

A Mathematical Theory of Term Relations

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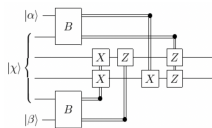
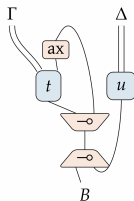
Syntactic and Operational Semantics

LOAD r1,b; RET

x += x; return x

$\Lambda\alpha.\lambda(x:\alpha).x : \forall\alpha.\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$

$\Pi(x:A).\text{refl}(x) : x =_A x$



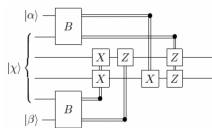
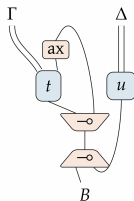
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Operational = Meaning through **computation**

Syntactic = Definitions based on **syntax** (no **denotations**, no **machines**)

$\Gamma \vdash t \triangleright T \quad (\lambda x.t)s \rightarrow t[s/x]$




\rightsquigarrow



$Y \simeq \Theta$

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$Y \approx \Theta$

Key semantic behaviours (**Deep Invariants of Syntax**)

Type safety

Consistency

Congruence

Cut Elimination

(Confluence + Termination)

Parametricity

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Mainstream approach: **Proof-Theoretic Semantics**

- **(G)SOS**: (Categorical) **Structural Rules**
- **Reduction Semantics**: (Categorical) **Rewriting**

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- What is its ‘**initial algebra semantics**’?

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Today → **Relational Foundation**

Relational Foundation: Why?

1. Semantics given as **relations on syntactic terms** → **Term Relations**

$$t \rightarrow s \quad t \Downarrow s \quad \Gamma \vdash t \triangleright T \quad \Gamma \vdash T \quad t \simeq s \quad t \gtrsim s \quad t =_{\varepsilon} s$$

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2. **Semantic meta-theory** as properties of term relations

Type Safety

$$\frac{t \triangleright T \quad t \rightarrow s}{s \triangleright T}$$

$$\leftarrow; \triangleright \subseteq \triangleright$$

Congruence

$$\frac{t_1 \simeq s_1, \dots, t_n \simeq s_n}{C[t_1, \dots, t_n] \simeq C[s_1, \dots, s_n]}$$

$$\approx \subseteq \simeq$$

Confluence

$$\frac{t_1 \leftarrow t \rightarrow t_2}{\exists s. t_1 \rightarrow s \leftarrow t_2}$$

$$\leftarrow; \rightarrow \subseteq \rightarrow; \leftarrow$$

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Type Safety	$\frac{t \triangleright T \quad t \rightarrow s}{s \triangleright T}$	$\leftarrow; \triangleright \subseteq \triangleright$
Congruence	$\frac{t_1 \simeq s_1, \dots, t_n \simeq s_n}{C[t_1, \dots, t_n] \simeq C[s_1, \dots, s_n]}$	$\approx \subseteq \simeq$
Confluence	$\frac{t_1 \leftarrow t \rightarrow t_2}{\exists s. t_1 \rightarrow s \leftarrow t_2}$	$\leftarrow; \rightarrow \subseteq \rightarrow; \leftarrow$

3. **Relational Proof Techniques**

- **Tait-Martin-Löf** (confluence)
- **Howe's method** (congruence)
- **Logical Relations** (parametricity)

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A. Term relations are **language-dependent** and **syntax-dependent**

- Relations in context, Type-respecting relations, ...

Based on **syntax-specific operations**

- Pattern-matching
- Unification and substitution

Built **proof-theoretically** ⇔ Operational semantics as **proof-theoretic semantics**

- **Induction, finitary rules** (**type elaboration**, **reduction**)
- **Coinduction, infinitary rules** (**bisimilarity**, **ω -reduction**)
- **Impredicativity, HO quantification** (**contextual equivalence**, **Leibniz equality**)

NB. λ -calculus example of all of that!

