

# Canonicity for 2-Dimensional Type Theory

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# Dependent Type Theory

Basis of proof assistants (Agda, Coq, NuPRL)

- \* Formalization of math
- \* Certified programming

$\text{sort} : \prod \text{xs:int list. } \sum \text{ys:int list. } \text{Sorted(ys)}$

↑  
**dependent  
function**

↑  
**dependent  
pair**

# Identity Types

Usually called *propositional equality*

$$\text{refl} : \text{Id}_A(M, M)$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} C : A \rightarrow \text{type} \\ \alpha : \text{Id}_A(M, N) \\ P : C[M] \end{array}}{\text{subst}_C \alpha P : C[N]}$$

**more generally, J**

Computation rule:  $\text{subst}_C \text{refl } P \equiv P$

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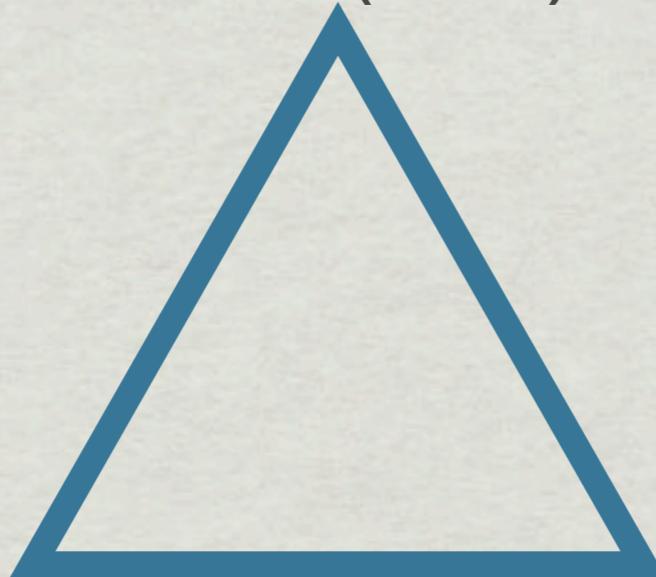
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Computation rule:  $\text{subst}_C \text{refl } P \equiv P$

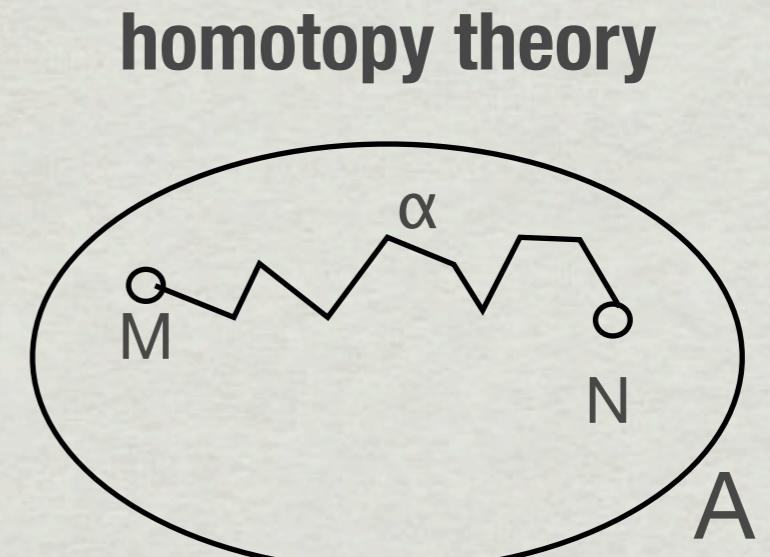
But we'll say *equivalence* because...

