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# Little Theories

A Method for Organizing Mathematical Knowledge  
Illustrated Using Alonzo, a Practice-Oriented  
Version of Simple Type Theory

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# Outline

1. Background
  - a. Philosophy.
  - b. Alonzo.
  - c. Little theories method.
2. A formalization of monoid theory in Alonzo.
3. Final remarks.

The full formalization is presented in the forthcoming paper [Monoid Theory in Alonzo](#) [FZ23].

# Part 1

## Background: Philosophy

# What is Mathematics?

- **Mathematics** is a **process** for understanding the mathematical aspects of the world.
- Here is how it works:
  1. A **mathematical model** consisting of objects, concepts, and facts is **created** to describe a mathematical phenomenon exhibited in the world.
  2. The model is **explored** in various ways to discover new objects, concepts, and facts related to the model.
  3. This enriched model then provides a deeper understanding of the mathematical phenomenon being modeled.
- **Example**: A computer internet modeled as a bipartite graph of hosts and physical networks.
- The building blocks for mathematical models are **mathematical structures**.

# What is a Mathematical Structure?

- A first-order mathematical structure is a nonempty set  $D$  of values plus a set of distinguished elements, functions, and relations over  $D$ . Example:  $(\mathbb{N}, 0, +, \leq)$ .
- A general mathematical structure (structure for short) is a pair  $S = (\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{A})$  where:
  1.  $\mathcal{D}$  is a nonempty finite set of base domains that are nonempty sets of values.
  2.  $\mathcal{A}$  is a set of distinguished values that are members of the domains in  $\{\mathbb{B}\} \cup \mathcal{D}$  or domains constructed from these domains by the function space, power set, Cartesian product, and Kleene star operations.  $\mathbb{B} = \{\text{T}, \text{F}\}$ .
- Example: A monoid  $(\{m\}, \{\cdot, e\})$ , where  $m$  is a nonempty set,  $\cdot : (m \times m) \rightarrow m$  is an associative function, and  $e \in m$  is an identity element with respect to  $\cdot$ , is a structure.

# What is Mathematical Knowledge?

- **Mathematical knowledge** is knowledge about the mathematics process, that is, knowledge about the **creation and exploration of mathematical models**.
- Since structures are the building blocks of mathematical models, the **core of mathematical knowledge** is knowledge about **structures, their components, and their relationships with each other**.
- **Formal mathematical knowledge** is mathematical knowledge expressed in a **formal logic**.

# What is a Formal Logic?

- We define a **formal logic** as a family of formal languages with:
  1. A **precise common syntax**.
  2. A **precise common semantics** with a **notion of logical consequence**.
  3. A **formal proof system** for proving that a statement is a logical consequence of a set of statements.
- **Examples:** first-order logic, set theory, simple type theory, dependent type theory.

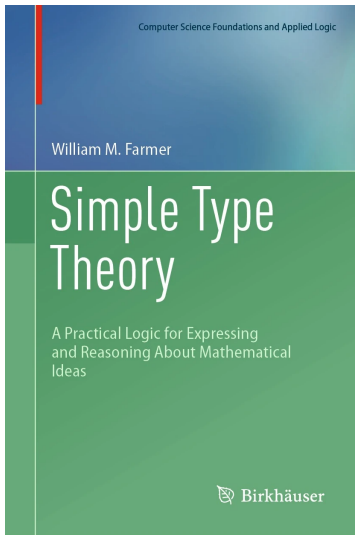
# Part 1

## Background: Alonzo



# Formal Mathematics for the Masses

- The 50-year-old campaign to transform traditional mathematical practice into a formal discipline has been both a great success and a great failure.
- At NatFoM 2021 I have proposed an alternative approach to formal mathematics that:
  1. Is fully formal except proofs are written in a traditional (informal) style.
  2. Emphasizes the **communication of mathematical ideas** instead of the **formal certification of mathematical results**.
- First step: Develop a formal logic suitable for practical use with or without software support.
- First step is done: We have developed a logic called **Alonzo** and presented it in a textbook **Simple Type Theory** [Fa23].
- Next steps: Demonstrate this alternative approach using Alonzo and develop software to support it.



# Alonzo: Overview

- Alonzo is a version of simple type theory [Fa08] that is based on Church's type theory (CTT) [Ch40].
- Has a simple syntax with two kinds of notation.
- Admits partial functions and undefined expressions.
- Employs two semantics, one for math and one for logic.
- Has a simple and elegant proof system derived from Peter Andrews' proof system for  $\mathcal{Q}_0$  [An02].
- Equipped with theories and theory morphisms, the tools needed for building libraries of mathematical knowledge.

# Alonzo: Syntax

- Alonzo has two kinds of syntactic entities:
  1. **Types** that denote nonempty sets of values.
  2. **Expressions** that either denote values (when they are defined) or denote nothing (when they are undefined).
- There are two notations for types and expressions:
  1. A **formal notation**, an “internal” syntax for machines.
  2. A **compact notation**, an “external” syntax for humans that resembles the notation found in mathematical practice.

# Alonzo: Types

- A **type** of Alonzo (denoted by  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$ ) is a string of symbols defined inductively by:
  - T1. **Type of truth values**: **BoolTy** is a type.
  - T2. **Base type**: **BaseTy(a)** is a type where **a** is any base type symbol.
  - T3. **Function type**: **FunTy( $\alpha, \beta$ )** is a type.
  - T4. **Product type**: **ProdTy( $\alpha, \beta$ )** is a type.
- A type is presented in the **formal notation** when it is written as a string according to this definition.

