

Tests, Games, and Martin-Löf's Meaning Explanations for Intuitionistic Type Theory

Peter Dybjer

Chalmers tekniska högskola, Göteborg

(joint work in progress with Pierre Clairambault, University of Cambridge)

Institute for Advanced Study

Princeton, NJ

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Intuitionistic logic and intuitionistic type theory

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- 1979 Martin-Löf, **meaning explanations**, extensional
intuitionistic type theory.
- 1986 Martin-Löf, intensional intuitionistic type theory based
on a logical framework (set-type distinction)

Intuitionistic Type Theory - a language for both mathematics and programming

- Full-scale framework for constructive mathematics in the style of Bishop ("ZF for intuitionism"). Others are e.g.
 - Myhill-Aczel constructive set theory,
 - Aczel-Feferman style type-free theories.
- A functional programming language with dependent types where all programs terminate (core of NuPRL, Coq, Agda, etc)

Type formers of intuitionistic type theory

To interpret predicate logic with identity:

$$\prod x : A. B, \Sigma x : A. B, A + B, N_0, N_1, I(A, a, b)$$

Other mathematical objects

$$N, Wx : A. B, U, U_1, U_2, \dots$$

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- Extensions with general notion of inductive definition – important for programming.

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- Extensions with general notion of inductive definition – important for programming.
- Extensions into the constructive higher infinite: super universes, universe hierarchies, Mahlo universes, autonomous Mahlo universes, general inductive-recursive definitions etc.

Meaning explanations extend as well.

What are Martin-Löf's meaning explanations?

Meaning explanations. Also called

direct semantics, intuitive semantics, standard semantics, syntactico-semantical approach

"pre-mathematical" as opposed to "meta-mathematical":

References:

- *Constructive Mathematics and Computer Programming*, LMPS 1979;
- *Intuitionistic Type Theory*, Bibliopolis, 1984;
- *Philosophical Implications of Type Theory*, Firenze lectures 1987.

Before 1979: normalization proofs, but no meaning explanations.

Natural numbers - computation to canonical form

Start with *untyped computation system* with notion of computation of *closed expression* to *canonical form* (whnf) $a \Rightarrow v$.

$$\mathbb{N} \Rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$0 \Rightarrow 0$$

$$s(a) \Rightarrow s(a)$$

$$\frac{c \Rightarrow 0 \quad d \Rightarrow v}{R(c, d, e) \Rightarrow v}$$

$$\frac{c \Rightarrow s(a) \quad e(a, R(a, d, e)) \Rightarrow v}{R(c, d, e) \Rightarrow v}$$

Natural numbers - meaning explanations

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow \mathbb{N}}{A \text{ type}}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad A' \Rightarrow \mathbb{N}}{A = A'}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad a \Rightarrow 0}{a : A}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad a \Rightarrow s(b) \quad b : \mathbb{N}}{a : A}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow \mathbb{N} \quad a \Rightarrow 0 \quad a' \Rightarrow 0}{a = a' : A}$$

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How to understand these rules, meta-mathematically (realizability) or pre-mathematically (meaning explanations)?

General pattern

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow C(a_1, \dots, a_m) \quad \dots}{A \text{ type}}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow C(a_1, \dots, a_m) \quad A' \Rightarrow C(a'_1, \dots, a'_m) \quad \dots}{A = A'}$$

where C is an m -place type constructor (N, Π, Σ, I, U , etc), and

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow C(a_1, \dots, a_m) \quad a \Rightarrow c(b_1, \dots, b_n) \quad \dots}{a : A}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow C(a_1, \dots, a_m) \quad a \Rightarrow c(b_1, \dots, b_n) \quad a' \Rightarrow c(b'_1, \dots, b'_n) \quad \dots}{a = a' : A}$$

where c is an n -place term constructor for the m -place type constructor C ($0, s$ for N ; λ for Π ; N, Π, \dots for U ; etc).