No **general** and **syntax-independent** notion of **term relation**

Term relations are useful **language-specific technique** rather than an independent **mathematical object**

This Talk:

- **Mathematical Theory of Term Relations**
- Outline of a **relational foundation** of **Operational Semantics**

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Methodology



Relational ~~Algebraic~~ Theory of Syntax

Step 1: Relational Syntax

Term Relations = **Syntactically**-defined Relations on **Syntactic Terms**

Term Relations = **Structurally**-defined Relations on **Syntactic Structures**

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Term Relations = **Structurally**-defined Relations on **Syntactic Structures**

Universe of Terms	Topos \mathcal{E} (Set, Set^{Ctx}, Nom)
Atomic Terms	\mathcal{E} -object V
Term Constructs	Signature Functor $\Sigma : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$
Terms	Initial $(V + \Sigma)$ -algebra Free monad $\Sigma^{\dagger}V = \mu x.V + \Sigma x$

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Relational Extension

$$\text{Topos } \mathcal{E} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{Allegory } \text{Rel}(\mathcal{E}) \\ (\Delta, a ; b, a^\circ, \bigcup_i a_i, \bigcap_i a_i)$$

$$\text{Functor } \Sigma : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{Relator } \bar{\Sigma} : \text{Rel}(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \text{Rel}(\mathcal{E})$$

$$\text{Initial } F\text{-algebra} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{Relational Initial } \bar{F}\text{-algebra}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V + \Sigma(\Sigma^\dagger V) & \xrightarrow{(\overline{V+\Sigma}) \langle a \rangle} & V + \Sigma(A) \\ \downarrow [\eta, \sigma] & & \downarrow a \\ \Sigma^\dagger V & \xrightarrow{\langle a \rangle} & A \end{array}$$

$$\text{Monad } (\mathcal{R}, \eta, \rho) \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{Lax monad } (\bar{\mathcal{R}}, \eta, \rho)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Sigma^\dagger \Sigma^\dagger V & \xrightarrow{\rho} & \Sigma^\dagger V \\ \downarrow \overline{\Sigma^\dagger \Sigma^\dagger a} & \subseteq & \downarrow \overline{\Sigma^\dagger a} \\ \Sigma^\dagger \Sigma^\dagger V & \xrightarrow{\rho} & \Sigma^\dagger V \end{array}$$

Algebraic Syntax Topos \mathcal{E}	Relational Syntax Allegory \mathcal{A}
\mathcal{E} -object	\mathcal{A} -object
Functor $\Sigma : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$	Relator $\Gamma : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$

NB. Algebraic and relational views are **equivalent**

$$(\mathcal{E}, F) \longrightarrow (Rel(\mathcal{E}), \bar{F})$$

$$(Map(\mathcal{A}), U\Gamma) \longleftarrow (\mathcal{A}, \Gamma)$$

Step 2: Structure of Term Relations

$$\frac{\text{Structure} \quad \varphi : F(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \dots, \Sigma^{\dagger}V) \rightarrow \Sigma^{\dagger}V \text{ in } \mathcal{E}}{\text{Operation} \quad \Phi : \text{Rel}(\mathcal{E})(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \Sigma^{\dagger}V)^n \rightarrow \text{Rel}(\mathcal{E})(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \Sigma^{\dagger}V)}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \dots, \Sigma^{\dagger}V) & \xrightarrow{\bar{F}(a_1, \dots, a_n)} & F(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \dots, \Sigma^{\dagger}V) \\
 \varphi^{\circ} \curvearrowright \downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow \varphi \\
 \Sigma^{\dagger}V & \xrightarrow{\Phi(a_1, \dots, a_n)} & \Sigma^{\dagger}V
 \end{array}
 \quad \Phi(\vec{a}) = \varphi^{\circ}; \bar{F}(\vec{a}); \varphi$$

☞ $\Phi(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ pattern-matches F -terms in $\Sigma^{\dagger}V$

☞ McCarthy's Analytic Syntax

How many structures for syntax?

Atoms	$\eta : V \rightarrow \Sigma^{\dagger}V$
Term Constructs	$\sigma : \Sigma(\Sigma^{\dagger}V) \rightarrow \Sigma^{\dagger}V$
Contexts	$\rho : \Sigma^{\dagger}(\Sigma^{\dagger}V) \rightarrow \Sigma^{\dagger}V$
Substitution	$\zeta : \Sigma^{\dagger}V \otimes \Sigma^{\dagger}V \rightarrow \Sigma^{\dagger}V$
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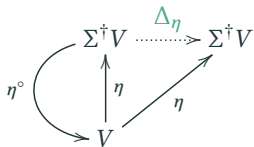
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Compatible Refinement

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Sigma(\Sigma^\dagger V) & \xrightarrow{\bar{\Sigma}a} & \Sigma(\Sigma^\dagger V) \\
 \sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow \sigma \\
 \Sigma^\dagger V & \xrightarrow{\tilde{a}} & \Sigma^\dagger V
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \frac{X \vdash t_1 \quad a \quad s_1 \quad \cdots \quad X \vdash t_n \quad a \quad s_n}{X \vdash \text{op}(t_1, \dots, t_n) \quad \tilde{a} \quad \text{op}(s_1, \dots, s_n)}$$

