

lecture B Categorical interpretation of ^{extensional} λ type theory

In defining the category of contexts in lecture A, we highlighted that a categorical semantics

- should be invariant under α -conversion
- give a prominent role to substitution

This motivates a syntax that is

- variable-free (de Bruijn notation)
- features substitution as a constructor rather than an operation defined by induction on the size of terms

While studying

the interpretation of λ -calculus in Cartesian Closed Categories,

CALCULI of EXPLICIT SUBSTITUTIONS

Abadi - Cardelli - Curien - Lévy

arXiv

A core syntax ^{of dependent explicit substitutions}

$\sigma ::=$ base types, possibly dependent $\mid \sigma[s]$
 $\Gamma ::= \emptyset \mid (\Gamma, \sigma)$
 $M ::= 1 \mid M[s] \mid$ cases given by the signature
 $s ::= id \mid \uparrow \mid M \cdot s \mid s \circ s$

$$\Gamma \vdash \lambda : A$$

- The typing judgements are: $\sigma : U$ in lecture A

Γ context $\Gamma \vdash \sigma$ type $\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma$ $\Gamma' \vdash s : \Gamma$

- The typing rules are:

\emptyset context	$\Gamma \vdash \sigma$ type	$\Gamma' \vdash s : \Gamma$	$\Gamma \vdash \sigma$ type
-----		-----	
Γ, σ context		$\Gamma' \vdash \sigma[s]$ type	
-----		-----	
$\Gamma, \sigma \vdash 1 : \sigma[\uparrow]$		$\Gamma' \vdash M[s] : \sigma[s]$	
-----		-----	
$\Gamma \vdash id : \Gamma$	$\Gamma, \sigma \vdash \uparrow : \Gamma$	$\Gamma_1 \vdash s_1 : \Gamma_2 \quad \Gamma_2 \vdash s_2 : \Gamma_3$	

		$\Gamma_1 \vdash s_2 \circ s_1 : \Gamma_3$	
-----		-----	
$\Gamma' \vdash s : \Gamma$		$\Gamma \vdash \sigma$ type	

		$\Gamma' \vdash M' : \sigma[s]$	

		$\Gamma' \vdash M' \cdot s : \Gamma, \sigma$	

- Definitional equalities (you should read $=$ as \equiv)

$$\sigma[s][t] = \sigma[s \circ t]$$

$$\sigma[id] = \sigma$$

$$1[M \cdot s] = M$$

$$M[s][t] = M[s \circ t]$$

$$M[id] = M$$

$$\uparrow \circ (M \cdot s) = s$$

$$(s_1 \circ s_2) \circ s_3 = s_1 \circ (s_2 \circ s_3)$$

$$id \circ s = s \circ id = s$$

$$(M \cdot s) \circ t = M[t] \cdot (s \circ t)$$

$$1[s] \cdot (\uparrow \circ s) = s$$

Warning: this is a first try!

Definitional equalities should be typed too

$$\vdash \Gamma = \Delta \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma = \tau \quad \Gamma \vdash M = N : \sigma \quad \Gamma' \vdash s = t : \Gamma$$

$$\frac{\Gamma'' \vdash t : \Gamma' \quad \Gamma' \vdash s : \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma \text{ type}}{\Gamma'' \vdash \sigma[s][t] = \sigma[s \circ t]}$$

etc.

(not exhaustive)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \sigma = \sigma'}{\Gamma \vdash \sigma' = \sigma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \sigma = \sigma'}{\vdash (\Gamma, \sigma) = (\Gamma, \sigma')} \quad \frac{\Gamma' \vdash s_1 = s_2 : \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma}{\Gamma' \vdash \sigma[s_1] = \sigma[s_2]}$$

cf. let in A p 9

$$\frac{\vdash \Gamma = \Gamma' \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \sigma}{\Gamma' \vdash M : \sigma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma = \sigma'}{\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma'}$$

$$\frac{\vdash \Gamma = \Gamma' \quad \Gamma \vdash s : \Delta}{\Gamma' \vdash s : \Delta} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash s : \Delta \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta = \Delta'}{\Gamma \vdash s : \Delta'}$$

Locally cartesian closed categories

A locally cartesian closed category (LCCC) is a category \mathcal{C}

- with a terminal object, and s.t.
- all slice categories \mathcal{C}/C are cartesian closed. in particular, \mathcal{C} is a CCC

This is equivalent to the fact of requiring the existence of two successive adjoints to all functors

$$\underline{R_0 -} : \mathcal{C}/C_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}/C_1 \text{ for } R : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$$

$$\boxed{R_0 - \dashv R^* \dashv \Pi R}$$

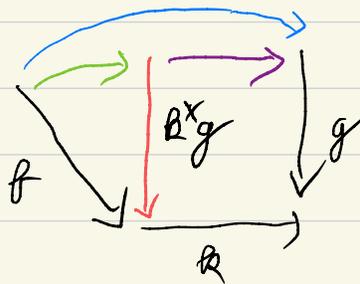
Opportunely renamed $\leq R$ (we shall see why!)

For the time being, we focus on the first adjunction: $\forall f, g$

$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{\mathcal{C}/C_2 (R \circ f, g)} \quad \leftarrow \text{commutative square} \\ \mathcal{C}/C_1 (f, R^*g) \quad \leftarrow \text{commutative triangle} \end{array}$$

→ counit

↳ commutative triangle



i.e., we have: $R_0 -$ has a left adjoint $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}$ has pullbacks

Exercise Prove the equivalence between the two definitions of LCCC.

