

Equivalence of System F and $\lambda 2$: A Case Study of Context Morphisms

Jonas Kaiser Tobias Tebbi Gert Smolka

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A: Strong equivalence of two variants of System F [Girard '72, Reynolds '74]

- F with explicit, separate context for type variables, e.g. [Harper '13]
- $\lambda 2$, a pure type system (PTS) [Barendregt '91]
- Notion of Equivalence: *reduction of type checking* in both directions.

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B: Methodology & Best Practices

- Take syntax with binders seriously - else it will bite you!
- Pursue a *big-step approach*:
 - ▶ de Bruijn syntax with parallel substitutions [Schäfer et al. CPP'15/ITP'15]
 - ▶ context morphisms [Goguen and McKinna '97, Adams '06]
 - ▶ CMs extend to syntax translations
- Considerably shorter proofs (here: 3000 loc \rightsquigarrow 700 loc)

1 Setup

- de Bruijn Syntax & Parallel Substitutions
- F
- $\lambda 2$
- Equivalence Statement

2 Reductions

- Challenges
- Problem Decomposition
- Context Morphisms – an Example
- Translating Syntax
- Preservation of Typing
- Cancellation Laws

- de Bruijn Syntax: $s, t := n \mid \lambda.s \mid st$
- Parallel Substitutions: $\sigma, \tau : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathcal{T} \quad \sigma = \sigma(0), \sigma(1), \dots$
 - ▶ $t[\sigma]$ applies σ to all free variables of t simultaneously.
 - ▶ Cons operation: $s \cdot \sigma := s, \sigma(0), \sigma(1), \dots$
 - ▶ Application $t[\sigma]$ and composition $\sigma \circ \tau$ are mutually recursive:

$$\begin{aligned}x[\sigma] &= \sigma(x) & (\sigma \circ \tau)(x) &= \sigma(x)[\tau] \\(st)[\sigma] &= s[\sigma] t[\sigma] \\(\lambda.s)[\sigma] &= \lambda.s[\uparrow\sigma] & \text{where } \uparrow\sigma &:= 0 \cdot \sigma \circ +1\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ No separate shifting operation, no unnatural lemma statements.
 - ▶ Enables the use of context morphisms.
 - ▶ Underlying theory: σ -calculus [Abadi et al. '91, Schäfer et al. CPP'15]
⇒ algebra with computable, unique normal forms.
- Coq library: [Autosubst](#) [Schäfer et al. ITP'15].

Syntax

Separate syntactic sorts for types and terms, $x : \mathbb{N}$:

$$\text{Ty}_F \quad A, B, C := x_{\text{ty}} \mid A \rightarrow B \mid \forall. A$$

$$\text{Ter}_F \quad s, t := x_{\text{ter}} \mid s t \mid \lambda A. s \mid s A \mid \Lambda. s$$

Note: $t[\tau, \sigma]$ denotes the parallel application of both a type substitution $\tau : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Ty}_F$ and a term substitution $\sigma : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \text{Ter}_F$ to the term t .

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Type System

Separate judgements for type formation and typing:

$$N \Vdash_F^{\text{ty}} A$$

$$N; \Gamma \Vdash_F^{\text{ter}} s : A$$

Syntax

Single syntactic sort, $x : \mathbb{N}$:

$Term$ $a, b, c, d := u \mid x \mid ab \mid \lambda a. b \mid \Pi a. b$ $u \in \{*, \square\}$

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Type System

Single judgement:

$$\Gamma \vdash_2 a : b$$

Note: $\Gamma \vdash_2 b : *$ represents type formation.

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Herman Geuvers, '93, doctoral thesis

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Theorem (Reduction of Typing¹)

There are syntax translations $[\cdot]$ and $[\cdot]$, such that

$$\vdash_F s : A \iff \vdash_2 [s] : [A]$$

$$\vdash_2 a : b \iff \vdash_F [a] : [b]$$

¹A similar result holds for Type Formation.

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- Requires 2 preservation laws and 2 cancellation laws.
- Contexts can be internalised – so empty context is sufficiently general.

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Challenges

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- 2 Different Syntaxes:
 - ▶ single-sorted (x) vs. two-sorted (x_{ty} and x_{ter})
 - ▶ uniform ($\prod a. b$) vs. non-uniform ($A \rightarrow B$ and $\forall. A$)
 - ▶ different expressivity (prior to typing), e.g. $*, * \vdash_2 1 0 : 0$.

