

# A categorical semantics for inductive-inductive definitions

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## Plan of the talk

- ① What are inductive-inductive definitions?
- ② How can they be described, categorically?
- ③ Exploiting initiality.

## Notation

- Work in the framework of Martin-Löf type theory.
- Unit type  $\mathbf{1}$ , disjoint union  $A + B$ .
- Dependent function spaces  $(x : A) \rightarrow B(x)$ .
  - ▶ Elements are functions  $f$  such that  $f(a) : B(a)$  whenever  $a : A$ .
- Dependent pairs  $\Sigma x : A. B(x)$ .
  - ▶ Elements are pairs  $\langle a, b \rangle$  where  $a : A$ ,  $b : B(a)$ .
  - ▶ Projections  $\pi_0 : \Sigma x : A. B(x) \rightarrow A$  and  $\pi_1 : (\gamma : \Sigma A B) \rightarrow B(\pi_0(\gamma))$ .
- Set the type of (small) types / propositions.

# Inductive-inductive definitions

## What is an inductive-inductive definition?

- Induction-induction is a principle for defining datatypes  $A : \text{Set}$ ,  
 $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$ .
- Both  $A$  and  $B$  are defined inductively, i.e. “built up from below”.

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- $A$  and  $B$  are defined simultaneously, so the constructors for  $A$  can refer to  $B$  and vice versa.
- In addition, the constructors for  $B$  can even refer to the constructors for  $A$ .

## But isn't that...?

An inductive-inductive definition is in general not:

- An ordinary inductive definition
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- An indexed inductive definition
  - ▶ Because the index set  $A : \text{Set}$  is defined along with  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$ , and not fixed beforehand.
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  - ▶ Because the index set  $A : \text{Set}$  is defined along with  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$ , and not fixed beforehand.
  - ▶ However, conjecture that it can be reduced to IID.
- An inductive-recursive definition
  - ▶ Because  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$  is defined inductively, not recursively.

# Induction-recursion vs induction-induction

- **Inductive-recursive definition:** Need to define  $B(c(\vec{x}))$  completely when introducing  $c(\vec{x})$ .
  - ▶ For each constructor  $c$  of  $A$ , must define  $B(c(\vec{x})) = \dots B \dots$
  - ▶ But can refer to  $B(x)$  both positively and negatively in type of  $c$ .
  - ▶ Example:  $B(\sigma(s, t)) = \Sigma x : B(s) . B(t(x))$ .
- **Inductive-inductive definition:** Elements of  $B(x)$  can be defined any time after  $x$  is introduced.
  - ▶ So might depend on elements introduced after  $x$ .
  - ▶ We can refer to  $B(x)$  only positively.
  - ▶ Example:  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$  where  $d : (x : A) \rightarrow (y : B(x)) \rightarrow B(c(x, y))$ .

## An example

Instances of induction-induction have been used implicitly by

- Dybjer (Internal type theory, 1996),
- Danielsson (A formalisation of a dependently typed language as an inductive-recursive family, 2007), and
- Chapman (Type theory should eat itself, 2009)

to model dependent type theory inside itself.

# Type theory inside type theory

- Context : Set
  - Type : Context  $\rightarrow$  Set
  - Term :  $(\Gamma : \text{Context}) \rightarrow \text{Type}(\Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Set}$
  - ...
  - Substitutions, ...
  - ...
- 
- The diagram consists of six items listed on the left, each preceded by a brown bullet point. Curved arrows originate from the second, third, and fourth items and point to a light orange rounded rectangle on the right containing the text "defined inductively".

## The crucial point

- The empty context  $\varepsilon$  is a well-formed context.
- If  $\tau$  is a well-formed type in context  $\Gamma$ , then  $\Gamma, x : \tau$  is a well-formed context.

$$\overline{\varepsilon : \text{Context}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma : \text{Context} \quad \tau : \text{Type}(\Gamma)}{\Gamma \triangleright \tau : \text{Context}}$$

## Constructor for Type referring to constructor for Context

$$\frac{\Gamma \text{ context} \quad \Gamma \vdash \sigma \text{ type} \quad \Gamma, x : \sigma \vdash \tau(x) \text{ type}}{\Gamma \vdash \prod x : \sigma . \tau(x) \text{ type}}$$

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## But is there a theory?

- Previous work: axiomatisation.
- Now: initial algebra like semantics – less ugly details.

