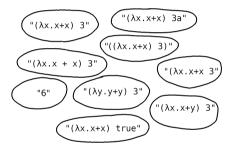
Type Theory in Type Theory using a Strictified Syntax

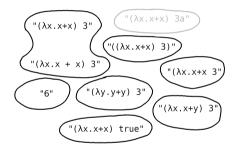
Ambrus Kaposi

Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest

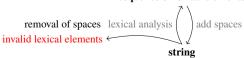
j.w.w. Loïc Pujet

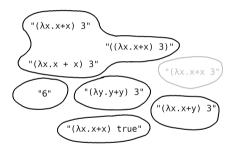
ICFP 2025 Singapore 14 October 2025

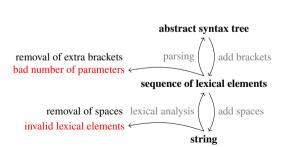


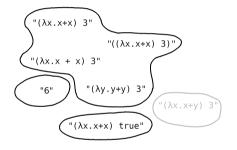


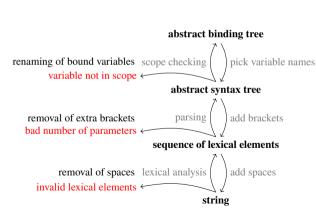
sequence of lexical elements

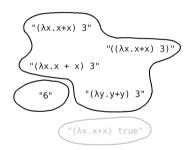


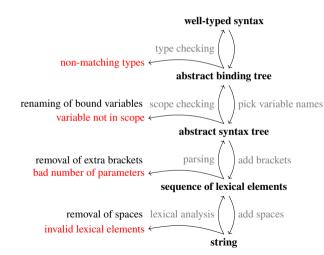


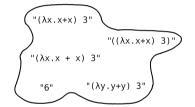


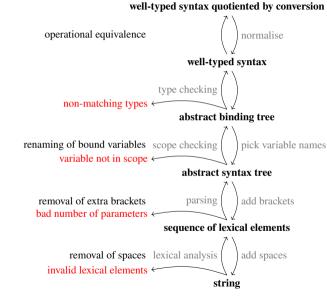






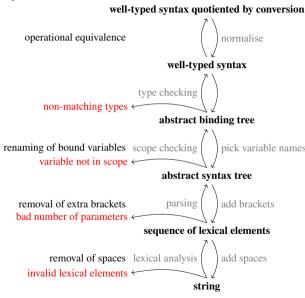






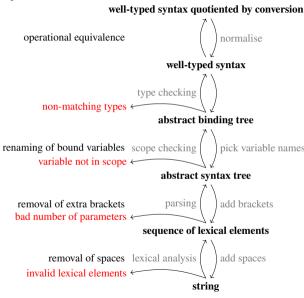
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- ▶ forces choices:
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 - paranoid, not economic
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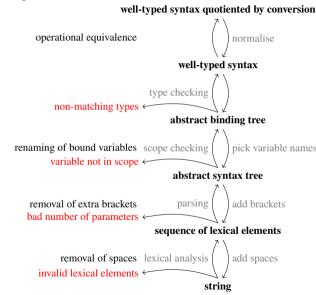
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- we can:
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 (gluing a.k.a. proof relevant logical predicates)



In practice, formalisation happens at the ABT level:

► Abel-Öhman-Vezzosi 2018, MetaRocq (2014–2025), Martin-Löf à la Coq (Adjedj-Lennon-Bertrand-Maillard-Pédrot-Pujet 2024), Lean4Lean (Carneiro 2024)

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Only very small CwF-style formalisations, and they are difficult to use. No formalisation of gluing-style normalisation. Reasons:

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- ▶ We formalised gluing style canoncity for a small type theory, the Agda proof is as beautiful as the paper one.

Analogs of our strictification technique

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- ▶ Taking a category *Ob*, *Hom* and replacing Hom(J, I) by

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$$y J \xrightarrow{\bullet} y I$$
.

