

Universes in simplicial type theory

Ulrik Buchholtz¹ Daniel Gratzer² Jonathan Weinberger³

The University of Nottingham
Nottingham, United Kingdom

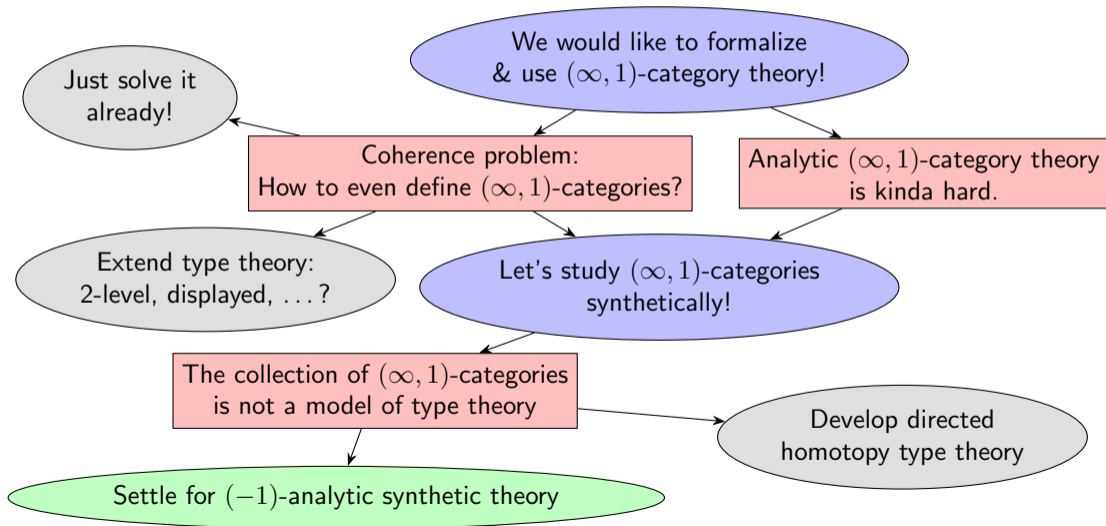
Aarhus University
Aarhus, Denmark

Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland, USA

13th of June
TYPES 2024, ITU, Copenhagen

Introduction & Motivation

In the context of Homotopy Type Theory/Univalent Foundations:



Simplicial type theory

In simplicial type theory [RS17] we interpret HoTT in simplicial spaces (or simplicial objects of any higher topos). These are probed by the simplices Δ^n .

From an interval type \mathbb{I} (a totally ordered set with distinct 0 and 1), we get the type of arrows $X^{\mathbb{I}}$ for any type X .

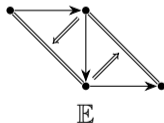
Definition X is *Segal* if $X^{\Delta^2} \rightarrow X^{\Lambda_1^2}$ is an equivalence.

Definition A Segal type X is *Rezk* if $X^{\mathbb{E}} \rightarrow X$ is an equivalence, for \mathbb{E} the “walking equivalence”.

The Rezk types are our $(\infty, 1)$ -categories. It’s possible to do quite a lot of abstract category theory with these, incl. fibered category theory [BW23].

Proof assistant RZK [Kud23], formalization of a version of the Yoneda lemma [KRW04].

$$\Lambda_1^2 \hookrightarrow \Delta^2$$



Modal simplicial type theory

But there aren't many *examples* of categories in bare simplicial type theory. In particular, we'd like the category of spaces \mathcal{S} .

We define this using the [LOPS18] construction, but we need to be in a setting where \mathbb{I} is *tiny*, which it isn't in simplicial spaces, but it is in cubical spaces.

With MTT [GKNB21; GKNB20], we add modalities

- idempotent comonad g (global) with right adjoint s ,
- involutive o (opposite),
- codistributive colattice & commutative monoid ρ (for $\mathbb{I} \rightarrow _$),
- right adjoint $\rho \dashv \bar{\rho}$,
- τ (twisted arrows) with 2-cells $\tau \rightarrow \text{id}$, $\tau \rightarrow o$,
- equations $sg = s$, $gs = g\bar{\rho} = go = g$, $\tau o = o\tau$, ...

Enforce $\Gamma.\{\rho\} = \Gamma.\mathbb{I}$ so \mathbb{I} becomes a distributive lattice with duality involution $\neg : \mathbb{I}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbb{I}$.

\mathbb{I} is tiny if $\mathbb{I} \rightarrow _$
has a right adjoint.

