

# An introduction to SGDT

+ some geometric remarks

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**Theorem (Lawvere)**

*In a CCC, if there's an onto map  $X \rightarrow Y^X$ , then every endomorphism  $f: Y \rightarrow Y$  has a fixpoint.*

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**No non-trivial sets satisfy this!**

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**DT becomes a full-fledged *theory of computational spaces!***

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However, DCPOs are pretty hard to deal with. One would like to treat domains as sets  $\Rightarrow$  Define a (family of) topos(es) of domains<sup>1</sup>  $\mathcal{E}$  in which:

- One can take fixpoints of endomorphisms  $X \rightarrow X$ .
- One can find fixpoints for various endofunctors  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ .
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We won't talk about that right now...

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Suppose we want to solve:

$$\mathcal{W} \cong \mathbb{N} \multimap_{\text{fin}} \mathcal{T}$$

$$\mathcal{T} \cong \mathcal{W} \rightarrow_{\text{mon}} \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{V})$$

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Both Sets and Domains aren't that helpful with that.

**Step indexing:** Adding steps (natural numbers, in its most simple form) at different places in definitions in order to get a handle on recursion.

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Let's try changing a bit what we're trying to solve and take:

$$\mathcal{P}^\downarrow(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{V}) := \{\rho \mid (n, v, w) \in \rho \Rightarrow (m, v, w) \in \rho \ \forall m \leq n\}$$

Observe that  $\mathcal{P}^\downarrow(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{V})$  comes equipped with the metric:

$$d(X, Y) = \inf\{2^{-n} \mid \forall j < n. \forall v, w \in \mathbf{V}. (j, v, w) \in X \leftrightarrow (j, v, w) \in Y\}$$

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Moreover:

1. All the distances are of the form  $2^{-n}$ .
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$\mathcal{P}^\downarrow(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{V})$  is a *bisected* (1) *ultrametric* (2) space!

Let's move to the category BiCUlt of *complete bisected ultrametric spaces* and *non-expansive*<sup>2</sup> functions.

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<sup>2</sup> $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is non-expansive if  $\forall a, b \in X. d_Y(f(a), f(b)) \leq d_X(a, b)$ .

Let's move to the category BiCUlt of *complete bisected ultrametric spaces* and *non-expansive*<sup>2</sup> functions.

A *locally non-expansive* functor is a BiCUlt-enriched functor.

A lne functor  $F : \text{BiCUlt}^{\text{op}} \times \text{BiCUlt} \rightarrow \text{BiCUlt}$  is *locally contractive* if  $\forall f, g : X \rightarrow Y$  and  $h, k : Z \rightarrow W$  we have:

$$d(F(f, h), F(g, k)) \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \max\{d(f, g), d(h, k)\}$$

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## Remark

Composing any linear functor with the functor  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot -$ , which maps the space  $(X, d_X)$  to  $(X, \frac{1}{2} \cdot d_X)$  and acts as the identity on morphisms, will give a locally contractive functor.

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## Theorem ([BST10])

*Let  $F$  an lc functor s.t.  $F(1, 1)$  is inhabited. Then, there exists an inhabited  $X \in \text{BiCULt}$  s.t.  $F(X, X) \cong X$ . If moreover  $F(\emptyset, \emptyset)$  is inhabited, then such  $X$  is unique up to iso.*

Now we can upgrade our definition from earlier to:

$$\mathcal{T} \cong \left( \mathbb{N} \multimap_{\text{fin}} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \mathcal{T} \right) \rightarrow_{\text{mon, n.e.}} \mathcal{P}^\downarrow(\mathbb{N} \times \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{V})$$

And use the fixpoint theorem for lc functors to show that it has a unique solution.

Cool! But, these spaces are awful to deal with. Again, one would like to treat such objects as sets

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Cool! But, these spaces are awful to deal with. Again, one would like to treat such objects as sets  $\Rightarrow$  Define a (family of) topos(es)  $\mathcal{E}$  in which:

- There's a version of Banach's fixpoint theorem<sup>3</sup>.
- One can find fixpoints for lc endofunctors  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ .
- There's an operator that behaves like the  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot -$  functor.
- (possibly?) BiCUlt embeds into it.