# Describing inductive-inductive datatypes

## Initial algebra semantics

- Let  $F : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a functor. Recall that an  **$F$ -algebra** is a pair  $(X, f)$  where  $X \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $f : F(X) \rightarrow X$ .
- A morphism  $\alpha : (X, f) \rightarrow (Y, g)$  between  $F$ -algebras is a morphism  $\alpha : X \rightarrow Y$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(X) & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ F(\alpha) \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha \\ F(Y) & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array}$$

- Model inductive data types as initial  $F$ -algebra for suitable endofunctor  $F$ . ( $F$  “represents” the data type by describing its constructors.)
- Example:**  $F(X) = \mathbf{1} + (X \times X)$ ,  $[\text{empty}, \text{node}] : F(\text{BTree}) \rightarrow \text{BTree}$ .

## Induction-induction as initial algebras?

- In general, an inductive-inductive definition consists of
  - ▶  $A : \text{Set}$ ,
  - ▶  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$ ,
  - ▶ a constructor  $\text{in}_A : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A$  for  $A$ ,
  - ▶ a constructor  $\text{in}_B : (x : \text{Arg}_A(A, B)) \rightarrow \text{Arg}_B(A, B, \text{in}_A) \rightarrow B(\text{in}_A(x))$  for  $B$
- for some functors  $\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B$  (but from and to where?).

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- for some functors  $\text{Arg}_A$ ,  $\text{Arg}_B$  (but from and to where?).
- **First thought:** an inductive-inductive def. is a family  $(A, B)$  of sets, so they should be represented by functors

$$F = (F_0, F_1) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}).$$

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- Here, **Fam(Set)** category with objects  $(A, B)$  where  $A : \text{Set}$ ,  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$ .
- Morphism  $(A, B)$  to  $(A', B')$  is  $(f, g)$  where  $f : A \rightarrow A'$ ,  $g : (x : A) \rightarrow B(x) \rightarrow B'(f(x))$ .

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- Here,  $\mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$  category with objects  $(A, B)$  where  $A : \text{Set}$ ,

$$B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

Every endofunctor  $F$  on  $\mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$  can be split up into

- $F_0 : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}, F_1 : (X : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})) \rightarrow F_0(X) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ .

$$g : ((\dots)) \rightarrow D((\lambda)) \rightarrow D((\lambda(\lambda)))$$

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## Induction-induction as initial algebras? (cont.)

$$F = (F_0, F_1) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$$

- An  $F$ -algebra  $((A, B), (c, d))$  would have “constructors”  
 $c : F_0(A, B) \rightarrow A$  and  $d : (x : F_0(A, B)) \rightarrow F_1(A, B, x) \rightarrow B(c(x))$ .

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- But then the constructor  $d$  for  $B$  cannot refer to the constructor  $c$  for  $A$ ! [Necessary for the  $\Pi$  type example]
- Instead, we would like

$$F'_1 : ((A, B) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}), c : F_0(A, B) \rightarrow A) \rightarrow F_0(A, B) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}.$$

(what we have is

$$F_1 : ((A, B) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})) \rightarrow F_0(A, B) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}.)$$

## Contexts and types described this way

$$\frac{}{\varepsilon : \text{Context}} \quad \frac{\Gamma : \text{Context} \quad \sigma : \text{Type}(\Gamma)}{\Gamma \triangleright \sigma : \text{Context}}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma : \text{Context}}{\iota_\Gamma : \text{Type}(\Gamma)} \quad \frac{\Gamma : \text{Context} \quad \sigma : \text{Type}(\Gamma) \quad \tau : \text{Type}(\Gamma \triangleright \sigma)}{\Pi(\sigma, \tau) : \text{Type}(\Gamma)}$$

$$\text{Arg}_{\text{Context}}(A, B) = \mathbf{1} + \Sigma \Gamma : A. B(\Gamma)$$

$$\text{Arg}_{\text{Type}}(A, B, c, x) = \mathbf{1} + (\Sigma \sigma : B(c(x)). \tau : B(\text{c(inr}(c(x), \sigma)))) .$$

Note ‘ $\Gamma : \text{Context}$ ’ replaced by ‘ $c(x)$ ’ for  $x : \text{Arg}_{\text{Context}}(\text{Context}, \text{Type})$  in  $\text{Arg}_{\text{Type}}$ .

Can be combined into

$$\text{Arg} : ((A, B) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}), c : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A) \rightarrow \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$$

by defining  $\text{Arg}(A, B, c) = (\text{Arg}_A(A, B), \text{Arg}_B(A, B, c))$ .

## Induction-induction as initial dialgebras

- What kind of structure is  $((A, B) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}), c : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A)$ ?

