a,\text{refl}) \mapsto r.$$

defn Given a type  $A$  and term  $a$ , a type family  $E : A \rightarrow \mathbb{U}$  and  $r : E(a)$  is a unary identity system if for all  $P(x,r)$  depending on  $x : A$  and  $r : E(x)$  the function

$$\text{expt}_r : \prod_{x:A} \prod_{E(x)} P(x,r) \rightarrow P(a,r) \quad \text{has a section.}$$

This section gives a version of the computation rule up to identification.

Fundamental Theorem of Identity Types for any type  $A$ , term  $a : A$ ,  $E : A \rightarrow \mathbb{U}$  and  $r : E(a)$ . For the family of maps

$$\text{path-nd}_A(r) : \prod_{x:A} (a=x) \rightarrow E(x) \quad (a,\text{refl}) \mapsto r.$$

The following are logically equivalent:

(i)  $\text{path-nd}_A(r)$  is a family of equivalences

(ii)  $\sum_{x:A} E(x)$  is contractible onto  $\{a\}$

(iii)  $E$  is an identity system.

proof: By the theorem about families of equivalences (i) holds

iff the map on total spaces  $(\sum_{x:A} a=x) \rightarrow (\sum_{x:A} E(x))$  is an equivalence. But the domain is contractible so this is an equivalence iff  $\sum_{x:A} E(x)$  is contractible.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{For (ii) } \Leftrightarrow \text{(iii)} \text{ consider} & & \text{For } P: \sum_{x:A} E(x) \rightarrow M \\
 & \xrightarrow{\text{ev-pair}} & \\
 \prod_{t: \sum_{x:A} E(x)} P(t) & \xrightarrow{\text{ev-pair}} & \prod_{x:A} \prod_{y:E(x)} P(x,y) \\
 & \searrow \text{ev-pt}_{(a, \nu)} & \downarrow \text{ev(a)} \\
 & & P(a, \nu)
 \end{array}$$

By  $\Sigma$ -induction the top map has a section. Thus the left map has a section iff the right map does. (iii) asserts that the right map has a section while the left map has a section iff  $\sum_{x:A} E(x)$  satisfies singleton induction. This holds iff  $\sum_{x:A} E(x)$  is contractible.  $\square$

$\{$  Equality on  $\mathbb{N}$ .

$$E_{\mathbb{N}}(0, 0) = 1$$

$$E_{\mathbb{N}}(s(m), 0) = \emptyset$$

$$E_{\mathbb{N}}(0, s(n)) = \emptyset$$

$$E_{\mathbb{N}}(s(m), s(n)) = E_{\mathbb{N}}(m, n)$$

Note we have a term refl-eq:  $\prod_{n:\mathbb{N}} E_{\mathbb{N}}(n, n)$ , by induction

Theorem The canonical map  $\prod_{n:\mathbb{N}} \prod_{m:\mathbb{N}} (n=m) \rightarrow E_{\mathbb{N}}(m, m)$  is an equivalence.

proof: By the fundamental theorem it suffices to show for all  $m:\mathbb{N}$  that  $\sum_{n:\mathbb{N}} E_{\mathbb{N}}(m, n)$  is contractible onto  $(m, \text{refl-eq}(m))$ .

Define the contracting homotopy

$$f(m) : \prod_{n:N} \prod_{e:E(n,n)} (m, \text{refl}_m) = (n, e)$$

by induction on  $m$  and  $n$ . Base case

$$f(0, 0, *) := \text{refl} . \text{ for } m=0 \text{ and } n=0 \text{ or vice versa } \\ \text{use ex-falso}$$

For the final case

$$f(s(m), n, e) : (s(m), \text{refl}_{s(m)}) = (n, e)$$

use a map  $\sum_{h:N} Eq(m, h) \rightarrow \sum_{k:N} Eq(m+1, k)$

This carries  $(m, \text{refl}_m)$  to  $(m+1, \text{refl}_{m+1})$

so we apply the map to the identification  $(m, n, e)$  to get the identification we need.  $\square$

§ Disjointness of reproducts.

$$Eq_{A,B}^+(i_1(a), i_1(a')) := (a =_A a')$$

$$Eq_{A,B}^+(i_1(a), i_2(b)) := \emptyset$$

$$Eq_{A,B}^+(i_2(b), i_1(a')) := (b =_B b')$$

$$Eq_{A,B}^+(i_2(b), i_2(c)) := \emptyset$$

Theorem For  $a, a' : A$  and  $b, b' : B$  there are equivalences

$$(i_1(a) =_{A+B} i_1(a')) \simeq (a =_A a')$$

$$(i_1(a) =_{A+B} i_2(b)) \simeq \emptyset$$

$$(i_2(b) =_{A+B} i_2(b')) \simeq (b =_B b')$$

$$(i_2(b) =_{A+B} i_1(a)) \simeq \emptyset$$

Define  $\text{refl-eq} : \prod_{S:A+B} Eq_{A,B}^+(s,s)$  by induction

$$\text{refl-}\alpha(\text{inl}(a)) := \text{refl}_a \quad \text{refl-}\alpha(\text{inr}(b)) := \text{refl}_b.$$

Prop For any  $s:A+B$ ,  $\sum_{t:A+B} \text{Eq}_{AB}^+(s,t)$  is contractible onto  $(s, \text{refl-}\alpha(s))$ .

proof: By induction suffices to assume  $s$  is  $\text{inl}(a)$  or  $\text{inr}(b)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \sum_{t:A+B} \text{Eq}_{AB}^+(\text{inl}(a), t) \right) &\simeq \left( \sum_{x:A} \text{Eq}_{AB}^+(\text{inl}(a), \text{inl}(x)) \right) + \left( \sum_{y:B} \text{Eq}_{AB}^+(\text{inl}(a), \text{inr}(y)) \right) \\ &\simeq \left( \sum_{x:A} a = x \right) + \sum_{y:B} \perp \\ &\simeq \sum_{x:A} a = x \simeq \perp \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

### { Embeddings }

Defn A map  $f:A \rightarrow B$  is an embedding if

$\forall f: \prod_{x:A} \prod_{y:A} (x =_A y) \rightarrow (fx =_B fy)$  is a family of equivalences.

Theorem Equivalences are embeddings.

Proof: Suppose  $\alpha:A \rightarrow B$  is an equivalence. Want to show

$\forall e: \prod_{x,y:A} (x =_A y) \rightarrow (ex =_B ey)$  is a family of equivalences.

By the fundamental theorem it suffices to show that

$\sum_{y:A} ex =_B ey$  is contractible. This is equivalent to

$$\left( \sum_{y:A} (ex = ey) \right) \simeq \sum_{y:A} (ey = ex) =: \text{fib}_e(ex).$$

Since  $\simeq$  is an equivalence its fibers are contractible.  $\square$