

Cubical
Adventures

Connor
McBride

expectation management

- **cubical**, regular, extensional, Canonical
- but not yet univalent
- 'proof-relevant Observational Type Theory'

mission — neutrality

between **U.I.P.** (and more aggressive proof-irrelevance)
and **Univalence** (and more aggressive proof-relevance)

bidirectional ~~relation~~ distraction

The places in a judgment are

inputs

subjects

outputs

bidirectional ~~religion~~ distraction

The places in a judgment are

- inputs ← client makes promises
- subjects ← rule establishes trust
- outputs ← server makes promises

A rule is a server for its conclusions
and a client for its premises.

sine qua non

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash} \quad \Gamma \vdash \Gamma \vdash * \Rightarrow S}{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma, x: S \vdash}}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash * \Rightarrow T} \quad e \in S \quad * \Rightarrow S = T}{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{e \in T}}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash *} \quad e \in S}{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash * \Rightarrow S}}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash} \quad * \Rightarrow T \quad T \ni t}{t: T \in \Gamma}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash} \quad \Gamma \vdash T' \ni t}{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{T \sim T'}}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash} \quad e \in S \quad S \sim S'}{e \in S'}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash} \quad x \in S}{\Gamma \vdash \boxed{x: S}}$$
$$\frac{}{t: T \sim t}$$
$$\boxed{S \sim t}$$

henceforth, write
 $\vdash x: \Sigma$, etc, for lookup
and write only context extensions
in rules

things (I) : functions

$$\frac{* \rightarrow S \quad x:S \vdash * \rightarrow T(x)}{* \ni \prod_{x:S} T(x)}$$
$$-\frac{x:S \vdash T(x) \quad x \vdash t(x)}{\prod_{x:S} T(x) \ni \lambda x. t(x)}$$
$$-\frac{f \in \prod_{x:S} T(x) \quad S \ni s}{f s \in T(s:S)}$$

$$(\lambda x. t(x) : \prod_{x:S} T(x)) \quad S \rightsquigarrow^{\beta} t(s:S) : T(s:S)$$

watch out for the types at which computation is active

$$\frac{x:S \vdash T(x) \quad (t_0:\sim)x = (t_i:\sim)x}{\prod_{x:S} T(x) \ni t_0 = t_i}$$

Things (II) : tuples

$$\frac{* \rightarrow S \quad x:S \vdash * \rightarrow T(x)}{* \rightarrow \sum x:S. T(x)}$$

$$\frac{S \ni s \quad T(s:S) \rightarrow t}{\sum x:S. T(x) \rightarrow s, t}$$

$$\frac{e \in \sum x:S. T(x) \quad e \in \sum x:S. T(x)}{e \text{ car } \in S \quad e \text{ cdr } \in T(e \text{ car})}$$

$$(S, t : \sum x:S. T(x)) \quad \text{car} \rightsquigarrow \beta \quad t : T(s:S)$$

$$\frac{S \ni (t_0:_) \text{ car} = (t_1:_) \quad T(_) \ni (t_0:_) \text{ cdr} = (t_1:_) \text{ cdr}}{\sum x:S. T(x) \ni t_0 = t_1}$$

form

infr

elim

R

n

$$* \ni 1$$

$$1 \ni *$$

points

$$\Gamma \vdash \boxed{\Gamma \vdash P}$$

dimensions

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash}{\Gamma, i \vdash} \frac{\neg i}{P \vdash i}$$

endpoints

$$\frac{\neg i}{P \vdash P} \quad \frac{P \vdash 0}{P \vdash 1}$$

$$\frac{P \vdash P}{P \vdash P_0 \rightarrow P_1}$$

affine rescaling ('mix')

$$\frac{P \vdash P \quad \nabla_i \vdash P_i}{P \vdash P(P_0 - P_1)}$$

' ∇_i ' means 'for $i=0$ and $i=1$ '

normal forms are reduced ordered binary decision diagrams

no redundant tests

test each dimension in order from Γ

test only dimensions

$$\text{so } \nabla_i \vdash (P_0 - P_1) = P_i \quad \text{and} \quad P'(P - P) = P$$