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$$1; (\forall. 0_{ty}) \vdash_F^{ter} 0_{ter} 0_{ty} : 0_{ty}$$

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$$*, (\Pi *. 0) \vdash_2 0 1 : 1$$

$$1; (\forall. 0_{ty} y) \vdash_F^{ter} 0_{ter} 0_{ty} : 0_{ty}$$

$$(\Pi *. 0), * \vdash_2 1 0 : 0$$

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- 4 Minimal lemma generalisations are often unwieldy.

Context Morphisms to the rescue!



$$\frac{N; \Gamma, A \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} s : B \quad N \vdash_F^{\text{ty}} A}{N; \Gamma \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} \lambda A. s : A \rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{(N + 1); \Gamma[+1] \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} s : A}{N; \Gamma \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} \Lambda. s : \forall. A}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, a \vdash_2 b : c \quad \Gamma \vdash_2 a : u \quad \Gamma, a \vdash_2 c : *}{\Gamma \vdash_2 \lambda a. b : \Pi a. c}$$

$$\frac{N; \Gamma, A \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} s : B \quad N \vdash_F^{\text{ty}} A}{N; \Gamma \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} \lambda A. s : A \rightarrow B}$$

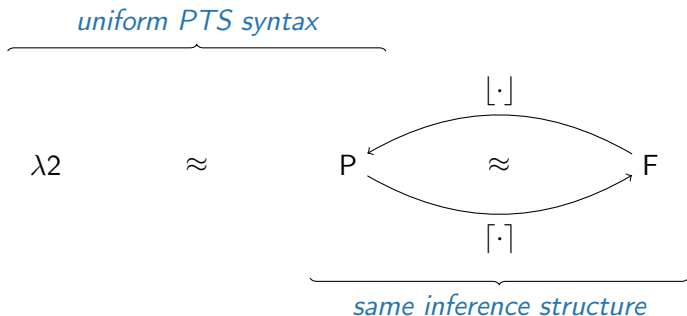
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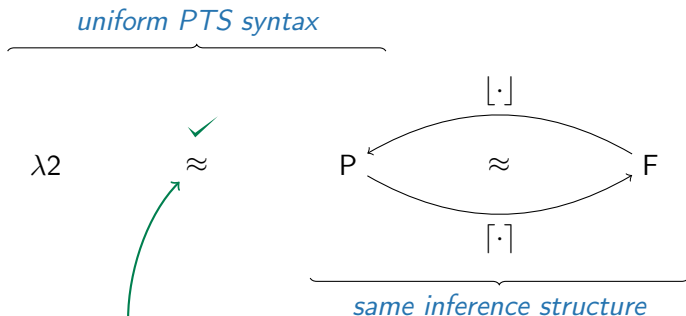
$$\frac{\Gamma, a \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} b : c \quad \Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} a}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} \lambda a. b : \Pi a. c}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, * \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a : b}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} \lambda *. a : \Pi *. b}$$

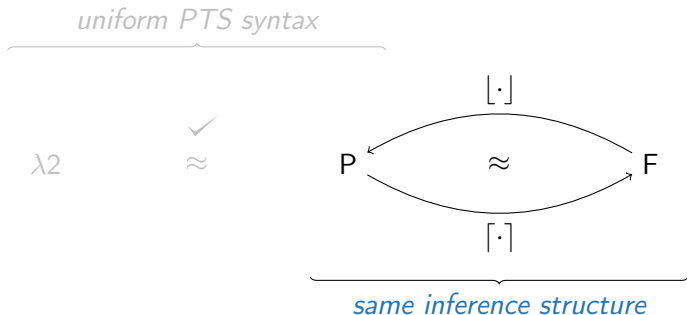
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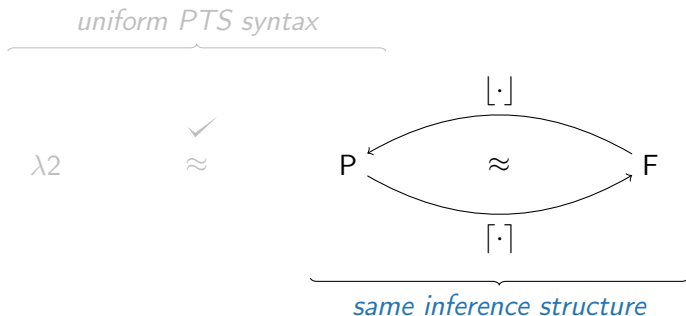
We introduce an auxiliary type system P on the PTS syntax of $\lambda 2$ that matches F .