The Yoneda lemma implies $Hom(J, I) \cong yJ \xrightarrow{\bullet} yI$.

▶ Presheaves as in HOAS, LF, 21TT, SOGATs

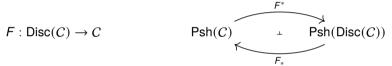
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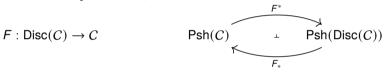
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$$|\mathsf{StrictPSh}(C)| :\equiv (\varGamma : C \to \mathsf{Set}) \\ \times \big((I : C) \to ((J : C) \to C(J, I) \to \varGamma J) \to \mathsf{Prop} \big)$$

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- ▶ Also called strictification ($\cong \rightarrow =$, while our method is $= \rightarrow \equiv$):
 - right adjoint splitting (Hofmann 1994)
 - ▶ left adjoint splitting, local universes (Lumsdaine–Warren 2015)

ightharpoonup A universe closed under Σ :

 $\mathsf{U}:\mathsf{Set}$ $\Sigma:(\mathsf{A}:\mathsf{U})\to(\mathsf{El}\,\mathsf{A}\to\mathsf{U})\to\mathsf{U}$

 $\mathsf{EI}:\mathsf{U}\to\mathsf{Set}\qquad \qquad -,-:(a:\mathsf{EI}\,\mathsf{A})\times\mathsf{EI}\,\mathsf{B}\cong\mathsf{EI}\,(\Sigma\,\mathsf{A}\,\mathsf{B}):\mathsf{fst},\mathsf{snd}$

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► Given a universe closed under certain type formers, we build a CwF closed under the same type formers inheriting the substitution calculus from the metatheory:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \operatorname{Con} & := \operatorname{Set} & \operatorname{Tm} \varGamma A := (\gamma : \varGamma) \to \operatorname{El}(A\gamma) \\ \operatorname{Sub} \varDelta \varGamma := \varDelta \to \varGamma & A[\sigma] & := A \circ \sigma \\ \operatorname{Ty} \varGamma & := \varGamma \to \operatorname{U} & \Sigma AB & := \lambda \gamma. \, \Sigma \, (A\gamma) \, (\lambda a. \, B\, (\gamma, a)) \\ (\Sigma AB)[\tau] &= \lambda \delta. \, (A\, (\tau\, \delta)) \, (\lambda a. \, B(\tau\, \delta, a)) = \Sigma \, (A[\tau]) \, (B[\tau^{\uparrow}]) \end{array}$$

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$$\operatorname{Ty} \Gamma := \Gamma \to \mathsf{U} \qquad \qquad \Sigma AB := \lambda \gamma. \Sigma (A\gamma) (\lambda a. B(\gamma, a))$$

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- ► This is a substitution-strict model (called *contextualisation*, standard/set/type-model).
- Internally to presheaves over a model supporting some type formers, we have a universe closed under the same type formers.
- We take its contextualisation, then externalise (we need a strict CwF_{Π} of presheaves).

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- Local universe $\cong \rightarrow =$ strictification also provides some $= \rightarrow \equiv$ (Lumsdaine–Warren 2015).

- ▶ Just work internally to an LF (Sterling PhD 2022, Bocquet–K.–Sattler FSCD 2023).
- Shallow embedding (K.–Kovács–Kraus MPC 2019).
- Via conservativity of equality reflection (Winterhalter et al. CPP 2019, Winterhalter ICFP 2024).
- ▶ Rewrite rules (Cockx TYPES 2019, Leray et al. ITP 2024).
- ► Local universe \cong \rightarrow = strictification also provides some = \rightarrow \equiv (Lumsdaine–Warren 2015).
- ► Redefining substitution recursively (K. TYPES 2023).