(these are not Thierry's de Morgan algebras)

paths (one dimensional)

$$\frac{i \vdash * \rightarrow T(i) \quad \nabla i \vdash T(i) \rightarrow t_i}{* \ni [i.T(i)] t_o - t_1}$$

$$\frac{i \vdash T(i) \rightarrow t(i) \quad \nabla i \vdash T(i) \rightarrow t_i = t(i)}{[i.T(i)] t_o - t_1 \ni \langle i \rangle t(i)}$$

A diagram showing a path from 0 to 1. The path starts at 0, goes up to a point labeled t_o , then right to a point labeled $T(i)$, then up to a point labeled t_1 , and finally right to 1. The segments between t_o and $T(i)$, and between $T(i)$ and t_1 are highlighted in blue. The segments between 0 and t_o , and between t_1 and 1 are dashed.

$$0 \dots \overset{\text{---}}{\underset{\text{---}}{\dots}} i \dots \overset{\text{---}}{\underset{\text{---}}{\dots}} 1$$

$$t_o \xrightarrow{T(i)} t_1$$

$$= \quad \Downarrow$$

$$t(o) \xrightarrow{t(i)} t(j)$$

$$\xrightarrow{p} t(p)$$

$$\frac{e \in [i.T(i)] t_o - t_1 \quad p \vdash p}{e \in \frac{p \in T(p)}{e \in T(p)}}$$

$$(i \triangleright t(i)) : ([i.T(i)] t_o - t_1) \quad p \rightsquigarrow p \quad t(p) : T(p)$$

moreover, if $e \in [i.T(i)] t_o - t_1$, then $\nabla i \vdash e \rightsquigarrow t_i$

write, e.g., $\langle i \triangleright p \rangle t(i)$ for $\langle i \rangle t(i(p-p))$, i.e. select a sub-path

digression (I): extensionality

given $\nabla_i \vdash f_i \in \Pi_{x:S} T(x)$
 $f \in \Pi_{x:S} [_. T(x)] f_\circ x - f_i x$

find $[_. \Pi_{x:S} T(x)] f_\circ - f_i$
 $\ni \langle i \rangle \lambda x. f x^i$
 $(\text{because } \nabla_i \vdash \dots \ni \lambda x. f x^i = \lambda x. f_i x = f_i)$

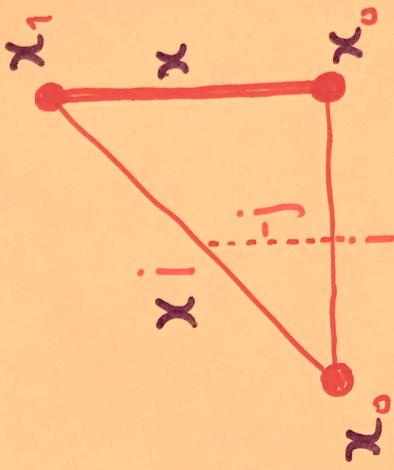
digression (II): contractibility of singletons

given $\nabla_i \vdash x_i \in T$

$x \in [x_i, T] x_o - x_i$

find $[x_i, \sum y : T, [x_o - y]] (x_o, \langle \rangle x_o) - (x_i, x)$

$\ni \langle \rangle x^i, \langle j \rangle 0^{-i} \rangle x^j$



transportation



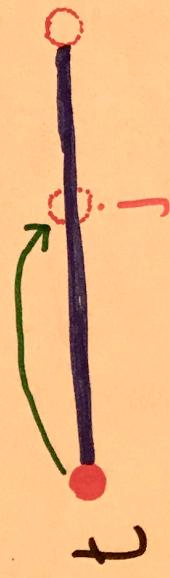
$$\frac{i \mapsto T(i) \quad T(0) \mapsto t}{t [i.T(i)] \in T(1)} \quad t [-.T] \rightsquigarrow t : T$$

