

Towards typed repositories of proofs

MIPS 2010

Matthias Puech^{1,2} Yann Régis-Gianas²
puech@cs.unibo.it yrg@pps.jussieu.fr

¹Dept. of Computer Science, University of Bologna

²University Paris 7, CNRS, and INRIA, PPS, team πr^2

July 10, 2010

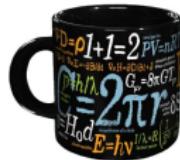
How are *constructed* formal mathematics?

Q : What is the common point between the working mathematician and the working programmer?

How are *constructed* formal mathematics?

Q : What is the common point between the working mathematician and the working programmer?

A : They both spend more time *editing* than *writing*



A paradoxical situation

Observation

We have powerful tools to mechanize the metatheory of (proof) languages

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... And yet,

Workflow of formal mathematics is still largely inspired by legacy software development:

- ▶ File-based scripts (`emacs`)
- ▶ Separate compilation (`make`)
- ▶ Text-based versioning (`svn`, `diffs...`)

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Isn't it time to make these tools metatheory-aware?

Motivations

Rigidity of linear edition

- ▶ $((\text{edit}; \text{compile})^*; \text{commit})^*$ loop does not scale to proofs
- ▶ Concept freeze inhibits the discovery process
- ▶ No room for alternate definitions

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- ▶ Not even the syntax

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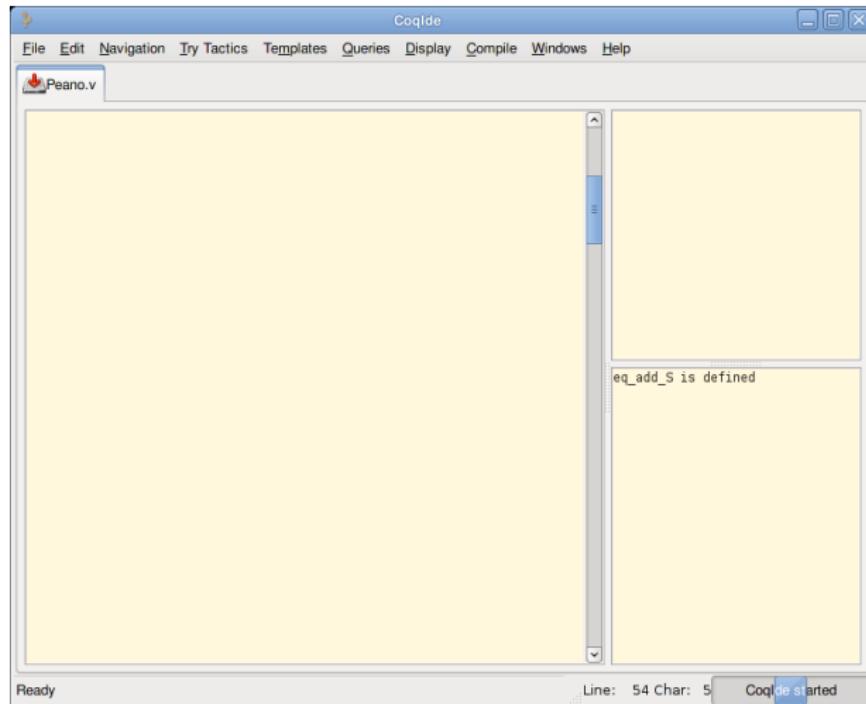
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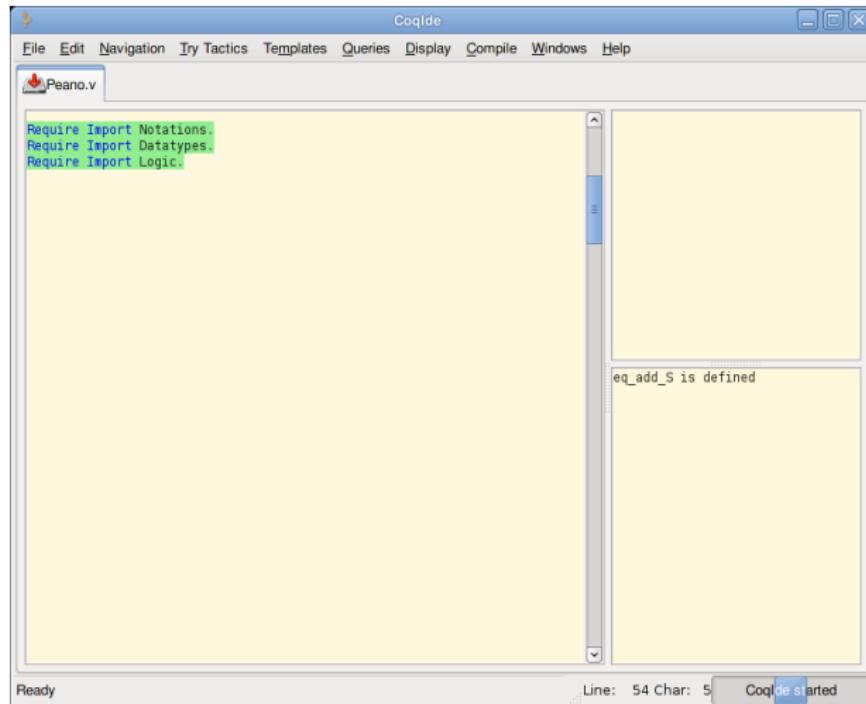
- ▶ Textual scripts diffs do not reflect the semantics
- ▶ Not even the syntax

... Maybe it wasn't adapted to software development

The impact of changes



The impact of changes



The screenshot shows the CoqIDE interface with a file named "Peano.v" open. The file contains the following code:

```
Require Import Notations.
Require Import Datatypes.
Require Import Logic.
```

The right-hand panel displays the message "eq_add_S is defined".

