Martin-Löf Type theory Anja Petković Komel OPLSS 2025

- In type theory every element comes equipped with a type (a : A)
- Type theory = deductive system Inference rules make derivations
- We derive judgements.



$\frac{\mathcal{H}_1 \quad \mathcal{H}_2 \quad \ldots \quad \mathcal{H}_n}{C}.$

Inference rules

There are 4 kinds of judgements:

$\Gamma \vdash A$ type. $\Gamma \vdash A \doteq B$ type.

well-formed type

judgementally equal types $\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A \qquad \Gamma \vdash f : A \longrightarrow B}{\Gamma \vdash f(a) : B}.$

Inference rule for function types



well-formed term

judgementally equal terms

A context $x_1 : A_1, x_2 : A_2(x_1), \dots, x_n : A_n(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$ such that $x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_{k-1} : A_{k-1}(x_1, \dots, x_{k-2}) \vdash A_k(x_1, \dots, x_{k-1})$ type:

A context of length 0: empty context

Dependent types and terms

 $\Gamma, x : A \vdash B(x)$ type, type family

 $\Gamma, x : A \vdash b(x) : B(x)$ section

$n : \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{Vec } \mathbb{N} \text{ n type}$

n : ℕ ⊢ (0,0, …,0) : Vec ℕ n

n-times

Inference rules

Structural rules (in every type theory) Specific rules (for MLTT)

Structural rules

- Judgemental equality is an equivalence relation
- Variable conversion
- Substitution
- Weakening
- Generic element / variable rule

Judgemental equality is an equivalence relation

$$\Gamma \vdash A$$
 type $\Gamma \vdash A \doteq B$ type $\Gamma \vdash A \doteq A$ type $\Gamma \vdash B \doteq A$ type $\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma \vdash a \doteq a : A}$ $\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \doteq b : A}{\Gamma \vdash b \doteq a : A}$

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \doteq B \text{ type} \quad \Gamma \vdash B \doteq C \text{ type}}{\Gamma \vdash A \doteq C \text{ type}}$

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a \doteq b : A \qquad \Gamma \vdash b \doteq c : A}{\Gamma \vdash a \doteq c : A}$

$\Gamma \vdash A \doteq A'$ type $\Gamma, x : A, \Delta \vdash B(x)$ type $\Gamma, x : A', \Delta \vdash B(x)$ type.

Variable conversion

element conversion is derivable $\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \doteq A' \text{ type } \Gamma \vdash a : A}{\Gamma \vdash a : A'.}$

Substitution $\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : A \quad \Gamma, \ x : A, \ \Delta \vdash \mathcal{J}}{\Gamma, \ \Delta[a/x] \vdash \mathcal{J}[a/x]} S. \xrightarrow{\vdash 0 : \mathbb{N}} n : \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{succ(n)} : \mathbb{N}$ \vdash succ(0) : \mathbb{N}

 $\Gamma \vdash a \doteq a' : A \qquad \Gamma, x : A, \Delta \vdash B$ type $\Gamma, \Delta[a/x] \vdash B[a/x] \doteq B[a'/x]$ type $\Gamma \vdash a \doteq a' : A \qquad \Gamma, x : A, \Delta \vdash b : B$ Γ , $\Delta[a/x] \vdash b[a/x] \doteq b[a'/x] : B[a/x]$.

substituting judgementally equal stuff results in judgementally equal types (resp. terms)

$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type } \Gamma, \ \Delta \vdash \mathcal{J}}{\Gamma, \ x : A, \ \Delta \vdash \mathcal{J}} W.$

Generic element / variable rule

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash x : A} \delta.$



 $x : \mathbb{N}, y : \mathbb{N} \vdash succ(0) : \mathbb{N}$

 $\vdash \mathbb{N}$ type

 $\mathbf{x}:\mathbb{N} \mapsto \mathbf{x}:\mathbb{N}$



Structural rules

- Judgemental equality is an equivalence relation
- Variable conversion
- Substitution
- Weakening
- Generic element / variable rule

Derivations $\Gamma \vdash A \doteq A'$ type $\Gamma \vdash a : A$ $\Gamma \vdash a : A'$.

