

Totally separated types

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Types, Thorsten & Theories

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Question by Altenkirch, Anberre & Li (2012)

Let  $X$  be any definable type in MLTT,

let  $x_0, x_1 : X$  any two provably distinct elements.

Question Can we find  $p : X \rightarrow 2$  with  $p x_0 = 0$  &  $p x_1 = 1$ ?

Answer (M.H.E 2012) There is a type  $X$  with elements  $x_0 \neq x_1$  such that for any  $p : X \rightarrow 2$ , if  $p x_0 = 0$  &  $p x_1 = 1$ , then WLPO holds.

(WLPO = every infinite binary sequence is constantly zero or not.)

The inspiration for the answer comes from classical topology.

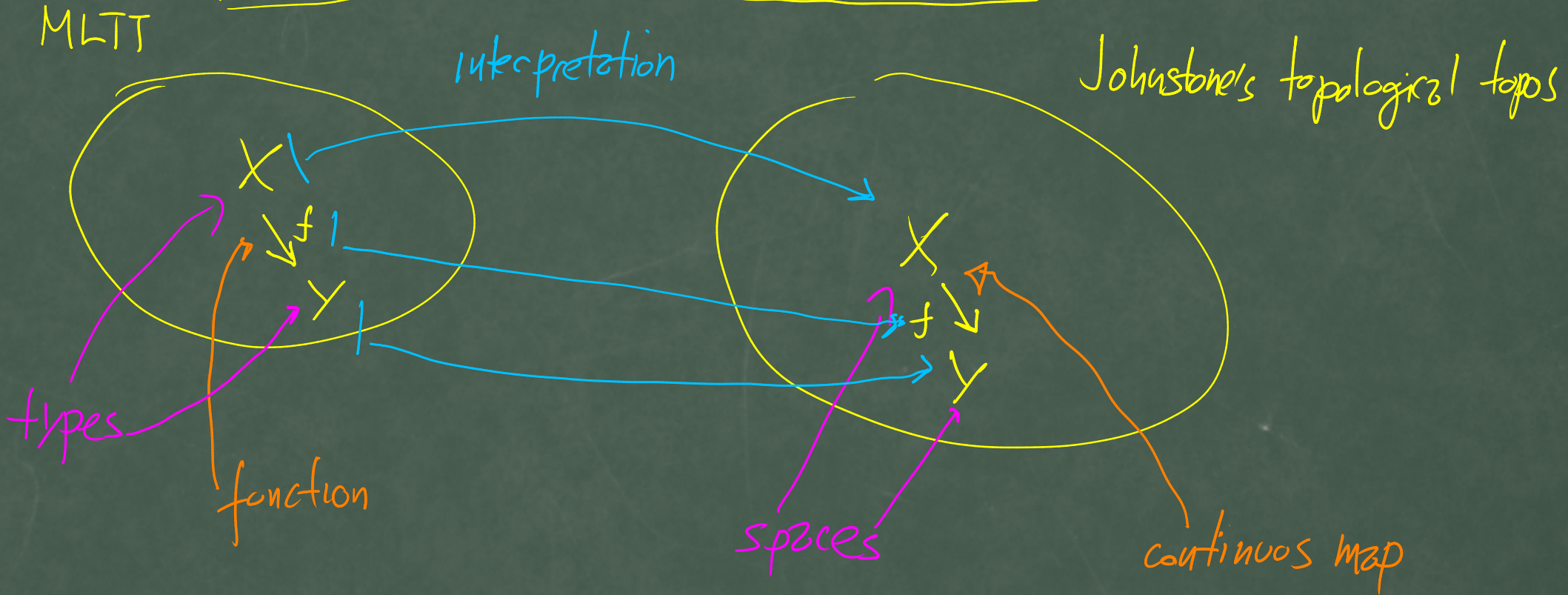
But our construction doesn't actually use topology.

1. **clopen** (closed and open) subsets of  $X$  correspond to continuous maps  $X \rightarrow 2$ .
2. Potentially, all maps are continuous in constructive mathematics.
3. **WLPO** is a **discontinuity axiom**. (WLPO  $\Leftrightarrow$  there is a discontinuous function.)
4. A space is **totally separated** if the clopens separate the points.
5. There are plenty of spaces that fail to be totally separated.