At the bottom of the interface, the status bar shows "Ready", "Line: 54 Char: 5", and "CoqIDE started".

- ▶ File-based separate compilation

The impact of changes

The screenshot shows the CoqIDE interface with a file named "Peano.v" open. The code defines the predecessor function and proves its reflexivity. It also defines the successor function and proves its injectivity. A cursor is visible over the proof of injectivity.

```
Require Import Notations.
Require Import Datatypes.
Require Import Logic.

(** The predecessor function *)

Definition pred (n:nat) : nat := match n with
| 0 => n
| S u => u
end.

Theorem pred_Sn : forall n:nat, n = pred (S n).
Proof.
  simpl; reflexivity.
Qed.

Theorem not_eq_S : forall n m:nat, n <> m -> S n <> S m.
Proof.
  red in |- *; auto.
Qed.

(** Injectivity of successor *)

Theorem eq_add_S : forall n m:nat, S n = S m -> n = m.
Proof.
  intros n m Sn_eq_Sm.
  replace (n=m) with (pred (S n) = pred (S m)) by auto using pred_Sn.
  rewrite Sn_eq_Sm; trivial.
Qed.

Definition IsSucc (n:nat) : Prop :=
  match n with
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```

- ▶ File-based separate compilation
- ▶ Interaction loop with global undo

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The screenshot shows the CoqIDE interface with a file named "Peano.v" open. The code defines the predecessor function (pred) and the successor function (Succ). It also includes proofs for reflexivity of pred and injectivity of S.

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The screenshot shows the CoqIDE interface with a file named "Peano.v" open. The code defines the predecessor function and proves properties like reflexivity and injectivity of the successor function.

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Definition pred (n:nat) : nat := match n with
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Proof.
  simpl; reflexivity. (* simple proof *)
Qed.

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The impact of changes

