

The Curry-Howard Correspondence

Stephen A. Edwards

Columbia University

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Much of this was taken from

Dan Grossman, CS152, Lecture 12, Spring 2011

<https://homes.cs.washington.edu/~djg/2011sp/>

Logic



Caltech graduates are nerds.
Stephen is a Caltech graduate.
Is Stephen a nerd?



Propositional Logic

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p	Stephen went to Caltech	Proposition
q	Stephen is a nerd	Proposition
$p \rightarrow q$	If Stephen went to Caltech, he is a nerd	Implication

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“method to put” in Latin

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b base propositions

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Simply-Typed Lambda Calculus

b base types

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Propositions are Types

Proofs are Programs

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$$\frac{\Gamma, x : \tau_1 \vdash e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash (\lambda x . e) : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \textit{t-abs}$$

Propositions are Types

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Haskell as a Proof Assistant

```
$ ghci
> data StephenTecher = StephenIsATecher    -- Propositions
> data StephenNerd  = StephenIsANerd
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> s = StephenIsATecher                       -- Assumption 1:
> :t s                                       -- Stephen is a Techer
s :: StephenTecher                          -- (See my diploma)
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s :: StephenTecher                          -- (See my diploma)

> isnerd StephenIsATecher = StephenIsANerd  -- Assumption 2:
> :t isnerd                                 -- If he's a techer,
isnerd :: StephenTecher -> StephenNerd     -- he's a nerd
```

Haskell as a Proof Assistant

```
$ ghci
> data StephenTecher = StephenIsATecher      -- Propositions
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> :t isnerd                                 -- If he's a techer,
isnerd :: StephenTecher -> StephenNerd      -- he's a nerd

> duh = isnerd s :: StephenNerd             -- Check the proof
> :t duh                                     -- No errors so yes,
duh :: StephenNerd                          -- Stephen is a nerd
```

Coq: An Actual Proof Assistant

```
Parameters (StephenTecher : Prop)
           (StephenNerd   : Prop).
```

```
(* Propositions *)
```

Coq: An Actual Proof Assistant

```
Parameters (StephenTecher : Prop)                (* Propositions *)  
           (StephenNerd   : Prop).
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```
Hypotheses (stephen : StephenTecher)           (* Assumptions *)  
           (isnerd   : StephenTecher -> StephenNerd).
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Coq: An Actual Proof Assistant

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Parameters (StephenTecher : Prop)                (* Propositions *)
           (StephenNerd   : Prop).

Hypotheses (stephen : StephenTecher)           (* Assumptions *)
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Definition duh : StephenNerd := isnerd stephen.  (* A proof *)

Print duh.                                     (* print the proof *)

duh = isnerd stephen
    : StephenNerd
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Print duh.                                       (* print the proof *)

duh = isnerd stephen
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Theorem duh' : StephenNerd.                      (* More traditional *)
Proof.
  exact (isnerd stephen).
Qed.
```

More Propositional Logic

$$p ::= b \mid p \rightarrow p$$

STLC + pairs + sums

$$\tau ::= b \mid \tau \rightarrow \tau$$

$$e ::= x \mid \lambda x . e$$

More Propositional Logic

$$p ::= b \mid p \rightarrow p \mid p \wedge p$$

Logical AND

STLC + pairs + sums

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More Propositional Logic

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash p_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash p_2}{\Gamma \vdash p_1 \wedge p_2} \text{and-c}$$

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What type do we need for AND?

More Propositional Logic

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STLC + pairs + sums

$$\tau ::= b \mid \tau \rightarrow \tau \mid \tau \times \tau$$

$$e ::= x \mid \lambda x . e$$

Product Type: Pairs/Tuples

In C, `struct { int fst; char snd; };`

In Haskell, `(Int, Char)`

In OCaml, `int * char`

More Propositional Logic

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$$e ::= x \mid \lambda x . e \mid (e, e) \mid \text{fst } e \mid \text{snd } e$$

E.g., $(1,2)$ constructs a pair

$$\text{fst } (1,2) = 1$$

$$\text{snd } (1,2) = 2$$

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Build a pair from expressions of type τ_1 and τ_2

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Take apart a pair; result depends on selected element

More Propositional Logic

$$p ::= b \mid p \rightarrow p \mid p \wedge p \mid p \vee p$$

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Logical OR

STLC + pairs + sums

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash p_1 \wedge p_2}{\Gamma \vdash p_1} \text{and-d1} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash p_1 \wedge p_2}{\Gamma \vdash p_2} \text{and-d2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash p_1}{\Gamma \vdash p_1 \vee p_2} \text{or-c1} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash p_2}{\Gamma \vdash p_1 \vee p_2} \text{or-c2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash p_1 \vee p_2 \quad \Gamma, p_1 \vdash p_3 \quad \Gamma, p_2 \vdash p_3}{\Gamma \vdash p_3} \text{or-d}$$

STLC + pairs + sums

$\tau ::= b \mid \tau \rightarrow \tau \mid \tau \times \tau \mid \tau + \tau$

$e ::= x \mid \lambda x . e \mid (e, e) \mid \text{fst } e \mid \text{snd } e$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash e_2 : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash (e_1, e_2) : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{fst } e : \tau_1}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{snd } e : \tau_2}$$

A sum or union type: can be either τ_1 or τ_2

C: `union { int l; char r; };`

Haskell: `data Sum a b = L a | R b`

Ocaml: `type ('a, 'b) sum = L of 'a | R of 'b`

More Propositional Logic

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“L e” and “R e” are constructors for the variants

“e ? e : e” is the destructor

“L e ? e₂ : e₃” evaluates to e₂[l := e]

“R e ? e₂ : e₃” evaluates to e₃[r := e]

More Propositional Logic

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{L } e : \tau_1 + \tau_2}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{R } e : \tau_1 + \tau_2}$$

L's argument must be a τ_1

R's argument must be a τ_2

More Propositional Logic

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“ $e_1 ? e_2 : e_3$ ” means match e_1 with

L $l \rightarrow e_2$

R $r \rightarrow e_3$

More Propositional Logic

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash e_1 : \tau_1 + \tau_2 \quad \Gamma, l : \tau_1 \vdash e_2 : \tau_3 \quad \Gamma, r : \tau_2 \vdash e_3 : \tau_3}{\Gamma \vdash (e_1 ? e_2 : e_3) : \tau_3}$$