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$(\mathcal{E}, \blacktriangleright: \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}, -^\dagger: \mathcal{E}(\blacktriangleright -, -) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(1, -))$ , where  $\mathcal{E}$  has fin. prods. and  $\blacktriangleright$  is pointed<sup>4</sup>. s.t. (incrementally):

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- $\forall f: \blacktriangleright X \rightarrow X, f^\dagger$  is !s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 1 & \xrightarrow{f^\dagger} & X \\
 f^\dagger \downarrow & & \uparrow f \\
 X & \xrightarrow{n_X} & \blacktriangleright X
 \end{array}$$

- $\blacktriangleright$  preserves finite limits.

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- $\mathcal{E}$  is LCC + each slice is  $\bullet$ .

---

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Recall that an endofunctor  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is *strong* if

$$\forall X, Y. \exists F_{X,Y} : Y^X \rightarrow FY^{FX} \text{ s.t. } \forall f : X \rightarrow Y. F_{X,Y} \circ \llbracket f \rrbracket = \llbracket Ff \rrbracket^5.$$

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A strong endofunctor on  $\mathcal{E}$  is *locally contractive* if each  $F_{X,Y}$  is contractive, i.e.  $\exists G_{X,Y}$  s.t.  $G_{X,Y} \circ n_{X^Y} = F_{X,Y}$  and the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \blacktriangleright (Y^X) \times \blacktriangleright (Z^Y) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \blacktriangleright (Y^X \times Z^Y) \xrightarrow{\blacktriangleright^c} \blacktriangleright (Z^X) \\
 G_{X,Y} \times G_{Y,Z} \downarrow & & \downarrow G_{X,Z} \\
 FY^{FX} \times FZ^{FY} & \xrightarrow{c} & FZ^{FX}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 1 & \xrightarrow{\llbracket id \rrbracket} & \blacktriangleright (X^X) \\
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 \end{array}$$

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The general reference here is [BMSS11]

**Proposition**

*If  $\mathcal{E}$  is cartesian closed +  $\bullet$ , then  $\blacktriangleright$  is strong.*

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**Theorem**

*If  $\mathcal{E}$  is LCC + •, then  $\blacktriangleright$  is fibred over the codomain fibration.*

## Proposition

If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\bullet$ , let  $F : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  be lc. If  $X \cong F(X)$ , then the two directions of the isomorphism give an initial algebra and a final coalgebra structure.

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<sup>6</sup> $\underline{F}(\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) = \langle F(\vec{Y}, \vec{X}), F(\vec{X}, \vec{Y}) \rangle$  is the symmetrization of  $F$ .

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If  $\mathcal{E}$  is  $\bullet$ , let  $F : (\mathcal{E}^{op} \times \mathcal{E})^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  be lc in the  $(n+1)$ th variable pair. Then  $\exists ! F^\dagger : (\mathcal{E}^{op} \times \mathcal{E})^n \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  s.t.  $F \circ \langle id, \underline{F}^\dagger \rangle \cong F^\dagger$ <sup>6</sup>. Moreover, if  $F$  is lc in all variables, then so is  $F^\dagger$ .

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- Taking  $\blacktriangleright = id_{\mathcal{E}}$  and  $n = id_{\blacktriangleright}$ , categories with an ordinary fixpoint operator are  $\bullet$ . For a concrete example: the category of pointed DCPOs with its usual least fixpoint operator.

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- If  $\blacktriangleright X = 1$  and  $n_X = !_X$ , a trivial guarded fixpoint operator is given by the identity map on the hom-sets.
- Take  $\mathcal{E} = \text{BiCUlt}$ ,  $\blacktriangleright = \frac{1}{2} \cdot -$  and  $n$  as the obvious “contracted identity” mapping. Note that a n.e.  $f : \blacktriangleright X \rightarrow X$  is the same as a contractive endomap. Therefore Banach’s fixpoint theorem yields a guarded fixpoint operator and  $\text{BiCUlt}$  is  $\bullet$ .