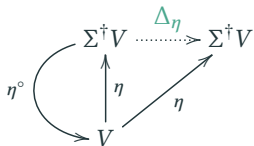
σ° (curved arrow from $\Sigma^\dagger V$ to $\Sigma(\Sigma^\dagger V)$)

Atom Co-Reflexive



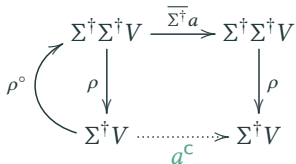
$$\frac{x \in V}{X, x \vdash x \quad \Delta_\eta \quad x}$$

Atom Co-Reflexive



$$\frac{x \in V}{X, x \vdash x \quad \Delta_\eta \quad x}$$

Context



$$\frac{X \vdash t_1 \quad a \quad s_1 \quad \cdots \quad X \vdash t_n \quad a \quad s_n}{X \vdash C[t_1, \dots, t_n] \quad a^c \quad C[s_1, \dots, s_n]}$$

Basic account of relational use of syntax

- A piece of syntax is (variable | operator | ...),
if I use it as (variable | operator | ...)
- Relations as actions (Pratt) as manipulations

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Algebraic Syntax: $\Delta = \Delta_\eta \cup \tilde{\Delta}$

Structural Induction: $\Delta_\eta \cup \tilde{a} \subseteq a \implies \Delta_\eta \subseteq a$

Congruence: $\tilde{a} \subseteq a$

Free Monad: $a^c = \mu x. \Delta_\eta \cup a \cup \tilde{x}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
V + \Sigma(\Sigma^\dagger V) & \xrightarrow{(\overline{V+\Sigma})(\llbracket \eta, \sigma \rrbracket; a)} & V + \Sigma(\Sigma^\dagger V) \\
\downarrow [\eta, \sigma] & & \downarrow [\eta, \sigma]; a \\
\Sigma^\dagger V & \xrightarrow{\underbrace{\llbracket \eta, \sigma \rrbracket; a \rrbracket}_{a^H}} & \Sigma^\dagger V
\end{array}$$

$$\frac{}{x \quad a^H \quad x} \quad \frac{x \quad a \quad t}{x \quad a^H \quad t} \quad \frac{t_1 \quad a^H \quad s_1 \quad \cdots \quad t_n \quad a^H \quad s_n \quad \text{op}(s_1, \dots, s_n) \quad a \quad u}{\text{op}(t_1, \dots, t_n) \quad a^H \quad \text{op}(s_1, \dots, s_n)}$$

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👉 a^H is the **Howe Extension** of $a \rightarrow$ **Congruence of Bisimilarity**

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☞ a^H is the **Howe Extension** of $a \rightarrow$ **Congruence of Bisimilarity**

☞ $(\rightarrow \cup \Delta)^H$ is **Parallel Reduction** \rightarrow **Tait-Martin-Löf Technique**

$$a[\Delta]^\circ; a[\Delta] \subseteq \Delta \ \& \ a[\Delta]^\circ; \widetilde{a}^H \subseteq a^\circ[a^H] \implies a^{H^\circ}; a^H \subseteq a^H; a^{H^\circ}$$

Step 3: Calculus of Term Relations

Collection of operations on $Rel(\mathcal{E})(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \Sigma^{\dagger}V)$

$$\underbrace{(\Delta, ;, \cdot^{\circ}, \cup, \cap)}_{\text{pure relational operations}} + \underbrace{(\Delta_{\eta}, \widetilde{\cdot}, \cdot^H, \cdot^C)}_{\text{term relation operations}}$$