Summary

- \blacktriangleright A technique for strictifying (= \rightarrow \equiv) the substitution calculus of a model of TT.
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Summary

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 - ▶ Agda and Coq hang when trying to compute with the strictified syntax.
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Summary

- ▶ A technique for strictifying $(= \rightarrow \equiv)$ the substitution calculus of a model of TT.
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- Problems:
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- Future work:
 - Strictify the substitution calculus for a model of any SOGAT.
 - Reusable library.
 - Direct efficient proof assistant support.

Weak CwF

```
Con : Set
                                                                                         -[-]: \operatorname{Tm} \Gamma A \to (\gamma : \operatorname{Sub} \Delta \Gamma) \to
Sub : Con \rightarrow Con \rightarrow Set
                                                                                                       \operatorname{Tm} \Delta (A[\gamma])
Tv : Con \rightarrow Set
                                                                                         [\circ] : [\circ]_* (a[\gamma \circ \delta]) = a[\gamma][\delta]
Tm : (\Gamma : Con) \rightarrow Ty \Gamma \rightarrow Set
                                                                                       [id] : [id]* (a[id]) = a
- \circ - : \operatorname{Sub} \Lambda \Gamma \to \operatorname{Sub} \Theta \Lambda \to \operatorname{Sub} \Theta \Gamma
                                                                                    - \triangleright - : (\Gamma : Con) \rightarrow Tv \Gamma \rightarrow Con
                                                                           -,-: (\gamma: \operatorname{Sub} \Delta \Gamma) \to \operatorname{Tm} \Delta (A[\gamma]) \to
ass : (\gamma \circ \delta) \circ \theta = \gamma \circ (\delta \circ \theta)
id
                                                                                                       Sub \Delta (\Gamma \triangleright A)
           : Sub \Gamma \Gamma
idl
        : id \circ \gamma = \gamma
                                                                                                  (\gamma, a) \circ \delta = (\gamma \circ \delta, [\circ]_* (a[\delta]))
idr : \gamma \circ id = \gamma
                                                                                                  : Sub (Γ ⊳ A) Γ
           : Con
                                                                                                   : Tm(\Gamma \triangleright A)(A[p])
            : Sub F ⋄
                                                                                        \triangleright \beta_1 : p \circ (\gamma, a) = \gamma
                                                                                        \triangleright \beta_2 : ([\circ] \cdot \triangleright \beta_1)_* (q[\gamma, a]) = a
\diamond n: (\sigma : \mathsf{Sub} \Gamma \diamond) \to \sigma = \epsilon
-[-]: \operatorname{Tv}\Gamma \to \operatorname{Sub}\Delta\Gamma \to \operatorname{Tv}\Delta
                                                                                        \triangleright \eta : id = (p. a)
[\circ] : A[\gamma \circ \delta] = A[\gamma][\delta]
[id] : A[id] = A
```

Strict CwF

```
Con : Set
                                                                                             -[-]: \operatorname{Tm} \Gamma A \to (\gamma : \operatorname{Sub} \Delta \Gamma) \to
Sub : Con \rightarrow Con \rightarrow Set
                                                                                                            \operatorname{Tm} \Delta (A[\gamma])
Tv : Con \rightarrow Set
                                                                                             [\circ] : a[\gamma \circ \delta] \equiv a[\gamma][\delta]
Tm : (\Gamma : Con) \rightarrow Ty \Gamma \rightarrow Set
                                                                                            [id] : a[id] \equiv a
-\circ -: \operatorname{Sub} \Delta \Gamma \to \operatorname{Sub} \Theta \Delta \to \operatorname{Sub} \Theta \Gamma \qquad -\triangleright -: (\Gamma: \operatorname{Con}) \to \operatorname{Ty} \Gamma \to \operatorname{Con}
                                                                             -,-: (\gamma: \mathsf{Sub} \Delta \Gamma) \to \mathsf{Tm} \Delta (A[\gamma]) \to
ass : (\gamma \circ \delta) \circ \theta \equiv \gamma \circ (\delta \circ \theta)
id
            : Sub \Gamma \Gamma
                                                                                                            Sub \Delta (\Gamma \triangleright A)
idl
        : id \circ \gamma \equiv \gamma
                                                                                             , \circ : (\gamma, a) \circ \delta \equiv (\gamma \circ \delta, a[\delta])
idr : \gamma \circ id \equiv \gamma
                                                                                                      : Sub (Γ ⊳ A) Γ
            : Con
                                                                                                       : Tm(\Gamma \triangleright A)(A[p])
            : Sub F ⋄
                                                                                            \triangleright \beta_1 : p \circ (\gamma, a) \equiv \gamma
                                                                                            \triangleright \beta_2 : q[\gamma, a] \equiv a
\diamond n : (\sigma : \mathsf{Sub} \, \Gamma \diamond) \to \sigma \equiv \epsilon
-[-]: \operatorname{Tv}\Gamma \to \operatorname{Sub}\Delta\Gamma \to \operatorname{Tv}\Delta
                                                                                            \triangleright \eta : id = (p. a)
[\circ] : A[\gamma \circ \delta] \equiv A[\gamma][\delta]
[id] : A[id] \equiv A
```

