

Computational Semantics of Cartesian Cubical Type Theory

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Dependent type theory

Dependent type theory is a language for mathematical reasoning.

Implemented in many proof assistants (software for developing and checking proofs) – Agda, Coq, Lean, Nuprl, ...

- Four color theorem [Gonthier 2008]
- Feit–Thompson theorem [Gonthier *et al.* 2013]

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- Four color theorem [Gonthier 2008]
- Feit–Thompson theorem [Gonthier *et al.* 2013]
- CompCert C compiler [Leroy 2009]
- Multi-Paxos [Schiper *et al.* 2014]
- mbedTLS HMAC-DRBG [Ye *et al.* 2017]

Dependent type theory

Proof assistants reduce mathematical proofs to primitive inferences.

$$\frac{\Gamma, a : A \vdash M : B(a)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda a. M : (a : A) \rightarrow B(a)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : (a : A) \rightarrow B(a) \quad \Gamma \vdash N : A}{\Gamma \vdash M N : B(N)}$$

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$$(n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{List}(n)$$

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proof of $\forall a \in A. B(a)$

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$(n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{List}(n)$

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \text{isEven}(2n)$

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Dependent types play the role of both sets (e.g., functions) and propositions (e.g., \forall).

Identity types

$\text{Id}_A(a, b)$ – a and b are **equal** in A [Martin-Löf 1975].

- Equality is reflexive – $\text{refl}(a) : \text{Id}_A(a, a)$
- “Everything respects equality” – if it holds for $\text{refl}(a)$, it holds for any $p : \text{Id}_A(a, b)$

Identity types

Everything respects equality \implies symmetry, transitivity, and coercion.

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$$\begin{array}{l} \text{refl}(a) : \text{Id}_A(a, a) \\ \quad \quad \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right. \\ \text{Id}_A(b, a) \end{array}$$

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$$\text{refl}(a) : \text{Id}_A(a, a)$$

$$\begin{cases} p : \text{Id}_A(a, b) \\ \downarrow \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Id}_A(b, a)$$

$$p : \text{Id}_A(a, b)$$

$$\begin{cases} q : \text{Id}_A(b, c) \\ \downarrow \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Id}_A(a, c)$$

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$$\text{Id}_A(a, c)$$

$$\lambda a.a : A \rightarrow A$$

$$p : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A, B)$$


$$\text{coerce}(p) : A \rightarrow B$$

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$$\text{coerce}(p) : A \rightarrow B$$

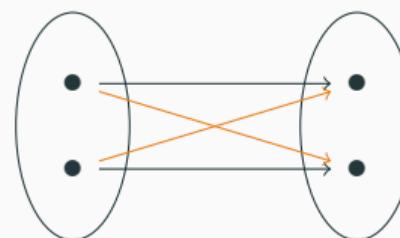
$\not\Rightarrow$ **UIP** – there's only one proof of $\text{Id}_A(a, b)$ [Hofmann, Streicher 1998].

Univalence

Univalence axiom [Voevodsky 2010] – for any $f : A \xrightarrow{\sim} B$,

- $\text{univalence}(f) : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A, B)$
- $\text{coerce}(\text{univalence}(f)) : A \rightarrow B$ applies f [Licata 2016]

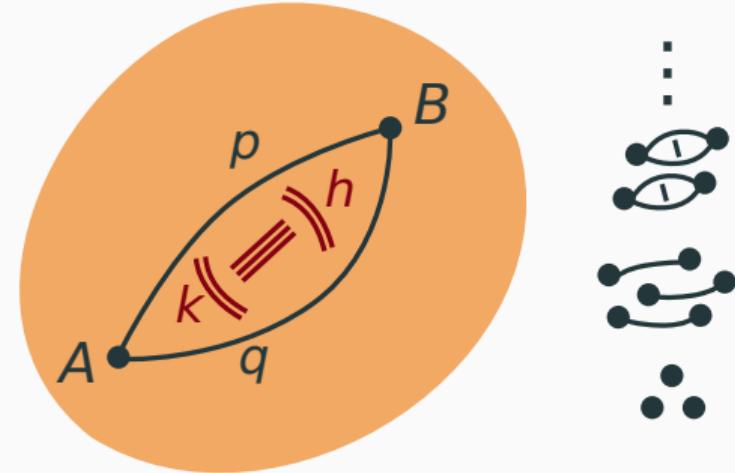
Contradicts UIP – $\text{univalence}(\Rightarrow) \neq \text{univalence}(\times)$.