Universe (à Russell) - meaning explanations

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow U}{A \text{ type}}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow U \quad A' \Rightarrow U}{A = A'}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow U \quad a \Rightarrow N}{a : A}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow U \quad a \Rightarrow \prod x : B.C \quad B : U \quad x : B \vdash C : U}{a : A} \quad \dots$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow U \quad a \Rightarrow N \quad a' \Rightarrow N}{a = a' : A}$$

$$\frac{A \Rightarrow U \quad a \Rightarrow \prod x : B.C \quad a' \Rightarrow \prod x : B'.C' \quad B = B' : U \quad x : B \vdash C = C' : U}{a = a' : A}$$

(Remark: equality of types means "same elements and same equal elements" in Martin-Löf 1979)

The meaning of hypothetical judgments

$$x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_n : A_n \vdash a : A$$

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means that

$$a[a_1, \dots, a_n/x_1, \dots, x_n] : A[a_1, \dots, a_n/x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

provided

$$a_1 : A_1,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$a_n : A_n[a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}/x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}],$$

and, moreover,

$$a[a_1, \dots, a_n/x_1, \dots, x_n] = a[b_1, \dots, b_n/x_1, \dots, x_n] : A[a_1, \dots, a_n/x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

provided

$$a_1 = b_1 : A_1,$$

$$\vdots$$

However ...

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The meaning of the identity type (Martin-Löf 1984, *Intuitionistic Type Theory*, p 32)

We now have to explain how to form canonical elements of $I(A, a, b)$. The standard way to know that $I(A, a, b)$ is true is to have $a = b : A$. Thus the introduction rule is simply: if $a = b : A$, then there is a canonical proof r of $I(A, a, b)$. Here r does not depend on a, b or A ; it does not matter what canonical element $I(A, a, b)$ has when $a = b : A$, as long as it has one.

Extensional intuitionistic type theory

We can then validate

I-elimination

$$\frac{c : I(A, a, b)}{a = b : A}$$

I-equality

$$\frac{c : I(A, a, b)}{c = r : I(A, a, b)}$$

which lead to:

- *extensional* intuitionistic type theory, with function extensionality
- non-normalizing terms (although $a : A$ implies that a and A have *canonical* form for *closed* terms).
- undecidable judgments, e.g., it is not decidable whether $a : A$ even if we know that A type.

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Hence, Martin-Löf rejected the above rules of I-elimination and equality in 1986.

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Hence, Martin-Löf rejected the above rules of I-elimination and equality in 1986. (But they remained valid at Cornell.)

Extensional meaning explanations for intensional type theory?

Possible attitudes:

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Possible attitudes:

- The meaning explanations provide *necessary*, but *not sufficient* criteria for validity of judgments. Judgments should also be *decidable* (a *global* condition).
- The judgments of extensional type theory are all valid, but we may sometimes prefer intensional type theory for pragmatic reasons.
- We need alternative *meaning explanations based on the normalization of open terms*, rather than just closed terms. Cf Martin-Löf 2009.

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Beware of bugs in the above code; I have only proved it correct, not tried it.

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Judgments can be refuted and corroborated by running tests (cf Popper). The validity of a judgment should be *local*; it should not refer to the formal system of which it is a part.

Testing categorical judgments $a : A$

Compute the canonical form of A and a !

- If $A \Rightarrow N$, then
 - if $a \Rightarrow 0$, then the test is successful.
 - if $a \Rightarrow s(b)$, then test whether $b : N$.
 - if $a \Rightarrow c(b_1, \dots, b_n)$ for some other constructor c (including λ), then the test fails.
- If $A \Rightarrow U$
 - if $a \Rightarrow N$, then the test is successful.
 - if $a \Rightarrow \Pi x : B. C$, then test whether $B : U$ and $x : B \vdash C : U$.
 - \vdots
 - if $a \Rightarrow c(b_1, \dots, b_n)$ for some c which is not a constructor for small sets, then the test fails.

Testing hypothetical judgments

To test

$$x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_n : A_n \vdash a : A$$

we need to *generate* arbitrary elements $a_1 : A_1, \dots, a_n : A_n$ and test the categorical judgment

$$a[a_1, \dots, a_n/x_1, \dots, x_n] : A[a_1, \dots, a_n/x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

How to do this?

- No problem if $A_i \Rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. Generate $x_i := 0, s(0), \dots$
- No problem if $A_i \Rightarrow I(\mathbb{N}, m, n)$ for closed m, n . Generate r if $m = n : \mathbb{N}$.
- But what if $A_i \Rightarrow \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$?
- And what if $A_i \Rightarrow I(\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}, f, g)$?

The meaning of higher order functions

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- Use *domain theory*: generate *neighborhoods/finite elements* of f ?
- Use *game semantics*: lazily generate opponent *strategies* for f , e.g., following Hyland and Ong's *arena games* with *innocent strategies*.
- A *refinement* of Martin-Löf's meaning explanations, where input generation plays a dual role to output computation. Technically, game semantics rather than realizability semantics.