relatively straightforward;
context morphisms help, but not essential





Theorem (PF-Reduction of Typing Problem under Translations)

- (1) $\vdash_F^{\text{ter}} s : A \iff \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} [s] : [A]$
- (2) $\vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a : b \iff \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} [a]_{\text{ter}}^{\langle \rangle} : [b]_{\text{ty}}^{\langle \rangle}$

Example: Weakening

the standard/painful way: minimal generalisation

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s : t}{\Gamma, u \vdash s[+1] : t[+1]}$$

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$$\frac{\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \vdash s : t}{\Gamma_1, u, \Gamma_2 \vdash s[+1] : t[+1]}$$

Example: Weakening

the standard/painful way: minimal generalisation

$$\frac{\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \vdash s : t}{\Gamma_1, u, \Gamma_2[\uparrow^? (+1)] \vdash s[\uparrow^{|\Gamma_2|} (+1)] : t[\uparrow^{|\Gamma_2|} (+1)]}$$

the standard/painful way: minimal generalisation

$$\frac{\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \vdash s : t}{\Gamma_1, u, \Gamma_2[\uparrow^? (+1)] \vdash s[\uparrow^{|\Gamma_2|} (+1)] : t[\uparrow^{|\Gamma_2|} (+1)]}$$

- Issue 1: arithmetic, e.g. $x < |\Gamma_2|$
- Issue 2: the operation $\Gamma_2[\uparrow^? (+1)]$

let $\Gamma = u_{|\Gamma|-1}, u_{|\Gamma|-2}, \dots, u_0$

then $\Gamma[\uparrow^? (+1)] = u_{|\Gamma|-1}[\uparrow^0 (+1)], u_{|\Gamma|-2}[\uparrow^1 (+1)], \dots, u_0[\uparrow^{|\Gamma|-1} (+1)]$

Example: Weakening

the elegant way: maximal generalisation

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$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s : t}{\Delta \vdash s[\sigma] : t[\sigma]}$$

Example: Weakening

the elegant way: maximal generalisation

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s : t \quad \forall (x : u) \in \Gamma. \Delta \vdash x[\sigma] : u[\sigma]}{\Delta \vdash s[\sigma] : t[\sigma]}$$

Example: Weakening

the elegant way: maximal generalisation

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s : t \quad \forall (x : u) \in \Gamma. \Delta \vdash x[\sigma] : u[\sigma]}{\Delta \vdash s[\sigma] : t[\sigma]}$$

- Extra premise *quantifies over initial context* Γ .
 \Rightarrow holds vacuously for $\Gamma = \langle \rangle$.
- Fully specifies the behaviour of σ at *relevant variables*.
- Lemma lifts this from variables to *terms*.

Definition (Context Morphism)

$$\vdash \sigma : \Gamma \rightarrow \Delta := \forall (x : u) \in \Gamma. \Delta \vdash x[\sigma] : u[\sigma]$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s : t \quad \vdash \sigma : \Gamma \rightarrow \Delta}{\Delta \vdash s[\sigma] : t[\sigma]}$$

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Concept

Given contexts Γ and Δ and a judgement \vdash , we say that a substitution σ is a *context morphism* from Γ to Δ if it maps *variable judgements* under Γ to judgements under Δ , written $\vdash \sigma : \Gamma \rightarrow \Delta$.

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Key Properties of CMs

$$\frac{}{\vdash +1 : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma, u} \qquad \frac{\vdash \sigma : \Gamma \rightarrow \Delta}{\vdash \uparrow\sigma : \Gamma, u \rightarrow \Delta, u[\sigma]}$$

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Key Properties of CMs

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From F to PTS Syntax

$$[\cdot] : \text{Ty}_F \rightarrow \text{Ter}_P$$

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$$\begin{aligned} [x_{\text{ty}}] &:= x \\ [A \rightarrow B] &:= \Pi [A]. [B] [+1] \\ [\forall. A] &:= \Pi*. [A] \end{aligned}$$

$$[\cdot] : \text{Ter}_F \rightarrow \text{Ter}_P$$

Note: renamings are essential to avoid namespace collision for bound vars.

$$\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket : \text{Ty}_F \rightarrow \text{Ter}_P$$