The screenshot shows the CoqIDE interface with a file named "Peano.v" open. The code defines the predecessor function and proves several theorems related to equality and successor functions.

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Theorem pred_Sn : forall n:nat, n = pred (S n).
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The impact of changes

The screenshot shows the CoqIDE interface with a file named "Peano.v" open. The code defines the Peano axioms and some basic properties of the successor function.

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Definition IsSucc (n:nat) : Prop :=
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```

The "not_eq_S" theorem and its proof are highlighted with a pink background. The status bar at the bottom right shows "CoqIDE started".

- ▶ File-based separate compilation
- ▶ Interaction loop with global undo

Methodology

version management

script files

parsing

proof-checking

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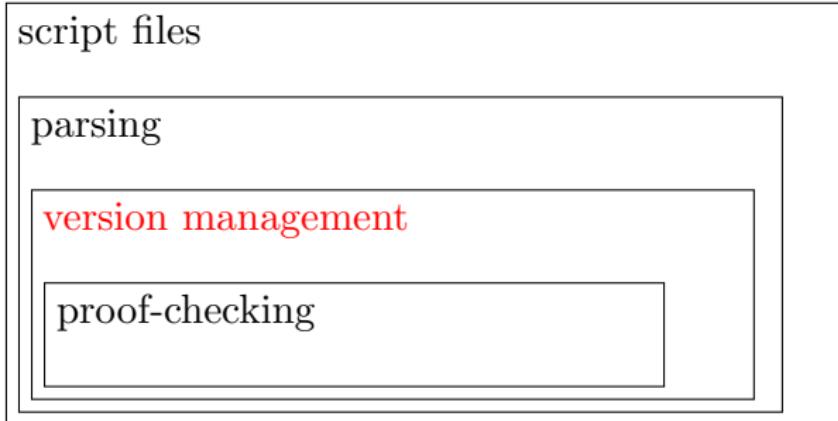
