

HoTTLean: Semantics of HoTT in Lean

by S. Awodey, M. Carneiro, S. Hazratpour, J. Hua, W. Nawrocki, S. Rong, S. Woolfson, Y. Xu

[Blueprint \(PDF\)](#)

[Blueprint \(web\)](#)

[Documentation](#)

[GitHub](#)

HoTTLean is maintained by the HoTTLean team. Visit the [GitHub repository](#) for more information.

HOTT Lean

Semantics of HOTT in Lean

HOTT Lean

~~Semantics of HOTT in Lean~~

A proof assistant for HOTT based on Lean, with integrated translation of synthetic proofs into analytic ones.

1) What is HoTT?

See my CST talk from 28.1.26!

HoTT is MLTT with:

- $\Pi, \Sigma, \text{Id}, \mathcal{U}_0, \mathcal{U}_1, \dots$
- Inductive types $\mathbb{N}, A+B, W_A B, \dots$
- HITs: $X/\sim, S^n, \|X\|_n, \dots$
- Univalence:

$$(A=B) \simeq (A \simeq B) .$$

1) What is HoTT?

See my CST talk from 28.1.26!

HoTT is MLTT with:

Standard
MLTT

- $\Pi, \Sigma, \text{Id}, \mathcal{U}_0, \mathcal{U}_1, \dots$
- Inductive types $\mathbb{N}, A+B, W_A B, \dots$

Motivated
by

- HITs: $X/\sim, S^n, \|X\|_n, \dots$
- Univalence:

$$(A = B) \simeq (A \simeq B) .$$

HoTT admits an interpretation
into abstract homotopy theory
& ∞ -Topos theory.

1) What is HoTT?

See my CST talk from 28.1.26!

HoTT is MLTT with:

Standard
MLTT

- $\Pi, \Sigma, \text{Id}, \mathcal{U}_0, \mathcal{U}_1, \dots$
- Inductive types $\mathbb{N}, A+B, W_A B, \dots$

Motivated
by

- HITs: $X/\sim, S^n, \|X\|_n, \dots$
- Univalence:

$$(A = B) \simeq (A \simeq B) .$$

Permits

HoTT admits an interpretation
into abstract homotopy theory
& ∞ -Topos theory.

HoTT can be used as a DSL for
"higher maths" to formalize results
in proof assistants based on MLTT
like Coq, Agda, Lean.

2) Previous implementations of HoTT

- Voevodsky's UniMath Library in Coq
Univalence Axiom, type : type, no HITs
- Subsequent / parallel libraries:
Coq/Req, Agda, Agda-UniMath
- Cubical Agda: Computes w/UA,
synthetic homotopy theory
- Lean 2, 3, 4: each more
challenging than the last!

3) Why do HoTT in Lean?

- Provide access to higher math via synthetic methods: use Lean to formalize results in homotopy theory directly, w/o going via $sSets$, etc.
- Provide univalence in Lean, e.g. for algebraic structures via the Structure Identity Principle.
- Use Lean's infrastructure & tools in HoTT formalizations.
- Integrate results from MathLib into HoTT formalizations.
- Conversely, use HoTT to produce "classical" results that can go into MathLib.

4) Difficulties of using "Cold Lean" to do HoTT.

- Main issue is Lean's treatment of equality $x=y$:

• Equality reflection:
Ext. MLTT

$$\frac{x=y}{x \equiv y}$$

• Proof irrelevance:
Prop

$$\frac{P, q : x=y}{P=q}$$

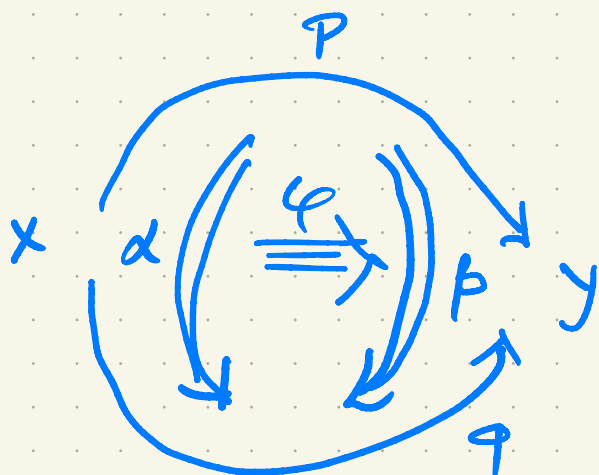
• Definitional Proof irrelevance:
Lean

$$\frac{P, q : x=y}{P \equiv q}$$

• Intensional:
MLTT
Agda

$$\frac{P, q : x=y}{? : P=q}$$

• HoTT :



