

$\lambda \rightarrow$

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- Femke van Raamsdonk  
[Logical Verification Course Notes](#)
- Herman Geuvers  
[Introduction to Type Theory](#)
- Henk Barendregt  
[Lambda Calculus with Types](#)  
Cambridge University Press (to appear)

# Curry-Howard

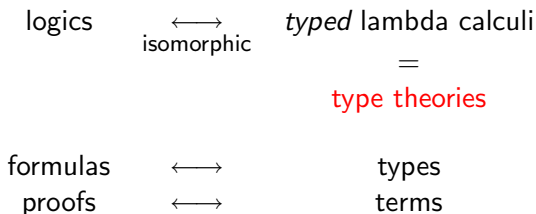
# the Curry-Howard isomorphism

Haskell Curry

William Alvin Howard

Nicolaas Govert de Bruijn

Per Martin-Löf



# logics versus type theories

*many* type theories

propositional logic	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\lambda \rightarrow$	
predicate logic	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\lambda P$	<i>dependent types</i>
<i>second order</i> logic	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\lambda 2$	<i>polymorphism</i>

Martin-Löf's type theories

$MLW \rightsquigarrow MLW^{\text{ext}}PU_{<\omega}$

CC = calculus of constructions

'Coq logic'  $\longleftrightarrow$  pCIC = Coq's type theory

*proof assistant*

|  
competitor of ZFC set theory

# why types?

- semantics

$$\begin{array}{c} \lambda x.xx \\ | \\ x \in \text{dom}(x)? \end{array}$$

- Curry-Howard isomorphism

logic!

- termination = SN = strong normalization

*compute* the value of any term

$\lambda \rightarrow$

names for  $\lambda \rightarrow$

Alonzo Church

$\lambda \rightarrow$

Church's type theory

simply typed lambda calculus

simple type theory

simple theory of types

STT



# description of a logic/type theory in general

## 1 syntax

- terms
- types
- **formulas**
- sequents  $\rightsquigarrow \Gamma \vdash A$
- typing judgments  $\rightsquigarrow \Gamma \vdash M : A$
- ...

## 2 rules

- proof rules
- typing rules
- ...

## 3 *semantics*

# description of $\lambda \rightarrow$

## 1 syntax

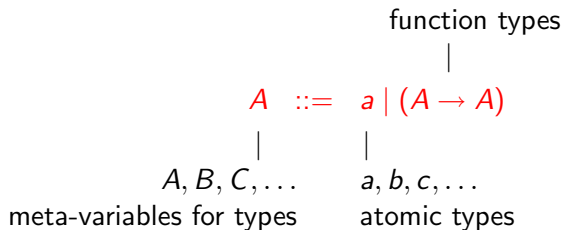
- types
- terms
- contexts
- judgments

## 2 rules

- typing rules

# types

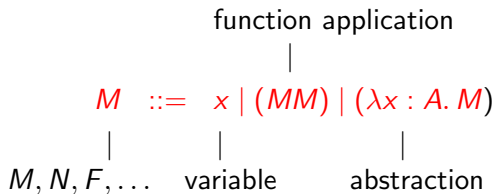
grammar of types:



$a \rightarrow b =$  type of functions from  $a$  to  $b$

# terms

grammar of pseudo-terms:



$\lambda x : A. M$	$x$
$\lambda x^A M$	$x^A$

explicitly typed variables = *Church-style*

# Curry-style versus Church-style

- Curry-style:

$$\lambda x.x : a \rightarrow a$$

$$\lambda x.x : b \rightarrow b$$

$$\lambda x.x : (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b)$$

same term with multiple types

- Church-style:

$$\lambda x : a.x : a \rightarrow a$$

$$\lambda x : b.x : b \rightarrow b$$

$$\lambda x : a \rightarrow b.x : (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b)$$

different terms with each a single type

# contexts

grammar of contexts:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma & ::= & \cdot \mid \Gamma, x : A \\ | & & | \\ \Gamma, \Delta, \dots & & \text{empty context} \end{array}$$

the  $\cdot$  and possible following comma is not written:

$$x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_n : A_n$$

# judgments

typing judgments:

$$\underbrace{x_1 : A_1, \dots, x_n : A_n}_{\Gamma} \vdash M : B$$

‘in context  $\Gamma$  the term  $M$  is well-typed and has type  $B$ ’

terms and judgments: equivalence classes ‘up to alpha’

in rules: all  $x_i$  are different

*Barendregt convention*

# typing rules

- variable rule

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash x : A} \quad x : A \in \Gamma$$