See also
Riley's [Ril24]

(Cf. also [WL20])

Triangulated type theory

Cubical spaces contain simplicial spaces as a subtopos [SW21], which we can define as the lex modality \square , nullification at the family of propositions:

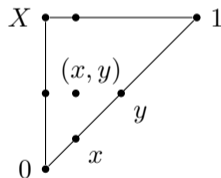
$$\Phi : \mathbb{I} \times \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \text{Prop}, \quad \Phi(i, j) = (i \leq j) \vee (j \leq i)$$

The \square -modal types are the simplicial spaces. We add some axioms to capture that cubes detect equivalences [MR23].

Further, we use synthetic quasicoherence [Ble23], which relies on the fact that \mathbb{I} , qua cubical space, is simplicial, see also [Spi16].

The interval \mathbb{I} is a distributive lattice with $0, 1$. Define an \mathbb{I} -algebra to be a distributive lattice R with $0, 1$ and a structure-preserving map $\mathbb{I} \rightarrow R$.

Axiom (Duality) For any finitely presented \mathbb{I} -algebra R , the map $R \rightarrow (\text{hom}_{\mathbb{I}}(R, \mathbb{I}) \rightarrow \mathbb{I})$ is an equivalence.



Cor. (Phoa's principle) We have equivalences

$$\Delta^2 \simeq \mathbb{I}[X] \simeq (\mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathbb{I}).$$

(Amazingly) Covariant Families

Consider the notion of covariant families over the interval:

$$\text{Cov} : \mathcal{U}^{\mathbb{I}} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

$$\text{Cov } X = \prod_{x_0 : X_0} \text{isContr} \left(\sum_{x_1 : X_1} \text{hom}_{\text{id}}(x_0, x_1) \right)$$

Definition: A family $A : X \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ is *amazingly covariant* if we have

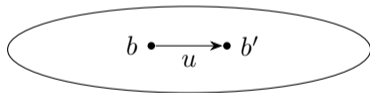
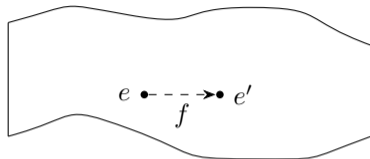
$$\left(\prod_{x : (i : \mathbb{I}) \rightarrow X^{\eta \cdot i}} \text{Cov}(\lambda i. (A^{\eta \cdot i})(x \cdot i)) \right)_{\mathbb{I}}$$

Theorem $\mathcal{U}_{\text{Cov}} := \mathcal{U} \times_{\mathcal{U}_{\mathbb{I}}} \mathcal{U}_{\mathbb{I}}^{\bullet} = \sum_{A : \mathcal{U}} \text{Cov}(\lambda i. A^{\eta \cdot i})_{\mathbb{I}}$ classifies amazingly covariant families.

Definition $\mathcal{S} := \sum_{A : \mathcal{U}_{\square}} \text{Cov}(\lambda i. A^{\eta \cdot i})_{\mathbb{I}}$.

Closure properties \mathcal{S} :

- contains global discrete types,
- is closed under Σ and identity types,
- is closed under finite limits and colimits.



Directed Univalent Universe of Covariant Families

To prove directed univalence we introduce directed glue types, given a type X and a family $A : X \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$:

$$\text{Gl } A : X \times \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_{\square}$$

$$\text{Gl } A x i = (i = 0) \rightarrow A x$$

Theorem $\text{Gl } A :_g X \times \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$.

This uses Phoa's principle.

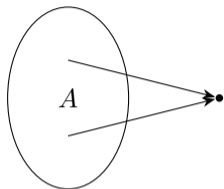
Given $E_0, E_1 : \mathcal{S}$ with $f : E_0 \rightarrow E_1$ we get a type family

$$\sum_{e_1 : E_1} \text{Gl } f^{-1}(e_1) : \mathbb{I} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$$

This gives us straightening.

Theorem (Directed univalence)

$S : (E_0 \rightarrow E_1) \rightarrow \text{hom}_{\mathcal{S}}(E_0, E_1)$ is an equivalence.



Corollary \mathcal{S} is Segal and Rezk, hence a category.

Theorem (external) \mathcal{S} is simplicial.

Directed structure identity principle

As a consequence of directed univalence we can construct many other categories with the expected morphisms:

$(\infty, 1)$ -category of pointed spaces, $\sum_{X:\mathcal{S}} X$,

1-category of finite sets,

1-categories of usual algebraic structures,

1-category of posets, ω , Δ ,

$(\infty, 1)$ -category of spectra (two definitions),

$(\infty, 1)$ -category of spaces with an endomorphism,

...