"regularity"

$$\begin{aligned} & [j.T(j)]t - (t [i.T(i)]) \\ & \Rightarrow \langle j \rangle t [i 0 - j.T(i)] \end{aligned}$$

note

but ~~how~~ when
does this compute?



computation and canonicity

X blah blah blah

free variable = excuse for not being Canonical

$$e^{(i(p_0 - p_1))}$$

free dimension \neq excuse for not being Canonical

for why is $e \not\in \langle j \rangle t(i)$?

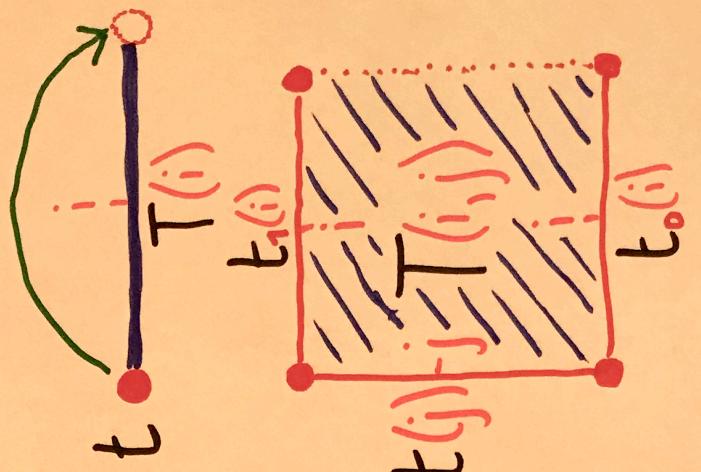
in fact, a free dimension increases demand for Canonicity
and transportation { must deliver } this fact
may exploit

transportation and Canonicity

with only free dimensions ...

$$t [i \cdot T(i)]$$

must be canonical, e.g.,
 $(\langle j \rangle t(j)) [i \cdot [j \cdot T(i,j)]] t_o(i) - t_1(i)$



must be canonical, e.g., ...

we must understand transportation in arbitrary dimensions

∇ , or how to think in n dimensions without really trying

$$\frac{\bar{t} \vdash * \rightarrow T(\bar{i}) \quad \nabla_{\bar{t}} \vdash T(\bar{i}) \rightarrow \bar{t}(\bar{i})}{* \rightarrow [\bar{i} \cdot T(\bar{i})] \bar{t}(\bar{i})}$$

“on the surface of \bar{t} ”
a vector of n pairs
of opposed faces,
each with
 $n-1$ dimensions

an n -fold iterated path type,

$$[\langle i_0, \dots, i_{n-1} \rangle t_o([i_0, \dots, i_{n-2}]) - t_1^{n-1}(i_0, \dots, i_{n-2}) \dots \\ [\langle i_2, \dots, i_{n-1} \rangle t_o([i_0, \dots, i_{n-1}]) - \langle i_2, \dots, i_{n-1} \rangle t_1(i_0, \dots, i_{n-1}) \\] [\langle i_1, \dots, i_{n-1} \rangle t_o([i_1, \dots, i_{n-1}]) - \langle i_1, \dots, i_{n-1} \rangle t_1(i_1, \dots, i_{n-1})]$$

really
trying

“interior t
meets surface \bar{t} ”

$$\frac{\bar{t} \vdash T(\bar{i}) \rightarrow t(\bar{i}) \quad \nabla_{\bar{t}} \vdash T(\bar{i}) \rightarrow \bar{t}(\bar{i}) \leftarrow t(\bar{i})}{[\bar{i} \cdot T(\bar{i})] \bar{t}(\bar{i}) \rightarrow \langle \bar{i} \rangle t(\bar{i})}$$