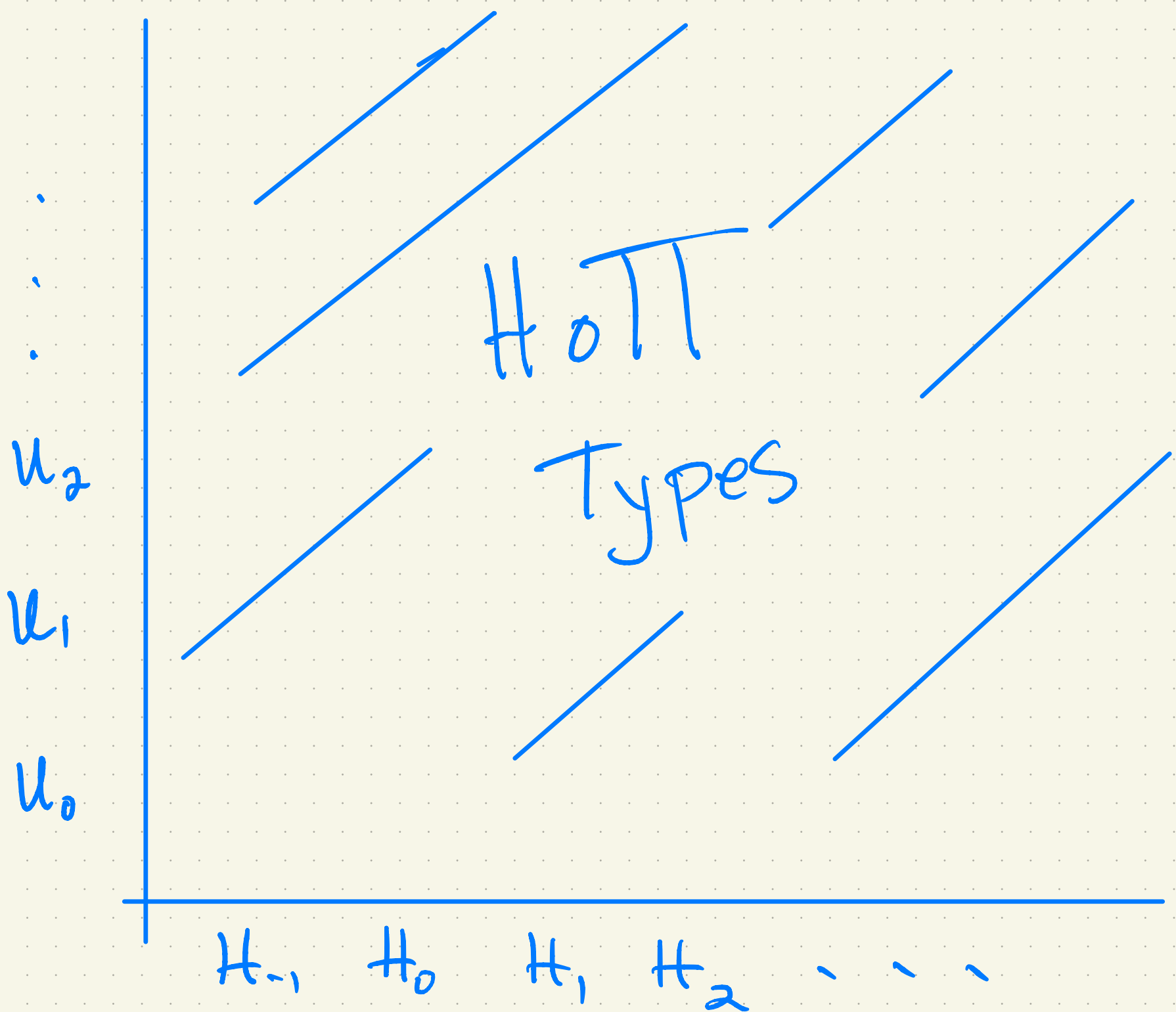
$$\frac{P, q : x=y}{\alpha, \beta : P=q}$$

$$\frac{}{\varphi, \psi : \alpha = \beta}$$

• • •

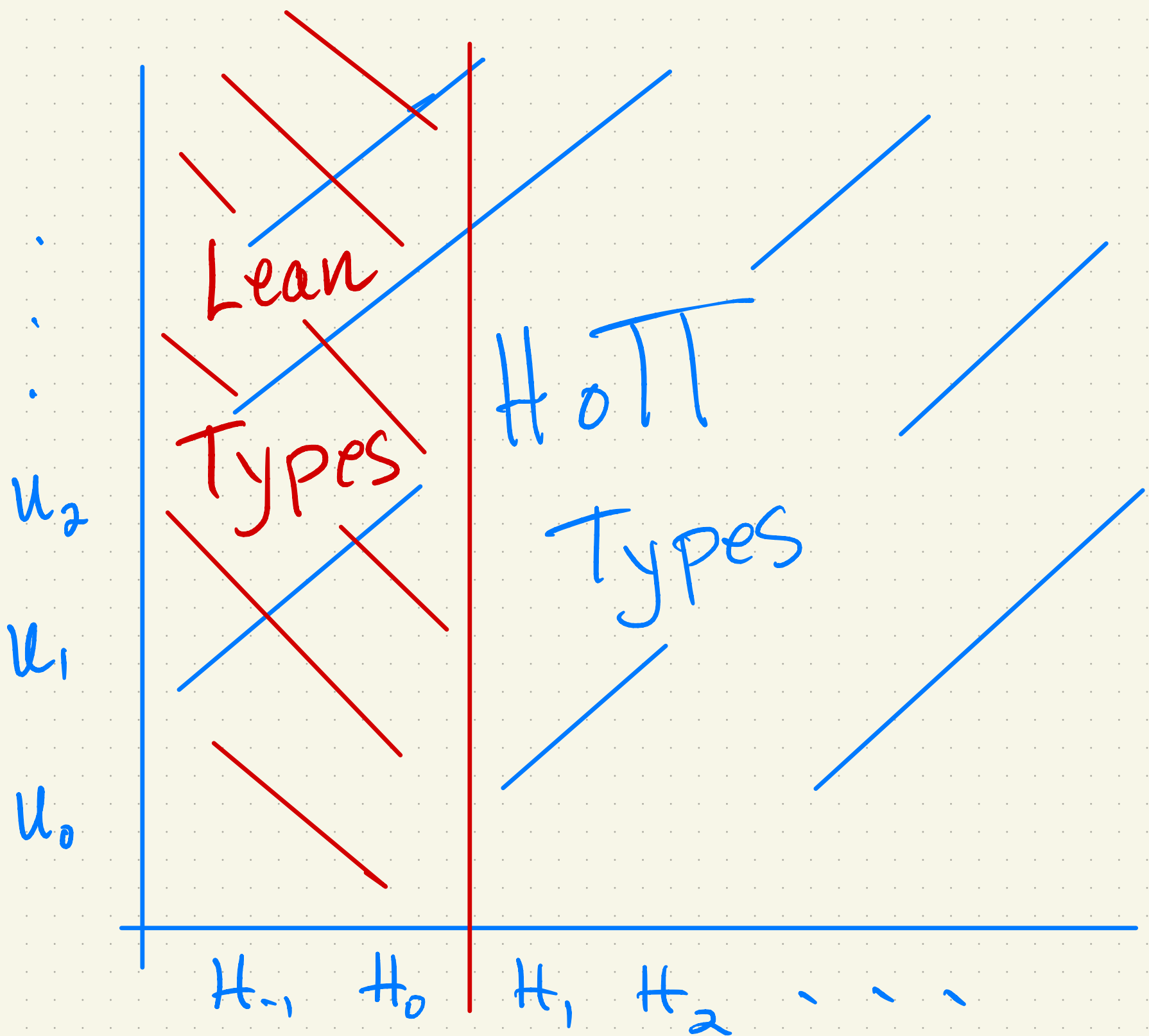
4) Difficulties of using "Cold Lean" to do HoTT.