The general scheme of the interpretation

- contexts are mapped to objects of \mathcal{C}
 - substitutions are mapped to morphisms of \mathcal{C}
 up to def. equality
- } of category of contexts
Lecture A p.24
- types are interpreted as objects in the slice category.
 More precisely if $\Gamma \vdash \sigma$ type, then $\sigma \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}/\Gamma)$, i.e.
 $\sigma: \bullet \rightarrow \Gamma$
 (interpretation of)
 - context extension Γ, σ is interpreted by the domain of σ , and σ , viewed as a morphism in \mathcal{C} , interprets $\Gamma, \sigma \vdash \downarrow: \Gamma$
 - terms are interpreted as sections

$$\Gamma' \vdash s : \Gamma$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \sigma \text{ type}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma$$

$$\Gamma \xleftarrow{s} \Gamma'$$

$$\Gamma \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{M} \\ \xleftarrow{\uparrow = \sigma} \end{array} (\Gamma, \sigma)$$

$\sigma(x)$ • as disjoint union of all fibres $\sigma(x)$
 i.e. as "meta" $\Sigma x: \Gamma. \sigma(x)$

$x \in \Gamma$ (a bit like in a sequent $A_1 \dots A_n \vdash B_1 \dots B_n$ we have an implicit top level

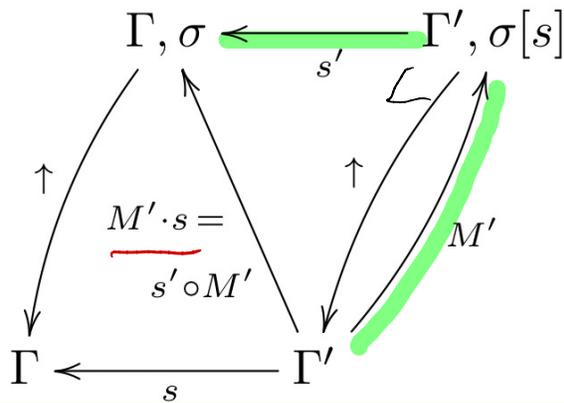
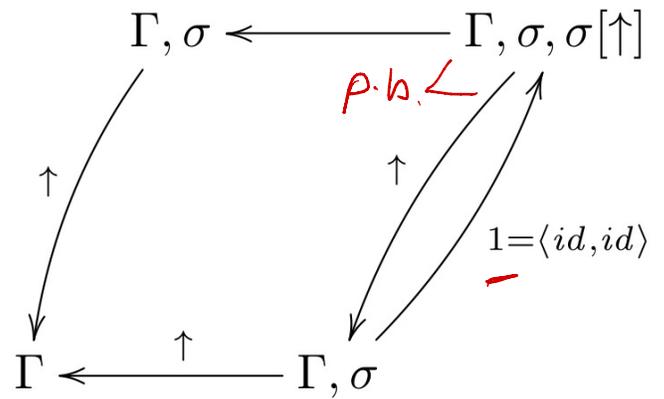
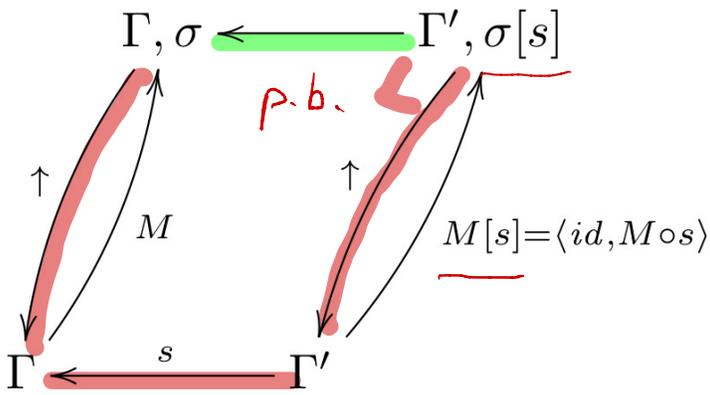
conjunction implication

x -fiber of Γ, σ

$M(x) \in \sigma(x)$

\uparrow
 x

Interpretation of the core syntax



Remark
 in particular for $s = id$
 we can pick $s' = id$
 and get that
 $M \cdot id$ and M' receive the
 same interpretation

What about definitional equalities?

The following equalities are OK:

$$\uparrow \circ (M' \cdot s) = \uparrow \circ \rho' \circ M'$$

$\underbrace{\quad \quad \quad}_{\rho' \circ \uparrow}$
 $\underbrace{\quad \quad \quad}_{id}$

$$\begin{aligned} \uparrow \circ (M \cdot s) &= s \\ (s_1 \circ s_2) \circ s_3 &= s_1 \circ (s_2 \circ s_3) \\ id \circ s &= s \circ id = s \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \uparrow \circ (M \cdot s) &= s \\ (s_1 \circ s_2) \circ s_3 &= s_1 \circ (s_2 \circ s_3) \\ id \circ s &= s \circ id = s \end{aligned}} \right\} \text{obvious}$$

BUT...

Type theory with explicit coercions

• New construct $M ::= \dots \mid c(M, \sigma, \sigma')$

• New judgement $\Gamma \vdash \sigma \cong \sigma'$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \sigma \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma \cong \sigma'}{\Gamma \vdash c(M, \sigma, \sigma') : \sigma'}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \sigma = \sigma'}{\Gamma \vdash \sigma \cong \sigma'}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma' \vdash s : \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma \cong \sigma'}{\Gamma' \vdash \sigma[s] \cong \sigma'[s]}$$

+ symmetry and transitivity

• Equations revisited:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma[s][t] &\cong \sigma[s \circ t] \\ \sigma[id] &= \sigma \quad \leftarrow \text{can be forced by choice} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c(1[M \cdot s], \sigma[\uparrow][M \cdot s], \sigma[s]) &= M \\ c(M[s][t], \sigma[s][t], \sigma[s \circ t]) &= M[s \circ t] \end{aligned}$$

$$\uparrow \circ (M \cdot s) = s$$

$$(s_1 \circ s_2) \circ s_3 = s_1 \circ (s_2 \circ s_3)$$

$$id \circ s = s \circ id = s$$

$$(M \cdot s) \circ t = c(M[t], \sigma[s][t], \sigma[s \circ t]) \cdot (s \circ t)$$

$$c(1[s], \sigma[\uparrow][s], \sigma[\uparrow \circ s]) \cdot (\uparrow \circ s) = s$$