Booleans in a weak CwF (i)

where

```
Bool : Ty \Gamma
Bool[] : Bool[\gamma] = Bool
true : Tm / Bool
true[] : Bool[]_* (true[\gamma]) = true
false : Tm \( \Gamma\) Bool
false[] : Bool[]_* (false[\gamma]) = false
          : (P : \mathsf{Tv}(\Gamma \triangleright \mathsf{Bool})) \to \mathsf{Tm}\Gamma(P[\langle \mathsf{true} \rangle]) \to \mathsf{Tm}\Gamma(P[\langle \mathsf{false} \rangle]) \to
ind
                (b: \operatorname{Tm} \Gamma \operatorname{Bool}) \to \operatorname{Tm} \Gamma (P[\langle b \rangle])
\operatorname{ind}[] : (\alpha b)_* ((\operatorname{ind} P p p' b)[\gamma]) =
                ind (Bool[], (P[\gamma^{\uparrow}])) (true[], ((\alpha \text{ true}), (p[\gamma]))) (false[], ((\alpha \text{ false}), (p'[\gamma])))
                      (Bool[]_*(b[\gamma]))
Bool\beta_1: ind Ppp' true = p
Bool\beta_2: ind P p p' false = p'
               \alpha: (u: \mathsf{Tm}\,\Gamma\,\mathsf{Bool}) \to P[\langle u \rangle][\gamma] = P[\mathsf{Bool}[]_*(\gamma^{\uparrow})][\langle \mathsf{Bool}[]_*(u[\gamma])\rangle]
```