# Alonzo: Expressions

- An **expression of type  $\alpha$**  of Alonzo (denoted by  $\mathbf{A}_\alpha, \mathbf{B}_\alpha, \dots$ ) is a string of symbols defined inductively by:
  - E1. **Variable**:  $\mathbf{Var}(\mathbf{x}, \alpha)$  is an expression of type  $\alpha$  where  $\mathbf{x}$  is any variable symbol.
  - E2. **Constant**:  $\mathbf{Con}(\mathbf{c}, \alpha)$  is an expression of type  $\alpha$  where  $\mathbf{c}$  is any constant symbol.
  - E3. **Equality**:  $\mathbf{Eq}(\mathbf{A}_\alpha, \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$  is an expression of type  $\mathbf{BoolTy}$ .
  - E4. **Function application**:  $\mathbf{FunApp}(\mathbf{F}_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}, \mathbf{A}_\alpha)$  is an expression of type  $\beta$ .
  - E5. **Function abstraction**:  $\mathbf{FunAbs}(\mathbf{Var}(\mathbf{x}, \alpha), \mathbf{B}_\beta)$  is an expression of type  $\mathbf{FunTy}(\alpha, \beta)$ .
  - E6. **Definite description**:  $\mathbf{DefDes}(\mathbf{Var}(\mathbf{x}, \alpha), \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{BoolTy}})$  is an expression of type  $\alpha$  where  $\alpha \neq \mathbf{BoolTy}$ .
  - E7. **Ordered pair**:  $\mathbf{OrdPair}(\mathbf{A}_\alpha, \mathbf{B}_\beta)$  is an expression of type  $\mathbf{ProdTy}(\alpha, \beta)$ .
- An expression is presented in the **formal notation** when it is written as a string according to this definition.

# Alonzo: Compact Notation

- The **compact notation** for types and expressions is introduced in **Simple Type Theory** [Fa23] by:
  - ▶ 131 **notational definitions**.
  - ▶ 13 **notational conventions**.
- A **notational definition**, with the form  **$A$  stands for  $B$** , is for:
  - ▶ Introducing a standard mathematical notation.
  - ▶ Defining a useful operator, binder, or abbreviation.
  - ▶ Defining a notation in which a variable symbol is bound to a set-valued expression (called **quasi**type) instead of to a type.
- A **notational convention** is for simplifying notation, e.g., by:
  - ▶ Dropping matching parentheses when meaning is not lost.
  - ▶ Dropping types from variables and constants when meaning is not lost.
  - ▶ Condensing blocks of quantifiers.

# Compact Notation for Types and Expressions

- Notational definitions for types:

$o$	stands for	$\text{BoolTy}$ .
$\mathbf{a}$	stands for	$\text{BaseTy}(\mathbf{a})$ .
$(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$	stands for	$\text{FunTy}(\alpha, \beta)$ .
$(\alpha \times \beta)$	stands for	$\text{ProdTy}(\alpha, \beta)$ .

- Notational definitions for expressions:

$(\mathbf{x} : \alpha)$	stands for	$\text{Var}(\mathbf{x}, \alpha)$ .
$\mathbf{c}_\alpha$	stands for	$\text{Con}(\mathbf{c}, \alpha)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\text{Eq}(\mathbf{A}_\alpha, \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$ .
$(\mathbf{F}_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta} \mathbf{A}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\text{FunApp}(\mathbf{F}_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}, \mathbf{A}_\alpha)$ .
$(\lambda \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{B}_\beta)$	stands for	$\text{FunAbs}(\text{Var}(\mathbf{x}, \alpha), \mathbf{B}_\beta)$ .
$(\text{I} \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{A}_o)$	stands for	$\text{DefDes}(\text{Var}(\mathbf{x}, \alpha), \mathbf{A}_o)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha, \mathbf{B}_\beta)$	stands for	$\text{OrdPair}(\mathbf{A}_\alpha, \mathbf{B}_\beta)$ .



# Parametric Polymorphism

- Alonzo has no parametric polymorphism at the **object level**.
  - ▶ Alonzo does not have type variables.
  - ▶ All constants have a fixed type.
- Alonzo has parametric polymorphism at the **meta level**.
  - ▶ **Parametric pseudoconstants** are defined by notational definitions.
  - ▶ Facts about parametric pseudoconstants are proved in “little theories” and then transported to other contexts as needed.
- **Alonzo is not a polymorphic logic, but it supports polymorphic reasoning!**

# Notational Definitions for Boolean Operators

$T_o$	stands for	$(\lambda x : o . x) = (\lambda x : o . x)$ .
$F_o$	stands for	$(\lambda x : o . T_o) = (\lambda x : o . x)$ .
$\wedge_{o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o}$	stands for	$\lambda x : o . \lambda y : o .$ $(\lambda g : o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o . g T_o T_o) =$ $(\lambda g : o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o . g x y)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_o \wedge \mathbf{B}_o)$	stands for	$\wedge_{o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o} \mathbf{A}_o \mathbf{B}_o$ .
$\Rightarrow_{o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o}$	stands for	$\lambda x : o . \lambda y : o . x = (x \wedge y)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_o \Rightarrow \mathbf{B}_o)$	stands for	$\Rightarrow_{o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o} \mathbf{A}_o \mathbf{B}_o$ .
$\neg_{o \rightarrow o}$	stands for	$\lambda x : o . x = F_o$ .
$(\neg \mathbf{A}_o)$	stands for	$\neg_{o \rightarrow o} \mathbf{A}_o$ .
$\vee_{o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o}$	stands for	$\lambda x : o . \lambda y : o . \neg(\neg x \wedge \neg y)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_o \vee \mathbf{B}_o)$	stands for	$\vee_{o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o} \mathbf{A}_o \mathbf{B}_o$ .
$\text{if}_{o \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha}$	stands for	$\lambda b : o . \lambda x : \alpha . \lambda y : \alpha .$ $Iz : \alpha . (b \Rightarrow z = x) \wedge (\neg b \Rightarrow z = y)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_o \mapsto \mathbf{B}_\alpha \mid \mathbf{C}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\text{if}_{o \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha} \mathbf{A}_o \mathbf{B}_\alpha \mathbf{C}_\alpha$ .