- But also the classical logic built into Lean & MathLib is incompatible with univalence for higher types.
- No higher types means no synthetic homotopy theory.



4) Difficulties of using "Cold Lean" to do HoTT.

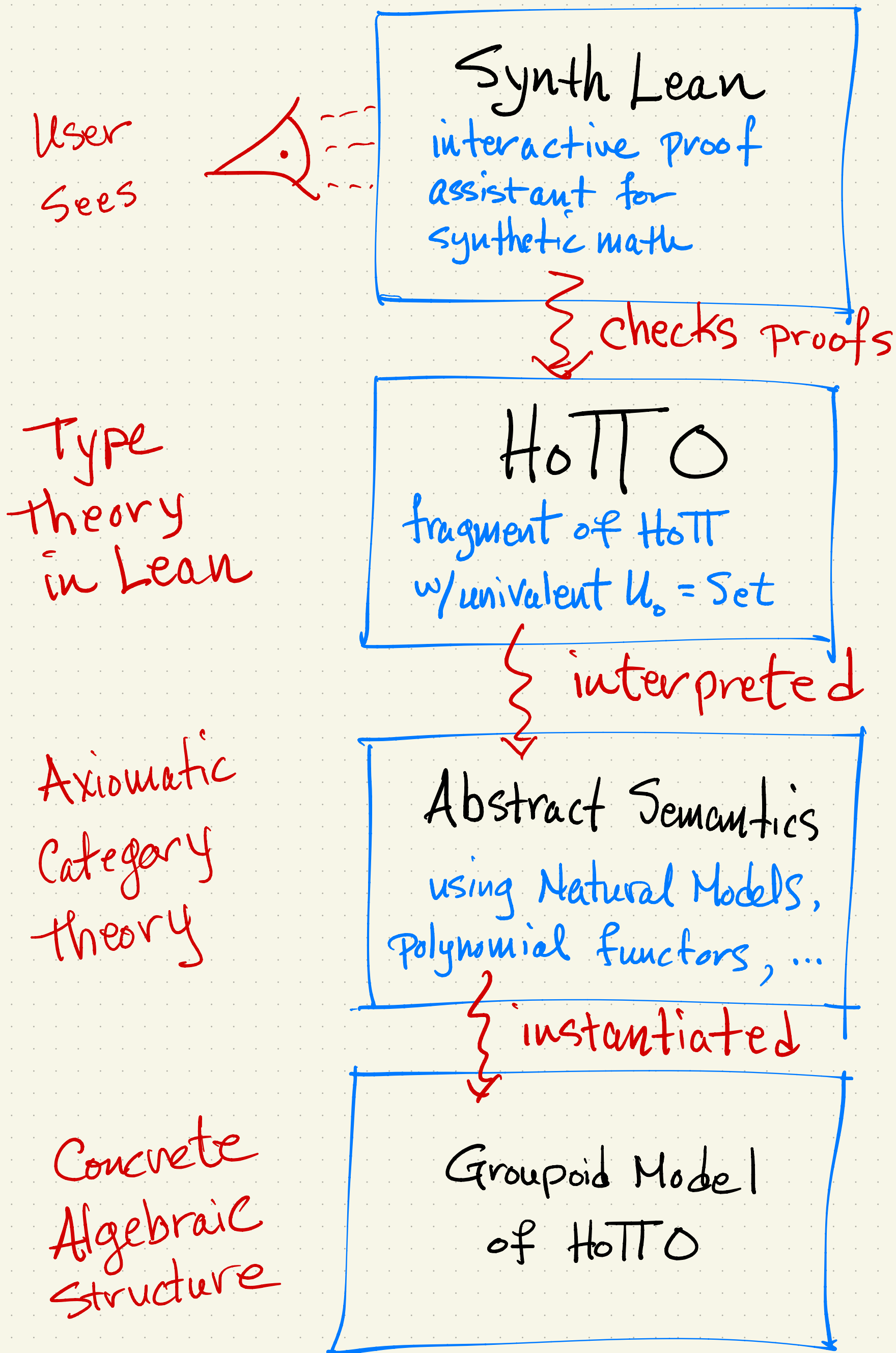
- But also the classical logic built into Lean & MathLib is incompatible with univalence for higher types.
- No higher types means no synthetic homotopy theory.