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$$\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket : \text{Ter}_F \rightarrow \text{Ter}_P$$

$$\begin{aligned}\llbracket x_{\text{ter}} \rrbracket &:= x \\ \llbracket s t \rrbracket &:= \llbracket s \rrbracket \llbracket t \rrbracket \\ \llbracket \lambda A . s \rrbracket &:= \lambda \llbracket A \rrbracket . \llbracket s [+1, \text{id}] \rrbracket \\ \llbracket s A \rrbracket &:= \llbracket s \rrbracket \llbracket A \rrbracket \\ \llbracket \Lambda . s \rrbracket &:= \lambda^* . \llbracket s [\text{id}, +1] \rrbracket\end{aligned}$$

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From PTS to F Syntax

$$[\cdot]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma} : \text{Ter}_P \rightarrow \text{option Ty}_F$$

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$$[x]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma} := x_{\text{ty}}$$

if $x : * \in \Gamma$

$$[\Pi *. a]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma} := \forall. [a]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma, *}$$

$$[\Pi a. b]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma} := [a]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma} \rightarrow [b]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma, a} [-1]$$

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if $x : a \in \Gamma, a \neq *$

$$[a b]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} := [a]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} [b]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma}$$

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$$[\lambda a. b]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} := \lambda [a]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma}. [b]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma, a} [-1, \text{id}]$$

Concept

Given contexts Γ and Δ and two judgements \vdash_1 and \vdash_2 , we say that a (multi-sorted) substitution $\bar{\sigma}$ is a *generalised context morphism* from Γ to Δ if it maps *variable judgements* under $(\Gamma \vdash_1)$ to judgements under $(\Delta \vdash_2)$, written $\bar{\sigma} : (\Gamma \vdash_1) \rightarrow (\Delta \vdash_2)$.

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Definition (CM for PF Term-Translation)

$$\begin{aligned} \xi, \zeta : (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}}) \rightarrow (N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}}) := \\ \forall x a. \Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} x : a \rightarrow N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} \zeta(x) : [a]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma}[\xi] \end{aligned}$$

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Key Properties have to be generalised accordingly, e.g.

$$\frac{\xi, \zeta : (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}}) \rightarrow (N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}})}{\uparrow \xi, \zeta(0) \cdot \zeta : (\Gamma, * \vdash_P^{\text{ter}}) \rightarrow (N + 1; \Delta[+1] \vdash_F^{\text{ter}})}$$

Lemma (Preservation of Typing under Translations)

$$\frac{N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} s : A \quad \xi : (N \vdash_F^{\text{ty}}) \rightarrow (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}}) \quad \xi, \zeta : (N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}}) \rightarrow (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}})}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} [s[\xi, \zeta]] : [A][\xi]}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a : b \quad \xi : (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}}) \rightarrow (N \vdash_F^{\text{ty}}) \quad \xi, \zeta : (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}}) \rightarrow (N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}})}{N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} [a]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} [\xi, \zeta] : [b]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma} [\xi]}$$

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- Proof by structural induction on the respective first premise.
- Requires a total of 8 morph. rules.

Lemma (Preservation of Typing under Translations)

$$\frac{N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} s : A \quad \xi : (N \vdash_F^{\text{ty}}) \rightarrow (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}}) \quad \xi, \zeta : (N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}}) \rightarrow (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}})}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} [s[\xi, \zeta]] : [A][\xi]}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a : b \quad \xi : (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}}) \rightarrow (N \vdash_F^{\text{ty}}) \quad \xi, \zeta : (\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}}) \rightarrow (N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}})}{N; \Delta \vdash_F^{\text{ter}} [a]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} [\xi, \zeta] : [b]_{\text{ty}}^{\Gamma} [\xi]}$$

- Proof by structural induction on the respective first premise.
- Requires a total of 8 morph. rules.
- These settle the forward implications of our main theorem.

$$\frac{[a[\xi]]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} = s}{[s] = a[\xi]}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}}^{\text{ter}} [s[\xi, \zeta]] : c \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}} \xi \parallel \zeta}{[[s[\xi, \zeta]]]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} = s[\xi, \zeta]}$$

- where $\Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}} \xi \parallel \zeta$ expresses that, according to Γ , ξ only yields type variables and ζ only yields term variables.