A derivation is a finite tree: nodes are inferences root is conclusion leaves are hypotheses

 $\Gamma \vdash a : A$

 $\Gamma \vdash a : A'$

$\Gamma \vdash A \doteq A'$ type	Г⊢A' type
$\Gamma \vdash A' \doteq A \text{ type}$	$\Gamma, x : A' \vdash x : A'$
$\Gamma, x : A \vdash x : A'$	

Specific rules

Dependent functions

Functions where type of the output may depend on the input.

Dependent function type:

 $\prod_{(x:A)} B(x)$

Rules for Π types:

- formation rule form types
- introduction rule
- elimination rule
- computation rules

introduce terms use terms interaction



Dependent functions

Formation rule

 $\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash B(x) \text{ type}}{\Gamma \vdash \prod_{(x:A)} B(x) \text{ type}} \Pi.$

Introduction rule (lambda)

 $\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash b(x) : B(x)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. b(x) : \prod_{(x:A)} B(x)} \lambda.$ binding $\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \doteq A' \text{ type } \Gamma, x : A \vdash B(x) \doteq B'(x) \text{ type }}{\Gamma \vdash \prod_{(x:A)} B(x) \doteq \prod_{(x:A')} B'(x) \text{ type }} \Pi\text{-eq.}$

 $x : \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{Vec } \mathbb{N} x \text{ type}$

 $\vdash \Pi$ (x : \mathbb{N}) Vec \mathbb{N} x type

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash b(x) \doteq b'(x) : B(x)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. b(x) \doteq \lambda x. b'(x) : \prod_{(x:A)} B(x)} \lambda$$

 $x : \mathbb{N} \vdash (0,0,...,0) : Vec \mathbb{N} x$

 $\vdash \lambda x. (0,0,\ldots,0) : \Pi (x : \mathbb{N}) \text{ Vec } \mathbb{N} x$

x-times



Elimination (evaluation) rule

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash f : \prod_{(x:A)} B(x)}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash f(x) : B(x)} ev.$

How is this evaluation? Paired with substitution... \vdash (0,0) : Vec \mathbb{N} (succ(succ(0))

Evaluation respects judgemental equality (congruence).





Dependent functions

Computation rule β

 $\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash b(x)}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash (\lambda y.b(y))(x)}$

Computation rule η

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash f : \prod_{(x:x)} f(x)}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. f(x) \doteq f : f(x)}$

$$\frac{(x)}{(x)} : B(x) = b(x) : B(x) = \beta.$$

$$\frac{B(x)}{\prod_{(x:A)}B(x)}\eta.$$

(Dependent) functions

Ordinary functions A -> B are a special case, when codomain has no real dependency.

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type } \Gamma \vdash B \text{ type }}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash B \text{ type }} W$ $\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash B \text{ type }}{\Gamma \vdash \prod_{(x:A)} B \text{ type }} \Pi$ $\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \coloneqq \prod_{(x:A)} B$ type. definition

- A definition extends the type theory with a new constant and the following rules
 - $\Gamma \vdash A$ type $\Gamma \vdash B$ type $\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B$ type

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type } \Gamma \vdash B \text{ type }}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \doteq \prod_{(x:A)} B \text{ type.}}$

Let's derive a function!

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash x : A}}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. x : A \rightarrow A}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{id}_A \coloneqq \lambda x. x : A \rightarrow A.$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type} \quad \Gamma}{\Gamma, f : B^A, x : A}}{\Gamma, g : C^B, f : B^A, x}$$
Composition is associative.
$$\frac{\Gamma, g}{\Gamma \vdash A}$$

Composition satisfies left and right unit laws.