# Homotopy Type Theory

**category theory**  
A is a groupoid  
M,N objects  
 $\alpha : M \rightarrow N$  in A



**dependent type theory**  
A : type  
M, N : A  
 $\alpha : \text{Id}_A(M, N)$

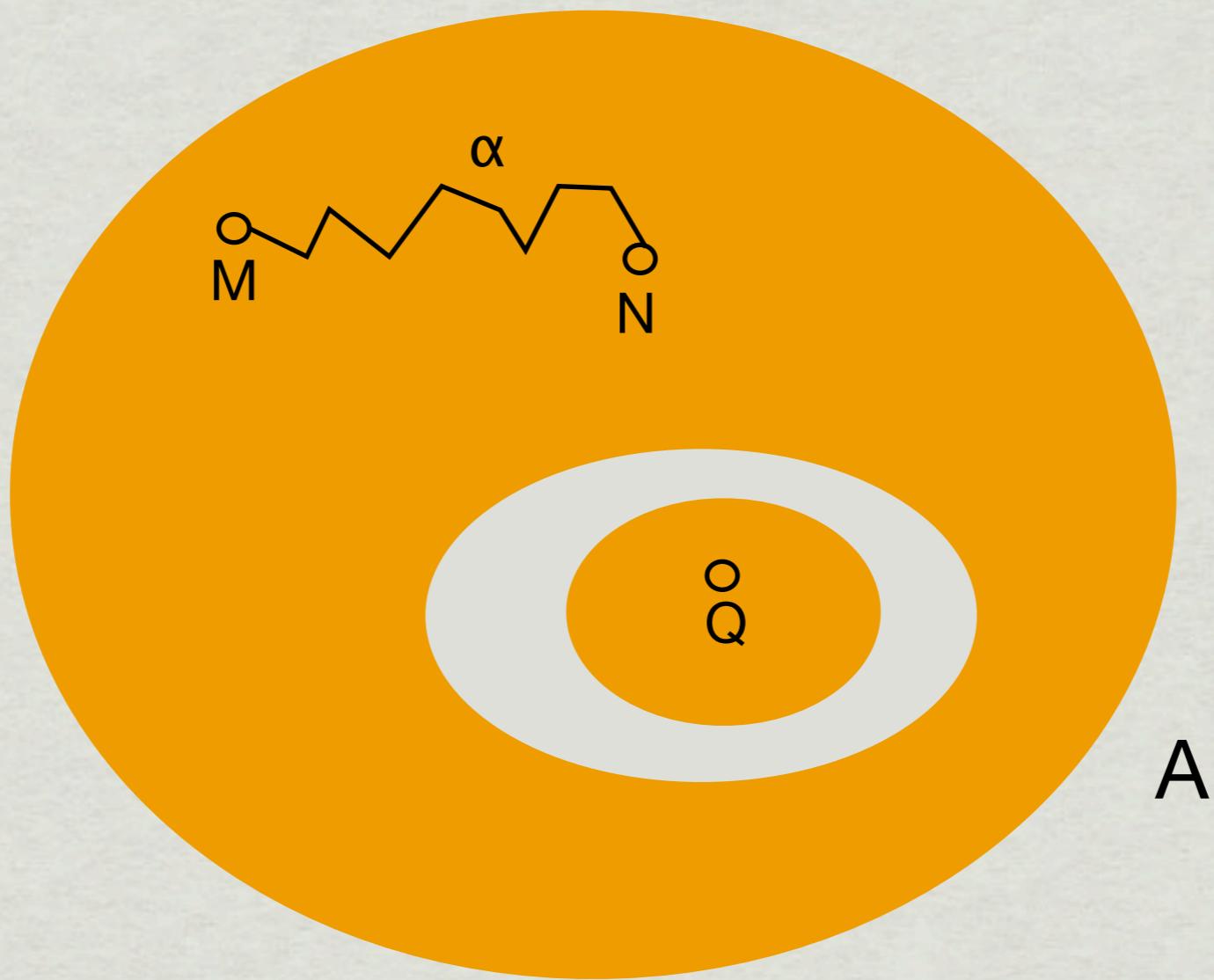


# Homotopy Type Theory

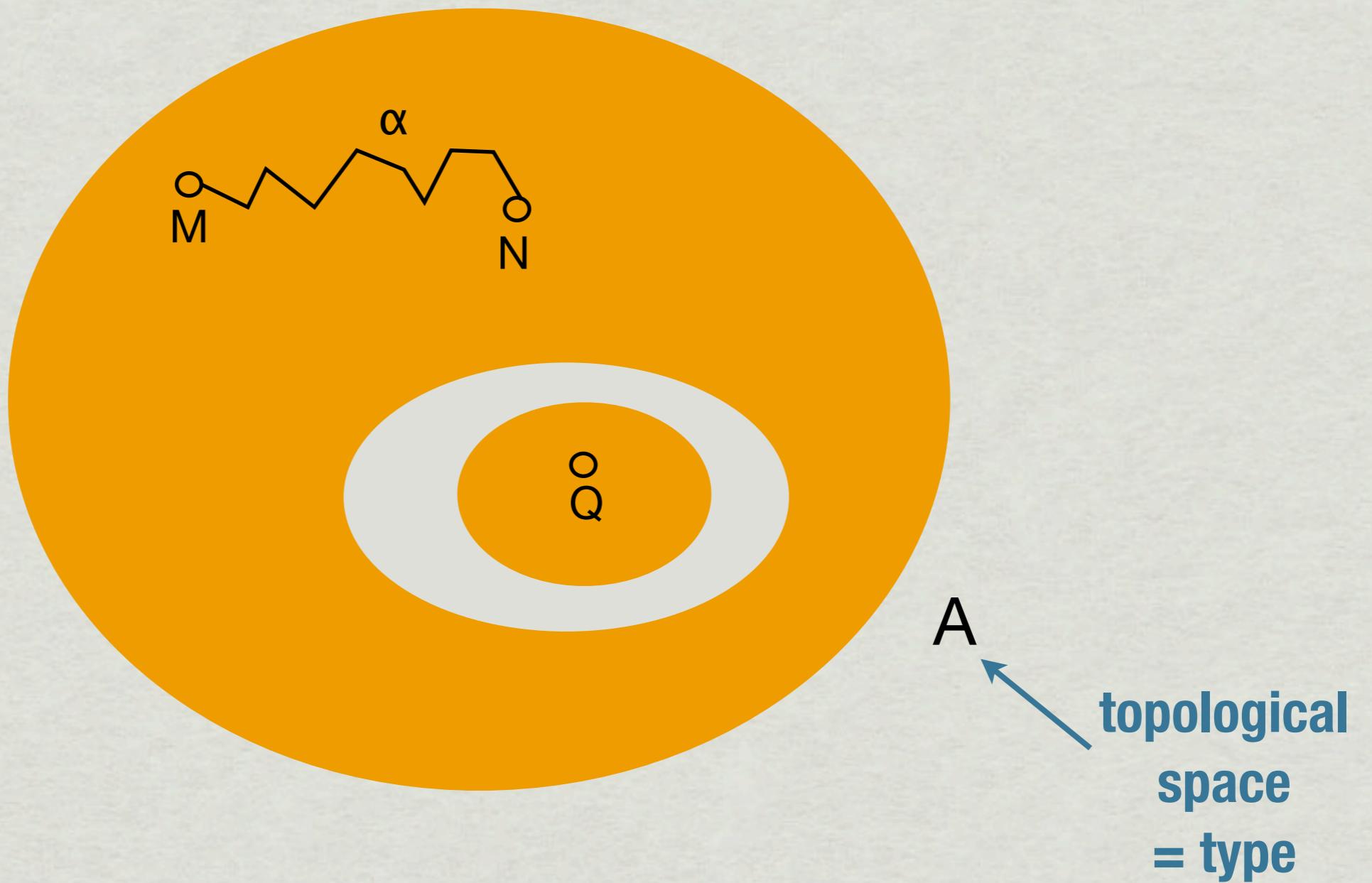
**Theorem:** Martin-Löf's intensional type theory has semantics in homotopy theory (spaces as types) and category theory (groupoids as types)

[Hofmann&Streicher,Awodey,  
Warren,Lumsdaine, Garner,  
Voevodsky, 1990's and 2000's]