$$c(c(M, \sigma_1, \sigma_2), \sigma_2, \sigma_3) = c(M, \sigma_1, \sigma_3)$$

$$c(M, \sigma, \sigma) = M$$

$$c(M, \sigma_1, \sigma_2)[t] = c(M[t], \sigma_1[t], \sigma_2[t])$$

Grothendieck fibrations

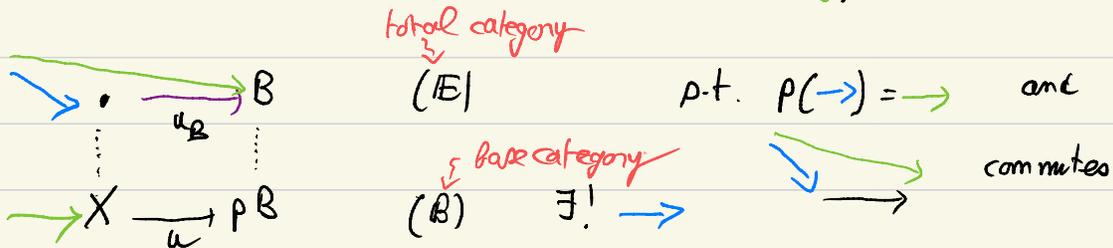
We now formulate a more general framework than categories with pull-backs, with as benefit a conceptual space to distinguish

$$\Gamma \vdash \sigma \text{ type} \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma, \sigma \vdash \uparrow : \Gamma$$

Definition A Grothendieck fibration is the data of two categories \mathbb{E} and \mathbb{B} and a functor $p: \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ such that for every triple $(X, B, u: X \rightarrow pB)$ there exists a morphism $u_B: \bullet \rightarrow B$ s.t.

- $p(u_B) = u$

- for all pairs of  and  as below s.t. $p(\text{triangle}) = \text{triangle}$



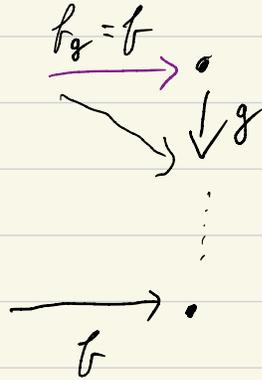
Terminology • We write $B[u]$ for the domain of u_B .
↗ substitution!

- u_B is called a (hyper) cartesian lifting of u .
- If $pA = X$, we say that A lies over X .
- A fibration is cloven when a choice for all cartesian liftings is given.
- It is split if ↗ pcndie

$$u: X \rightarrow Y, v: Y \rightarrow Z, p(C) = Z \Rightarrow C[v][u] = C[v \circ u] \text{ and } v_C \circ u_{C[v]} = (v \circ u)_C$$

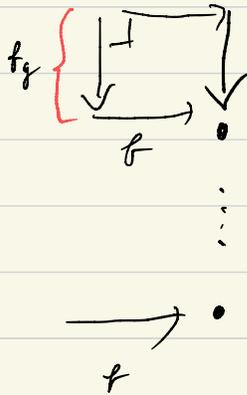
Two basic examples of fibrations

- $\text{dom} : \mathbb{C}^{\rightarrow} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a split fibration for any category \mathbb{C} , as well as its restrictions $\text{dom}_X : \mathbb{C}/X \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ (for every object X of \mathbb{C}).



Every morphism is cartesian!

- $\text{cod} : \mathbb{C}^{\rightarrow} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a fibration if and only if \mathbb{C} has pullbacks (and hence this fibration is usually non-split).



The notion of fibration can be "synthesised":

Exercise Show that a fibration $p : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ allows to define a

pseudo-functor $\tilde{p} : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \text{Cat}$, where $\tilde{p}(X) = p^{-1}(X)$ fiber over X :

($F \circ f \circ g$ naturally equivalent to $F(f \circ g)$, in a coherent way)

obj: \mathbb{B} s.t. $pB = X$
morphisms $f, p.f = \text{id}$

Conversely, show that a pseudofunctor $F : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \text{Cat}$

gives rise to a fibration $\tilde{F} : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, where

ob $\mathbb{E} = \{(X, B) \mid B \in \text{ob } FX\}$

↳ Grothendieck construction

remniscent of $\text{el}F$ for a presheaf!

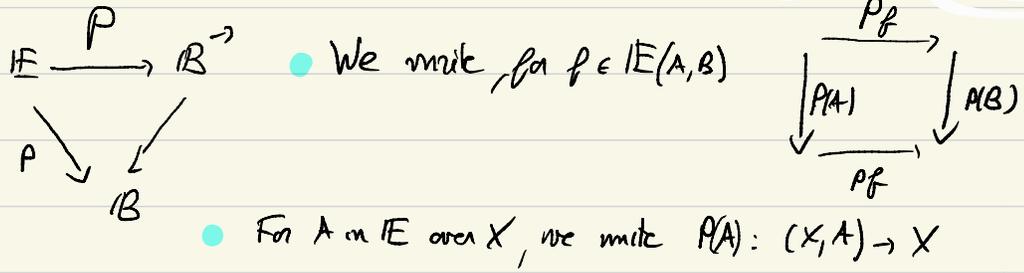
Comprehension categories

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{E}_1 & \xrightarrow{F_t} & \mathbb{E}_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{B}_1 & \xrightarrow{F_b} & \mathbb{B}_2 \end{array}$$

A morphism between two fibrations $p_1 : \mathbb{E}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_1$ and $p_2 : \mathbb{E}_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_2$ is a pair $F = (F_t, F_b)$ of functors such that $p_2 \circ F_t = F_b \circ p_1$ and F_t maps cartesian morphisms to cartesian morphisms. It is called *strict* if it maps the chosen cartesian morphisms of p_1 to chosen cartesian morphisms of p_2 .

notion due to BART JACOBS

A comprehension structure \int on a fibration $p : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, where \mathbb{B} has pullbacks and has a terminal object (i.e., has all finite limits), is given by a morphism from p to cod over \mathbb{B}