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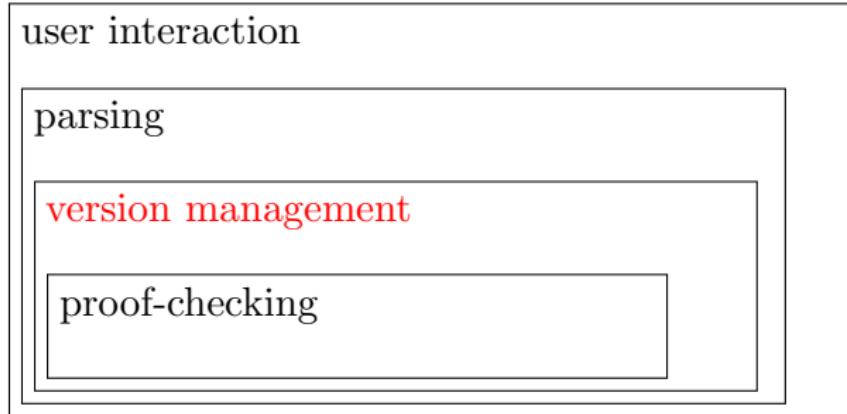
- ▶ AST representation

Methodology



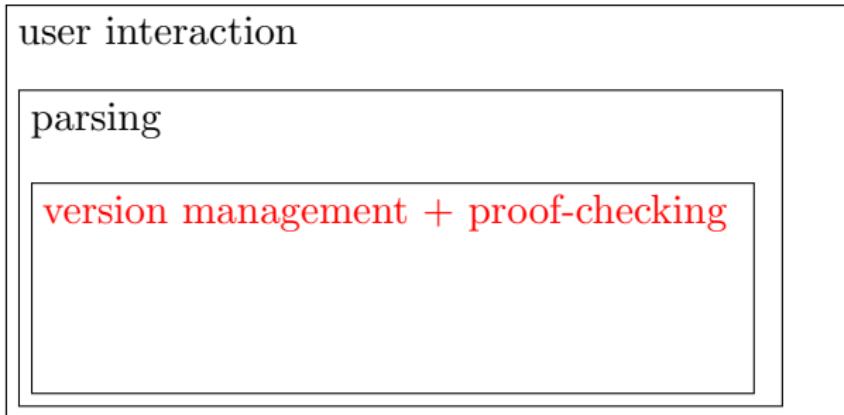
- ▶ AST representation
- ▶ Explicit dependency DAG

Methodology



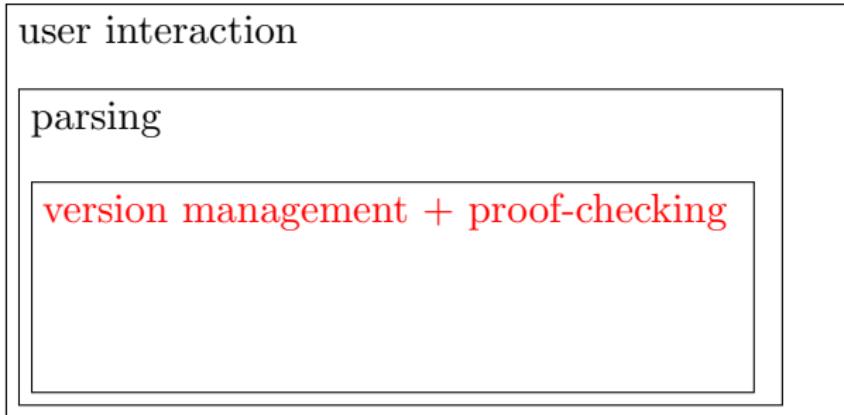
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Methodology



- ▶ AST representation
- ▶ Explicit dependency DAG
- ▶ Typing annotations

Methodology



- ▶ AST representation
- ▶ Explicit dependency DAG
- ▶ Typing annotations
- ▶ Incremental type-checking

A core meta-language for incremental type-checking

Expresses

- ▶ (abstract) Syntax
- ▶ (object-) Logics
- ▶ Proofs (-terms)

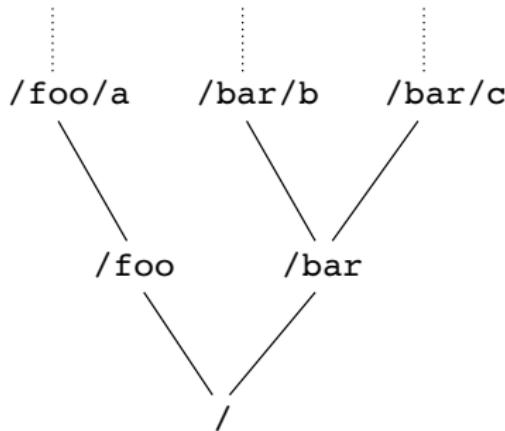
Features

- ▶ Typing
- ▶ Incrementality
- ▶ Dependency

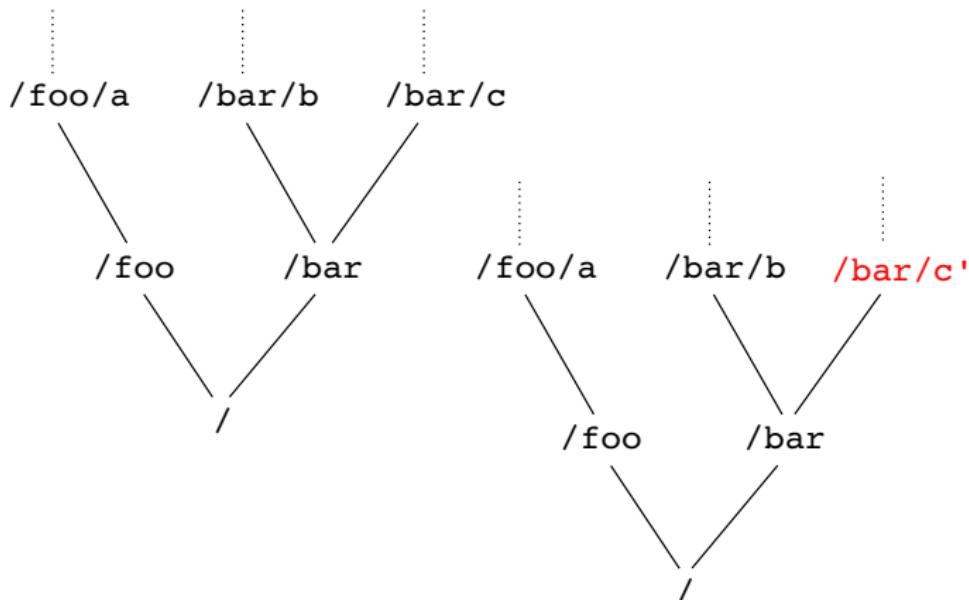
A kernel for a typed version control system?

A repository of directories

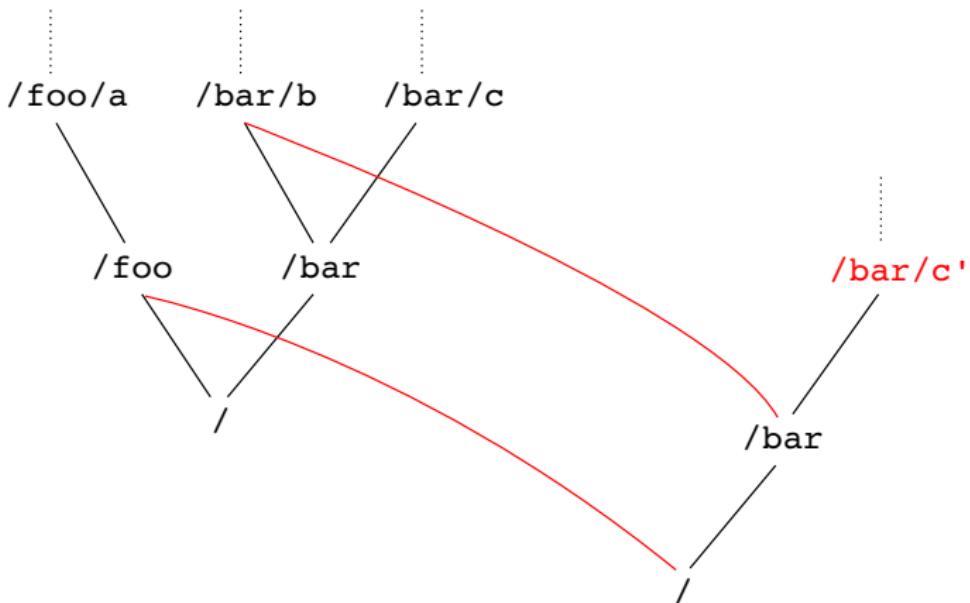
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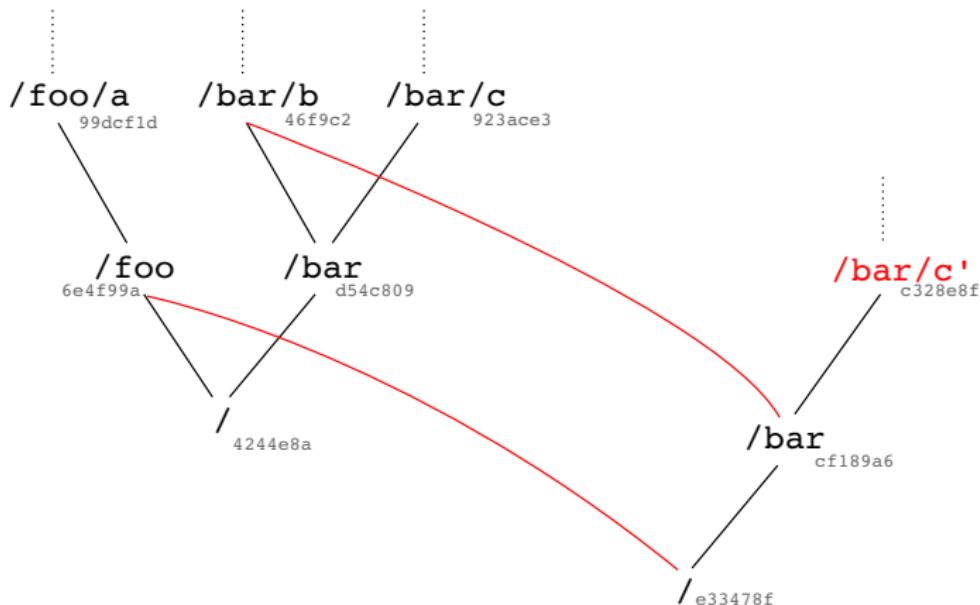