A morphism  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  is *contractive* if  $\exists g : \blacktriangleright X \rightarrow Y$  s.t.  $f = g \circ n_X$ .

A morphism  $f: X \times Y \rightarrow Z$  is *contractive in the first variable* if  $\exists g$  s.t.  $f = g \circ (n_X \times id_Y)$ .

### **Theorem**

*All  $f: X \times Y \rightarrow X$  cont. in the first variable have unique fixpoints.*

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- Dulcis in fundo...

A poset  $A$  is *well-founded* if there are no infinite descending sequences  $a_0 > a_1 > a_2 > \dots$

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<sup>7</sup>i.e. a poset with  $\top$ ,  $\perp$ , all  $\rightarrow$ , meets and joins. Also known as *frames*.

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Let  $A$  be a poset and let  $K \subseteq A$ . Then  $K$  is a *basis* for  $A$  if  
 $\forall a \in A. a = \bigvee \{k \in K \mid k \leq a\}.$

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### **Theorem**

*Let  $A$  be a complete Heyting algebra<sup>7</sup> with a well-founded base. Then  $\text{Sh}(A)$  is  $\bullet$ .*

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Let  $A$  be a well-founded poset. Then its *ideal completion*  $\text{Idl}(A)$  consisting of downward-closed subsets of  $A$  is a complete Heyting algebra with a well-founded basis  $K = \{\downarrow a \mid a \in A\}$  where  $\downarrow a = \{a' \in A \mid a' \leq a\}$ .

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**Proposition**

*If  $A$  is a poset, then  $\text{Sh}(\text{Idl}(A)) \simeq \text{Psh}(A)$ .*

Take:

$$\mathcal{S} := Psh(\omega)$$

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Its morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X_1 & \xleftarrow{r_1} & X_2 & \xleftarrow{r_2} & X_3 & \xleftarrow{r_3} & \dots \\ f_1 \downarrow & & f_2 \downarrow & & f_3 \downarrow & & \\ Y_1 & \xleftarrow{r'_1} & Y_2 & \xleftarrow{r'_2} & Y_3 & \xleftarrow{r'_3} & \dots \end{array}$$

The  $\blacktriangleright$  modality:

$$X \quad X_1 \xleftarrow{r_1} X_2 \xleftarrow{r_2} X_3 \xleftarrow{r_3} X_4 \xleftarrow{r_4} \dots$$

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And its point,  $n_X$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X_1 & \xleftarrow{r_1} & X_2 & \xleftarrow{r_2} & X_3 & \xleftarrow{r_3} & X_4 & \xleftarrow{r_4} & \dots \\ \downarrow ! & & \downarrow r_1 & & \downarrow r_2 & & \downarrow r_3 & & \\ \{*\} & \xleftarrow[!]{} & X_1 & \xleftarrow{r'_1} & X_2 & \xleftarrow{r'_2} & X_3 & \xleftarrow{r'_3} & \dots \end{array}$$

The NNO:

$$N \quad \mathbb{N} \xleftarrow{id_{\mathbb{N}}} \mathbb{N} \xleftarrow{id_{\mathbb{N}}} \mathbb{N} \xleftarrow{id_{\mathbb{N}}} \dots$$

The subobject classifier:

$$\Omega \quad \{0, 1\} \longleftarrow \{0, 1, 2\} \longleftarrow \{0, 1, 2, 3\} \longleftarrow \dots$$

The type of streams:

$$S \cong \mathbb{N} \times S \quad \mathbb{N}^\omega \xleftarrow{id_{\mathbb{N}^\omega}} \mathbb{N}^\omega \xleftarrow{id_{\mathbb{N}^\omega}} \mathbb{N}^\omega \xleftarrow{id_{\mathbb{N}^\omega}} \dots$$