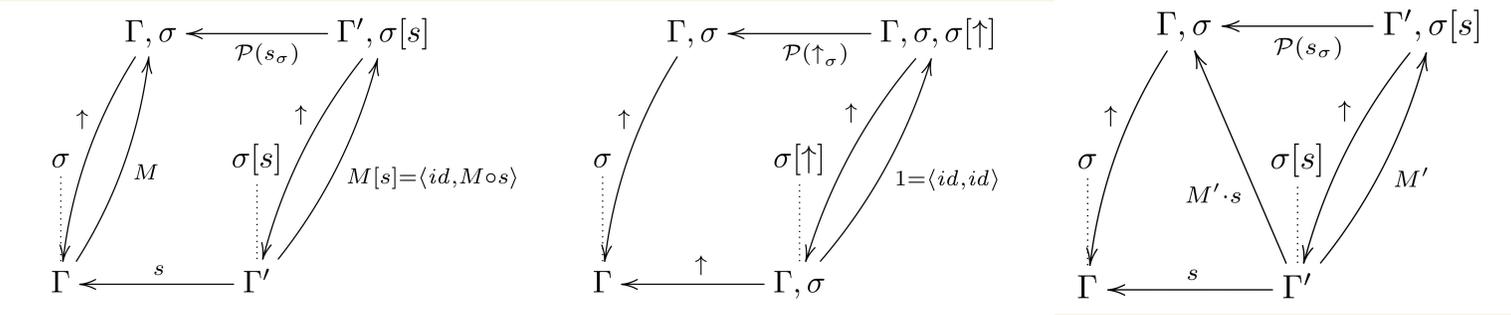


The diagrams interpreting the λ calculus are adapted as follows (the only change is that types are interpreted as local objects, i.e. objects of \mathbb{E} over Γ , i.e.,



Context extension is interpreted via the comprehension structure:

$\text{dom } P(\sigma) = \Gamma, \sigma$



Why moving from LCCP to the framework of fibrations?

- More generality, but not so much ...
- Gives us access to powerful stratification tools

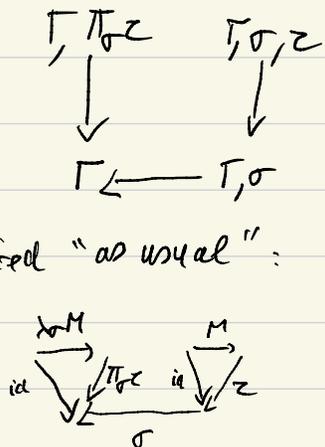
Interpreting Π -types and Σ -types

We revert to Locc'_p for simplicity. Remember that $\Sigma_{\sigma} \dashv \dashv \Pi_{\sigma} \dashv \dashv k^x \dashv \dashv \Pi_{\sigma}$ (cf. p. 4)

Then $\Sigma_{\sigma} z$ is interpreted as $\sigma \circ z$ *is whence the notation anticipated*
 $\Pi_{\sigma} z$ is interpreted as $\Pi_{\sigma} z$

variable-free notation

$\lambda \sigma. M$ is interpreted "as usual":



$$M \in \mathcal{C}_{\Gamma, \sigma}(k^x \text{Id}, z)$$

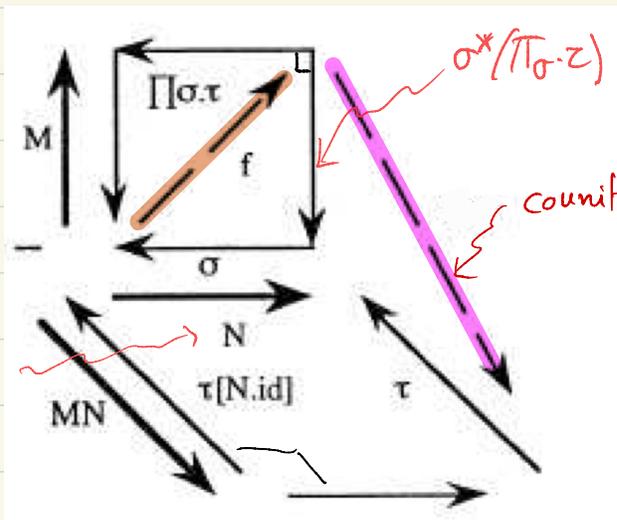
$$\lambda \sigma. M \in \mathcal{C}_{\Gamma}(\text{Id}, \Pi_{\sigma} z)$$

section

Id

one can choose Id as pull-back of Id

For application, the rule is $\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \Pi_{\sigma} z \quad \Gamma \vdash N : \sigma}{\Gamma \vdash MN : z[N.\text{Id}]}$

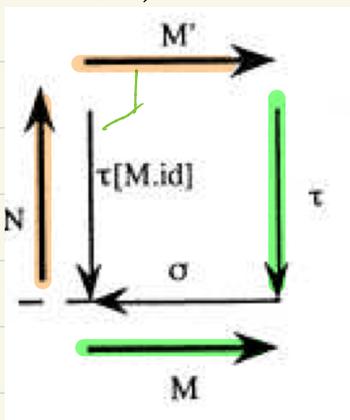


identifical with N.id
cf. remark p. 6

$$\tau = \langle M, N \rangle$$

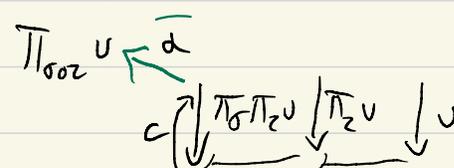
$$MN = \langle \text{id}, \tau \rangle$$

(M, N) (for $M : \sigma, N : z[M.\text{id}]$) is interpreted as $M \circ N$ below



We have $\sigma \circ z \circ M' \circ N$
 $M \circ z[M.\text{id}]$
id id

$$\text{Ind}_{\Sigma_{\sigma} z} \circ c = \alpha \circ c$$



where $\alpha(\text{id})$ is inferred by adjunction *+ Yoneda*
 $\mathcal{C}_{\Gamma, \sigma, z}(b[\sigma \circ z], u) \simeq \mathcal{C}_{\Gamma}(b, \Pi_{\sigma} z u)$
 $\mathcal{C}_{\Gamma, \sigma, z}(b[\sigma \circ z], u) \simeq \mathcal{C}_{\Gamma}(b, \Pi_{\sigma} \Pi_z u)$

Contexts as arrows to the terminal object

If $\vdash A$ type, then A is ^{interpreted as an} an object of \mathcal{C} ,
 or more precisely as an object of $\mathcal{C}/1$

The terminal object interprets the empty context \uparrow



If $A \vdash B$ type, then $\vdash A, B$ ctx

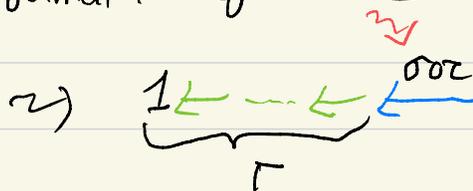
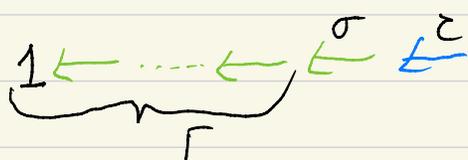