# Notational Definitions for Binary Operators

$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \mathbf{c} \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\mathbf{c}_{\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \beta} \mathbf{A}_\alpha \mathbf{B}_\alpha$ or $\mathbf{c}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \beta} (\mathbf{A}_\alpha, \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_o \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{B}_o)$	stands for	$\mathbf{A}_o = \mathbf{B}_o$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \neq \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\neg(\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha < \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$(\leq_{\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow o} \mathbf{A}_\alpha \mathbf{B}_\alpha) \wedge (\mathbf{A}_\alpha \neq \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha > \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\mathbf{B}_\alpha < \mathbf{A}_\alpha$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \geq \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\mathbf{B}_\alpha \leq \mathbf{A}_\alpha$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \mathbf{B}_\alpha = \mathbf{C}_\alpha)$	stands for	$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \mathbf{B}_\alpha) \wedge (\mathbf{B}_\alpha = \mathbf{C}_\alpha)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \mathbf{c} \mathbf{B}_\alpha \mathbf{d} \mathbf{C}_\alpha)$	stands for	$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \mathbf{c} \mathbf{B}_\alpha) \wedge (\mathbf{B}_\alpha \mathbf{d} \mathbf{C}_\alpha)$ .

# Notational Definitions for Quantifiers

$(\forall \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{A}_o)$	stands for	$(\lambda x : \alpha . T_o) = (\lambda \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{A}_o)$ .
$(\exists \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{A}_o)$	stands for	$\neg(\forall \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \neg \mathbf{A}_o)$ .
$(\exists ! \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{A}_o)$	stands for	$\exists y : \alpha . (\lambda \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{A}_o) = (\lambda \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{x} = y)$ where $y$ is not free in $(\lambda \mathbf{x} : \alpha . \mathbf{A}_o)$ .

# Notational Definitions for Definedness

$\perp_o$	stands for	$F_o$ .
$\perp_\alpha$	stands for	$\exists x : \alpha . x \neq x$ where $\alpha \neq o$ .
$\Delta_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}$	stands for	$\lambda x : \alpha . \perp_\beta$ where $\beta \neq o$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \downarrow)$	stands for	$\mathbf{A}_\alpha = \mathbf{A}_\alpha$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \uparrow)$	stands for	$\neg(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \downarrow)$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \simeq \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \downarrow \vee \mathbf{B}_\alpha \downarrow) \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}_\alpha = \mathbf{B}_\alpha$ .
$(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \not\simeq \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$	stands for	$\neg(\mathbf{A}_\alpha \simeq \mathbf{B}_\alpha)$ .

# Alonzo: Semantics

- In Henkin's **general models semantics** [He50] for CTT, function domains do not need to contain all possible functions.
- Alonzo's semantics is a modified form of the general models semantics that admits **undefined expressions** in accordance with the **traditional approach to undefinedness** [Fa04].
  - ▶ An undefined expression denotes no value at all.
  - ▶ A function domain contains both partial and total functions.
- Alonzo has effectively **two semantics**:
  1. Semantics of math. practice based on **standard models** for which there is **no sound and complete proof system**.
  2. Semantics of logical practice based on **general models** for which there is **a sound and complete proof system**.

# Traditional Approach to Undefinedness

- The **traditional approach to undefinedness**, which is widely practiced in mathematics, is based on three principles:
  1. Atomic expressions (i.e., **variables** and **constants**) are always defined.
  2. Compound expressions may be undefined.
    - ▶ A **function application**  $f(a)$  is undefined if  $f$  is undefined,  $a$  is undefined, or  $a \notin \text{dom}(f)$ .
    - ▶ A **definite description**  $\exists x \in S . E$  is undefined if there is not exactly one  $a \in S$  for which  $E$  is true.
  3. **Formulas** are always true or false and hence defined.
    - ▶ So, by convention, a **predicate application**  $p(a) = \text{F}$  if  $p$  is undefined,  $a$  is undefined, or  $a \notin \text{dom}(p)$ .
- There are two kinds of equality:
  1. **Equality**:  $a = b$  if  $a$  and  $b$  are defined and equal.
  2. **Quasi-equality**:  $a \simeq b$  if  $a = b$  or  $a$  and  $b$  are undefined.

# Benefits of the Traditional Approach

- Meaningful statements can involve undefined expressions.