Generating elements of identity types

Define meaning of identity type by induction on the type structure:

$$\begin{aligned} I(\mathbb{N}, m, n) &= T(m =_{\mathbb{N}} n) \text{ -- compute recursive function} \\ I(\prod x : A. B, f, g) &= \prod x : A. I(B, f(x), g(x)) \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

We can then define $r_{\mathbb{N}}, r_{\prod x : A. B}$, etc and validate the rules of I-elimination and I-equality in extensional type theory:

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{c : I(\mathbb{N}, m, n)}{m = n : \mathbb{N}} \qquad \frac{c : I(\mathbb{N}, m, n)}{c = r_{\mathbb{N}} : I(\mathbb{N}, m, n)} \\ \\ \frac{c : I(\prod x : A. B, f, g)}{f = g : \prod x : A. B} \qquad \frac{c : I(\prod x : A. B, f, g)}{c = r_{\prod x : A. B} : I(\prod x : A. B, f, g)} \end{array}$$

Identity on universe?

What is $I(U, A, B)$? Freedom of choice.

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Extensional equality of codes. The elements of $I(U, A, B)$ are generated in the following way:

$$r_{UN} : I(U, N, N) \quad \frac{c : I(U, A, A') \quad x : A \vdash d : I(U, B, B')}{r_{U\Pi}(c, d) : I(U, \Pi x : A. B, \Pi x : A'. B')} \quad \dots$$

Validates I-elimination and I-equality of extensional type theory for U .

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Validates I-elimination and I-equality of extensional type theory for U.

Isomorphism. Let

$$I(U, A, B) = A \cong_U B$$

Validates univalence axiom for U, but not I-elimination (J) of intensional type theory for this type.

Groupoid model?

Groupoid model of intensional type theory with univalence for \mathbf{U} in extensional type theory (conjecture)? Harper and Licata 2012, *Canonicity for 2-Dimensional Type Theory*

An alternative to our current work would be to parallel this approach, and define a groupoid interpretation into extensional type theory, and thereby inherit equality from the meta-language. The benefit of the approach we take here is that it provides a more direct description of the equational theory, presenting it directly in terms of the source language.

Finite System T

Types

$$A ::= \text{Bool} \mid A \rightarrow A$$

Terms

$$a ::= x \mid aa \mid \lambda x.a \mid \text{tt} \mid \text{ff} \mid \text{if } aa a$$

Innocent head normal forms of type $A_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow A_m \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

$$\lambda x_1 \dots x_m. \text{tt}$$

$$\lambda x_1 \dots x_m. \text{ff}$$

$$\lambda x_1 \dots x_m. \text{if}(x a_1 \dots a_n) a a'$$

generate one level of Curien's PCF Böhm trees.

Test of $a : \text{Bool}$

Run the closed term a !

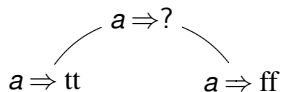
- $a \Rightarrow \text{tt}$: the test succeeds.
- $a \Rightarrow \text{ff}$: the test succeeds.
- $a \Rightarrow \lambda x.b$: the test fails.

Test of $a : \text{Bool}$

Run the closed term $a!$

- $a \Rightarrow \text{tt}$: the test succeeds.
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The arena for Bool :



Test of $a : \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Test $x : \text{Bool} \vdash ax : \text{Bool}$!

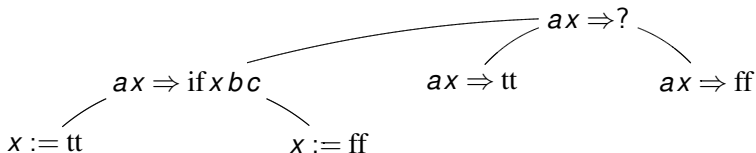
- $ax \Rightarrow \text{tt}$: the test succeeds.
- $ax \Rightarrow \text{ff}$: the test succeeds.
- $ax \Rightarrow \text{if } x \text{ } bc$: generate head variable
 - either $x := \text{tt}$, and test $x : \text{Bool} \vdash b : \text{Bool}$ or
 - or $x := \text{ff}$, and test $x : \text{Bool} \vdash c : \text{Bool}$
- otherwise, the test fails

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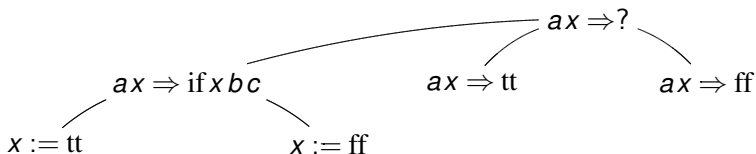