Higher-dimensional structure

Contradicts UIPIP, UIPIPIP... [Kraus, Sattler 2015].

This higher-dimensional structure is the same as seen in topology [Voevodsky 2012].

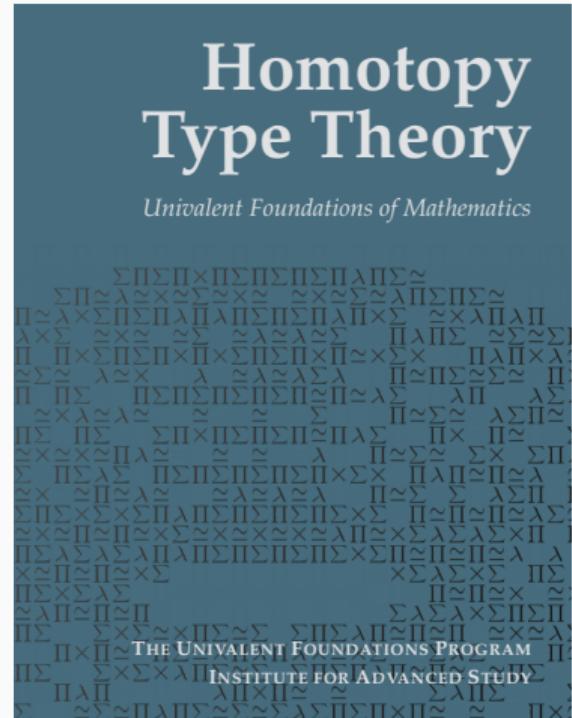


(Image credit: Favonia)

Homotopy type theory

Use type theory + univalence + higher inductive types
to prove theorems about topological spaces!

- Seifert–van Kampen theorem [Favonia, Shulman 2016]
- Blakers–Massey theorem [Favonia *et al.* 2016]
- Gysin sequence [Brunerie 2016]
- Serre spectral sequence [van Doorn 2018]



Computation I

Where do programs enter the picture?

Proof assistants can **extract programs** from proofs (e.g., CompCert).

		ML Program	Behavioral Spec.
$f : (n : \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \text{List}(n)$	\rightsquigarrow	$f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{List}$	where $\text{length}(f(n)) = n$
$p : \text{Id}_A(a, b)$	\rightsquigarrow		where $a = b$

Univalence $\implies p$ needed at runtime \implies standard extraction is broken.

Computation II

Proof assistants use **computation** to silently discharge many equations.

$$\text{append} : \text{List}(n) \rightarrow \text{List}(m) \rightarrow \text{List}(n + m)$$

$$\begin{aligned} ? &: \text{Id}_{\text{List}(2)}(\underbrace{\text{append } [\star] [\star], [\star, \star]}_{: \text{List}(1 + 1)}) \end{aligned}$$

If we can't compute with univalence, proofs using it are quite bureaucratic.

Canonicity

For these reasons, we want a **computational semantics** for a type theory with univalence — a way to regard proofs involving univalence as programs. Summarized by:

Theorem (Canonicity): Every $\cdot \vdash n : \mathbb{N}$ computes to, and is equal to, a concrete numeral.

Thesis statement

Higher-dimensional types classify higher-dimensional programs extensionally according to their behaviors.

I describe **Cartesian cubical type theory** ($\times 2$) and present its **computational semantics**.

Published at POPL 2017 [A., Harper, Wilson] and CSL 2018 [A., Favonia, Harper].

Implemented in two proof assistants (<http://github.com/RedPRL>):

- **RedPRL** [A., Cavallo, Favonia, Harper, Sterling 2018]
- **redtt**

Outline

In the rest of this talk:

- Cartesian cubical type theory
- Computational semantics
- Taking stock

Cartesian cubical type theory

Coercion

$$\text{coercion} : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A, B) \rightarrow A \rightarrow B$$

Ordinary type theory — at runtime, only $\text{coercion}(\text{refl}(A)) = \lambda a.a : A \rightarrow A$.