∇ -judgments

$$\bar{t} \vdash * \rightarrow T(\bar{t}) \quad \boxed{\nabla \bar{t} \vdash T(\bar{t}) \rightarrow \bar{T}(\bar{t})}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \text{faces} \leftarrow \bar{j} \vdash T(0, j) \rightarrow t_o(j) \\ \text{tube} \leftarrow i \vdash \nabla \bar{j} \vdash T(i, j) \rightarrow \bar{t}(i)(j) \\ \text{meshing} \leftarrow \nabla \bar{j} \vdash T(0, \bar{j}) \rightarrow \bar{E}(0)(\bar{j}) \Leftarrow t_o(j) \\ \hline \end{array}}{\nabla_{i, j} \vdash T(i, j) \rightarrow t_o(j) - t_1(j)} \quad \frac{\begin{array}{c} \bar{j} \vdash T(1, j) \rightarrow t_1(j) \\ \bar{j} \vdash T(1, \bar{j}) \rightarrow \bar{t}(1)(\bar{j}) \\ \nabla \bar{j} \vdash T(1, j) \rightarrow \bar{E}(1)(j) \Leftarrow t_1(j) \\ \hline \end{array}}{\nabla \bar{i}, \bar{j} \vdash T(\bar{i}, \bar{j}) \rightarrow t_o(\bar{j}) - t_1(\bar{j})}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \bar{i} \vdash T(\bar{i}) \rightarrow \bar{t}(\bar{i}) \Leftarrow t(\bar{i})}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \bar{i} \vdash T(\bar{i}) \rightarrow \bar{t}(\bar{i}) \Rightarrow \bar{E}(\bar{i}) \Leftarrow t(\bar{i})}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \bar{i} \vdash T(\bar{i}) \rightarrow \bar{t}(\bar{i}) \Leftarrow t(\bar{i})}$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \bar{j} \vdash T(0, j) \rightarrow t_o(j) = t(0, j) \\ \bar{j} \vdash T(1, j) \rightarrow t_1(j) = t(1, j) \\ i \vdash \nabla \bar{j} \vdash T(i, j) \rightarrow \bar{t}(i)(j) \Leftarrow t(i, j) \\ \hline \end{array}}{\nabla_{i, j} \vdash T(i, j) \rightarrow t_o(j) - t_1(j), \bar{t}(i)(j) \Leftarrow t(i, j)}$$

$$\boxed{\nabla \vdash T \Leftarrow t}$$

$(n+1)$ -dimensional transportation

$$i, \bar{j} \vdash * \rightarrow T(i, \bar{j}) \quad \bar{j} \vdash T(0, \bar{j}) \ni t_0(\bar{j})$$

'typespace'
'start' or 'base'

$$i \vdash \nabla \bar{j} \vdash T(i, \bar{j}) \ni \bar{E}(i)(\bar{j})$$

'tube' or 'sides'

$pT \bar{p}$ ← coordinates on 'end' or 'lid'