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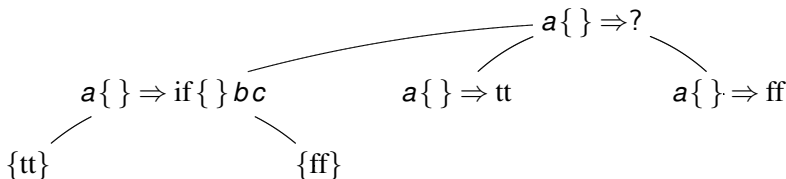
Correspondence with game semantics. Move in arbitrary innocent well-bracketed opponent strategy $x : \text{Bool}$. Only head occurrence of x is instantiated at the first stage. Repetition of moves possible.

Test of $a : \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Test $\{\} : \text{Bool} \vdash a\{\} : \text{Bool}$!

- $a\{\} \Rightarrow \text{tt}$: the test succeeds.
- $a\{\} \Rightarrow \text{ff}$: the test succeeds.
- $a\{\} \Rightarrow \text{if}\{\}bc$: generate head variable
 - either $\{\} := \text{tt}$, and test $\{\} : \text{Bool} \vdash b : \text{Bool}$ or
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Correspondence with game semantics. Move in arbitrary innocent well-bracketed opponent strategy $\{\} : \text{Bool}$. Only head occurrence of $\{\}$ is instantiated at the first stage. Repetition of moves possible.

Test of $a : (\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Test $\{ \} : \text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool} \vdash a \{ \} : \text{Bool}$.

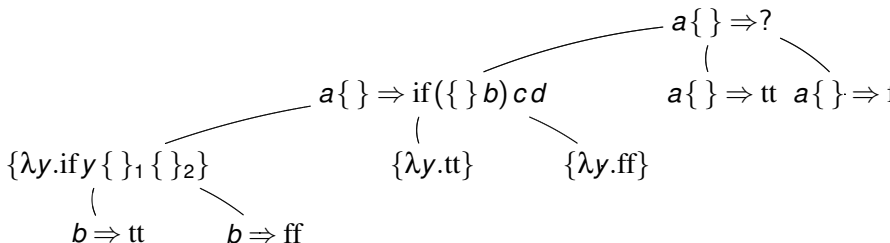
- $a \{ \} \Rightarrow \text{tt}$: the test succeeds.
- $a \{ \} \Rightarrow \text{ff}$: the test succeeds.
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- otherwise, the test fails.

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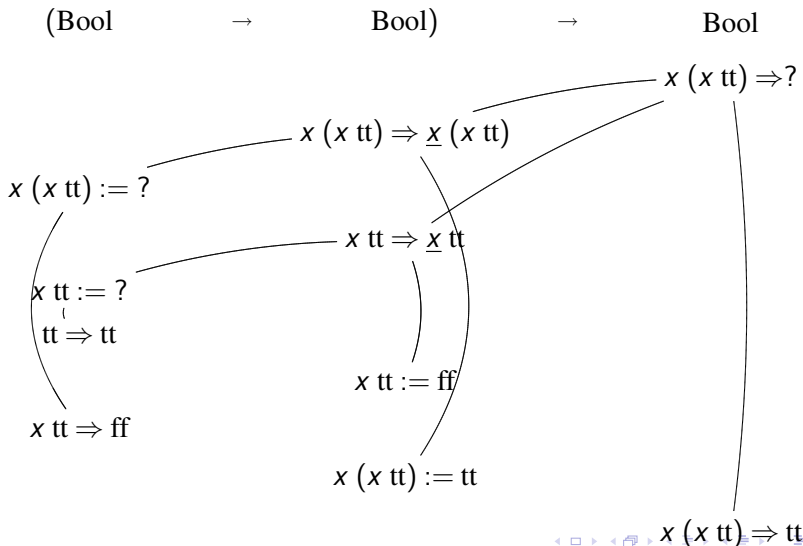
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- $a\{ \} \Rightarrow \text{if}(\{ \} b) c d$. See below.
- otherwise, the test fails.

