

Russian Constructivism in a Prefascist Theory

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LICS'20

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CIC, a very fancy **intuitionistic logical system**.

- Not just higher-order logic, not just first-order logic
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Today we will focus on a specific family of models...

PRESHEAVES!

- Bread and Butter of Model Construction
- Proof-relevant Kripke semantics a.k.a. Intuitionistic Forcing

All Your Base Category Are Belong to Us

Definition

Let \mathbb{P} be a category. A presheaf over \mathbb{P} is just a functor $\mathbb{P}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$.

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Presheaves with nat. transformations as morphisms form a category $\text{Psh}(\mathbb{P})$.

Objects: A presheaf $(\mathbf{A}, \theta_{\mathbf{A}})$ is given by

- A family of \mathbb{P} -indexed sets $\mathbf{A}_p : \mathbf{Set}$
- Restriction morphisms $\theta_{\mathbf{A}} : \prod_{p,q} (\alpha \in \mathbb{P}(q, p)). \mathbf{A}_p \rightarrow \mathbf{A}_q$ (+ functoriality)

Morphisms: A morphism from $(\mathbf{A}, \theta_{\mathbf{A}})$ to $(\mathbf{B}, \theta_{\mathbf{B}})$ is given by

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Theorem

$\text{Psh}(\mathbb{P})$ is a model of CIC.

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Phenomenological Law

Set-theoretical models suck.

Instead

Syntactic Models



$\vdash_S M : A$

compilation



$\vdash_{\mathcal{T}} [M] : \llbracket A \rrbracket$

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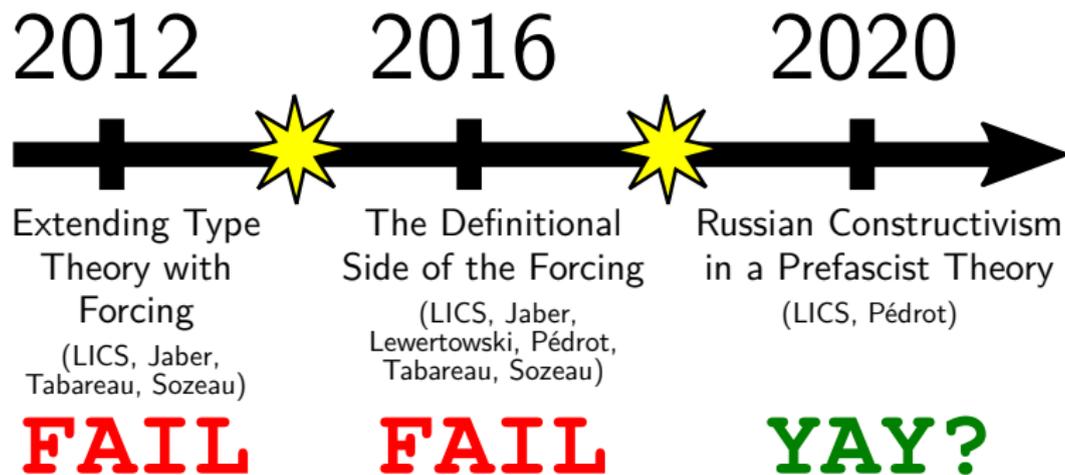
implies

$\vdash_{\mathcal{T}} [M] : \llbracket A \rrbracket$

- Does not require non-type-theoretical foundations (*monism*)
- Can be implemented in Coq (*software monism*)
- Automatically inherit the good properties from CIC

Is it possible to see presheaves as a syntactic model?

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It is the journey, not the destination

2012

(We were warned.)

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This almost works...

Syntactic Presheaves, 2012 Edition

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This almost works... except that equations are propositional !!!

$$\begin{aligned} \vdash_{\text{CIC}} M \equiv N & \not\rightarrow \vdash [M] \equiv [N] \\ \vdash_{\text{CIC}} M \equiv N & \longrightarrow \vdash e : [M] = [N] \end{aligned}$$



You need to introduce rewriting everywhere



Equality is Too Serious a Matter

“The Coherence Hell”: the target theory must be **EXTENSIONAL**

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- ... computation destroyed, e.g. β -reduction is undecidable
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Bold Claim

ETT is not really a type theory, so we don’t have a syntactic model.

2016

(Make conversion great again, and break everything else.)

Squaring the Circle

Key Observation 1

Presheaves factorize in CBPV through a *call-by-value* decomposition

They only satisfy definitionally the CBV equational theory generated by

$$(\lambda x. t) V \equiv_{\beta v} t\{x := V\}$$

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Someone Had To Say It

CBV and CBN are not the same

If There is No Solution, There is No Problem

Easy solution! Pick the **call-by-name** decomposition instead.

$$\text{CBV} \quad \llbracket A \rightarrow B \rrbracket_p := \Pi(q \leq p). (\llbracket A \rrbracket_q \rightarrow \llbracket B \rrbracket_q)$$

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- Functoriality given freely by **thunking** over all lower conditions
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There is a syntactic CBN presheaf model of CC^ω into CIC.