 $\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash B \text{ type} \\ \hline \Gamma, g : C^B, y : B \vdash g(y) : C \end{array} \end{array}$ (b) $\begin{array}{c} F \vdash B \text{ type} \\ \hline \Gamma, g : C^B, f : B^A, y : B \vdash g(y) : C \end{array} \end{array}$ $: A \vdash f(x) : B \quad \Gamma, g : C^B, f : B^A, x : A, y : B \vdash g(y) : C$ $\Gamma, g: C^B, f: B^A, x: A \vdash g(f(x)): C$ $\Gamma, g: C^B, f: B^A \vdash \lambda x. g(f(x)): C^A$ $g: B \to C \vdash \lambda f. \lambda x. g(f(x)): B^A \to C^A$ $\lambda g. \lambda f. \lambda x. g(f(x)) : C^B \to (B^A \to C^A)$ $\Gamma \vdash \text{comp} \coloneqq \lambda g. \lambda f. \lambda x. g(f(x)) : C^B \rightarrow (B^A \rightarrow C^A).$

 $\operatorname{comp} \coloneqq \lambda g. \lambda f. \lambda x. g(f(x)).$

Rules for \mathbb{N} :

- formation rule
- introduction rule (zero and successor)
- elimination rule (the induction principle)
- computation rules (how induction principle behaves on zero and successor)
- congruence rules (easy, will not do them)

Natural numbers

Formation rule



Introduction rules

zero element

 $\vdash 0_{\mathbb{N}} : \mathbb{N}$

Natural numbers

ℕ-form.

successor function

$$\vdash \mathsf{succ}_{\mathbb{N}} : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$

Elimination rule

the induction principle

 $\Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash P(n)$ type $\Gamma \vdash p_0 : P(0_N)$

Computation rules

 $\Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash P(n)$ type $\Gamma \vdash p_0 : P(0_N)$ $\Gamma \vdash p_S : \prod_{(n:\mathbb{N})} P(n) \to P(\operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(n))$

 $\Gamma \vdash \operatorname{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(p_0, p_S, 0_{\mathbb{N}}) \doteq p_0 : P(0_{\mathbb{N}}).$

 $\Gamma, n : \mathbb{N} \vdash \mathsf{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(p_0, p_S, \mathsf{succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(n)) \doteq p_S(n, \mathsf{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(p_0, p_S, n)) : P(\mathsf{succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(n)).$

Natural numbers

 $\frac{\Gamma \vdash p_S : \prod_{(n:\mathbb{N})} P(n) \to P(\operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(n))}{\Gamma \vdash \operatorname{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(p_0, p_S) : \prod_{(n:\mathbb{N})} P(n)}$ \mathbb{N} -ind.





Example: defining addition using the induction principle.

 $add_{\mathbb{N}}:\mathbb{N}\to(\mathbb{N}\to\mathbb{N})$

 $\operatorname{add}_{\mathbb{N}}(m, 0_{\mathbb{N}}) \doteq m$ $add_{\mathbb{N}}(m, succ_{\mathbb{N}}(n)) \doteq succ_{\mathbb{N}}(add_{\mathbb{N}}(m, n))$. Formally, we want to derive

 $m : \mathbb{N} \vdash \operatorname{add}_{\mathbb{N}}(m) := \operatorname{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(\operatorname{add-zero}_{\mathbb{N}}(m), \operatorname{add-succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(m)) : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}.$ where $P(n) := \mathbb{N}$ $m: \mathbb{N} \vdash add-zero_{\mathbb{N}}(m): \mathbb{N}$ $m : \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{add-succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(m) : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}),$ add-succ_N(m, n, x) \doteq succ_N(x)



 $\operatorname{add}_{\mathbb{N}}(m, \operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(n)) \doteq \operatorname{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(\operatorname{add-zero}_{\mathbb{N}}(m), \operatorname{add-succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(m), \operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(n))$ \doteq add-succ_N($m, n, add_N(m, n)$) \doteq succ_N(add_N(m, n)).