Etc $\Gamma \vdash \sigma$ type

$\vdash \Gamma, \sigma$ ctx



With this colour code, the formation of $\leq \sigma.z$ is



Isomorphisms and definitional equalities for Π and Σ types

"vertical" version of the composition of pullback squares

We add new type isomorphisms

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (\Sigma \sigma. z) [\rho] \cong \Sigma \sigma [\rho]. z [1. \rho \circ \uparrow] \\ (\Pi \sigma. z) [\rho] \cong \Pi \sigma [\rho]. z [1. \rho \circ \uparrow] \end{array} \right.$$

BECK-CHEVALLEY conditions

Exercise Derive the latter isomorphism in the framework of LCCC's.

In the framework of comprehension categories, these isomorphisms have to be postulated.

Exercise Consider the equations (without coercions) associated with Π -types and Σ -types in the syntax with explicit substitutions:

$$(\lambda \sigma. M) N = M [N. \text{id}]$$

$$(MN) [\rho] = M [\rho] N [\rho]$$

$$(\lambda \sigma. M) [\rho] = \lambda \sigma. M [1. \rho \circ \uparrow]$$

$$(M, N) [\rho] = (M [\rho], N [\rho])$$

$$\text{ind}_{\Sigma \sigma. z} \cup (a, b) = \cup a b \quad (\Gamma, \sigma, z, \cup \text{ ctx } \Gamma \vdash a : \sigma, \Gamma \vdash b : z [a. \text{id}])$$

These equalities take care of step-by-step substitution

Insert the right coercions to make them type-check.

Theorem The interpretation of the syntax with explicit coercions (with Π and Σ types) in LCCC's (and more generally in comprehension categories with extra structure) is sound, i.e., all equations (with coercions inserted) are valid.

The proof goes back to SEELY's seminal paper *Locally cartesian closed categories and type theory*

Extensional type theory

The interpretation of identity types in LCCC's (or comprehension categories with "identity type structure") validates the following reflection rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash p : a =_A b}{\Gamma \vdash a = b : A}$$

$$\left(\frac{\Gamma \vdash p : \text{Id}_A(a, b)}{\Gamma \vdash a = b : A} \right) \text{ in the notation used here}$$

"propositionally equal \Leftrightarrow definitionally equal"

In fact, it also validates

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash p : a =_A a}{\Gamma \vdash p \equiv (\text{fl } a) : a =_A a}$$

We call this strong reflection \rightsquigarrow

Note that, then, the induction principle becomes tautological, since applying C or $(\text{ind } C)$ to x, y, P forces $x \equiv y$ by the presence of P , and then $p \equiv (\text{refl } x)$ by the second rule.

Exercise Show, using the induction principle $\text{Ind}_{=A}$, that strong reflection in fact follows from reflection. (Hint: consider $Cxy p = \text{Id}(p, (\text{refl } x))$.)

Terminology We call comprehension categories tt the comprehension categories equipped with the additional structure allowing to interpret Σ -types, Π -types and identity types.
extensional

Coherence Theorem

We annotate with $\boxed{\vdash_e}$ the judgements of the type theory with explicit coercions.

Every proof of a judgement in ordinary type theory can be "edited" to become a proof in the type theory with explicit coercions. \curvearrowright and one recovers the original judgement by \curvearrowleft

Conversely, one defines a **stripping** function that removes these coercions:

$$\begin{aligned} |1| &= 1 & |M[s]| &= |M|[[s]] & |c(M, \sigma, \sigma')| &= |M| \\ |M \cdot s| &= |M| \cdot |s| & \dots & |\sigma[s]| &= |\sigma|[[s]] \end{aligned}$$

Coherence Theorem (Curien 1990)

1. For any two derivation trees π_1, π_2 of $\Gamma \vdash_e \sigma_1 \cong \sigma_2$, we have $[\pi_1] = [\pi_2]$.
2. If $\Gamma \vdash_e M_1 : \sigma$, $\Gamma \vdash_e M_2 : \sigma$, and $|M_1| = |M_2|$, then $[[M_1]] = [[M_2]]$ (and likewise for two substitutions s_1, s_2 with the same source and target and the same stripping).

As for 1. the typical situation is comparing the two possible derivations of

$$\sigma[s_1][s_2][s_3] \cong \sigma[s_1 \circ (s_2 \circ s_3)]$$

(a variant of Mac Lane's pentagon!).

The original proof was given using rewriting techniques, like the proof of coherence of monoidal categories given in **Lecture 3**.

But one can prove the theorem via strictification, and we begin by doing this for monoidal categories, as a heating up.

\curvearrowright JOYAL-STREET

Two strategies for addressing the mismatch q. p. 7

- Change the syntax \leadsto explicit coercions

P.-L. Curien, Substitution up to isomorphism
Fundamenta Informaticae 19 (1993)

<https://www.irif.fr/~curien/substitution.pdf>

- Change the model: from LCCC's (non split) \leadsto split fibrations

M. Hofmann, On the interpretation of type theory
in locally cartesian closed categories LNCS 933 (1994)

citeseerx.ist.psi.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.54.4410&rep=rep1&type=pdf

- The two approaches fit in a nice conceptual picture

P.-L. Curien, R. Garner and M. Hofmann, Revisiting the see p. 23
categorical interpretation of dependent type theory,
TCS 546 (2024)

<https://www.irif.fr/~curien/CGH-Glynn-anniv-2013.pdf>

Free strict monoidal categories

Remember the syntax of Lecture 3, p. 3, starting from a set X of object variables, with object terms and canonical terms etc... These data define a monoidal category $\text{Free}(X)$ that deserves its name: for every monoidal category \mathbb{C} , and every function $\rho: X \rightarrow \text{Ob } \mathbb{C}$, there exists a unique strict monoidal functor $\llbracket - \rrbracket_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho}: \text{Free}(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ extending ρ .