5) The HoTT Lean Approach

- (i) Formalize a model of HoTT in Lean:
the Hofmann-Streicher Groupoid Model
- (ii) Translate HoTT types & terms into it & use Lean to reason about the translation.
- (iii) Deep embedding of HoTT into Lean.
- (iv) Uses HoTT as a Domain Specific Language for the Groupoid model.
- (v) HoTT proofs can use synthetic methods.
- (iv) Their translations into the model are analytic results that can be integrated into MathLib.

6) Overview of HoTT Lean



7) Synth Lean

Wojciech's talk
next week!

8) HoTT 0 Type Theory

- MLTT w/ finitely many universes

$U_0 : U_1 : \dots : U_n$ (not cumulative)

- Each U_i has Σ, Π, Id (for now...)

- Axioms:

- FunExt (globally)
- UA for each subuniverse

$$\text{Sets}_0 \subseteq U_0$$

$$\text{Sets}_1 \subseteq U_1$$

...

$$\text{Sets}_n \subseteq U_n$$

- Implies the Structure Identity Principle for all set-based algebraic structures.

E.g. for Groups G, H :

$$G \cong H \Rightarrow G = H$$

9) Natural Model Semantics

- Uses presheaf categories

$$[C + X^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]$$

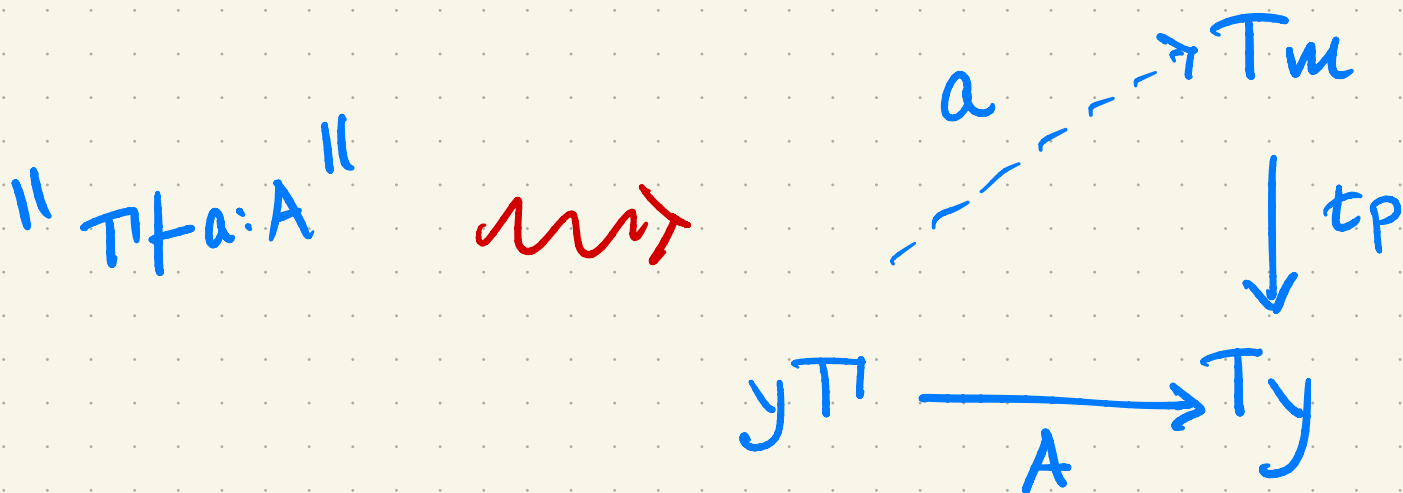
- with natural transformations

$$t_p: T_M \rightarrow T_Y$$

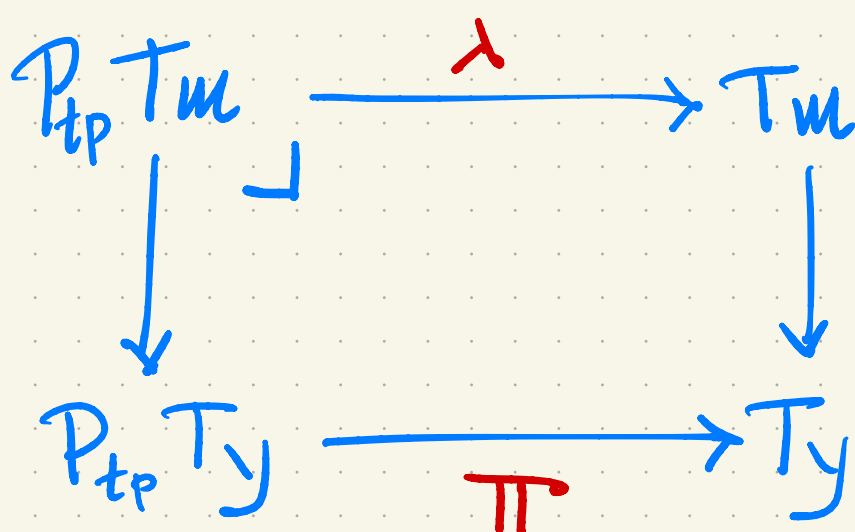
- determining polynomial functors

$$P_{t_p}(X) = \sum_{A: T_Y} X^A$$

- to axiomatize the semantics of types & terms:



- and the type formers λ, π, Id :



10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT

- Category of "Contexts & Substitutions":

$$\text{Ctx} \quad h: G \rightarrow H \quad \text{Gpd}$$

- Universal family of types:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Tm} & = & \text{Gpd}^* & \text{gpd of pt.d gpds} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ \text{Ty} & = & \text{Gpd} & \text{gpd of gpds} \end{array}$$