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R} . 0 \leq x \Rightarrow (\sqrt{x})^2 = x.$$

$$0 \leq -2 \Rightarrow (\sqrt{-2})^2 = -2.$$

- Function domains can be implicit.

$$k(x) \simeq \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x-1}.$$

$$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)(x) \simeq \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}.$$

- Definedness assumptions can be implicit, and as a result, expressions involving undefinedness can be very concise.

$$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R} . \frac{x}{y} = z \Rightarrow x = y * z.$$

- Values can be defined implicitly using definite description.

$$\sqrt{x} \simeq \text{I}y \in \mathbb{R} . 0 \leq y \wedge y^2 = x.$$



# Calculus Examples from [Fa23]

- Def10:  $\lim_{(R \rightarrow R) \rightarrow R \rightarrow R} =$   
 $\lambda f : R \rightarrow R . \lambda a : R . \text{I } b : R .$   
 $(\forall e : R . 0 < e \Rightarrow$   
 $(\exists d : R . 0 < d \wedge$   
 $(\forall x : R . 0 < |x - a| < d \Rightarrow$   
 $|f x - b| < e)))$  (limit of a function).
- Def14:  $\text{cont-at}_{(R \rightarrow R) \rightarrow R \rightarrow o} =$   
 $\lambda f : R \rightarrow R . \lambda a : R . \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f x = f a$   
(continuous at a point).
- Thm27:  $\forall f, g : R \rightarrow R, a, b : R .$   
 $(\text{cont-on-closed-int } f a b \wedge g = \lambda x : R . \int_a^x (f s) ds) \Rightarrow$   
 $((\forall x : R . a < x < b \Rightarrow \text{deriv-at } g x = f x) \wedge$   
 $\text{right-deriv-at } g a = f a \wedge$   
 $\text{left-deriv-at } g b = f b)$   
(fundamental theorem of calculus).

# Part 1

## Background: Little Theories Method

# Languages

- A **language** (or **signature**) of Alonzo is a pair  $L = (\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C})$  where:
  1.  $\mathcal{B}$  is a finite set of **base types**.
  2.  $\mathcal{C}$  is a set of **constants**.
- The base types and constants represent the **base domains** and **distinguished values** of a structure, respectively.
- A language specifies a **set of expressions**.

# Theories

- A **theory** of Alonzo is a pair  $T = (L, \Gamma)$  where  $L$  is a language and  $\Gamma$  is a set of sentences of  $L$  (called the **axioms** of  $T$ ).
- A theory specifies the **set of structures** defined by:
  1. The **standard models** of  $T$ .
  2. The **general models** of  $T$ .

# Developments

- A **development** of Alonzo is a pair  $D = (T, \Xi)$  where  $T$  is a theory and  $\Xi$  is a sequence of definitions and theorems in  $T$ .
  - ▶  $T$  is the **bottom theory** of  $D$ .
  - ▶  $T$  plus the definitions in  $\Xi$  is the **top theory** of  $D$ .
- $D$  is said to be a **development** of  $T$ .
  - ▶  $(T, [])$  is the trivial development of  $T$ .
  - ▶ We identify  $T$  with its trivial development.

# Theory Morphisms

- Let  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  be theories of Alonzo.
- A **theory morphism**  $\Phi$  from  $T_1$  to  $T_2$  is a mapping of the expressions of  $T_1$  to the expressions of  $T_2$  such that:
  1. Base types are mapped to types and quasitypes.
  2. Constants are mapped to expressions.
  3. Valid sentences are mapped to valid sentences.
- The image of  $T_1$  in  $T_2$  under  $\Phi$  is an **instance** of  $T_1$ .

# Development Morphisms

- Let  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  be developments of Alonzo.
- A **development morphism**  $\Phi$  from  $D_1$  to  $D_2$  is, roughly speaking, a theory morphism from the top theory of  $D_1$  to the top theory of  $D_2$ .
- A defined constant of  $D_1$  can be mapped in three ways:
  1. Explicitly to a constant of  $D_2$ .
  2. Explicitly to a nonconstant of  $D_2$ .
  3. Implicitly to an expression of  $D_2$ .
- The image of  $D_1$  under  $\Phi$  in  $D_2$  is an **instance** of  $D_1$ .
- The definitions and theorems of  $D_1$  can be **transported** to  $D_2$  via a development morphism from  $D_1$  to  $D_2$ .
  - ▶ That is, the definitions and theorems of  $D_1$  can be transported to all instances of  $D_1$ .

# Theory and Development Graphs

- A **theory graph** [KRZ10] is a directed graph whose nodes are **theories** and whose edges are **theory morphisms**.
- A **development graph** is a directed graph whose nodes are **developments** and whose edges are **development morphisms**.



# Little Theories Method

- The **little theories method** [FGT92] is an attractive and powerful method for organizing mathematical knowledge:
  1. A body of mathematical knowledge is represented as a **development graph**  $G$ .
  2. Each mathematical topic is developed in a development  $D$  of the “**little theory**”  $T$  in  $G$  that has the most convenient level of abstraction and the most convenient vocabulary.
  3. The definitions and theorems produced in  $D$  are **transported**, as needed, from  $D$  to other, usually more concrete, developments in  $G$  via the development morphisms in  $G$ .
- Provides a strong form of **polymorphism** since the theorems of a development hold in all instances of the development.
- **The little theories method unleashes the power of the axiomatic method!**

# Alonzo is Well Suited for the Little Theories Method

1. Alonzo is designed for **reasoning about structures**.
  - ▶ Base types represent the base domains of a structure.
  - ▶ Constants represent the distinguished values of a structure.
  - ▶ Alonzo has types for function spaces  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ , Cartesian products  $\alpha \times \beta$ , and power sets  $\{\alpha\}$ .
  - ▶ Alonzo has quasitypes for infinite lists  $\langle \alpha \rangle$  and finite lists  $[\alpha]$ .
2. Alonzo admits **categorical theories** (in the standard sense).
  - ▶ Alonzo has higher-order quantification.
3. Development morphisms can **map base types to quasitypes**.
  - ▶ Alonzo has notational definitions and conventions to enable quasitypes to be treated like types.
  - ▶ Alonzo can directly represent the partial functions that arise.
4. Alonzo is equipped with **mathematical knowledge modules** for constructing developments and development morphisms.