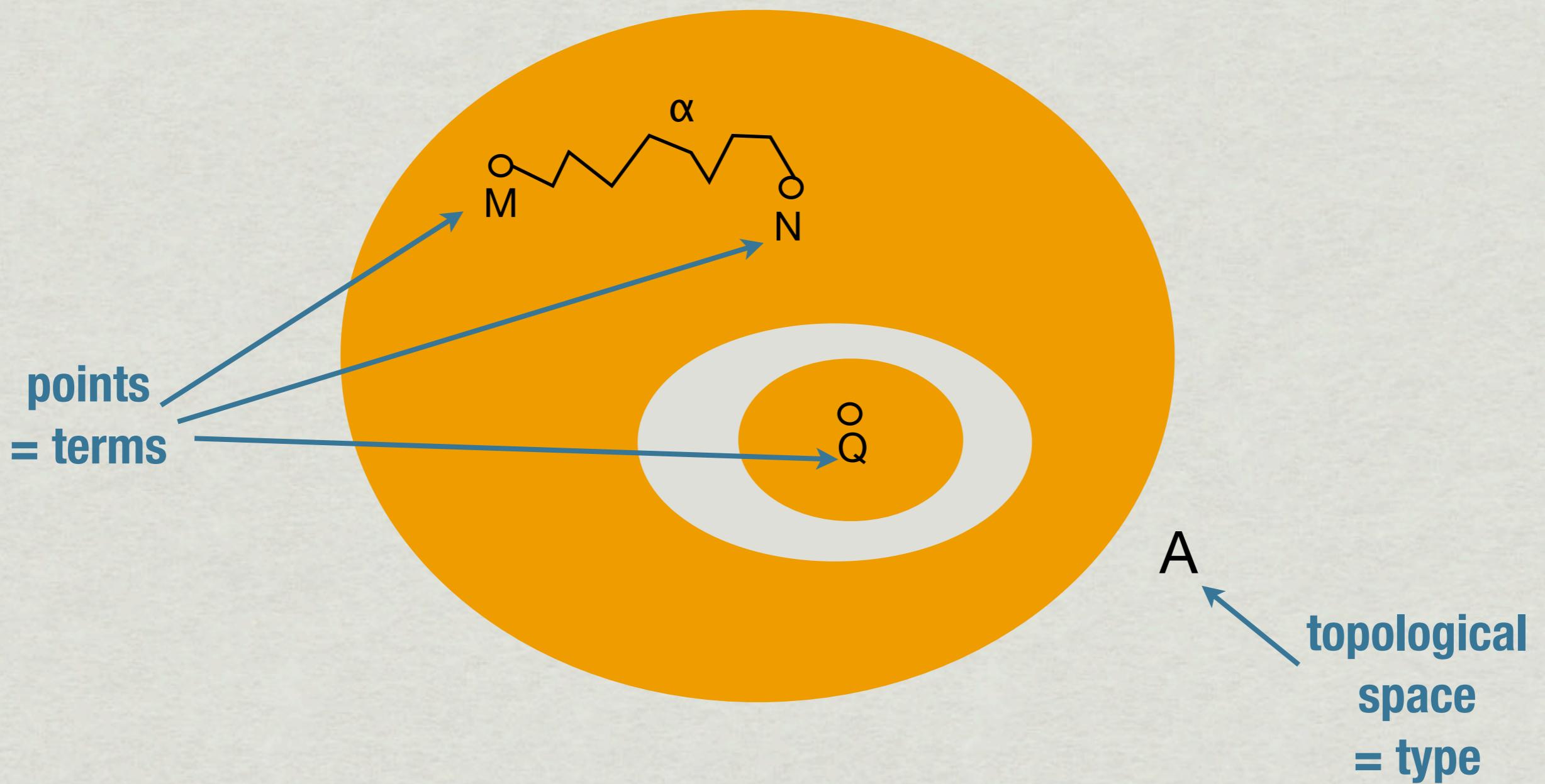
# Types as Spaces



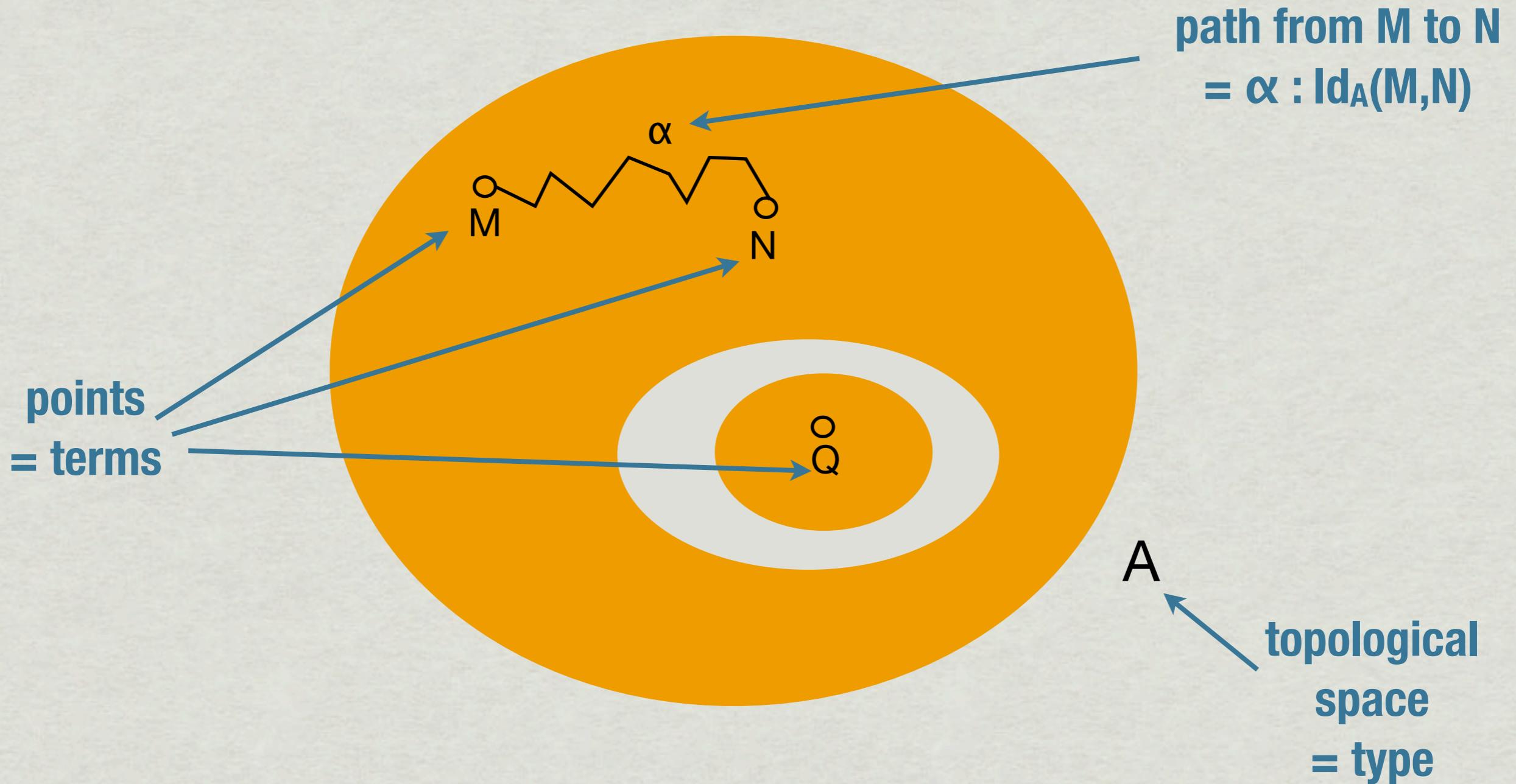
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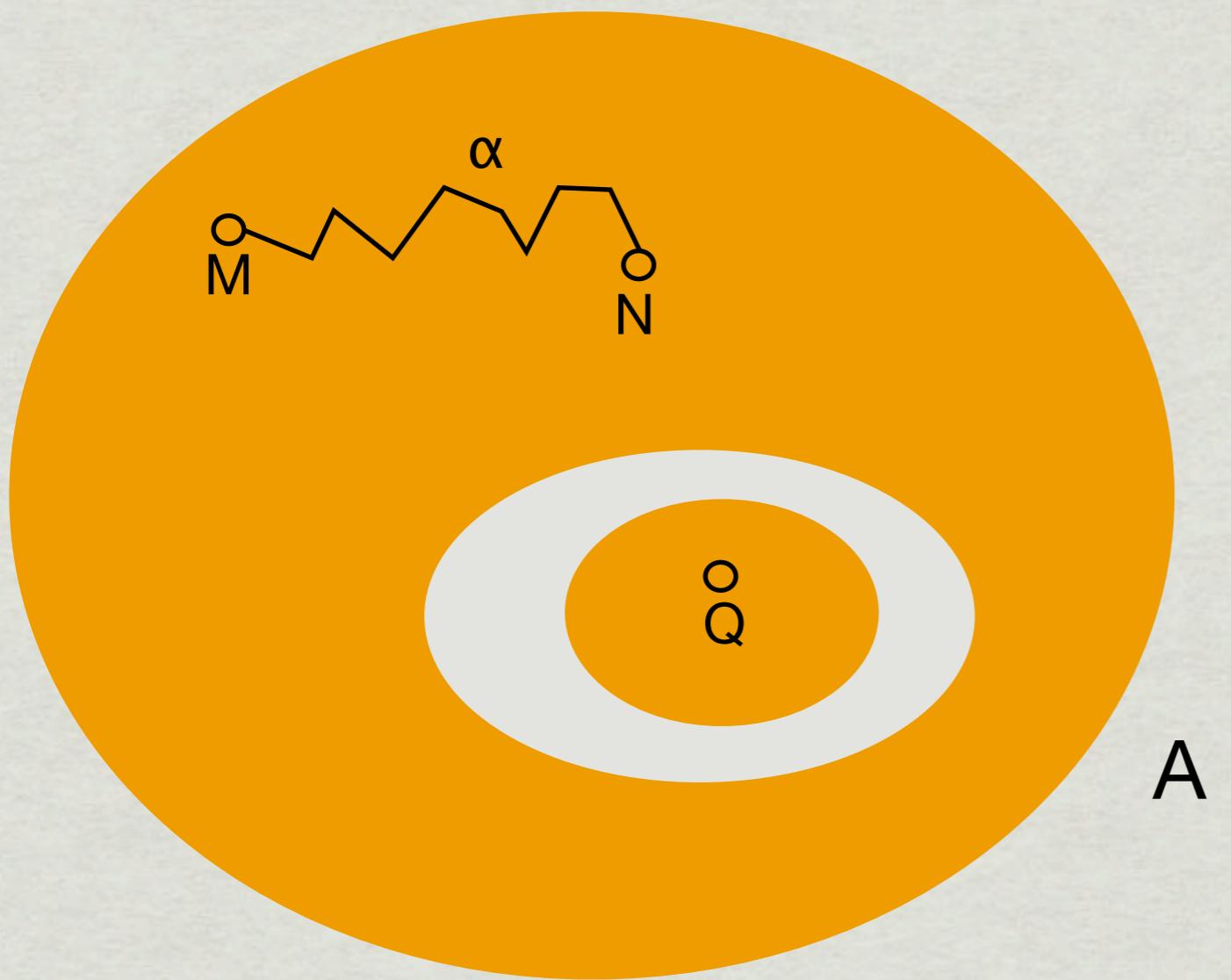
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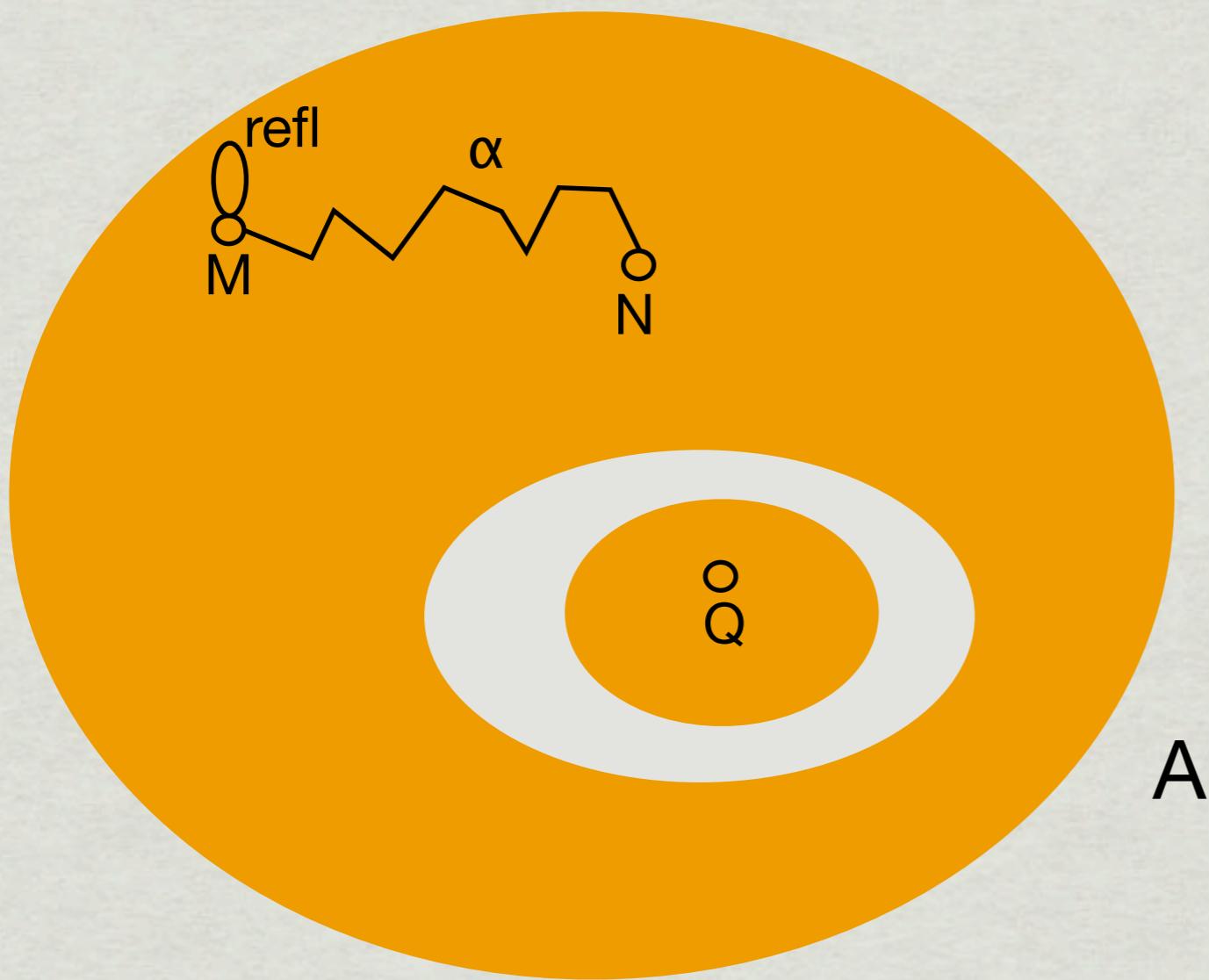
# Types as Spaces