The type of guarded streams:

$$S_\blacktriangleright \cong \mathbb{N} \times \blacktriangleright S_\blacktriangleright \quad \mathbb{N} \xleftarrow{\pi_1} \mathbb{N}^2 \xleftarrow{\pi_{1,2}} \mathbb{N}^3 \xleftarrow{\pi_{1,2,3}} \dots$$

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**Theorem**

*There is an equivalence between BiCUlt and flab( $\mathcal{S}$ ), the full subcategory of flabby objects of the topos of trees.*

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*A morphism in BiCUlt is contractive in the metric sense iff it's contractive in  $\mathcal{S}$ .*

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**There should be some geometry sneaking around!**

For every topos  $\mathcal{E}$ , there exists a geometric morphism to Set called the *global sections* geometric morphism:

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$$\Gamma(X) = \text{Set}(1, X) \qquad \qquad \Delta(S) = \coprod_{|S|} 1$$

A geometric morphism  $f$  is *essential* if it has an additional left adjoint  $f_!$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & f_! & \\ \mathcal{E} & \xleftarrow{f^*} & \xrightarrow{\perp} & \mathcal{T} \\ & f_* & \perp & \end{array}$$

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**Pretty common for models of SGDT!**

A geometric morphism  $f$  is *local* if it has an additional fully faithful right adjoint  $f^!$

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**Is there any known local model of SGDT?**

A quadruple of adjoint functors:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \Pi & & \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & \\ \mathcal{E} & \xleftarrow{\Delta} & \perp & \xrightarrow{\perp} & \text{Set} \\ & \searrow & & \swarrow & \\ & & \Gamma & & \\ & \swarrow & & \searrow & \\ & & \kappa & & \end{array}$$

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Exhibits the cohesion of  $\mathcal{E}$  over Set if:

- $\Delta$  and  $\mathbf{K}$  are fully faithful.
- $\Pi$  preserves finite products.

**Fact:** A quadruple of adjoints induces a triple of adjoints.

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There is an adjoint triple of idempotent (co)Monads on  $\mathcal{E}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & \xrightarrow{\Pi} & & \xrightarrow{\Delta} & \\ \mathcal{E} & \xleftarrow{\Delta} & \text{Set} & \xleftarrow{\Gamma} & \mathcal{E} \\ & \xrightarrow{\Gamma} & & \xrightarrow{\kappa} & \end{array}$$

- The *shape* monad  $\jmath = \Delta \circ \Pi$
- The *flat* comonad  $\flat = \Delta \circ \Gamma$
- The *sharp* monad  $\sharp = \kappa \circ \Gamma$

The topos  $Psh(\{0 \rightarrow 1\})^8$  exhibits cohesion over Set.

---

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- $\Gamma$  sends  $X \rightarrow Y$  to its domain  $X$ .
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- $\Delta$  sends a set  $X$  to the identity  $X \xrightarrow{id} X$ .
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### **Theorem**

*If  $\mathcal{C}$  has both an initial and a terminal object, then  $Psh(\mathcal{C})$  exhibits cohesion over Set with:*

$$\lim \dashv \text{const} \dashv \text{colim} \dashv \text{coconst}$$

---

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The topos  $Psh(\omega + 1)$  exhibits cohesion over Set.

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- $\Pi$  sends  $X$  to its codomain  $X_1$ .
- $\Delta$  sends a set  $X$  to the constant object on  $X$ .
- $\mathbf{K}$  sends a set  $X$  to the object  $1 \xleftarrow{id} 1 \xleftarrow{id} \dots \xleftarrow{!} X$ .

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In general this works for every successor ordinal

Languages like [Idris](#) and [Agda](#) use a (quite conservative) syntactic approximation to productivity for recursive functions on coinductive types: each recursive call **must** be “guarded” by a constructor.