Subject to simple **calculational laws**

$$\Delta_{\eta} \subseteq \Delta$$

$$\widetilde{a}; \widetilde{b} = \widetilde{a; b}$$

$$\widetilde{a}^{\circ} = \widetilde{a}^{\circ}$$

$$\Delta_{\eta}; \widetilde{a} = \perp$$

$$\widetilde{a}^* \subseteq \widetilde{a \cup \Delta}^*$$

$$a \subseteq b \implies \widetilde{a} \subseteq \widetilde{b}$$

$$\Delta^H = \Delta$$

$$a; (\Delta_{\eta} \cup \widetilde{b}) \subseteq b \implies a^H \subseteq b$$

$$\Delta_{\eta} \cup a \cup \widetilde{b} \subseteq b \implies a^C \subseteq b$$

Step 4: Term Relation Algebras

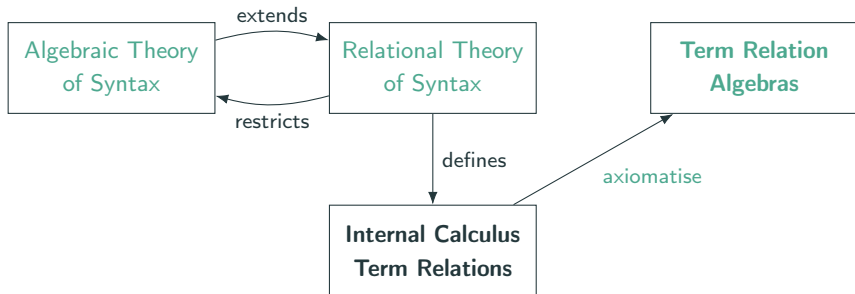
Calculus of Term Relations internal to $Rel(\mathcal{E})(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \Sigma^{\dagger}V)$

- ➡ **Building blocks** and **reasoning principles** of term relations
- ➡ Isolates the very **structure** of term relations

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Term Relation Algebras

TRAs give a **synthetic** and **pointfree** theory of term relations

- ☞ Just one kind of object: **relations**
- ☞ No syntax, no syntactic structure → **syntax independence**

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TRAs are **easy to use**

- ☞ Directly endow concrete formalisms with TRA structure

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : T \vdash t \quad a \quad s : S}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda(x : T).t \quad \widetilde{a} \quad \lambda(x : T).s : T \rightarrow S} \quad \frac{\Gamma, a \vdash t \quad a \quad s : T}{\Gamma \vdash \Lambda a.t \quad \widetilde{a} \quad \Lambda a.s : \forall a.T}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t \quad a \quad t' : S \rightarrow T \quad \Gamma \vdash s \quad a \quad s' : S}{\Gamma \vdash ts \quad \widetilde{a} \quad t's' : T}$$

- ☞ Quasi-equational reasoning → **mechanised semantics**

TRAs capture **operational use** of syntax

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Term Constructs	$\sigma : \Sigma(\Sigma^{\dagger}V) \rightarrow \Sigma^{\dagger}V$
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	Heterogenous Systems
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No matter which structure used for substitution: $a[b] = \zeta^{\circ}. (a \overline{\otimes} b); \zeta$

$$(a; c)[b; d] \subseteq a[b]; c[d] \quad (a[b])[c] = a[b[c]]$$

$$a[b]^{\circ} = a^{\circ}[b^{\circ}] \quad \Delta_{\eta}[a] = a = a[\Delta_{\eta}]$$

$$\widetilde{a}[b] \subseteq \widetilde{a[\widetilde{b}]}$$

$$a[b] \subseteq c \iff a \subseteq b \gg c$$

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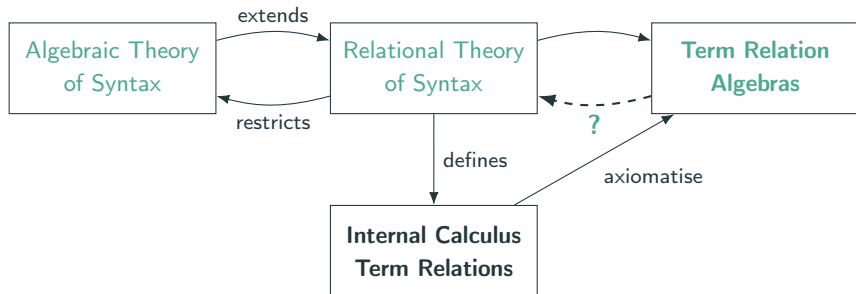
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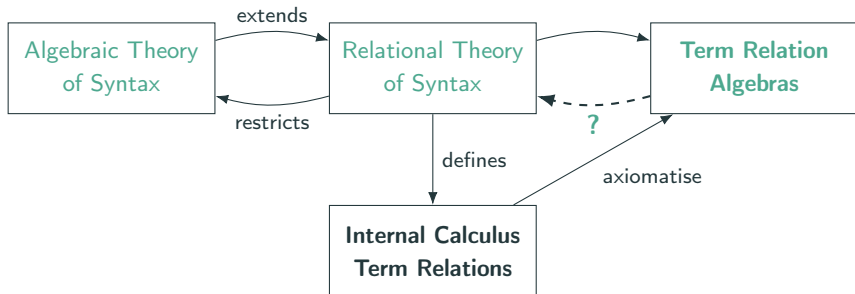
$$x_1, \dots, x_n \vdash t \quad a \gg b \quad s \iff \forall \tau, \sigma. Y \vdash \tau(x_i) \quad a \quad \sigma(x_i) \implies Y \vdash t[\tau] \quad b \quad s[\sigma]$$