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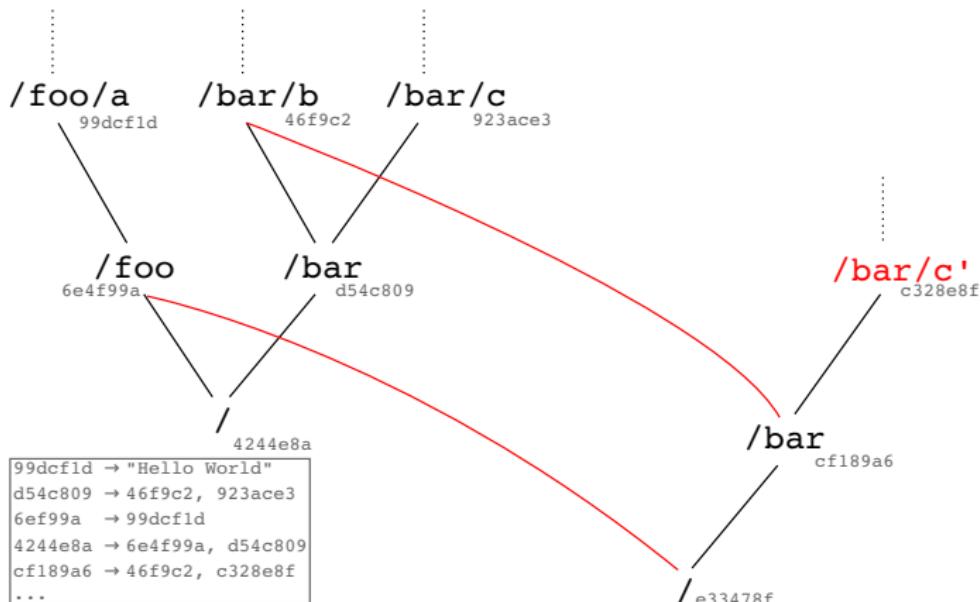
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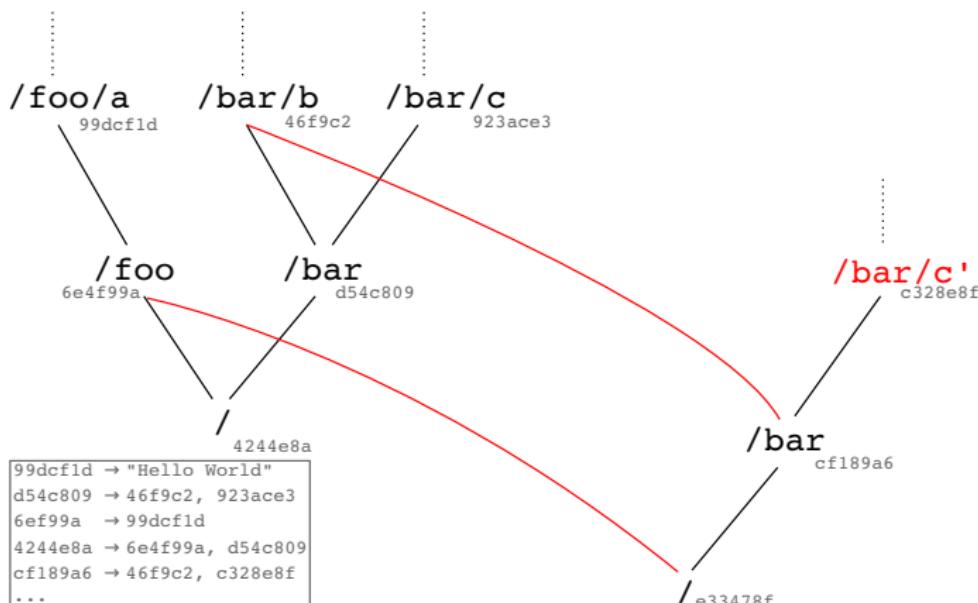
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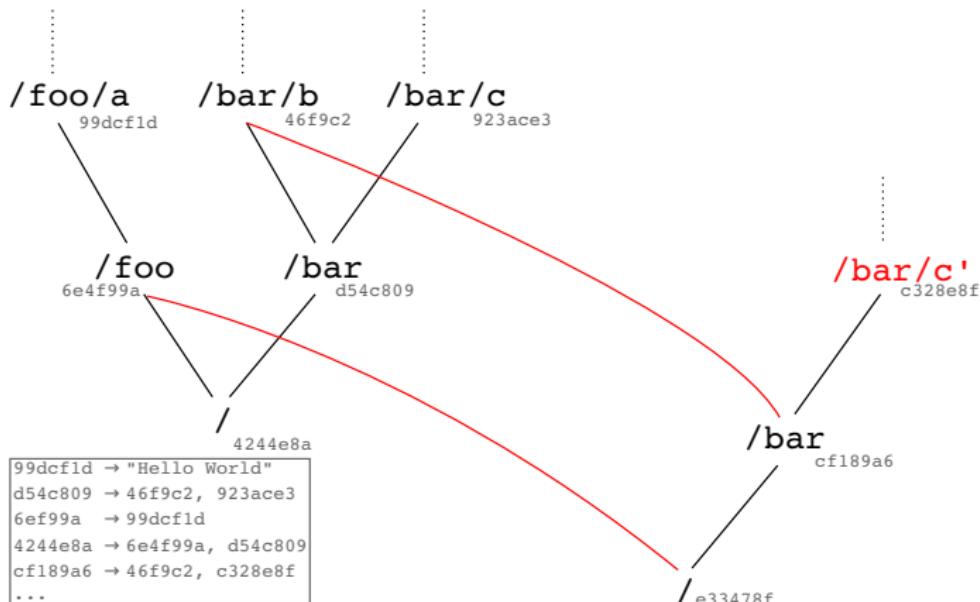


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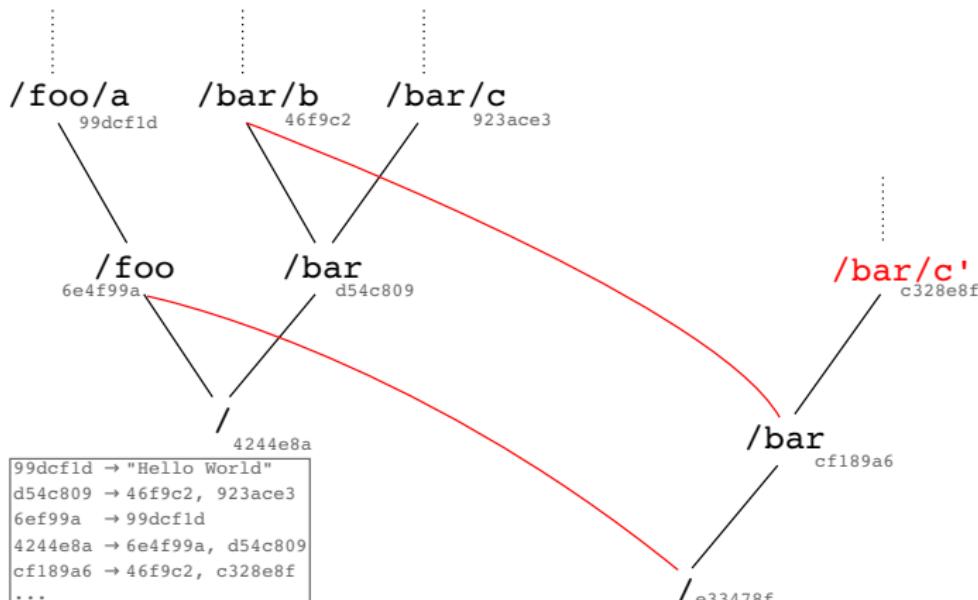
- ▶ “Content-addressable”

A repository of directories



- ▶ “Content-addressable”
- ▶ Name reflects content

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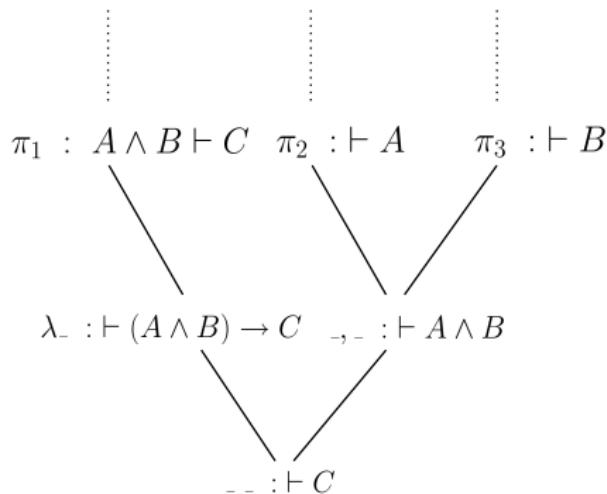
- ▶ “Content-addressable”
- ▶ Name reflects content
- ▶ Maximal sharing (or hash-consing)

A repository of directories

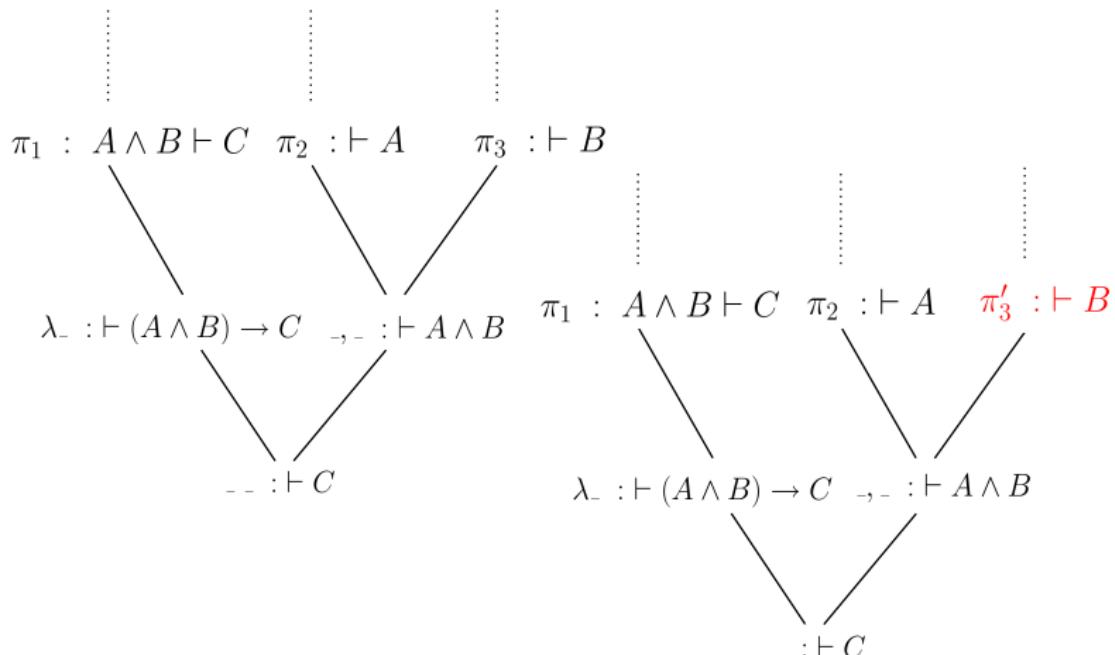
Let's do the same with *proofs*

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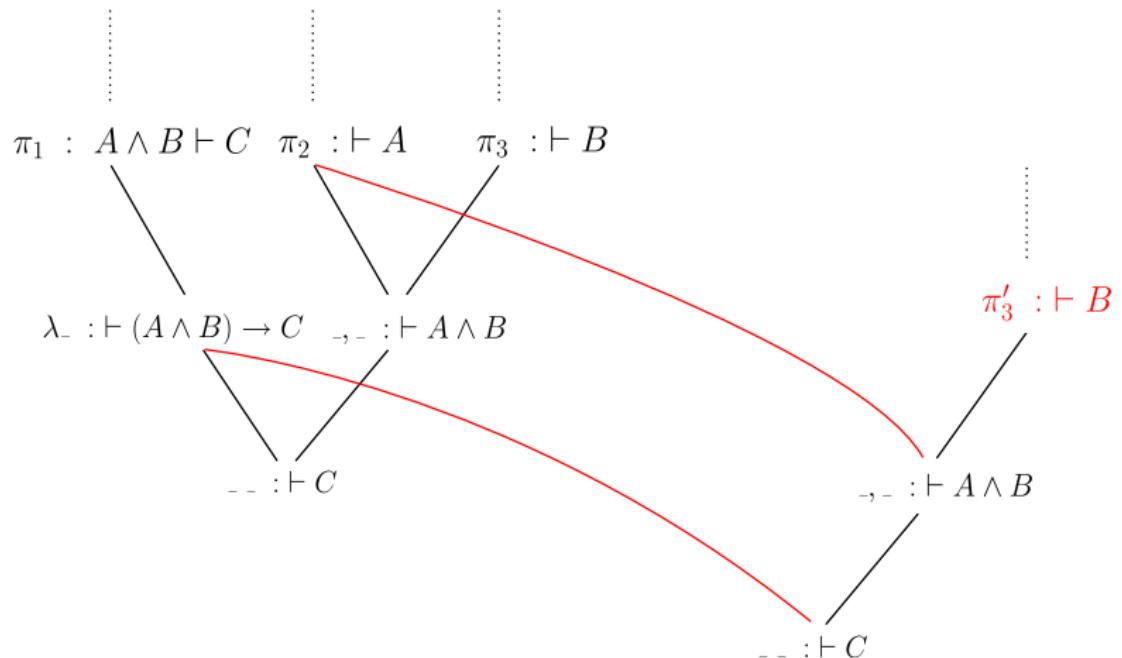
A typed repository of proofs



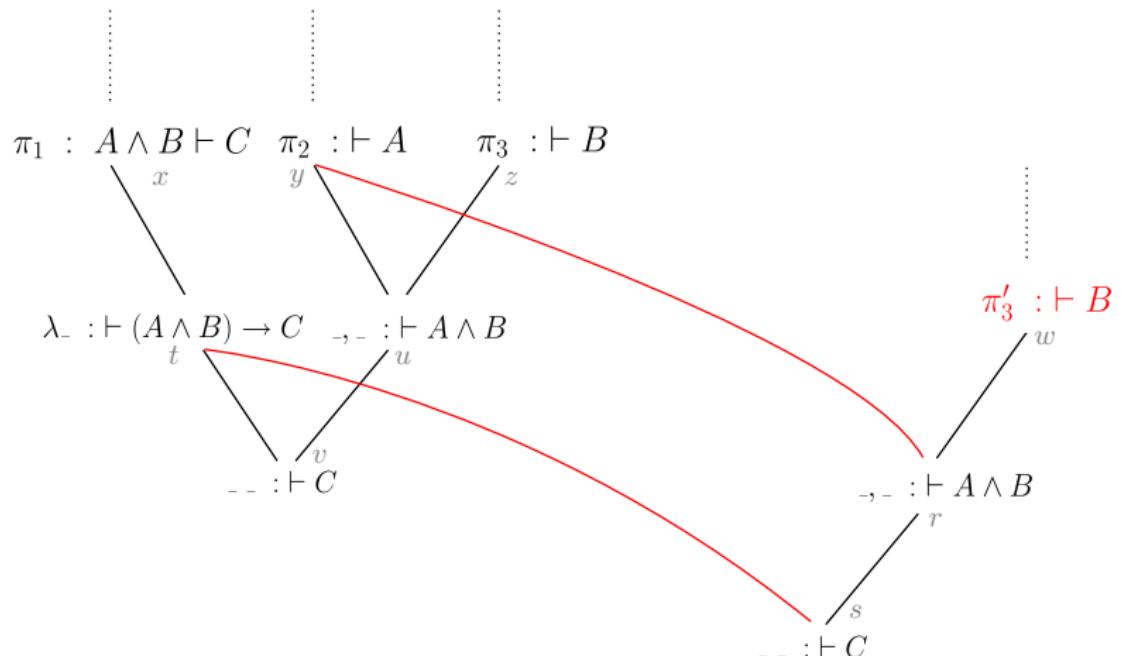
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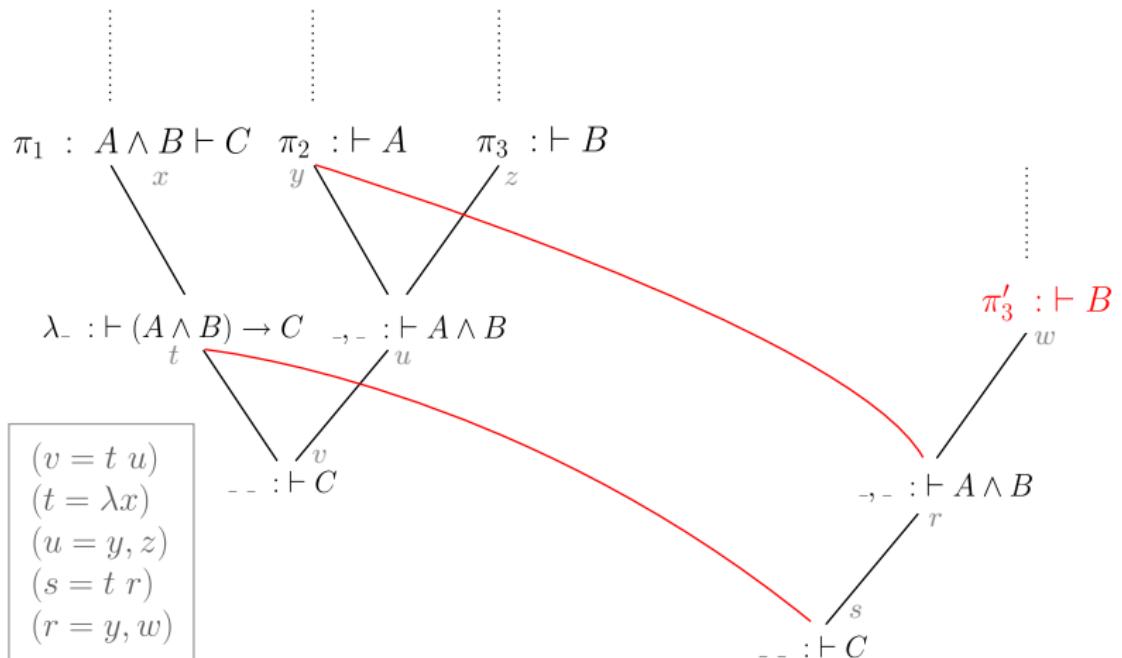