10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT

- Category of "Contexts & Substitutions":

$$\text{Ctx} \quad h: G \rightarrow H \quad \text{Gpd} \quad \text{GPD}$$

- Universal family of types:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Term} = \text{Gpd}^* & \text{gpd of } \overset{\text{small}}{\wedge} \text{ pt.d gpd's} & \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \\ \text{Ty} = \text{Gpd} & \text{gpd of } \overset{\text{small}}{\wedge} \text{ gpd's} & \end{array}$$

- Dependent types & terms:

$$\Pi \vdash A \text{ type} \quad \Pi \xrightarrow[A]{} \text{Gpd}$$

10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT

- Category of "Contexts & Substitutions":

$$\text{Ctx} \quad h: G \longrightarrow H \quad \text{Gpd} \quad \text{GPD}$$

- Universal family of types:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Tm} = \text{Gpd}^* & \text{gpd of } \overset{\text{small}}{\wedge} \text{ pt.d gpd's} & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Ty} = \text{Gpd} & \text{gpd of } \overset{\text{small}}{\wedge} \text{ gpd's} & \end{array}$$

- Dependent types & terms:

$$\Pi \vdash a: A \text{ type}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \overset{a}{\dashrightarrow} & \text{Gpd}^* \\ \Pi & \xrightarrow{A} & \text{Gpd} \\ & & \downarrow \end{array}$$

- Substitution $\sigma: \Delta \longrightarrow \Pi$:

$$\Delta \vdash a[\sigma]: A[\sigma]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & \text{Gpd}^* \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ \Delta & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \Pi & \xrightarrow{A} & \text{Gpd} \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & \text{Gpd}^* \end{array}$$

$\overset{a[\sigma]}{\curvearrowright}$ (red arrow from Δ to Gpd^*)
 $\underset{A[\sigma]}{\curvearrowright}$ (red arrow from Δ to Gpd)
 $\overset{a}{\rightarrow}$ (blue arrow from Π to Gpd^*)

10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT

- Category of "Contexts & Substitutions":

$$\text{Ctx} \quad h: G \longrightarrow H \quad \text{Gpd} \quad \text{GPD}$$

- Universal family of types:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Tm} = \text{Gpd}^* & \text{gpd of } \overset{\text{small}}{\wedge} \text{ pt.d gpd's} & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Ty} = \text{Gpd} & \text{gpd of } \overset{\text{small}}{\wedge} \text{ gpd's} & \end{array}$$

- Dependent types & terms:

$$\Pi \vdash a: A \text{ type}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \overset{a}{\dashrightarrow} & \text{Gpd}^* \\ \Pi & \xrightarrow{A} & \text{Gpd} \\ & & \downarrow \end{array}$$

- Substitution $\sigma: \Delta \longrightarrow \Pi$:

$$\Delta \vdash a[\sigma]: A[\sigma]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & \text{Gpd}^* \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ \Delta & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \Pi & \xrightarrow{A} & \text{Gpd} \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & \text{Gpd} \end{array}$$

$a[\sigma]$ (red arrow from Δ to Gpd^*)
 a (blue arrow from Π to Gpd^*)
 A (blue arrow from Π to Gpd)
 $A[\sigma]$ (red arrow from Δ to Gpd)

N.B.:

$$A[\sigma][\tau] \equiv A[\sigma[\tau]]$$

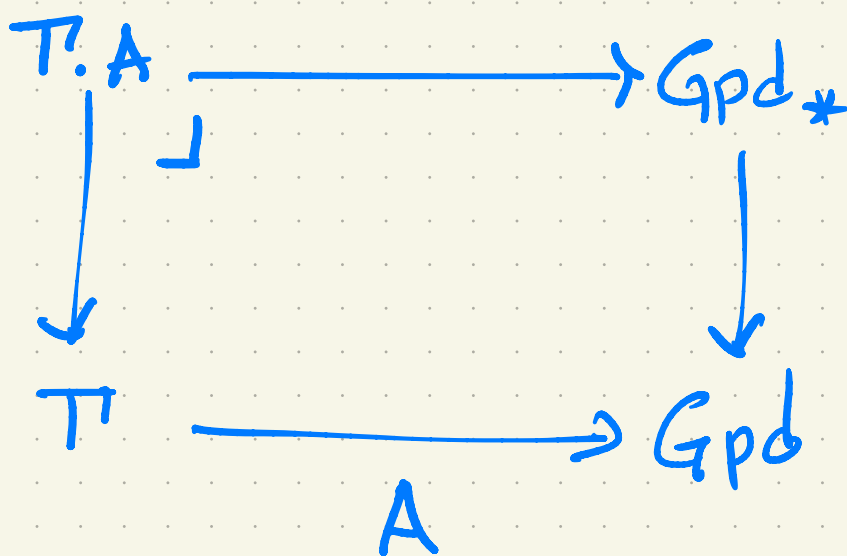
etc.

10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT

• Context extension:

