



# CS 3110

## Proofs are Programs

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Today's music: *Proof* by Paul Simon

# Review

Previously in 3110:

- Functional programming in Coq
- Logic in Coq

Today: A fundamental idea that goes by many names...

- Propositions as types
- **Proofs as programs**
- Curry–Howard(–Lambek) isomorphism (aka correspondence)
- Brouwer–Heyting–Kolmogorov interpretation

Types = Propositions

**ACT I**

# Three innocent functions

```
let apply f x = f x
```

```
let const x = fun _ -> x
```

```
let subst x y z = x z (y z)
```

# Three innocent functions

```
let apply f x = f x
```

```
: ('a -> 'b) -> 'a -> 'b
```

```
let const x = fun _ -> x
```

```
: 'a -> 'b -> 'a
```

```
let subst x y z = x z (y z)
```

```
: ('a -> 'b -> 'c)
```

```
-> ('a -> 'b) -> 'a -> 'c
```

# Three innocent functions

```
let apply f x = f x
```

```
: ('a -> 'b) -> 'a -> 'b
```

```
let const x = fun _ -> x
```

```
: 'a -> 'b -> 'a
```

```
let subst x y z = x z (y z)
```

```
: ('a -> 'b -> 'c)
```

```
-> ('a -> 'b) -> 'a -> 'c
```

# Three innocent ~~functions~~ propositions

```
let apply f x = f x
```

```
: ('a  $\Rightarrow$  'b)  $\Rightarrow$  'a  $\Rightarrow$  'b
```

```
let const x = fun _ -> x
```

```
: 'a  $\Rightarrow$  'b  $\Rightarrow$  'a
```

```
let subst x y z = x z (y z)
```

```
: ('a  $\Rightarrow$  'b  $\Rightarrow$  'c)
```

```
 $\Rightarrow$  ('a  $\Rightarrow$  'b)  $\Rightarrow$  'a  $\Rightarrow$  'c
```

# Three innocent functions propositions

`let apply f x = f x`

`: ( A  $\Rightarrow$  B )  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B`

`let const x = fun _ -> x`

`: A  $\Rightarrow$  B  $\Rightarrow$  A`

`let subst x y z = x z (y z)`

`: ( A  $\Rightarrow$  B  $\Rightarrow$  C )`

`$\Rightarrow$  ( A  $\Rightarrow$  B )  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  C`



# Three innocent ~~functions~~ propositions

```
let apply f x = f x
```

```
: ( A  $\Rightarrow$  B )  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B
```

```
let const x = fun _ -> x
```

```
: A  $\Rightarrow$  ( B  $\Rightarrow$  A )
```

```
let subst x y z = x z (y z)
```

```
: ( A  $\Rightarrow$  ( B  $\Rightarrow$  C ) )
```

```
 $\Rightarrow$  ( ( A  $\Rightarrow$  B )  $\Rightarrow$  ( A  $\Rightarrow$  C ) )
```

Do you recognize these propositions?

# A Sound and Complete Axiomatization for Propositional Logic

Consider the following axiom schemes:

$$\text{A1. } A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow A)$$

$$\text{A2. } (A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow C)) \Rightarrow ((A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow (A \Rightarrow C))$$

$$\text{A3. } ((A \Rightarrow B) \Rightarrow ((A \Rightarrow \neg B) \Rightarrow \neg A))$$

These are axioms schemes; each one encodes an infinite set of axioms:

- ▶  $P \Rightarrow (Q \Rightarrow P)$ ,  $(P \Rightarrow R) \Rightarrow (Q \Rightarrow (P \Rightarrow R))$  are instances of A1.

**Theorem:** A1, A2, A3 + **modus ponens** give a sound and complete axiomatization for formulas in propositional logic involving only  $\Rightarrow$  and  $\neg$ .