A typed repository of proofs



A typed repository of proofs



A typed repository of proofs



Incremental type-checking, incrementally

Syntax

$$t ::= [x : t] \cdot t \mid (x : t) \cdot t \mid x \mid t \ t \mid *$$

Environments

$$\Gamma ::= \cdot \mid \Gamma[x : t]$$

Judgement

$$\Gamma \vdash t : u \quad \text{“In environment } \Gamma, \text{ term } t \text{ has type } u \text{”}$$

Incremental type-checking, incrementally

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Judgement

$$\Gamma \vdash t : u \Rightarrow \Delta \quad \text{“From repository } \Gamma, \text{ term } t \text{ of type } u \\ \text{leads to the new repository } \Delta”}$$

Typing rules

Product

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash t : * \quad \Gamma[x : t] \vdash u : *}{\Gamma \vdash (x : t) \cdot u : *}$$

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Init

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash x : t} [x : t] \in \Gamma$$

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Equality binder

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Application

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a : (y : u) \cdot t \Rightarrow \Delta \quad [x : u] \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash a \ x : t\{x/y\} \Rightarrow \Delta}$$

Content-aware names (implementation)

Given “ a ”, how to decide efficiently “[$y = a : u$] $\in \Gamma$ ”?

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\equiv	$: \kappa \rightarrow \kappa \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$	Efficient comparison
ν	$: \text{unit} \rightarrow \kappa$	Fresh key generator

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$$\Gamma : \kappa \rightarrow \vec{\kappa} * \tau$$

Further Work

What if we reintroduce $[x : t] \cdot t$?

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1. Constructive metatheory

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1. Constructive metatheory
2. A language to express patches?