Conclusions and Further Work

Next steps:

- Naive Yoneda via twisted arrow modality.
- $(\infty, 1)$ -category of $(\infty, 1)$ -categories, functors and natural equivalences.
- Applications to higher algebra.
- Integration in \mathbf{RZK} .
- Computational meaning [[WABN22](#)].

Thank you

References I

- [Ble23] Ingo Blechschmidt. *A general Nullstellensatz for generalized spaces*. Draft. 2023.
URL:
<https://rawgit.com/iblech/internal-methods/master/paper-qcoh.pdf>
(cit. on p. 5).
- [BW23] Ulrik Buchholtz and Jonathan Weinberger. “Synthetic fibered $(\infty, 1)$ -category theory”. In: *Higher Structures* 7 (1 2023), pp. 74–165. DOI: [10.21136/HS.2023.04](https://doi.org/10.21136/HS.2023.04) (cit. on p. 3).
- [GKNB21] Daniel Gratzer, G. A. Kavvos, Andreas Nuyts, and Lars Birkedal. “Multimodal Dependent Type Theory”. In: *Logical Methods in Computer Science* Volume 17, Issue 3 (July 2021). DOI: [10.46298/lmcs-17\(3:11\)2021](https://doi.org/10.46298/lmcs-17(3:11)2021) (cit. on p. 4).
- [GKNB20] Daniel Gratzer, G.A. Kavvos, Andreas Nuyts, and Lars Birkedal. “Multimodal Dependent Type Theory”. In: *Proceedings of the 35th Annual ACM/IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science*. LICS '20. ACM, 2020. DOI: [10.1145/3373718.3394736](https://doi.org/10.1145/3373718.3394736) (cit. on p. 4).

References II

- [Kud23] Nikolai Kudasov. RZK. An experimental proof assistant based on a type theory for synthetic ∞ -categories. 2023. URL: <https://github.com/rzk-lang/rzk> (cit. on p. 3).
- [KRW04] Nikolai Kudasov, Emily Riehl, and Jonathan Weinberger. “Formalizing the ∞ -Categorical Yoneda Lemma”. In: *Proceedings of the 13th ACM SIGPLAN International Conference on Certified Programs and Proofs*. 2004, pp. 274–290. DOI: [10.1145/3636501.3636945](https://doi.org/10.1145/3636501.3636945) (cit. on p. 3).
- [LOPS18] Daniel R. Licata, Ian Orton, Andrew M. Pitts, and Bas Spitters. “Internal Universes in Models of Homotopy Type Theory”. In: *3rd International Conference on Formal Structures for Computation and Deduction (FSCD 2018)*. Ed. by Hélène Kirchner. Vol. 108. Leibniz International Proceedings in Informatics (LIPIcs). Dagstuhl, Germany: Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, 2018, 22:1–22:17. DOI: [10.4230/LIPIcs.FSCD.2018.22](https://doi.org/10.4230/LIPIcs.FSCD.2018.22) (cit. on p. 4).
- [MR23] David Jaz Myers and Mitchell Riley. *Commuting Cohesions*. 2023. arXiv: [2301.13780](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.13780) [math.CT] (cit. on p. 5).

References III

- [RS17] Emily Riehl and Michael Shulman. “A type theory for synthetic ∞ -categories”. In: *Higher Structures* 1 (1 2017), pp. 147–224. DOI: [10.21136/HS.2017.06](https://doi.org/10.21136/HS.2017.06) (cit. on p. 3).
- [Ril24] Mitchell Riley. *A Type Theory with a Tiny Object*. 2024. arXiv: [2403.01939](https://arxiv.org/abs/2403.01939) [[math.CT](#)] (cit. on p. 4).
- [Spi16] Bas Spitters. *Cubical sets and the topological topos*. 2016. arXiv: [1610.05270](https://arxiv.org/abs/1610.05270) [[cs.LG](#)] (cit. on p. 5).
- [SW21] Thomas Streicher and Jonathan Weinberger. “Simplicial sets inside cubical sets”. In: *Theory and Application of Categories* 37.10 (2021), pp. 276–286 (cit. on p. 5).
- [WL20] Matthew Z. Weaver and Daniel R. Licata. “A Constructive Model of Directed Univalence in Bicubical Sets”. In: *Proceedings of the 35th Annual ACM/IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science*. LICS '20. ACM, July 2020. DOI: [10.1145/3373718.3394794](https://doi.org/10.1145/3373718.3394794) (cit. on p. 4).
- [WABN22] Jonathan Weinberger, Benedikt Ahrens, Ulrik Buchholtz, and Paige North. *Synthetic Tait Computability for Simplicial Type Theory*. TYPES '22 abstract. 2022 (cit. on p. 9).