$\Rightarrow$  Can we construct such spaces as types (with no extra structure)?

Have in mind something like this

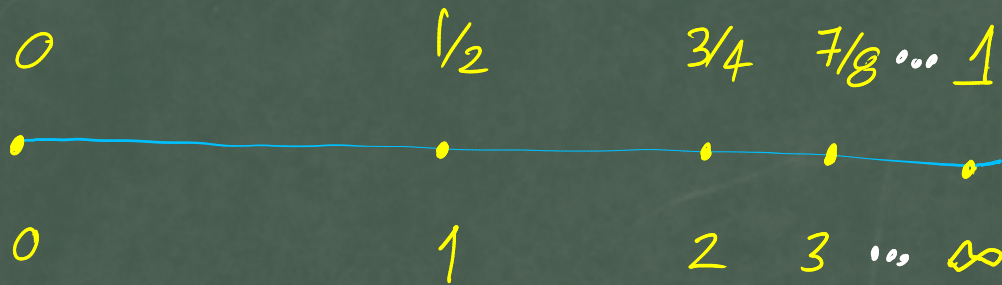
In my mind, types are spaces.



But actually it is enough to just use the intention of the above picture to construct and prove what we want.

# Two examples from topology

1. One-point compactification of the discrete natural numbers.

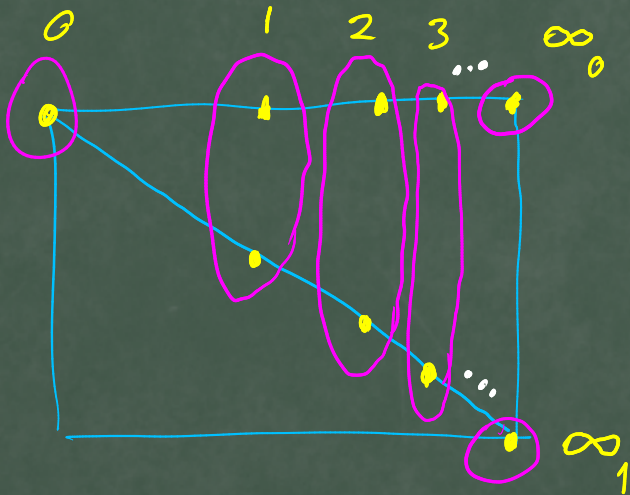


$\mathbb{N}_\infty$

This is compact  
& totally separated  
(Stone space)

A  $k_2$  "generic convergent sequence".

2.



Quotient by the equivalence relation.

$\mathbb{N}_{\infty_0, \infty_1}$

This is compact, but  
not Hausdorff & hence  
not totally separated.

# Constructing the above two examples as types

1.  $\mathbb{N}_\infty := \sum_{\alpha: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2} \prod_{i: \mathbb{N}} \alpha_i \geq \alpha_{i+1}$

Decreasing binary sequences

$\approx$  naturals

So  $1^n 0^\omega$  represents  $n: \mathbb{N}$ ,  
 and  $1^\omega$  represents  $\infty$ .

(Count how many 1's we have)

2.  $\mathbb{N}_{\infty, \infty_1} := \sum_{x: \mathbb{N}_\infty} x = \infty \rightarrow 2$

identity type

when  $x$  is  $\infty$ , this type has two elements.

We create two copies of  $\infty$ :  $\lambda . 0$  &  $\lambda . 1$

when  $x$  is finite, this type has one element.

## Theorem

Assuming function extensionality:

1. The elements  $\infty_0$  and  $\infty_1$  of  $\mathbb{N}_{\infty_0, \infty_1}$  are distinct.

Because any such function  $p$  is discontinuous.

2. For any  $p: \mathbb{N}_{\infty_0, \infty_1} \rightarrow 2$ , if  $p \infty_0 = 0$  and  $p \infty_1 = 1$  then WLPO holds.