$$i \vdash \nabla \bar{j} \vdash T(0, \bar{j}) \ni \bar{T}(0)(\bar{j})$$

'start'
← the encloses start

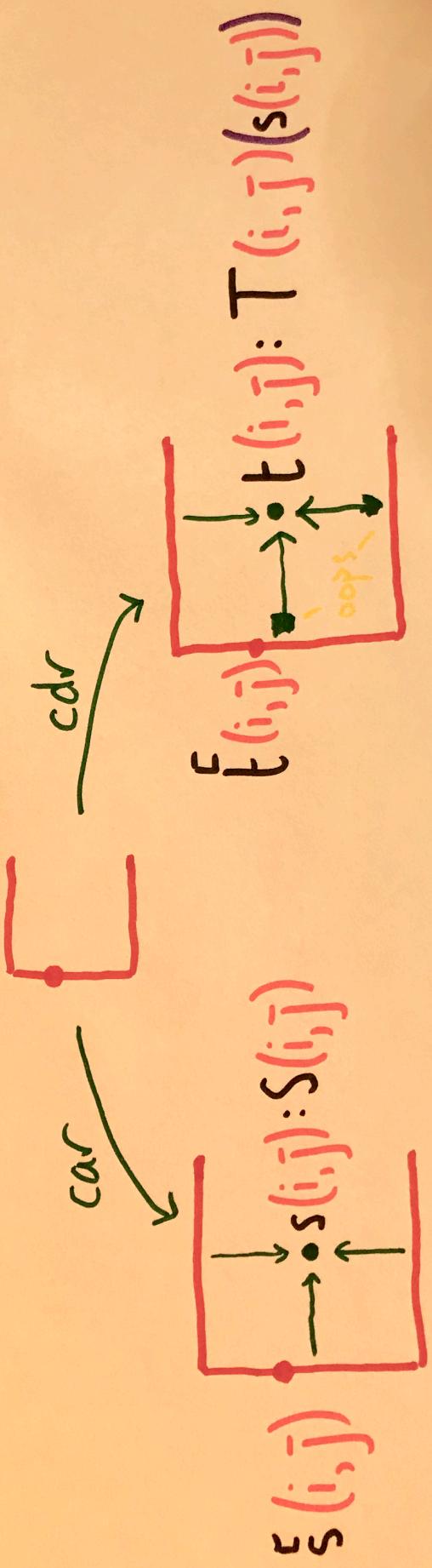
$$\underbrace{t_0(\bar{j}), \bar{E}(i)(\bar{j})}_{\text{'box'}}, \underbrace{\bar{T}(i, \bar{j})}_{\bar{E}(i, \bar{j})} \ni \bar{p} \in T(1, \bar{p})$$

← everything
in sight is
a T

for such a box, define its gathering
■ $\bar{E}(i, \bar{j}) = \bar{E}(i, \bar{j}) [i, 0^{-1}. \bar{j}, T(i, \bar{j})] \bar{j} \in T(i, \bar{j})$

in covariant positions, gather

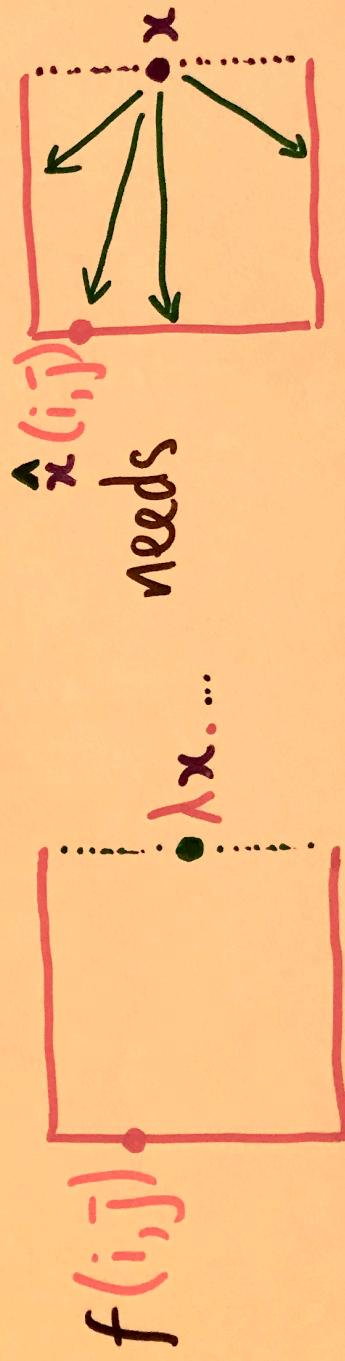
$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\Sigma_{S(i,\bar{j})}, T(i,\bar{j}) \right) [i,\bar{j}] \cdot \sum_{x:S(i,\bar{j})} T(i,\bar{j})(x) \rangle \bar{j} \\ &= S(i,\bar{j}), T(i,\bar{j}) : \sum_{x:S(i,\bar{j})} T(i,\bar{j})(x) \\ & \quad \text{where } T(i,\bar{j}) \text{ is a box for } T(i,\bar{j})(s(i,\bar{j})) \end{aligned}$$