- application rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash F : A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash M : A}{\Gamma \vdash FM : B}$$

- abstraction rule

$$\frac{\Gamma, x : A \vdash M : B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A. M : A \rightarrow B}$$



## example: typed $K$

untyped:

$$K \equiv \lambda xy.x$$

typed in  $\lambda \rightarrow$ :

$$K \equiv \lambda x : a. \underbrace{\lambda y : b. x}_{: b \rightarrow a} : a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$$

example: type derivation for  $K$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{x : a, y : b \vdash x : a}}{x : a \vdash \lambda y : b. x : b \rightarrow a}}{\vdash \lambda x : a. \lambda y : b. x : a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a}}{\Gamma \text{ is empty} \quad \underbrace{\lambda x : a. \lambda y : b. x}_{M} \quad \underbrace{a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a}_{B}}$$

minimal logic

# minimal propositional logic

- *implicational* logic  
only connective is  $\rightarrow$
- intuitionistic  
*not* classical

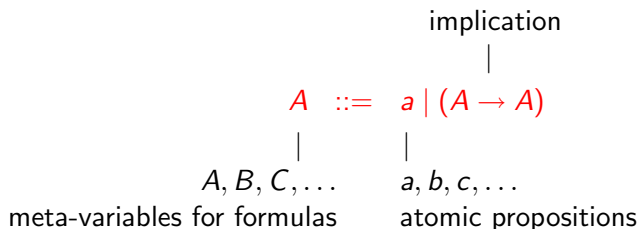
$$\not\vdash ((a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a$$

logic styles:

- 1 Hilbert system
- 2 sequent calculus
- 3 **natural deduction**
  - **Gentzen-style**
  - Jaśkowski/Fitch-style

# formulas

grammar of formulas:



# proof rules

## ■ implication introduction

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \cancel{A} \quad \cancel{A} \\ \dots \quad \vdots \quad \dots \\ B \end{array}}{A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow I$$

## ■ implication elimination = modus ponens

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ A \rightarrow B \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ A \end{array}}{B} \rightarrow E$$

example: proof of  $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$

'if  $a$  then it holds that if  $b$  then  $a$ '

' $a$  implies that  $b$  implies  $a$ '

$$\frac{\frac{\cancel{a}^x}{b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I_y}{a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I_x$$

# proof terms

... and now in stereo!

*logic*

$$\frac{\frac{\not{a}^x}{b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I_y}{a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I_x$$

*type theory*

$$\frac{\frac{x : a, y : b \vdash x : a}{x : a \vdash \lambda y : b. x : b \rightarrow a}}{\vdash \lambda x : a. \lambda y : b. x : a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a}$$



# BHK interpretation

Luitzen Egbertus Jan Brouwer

Arend Heyting

Andrey Kolmogorov

*intuitionistic* interpretation of logical connectives:

proof of	$A \wedge B$	=	pair of a proof of $A$ and a proof of $B$
proof of	$A \vee B$	=	either a proof of $A$ or a proof of $B$
proof of	$A \rightarrow B$	=	<b>mapping</b> of proofs of $A$ to proofs of $B$
proof of	$\neg A$	=	proof of $A \rightarrow \perp$
proof of	$\perp$	=	does not exist
proof of	$\top$	=	the unique proof of $\top$

- classical logic

$A \vee B$  = at least one of  $A$  and  $B$  holds

$\exists x P(x)$  = there is an  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  holds

(but we might not be able to know which)

- intuitionistic logic = **constructive** logic

$A \vee B$  = we can **compute** which of  $A$  or  $B$  holds

$\exists x P(x)$  = we can **compute** an  $x$  for which  $P(x)$  holds

$\not\vdash a \vee \neg a$

$\not\vdash \neg\neg a \rightarrow a$

$\not\vdash ((a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a$

# is classical logic or intuitionistic logic more intuitive?

- classical:

$$ZF \vdash 2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_1 \vee 2^{\aleph_0} \neq \aleph_1$$

$$ZF \not\vdash 2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_1$$

$$ZF \not\vdash 2^{\aleph_0} \neq \aleph_1$$

- intuitionistic:

$M$  is a Turing machine that looks for a proof of  $\perp$  in  $IZF$

$$IZF \not\vdash M \downarrow \vee \neg M \downarrow$$

$$IZF \vdash \neg\neg(M \downarrow \vee \neg M \downarrow)$$

## styles of logic

# styles of logic

## 1 Hilbert system

David Hilbert

## 2 sequent calculus

Gerhard Gentzen

## 3 natural deduction

### ■ Gentzen-style

Gerhard Gentzen

### ■ Jaśkowski/Fitch-style

Stanisław Jaśkowski  
Frederic Fitch

# logic style 1: Hilbert system

- just one proof rule

modus ponens

$$\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ A \\ \vdots \\ A \rightarrow B \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array} \quad \text{MP}$$

- *axiom schemes*

$$\begin{array}{l} A \rightarrow B \rightarrow A \quad \text{K} \\ (A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow A \rightarrow C \quad \text{S} \end{array}$$

example: proof of  $a \rightarrow a$

1	$(a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$	S
2	$a \rightarrow (b \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a$	K
3	$(a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a) \rightarrow a \rightarrow a$	MP 1,2
4	$a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$	K
5	$a \rightarrow a$	MP 3,4

# Curry-Howard for Hilbert system

logic	$\longleftrightarrow$	type theory
Hilbert system	$\longleftrightarrow$	typed combinatory logic
proof of $a \rightarrow a$	$\longleftrightarrow$	$SKK =_{\beta} I$
<i>deduction theorem</i>	$\longleftrightarrow$	converting lambda terms to combinatory logic



## logic style 2: sequent calculus

sequents:

$$A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B_1, \dots, B_m$$

to be read as:

$$A_1 \wedge \dots \wedge A_n \rightarrow B_1 \vee \dots \vee B_m$$

$A_1, \dots, A_n$  and  $B_1, \dots, B_n$  are sets, not lists

# intro/elim versus left/right

for each logical connective  $\otimes$ :

■ natural deduction:

intro rules  $\otimes I$

elim rules  $\otimes E$

■ sequent calculus:

left rules  $\otimes L$

right rules  $\otimes R$

# proof rules

- assumption rule

$$\overline{\Gamma, A \vdash A, \Delta}^{\text{ass}}$$

- left rule for implication

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, \Delta \quad \Gamma, B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, A \rightarrow B \vdash \Delta} \rightarrow L$$

- right rule for implication

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B, \Delta} \rightarrow R$$

example: proof of  $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{a, b \vdash a} \text{ass}}{a \vdash b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow R}{\vdash a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow R$$

## ■ cut rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \quad A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta} \text{cut}$$

*cut elimination* theorem:

all provable statements can also be proved with a cut-free proof

# general shape of sequent calculus proof rules

rules for  $\vee$ :

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \Delta \quad \Gamma, B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, A \vee B \vdash \Delta} \vee L$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, B, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B, \Delta} \vee R$$

rules for  $\otimes$ :

$$\frac{\dots}{\dots \otimes \dots \vdash \dots} \otimes L$$

$$\frac{\dots}{\dots \vdash \dots \otimes \dots} \otimes R$$

# Curry-Howard for sequent calculus

Michel Parigot

$\lambda\mu$

Hugo Herbelin

$\bar{\lambda}\mu\tilde{\mu}$

Curry-Howard for *classical logic*

exceptions: throw/catch

variables for *continuations*

# intuitionistic sequent calculus

- system **LK**: classical sequent calculus
- system **LJ**: intuitionistic sequent calculus  
only sequents with one formula on the right:

$$A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B$$

proof rules adapted accordingly



## logic style 3a: natural deduction, Gentzen-style

this system already has been presented  
now in sequent presentation

instead of formulas:

$B$

now sequents:

$A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B$

open assumptions

# proof rules

- assumption rule

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash A} \text{ass} \quad A \in \Gamma$$

- implication introduction

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow I$$

- implication elimination

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B \quad \Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash B} \rightarrow E$$

example: proof of  $a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{a, b \vdash a} \text{ass}}{a \vdash b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I}{\vdash a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I$$