With univalence — other arguments possible; coercion must do something!

Coercion

Computes by cases on the **proof** of $\text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A, B)$. (Not on $A, B!$)

$$\text{univalence}(f) : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A, B)$$

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$$\text{univalence}(f) : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A, B)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{refl}(A \rightarrow B) : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow B) \\ p : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(B, B') \\ \downarrow \\ \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow B') \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{c} \text{refl}(\text{List}(n)) : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(\text{List}(n), \text{List}(n)) \\ p : \text{Id}_{\mathbb{N}}(n, m) \\ \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(\text{List}(n), \text{List}(m)) \end{array}$$

Coercion

Computes by cases on the **proof** of $\text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A, B)$. (Not on $A, B!$)

$\text{univalence}(\text{reverse}) : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(\text{List}(n), \text{List}(n))$

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{refl}(A \rightarrow B) : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow B) \\ p : \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(B, B') \\ \text{Id}_{\text{Type}}(A \rightarrow B, A \rightarrow B') \end{array}$$

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Paths

Where to put the proof that A equals B ? In between them!

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{p(x)} & B \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ p(0) & & p(1) \end{array}$$

p is a “continuous function” out of $[0, 1] \subset \mathbb{R}$.

Interval and path types

Cubical type theories add an interval \mathbb{I} , path types...

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash 0 : \mathbb{I}}$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash 1 : \mathbb{I}}$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, x : \mathbb{I} \vdash x : \mathbb{I}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \mathbb{I} \vdash M(x) : A}{\Gamma \vdash \langle x \rangle M(x) : \text{Path}_A(M(0), M(1))}$$

$$\frac{\{p : \mathbb{I} \rightarrow A \mid p(0) = a_0 \wedge p(1) = a_1\} \quad \Gamma \vdash M : \overbrace{\text{Path}_A(a_0, a_1)}^{\text{Path}} \quad \Gamma \vdash r : \mathbb{I}}{\Gamma \vdash M \ r : A}$$

Coercion

... and a new **coercion** operation.

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \mathbb{I} \vdash p(x) : \text{Type} \quad \Gamma \vdash M : p(0)}{\Gamma \vdash \text{coe}_{x.p(x)}(M) : p(1)}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \dashrightarrow & \text{coe}_{x.p(x)}(M) \\ \cdots & & \cdots \\ p(0) & \xrightarrow[p(x)]{} & p(1) \end{array}$$

Coercion

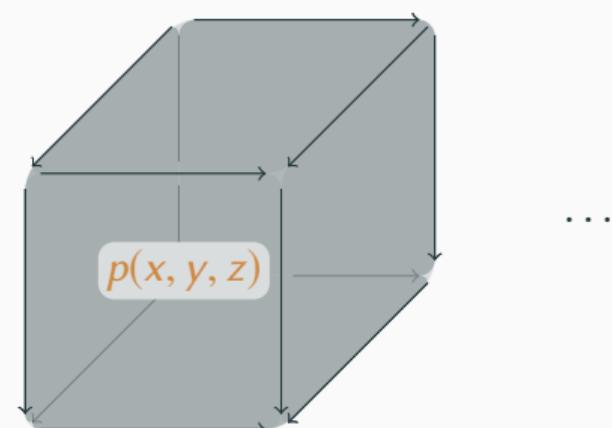
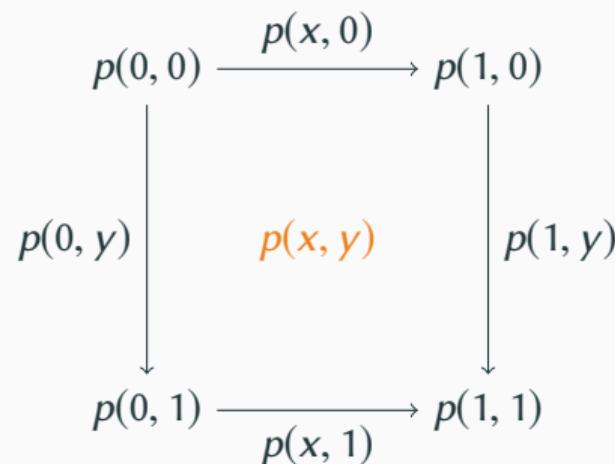
... and a new **coercion** operation.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash r, r' : \mathbb{I} \quad \Gamma, x : \mathbb{I} \vdash p(x) : \text{Type} \quad \Gamma \vdash M : p(r)}{\Gamma \vdash \text{coe}_{x.p(x)}^{r \rightsquigarrow r'}(M) : p(r')} = M \quad \text{when } r = r'$$