in contravariant positions, scatter

$$\begin{aligned} & (\lambda x. t(i, \bar{j})(x)) [i, \bar{j}] . \prod x : S(i, \bar{j}) . T(i, \bar{j})(x) \rangle \\ & = \lambda x. t(i, \bar{j})(\hat{x}(i, \bar{j})) [i, \bar{j}] . T(i, \bar{j})(\hat{x}(i, \bar{j})) \rangle \\ & : \prod x : S(1, \bar{j}) . T(1, \bar{j})(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } \hat{x}(i', \bar{j}') = x [k. S(k(1, \bar{j}' - i', \bar{j}'))]$$

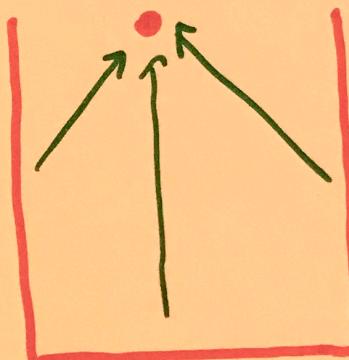


this is pretty much Observational Type Theory

BUT without destroying higher structure

$\text{coerce} \rightarrow$

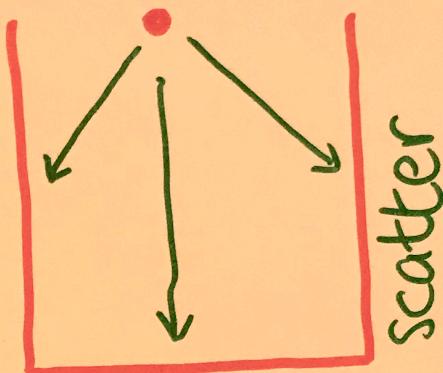
becomes



gather

$\text{coerce}^{-1} \leftarrow$

contravariant



scatter

covariant

but Canonical transport is as before

at the crossroads

- so far, it happens that a Canonical box is uniform

we could

- insist on uniformity

- deduce a path from its ends

- impose proof-irrelevance

or we could

- break uniformity, e.g. with Univalence

- figure out how to compute with connected BDDs of Types and values

Cubical Adventures

Introduces the concept of *dimensions* in type theory, distinguishing between *free* and *bound* variables.

A rule is a *function* for its conclusions and a *client* for its premises.

Things (I) functions:

$$\frac{x : S \quad x = T(x)}{x : S \vdash T(x)} \quad \frac{x : S \quad T(x) = t_0}{T(x) \vdash T(t_0)}$$

$$\frac{x : S \quad T(x) = t_0}{T(x) \vdash T(t_0)} \quad \frac{x : S \quad T(x) = t_1}{T(x) \vdash T(t_1)}$$

$$(x : S, T(x) : T(x)) \vdash T(x) = T(x)$$

$$\frac{(x : S, T(x) : T(x)) \vdash T(x) = T(x)}{(x : S, T(x) : T(x)) \vdash (t_0, t_1) = (t_0, t_1)}$$

$$\frac{(x : S, T(x) : T(x)) \vdash (t_0, t_1) = (t_0, t_1)}{(x : S, T(x) : T(x)) \vdash t_0 = t_1}$$