$$\frac{\Pi \vdash A \text{ type}}{\Pi.A \rightarrow \Pi}$$

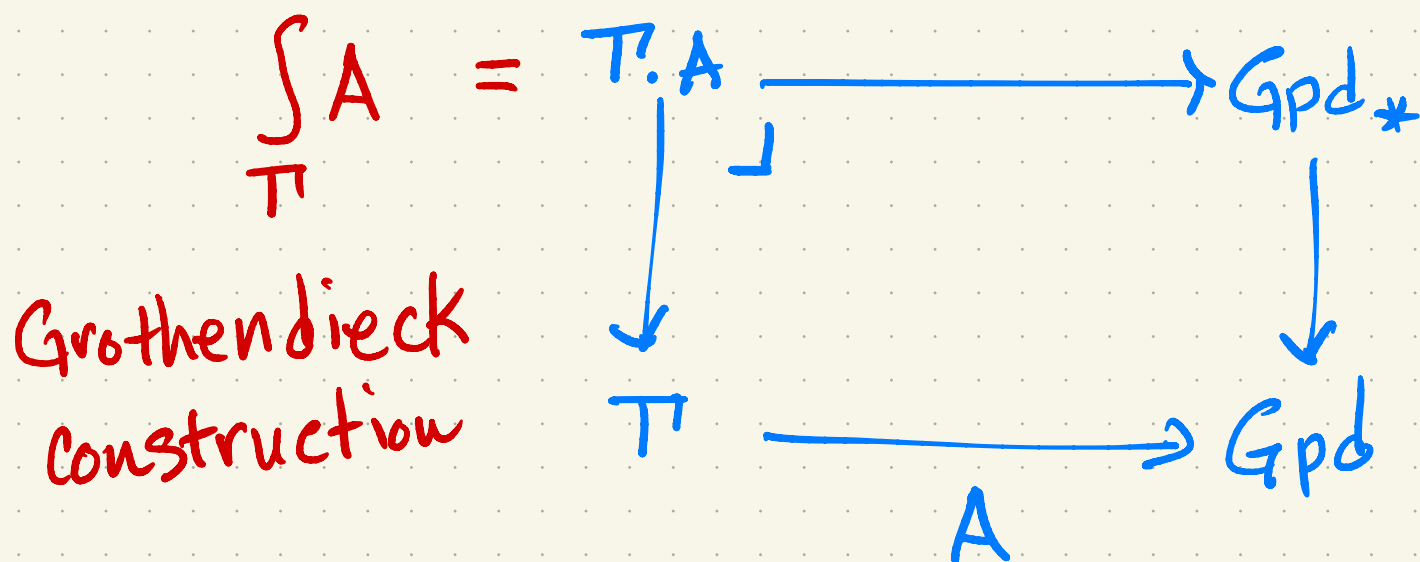
is modeled by pull back:



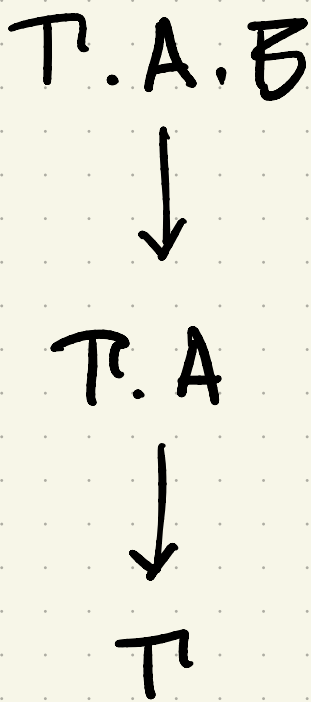
10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT0

• Context extension:
$$\frac{\Pi \vdash A \text{ type}}{\Pi.A \rightarrow \Pi}$$

is modeled by pull back:



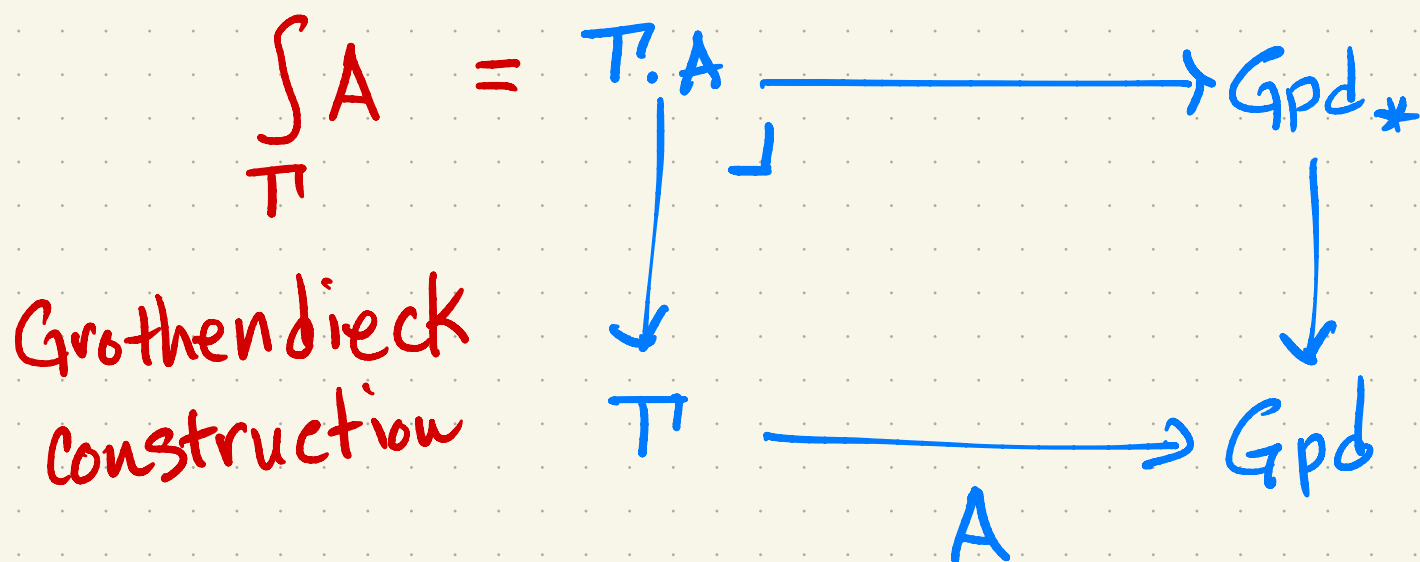
• Type formers Σ , Π :