$$M \dashrightarrow \text{coe}_{x.p(x)}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(M)$$
$$\cdots$$
$$p(0) \dashrightarrow p(x) \dashrightarrow p(1)$$

Hypercubes

\mathbb{I} makes it **cubical** because $p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ forms an n -dimensional hypercube.



Cubical models of type theory

	Structure on \mathbb{I}	...on coercion
BCH [Bezem, Coquand, Huber 2013]	★ <i>(affine)</i>	★★
CCHM [Cohen, C., H., Mörtberg 2016]	★★★ $\min(r, r')$, $\max(r, r'), (1 - r)$	★
Cartesian [A., Favonia, Harper 2017]	★★ <i>(structural)</i>	★★★

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Cartesian [A., Favonia, Harper 2017]	★★ <i>(structural)</i>	★★★

Contribution: Model full univalent type theory using structural \mathbb{I} .

[Coquand 2014; Brunerie, Licata 2014; Awodey 2016; *et al.*]

Coercion – function types

How does coercion compute? Suppose $p(x) := A(x) \rightarrow B(x)$.

(Requires $1 \rightsquigarrow 0$; dependent functions require $1 \rightsquigarrow x$ and $1 \rightsquigarrow 1 = \text{id}_A$.)

$$x : \mathbb{I} \vdash A(x) : \text{Type}$$

$$x : \mathbb{I} \vdash B(x) : \text{Type}$$

$$f : A(0) \rightarrow B(0)$$

$$\text{coe}_{\color{orange}x.A(x) \rightarrow B(x)}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(f) : A(1) \rightarrow B(1)$$

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a_1
 \cdots
 $A(0) \xrightarrow{A(x)} A(1)$

$\text{:= } \lambda a_1.$

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$$:= \lambda a_1. \quad \text{coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1) & \xleftarrow{\dots} & a_1 \\ \cdots & & \cdots \\ A(0) & \xrightarrow{\quad A(x) \quad} & A(1) \end{array}$$

Coercion – function types

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$f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1)$

..

$B(0) \xrightarrow{B(x)} B(1)$

$\quad := \lambda a_1. \quad f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1)$

Coercion – function types

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$$:= \lambda a_1. \text{coe}_{x.B(x)}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1))$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1) & \dashrightarrow & \text{coe}_{x.B(x)}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a)) \\ \cdots & & \cdots \\ B(0) & \xrightarrow[B(x)]{} & B(1) \end{array}$$

Coercion – path types

Suppose $p(x) := \text{Path}_{A(x)}(a(x), b(x))$.

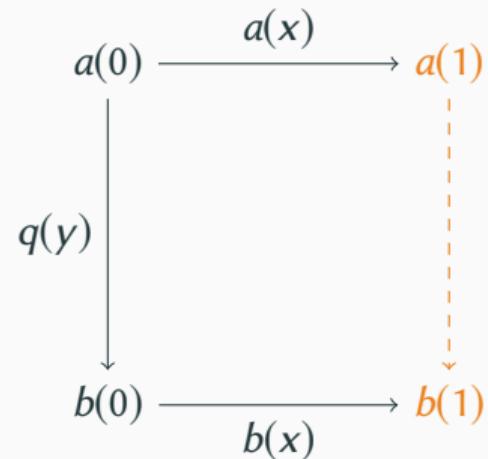
$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} A : \text{Type} \\ x : \mathbb{I} \vdash a(x) : A \\ x : \mathbb{I} \vdash b(x) : A \\ q : \text{Path}_A(a(0), b(0)) \end{array}}{\text{coe}_{x.\text{Path}_A(a(x), b(x))}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(q) : \text{Path}_A(a(1), b(1))}$$