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- What kind of structure is  $((A, B) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}), c : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A)$ ?
- Hagino introduced **dialgebras** in his PhD thesis:

### Definition

Let  $F, G : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  be functors. An  **$(F, G)$ -dialgebra**  $(X, f)$  consists of  $X \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $f : F(X) \rightarrow G(X)$ . A morphism between dialgebras  $(X, f)$  and  $(Y, g)$  is a morphism  $\alpha : X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F(X) & \xrightarrow{f} & G(X) \\ F(\alpha) \downarrow & & \downarrow G(\alpha) \\ F(Y) & \xrightarrow{g} & G(Y) \end{array}$$

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- $((A, B) : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}), c : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A)$  is a  $(\text{Arg}_A, U)$ -dialgebra, where  $U : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  is the forgetful functor! [  $U(A, B) = A$  ]

$$\mathbb{C} = \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$$

$$\mathbb{D} = \mathbf{Set}$$

$$F = \text{Arg}_A : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

$$G = U : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set} \quad (\text{forgetful})$$

## Induction-induction as initial dialgebras (cont.)

- Thus, our ind.-ind. definitions should be represented by functors

$$\text{Arg}_A : \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$$

$$\text{Arg} : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U) \rightarrow \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$$

such that  $U \circ \text{Arg} = \text{Arg}_A \circ V$ .

- Here,  $V : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U) \rightarrow \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$  is the forgetful functor sending  $(A, f)$  to  $A$ .
- the condition just says that “the first component of  $\text{Arg}$  is  $\text{Arg}_A$ .”
- We will often write  $\text{Arg} = (\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B)$ .

## So what category do the ind.-ind. definitions live in?

- Given  $\text{Arg} = (\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B) : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U) \rightarrow \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$ , one might think that the “algebras” we are looking for are in  $\text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}, V)$ .

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- Dialgebras with  $\mathbb{C} = \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U)$ ,  $\mathbb{D} = \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$ ,

$$F = \text{Arg} : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U) \rightarrow \mathbf{Fam}(\mathbf{Set})$$

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so  $\text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}, V)$  has objects  $(A, B, c, (d_0, d_1))$ , where

- ▶  $A : \text{Set}$ ,  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$ ,
- ▶  $c : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A$ ,
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- ▶  $c : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A$ ,
- ▶  $(d_0, d_1) : \text{Arg}(A, B, c) \rightarrow (A, B)$ .

- The function  $d_0 : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A$  looks like the constructor for  $A$  that we want, but

$$d_1 : (x : \text{Arg}_A(A, B)) \rightarrow \text{Arg}_B(A, B, \textcolor{red}{c}, x) \rightarrow B(\textcolor{red}{d}_0(x))$$

does not look quite right – we need  $c$  and  $d_0$  to be the same!

## Making $c$ and $d_0$ the same

$$d_1 : (x : \text{Arg}_A(A, B)) \rightarrow \text{Arg}_B(A, B, c, x) \rightarrow B(d_0(x))$$

- Use an equaliser in **CAT**.

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- Use an equaliser in **CAT**.
- Let  $W : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}, V) \rightarrow \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U)$  be the forgetful functor  $[W(A, B, c, d) = (A, B, c)]$ .

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- Define  $(V, U) : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}, V) \rightarrow \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U)$  by  $(V, U)(A, B, c, (d_0, d_1)) := (V(A, B, c), U(d_0, d_1)) = (A, B, d_0)$ .

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- Note:

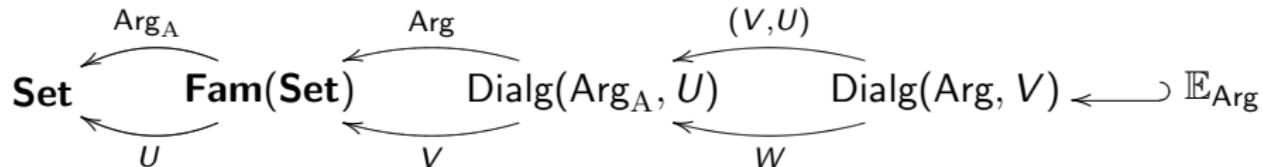
$$\begin{aligned} U(d_0, d_1) &: U(\text{Arg}(A, B, c)) \rightarrow U(V(A, B, c)) \\ &= \text{Arg}_A(V(A, B, c)) \rightarrow U(V(A, B, c)). \end{aligned}$$

## Making $c$ and $d_0$ the same

$$d_1 : (x : \text{Arg}_A(A, B)) \rightarrow \text{Arg}_B(A, B, c, x) \rightarrow B(d_0(x))$$