# Operations on Paths

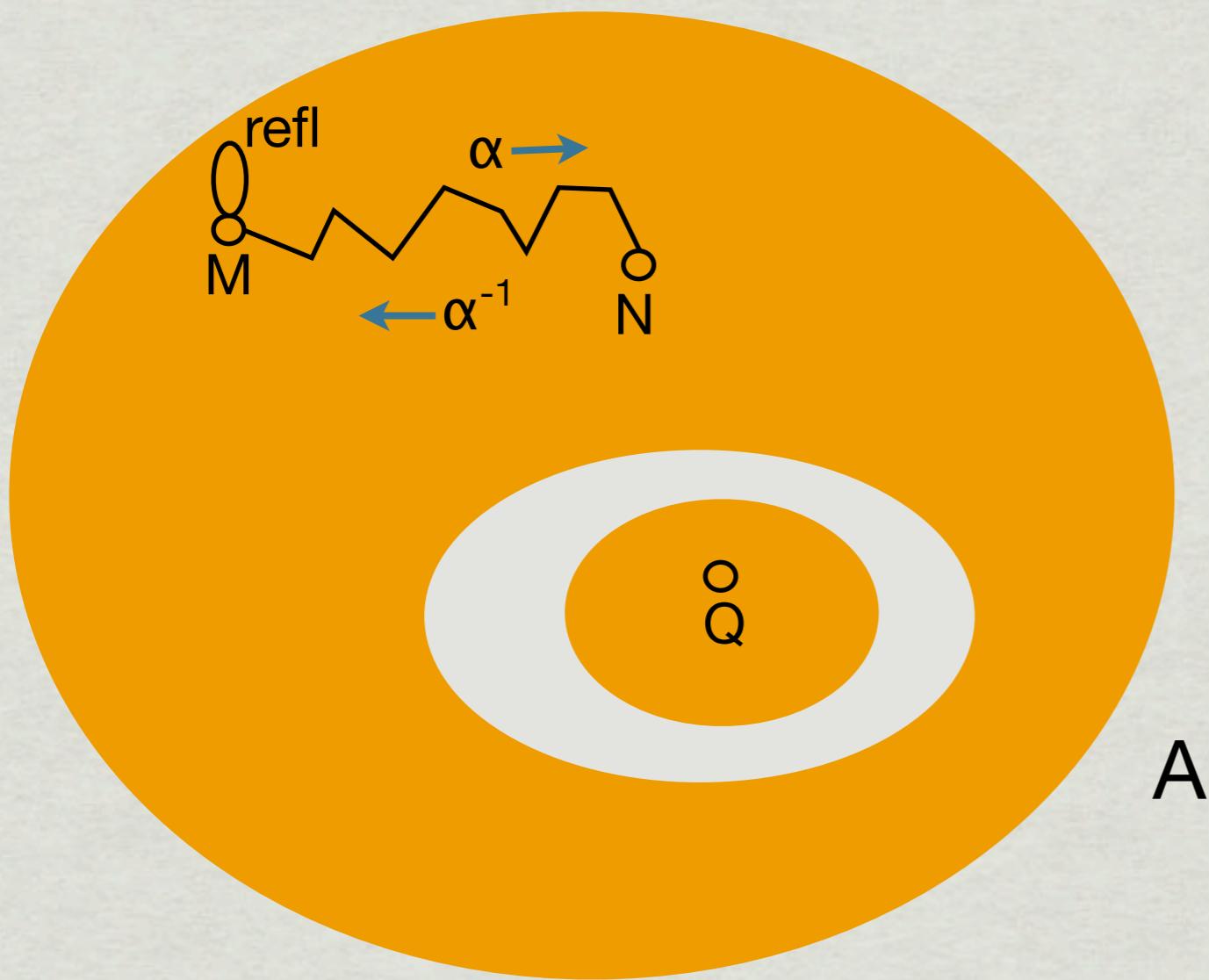


# Operations on Paths



$refl : \text{Id}_A(M, M)$

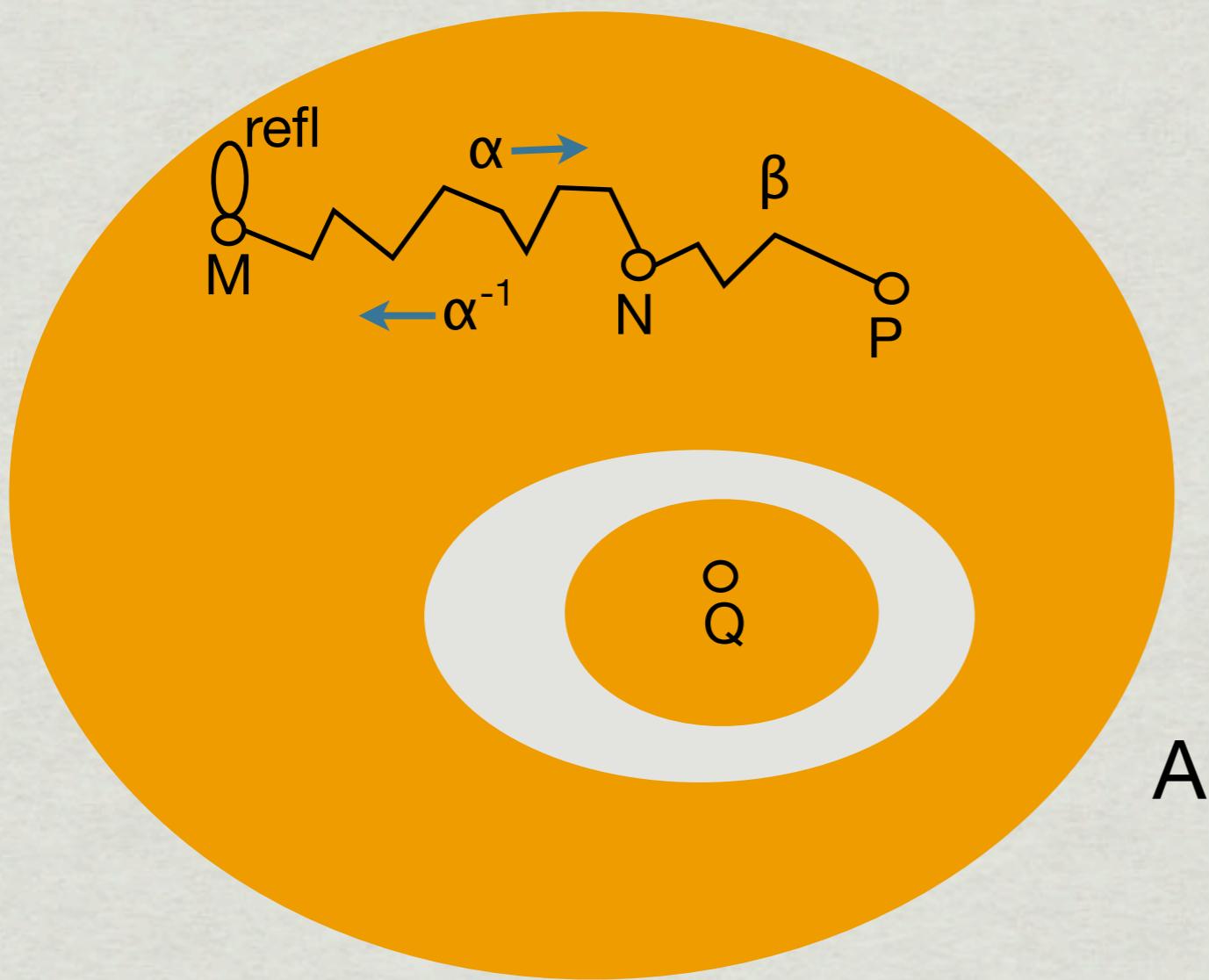
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$\text{refl} : \text{Id}_A(M, M)$