## *Modus Ponens*

$A \Rightarrow B$

$A$

---

$B$

# Three innocent functions/propositions

**let** apply f x = f x

MP as axiom

: ( A  $\Rightarrow$  B )  $\Rightarrow$  A  $\Rightarrow$  B

**let** const x = **fun** \_ -> x

: A  $\Rightarrow$  ( B  $\Rightarrow$  A )

A1

**let** subst x y z = x z (y z)

: ( A  $\Rightarrow$  ( B  $\Rightarrow$  C ) )

$\Rightarrow$  ( ( A  $\Rightarrow$  B )  $\Rightarrow$  ( A  $\Rightarrow$  C ) )

A2

# Types and propositions

Logical propositions can be read as program types, and vice versa

Type	Proposition
Type variable 'a	Atomic proposition A
Function type $\rightarrow$	Implication $\Rightarrow$

# Conjunction and truth

```
let fst (a,b) = a
```

```
: 'a * 'b -> 'a
```

```
let snd (a,b) = b
```

```
: 'a * 'b -> 'b
```

```
let pair a b = (a,b)
```

```
: 'a -> 'b -> 'a * 'b
```

```
let tt = ()
```

```
: unit
```

# Conjunction and truth

```
let fst (a,b) = a
```

```
  : (A ∧ B) ⇒ A
```

```
let snd (a,b) = b
```

```
  : (A ∧ B) ⇒ B
```

```
let pair a b = (a,b)
```

```
  : A ⇒ (B ⇒ (A ∧ B))
```

```
let tt = ()
```

```
  : true
```

# Types and propositions

Logical propositions can be read as program types, and vice versa

Type	Proposition
Type variable 'a	Atomic proposition A
Function type $\rightarrow$	Implication $\Rightarrow$
Product type $*$	Conjunction $\wedge$
<code>unit</code>	True



# Disjunction

```
type ('a, 'b) or' = Left of 'a | Right of 'b
```

```
let left (x:'a) = Left x  
      : 'a -> ('a, 'b) or'
```

```
let right (y:'b) = Right y  
      : 'b -> ('a, 'b) or'
```

```
let match' (f1:'a -> 'c) (f2:'b -> 'c) = function  
  | Left v1 -> f1 v1  
  | Right v2 -> f2 v2  
  : ('a -> 'c) -> ('b -> 'c) -> ('a, 'b) or' -> 'c
```

Read  
(*a*,*b*) or'  
as  
 $A \vee B$

# Disjunction

```
type ('a, 'b) or' = Left of 'a | Right of 'b
```

```
let left (x:'a) = Left x  
  : A  $\Rightarrow$  (A  $\vee$  B)
```

```
let right (y:'b) = Right y  
  : B  $\Rightarrow$  (A  $\vee$  B)
```

```
let match' (f1:'a -> 'c) (f2:'b -> 'c) = function  
  | Left v1 -> f1 v1  
  | Right v2 -> f2 v2  
  : (A  $\Rightarrow$  C)  $\Rightarrow$  (B  $\Rightarrow$  C)  $\Rightarrow$  (A  $\vee$  B)  $\Rightarrow$  C
```

# Types and propositions

Logical propositions can be read as program types, and vice versa

Type	Formula
Type variable 'a	Atomic proposition A
Function type $\rightarrow$	Implication $\Rightarrow$
Product type $*$	Conjunction $\wedge$
<code>unit</code>	True
Tagged union	Disjunction $\vee$

*False and negation also possible; see slides at end*

Program types

and

logical propositions

are fundamentally the same idea

Programs = Proofs

**ACT II**

# Innocent typing rule

- Recall typing contexts and judgements [lec18]
  - Typing context  $T$  is a map from variable names to types
  - Typing judgment  $T \vdash e : t$  says that  $e$  has type  $t$  in context  $T$
- Typing rule for function application:
  - if  $T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u$
  - and  $T \vdash e2 : t$
  - then  $T \vdash e1\ e2 : u$

# Innocent typing rule

if  $T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u$   
and  $T \vdash e2 : t$   
then  $T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u$

# Innocent typing rule

if  $T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u$

and  $T \vdash e2 : t$

then  $T \vdash e1\ e2 : u$



# Innocent typing rule

if  $T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u$

and  $T \vdash e2 : t$

then  $T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u$

# Innocent typing rule

if  $T \vdash e1 : t \Rightarrow u$   
and  $T \vdash e2 : t$   
then  $T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u$

Do you recognize this rule?