- Use an equaliser in **CAT**.
- Let  $W : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}, V) \rightarrow \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U)$  be the forgetful functor  $[W(A, B, c, d) = (A, B, c)]$ .
- Define  $(V, U) : \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}, V) \rightarrow \text{Dialg}(\text{Arg}_A, U)$  by  $(V, U)(A, B, c, (d_0, d_1)) := (V(A, B, c), U(d_0, d_1)) = (A, B, d_0)$ .
- Note:
$$\begin{aligned} U(d_0, d_1) &: U(\text{Arg}(A, B, c)) \rightarrow U(V(A, B, c)) \\ &= \text{Arg}_A(V(A, B, c)) \rightarrow U(V(A, B, c)). \end{aligned}$$
- Take equaliser of  $W$  and  $(V, U)$ , let's call it  $\mathbb{E}_{(\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B)}$  [subcategory with objects  $(A, B, c, (d_0, d_1))$  such that  $(A, B, c) = (A, B, d_0)$ ].

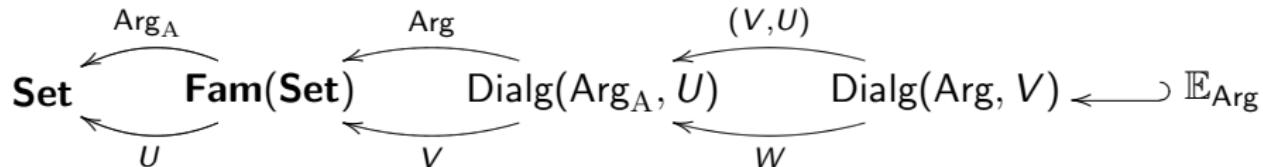
# Summary



Warning: the diagram is not commuting!

- The category  $\mathbb{E}_{(\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B)}$  has objects  $(A, B, c, d)$ , where
  - ▶  $A : \text{Set}$ ,
  - ▶  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$ ,
  - ▶  $c : \text{Arg}_A(A, B) \rightarrow A$ ,
  - ▶  $d : (x : \text{Arg}_A(A, B)) \rightarrow \text{Arg}_B(A, B, c, x) \rightarrow B(c(x))$ .
- Morphisms are **Fam(Set)**-morphisms making some diagrams commute.

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- Morphisms are **Fam(Set)**-morphisms making some diagrams commute.
- Intended interpretation initial object in  $\mathbb{E}_{(\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B)}$ .

# Initiality and elimination rules

## An example of iteration from initiality

- Back to the example.
- Suppose that we want a concatenation of contexts

$$++ : \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Context}$$

- For example for more general formation rules such as

$$\frac{\sigma : \text{Type}(\Gamma) \quad \tau : \text{Type}(\Delta)}{\sigma \times \tau : \text{Type}(\Gamma ++ \Delta)}$$

## Context concatenation

- Should satisfy equations

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta & \quad ++ \quad \varepsilon \quad = \quad \Delta \\ \Delta & \quad ++ \quad (\Gamma \triangleright \sigma) \quad = \quad (\Delta ++ \Gamma) \triangleright (\text{wk}_\Gamma(\sigma, \Delta)) \quad ,\end{aligned}$$

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- $\text{wk} : (\Gamma : \text{Context}) \rightarrow (\sigma : \text{Type}(\Gamma)) \rightarrow (\Delta : \text{Context}) \rightarrow \text{Type}(\Delta ++ \Gamma)$  is a weakening operation.
  - ▶ That is, if  $\sigma : \text{Type}(\Gamma)$ , then  $\text{wk}_\Gamma(\sigma, \Delta) : \text{Type}(\Delta ++ \Gamma)$ .

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► That is, if  $\sigma : \text{Type}(\Gamma)$ , then  $\text{wk}_\Gamma(\sigma, \Delta) : \text{Type}(\Delta ++ \Gamma)$ .

- Should satisfy own equations

$$\text{wk}_\Gamma(\iota_\Gamma, \Delta) = \iota_{\Delta++\Gamma}$$

$$\text{wk}_\Gamma(\Pi_\Gamma(\sigma, \tau), \Delta) = \Pi_{\Delta++\Gamma}(\text{wk}_\Gamma(\sigma, \Delta), \text{wk}_{\Gamma \triangleright \sigma}(\tau, \Delta)) \quad .$$

## Context concatenation (cont.)

- Recall:

$$\text{Arg}_{\text{Context}}(A, B) = \mathbf{1} + \Sigma \Gamma : A. B(\Gamma)$$

$$\text{Arg}_{\text{Type}}(A, B, c, x) = \mathbf{1} + (\Sigma \sigma : B(c(x)). \tau : B(c(\text{inr}(c(x), \sigma)))) .$$

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$$\text{in}_A(\text{inl}(\star)) = \{\text{?} : \text{Context} \rightarrow \text{Context}\}$$

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## Context concatenation (cont.)