## Part 2

# A Formalization of Monoid Theory in Alonzo

# Monoid Theory

- A **monoid** is a structure  $(\{m\}, \{\cdot, e\})$  or  $(m, \cdot, e)$  where:
  1.  $m$  is a nonempty set of values.
  2.  $\cdot : (m \times m) \rightarrow m$  is an associative function.
  3.  $e \in m$  is an identity element with respect to  $\cdot$ .
- Mathematics and computing are replete with examples of monoids such as  $(\mathbb{N}, +, 0)$ ,  $(\mathbb{N}, *, 1)$ , and  $(\Sigma^*, ++, \epsilon)$ .
- **Monoid theory** is the set of the concepts, properties, and facts about monoids.
  - ▶ Lacks the rich structure of group theory.
  - ▶ But has enough structure to adequately illustrate the little theories method.
- We have formalized monoid theory in Alonzo as a development graph using the little theories method.

# Definition of a Monoid in Alonzo

- We need a way to say in Alonzo that a triple  $(\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}}, \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}, \mathbf{E}_\alpha)$  denotes a monoid.
- So we introduce an abbreviation via a notational definition:

$\text{MONOID}(\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}}, \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}, \mathbf{E}_\alpha)$

stands for

$\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}} \downarrow \wedge$

$\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}} \neq \emptyset_{\{\alpha\}} \wedge$

$\mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha} \downarrow (\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}} \times \mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}}) \rightarrow \mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}} \wedge$

$\mathbf{E}_\alpha \downarrow \mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}} \wedge$

$\forall x, y, z : \mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}} .$

$\mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}(x, \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}(y, z)) = \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}(\mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}(x, y), z) \wedge$

$\forall x : \mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}} . \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}(\mathbf{E}_\alpha, x) = \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}(x, \mathbf{E}_\alpha) = x.$

- Notice that  $\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}}$  is a quasitype within  $\alpha$ .

# Application of the Little Theories Method

- Let  $T = (L, \Gamma)$  be a theory of Alonzo. We can show that  $(\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}}, \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}, \mathbf{E}_\alpha)$  denotes a monoid in  $T$  by proving

$$T \models \text{MONOID}(\mathbf{M}_{\{\alpha\}}, \mathbf{F}_{(\alpha \times \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha}, \mathbf{E}_\alpha).$$

- We may need general definitions and theorems about monoids to prove properties in  $T$  about this triple.
- It would be **extremely inefficient** to state these definitions and prove these theorems in  $T$ .
- Instead we should develop a **little theory**  $T_{\text{mon}}$  of monoids.
- The definitions and theorems of monoids can be introduced in a development  $D_{\text{mon}}$  of  $T_{\text{mon}}$  in a universal abstract form.
- Then these definitions and theorems can be **transported** to a development  $D$  via a development morphism from  $D_{\text{mon}}$  to  $D$ .

## Theory Definition (Monoids)

**Name:** MON.

**Base types:**  $M$ .

**Constants:**  $\cdot : (M \times M) \rightarrow M$ ,  $e_M$ .

**Axioms:**

1.  $\forall x, y, z : M . x \cdot (y \cdot z) = (x \cdot y) \cdot z$  ( $\cdot$  is associative).
2.  $\forall x : M . e \cdot x = x \cdot e = x$   
( $e$  is an identity element with respect to  $\cdot$ ).

# Development Definition (Monoids 1)

**Name:** MON-1.

**Bottom theory:** MON.

**Definitions and theorems:**

Thm1:  $\text{MONOID}(U_{\{M\}}, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}, e_M)$   
(models of MON define monoids).

Thm2:  $\text{TOTAL}(\cdot)$  ( $\cdot$  is total).

Thm3:  $\forall x : M . (\forall y : M . x \cdot y = y \cdot x = y) \Rightarrow x = e$   
(uniqueness of identity element).

Def1:  $\text{submonoid}_{\{M\} \rightarrow o} =$   
 $\lambda s : \{M\} . s \neq \emptyset_{\{M\}} \wedge (\cdot \upharpoonright_{s \times s} \downarrow (s \times s) \rightarrow s) \wedge e \in s$   
(submonoid).

Thm4:  $\forall s : \{M\} . \text{submonoid } s \Rightarrow \text{MONOID}(s, \cdot \upharpoonright_{s \times s}, e)$   
(submonoids are monoids).

Thm5:  $\text{submonoid } \{e\}$  (minimum submonoid).

Thm6:  $\text{submonoid } U_{\{M\}}$  (maximum submonoid).



Def2:  $\cdot^{\text{op}}_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M} = \lambda p : M \times M . (\text{snd } p) \cdot (\text{fst } p)$   
 (opposite of  $\cdot$ ).

Thm7:  $\forall x, y, z : M . x \cdot^{\text{op}} (y \cdot^{\text{op}} z) = (x \cdot^{\text{op}} y) \cdot^{\text{op}} z$   
 ( $\cdot^{\text{op}}$  is associative).