10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT0

- Context extension:
$$\frac{\Pi \vdash A \text{ type}}{\Pi.A \rightarrow \Pi}$$

is modeled by pullback:



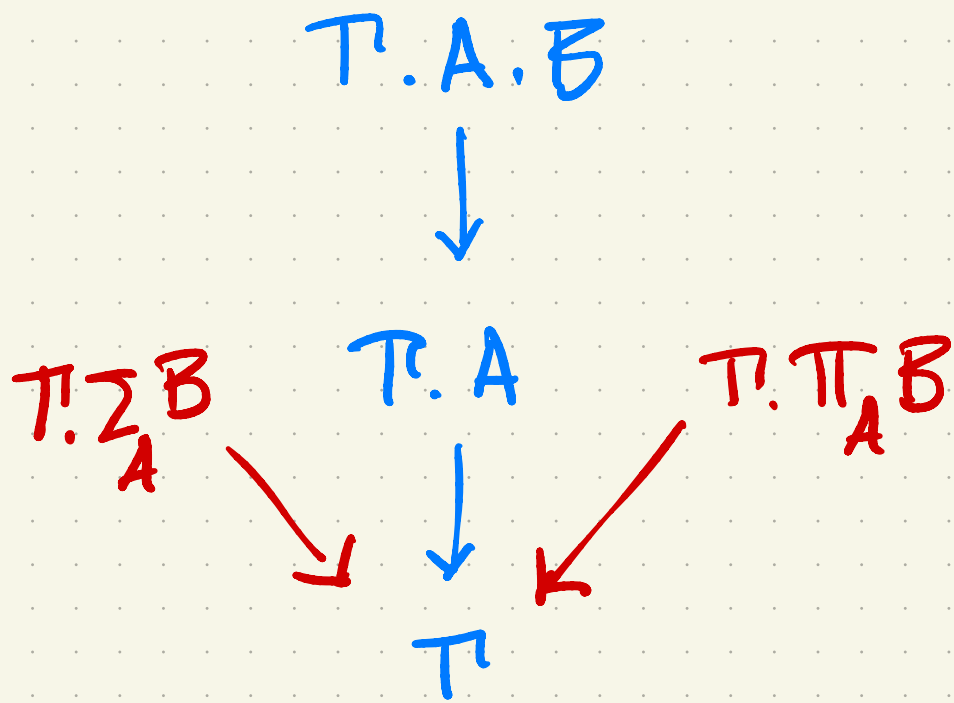
- Type formers Σ, Π :

$$\frac{\Pi.A \vdash B}{\Pi \vdash \Sigma_A B}$$

$$\Pi \vdash \Sigma_A B$$

$$\frac{\Pi.A \vdash B}{\Pi \vdash \Pi_A B}$$

$$\Pi \vdash \Pi_A B$$

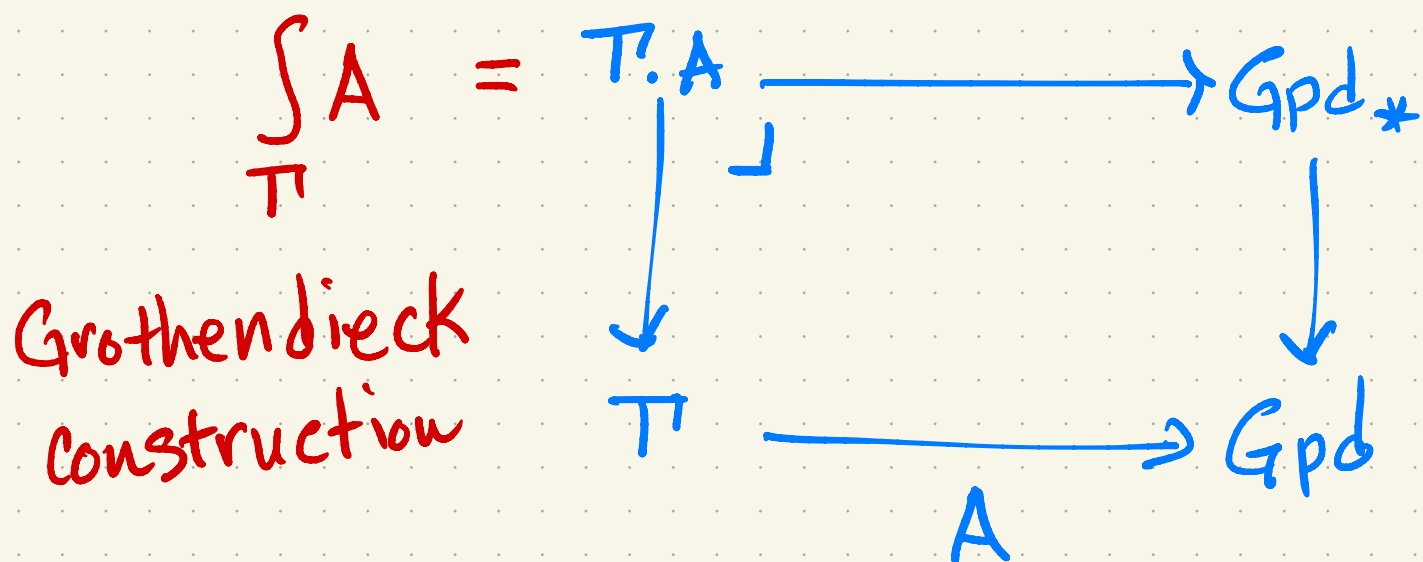


are modeled as adjoints to pullback along $\Pi.A \rightarrow \Pi$.