What can we say if we don't assume funext? Metzger-theorem

Answer to original question

1. The elements  $\infty_0$  and  $\infty_1$  are provably distinct.

2. There is no definable  $p: \mathbb{N}_{\infty_0, \infty_1} \rightarrow 2$  with  $p \infty_0 = 0$  &  $p \infty_1 = 1$ .

Because this cannot be defined with funext, and hence cannot be defined with fewer assumptions.

Totally separated types

A type  $X$  is T.S. if it satisfies any of the following equivalent conditions:

1.  $\prod x, y : X, \underbrace{\left( \prod p : X \rightarrow Z, p x = p y \right)}_{X =_2 Y} \rightarrow x = y$

Boolean Leibniz principle

2. The apartness relation

is tight, i.e.  $X \#_2 Y \iff \exists p : X \rightarrow Z, p x \neq p y$   
 $\neg(X \#_2 Y) \rightarrow x = y.$

3. The canonical map

$X \rightarrow ((X \rightarrow Z) \rightarrow Z)$  is an embedding.  
 $x \mapsto \lambda p. p x$

4. The quasi component

$\sum y : X, x =_2 y$  of any  $x : X$  is a singleton.

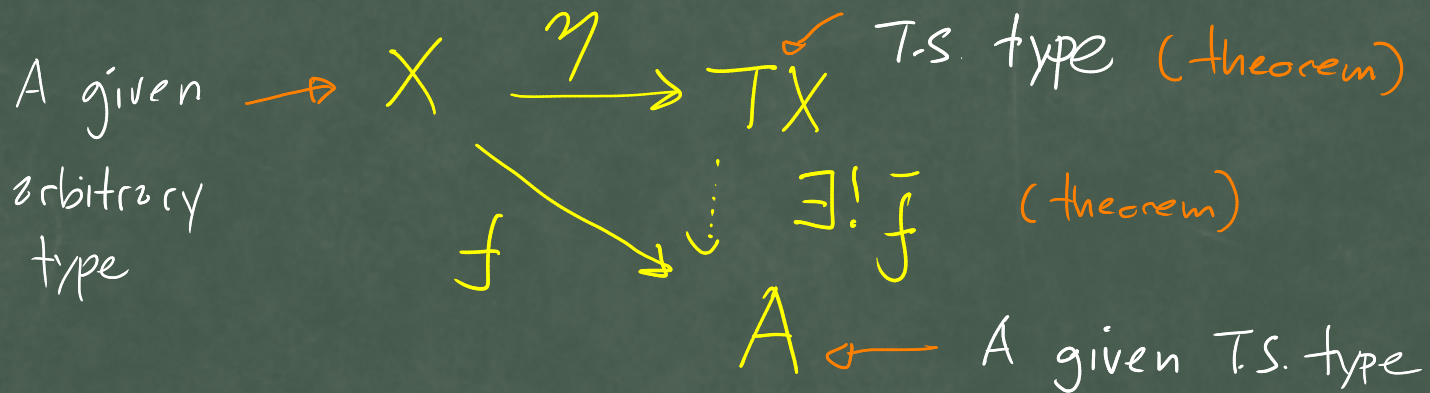


# Properties and closure properties of T.S. types

1. T.S. types are sets in the sense of HoTT/UF.
2. T.S. types are  $\neg\neg$ -separated:  $\neg\neg(x=y) \rightarrow x=y$ .
3. T.S. types are closed under retracts.
4.  $0, \mathbb{1}, \mathbb{2}, \text{Fin } n, \mathbb{N}$  are T.S.
5. If  $(X_i)_{i:I}$  is a family of T.S. types, then  $\prod_{i:I} X_i$  is T.S.  
(We don't require  $I$  to be T.S.)
6. So e.g.  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{2}, \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}, (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , etc. are T.S.
7.  $\mathbb{N}_\infty$  is T.S. (theorem) but  $\mathbb{N}_{\infty, \infty}$  is not provably T.S. (meta-theorem).
8. So T.S. types are "not" closed under  $\Sigma$ .

Ctd. Assuming funext & proptrunc:

Every type  $X$  has a T.S. reflection, given by the image  $TX$  of the canonical map  $X \rightarrow ((X \rightarrow 2) \rightarrow 2)$ :



I hope you enjoyed the  to your question  
& the addenda.