$\alpha^{-1} : \text{Id}_A(N, M)$

# Operations on Paths

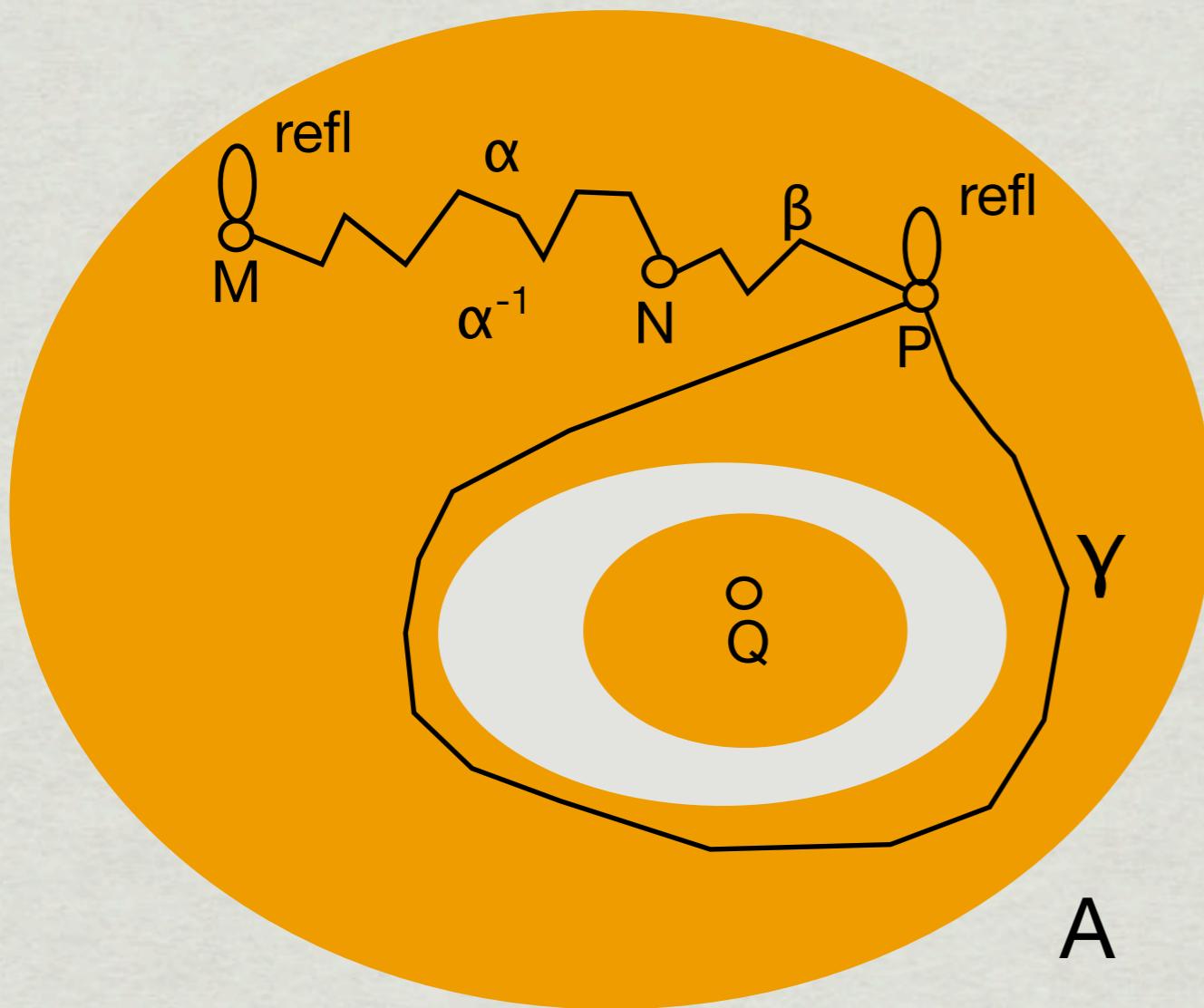


$\text{refl} : \text{Id}_A(M, M)$

$\alpha^{-1} : \text{Id}_A(N, M)$

$\beta \circ \alpha : \text{Id}_A(M, P)$

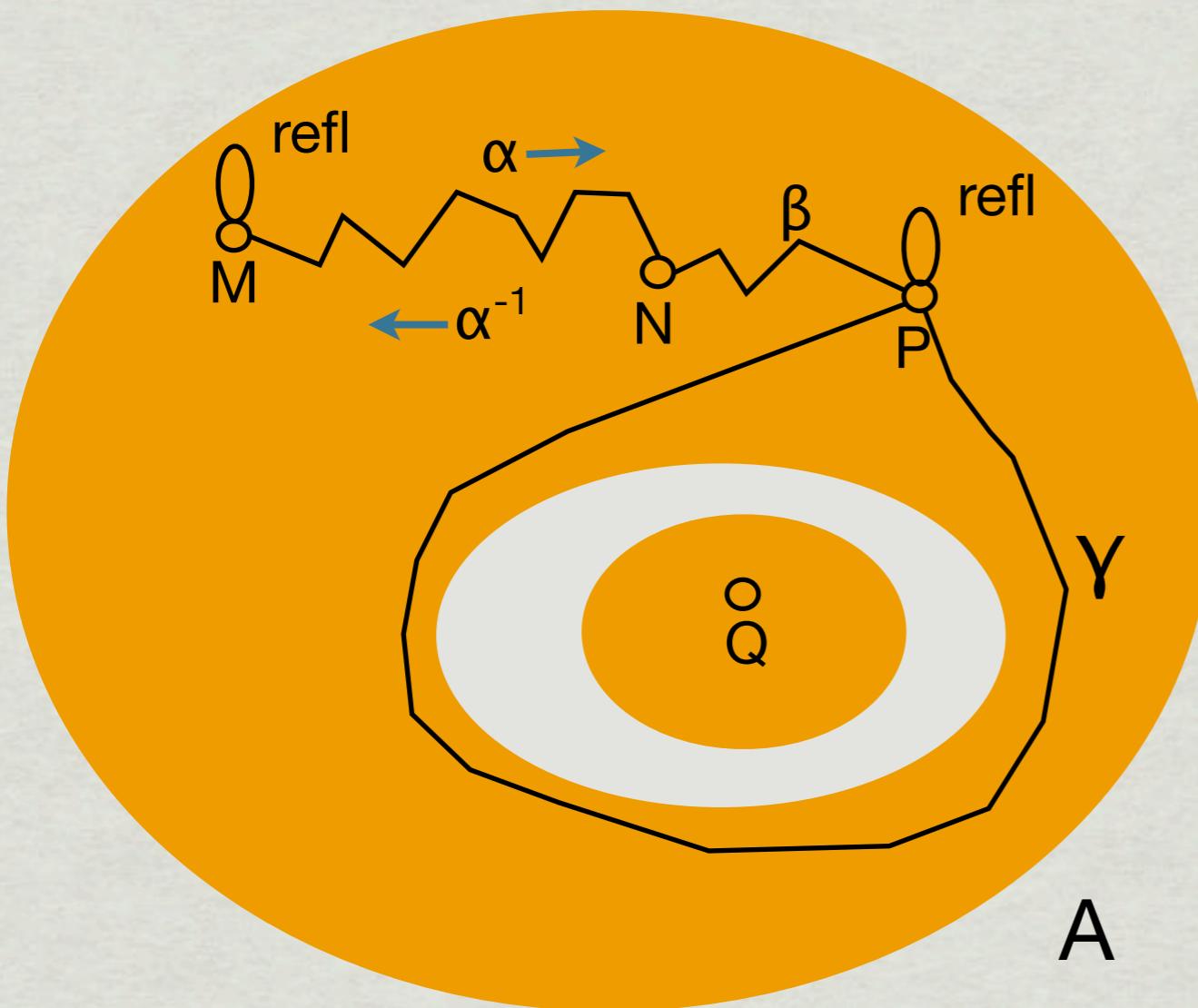
# Equations on Paths



- \* associativity of  $\circ$
- \* inverses cancel

$\gamma \neq \text{refl}$

# Equations on Paths



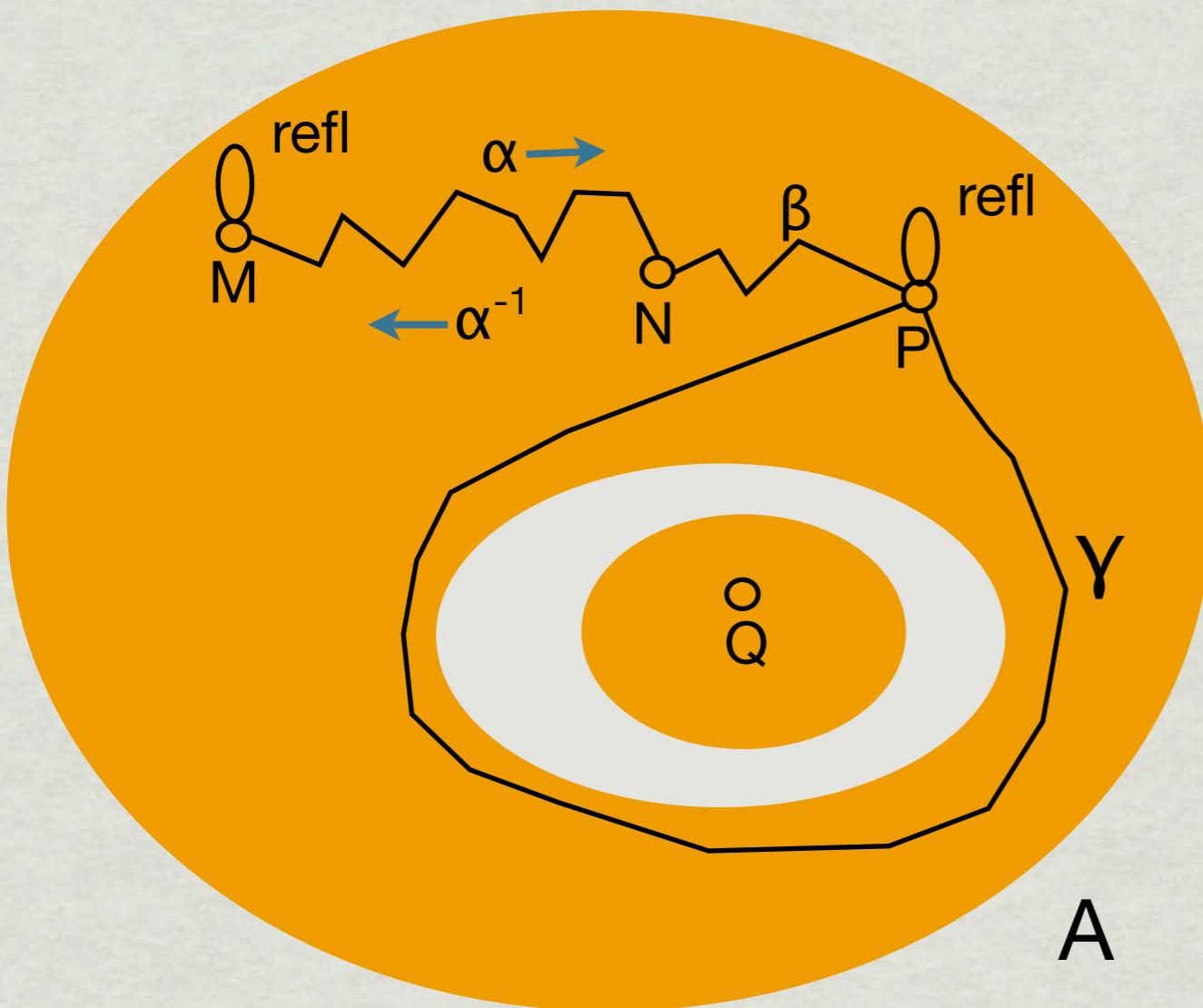
**Yes:**

- \* associativity of  $\circ$
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**No:**

$$\gamma \neq \text{refl}$$

# Equations on Paths



**Yes:**

- \* associativity of  $\circ$
- \* inverses cancel

**No:**

$\gamma \neq \text{refl}$

**provable/not using  
identity types**

# Sets

bool

$\emptyset^{\text{refl}}$   
true