Thm8:  $\forall x : M . e \cdot^{\text{op}} x = x \cdot^{\text{op}} e = x$   
 (e is an identity element with respect to  $\cdot^{\text{op}}$ ).

Def3:  $\odot_{(\{M\} \times \{M\}) \rightarrow \{M\}} =$   
 $\text{set-op}_{((M \times M) \rightarrow M) \rightarrow ((\{M\} \times \{M\}) \rightarrow \{M\})} \cdot$  (set product).

Def4:  $E_{\{M\}} = \{e_M\}$  (set identity element).

Thm9:  $\forall x, y, z : \{M\} . x \odot (y \odot z) = (x \odot y) \odot z$   
 ( $\odot$  is associative).

Thm10:  $\forall x : \{M\} . E \odot x = x \odot E = x$   
 (E is an identity element with respect to  $\odot$ ).

•  $\text{set-op}_{((\alpha \times \beta) \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow ((\{\alpha\} \times \{\beta\}) \rightarrow \{\gamma\})}$

stands for

$\lambda f : (\alpha \times \beta) \rightarrow \gamma . \lambda p : \{\alpha\} \times \{\beta\} .$   
 $\{z : \gamma \mid \exists x : \text{fst } p, y : \text{snd } p . z = f(x, y)\}.$

# Opposite Monoids

- $(M, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}^{\text{op}}, e)$  is a monoid in MON-1 called the **opposite monoid** of  $(M, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}, e_M)$ .
- We can prove this directly using Thm7 and Thm8.
- A better approach is to construct a development morphism from MON to MON-1 that maps

$$(M, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}, e_M)$$

to

$$(M, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}^{\text{op}}, e).$$

- This establishes an **information conduit** for transporting information about monoids to corresponding information about their opposite monoids.

## Development Translation (MON to Opposite Monoid)

**Name:** MON-to-opposite-monoid.

**Source development:** MON.

**Target development:** MON-1.

**Base type mapping:**

1.  $M \mapsto M$ .

**Constant mapping:**

1.  $\cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M} \mapsto \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}^{\text{op}}$

2.  $e_M \mapsto e_M$ .

- This translation is normal and thus is a development morphism by Thm7 and Thm8 of MON-1.
- It can be used to transport a theorem to its **dual form**.
- **Example:**  $x = y \Rightarrow x \cdot z = y \cdot z \mapsto x = y \Rightarrow z \cdot x = z \cdot y$ .

## Theorem Transportation (Transport of Thm1 to MON-1)

**Name:** monoid-via-MON-to-opposite-monoid.

**Source development:** MON.

**Target development:** MON-1.

**Development morphism:** MON-to-opposite-monoid.

**Theorem:**

Thm1:  $\text{MONOID}(U_{\{M\}}, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}, e_M)$   
(models of MON define monoids).

**Transported theorem:**

Thm11 (Thm1-via-MON-to-opposite-monoid):  
 $\text{MONOID}(U_{\{M\}}, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}^{\text{op}}, e_M)$   
(opposite monoids are monoids).

**New target development:** MON-2.

# Set Monoids

- $(\{M\}, \odot_{(\{M\} \times \{M\}) \rightarrow \{M\}}, E_{\{M\}})$  is a monoid in MON-1 called the **set monoid** of  $(M, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}, e_M)$ .
- We will prove this by constructing a development morphism from MON to MON-2 that maps

$$(M, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}, e_M)$$

to

$$(\{M\}, \odot_{(\{M\} \times \{M\}) \rightarrow \{M\}}, E_{\{M\}}).$$

## Development Translation (MON to Set Monoid)

**Name:** MON-to-set-monoid.

**Source development:** MON.

**Target development:** MON-2.

**Base type mapping:**

1.  $M \mapsto \{M\}$ .

**Constant mapping:**

1.  $\cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M} \mapsto \odot_{(\{M\} \times \{M\}) \rightarrow \{M\}}$ .

2.  $e_M \mapsto E_{\{M\}}$ .

- This translation is normal and thus is a morphism by Thm9 and Thm10 of MON-2.

## Theorem Transportation (Transport of Thm1 to MON-2)

**Name:** monoid-via-MON-to-set-monoid.

**Source development:** MON.

**Target development:** MON-2.

**Development morphism:** MON-to-set-monoid.

**Theorem:**

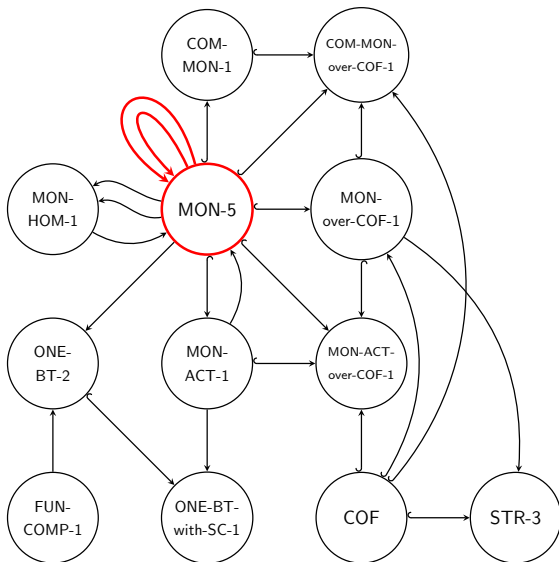
Thm1:  $\text{MONOID}(U_{\{M\}}, \cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M}, e_M)$   
(models of MON define monoids).