10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT0

- Context extension:
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}}{\Gamma.A \rightarrow \Gamma}$$

is modeled by pullback:



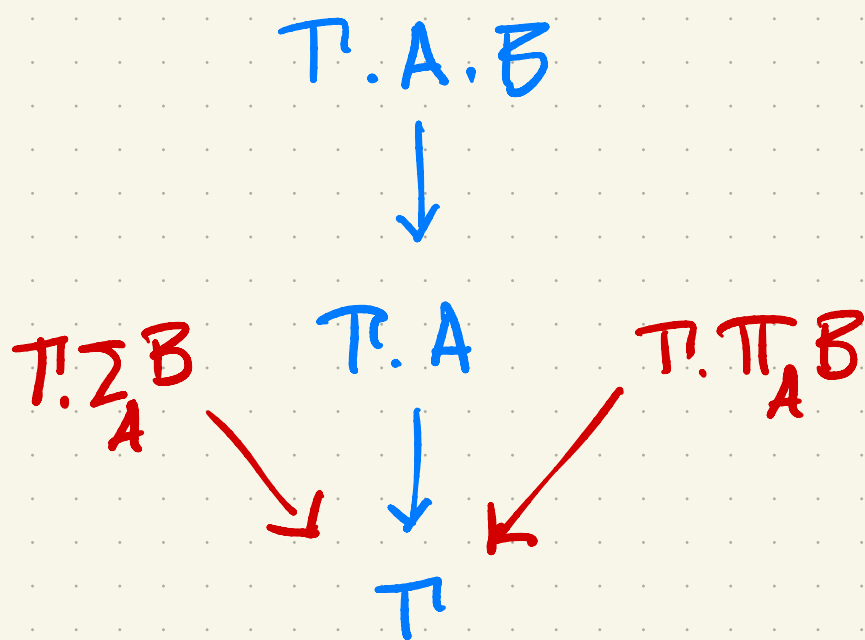
- Type formers Σ, Π :

$$\frac{\Gamma.A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash \Sigma_A B}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \Sigma_A B$$

$$\frac{\Gamma.A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash \Pi_A B}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash \Pi_A B$$



are modeled as adjoints to pullback along $\Gamma.A \rightarrow \Gamma$.

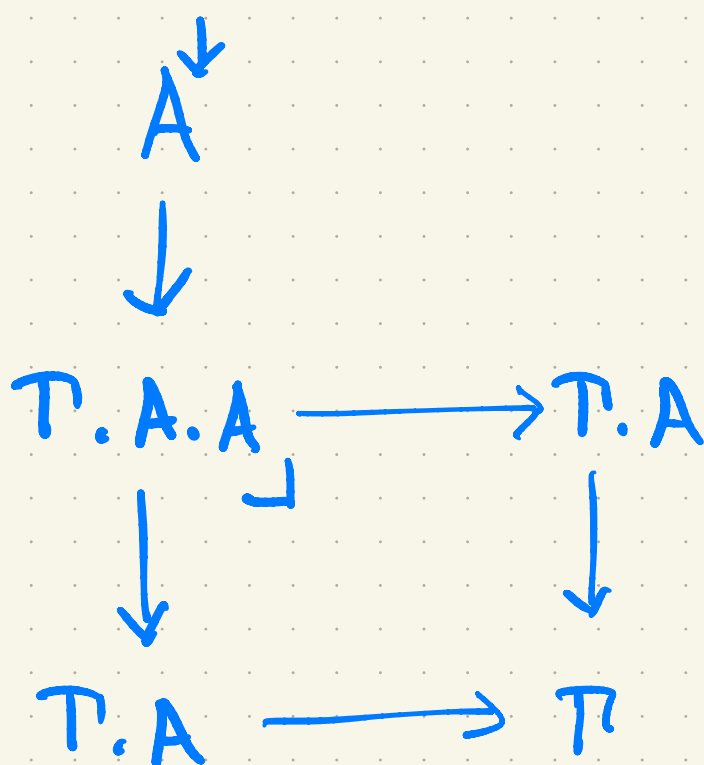
- uses the Poly Project in MathLib!

10) The Groupoid Model of HoTT0

- Identity type:

$$\frac{\pi \vdash A}{\pi, x:A, y:A \vdash \text{Id}_A(x, y)}$$

is modeled by the arrow groupoid



- So for the Id-type of Sets $\in \mathcal{U}$,

$$\sum_{A, B: \text{Sets}} \text{Id}_{\mathcal{U}}(A, B) = \text{Sets}^{\downarrow} = \sum_{A, B: \text{Sets}} \text{Iso}(A, B),$$

which is univalence:

$$(A = B) \simeq (A \simeq B).$$

11) What can HoTT Lean do?

- Some synthetic topology is within reach, even though we only have 0 & 1-types:
 - Classifying spaces for groups BG & the theory of torsors & bundles,
 - Covering spaces & fundamental groups,
 - Synthetic group theory as in the Symmetry Book of Buchholtz et al.

- SIP for algebraic structures permits some univalent maths, simplifying algebra, category theory, sheaf theory, ...

- All of MathLib's "classical" Set-level maths lives inside HoTT0's universes of Sets,

Lean \subset HoTT0

11) What can HoTTLean do?

- Finally, the HoTTLean approach is modular, so we can extend HoTT0 with higher levels of n -types, and extend the model in groupoids to n -groupoids, ..., ∞ -groupoids:

Lean \subset HoTT0 \subset HoTT1 \subset ... \subset HoTT.

11) What can HoTTLean do?

- Finally, the HoTTLean approach is modular, so we can extend HoTT0 with higher levels of n -types, and extend the model in groupoids to n -groupoids, ..., ∞ -groupoids:

Lean \subset HoTT0 \subset HoTT1 \subset ... \subset HoTT.

THANKS!

Next week: SynthLean