$\emptyset^{\text{refl}}$   
false

# Sets

Familiar base types are **sets** = discrete spaces

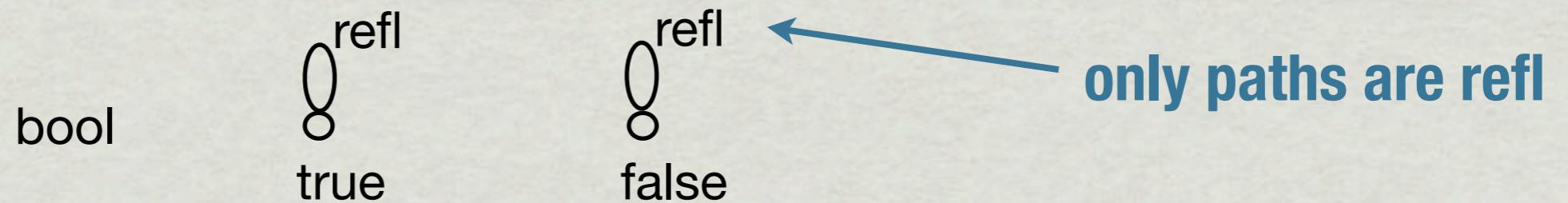
$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{bool} & \emptyset^{\text{refl}} \\ & \text{true} \\ & \emptyset^{\text{refl}} \\ & \text{false} \end{array}$$

$\Pi \Sigma \text{Id } W$  preserve set-hood

*need a non-trivial base type to get started...*

# Sets

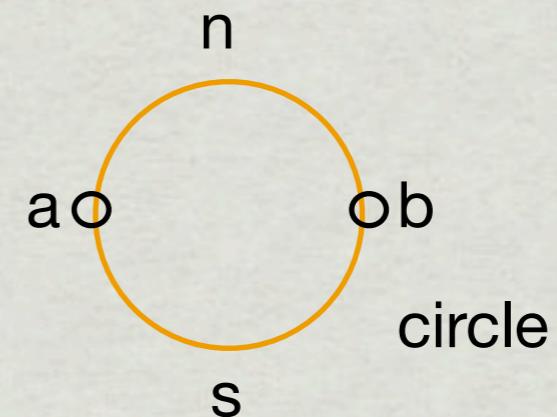
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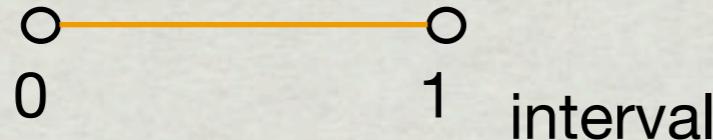
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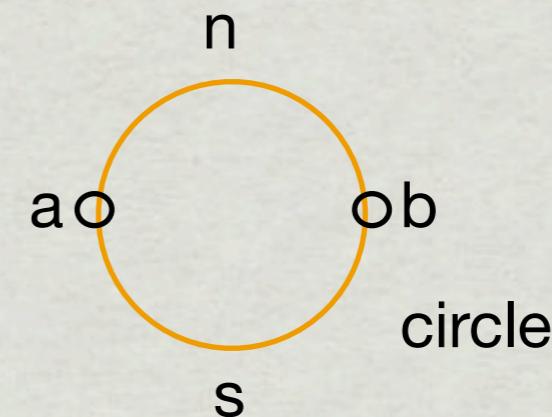
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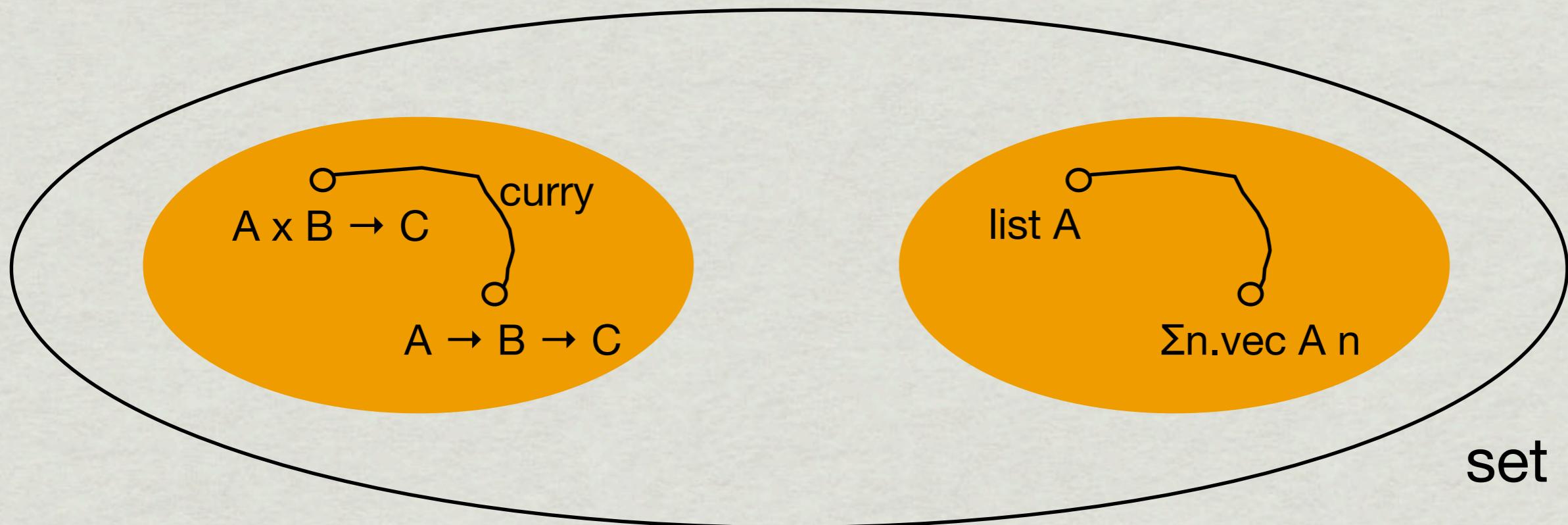
$0,1 : I$   
 $\text{seg} : \text{Id}(0,1)$