**Transported theorem:**

Thm12 (Thm1-via-MON-to-set-monoid):  
 $\text{MONOID}(U_{\{\{M\}\}}, \odot_{(\{M\} \times \{M\}) \rightarrow \{M\}}, E_{\{M\}})$   
(set monoids are monoids).

**New target development:** MON-3.

# Development Graph for Monoid Theory





# Transformation Monoids

- Let  $s$  be a nonempty set and  $(f, \circ, \text{id})$  be a triple where:
  1.  $f$  is a set of (partial or total) functions from  $s$  to  $s$ .
  2.  $\circ : ((s \rightarrow s) \times (s \rightarrow s)) \rightarrow (s \rightarrow s)$  is function composition.
  3.  $\text{id} : s \rightarrow s$  is the identity function.
- $(f, \circ, \text{id})$  a **transformation monoid on  $s$**  if both:
  1.  $f$  is closed under  $\circ$ .
  2.  $\text{id} \in f$ .
- **Theorem.** Every transformation monoid is a monoid.
- **How should we formalize this theorem?**
- First, we define a theory  $T$  with one base type representing  $s$ .
- Second, we develop  $T$  so that we can state and prove the theorem.

## Theory Definition (One Base Type)

**Name:** ONE-BT.

**Base types:**  $S$ .

**Constants:**

**Axioms:**

$\text{id}_{\alpha \rightarrow \alpha}$

stands for

$\lambda x : \alpha . x$

$\circ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \times (\beta \rightarrow \gamma)) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \gamma)$

stands for

$\lambda p : (\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \times (\beta \rightarrow \gamma) . \lambda x : \alpha . (\text{snd } p) ((\text{fst } p) x)$ .

# Theory Development (One Base Type 1)

Name: ONE-BT-1

Bottom theory: ONE-BT

## Definitions and theorems

Thm13:  $\forall f, g, h : S \rightarrow S . f \circ (g \circ h) = (f \circ g) \circ h$   
( $\circ$  is associative).

Thm14:  $\forall f : S \rightarrow S . \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S} \circ f = f \circ \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S} = f$   
( $\text{id}_{S \rightarrow S}$  is an identity element with respect to  $\circ$ ).

Def5:  $\text{trans-monoid}_{\{S \rightarrow S\} \rightarrow o} =$   
 $\lambda s : \{S \rightarrow S\} .$   
 $s \neq \emptyset_{\{S \rightarrow S\}} \wedge (\circ \upharpoonright_{s \times s} \downarrow (s \times s) \rightarrow s) \wedge \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S} \in s$   
(transformation monoid).

Thm15:  $\forall s : \{S \rightarrow S\} .$   
 $\text{trans-monoid } s \Rightarrow \text{MONOID}(s, \circ \upharpoonright_{s \times s}, \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S})$   
(transformation monoids are monoids).

This is the wrong approach!

## Theory Definition (Function Composition)

**Name:** FUN-COMP.

**Base types:**  $A, B, C, D$ .

**Constants:**

**Axioms:**

## Development Definition (Function Composition 1)

**Name:** FUN-COMP-1.

**Bottom theory:** FUN-COMP.

**Definitions and theorem:**

Thm13:  $\forall f : A \rightarrow B, g : B \rightarrow C, h : C \rightarrow D .$

$$f \circ (g \circ h) = (f \circ g) \circ h \quad (\circ \text{ is associative}).$$

Thm14:  $\forall f : A \rightarrow B . \text{id}_{A \rightarrow A} \circ f = f \circ \text{id}_{B \rightarrow B} = f$

(identity functions are left and right identity elements).

## Theory Translation (FUN-COMP to ONE-BT)

**Name:** FUN-COMP-to-ONE-BT.

**Source development:** FUN-COMP.

**Target development:** ONE-BT.

**Base type mapping:**

1.  $A \mapsto S$ .
2.  $B \mapsto S$ .
3.  $C \mapsto S$ .
4.  $D \mapsto S$ .

**Constant mapping:**

- This translation is a morphism since it is normal and FUN-COMP contains no constants or axioms.

## Group Transportation (Thm13 and Thm14 to ONE-BT)

**Name:**

function-composition-theorems-via-FUN-COMP-to-ONE-BT.

**Source development:** FUN-COMP-1.

**Target development:** ONE-BT.

**Development morphism:** FUN-COMP-to-ONE-BT.

**Definitions and theorems:**

Thm13:  $\forall f : A \rightarrow B, g : B \rightarrow C, h : C \rightarrow D .$

$$f \circ (g \circ h) = (f \circ g) \circ h \quad (\circ \text{ is associative}).$$

Thm14:  $\forall f : A \rightarrow B . \text{id}_{A \rightarrow A} \circ f = f \circ \text{id}_{B \rightarrow B} = f$

(identity functions are left and right identity elements).

## Transported definitions and theorems:

Thm15 (Thm13-via-FUN-COMP-to-ONE-BT):

$$\forall f, g, h : S \rightarrow S . f \circ (g \circ h) = (f \circ g) \circ h$$

( $\circ$  is associative).

Thm16 (Thm14-via-FUN-COMP-to-ONE-BT):

$$\forall f : S \rightarrow S . \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S} \circ f = f \circ \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S} = f$$

( $\text{id}_{S \rightarrow S}$  is an identity element with respect to  $\circ$ ).

**New target development:** ONE-BT-1.

**New development morphism:** FUN-COMP-to-ONE-BT.

## Theory Translation (MON to ONE-BT)

**Name:** MON-to-ONE-BT.

**Source development:** MON.

**Target development:** ONE-BT.

**Base type mapping:**

1.  $M \mapsto S \rightarrow S$ .