*Modus Ponens*

$A \Rightarrow B$

$A$

---

$B$

**INTERMISSION**

# Logical proof systems

- Ways of formalizing what is *provable*
- Which may differ from what is *true* or *decidable*
- Two styles:
  - Hilbert:
    - lots of axioms
    - few inference rules (maybe just modus ponens)
  - Gentzen:
    - lots of inference rules (a couple for each operator)
    - few axioms

# Inference rules

$$\frac{P_1 \quad P_2 \quad \dots P_n}{Q}$$

- From *premises*  $P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n$
- Infer *conclusion*  $Q$
- Express allowed means of *inference* or *deductive reasoning*
- *Axiom* is an inference rule with zero premises

# Judgments

$$A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \vdash B$$

- From *assumptions*  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ 
  - traditional to write  $\Gamma$  for set of assumptions
- Judge that B is *derivable* or *provable*
- Express allowed means of *hypothetical reasoning*
- $\Gamma, A \vdash A$  is an axiom

# Inference rules for $\Rightarrow$ and $\wedge$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B} \Rightarrow \text{intro}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \Rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash B} \Rightarrow \text{elim}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \quad \Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B} \wedge \text{intro}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B}{\Gamma \vdash A} \wedge \text{elim 1}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B}{\Gamma \vdash B} \wedge \text{elim 2}$$

# Introduction and elimination

- Introduction rules say how to *define* an operator
- Elimination rules say how to *use* an operator
- Gentzen's insight: every operator should come with intro and elim rules



**BACK TO THE SHOW**

# Innocent typing rule

if  $T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u$

and  $T \vdash e2 : t$

then  $T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u$

$$T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u \quad T \vdash e2 : t$$

---

$$T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u$$

# Innocent typing rule

if  $T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u$

and  $T \vdash e2 : t$

then  $T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u$

$$T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u \quad T \vdash e2 : t$$

---

$$T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u$$

# Innocent typing rule

if  $\Gamma \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u$

and  $\Gamma \vdash e2 : t$

then  $\Gamma \vdash e1\ e2 : u$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e1 : t \Rightarrow u \quad \Gamma \vdash e2 : t}{\Gamma \vdash e1\ e2 : u} \Rightarrow \text{elim}$$

Modus ponens is function application

# Computing with evidence

- Modus ponens (aka  $\Rightarrow$  elim) is a way of computing with evidence
  - Given evidence  $e2$  that  $t$  holds
  - And given a way  $e1$  of transforming evidence for  $t$  into evidence for  $u$
  - MP produces evidence for  $u$  by applying  $e1$  to  $e2$
- So  $e1 \ e2$  is a program... and a proof!

$$\frac{T \vdash e1 : t \rightarrow u \quad T \vdash e2 : t}{T \vdash e1 \ e2 : u}$$

# More typing rules

$$\Gamma, x:t \vdash e:u$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{fun } x \rightarrow e : t \rightarrow u$$
$$\Gamma \vdash e1:t1 \quad \Gamma \vdash e2:t2$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash (e1, e2) : t1 * t2$$

# More typing rules

$$\frac{\Gamma, x:t \vdash e:u}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fun } x \rightarrow e : t \Rightarrow u} \Rightarrow \text{intro}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1:t_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2:t_2}{\Gamma \vdash (e_1, e_2) : t_1 \wedge t_2} \wedge \text{intro}$$

# More computing with evidence

$$\Gamma, x:t \vdash e:u$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{fun } x \rightarrow e : t \rightarrow u$$

given evidence  $e$  for  $u$  predicated on evidence  $x$  for  $t$ , produce an evidence transformer

$$\Gamma \vdash e1:t1 \quad \Gamma \vdash e2:t2$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash (e1, e2) : t1 * t2$$

given evidence  $e_i$  for  $t_i$ , produce combined evidence for both



# Even more typing rules

$$\Gamma \vdash e : t1 * t2$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } e : t1$$
$$\Gamma \vdash e : t1 * t2$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } e : t2$$