# general shape of natural deduction proof rules

rules for  $\vee$ :

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B} \vee I_l \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B} \vee I_r \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B \quad \Gamma, A \vdash C \quad \Gamma, B \vdash C}{C} \vee E$$

rules for  $\otimes$ :

$$\frac{\dots}{\dots \vdash \dots \otimes \dots} \otimes I \quad \frac{\dots \vdash \dots \otimes \dots \quad \dots}{\dots} \otimes E$$

# intro/elim versus left/right, revisited

- natural deduction: introduction and elimination rules

$$\frac{\dots \vdash \dots}{\dots \vdash \dots \otimes \dots} \otimes I$$

$$\frac{\dots \vdash \dots \otimes \dots}{\dots \vdash \dots} \otimes E$$

- sequent calculus: left and right rules

$$\frac{\dots \vdash \dots}{\dots \otimes \dots \vdash \dots} \otimes L$$

$$\frac{\dots \vdash \dots}{\dots \vdash \dots \otimes \dots} \otimes R$$

is sequent calculus more attractive...?

$$\frac{\Gamma, A, B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, A \wedge B \vdash \Delta} \wedge L$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, \Delta \quad \Gamma \vdash B, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B, \Delta} \wedge R$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \Delta \quad \Gamma, B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, A \vee B \vdash \Delta} \vee L$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, B, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B, \Delta} \vee R$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, \Delta}{\Gamma, \neg A \vdash \Delta} \neg L$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \neg A, \Delta} \neg R$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \top \vdash \Delta} \top L$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \top, \Delta} \top R$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma, \perp \vdash \Delta} \perp L$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \perp, \Delta} \perp R$$

... or is natural deduction more attractive?

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \quad \Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma, A \wedge B} \wedge I$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B}{\Gamma \vdash A} \wedge E_l \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B}{\Gamma \vdash B} \wedge E_r$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B} \vee I_l \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash B}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B} \vee I_r$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B \quad \Gamma, A \vdash C \quad \Gamma, B \vdash C}{C} \vee E$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \vdash \perp}{\Gamma \vdash \neg A} \neg I$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \neg A \quad \Gamma \vdash A}{\Gamma \vdash \perp} \neg E$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash \top} \top I$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \perp}{\Gamma \vdash A} \perp E$$

# Curry-Howard for natural deduction, again

*logic*

$$\frac{\frac{\overline{a, b \vdash a} \text{ ass}}{a \vdash b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I}{\vdash a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I$$

*type theory*

$$\frac{\frac{\overline{x : a, y : b \vdash x : a}}{x : a \vdash \lambda y : b. x : b \rightarrow a}}{\vdash \lambda x : a. \lambda y : b. x : a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a}$$



# logic style 3b: natural deduction, Jaśkowski/Fitch-style

1	$a$	ass
2	$b$	ass
3	$a$	copy 1
4	$b \rightarrow a$	$\rightarrow I$ 2-3
5	$a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$	$\rightarrow I$ 1-4

1	$a \vdash a$	ass
2	$a, b \vdash b$	ass
3	$a, b \vdash a$	weaken 1
4	$a \vdash b \rightarrow a$	$\rightarrow I$ 3
5	$\vdash a \rightarrow b \rightarrow a$	$\rightarrow I$ 4

detour elimination

# detour elimination

*detour* = intro rule directly followed by corresponding elim rule

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \hline \dots \otimes \dots \end{array} \otimes I \quad \dots}{\dots \otimes E}$$

detours for implication behave like cuts

sequent calculus: cut elimination

natural deduction: detour elimination

*detour elimination* theorem:

all provable statements can also be proved with a detour-free proof

## example with a detour

$$\frac{\frac{\lambda^y}{a \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I_y \quad \lambda^x}{\frac{a}{a \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I_x} \rightarrow E$$

*proof term:*

$\lambda x : a. (\lambda y : a. y) x$

$\lambda x. \underbrace{(\lambda y. y) x}_{\text{redex!}}$

... written with sequents and with proof terms

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{a, a \vdash a} \text{ass}}{a \vdash a \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I \quad \frac{}{a \vdash a} \text{ass}}{a \vdash a} \rightarrow E}{\vdash a \rightarrow a} \rightarrow I$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{x : a, y : a \vdash y : a}}{x : a \vdash \lambda y : a. y : a \rightarrow a} \quad \frac{}{x : a \vdash x : a}}{x : a \vdash (\lambda y : a. y) x : a}}{\vdash \lambda x : a. (\lambda y : a. y) x : a \rightarrow a}$$