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \llbracket (X \otimes Y) \otimes Z \rrbracket \\ \llbracket X \otimes (Y \otimes Z) \rrbracket \end{array} \right\} = XYZ$$

- Let us see what $\llbracket - \rrbracket_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho}$ looks like when \mathbb{C} is strict. We define a "stripping" function $X \mapsto |X|$ from object terms to words over X defined by forgetting the parentheses and the I 's:

$$|T_1 \otimes T_2| = |T_1| |T_2| \quad |I| = \epsilon \text{ (the empty word)}$$

We have the following properties (for the second and the third one, \mathbb{C} is supposed strict):

- if $M: T \rightarrow T'$ is a well-typed term, then $|T| = |T'|$;
- if $|T| = |T'|$ then $\llbracket T \rrbracket_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho} = \llbracket T' \rrbracket_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho}$;
- for any well-typed term M , one has $\llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho} = id$.

Remark In fact, we have that X^* , viewed as a discrete category, is strict monoidal, and hence the map $\epsilon: X \rightarrow X^*$ sending x to the word x of length 1 extends to a strict monoidal

functor

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} |-| : \text{Free}(X) \rightarrow X^* \\ \llbracket - \rrbracket_{X^*}^{\epsilon} \end{array}}$$

Slowly, we complete stripping by setting $\llbracket M \rrbracket = id$, and we have

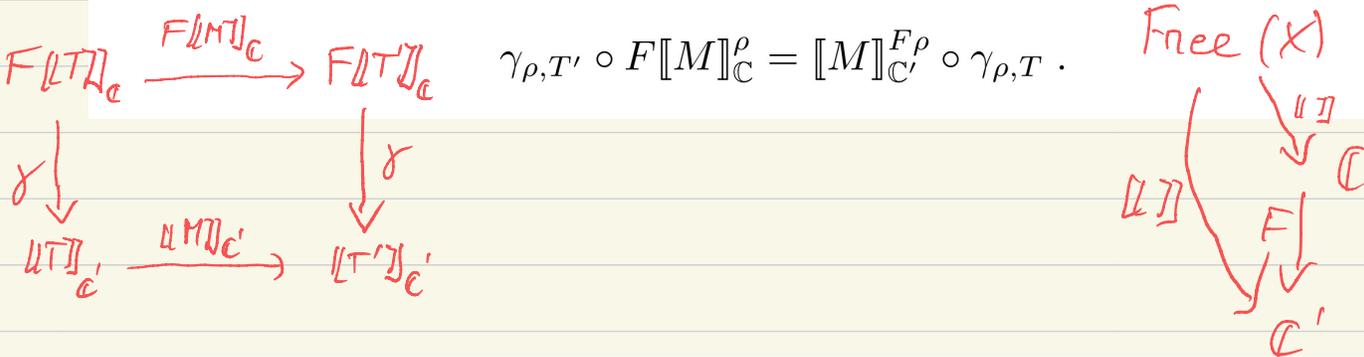
$$\llbracket M \rrbracket = \epsilon \llbracket M \rrbracket_{X^*}^{\epsilon} = \epsilon \llbracket id \rrbracket_{X^*}^{\epsilon} = id$$

See p. 23 for this notation

Proof architecture

Here, monoidal means strong monoidal, cf. lecture 3 p. 7

Let us now revert to monoidal categories. Let $(F, \beta) : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}'$ be a monoidal functor between monoidal categories (i.e., $\beta : FC_1 \otimes FC_2 \rightarrow F(C_1 \otimes C_2)$ are natural isos satisfying the obvious compatibility conditions). The freeness of $Free(X)$ “lives” in the category $MonCat_s$ of monoidal categories and *strict* monoidal functors (i.e. those for which $\beta = id$, and hence $F\alpha = \alpha$, $F\lambda = \lambda$, and $F\rho = \rho$). Hence we cannot directly relate $[-]_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho}$ and $[-]_{\mathbb{C}'}^{F\rho}$. But the following “glueing property” can be proved: for all T there exists an isomorphism $\gamma_{\rho, T} : F([T]_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho}) \rightarrow [T]_{\mathbb{C}'}^{F\rho}$, such that for every $M : T \rightarrow T'$ the following coherence equation holds:



$$\gamma_{\rho, T'} \circ F[M]_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho} = [M]_{\mathbb{C}'}^{F\rho} \circ \gamma_{\rho, T}$$

The isomorphisms $\gamma_{\rho, T}$ are defined by induction on the structure of T (the “types”), and then the coherence equation is proved by induction on the structure of the morphism terms M .

Finally, the most crucial part of Joyal-Street’s proof relies on the existence of a faithful monoidal functor $F : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^s$, where \mathbb{C}^s is a strict monoidal category associated with \mathbb{C} (next page). In fact, F is a monoidal equivalence, but we do not need it.

If in (B) we take F to be the faithful functor from \mathbb{C} to \mathbb{C}^s (given in (C)), we see that if $M_1, M_2 : T \rightarrow T'$, then (using (A)):

$$F[M_1]_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho} = \gamma_{\rho, T'}^{-1} \circ [M_1]_{\mathbb{C}'}^{F\rho} \circ \gamma_{\rho, T} = \gamma_{\rho, T'}^{-1} \circ \gamma_{\rho, T} = \gamma_{\rho, T'}^{-1} \circ [M_2]_{\mathbb{C}'}^{F\rho} \circ \gamma_{\rho, T} = F[M_2]_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho}$$

from which $[M_1]_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho} = [M_2]_{\mathbb{C}}^{\rho}$ follows by faithfulness.

Joyal - Street strictification

It remains to define \mathbb{C}^s and the faithful embedding. The objects of \mathbb{C}^s are pairs (E, δ) , where E is (just) an endofunctor on \mathbb{C} and $\delta : E(A) \otimes B \rightarrow E(A \otimes B)$ is an iso, natural in A, B , and is required to commute appropriately with α . The tensor product is given by

$$(E, \delta) \otimes (E', \delta') = (E \circ E', E\delta' \circ \delta).$$

This tensor product is strict: composition of functors is associative!