 $m: \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{add-zero}_{\mathbb{N}}(m) := m: \mathbb{N} \quad m: \mathbb{N} \vdash \text{add-succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(m): \mathbb{N} \rightarrow (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N})$ $m : \mathbb{N} \vdash \operatorname{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(\operatorname{add-zero}_{\mathbb{N}}(m), \operatorname{add-succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(m)) : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ $m : \mathbb{N} \vdash \operatorname{add}_{\mathbb{N}}(m) := \operatorname{ind}_{\mathbb{N}}(\operatorname{add-zero}_{\mathbb{N}}(m), \operatorname{add-succ}_{\mathbb{N}}(m)) : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}.$

Pattern matching is more readable and sufficient for proof assistants.

$$F \operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}} : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$

$$F \operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}} : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$

$$\operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}} : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$$

$$\operatorname{N} \to (\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N})$$

$$\operatorname{succ}_{\mathbb{N}} : \mathbb{N} \to (\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N})$$

More inductive types

- Unit type (1)
- Empty type (Ø)
- Coproducts (A+B)
- Dependent sum (Σ(x:A)B(x))
- Propositional equality (=)

- ***** : 1
- $\operatorname{ind}_{\emptyset} : \prod_{(x:\emptyset)} P(x)$ ex-falso := $\operatorname{ind}_{\emptyset} : \emptyset \to A$

Dependent sum

 $\sum_{(x:A)} B(x)$ $\mathsf{pair}: \prod_{(x:A)} \Big(B(x) \to \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) \Big) \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) \Big) \Big) \Big) = \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) \Big) \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) \Big) \Big) = \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) \Big) \Big) = \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) \Big) \Big) = \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) \Big) \Big) = \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)} \Big) = \sum_{(y:A)} \Big(B(x) - \sum_{(y:A)$ $\mathsf{pr}_1: \left(\sum_{(x:A)} B(x) \right) \to A$ $\operatorname{pr}_1(x, y) \coloneqq x.$

can also be postulated with induction

$$_{A)}B(y)$$
). pair 2 (0,0) : Σ (n:N) Vec N n

 $\operatorname{pr}_{2}: \prod_{(p:\sum_{(x:A)} B(x))} B(\operatorname{pr}_{1}(p)),$

 $pr_2(x, y) \coloneqq y$. with induction

Specific rules of MLTT

Formation, introduction, elimination, computation and congruence rules for:

- Dependent function type (Π) lacksquare
- Natural numbers (ℕ)
- Unit type (1)
- Empty type (∅)
- Coproducts (A+B)
- Dependent sum ($\Sigma(x:A)B(x)$)

+ definitions we introduce

Curry-Howard Correspondence

The Curry-Howard interpretation

Propositions Proofs Predicates Т $P \lor Q$ $P \wedge Q$ $P \Rightarrow Q \qquad A \rightarrow B$ $\neg P$ $\exists_x P(x)$ $\forall_x P(x)$ x = y

Types Elements Type families Ø A + B $A \times B$ $A \rightarrow \emptyset$ $\sum_{(x:A)} B(x)$ $\prod_{(x:A)} B(x)$ x = y

Propositional equality

Formation rule

 $\Gamma \vdash a : A \qquad \Gamma \vdash b : A$

 $\Gamma \vdash a =_A b$ type

Elimination rule (J-rule) $\Gamma, x : A, y : A, p : x =_A y \vdash P(x, y, p)$ type $\Gamma \vdash J : (\Pi_{x:A} P(x, x, \mathsf{refl}_x)) \to \Pi_{a:A} \Pi_{b:A} \Pi_{q:a=A} P(a, b, q)$ Computation rule

 $\Gamma, x: A, y: A, p: x =_A y \vdash P(x, y, p)$ type $\Gamma \vdash d: \Pi_{x:A} P(x, x, \text{refl}_x)$ $\Gamma \vdash a : A$ $\Gamma \vdash J(d, a, a, \mathsf{refl}_a) \equiv d(a) : P(a, a, \mathsf{refl}_a)$

Introduction rule (refl)

 $\Gamma \vdash a : A$

$$\Gamma \vdash \mathsf{refl}_a : a =_A a$$