$a,b : C$   
 $n : \text{Id}(a,b)$   
 $s : \text{Id}(a,b)$

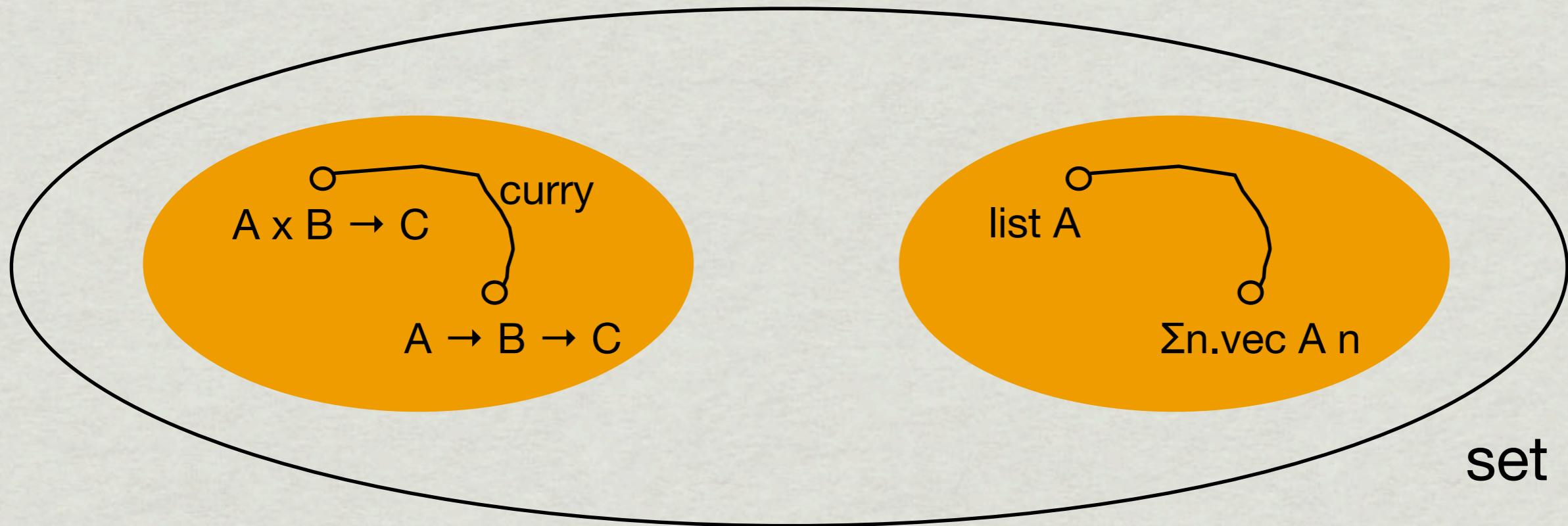
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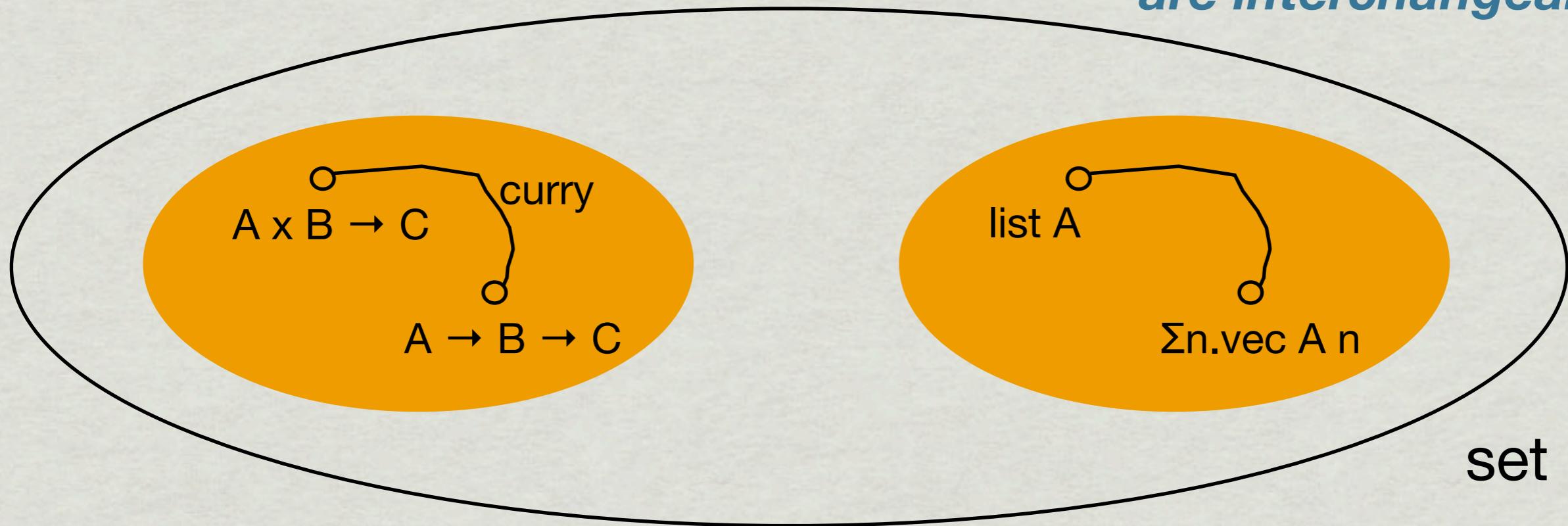


**set** = universe (type of types) of sets  
where *paths are isomorphisms*

# Univalence

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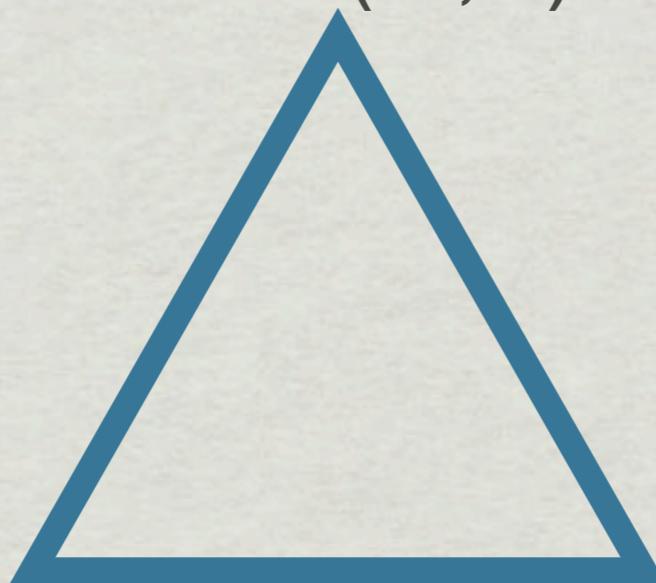
*isomorphic sets  
are interchangeable*



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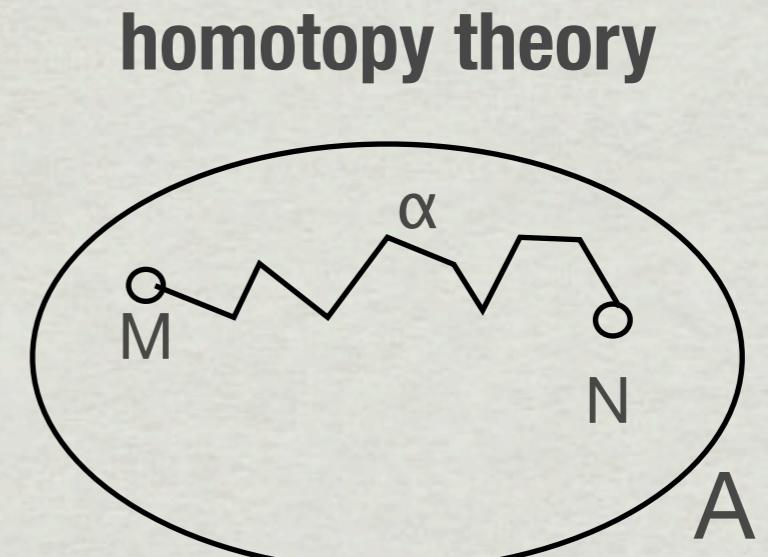
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**dependent type theory**  
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*univalence  
is sound!*



# Homotopy Type Theory

*Intensional identity types are compatible with rich notions of equivalence, where two terms can be equivalent in multiple different, computationally relevant, ways.*

Applications:

- \* Formalization of math
- \* Code reuse/generic programming

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- Applications:
- \* Formalization of math
  - \* Code reuse/generic programming

*To put it to work, we need to draw out a generic program hiding inside of type theory.*