👉 **Logical Relations**

Relational Syntax, Revisited



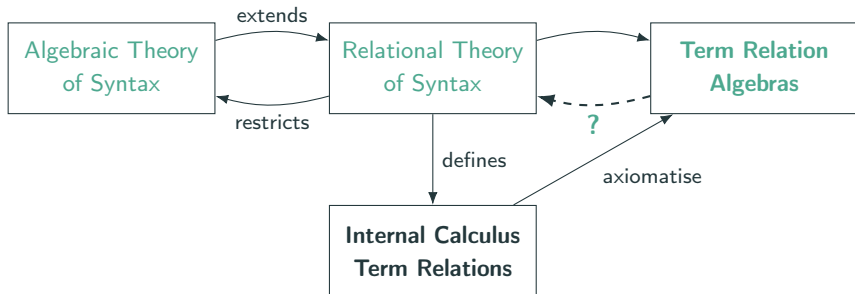
Relational Syntax, Revisited



$$\frac{\text{Structure} \quad \varphi : F(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \dots, \Sigma^{\dagger}V) \rightarrow \Sigma^{\dagger}V \text{ in } \mathcal{E}}{\text{Operation} \quad \Phi : \text{Rel}(\mathcal{E})(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \Sigma^{\dagger}V)^n \rightarrow \text{Rel}(\mathcal{E})(\Sigma^{\dagger}V, \Sigma^{\dagger}V)}$$

Q. How much information do we loose?

Relational Syntax, Revisited



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Q. How much information do we lose?

A. No relevant information is lost

Representation Theorem. Any TRA arises as the algebra of term relations of a syntactic structure.

Expressiveness

How Far Can We Go?

Q. How much operational semantics can we within TRAs?

α TRA		Atoms	
		Operators	
		Contexts	
σ TRA	Substitution		
∂ TRA	Linear Contexts		

Enough for **rewriting**, **congruence**, **equational deduction**

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What about

program statics and **program dynamics**?

Behavioural equivalences

Computational interpretation of proofs?

A Computational Pre-Theory of Syntax

Martin-Löf (Constructive Mathematics and Computer Programming)

Operators	Intro Forms Elim Forms $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{major arg.} \\ \text{minor arg.} \end{array} \right.$	$\text{abs}(x. -)$ $\text{app}_n(\bullet, \circ)$ $\text{app}_v(\bullet, \bullet)$
Terms	Complete Incomplete	$\emptyset \vdash \text{lam}(x.x)$ $x \vdash \text{app}_n(x, x)$
Computation	Gentzen's Principle	$\text{elim}(\underbrace{\text{intro}}_{\text{major}}, -)$

Intro Forms	$I : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$	\bar{a}
Elim Forms	$E : \mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$	$\langle a, b \rangle$
Complete Incomplete	$\mathcal{E}_0 \xrightleftharpoons[U]{\Delta} \mathcal{E} \quad \Delta \dashv U$	$\Box \dashv \Diamond$
Gentzen's Principle		$a \subseteq \langle \bar{\Delta}, \Delta \rangle; a$

Intro Forms	$I : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$	\bar{a}
Elim Forms	$E : \mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$	$\langle a, b \rangle$
Complete Incomplete	$\mathcal{E}_0 \xrightleftharpoons[U]{\Delta} \mathcal{E} \quad \Delta \dashv U$	$\square \dashv \blacklozenge$
Gentzen's Principle		$a \subseteq \langle \bar{\Delta}, \Delta \rangle; a$

φ **TRA**

About 25 axioms (but they are decreasing)

Intro Forms	$I : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$	\bar{a}
Elim Forms	$E : \mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$	$\langle a, b \rangle$
Complete Incomplete	$\mathcal{E}_0 \xrightleftharpoons[U]{\Delta} \mathcal{E} \quad \Delta \dashv U$	$\Box \dashv \Diamond$
Gentzen's Principle		$a \subseteq \langle \bar{\Delta}, \Delta \rangle; a$