The diagram illustrates the coercion of a path q from $a(0)$ to $b(0)$ through the intermediate point $a(1)$. On the left, the type A and terms $a(x)$ and $b(x)$ are shown. Below them, the path q is defined as $\text{Path}_A(a(0), b(0))$. To the right, the path q is coerced into $\text{Path}_A(a(1), b(1))$. This coercion is represented by a vertical arrow labeled $q(y)$ pointing from $a(0)$ down to $b(0)$. Above $a(0)$, the value $a(1)$ is shown, connected by a dashed orange arrow pointing downwards. Similarly, above $b(0)$, the value $b(1)$ is shown, also connected by a dashed orange arrow pointing downwards.

Coercion – path types

Suppose $p(x) := \text{Path}_{A(x)}(a(x), b(x))$.

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} A : \text{Type} \\ x : \mathbb{I} \vdash a(x) : A \\ x : \mathbb{I} \vdash b(x) : A \\ q : \text{Path}_A(a(0), b(0)) \end{array}}{\text{coe}_{x.\text{Path}_A(a(x), b(x))}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(q) : \text{Path}_A(a(1), b(1))}$$

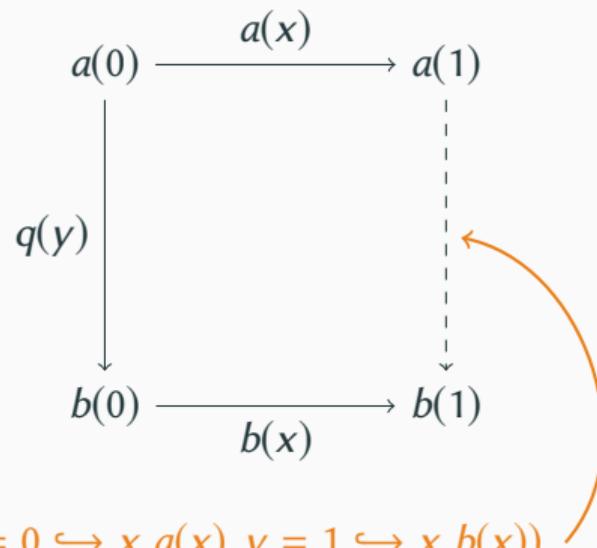


Kan composition

Composition operation extends connected partial cubes to total cubes [Kan 1955].

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \Gamma \vdash M : A \\
 (\forall i) \quad \Gamma, \xi_i, x : \mathbb{I} \vdash N_i : A \\
 (\forall i, j) \quad \Gamma, \xi_i, \xi_j, x : \mathbb{I} \vdash N_i = N_j : A \\
 (\forall i) \quad \Gamma, \xi_i \vdash N_i \langle r/x \rangle = M : A
 \end{array}
 \frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \text{hcom}_A^{r \rightsquigarrow r'}(M; \overrightarrow{\xi_i \hookrightarrow x.N_i}) : A}
 = \begin{cases} M & \text{when } r = r' \\ N_i \langle r'/x \rangle & \text{when } \xi_i \end{cases}$$

$$\text{hcom}_A^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(q(y); y = 0 \hookrightarrow x.a(x), y = 1 \hookrightarrow x.b(x))$$



“Draw the rest of the owl”

Composition computes by cases on the type, mutually with coercion. Then...

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- Certain base types have free compositions and coercions [Cavallo, Harper 2019]

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- Need a type former for univalence:

$$A \xrightarrow{V_x(f : A \xrightarrow{\sim} B)} B$$

“Draw the rest of the owl”

Composition computes by cases on the type, mutually with coercion. Then...