**Constant mapping:**

1.  $\cdot_{(M \times M) \rightarrow M} \mapsto \circ_{((S \rightarrow S) \times (S \rightarrow S)) \rightarrow (S \rightarrow S)}$ .
2.  $e_M \mapsto \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S}$ .

- This translation is normal and thus is a development morphism, in part, by Thm15 and Thm16 of ONE-BT-1.



## Group Transportation (Transport of Def1 to ONE-BT-1)

**Name:** submonoids-via-MON-to-ONE-BT.

**Source development:** MON-1.

**Target development:** ONE-BT-1.

**Development morphism:** MON-to-ONE-BT.

**Definitions and theorems:**

Def1:  $\text{submonoid}_{\{M\} \rightarrow o} =$   
 $\lambda s : \{M\} . s \neq \emptyset_{\{M\}} \wedge (\cdot \upharpoonright_{s \times s} \downarrow (s \times s) \rightarrow s) \wedge e \in s$   
(submonoid).

Thm4:  $\forall s : \{M\} . \text{submonoid } s \Rightarrow \text{MONOID}(s, \cdot \upharpoonright_{s \times s}, e)$   
(submonoids are monoids).

## Transported definitions and theorems:

Def5 (Def1-via-MON-to-ONE-BT):

trans-monoid  $\{S \rightarrow S\} \rightarrow o =$

$\lambda s : \{S \rightarrow S\} .$

$s \neq \emptyset_{\{S \rightarrow S\}} \wedge (\circ \upharpoonright_{s \times s} \downarrow (s \times s) \rightarrow s) \wedge \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S} \in s$

(transformation monoid).

Thm17 (Thm4-via-MON-to-ONE-BT):

$\forall s : \{S \rightarrow S\} .$

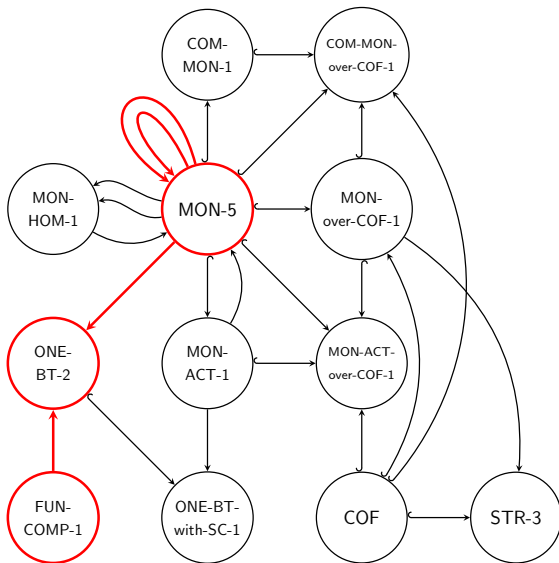
trans-monoid  $s \Rightarrow \text{MONOID}(s, \circ \upharpoonright_{s \times s}, \text{id}_{S \rightarrow S})$

(transformation monoids are monoids).

**New target development: ONE-BT-2.**

**New development morphism: MON-1-to-ONE-BT-2.**

# Development Graph for Monoid Theory



## Other Topics

Here are the other topics that are components of the development graph for monoid theory:

1. Commutative monoids.
2. Monoid actions.
3. Monoid homomorphisms.
4. Monoids over real number arithmetic.
5. Monoid theory applied to strings.

# Part 3

## Final Remarks

## Related Work: IMPS

- **IMPS proof assistant** [FGT93] was developed by W. M. Farmer, J. D. Guttman, and F. J. Thayer at MITRE 1990–1993.
- Introduced three major innovations:
  1. Proofs are supported by various kinds of **computation**.
  2. The IMPS logic, LUTINS, is a version of Church's type theory that admits **undefined expressions**.
  3. Mathematical knowledge is organized using the **little theories method**.
- The design of Alonzo is heavily influenced by IMPS.
- Alonzo is simpler than LUTINS.
- Alonzo employs many more notational definitions than IMPS.
- IMPS uses sorts (types and subtypes) instead of quasitypes.
  - ▶ But **AlonzoS** does use sorts.

## Other Related Work

- Proof assistants and logical frameworks using theory graphs: Ergo, Isabelle, LF, MMT, PVS.
- Software specification and development systems using theory graphs: ASL, CASL, EHDM, Hets, IOTA, KIDS, OBJ, Specware.
- Proof assistants based on Church's type theory: HOL, HOL Light, Isabelle/HOL, ProofPower, PVS, TPS.
- Proof assistants and programming languages based on dependent type theory: Agda, Automath, Coq, Epigram, F\*, Idris, Lean, Nuprl.

# Conclusion

1. The **little theories method** is an effective method for **organizing mathematics** so that:
  - ▶ Similar structures can be formally connected.
  - ▶ Redundancy can be systematically reduced.
  - ▶ Information can flow between related contexts.
2. **Alonzo** is a logic well-suited for expressing and reasoning about mathematical ideas because it:
  - ▶ Has sufficient expressivity, both theoretical and practical.
  - ▶ Is designed for reasoning about mathematical structures.
  - ▶ Employs many notational definitions and conventions.
  - ▶ Admits partial functions and undefined expressions.
  - ▶ Is equipped with mathematical knowledge modules.
3. The little theories method using Alonzo requires **minimal software support** — just LaTeX **macros and environments**.

Thank you!



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