Things (II) tuples:

$$\frac{x : S \quad x = S}{x : S \times S \quad x = (x_0, x_1)}$$

$$\frac{x : S \quad x = S}{x : S \times S \quad x = (x_0, x_1)}$$

$$\frac{x : S \quad x = S}{x : S \times S \quad x = (x_0, x_1)}$$

$$\frac{x : S \quad x = S}{x : S \times S \quad x = (x_0, x_1)}$$

$$(s.t. : \sum_{x:S} T(x)) \vdash T(s.t.) = \sum_{x:S} T(x)$$

$$S \times (t_0 = t_1) \vdash T(t_0) = T(t_1)$$

$$S \times (t_0 = t_1) \vdash t_0 = t_1$$

points:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 = t_1}{\Gamma \vdash t_0 = t_1}$$

dimensions:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t_0 = t_1}{\Gamma \vdash t_0 = t_1}$$

normal forms are reduced ordered binary decision diagrams (no redundant tests):

so $\nabla_i \vdash (p_i \cdot p_j) = p_i$ and $p_i(p_i \cdot p_j) = p_i$ (these are not Thue's de Morgan algebras)

Paths (one dimensional):

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \quad \nabla \vdash T(i) \Rightarrow t_0}{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \vdash t_0}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \vdash t_0}{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \vdash t_0}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \vdash t_0 \quad \nabla \vdash T(i) \Rightarrow t_1}{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \vdash t_0 \vdash t_1}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \vdash t_0 \vdash t_1}{\Gamma \vdash T(i) \vdash t_0 \vdash t_1}$$

$$\frac{e \in [i, T(i)] \vdash t_0 \quad p \in P}{e \vdash T(p) \quad ((i \vdash t_0) : [i, T(i)] \vdash t_0) \vdash p \rightsquigarrow t_0 : T(p)}$$

Moreover, if $e \in [i, T(i)] \vdash t_0$, then $\nabla \vdash e \rightsquigarrow t_0$.

Write, e.g., $(i \vdash t_0) \vdash t_0$ for $(i \vdash (p_i \cdot p_j)) \vdash t_0$, i.e. select a sub-path

digression (I): extensivity

given $\nabla \vdash f_i \in \prod_{x:S} T(x)$

$$f \in \prod_{x:S} [\ldots, T(x)]_f x = f_i$$

find $\prod_{x:S} T(x) f_i = f$

$$\Rightarrow (\exists x. f_i x) = f$$

(because $\nabla \vdash \dots \lambda x. f_i x = \lambda x. f x = f$)

digression (II): contractibility of singletons

given $\nabla \vdash x_i \in T$

$$x \in [i, T] x_i = x_i$$

find $\prod_{x:S} [\ldots, T] x_i = y$

$$\Rightarrow (\exists x. x_i = y) \wedge (\forall x. x_i = x)$$

∇ -judgments:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(c) \quad \nabla \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow t_0}{\Gamma \vdash T(c) \vdash t_0}$$

$$\frac{\text{face}}{\Gamma \vdash T(i,j) \Rightarrow t_{i,j}}$$

$$\frac{\text{tube}}{\Gamma \vdash \nabla_j \vdash T(i,j) \Rightarrow E(N)}$$

$$\frac{\text{meeting}}{\Gamma \vdash \nabla_j \vdash T(i,j) \Rightarrow E(N) \wedge t_{i,j} \vdash T(i,j) \Rightarrow E(N) \wedge t_{i,j}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(c)}{\Gamma \vdash \nabla \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow E(c)}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(c) \quad \nabla \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow E(c) \quad \Gamma \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow L(c)}{\Gamma \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow L(c) \Leftarrow c}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(c)}{\Gamma \vdash \nabla \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow L(c) \Leftarrow c}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow L(c) \Leftarrow c}{\Gamma \vdash \nabla \vdash T(c) \Rightarrow L(c) \vdash L(c) \Leftarrow c}$$

at the crossroads

- so far, it happens that a Canonical box is uniform
- we could
 - insist on uniformity
 - deduce a path from its ends
 - impose proof-irrelevance
- or we could
 - break uniformity, e.g. with Univalence
 - figure out how to compute with connected boxes of Types and values