- Certain base types have free compositions and coercions [Cavallo, Harper 2019]

- Need a type former for univalence:

$$A \xrightarrow{V_x(f : A \xrightarrow{\sim} B)} B$$

- Need a type former for **compositions of types**:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & B(x) & \\ A(y) & \downarrow & B(1) \\ & C(x) & \end{array}$$

↓

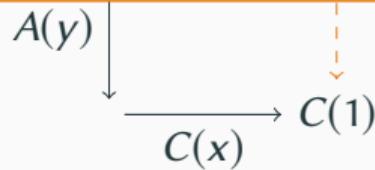
“Draw the rest of the owl”

Composition computes

- Certain base types
- Need a type former

$$\begin{aligned}
 \widetilde{N}_i[w, z] &:= \text{coe}_{z.B_i\langle w/x \rangle}^{s'\langle w/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow z}(\text{coe}_{x.B_i\langle s'/z \rangle}^{r \rightsquigarrow w}(M)) \\
 \widetilde{T} &:= \overline{\xi_i\langle r/x \rangle \hookrightarrow z.\text{coe}_{z.B_i\langle r/x \rangle}^{z \rightsquigarrow s\langle r/x \rangle}(\text{coe}_{z.B_i\langle r/x \rangle}^{s'\langle r/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow z}(M))} \\
 \widetilde{O}[z] &:= \text{hcom}_{A\langle r/x \rangle}^{s'\langle r/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow z}(\text{cap}_{s\langle r/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow s'\langle r/x \rangle}^{s'\langle r/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow z}(M; \overline{\xi_i\langle r/x \rangle \hookrightarrow z.B_i\langle r/x \rangle}); \widetilde{T}) \\
 \widetilde{P} &:= \text{com}_{x.A}^{r \rightsquigarrow r'}(\widetilde{O}[s\langle r/x \rangle]; \overline{\xi_i \hookrightarrow x.\widetilde{N}_i[x, s]|_{(x \# \xi_i)}}, s = s' \hookrightarrow x.\text{coe}_{x.A}^{r \rightsquigarrow x}(M)|_{(x \# s, s')}) \\
 \widetilde{Q}_k[z] &:= \text{com}_{z.B_k\langle r'/x \rangle}^{s\langle r'/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow z}(\widetilde{P}; \overline{\xi_i \hookrightarrow z.\widetilde{N}_i[r', z]|_{(x \# \xi_i)}}, r = r' \hookrightarrow z.\text{coe}_{z.B_k\langle r'/x \rangle}^{s'\langle r'/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow z}(M)) \\
 \widetilde{H} &:= \text{hcom}_{A\langle r'/x \rangle}^{s\langle r'/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow s'\langle r'/x \rangle}(\widetilde{P}; \overline{\xi_i\langle r'/x \rangle \hookrightarrow z.\text{coe}_{z.B_i\langle r'/x \rangle}^{z \rightsquigarrow s\langle r'/x \rangle}(\widetilde{Q}_i[z])}, r = r' \hookrightarrow z.\widetilde{O}[z]) \\
 \widetilde{C} &:= \text{box}_{s\langle r'/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow s'\langle r'/x \rangle}^{s\langle r'/x \rangle \rightsquigarrow s'\langle r'/x \rangle}(\widetilde{H}; \overline{\xi_i\langle r'/x \rangle \hookrightarrow \widetilde{Q}_i[s'\langle r'/x \rangle]}) \\
 \hline
 \Psi \mid \Gamma \vdash \text{coe}_{x.\text{hcom}_{\text{Type}_j}^{s \rightsquigarrow s'}(A; \overline{\xi_i \hookrightarrow z.B_i})}^{r \rightsquigarrow r'}(M) &= \widetilde{C} : (\text{hcom}_{\text{Type}_j}^{s \rightsquigarrow s'}(A; \overline{\xi_i \hookrightarrow z.B_i}))\langle r'/x \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

- Need a type former for **compositions of types**:



Computational semantics

Semantics

Dependent type theory + \mathbb{I} + coercion + composition + univalence + ⋯ = ?

- Is this consistent?
- Does this give computational meaning to univalence?

Yes and yes — we give a **computational semantics** [Martin-Löf 1979; Allen 1987].

(Denotational semantics formalized in Agda [A., Brunerie, Coquand, Favonia, Harper, Licata].)

Ordinary computational semantics

- Interpret every closed proof M as a **program**
 $\cdot \vdash M : A$
-

- Define an untyped functional programming language ($M \mapsto M'$ and M val)
- The interpretation (**extraction**) can delete annotations

$$\frac{M \mapsto M'}{M\ N \mapsto M'\ N}$$

$$\frac{}{(\lambda a.M)\ N \mapsto M[N/a]}$$

...

