# **Paradoxes and Definitions**

Thierry Coquand

Thanks to Thorsten for so many interesting discussions!

## Some discussions with Thorsten

Type theory as total fragment of functional programming, 1995 Talk in Göteborg about extensional equality, November 1997 Discussion about fragment of system F, 2000 Discussion in a plane back from Nara about normalisation, 2005 Question about types not being of hlevel *n*, 2013 Discussions about parametricity, 2013

 $T: \mathsf{type} \to \mathsf{type} \qquad mon: \Pi_X _{Y:\mathsf{type}}(X \to Y) \to T \ X \to T \ Y$ If  $f: X \to Y$  we write  $T \ f: T \ X \to T \ Y$  for  $mon \ f$ Weak initial T-algebra  $A = \Pi_{X:\mathsf{type}}(T \ X \to X) \to X$ If  $f: T \ X \to X$  we have  $\iota(f): A \to X$  $\iota(f) \ a = a \ X \ f$ 

We can define intro :  $T \land A \rightarrow A$ 

intro =  $\lambda_{u:T} A \lambda_{X:type} \lambda_{f:T} X \rightarrow X f (T \iota(f) u)$ 

We have a (strict) map of T-algebras



In particular we get match =  $\iota(T \text{ intro}) : A \to T A$  and commuting diagram



In general  $\delta = intro \circ match : A \rightarrow A$  is not strictly the identity function

We need  $T \delta = \text{match} \circ \text{intro}$  to be the identity, i.e. T A as a retract of A

Problem with predecessor in system F

One motivation for introducing inductive definitions as primitive notions

In this case, we have match (intro z) = z as computation rule

#### Reynolds 1984

Reynolds 1984 considers the particular case  $T X = P^2 X$  with  $P X = \Omega^X$ One can use  $\Omega$  = type to get a new paradox with type : type (Th. C. 1989) If we work with PERs, we get a type  $A_0$  isomorphic to  $T A_0 = P^2 A_0$ Since  $P A_0$  is a retract of  $P^2 A_0$  it is then a retract of  $A_0$ We can then apply Russell's paradox

Since  $(A_0 \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B$  and  $A_0$  are well-known to have different cardinalities, we have a contradiction

Hurkens used  $\Pi_{X:type}(T \ X \to X) \to T \ X$  instead of  $\Pi_{X:type}(T \ X \to X) \to X$ But his argument works as well with Reynolds  $A = \Pi_{X:type}(T \ X \to X) \to X$ It only uses that we have a strict weak initial T-algebra It can be seen as a direct proof that we cannot have  $P^2A$  retract of ADon't need to refer to Russell's paradox

Assume first that match:  $A \to T A$  is a *strict* retract map via intro:  $T A \to A$ Consider  $p_0: P$  and  $x_0: A =$  intro  $\alpha_0$  and  $C x p = \neg(p \ x \land \text{match} x p)$   $p_0 x = \forall_{p:PA} C x p$   $\alpha_0 p = \forall_{x:A} C x p = \text{match} x_0 p$ We have  $\forall_{x:A} C x p_0$  that is match  $x_0 p_0$ But also  $\forall_{p:P \ A} C x_0 p$  that is  $p_0 x_0$ We get  $p_0 \ x_0 \land \text{match} x_0 p_0$  hence a contradiction

```
p0 : A -> Set
p0 x = (p : A \rightarrow Set) \rightarrow p x \rightarrow not (match x p)
XO : T A
X0 p = (x : A) \rightarrow p x \rightarrow not (match x p)
x0 : A
x0 = intro X0
lem1 : XO pO
lem1 x h = h p0 h
lem2 : p0 x0
lem2 p h h1 = h1 x0 h h1
loop : abs
loop = lem2 p0 lem2 lem1
```

The same argument works in general with intro  $\circ$  match =  $\delta$  using instead  $p_0 \ x = \forall_{p:PA} \neg (p \ (\delta \ x) \land \text{match} \ x \ p)$   $\alpha_0 \ p = \forall_{x:A} \neg (p \ x \land \text{match} \ x \ p)$ We use stability of  $p_0$  and  $\alpha_0$   $p_0 \ x \rightarrow p_0 \ (\delta \ x)$  $\alpha_0 \ p \rightarrow \alpha_0 \ (p \circ \delta)$ 

This does not look like Burali-Forti??