Booleans in a weak CwF (ii)

```
\alpha u : P[\langle u \rangle][\gamma]
                                                                                                                              ([o])=
         P[\langle u \rangle \circ \gamma]
                                                                                                                              =
         P[(id, [id], u) \circ \gamma]
                                                                                                                              =(,0)
         P[id \circ \gamma, [\circ]_* (([id]_* u)[\gamma])]
                                                                                                                              =(-[-] and transport)
         P[id \circ \gamma, [\circ]_* ([id]_* (u[\gamma]))]
                                                                                                                              =(idl)
         P[\gamma, idl_*([\circ]_*([id]_*(u[\gamma])))]
                                                                                                                              =(\cdot,\cdot)
         P[\gamma, ([id] \cdot [\circ] \cdot idl), (u[\gamma])]
         P[\gamma, u[\gamma]]
                                                                                                                              =
         P[\gamma, ([id] \cdot [id]), (u[\gamma])]
                                                                                                                              =(\cdot,\cdot)
         P[\gamma, [id], ([id], (u[\gamma]))]
                                                                                                                              =(⊳B2)
         P[\gamma, [id]_* (([\circ] \cdot \triangleright \beta_1)_* (q[\langle u[\gamma] \rangle]))]
         P[\gamma, [id], (([\circ] \cdot [\circ] \cdot ass \cdot \triangleright \beta_1 \cdot idr \cdot [id]), (q[\langle u[\gamma] \rangle]))] = (\cdot, \cdot)
         P[\gamma, ([\circ] \cdot [\circ] \cdot ass \cdot \triangleright \beta_1 \cdot idr \cdot [id] \cdot [id]), (q[\langle u[\gamma] \rangle])] \equiv
         P[\gamma, ([\circ] \cdot [\circ] \cdot ass \cdot \triangleright \beta_1 \cdot idr)_* (q[\langle u[\gamma] \rangle])]
                                                                                                                              =(\cdot,\cdot)
         P[\gamma, idr_* (\triangleright B_1, (ass_* ([\circ]_* ([\circ]_* (\mathfrak{q}[\langle \mu[\gamma] \rangle])))))]
                                                                                                                              =(idr)
         P[\gamma \circ id, \triangleright B_1, (ass, ([\circ], ([\circ], (g[\langle u[\gamma]\rangle]))))]
                                                                                                                             =(\triangleright B_1)
         P[\gamma \circ (p \circ \langle u[\gamma] \rangle), ass_*([\circ]_*([\circ]_*(q[\langle u[\gamma] \rangle])))]
                                                                                                                             =(ass)
         P[(\gamma \circ p) \circ \langle u[\gamma] \rangle, [\circ], ([\circ], (g[\langle u[\gamma] \rangle]))]
                                                                                                                              =(-[-] and transport)
         P[(\gamma \circ p) \circ \langle u[\gamma] \rangle, [\circ]_* (([\circ]_* q)[\langle u[\gamma] \rangle])]
                                                                                                                              =(,0)
         P[(\gamma \circ p, [\circ], q) \circ \langle u[\gamma] \rangle]
         P[(\gamma \circ p, [\circ]_* q) \circ \langle (Bool[] \cdot Bool[])_* (u[\gamma]) \rangle]
                                                                                                                              =(\cdot_*)
         P[(\gamma \circ p, [\circ]_* q) \circ \langle Bool[]_* (Bool[]_* (u[\gamma])) \rangle]
                                                                                                                              =(\langle - \rangle \text{ and transport})
         P[(\gamma \circ p, [\circ], q) \circ Bool[], \langle Bool[], (u[\gamma]) \rangle]
                                                                                                                              =(- o - and transport)
         P[(\mathsf{Bool}[]_* (\gamma \circ \mathsf{p}, [\circ]_* \mathsf{q})) \circ \langle \mathsf{Bool}[]_* (u[\gamma]) \rangle]
                                                                                                                              ≡
```

Substitution-strict booleans in a strict CwF

```
Bool : Ty \Gamma
Bool[] : Bool[\gamma] \equiv Bool
           : Tm \Gamma Bool
true
true[] : true[\gamma] \equiv true
false : Tm / Bool
false[]: false[\gamma] \equiv false
               : (P : \mathsf{Tv} (\Gamma \triangleright \mathsf{Bool})) \to \mathsf{Tm} \Gamma (P[\langle \mathsf{true} \rangle]) \to \mathsf{Tm} \Gamma (P[\langle \mathsf{false} \rangle]) \to \mathsf{Tm} \Gamma (P[\langle \mathsf{false} \rangle])
ind
                  (b: \operatorname{Tm} \Gamma \operatorname{Bool}) \to \operatorname{Tm} \Gamma (P[\langle b \rangle])
\operatorname{ind}[]: (\operatorname{ind} P p p' b)[\gamma] \equiv \operatorname{ind} (P[\gamma^{\uparrow}]) (p[\gamma]) (p'[\gamma]) (b[\gamma])
Bool\beta_1 : ind Ppp' true = p
Bool\beta_2: ind Ppp' false = p'
```