The functor $F : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^s$ takes A to $(A \otimes -, \alpha)$. It is faithful since one may recover $f : A \rightarrow B$ from $F(f)_I$.

$$\alpha : \underbrace{(A \otimes B)}_{E(B)} \otimes C \rightarrow A \otimes \underbrace{(B \otimes C)}_{E(B \otimes C)}$$

Remark

A more conceptual view of this construction is obtained by switching dimensions by one and considering our monoidal category as a bicategory (let us still call it \mathbb{C}) with just one object \star . We may now consider the Yoneda embedding

$$\mathcal{Y} : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}^{\mathbb{C}^{op}}.$$

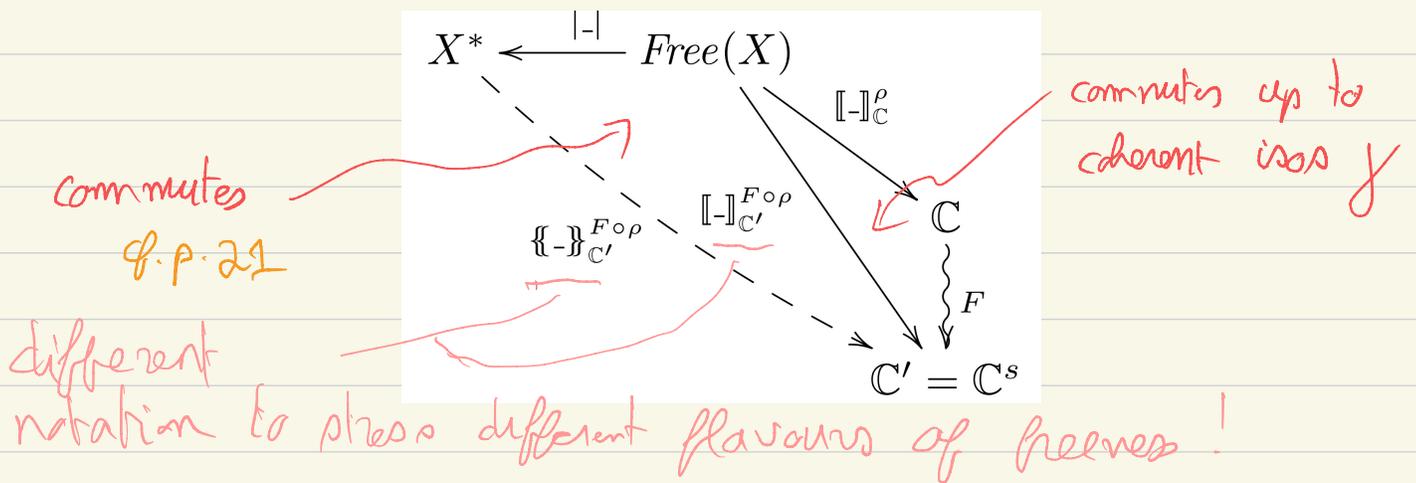
One observes that \mathbb{C}^s , again considered as a bicategory, is the full sub-bicategory of $\mathbf{Cat}^{\mathbb{C}^{op}}$ having $\mathcal{Y}(\star)$ as (unique) object, and that F is the corestriction of \mathcal{Y} to \mathbb{C}^s . Under these glasses, the strictness of \mathbb{C}^s follows from the following sequence of observations: \mathbf{Cat} is a 2-category, that is, a strict bicategory, and therefore so is $\mathbf{Cat}^{\mathbb{C}^{op}}$, and therefore so is \mathbb{C}^s . In two words, Yoneda strictifies!

Three large categories

Mon \rightsquigarrow $\begin{cases} \text{monoidal categories} \\ \text{monoidal functors} \end{cases}$

Mon_s \longrightarrow $\begin{cases} \text{monoidal categories} \\ \text{strict monoidal functors} \end{cases}$ • $\text{Free}(X)$ lives here as free over X

SMon_s \dashrightarrow $\begin{cases} \text{strict monoidal categories} \\ \text{strict monoidal functors} \end{cases}$ • X^* (discrete strict monoidal) lives here as free over X



END of warming up!

Back to comprehension categories

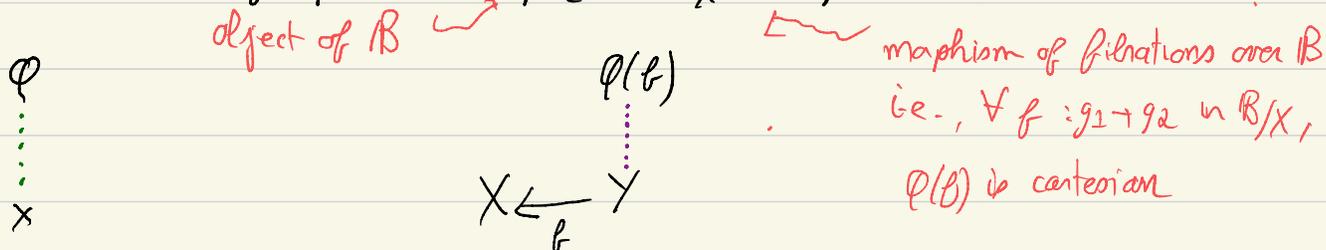
The goal is to imitate Joyal-Street's proof, replacing monoidal categories by fibrations, comprehension, comprehension \dagger .

So we need a way to strictify, i.e. to associate a split fibration with a fibration.

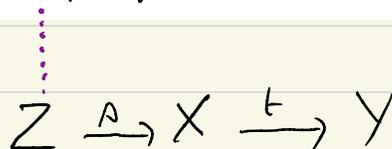
The Grothendieck-Bénabou construction

Let $p: \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ be a fibration. We define $p': \mathbb{E}' \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ as follows:

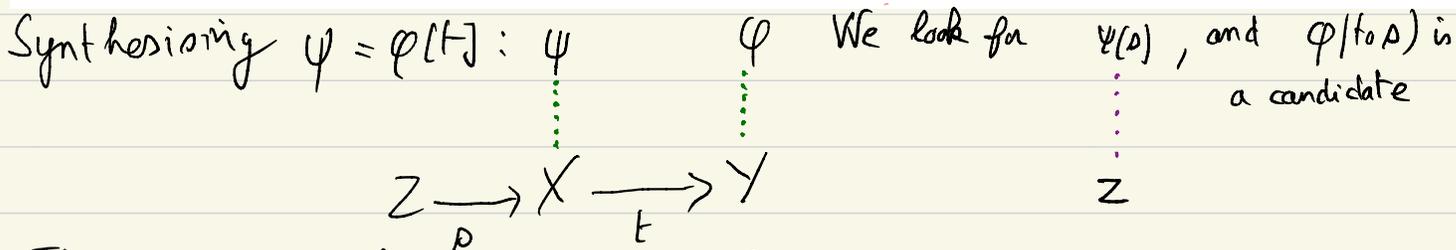
- $\mathbb{O}\mathbb{B}\mathbb{E}'$ consists of pairs $(X, \phi: \text{dom}_X \rightarrow p)$. We set $p'(X, \phi) = X$