Because of  $\delta$  not being the identity the proof of  $\bot$  does not reduce to itself

## Definitional equality

In order to reason about this paradox, one needs to use "abbreviations" This is stressed both by Hurkens 1995 and Barendregt 1990

E.g. 
$$A: type = \prod_{X:type} (TX \to X) \to X$$

 $p_0: A \rightarrow \mathsf{type} = \lambda_{x:A} \forall_{p:A \rightarrow \mathsf{type}} \neg (p \ x \land \mathsf{match} \ p \ x)$ 

This is *definitional equality* 

# Definitional equality

Definitional equality cannot be reduced to abstraction and application  $(\lambda_{P:type \rightarrow type} \dots P \dots P \dots) (\lambda_{X:type} X \rightarrow type)$ Geuvers and Nederpelt system  $\lambda D$  Type Theory and Formal Proof de Bruijn system  $\lambda \Delta$ 

Importance of head *linear* reduction

This is exactly what is needed to analyse the behavior of paradoxes but more generally of any proof

p0 : Pow A = [z : A][p : Pow A]p (delta z) -> not (match z p) X0 : T A = [p : Pow A][z : A] p z -> not (match z p) x0 : A = intro X0 stablep0 : [z : A]p0 z -> p0 (delta z) = [z : A][hz : p0 z][p : Pow A]hz (cDelta p) stableX0 : [p : Pow A]X0 p -> X0 (cDelta p) = [p : Pow A][hp : X0 p][z : A]hp (delta z) lem1 : [p : Pow A]p x0 -> not (X0 p) = [p : Pow A][hp : p x0][h0 : X0 p]h0 x0 hp (stableX0 p h0) lem2 : [z : A]p0 z -> not (match z p0) = [z : A][hz : p0 z]hz p0 (stablep0 z hz) lem3 : [p : Pow A]p (delta x0) -> not (match x0 p) = [p : Pow A]lem1 (cDelta p) loop : abs = lem1 p0 lem3 lem2

loop

lem1 p0 lem3 lem2

lem2 x0 lem3 (stableX0 p0 lem2)

lem3 p0 (stablep0 x0 lem3) (stableX0 p0 lem2)

lem1 (cDelta p0) (stablep0 x0 lem3) (stableX0 p0 lem2)

stableX0 p0 lem2 x0 (stablep0 x0 lem3) (stableX0 (cDelta p0) (stableX0 p0 lem2))

lem2 (delta x0) (stablep0 x0 lem3) (stableX0 (cDelta p0) (stableX0 p0 lem2))

We do need head *linear* reduction

lem2 x0 lem3 (stableX0 p0 lem2)

lem3 p0 (stablep0 x0 lem3) (stableX0 p0 lem2)

Analysis of a general argument

We want to be able to analyse a given instantiation of this argument

We can simplify some lemmas in this special case, find some variations

We may then want to generalise this special case

## How to Implement Definitions?

Should already be interesting to re-investigate even without data types

Cf. András Kovács

For executing functional programs, the standard practice is to have

-Immutable program code, which may be machine code or interpreted code.

-Runtime objects, consisting of constructors and closures.

The basic idea is to use the above setup during elaboration, with some extensions.

## How to Implement Definitions?

Problem with definitions

```
[x : Bool][y : Bool = x][x : Nat]
```

What is the value of y at this point?

Hiding some definitions?

On going work with D. Grätzer, J. Sterling, C. Anguili, L. Birkedal

Use extension types