- Initiality gives a morphism  $(++, \text{wk}) : (\text{Context}, \text{Type}) \rightarrow (A, B)$  s. t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\text{Arg}_{\text{Context}}, \text{Arg}_{\text{Type}})(\text{Context}, \text{Type}, [\varepsilon, \triangleright]) & \xrightarrow{([\varepsilon, \triangleright], [\iota, \Pi])} & (\text{Context}, \text{Type}) \\ (\text{Arg}_{\text{Context}}, \text{Arg}_{\text{Type}})(++, \text{wk}) \downarrow & & \downarrow (++, \text{wk}) \\ (\text{Arg}_{\text{Context}}, \text{Arg}_{\text{Type}})(A, B, \text{in}_A) & \xrightarrow{(\text{in}_A, \text{in}_B)} & (A, B) \end{array}$$

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- Thus  $\Delta ++ \varepsilon = \Delta$  and  $\Delta ++ (\Gamma \triangleright \sigma) = (\Delta ++ \Gamma) \triangleright \text{wk}_{\Gamma}(\sigma, \Delta)$ .
- The equations for  $\text{wk}$  hold in the same way.

## What about dependent functions?

- Traditional presentations of type theory include elimination rules (eliminator terms) instead of defining functions using initiality.
- Get dependent functions

$$\text{elim}_{\text{Arg}_A}(\dots) : (x : A) \rightarrow P(x)$$

$$\text{elim}_{\text{Arg}_B}(\dots) : (x : A) \rightarrow (y : B(x)) \rightarrow Q(x, y, \text{elim}_{\text{Arg}_A}(\dots, x))$$

by defining them for elements of the form  $c(x)$ ,  $d(x, y)$  with access to inductive hypothesis / structurally recursive calls.

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by defining them for elements of the form  $c(x)$ ,  $d(x, y)$  with access to inductive hypothesis / structurally recursive calls.

- In detail:

$$P : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$Q : (x : A) \rightarrow B(x) \rightarrow P(x) \rightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$\text{step}_c : (x : \text{Arg}_A(A, B)) \rightarrow \square_{\text{Arg}_A}(P, Q, x) \rightarrow P(c(x))$$

$$\text{step}_d : (x : \text{Arg}_A(A, B)) \rightarrow (y : \text{Arg}_B(A, B, c, x)) \rightarrow (\tilde{x} : \square_{\text{Arg}_A}(P, Q, x))$$

$$\rightarrow \square_{\text{Arg}_B}(P, Q, c, \text{step}_c, x, y, \tilde{x}) \rightarrow Q(c(x), d(x, y), \text{step}_c(x, \tilde{x}))$$

---

$$\text{elim}_{\text{Arg}_A}(P, Q, \text{step}_c, \text{step}_d) : (x : A) \rightarrow P(x)$$

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## Elimination rules vs. initiality

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- However, this is not the case!

### Proposition

*An initial object in  $\mathbb{E}_{\text{Arg}}$  has an eliminator.*

- The proof is a generalisation of the proof of the analog result for initial algebras.

## Initiality vs. elimination rules

- By considering constant families  $P(x) = Y$ ,  $Q(v, x, y) = Z(y)$ , we get

### Proposition

*Every object with an eliminator is weakly initial in  $\mathbb{E}_{\text{Arg}}$ .*

# Equivalence for strictly positive functors

- For strictly positive functors (as codified in our previous axiomatisation), we can do induction on their build-up to prove the uniqueness of the initiality arrow.

## Theorem

*For an inductive-inductive definition given by a strictly positive functor  $(\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B)$ , the elimination rules hold if and only if  $\mathbb{E}_{(\text{Arg}_A, \text{Arg}_B)}$  has an initial object.*

## Summary

- **Inductive-inductive definitions:**  $A : \text{Set}$ ,  $B : A \rightarrow \text{Set}$  defined mutually dependent, both defined inductively.
- **Initial-algebra-like semantics**, but using **dialgebras** instead of ordinary algebras.
- Equivalence between **initiality** and **elimination rules** for strictly positive functors.

# Summary

Thanks!

- **Inductive** ed  
mutually of
- **Initial-alg** ctly  
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