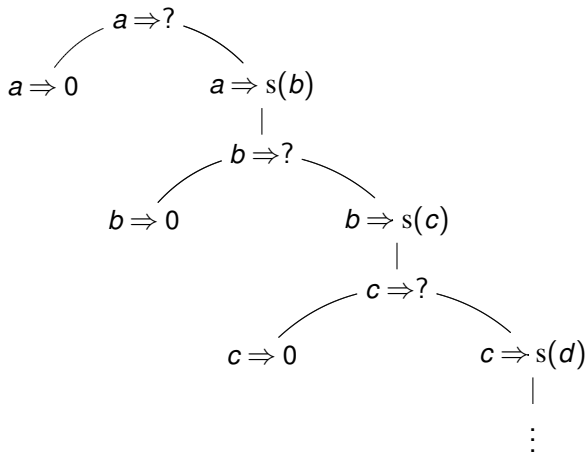
Arena for $(\text{Bool} \rightarrow \text{Bool}) \rightarrow \text{Bool}$:



Playing $x (x \text{ tt})$ versus $\lambda y. \text{if } y \text{ ff tt}$



The arena for lazy N



Terms of intuitionistic type theory (Bool, N, Σ , Π , U-fragment)

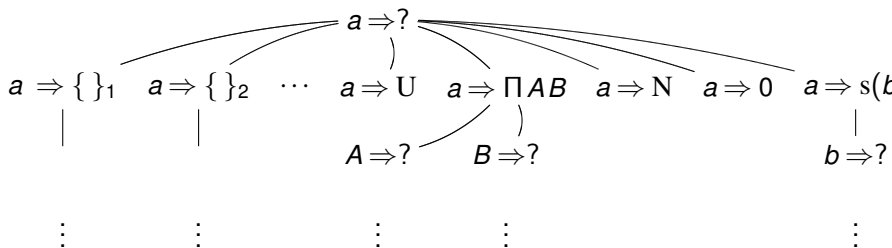
$$\begin{aligned}
 a ::= & x \mid aa \mid \lambda x.a \\
 & \mid tt \mid ff \mid 0 \mid sa \mid (a, a) \\
 & \mid \text{Bool} \mid \text{N} \mid \Sigma aa \mid \Pi aa \mid \text{U} \\
 & \mid \text{if } aaa \mid \text{natrec } aaa \mid \text{fst } a \mid \text{snd } a \mid \text{urec } aaaaa
 \end{aligned}$$

Russell-style universe with universe recursion

Testing judgments as game playing

- computation to weak head normal form (player move)
- instantiation of variables (opponent move)
- matching constructors of terms with constructors of types (checking rules of the game)

The arena for Intuitionistic type theory



Transition system for testing

Configurations

$$\langle \mathcal{J}, \tau \rangle$$

where

- \mathcal{J} is a judgment
- Formally τ is a *channel environment* - a partial association between channels (metavariables) and *atomic normal forms*
- a *channel* has a type and a context $\Gamma \vdash c : A$
- an *atomic normal form* records *one* move qua one level of unfolding of a Böhm tree corresponding to an opponent strategy.

Initial state of transition system

If \mathcal{J} is a categorical (closed) judgment, then the initial state is

$$\langle \mathcal{J}, \emptyset \rangle$$

If \mathcal{J} is a hypothetical judgment, then the initial channel environment τ_Γ is obtained by replacing all variables in the context Γ by channels of appropriate types:

$$\langle \mathcal{J}, \tau_\Gamma \rangle$$

Final states for test of typing judgment

Final states correspond to introduction rules without premises
("axioms")

$$\langle \text{tt} : \mathbf{Bool}, \tau \rangle$$
$$\langle \text{ff} : \mathbf{Bool}, \tau \rangle$$
$$\langle 0 : \mathbf{N}, \tau \rangle$$
$$\langle \mathbf{Bool} : \mathbf{U}, \tau \rangle$$
$$\langle \mathbf{N} : \mathbf{U}, \tau \rangle$$

Transitions corresponding to introduction rules

Transitions corresponding to introduction rules with premises

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle s(a) : \mathbf{N}, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle a : \mathbf{N}, \tau \rangle \\
 \langle (a, b) : \Sigma AB, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle a : A, \tau \rangle \\
 \langle (a, b) : \Sigma AB, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle b : Ba, \tau \rangle \\
 \langle \lambda x. b : \Pi AB, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle b[x = c] : Bc, \tau \cup \{\vdash c : A\} \rangle \\
 \langle \Sigma AB : U, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle A : U, \tau \rangle \\
 \langle \Sigma AB : U, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle Bc : U, \tau \cup \{\vdash c : A\} \rangle \\
 \langle \Pi AB : U, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle A : U, \tau \rangle \\
 \langle \Pi AB : U, \tau \rangle &\longrightarrow \langle Bc : U, \tau \cup \{\vdash c : A\} \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