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Many examples

☞ **CbN, CbV, FG-CbV**

☞ **System T**

☞ **System $F\mu$**

☞ **$\lambda\Pi$**

☞ **Continuations**

☞ **Object Calculi** (ζ -calculus)

☞ **Natural Deduction**

Expressiveness

Dynamic Semantics

$$a^E = \mu x. \overline{\Delta} \cup \langle x, \Delta \rangle; a; x$$

Program Equivalence (kleene, Applicative, ...)

$$=_{KI} = a^{E^0}; a^E$$

$$\gtrsim = \nu x. (a^E; \overline{\Delta \gg x}) / a^E$$

Static Semantics

Preliminary Results (type elaboration as evaluation)

Theorem \approx is a congruence: $\approx \subseteq \approx$

Proof. Prove $\approx^H; a^E \subseteq a^E; \overline{\Delta} \gg \approx^H$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \Box a^{\delta}; b; c \\
& \leq \Box(\Diamond a; \widehat{a^{\delta}}); b; c & (\S 3) \\
& \leq \Box \Diamond a; \Box \widehat{a^{\delta}}; b; c & (K1) \\
& = a; \Box \widehat{a^{\delta}}; b; c & (K19) \text{ since } a = \Box a \\
& = a; \Box \widehat{a^{\delta}}; \Box b; c & \Box b = b \\
& = a; \Box(\widehat{a^{\delta}}; b); c & (K1) \\
& \leq a; \Box(\widehat{a^{\delta}}; \langle K, \Delta \rangle; b); c & \text{Inv} \\
& \leq a; \Box(\langle a^{\delta}, a^{\delta} \rangle; \langle K, \Delta \rangle; b); c & (C19) \\
& \leq a; \Box(\langle a^{\delta}; K, a^{\delta} \rangle; b); c & (C4) \\
& = a; \Box(\langle a^{\delta}; K, a^{\delta} \rangle; b); c & (K7) \\
& \leq a; \Box(\Box a^{\delta}; \Box K, \Box a^{\delta}); \Box b; c & (C8) \text{ and } (K1) \\
& = a; \Box(\Box a^{\delta}; K, \Box a^{\delta}); b; c & \Box K = K \text{ and } \Box b = b \\
& \leq a; \Box(b^{\delta}; \widehat{a^{\delta}}, \Box a^{\delta}); b; c & \Theta_1 \\
& = a; \Box(b^{\delta}, \Delta); (\widehat{a^{\delta}}, \Box a^{\delta}); b; c & (C4) \\
& \leq a; \Box(b^{\delta}); (\widehat{a^{\delta}}, a^{\delta}); b; c & (K6) \text{ and } \langle b^{\delta} \rangle = \langle b^{\delta}, \Delta \rangle \\
& \leq a; \Box(b^{\delta}); b; a^{\delta}[a^{\delta}]; c & (\text{Harmony}) \text{ since } \widehat{a^{\delta}} \leq a^{\delta} \\
& \leq a; \Box(b^{\delta}); b; a^{\delta}; c & (\S 2) \\
& \leq a; \Box(b^{\delta}); \Box b; \Box a^{\delta}; c & (K1) \\
& \leq a; \langle b^{\delta} \rangle; b; \Box a^{\delta}; c & (C17) \text{ and } \Box b^{\delta} = b \text{ and } \Box b = b \\
& \leq a; \langle b^{\delta} \rangle; b; b^{\delta}; \widehat{a^{\delta}} & \ddagger \\
& \leq a; b^{\delta}; \widehat{a^{\delta}} & \text{Definition of } b^{\delta} \\
& \leq b^{\delta}; \widehat{\Diamond a; a^{\delta}} & \dagger \\
& \leq b^{\delta}; \widehat{\Diamond a; a^{\delta}} & (E25) \\
& \leq b^{\delta}; \widehat{a^{\delta}} & (H17)
\end{aligned}$$

Conclusion

I Suspect I Am Late...

$$Syn \xrightarrow{\text{Syntax} \rightarrow \text{Semantics}} Rel(Syn, Syn)$$

$$\mathbf{points}(\mathfrak{A}) \xleftarrow{\text{Syntax} \leftarrow \text{Semantics}} \mathfrak{A}$$

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Future *Allegories of Static Semantics*

Future *Allegories of Computational Effects*

Future *Allegories of Computational Coeffects*

Future *Allegories of Mechanised Semantics*