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... but the model disproves dependent elimination!

We still don't have a syntactic presheaf model.

INTERLUDE



Puzzle

Why does $\text{Psh}(\mathbb{P})$ interpret full β -conversion (although **only extensionally**)?

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Theorem (Pédrot-Tabareau '20)

*Naturality in CBV presheaves corresponds to Führmann's **thunkability**.*

- This is a well-known **systematic** construction from realizability
- $\text{Psh}(\mathbb{P})$ is the **pure fragment** of an effectful CBV language
- In CBV, effects break functions, in CBN they break inductive types
- We were missing the equivalent in the CBN presheaves!

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Theorem (Bernardy-Lasson '11)

*The CBN equivalent is **parametricity**. It is a syntactic model!*

On Parametric Presheaves

What does parametricity look like on the CBN presheaf model?

$$x : \mathbb{B} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x : \Pi(q \leq p). \mathbb{B} \\ x_\varepsilon : \mathbb{B}_\varepsilon \text{ } p \text{ } x \end{array} \right.$$

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We have a bit of constraints. To get dependent elimination we need:

- ① $\mathbb{B}_\varepsilon p x$ iff $(x = \lambda q \alpha. \mathbf{tt})$ or $(x = \lambda q \alpha. \mathbf{ff})$
- ② in a **unique** way, i.e. $b_1, b_2 : \mathbb{B}_\varepsilon p x \vdash b_1 = b_2$ (i.e. a HoTT proposition)

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But we also critically need to be compatible with the presheaf structure!

- ③ That is, $\theta_{\mathbb{B}_\varepsilon} (\alpha : q \leq p) : \mathbb{B}_\varepsilon p x \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_\varepsilon q (\alpha \cdot x)$
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You cannot have both at the same time in CIC

 This is exactly the CBV vs. CBN conundrum **one level higher** 

2020

(On the virtues of Authoritarianism.)

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They introduce a new sort `SProp` of **strict propositions**.

$$M, N : A : \text{SProp} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \vdash M \equiv N$$

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\rightsquigarrow SProp is closed under products.

$$\vdash A : \square, \quad x : A \vdash B : \text{SProp} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \vdash \Pi(x : A). B : \text{SProp}$$

\rightsquigarrow Only False is eliminable from SProp into Type.

A Strict Doctrine

Possible Extension

λ CIC additionally allows the elimination of `eq` from `SProp` to `Type`

This gives rise to a **strict equality**, i.e. λ CIC has definitional UIP.

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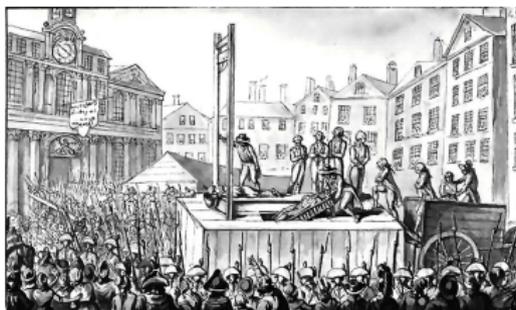
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When the libertarian HoTT freely adds infinite towers of equalities...

... the authoritarian \leq CIC will instead **guillotine** all higher equalities.



Art. 1. *All humans are born **uniquely** equal in rights.*

Strict Parametricity

In the parametric presheaf translation

Strict equality is the authoritarian way to solve the coherence hell.

- make the parametricity predicate **free** \rightsquigarrow **definitional functoriality**
- require it to be a **strict** proposition \rightsquigarrow **proof uniqueness**

$$x : A \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{cases} x : \Pi(q \leq p). \llbracket A \rrbracket_q \\ x_\varepsilon : \Pi(q \leq p). \llbracket A \rrbracket_\varepsilon q (\alpha \cdot x) \end{cases}$$

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We call the result the **prefascist translation**. (lat. *fascis* : sheaf)

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Theorem

The prefascist translation is a syntactic model of CIC into $\mathfrak{s}CIC$.

- Full conversion, full dependent elimination.
- The actual construction is a tad involved, but boils down to the above.
- Unsurprisingly, UIP is required to interpret universes (tricky!).

\mathfrak{s} CIC is way weaker than ETT

\mathfrak{s} CIC is **conjectured** to enjoy the usual good syntactic properties.

- Canonicity seems relatively easy to show
- UIP makes reduction depend on conversion though
- SN is problematic, e.g. \mathfrak{s} CIC + an impredicative universe is **not** SN
- Hoping that SN holds in the predicative case, decidability follows

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We don't rely on impredicativity in the prefascist model

We would inherit the purported good properties \mathfrak{s} CIC for free.

Set is a model of \mathfrak{sCIC}

Thus, the prefascist model can also be described set-theoretically.