# Even more typing rules

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : t_1 \wedge t_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } e : t_1} \wedge \text{elim } 1$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : t_1 \wedge t_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } e : t_2} \wedge \text{elim } 2$$

# Even more computing with evidence

$$\Gamma \vdash e : t_1 * t_2$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } e : t_1$$
$$\Gamma \vdash e : t_1 * t_2$$

---

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } e : t_2$$

given evidence  $e$  for both  $t_i$ , project out the evidence for one of them

# Programs and proofs

- A well-typed program demonstrates that there is at least one value for that type
  - i.e. the that type is **inhabited**
  - a program is a proof that the type is inhabited
- A proof demonstrates that there is at least one way of deriving a formula
  - i.e. that the formula is provable by manipulating assumptions and doing inference
  - a proof is a program that manipulates evidence
- **Proofs are programs, and programs are proofs**

# Coq proofs *are* programs

Theorem apply :

forall A B : Prop, (A -> B) -> A -> B.

Proof.

intros A B f x. apply f. assumption.

Qed.

Print apply.

*apply =*

*fun (A B : Prop) (f : A -> B) (x : A)*

*=> f x*

*: forall A B : Prop,*

*(A -> B) -> A -> B*

# Programs

and

# Proofs

are fundamentally the same idea

Evaluation = Simplification

## **ACT III**

# Many proofs/programs

A given proposition/type could have many proofs/programs.

Proposition/type:

- $A \Rightarrow (B \Rightarrow (A \wedge B))$
- `'a -> ('b -> ('a * 'b))`

Proofs/programs:

- `fun x -> fun y ->  
 (fun z -> (snd z, fst z)) (y,x)`
- `fun x -> fun y -> (snd (y,x), fst  
 (y,x))`
- `fun x -> fun y -> (x,y)`



# Many proofs/programs

Body of each proof/program:

- `(fun z -> (snd z, fst z)) (y,x)`
- `(snd (y,x), fst (y,x))`
- `(x,y)`

Each is the result of small-stepping the previous  
...and in each case, the proof/program gets simpler

Taking an evaluation step corresponds to simplifying  
the proof

Program evaluation

and

proof simplification

are fundamentally the same idea

# CONCLUSION

# These are all the same ideas

Programming	Logic
Types	Propositions
Programs	Proofs
Evaluation	Simplification

Computation is reasoning  
Functional programming is fundamental

# Upcoming events

- N/A

*This is fundamental.*

**THIS IS 3110**

# False

Read "void" as "false".  
Read 'a . 'a as  $(\forall x . x)$ , which is false.

```
type void = {nope : 'a . 'a}
```

```
let ff1 = {nope = let rec f x = f x in f ()}  
      : void
```

```
let ff2 = {nope = failwith ""}  
      : void
```

Both ff1 and ff2 type check, but  
neither successfully completes  
evaluation: not possible to create a  
value of type void

# False

Read "void" as "false".  
Read 'a . 'a as  $(\forall x . x)$ , which is false.

```
type void = {nope : 'a . 'a}
```

```
let ff1 = {nope = let rec f x = f x in f ()}  
      : void
```

```
let ff2 = {nope = failwith ""}  
      : void
```

```
let explode (f:void) : 'b = f.nope  
      : void -> 'b
```

# False

```
type void = {nope : 'a . 'a}
```

```
let ff1 = {nope = let rec f x = f x in f ()}  
          : void
```

```
let ff2 = {nope = failwith ""}  
          : void
```

```
let explode (f:void) : 'b = f.nope  
      : false ⇒ B
```



# Negation

- Syntactic sugar: define  $\neg A$  as  $A \Rightarrow \text{false}$
- As a type, that would be `'a -> void`

# Types and propositions

Logical propositions can be read as program types, and vice versa

Type	Proposition
Type variable 'a	Atomic proposition A
Function type $\rightarrow$	Implication $\Rightarrow$
Product type $*$	Conjunction $\wedge$
<code>unit</code>	True
Tagged union	Disjunction $\vee$
Type with no values	False
(syntactic sugar)	Negation $\neg$