Ordinary computational semantics

$\cdot \vdash M : A$

- Interpret every closed proof M as a program
 - Interpret every closed type A as a **behavioral specification**
-

- Types are binary (“logical”) relations on programs ($M \doteq N \in A$)
- Closed under evaluation — if $M \doteq M \in A$ then $M \Downarrow V$ and $M \doteq V \in A$
- For **observable** types, return an answer — $M \doteq N \in \text{bool}$ iff $M, N \Downarrow \text{true}$ or $M, N \Downarrow \text{false}$
- Consider only the closed instances of open terms ($a : A \gg M(a) \doteq N(a) \in B(a)$)

Cubical programming language

Cubical programs include coercion/composition.

To case on the path, we must evaluate terms containing **interval variables!**

$$\frac{M \mapsto M'}{MN \mapsto M' N}$$

$$\frac{}{(\lambda a.M) N \mapsto M[N/a]}$$

$$\frac{A \mapsto A'}{\text{coe}_{x.A}^{r \rightsquigarrow r'}(M) \mapsto \text{coe}_{x.A'}^{r \rightsquigarrow r'}(M)}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{coe}_{x.A(x) \rightarrow B(x)}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(M) \mapsto \lambda a_1. \text{coe}_{x.B(x)}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1))}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{coe}_{x.\text{Path}_A(a(x), b(x))}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(q) \mapsto \text{hcom}_A^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(q(y); y = 0 \hookrightarrow x.a(x), y = 1 \hookrightarrow x.b(x))}$$

...

Cubical logical relations

Cubical behavioral specifications range over programs with interval variables.

$$M \doteq N \in A [x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

Cubical logical relations

Cubical behavioral specifications range over programs with interval variables.

$$\underbrace{a_1 : A_1, \dots, a_n : A_n}_{\text{(extensionally)}} \gg M \doteq N \in A [x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

Coherence

These specifications must be closed under **evaluation** and **interval substitutions**.

$$M \doteq M \in A[\Psi] \implies M \Downarrow V \text{ and } M \doteq V \in A[\Psi]$$

$$M(x) \doteq N(x) \in A[\Psi, x] \implies M(0) \doteq N(0) \in A[\Psi]$$

Thus,

$$M(x) \doteq V(x) \in A[\Psi, x]$$

$$M(x) \doteq M(x) \in A[\Psi, x] \implies M(0) \doteq V(0) \in A[\Psi]$$

$$M(0) \doteq V' \in A[\Psi]$$

Coherence

These specifications must be closed under **evaluation** and **interval substitutions**.

$$M \doteq M \in A[\Psi] \implies M \Downarrow V \text{ and } M \doteq V \in A[\Psi]$$

$$M(x) \doteq N(x) \in A[\Psi, x] \implies M(0) \doteq N(0) \in A[\Psi]$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} M(x) \doteq V(x) &\in A[\Psi, x] \\ M(x) \doteq M(x) \in A[\Psi, x] &\implies M(0) \doteq V(0) \in A[\Psi] \implies V(0) \doteq V' \in A[\Psi] \\ &M(0) \doteq V' \in A[\Psi] \end{aligned}$$

Proving coherence

Much of the difficulty involves proving coherence of evaluation and interval substitution.

- Ordinary steps commute on the nose with interval substitution. (**Cubically stable**.)
- To show these commute for M , construct a substitution-indexed family of its reducts, and prove they are pairwise extensionally equal. (**Coherent expansion**.)

Canonicity

Booleans (and HITs!) are indeed observable.

Theorem: Every $M \in \text{bool} [\cdot]$ computes to, and is equal to, true or false. (\approx [Huber 2016])

Theorem: Every $M \in \mathbb{S}^1 [\cdot]$ computes to, and is equal to, base.

Contribution: Refinement of composition operation (“validity” restriction) makes higher inductive types also observable. [Vezzosi, Mörtberg, Abel 2019]

Exact equality

These specifications naturally account for **extensional/exact** equality $M \doteq N \in A[\cdot]$.
(Unlike paths, these equations do not appear in extracts.)