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```
-- The type of streams of naturals
-- in pseudo-haskell/idris/agda
data S : Type where
  (:) :  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow S \rightarrow S$ 

-- This one is recognized as productive, phew!
onOff : S
onOff = 1 :: 0 :: onOff
```

These requirements are a bit too restrictive and often confusing.

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```
interleave : S → S → S
```

```
interleave (x :: xs) ys = x :: interleave ys xs
```

*-- Non-productive, gets rejected*

```
dragon' : S
```

```
dragon' = interleave dragon' onOff
```

*-- Productive, gets rejected anyways*

```
dragon : S
```

```
dragon = interleave onOff dragon
```

Another example:

```
-- Not always non-productive
mergeBy : (N → N → S → S) → S → S → S
mergeBy f (x :: xs) (y :: ys) = f x y (mergeBy f xs ys)
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```

**Can we at least save something?**

Let's switch to *guarded* streams:

```
data S▶ : Type where
  (::) : ℕ → ▶S▶ → S▶
```

```
-- Remember that ▶ is an applicative
-- and has a (guarded) fixpoint operator:
fix : (▶X → X) → X
pure : X → ▶X -- a.k.a. nX
<*> : ▶(X → Y) → ▶X → ▶Y
```

We can now fix our function:

```
mergeBy : (N → N → ▶S▶ → S▶) → S▶ → S▶ → S▶
mergeBy f (x :: xs) (y :: ys) =
  fix (λ g → f x y (g <*> xs <*> ys))
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Cool! But something's off...

Adding  $\blacktriangleright$  alone is too rigid for productivity, for example:

```
dropSnd (x :: y :: xs) = x :: dropSnd xs
```

Violates causality<sup>9</sup>, and cannot be typed using  $S_{\blacktriangleright}$ .

---

<sup>9</sup>“For each write, the program is permitted to perform at most one read”

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Possible solutions: [AM13]<sup>10</sup> [BBM14] [Gua18]

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Fortunately, we have the right “modality” for our problem:

$$\flat(\blacktriangleright X) \cong \flat X$$

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With the fortunate consequence:

$$\flat S_\blacktriangleright \cong \flat(\mathbb{N} \times \blacktriangleright S_\blacktriangleright) \cong \flat \mathbb{N} \times \flat(\blacktriangleright S_\blacktriangleright) \cong \mathbb{N} \times \flat S_\blacktriangleright \cong S$$

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Sadly,  $\flat$  is not a type constructor.

**Formal fact:** In a topos, all the idempotent comonads fibred over the codomain fibration are of the form  $\square_U(A) = A \times U$  for a subterminal object  $U$ .

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Clearly,  $\flat$  doesn't have this form  $\Rightarrow$  We cannot have  $\flat$  as an operation  $\text{Type} \rightarrow \text{Type}$ .

**Possible solution:** In presence of a  $\sharp$  modality, we can describe  $\flat$  as an operation  $\sharp\text{Type} \rightarrow \sharp\text{Type}$ .

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**Pros:**

- Easily formalizable in an existing proof assistant [Shu11].

**Possible solution:** In presence of a  $\sharp$  modality, we can describe  $\flat$  as an operation  $\sharp\text{Type} \rightarrow \sharp\text{Type}$ .

### Pros:

- Easily formalizable in an existing proof assistant [Shu11].

### Cons:

- Requires a lot of work on the theory of  $\sharp\text{Type}$ .
- It's hard to "escape" from  $\sharp\text{Type}$  [Shu11, Shu18].

Today we learned:

- SGDT is both a generalization of step indexing in categories of metric spaces [BST10] and Nakano-style guarded recursion [Nak00].

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- SGDT is both a generalization of step indexing in categories of metric spaces [BST10] and Nakano-style guarded recursion [Nak00].
- Models of SGDT are pretty easy to come by and (often) have simple descriptions in terms of very simple presheaf categories.
- Although there are many signs of geometry hiding in plain sight in SGDT this aspect of the theory has been pretty much ignored as of now.
- The  $\blacktriangleright$  modality saves us from coding around syntactic productivity checks but it's too rigid when considered alone,  $\flat$  and  $\sharp$  help us with that.

See you ►, s!

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