$$\frac{[a[\xi]]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} = s}{[s] = a[\xi]}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}}^{\text{ter}} [s[\xi, \zeta]] : c \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}} \xi \parallel \zeta}{[[s[\xi, \zeta]]]_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} = s[\xi, \zeta]}$$

- where $\Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}} \xi \parallel \zeta$ expresses that, according to Γ , ξ only yields type variables and ζ only yields term variables.
- Proof by induction on a and s respectively.

$$\frac{\lceil a[\xi] \rceil_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} = s}{\lfloor s \rfloor = a[\xi]}$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}}^{\text{ter}} \lfloor s[\xi, \zeta] \rfloor : c \quad \Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}} \xi \parallel \zeta}{\lceil \lfloor s[\xi, \zeta] \rfloor \rceil_{\text{ter}}^{\Gamma} = s[\xi, \zeta]}$$

- where $\Gamma \vdash_{\text{P}} \xi \parallel \zeta$ expresses that, according to Γ , ξ only yields type variables and ζ only yields term variables.
- Proof by induction on a and s respectively.
- *Important*: neither require well-typing for the initial term.

- Full Reduction of the type formation and typing problems in both directions, formalised in Coq.
- Lessons learned:
 - ▶ The standard approach of minimally generalising statements tends to introduce a lot of unnecessary complexity.
 - ▶ *De Bruijn syntax*, paired with *parallel substitutions* and *context morphisms* enables clean formalisations of syntax with binders.
 - ▶ *Context morphisms* scale to translation scenarios.

Thank you for your attention.

`http://www.ps.uni-saarland.de/extras/hor16`

$A, B, C := x_{\text{ty}} \mid A \rightarrow B \mid \forall. A \quad s, t := x_{\text{ter}} \mid st \mid \lambda A. s \mid sA \mid \Lambda. s \quad x \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\frac{x < N}{N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} x_{\text{ty}}}$$

$$\frac{N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} A \quad N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} B}{N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} A \rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{(N+1) \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} A}{N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} \forall. A}$$

$$\frac{A_x = A \quad N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} A}{N; A_n, \dots, A_0 \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} x_{\text{ter}} : A}$$

$$\frac{N; \Gamma \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} s : A \rightarrow B \quad N; \Gamma \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} t : A}{N; \Gamma \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} st : B}$$

$$\frac{N; \Gamma, A \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} s : B \quad N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} A}{N; \Gamma \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} \lambda A. s : A \rightarrow B}$$

$$\frac{N; \Gamma \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} s : \forall. A \quad N \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ty}} B}{N; \Gamma \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} sB : A[B \cdot \text{id}]}$$

$$\frac{(N+1); \Gamma[+1] \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} s : A}{N; \Gamma \vdash_{\text{F}}^{\text{ter}} \Lambda. s : \forall. A}$$

$a, b, c, d := u \mid x \mid a b \mid \lambda a. b \mid \Pi a. b \quad u \in \{*, \square\} \quad x \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\frac{}{0 : s[+1] \in \Gamma, s} \qquad \frac{x : s \in \Gamma}{(x + 1) : s[+1] \in \Gamma, t}$$

$$\frac{}{\Gamma \vdash_2 * : \square} \qquad \frac{x : a \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash_2 a : u}{\Gamma \vdash_2 x : a} \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash_2 a : u \quad \Gamma, a \vdash_2 b : *}{\Gamma \vdash_2 \Pi a. b : *}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_2 a : \Pi c. d \quad \Gamma \vdash_2 b : c}{\Gamma \vdash_2 a b : d[b \cdot \text{id}]} \qquad \frac{\Gamma, a \vdash_2 b : c \quad \Gamma \vdash_2 a : u \quad \Gamma, a \vdash_2 c : *}{\Gamma \vdash_2 \lambda a. b : \Pi a. c}$$

$$\frac{x : * \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} x}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} a \quad \Gamma, a \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} b}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} \Pi a. b}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, * \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} a}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} \Pi *. a}$$

$$\frac{x : a \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} a}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} x : a}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a : \Pi c. d \quad \Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} b : c}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a b : d[b \cdot \text{id}]}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, a \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} b : c \quad \Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} a}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} \lambda a. b : \Pi a. c}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a : \Pi *. b \quad \Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ty}} c}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a c : b[c \cdot \text{id}]}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, * \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} a : b}{\Gamma \vdash_P^{\text{ter}} \lambda *. a : \Pi *. b}$$