# detour elimination in general

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\dots \quad \cancel{A} \quad \dots}{\vdots} \quad \dots \quad \cancel{A}}{B} \rightarrow I \quad \vdots \quad A}{\frac{A \rightarrow B}{B} \rightarrow E} \rightarrow E \quad \rightarrow \quad \dots \quad \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ A \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array} \quad \dots \quad \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ A \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array}$$

proof of  $B$  using a *lemma*  $A$

... written with sequents and with proof terms

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma, A \vdash B}}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow I \quad \frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash A}}{\Gamma \vdash B} \rightarrow E \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash B}$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash M : B}}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x : A. M : A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow I \quad \frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash N : A}}{\Gamma \vdash (\lambda x : A. M) N : B} \rightarrow E \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{\vdots}{\Gamma \vdash M[x := N] : B}}$$

# normalization of proofs and terms

reduction corresponding to detour elimination:

$$(\lambda x : A. M) N \rightarrow_{\beta} M[x := N]$$

Curry-Howard:

logic	$\longleftrightarrow$	type theory
proof	$\longleftrightarrow$	term
detour elimination	$\longleftrightarrow$	$\beta$ -reduction
detour-free proof	$\longleftrightarrow$	term in $\beta$ -normal form



consistency

# subject reduction

**theorem** (subject reduction = SR)

$\Gamma \vdash M : A$  and  $M \rightarrow_{\beta} N$  then  $\Gamma \vdash N : A$

**proof:** induction on the number of steps in the reduction

for a single step: induction on the definition of  $\rightarrow_{\beta}$  using the substitution lemma below □

**lemma** (substitution lemma)

$\Gamma, x : B \vdash M : A$  and  $\Gamma \vdash N : B$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M[x := N] : A$

**lemma** (weakening)

$\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then  $\Gamma, x : B \vdash M : A$

**lemma** (stengthening)

$\Gamma, x : B \vdash M : A$  and  $x \notin FV(M)$  then  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$

# termination and confluence

**theorem** (strong normalization = SN)

$\Gamma \vdash M : A$  then there is no infinite  $M \rightarrow_{\beta} M_1 \rightarrow_{\beta} M_2 \rightarrow_{\beta} \dots$

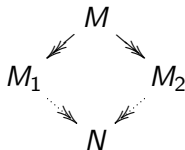
*proof later in the course*

**theorem**

every inhabited type has an inhabitant in  $\beta$ -normal form

**proof:** combine subject reduction and strong normalization □

**theorem** (Church-Rosser = CR)



**proof:** the proof for the untyped case respects types □

# long normal forms

if  $M$  has type  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $x \notin FV(M)$  then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \lambda x : A. Mx & \rightarrow_{\eta} & M \\ M & \rightarrow_{\bar{\eta}} & \lambda x : A. Mx \end{array}$$

*long* normal form =  $\beta\bar{\eta}$ -normal form

$$\begin{array}{l} \lambda f : a \rightarrow b. f : (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow a \rightarrow b \\ \lambda f : a \rightarrow b. \lambda x : a. fx : (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow a \rightarrow b \end{array}$$

## **theorem**

every inhabited type has an inhabitant in *long* normal form

# consistency

## definition

a logic is called *inconsistent* if  $\vdash A$  for *all* formulas  $A$

## theorem

minimal propositional logic is **consistent**

**proof:** analyze possibilities for  $\beta$ -normal forms  $M$  with  $\vdash M : a$

$\beta$ -normal form:

$$\lambda x : A. M'$$
$$xM_1 \dots M_k$$

both impossible:

$a$  is not a function type  
no variables in empty context

by Curry-Howard:  $\not\vdash a$



# recap

- 1 Curry-Howard
- 2  $\lambda \rightarrow$
- 3 minimal logic
- 4 styles of logic
  - Hilbert system
  - sequent calculus
  - natural deduction
    - Gentzen-style
    - Jaśkowsky/Fitch-style
- 5 detour elimination
- 6 consistency