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*Prefascist sets over \mathbb{P} form a category $\mathbf{Pfs}(\mathbb{P})$ with **definitional** laws.*

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Takeaway: prefascist sets are a better presentation of presheaves

APPLICATION



RUSSIAN CONSTRUCTIVISM

Russian Constructivist School

A splinter group of constructivists, whose core tenet can be summarized as:

Proofs are Kleene realizers

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Thus, the principle that puts it apart both from Brouwer **and** Bishop:

Markov's Principle (MP)

$$\forall (f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}). \neg\neg(\exists n: \mathbb{N}. f n = \mathbf{tt}) \rightarrow \exists n: \mathbb{N}. f n = \mathbf{tt}$$

- Semi-classical: $\mathbf{HA}^\omega \not\subseteq \mathbf{HA}^\omega + \text{MP} \not\subseteq \mathbf{PA}^\omega$
- Known to preserve existence property (i.e. canonicity)
- Often required to prove various completeness results

Russian Constructivist School

A splinter group of constructivists, whose core tenet can be summarized as:

Proofs are Kleene realizers

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What if we tried to extend CIC with MP through a syntactic model?

Let's look at the realizer

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```
let mp f _ :=  
  let n := ref 0 in  
  while true do  
    if f !n then return n else n := n + 1  
  done
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MP in Kleene Realizability

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Proving $\text{mp} \Vdash \text{MP}$ needs MP in the meta-theory!

- As such, this is **cheating**
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We need something else...

What Else?



Not one, but at least **two** alternatives!



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CH's model is a mix of Kripke semantics and Friedman's A -translation

- Kripke semantics \rightsquigarrow global cell $p : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ where

$$q \leq p \quad := \quad \forall n : \mathbb{N}. p \ n = \mathbf{tt} \rightarrow q \ n = \mathbf{tt} \quad (q \text{ truer than } p)$$

- A -translation \rightsquigarrow exceptions of type $A_p := \exists n : \mathbb{N}. p \ n = \mathbf{tt}$

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The secret sauce is that the exception type depends on the current p

Coquand-Hofmann's model is a bit ad-hoc

Pipelining

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Instead, we define the *Calculus of Constructions with Completeness Principles* as

$$\text{CCCP} \quad (\supseteq \text{CIC}) \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Exn}} \quad \text{CIC} + \mathcal{E} \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Pfs}} \quad \mathfrak{s}\text{CIC}$$

- **Pfs** is the prefascist model described before
- **Exn** is the exceptional model, a CIC-worthy A -translation

Theorem

If $\mathfrak{s}\text{CIC}$ enjoys the good properties then so does CCCP.

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Exn is a very simple syntactic model of CIC

Pick a fixed type \mathcal{E} of **exceptions** in the target theory.

$$\vdash_{\mathcal{S}} A : \square \quad \longrightarrow \quad \vdash_{\mathcal{T}} \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\mathcal{E}} : \square \quad + \quad \vdash_{\mathcal{T}} \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\mathcal{E}}^{\emptyset} : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\mathcal{E}}$$

In particular $\llbracket \neg A \rrbracket_{\mathcal{E}} \cong \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\mathcal{E}} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$

Somebody Set Up Us The Bomb

We perform the exceptional translation over an **exotic** type of exceptions

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We also have a modality in $\text{CIC} + \mathcal{E}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{local} & : (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}) \rightarrow \square \rightarrow \square \\ [\text{local } \varphi \ A]_p & \stackrel{\sim}{=} [A]_{p \wedge \varphi} \end{aligned}$$

- $\text{return} : A \rightarrow \text{local } \varphi \ A$
- local commutes to arrows and positive types
- $\text{local } \varphi \ \mathcal{E} \cong \mathcal{E} + (\Sigma n : \mathbb{N}. \varphi \ n = \text{tt})$

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Theorem

CCCP *validates* MP.

Proof by symbol pushing in $\text{CIC} + \mathcal{E}$ by the above and $\llbracket \neg A \rrbracket_{\mathcal{E}} \cong \llbracket A \rrbracket_{\mathcal{E}} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$.

A Computational Analysis of MP

Every time we go under `local` we get new exceptions!

$$\text{local } \varphi \mathcal{E} \cong \mathcal{E} + (\Sigma n : \mathbb{N}. \varphi n = \text{tt})$$

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The structure of the realizer thus follows closely Herbelin's proof.

$$\text{mp } (p : \neg\neg(\exists n. f \ n = \mathbf{tt})) := \\ \text{try}_\alpha \perp_e (p (\lambda k. k (\lambda n. \text{raise}_\alpha \ n))) \text{ with } \alpha \ n \mapsto n$$

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Thus, Herbelin's proof is the direct style variant of Coquand-Hofmann

Conclusion

On presheaves:

- Presheaves are a purified sublanguage of a monotonic reader effect
- We have given a better-behaved presentation of presheaves
- It is a syntactic model that relies on strict equality in the target
- Provides for free extensions of CIC with SN, canonicity and the like
- ... assuming \mathfrak{s} CIC enjoys this (\dagger)

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TODO:

- Implement cubical type theory in this model

Thanks for your attention.