Can we have an exact equality type? No, it doesn't support coercion!

$$\star \in \text{Eq}_{\text{Type}}(A, \textcolor{orange}{A}) [\cdot]$$

 univalence($f : A \xrightarrow{\sim} B$)

$$\text{Eq}_{\text{Type}}(\textcolor{red}{X}(A, \textcolor{orange}{B}), \textcolor{orange}{B}) [\cdot]$$

Two-level type theory

We present a two-level type theory [Voevodsky 2013; Altenkirch, Capriotti, Kraus 2016]:

- Pretypes — respect only exact equality
- Kan types — respect paths and exact equality

Exact equality is seemingly needed for some mathematical constructions.

Implementing exact equality

Practical question — what principles about exact equality do we expose?

“Equality reflection” precludes type-checking proofs (as in Coq, Agda, **redtt**, ...).

Nuprl/**RedPRL** include reflection; instead of type-checking, one directly manipulates (cubical) extracts and behavioral specifications as a program logic.

Contribution: **RedPRL** is the first (only) implementation
of a two-level type theory with canonicity.



Taking stock

Contribution

We present **Cartesian cubical type theory**, a univalent dependent type theory whose proofs have computational meaning.

Second such, after the cubical type theory of [Cohen, Coquand, Huber, Mörtberg 2016].

Try these out in **RedPRL**, **redtt**, and Cubical Agda!

What's all this good for? I

First answer — the **homotopy type theory** project has led mathematicians to use type theory as a formal language for homotopy theory.

In our experience, type theories with good computational properties are easier to use.

Serves as a language for topological spaces — equivariant Cartesian cubical model
[Awodey, Cavallo, Coquand, Riehl, Sattler].

What's all this good for? II

Second answer — cubes solve some **longstanding difficulties** with equality connectives.

- Function extensionality, unlike identity types
- Good account of dependent equality (“pathovers”)
- Well-behaved **quotients** (better with observable HITs!)
- Univalence permits invariant view of mathematics [Awodey 2014]

We've backported cubes to non-univalent type theory — XTT [Sterling, A., Gratzer 2019].

Thanks!

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- Chapters 1 and 5 — Big picture
- Chapter 2 — Ordinary computational semantics
- Chapter 3 — Cubical type theories
- Chapter 4 — All main theorems
- Appendix A — Program logic $\approx \text{RedPRL}$
- Appendix B — **redtt** core calculus

Coercion – dependent function types

Suppose $p(x) := (\textcolor{orange}{a} : A(x)) \rightarrow B(x, \textcolor{orange}{a})$. (Uses $1 \rightsquigarrow x$ and $1 \rightsquigarrow 1$.)

$$\frac{x : \mathbb{I} \vdash A(x) : \text{Type} \quad x : \mathbb{I}, a : A \vdash B(x, a) : \text{Type} \quad f : (a_0 : A(0)) \rightarrow B(0, a_0)}{\text{coe}_{x:A(x) \rightarrow B(x,a)}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(f) : (a_1 : A(1)) \rightarrow B(1, a_1)}$$

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$\lambda a_1.$

$\text{coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{coe}_{x.A}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1) & \leftarrow \cdots & a_1 \\ \cdots & & \cdots \\ A(0) & \xrightarrow{A(x)} & A(1) \end{array}$$

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$\lambda a_1.$

$f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1)$

$f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1) \dashrightarrow \dots$
 $B(0, \text{coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1)) \dots B(1, \textcolor{orange}{a}_1)$

Coercion – dependent function types

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$$:= \lambda a_1. \text{coe}_{x.B(x, \text{coe}_{x.A}^{1 \rightsquigarrow x}(a_1))}^{0 \rightsquigarrow 1}(f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1))$$

$$\begin{array}{c} f \text{ coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1) \dashrightarrow \dots \\ \dots \\ B(0, \text{coe}_{x.A(x)}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 0}(a_1)) \xrightarrow[B(x, \text{coe}_{x.A}^{1 \rightsquigarrow x}(a_1))]{} B(1, \textcolor{orange}{a}_1) \\ \parallel \\ \text{coe}_{x.A}^{1 \rightsquigarrow 1}(a_1) \end{array}$$

Graphics test

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 └ Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore ★★