Transition from "generative evaluation"

Generative evaluation $\langle a, \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_2 \rangle$ combines computation of an expression a to canonical form v with instantiation of channels by extending the channel environment τ_1 to τ_2 . We have the rule

$$\frac{\langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle V, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle a, \tau_2 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_2 \rangle}{\langle a : A, \tau_1 \rangle \longrightarrow \langle v : V, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

- v is a canonical term former: outermost form is term constructor
- V is a canonical type former: outermost form is type constructor

Pure computation to canonical form

Pure computation to canonical form

$$\frac{a \Rightarrow v}{\langle a, \tau \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau \rangle}$$

Channel instantiation and generation in head contexts

Head contexts

$$HC[] ::= [] \mid [] a \mid \text{if} [] aa \mid \text{natrec} [] aa \mid \text{urec} [] aaaa$$

Using old instantiation $c = a' : \tau$

$$\frac{a \Rightarrow HC[c] \quad \langle HC[a'], \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_2 \rangle}{\langle a, \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_2 \rangle}$$

Creating new instantiation $c : A : \tau$ and $a' : ANF(\Gamma, V)$

$$\frac{a \Rightarrow HC[c] \quad \langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle V, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle HC[a'], \tau_2 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}{\langle a, \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

Atomic normal forms (opponent's moves)

- $tt, ff : ANF(\Gamma, \text{Bool})$.
- $0 : ANF(\Gamma, \mathbb{N}), s(c) : ANF(\Gamma, \mathbb{N})$, where $\Gamma \vdash c : \mathbb{N}$ is a new channel.
- $(c, d) : ANF(\Gamma, \Sigma AB)$ where $\Gamma \vdash c : A$ and $\Gamma \vdash d : B$ c are new channels.
- $\lambda x.c : ANF(\Gamma, \Pi AB)$, where $\Gamma, x : A \vdash c : B$ x is a new channel.
- $\text{Bool}, \mathbb{N} : ANF(\Gamma, \mathbb{U}), \Sigma cd, \Pi cd : ANF(\Gamma, \mathbb{U})$ where $c : \Gamma \vdash \mathbb{U}$ and $\Gamma \vdash d c : \mathbb{U}$ are new channels.

Atomic normal forms (neutral case)

- $C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[x_i : A_i] : ANF(\Gamma, B)$, where $x_i : A_i : \Gamma$.

We use a new auxiliary atomic normal form $C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A]$, which will expand to "neutral" atomic normal forms, when the the canonical form of the type A_i is determined.

Expansion of neutral terms for Bool, N, and U

$C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A]$ is an atomic normal form which depends on A and a .

$$\frac{\langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{Bool}, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle \text{if } a \ c \ d, \tau_2 \cup \{\Gamma \vdash c : B, \Gamma \vdash d : B\} \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}{\langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A], \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{N}, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle \text{natcase } a \ c \ d, \tau_2 \cup \{\Gamma \vdash c : B, \Gamma \vdash d : \text{N} \rightarrow B\} \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}{\langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A], \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \text{U}, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle \text{ucase } a \ c \ d \ e \ f, \tau_2 \cup \dots \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}{\langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A], \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

Expansion of neutral terms for Σ and Π

Σ :

$$\frac{\langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \Sigma DE, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[\text{fst } a : D], \tau_2 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}{\langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A], \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

$$\frac{\langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \Sigma DE, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[\text{snd } a : D(\text{fst } a)], \tau_2 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}{\langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A], \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

Π :

$$\frac{\langle A, \tau_1 \rangle \Rightarrow \langle \Pi DE, \tau_2 \rangle \quad \langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[ac : Ec], \tau_2 \cup \{c : \Gamma \vdash D\} \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}{\langle C_{\Gamma \vdash B}[a : A], \tau_1 \rangle \Longrightarrow \langle v, \tau_3 \rangle}$$

Summary

- The test manual determines the meaning of judgments, including equality judgments.
- Tests can corroborate or refute judgments.
- Tests with functional input leads us to games: input generation corresponds to playing opponent strategy.
- New interpretation of hypothetical judgments, type equality, and identity types.
- Rules of extensional type theory of Martin-Löf 1979 can be justified – work in progress to construct a game model of extensional type theory based on the test manual.