$\mathbb{E}'[(X, \phi), (Y, \psi)]$ consists of the pairs (t, μ) where $t \in \mathbb{B}[X, Y]$ and μ is a natural transformation from ϕ to $\psi \circ \text{dom}_t$ over \mathbb{B} , i.e. $\mu_s: \phi(s) \rightarrow \psi(t \circ s)$ and $p(\mu_s) = \text{id}_Z$ for all $s: Z \rightarrow X$.



We check that p' is a fibration: for $t: X \rightarrow Y$ we set $\phi[t] = \phi \circ \text{dom}_t$, i.e. $\phi[t](s) = \phi(t \circ s)$ for all $s: Z \rightarrow X$, and $t_\phi = (t, \text{id})$. Moreover, p' is split, by the associativity of composition in \mathbb{B} .



This carries over to comprehension structures:

$$\mathcal{P}'(\phi) = \mathcal{P}(\phi(\text{id})) \quad \mathcal{P}'(t, \mu) = \mathcal{P}(\psi(t: t \rightarrow \text{id}) \circ \mu_{\text{id}})$$

Finally, we define $F: \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}'$ over \mathbb{B} by

$$F(A) = (X, \phi), \text{ where } \phi(f: Y \rightarrow X) = A[f].$$

For $f: A_1 \rightarrow A_2$, we set $F(f) = (u, \mu)$ where $u = p(f)$ and where, for every $v: X \rightarrow X_1 = p(A_1)$, μ_v is the unique morphism from $A_1[v]$ to $A_2[u \circ v]$ such that $(u \circ v)_{A_2} \circ \mu_v = (f \circ v_{A_1})$.

This functor is faithful since one can recover f from μ_{id} .

Like for Joyal-Street, the objective of defining F guides the definition of p' .

Mutatis mutandis

One defines two classifying comprehension categories \vdash cf. p. 16
 $\boxed{\text{Synt}^e}$ and $\boxed{\text{Synt}}$, based respectively on \vdash_e and \vdash

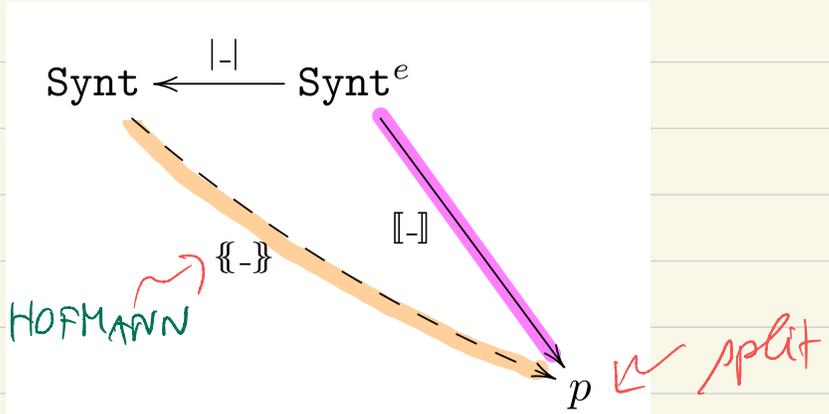
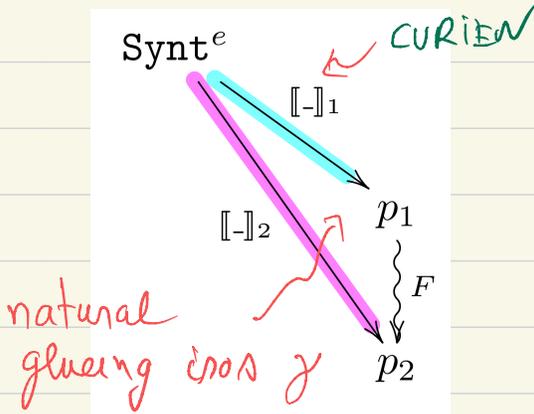
- Base objects are equivalence classes of contexts.
- A base morphism from a base object with representative Γ to a base object with representative Δ is an equivalence class of a substitution $\Gamma \vdash s : \Delta$.
- Local objects are equivalence classes of types. The fibration functor p sends a class with representative σ well-typed over Γ to the class of Γ .
- A morphism from the local object with representative σ well-formed over Γ to the local object with representative τ well-formed over Δ is a pair $([s], [t])$ of equivalence classes, where $\Gamma \vdash s : \Delta$, $(\Gamma, \sigma) \vdash t : (\Delta, \tau)$, and $\uparrow \circ t = s \circ \uparrow$ is provable.

equivalence classes quotient w.r.t equalities, not isos

$\text{Fib}, \text{ML} \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} \text{fibrations, comprehension categories } \vdash \\ \text{morphisms of fibrations } \vdash \end{cases}$

$\text{Fib}_s, \text{ML}_s \longrightarrow \begin{cases} \text{fibrations, comprehension categories } \vdash \\ \text{strict morphisms of fibrations } \vdash \end{cases}$ • Synt^e lives here

$\text{SFib}_s, \text{SNL}_s \dashrightarrow \begin{cases} \text{split fibrations or comprehension categories } \vdash \\ \text{strict morphisms of fibrations } \vdash \end{cases}$ • Synt lives here



let $\Gamma \vdash_e M_1 : \sigma, \Gamma \vdash_e M_2 : \sigma$ s.t. $|M_1| = |M_2|$. Then

$$[[M_1]] = \gamma_{\Gamma, \sigma} \circ \{|M_1|\} \circ \gamma_{\Gamma}^{-1} = \gamma_{\Gamma, \sigma} \circ \{|M_2|\} \circ \gamma_{\Gamma}^{-1} = [[M_2]]$$