# Outline

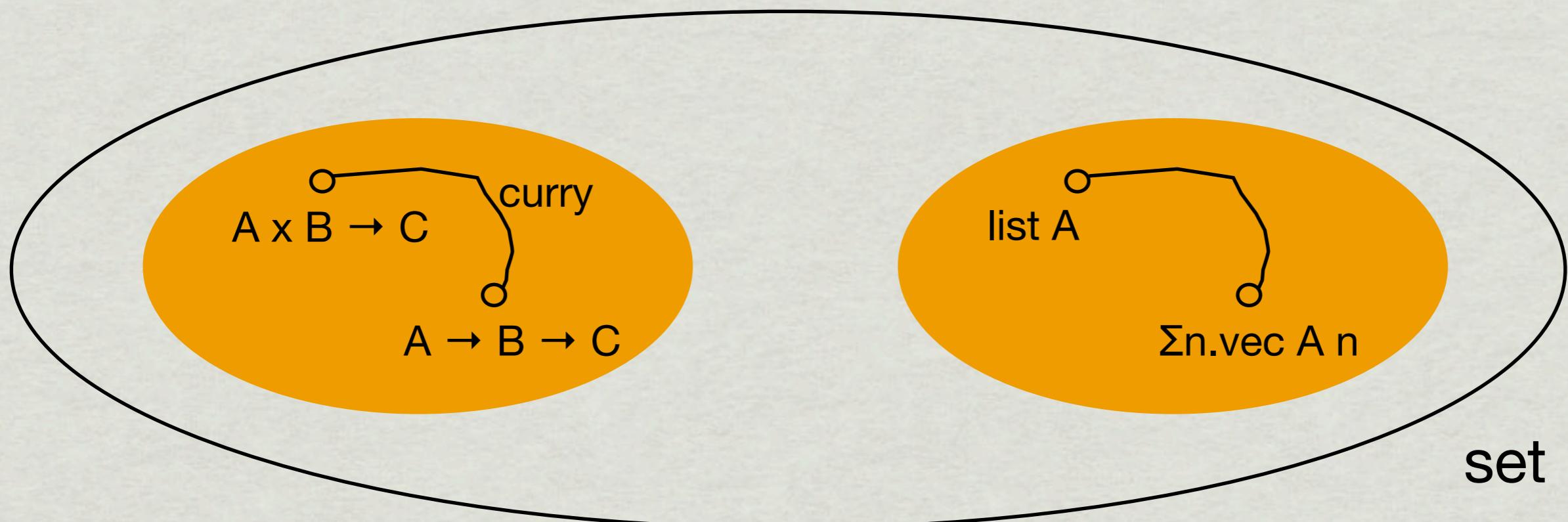
- \* What is homotopy type theory?
- \* Univalence axiom breaks canonicity
- \* Contributions: Judgemental 2-dimensional type theory and proof of canonicity

# Outline

- \* What is homotopy type theory?
- \* **Univalence axiom breaks canonicity**
- \* Contributions: Judgemental 2-dimensional type theory and proof of canonicity

# Univalence for **set**

**subst: isomorphic sets  
are interchangeable**



**set** = universe (type of types) of sets  
where *paths are isomorphisms*

# Type Isomorphisms

```
data list (A : set) : set =  
  [] : list A  
  | :: : A → list A → list A
```

```
data vec (A : set) (n : N) : set =  
  Nil    : vec A 0  
  | Cons : ∀n. A → vec A n → vec A (n+1)
```

$$\text{list } A \approx \sum_{n:\text{nat}} \text{vec } A n$$

# Type Isomorphisms

$\text{list } A \approx \sum n:N. \text{ vec } A n$

$\text{fromlist} : \text{list } A \rightarrow \sum n:N. \text{vec } A n$

$\text{fromlist} = \dots$

$\text{tolist} : \sum n:N. \text{vec } n A \rightarrow \text{list } A$

$\text{tolist} = \dots$

**and prove that they compose to the identity function**

# Type Isomorphisms

$f : A \rightarrow B$

$g : B \rightarrow A$

$\alpha : \text{Id}_{B \rightarrow B}(g \circ f, \text{id})$

$\beta : \text{Id}_{A \rightarrow A}(f \circ g, \text{id})$

---

$\text{iso}(f, g, \alpha, \beta) : \text{Iso}(A, B)$

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$\text{Iso}(\text{list } A, \sum_{n:N} \text{vec } A n)$

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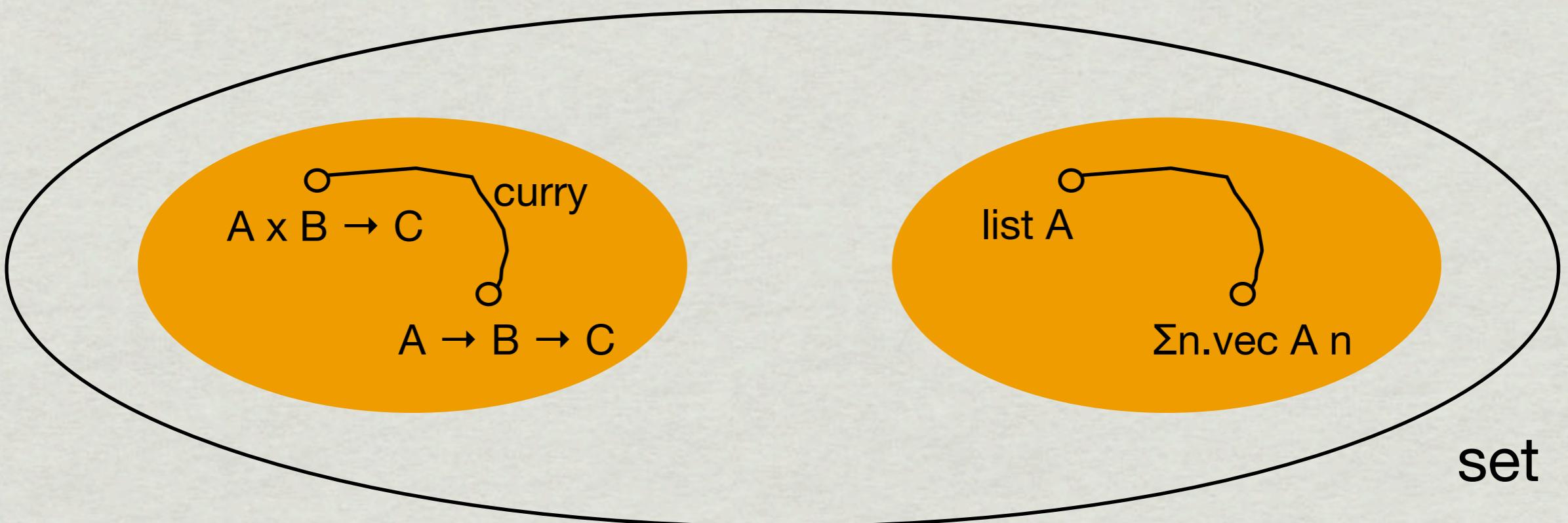
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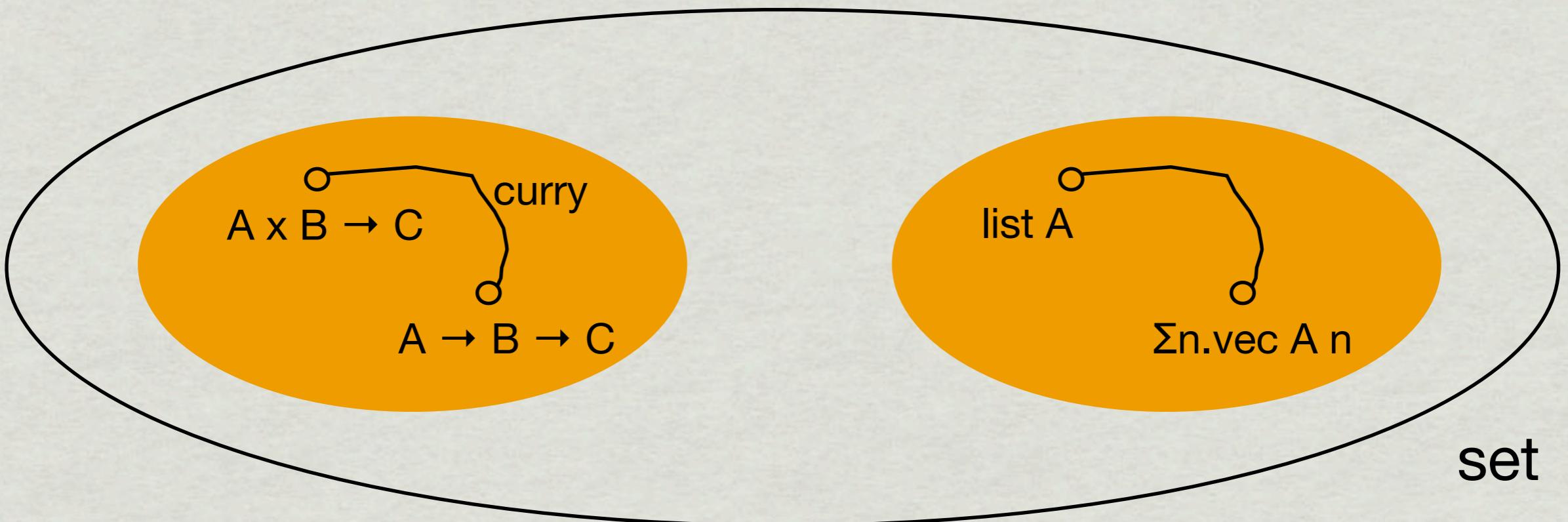
**Iso has computational content!  
(structure, not proposition)**

# Univalence Axiom



# Univalence Axiom

**univalence :  $\text{Iso}(A,B) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\text{set}}(A,B)$**



# Isomorphic Sets are Interchangeable

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} C : \text{set} \rightarrow \text{set} \\ \alpha : \text{Id}_{\text{set}}(A, B) \\ P : C[A] \end{array}}{\text{subst}_C \alpha P : C[B]}$$

$C[\Sigma n:N.\text{vec } A n]$

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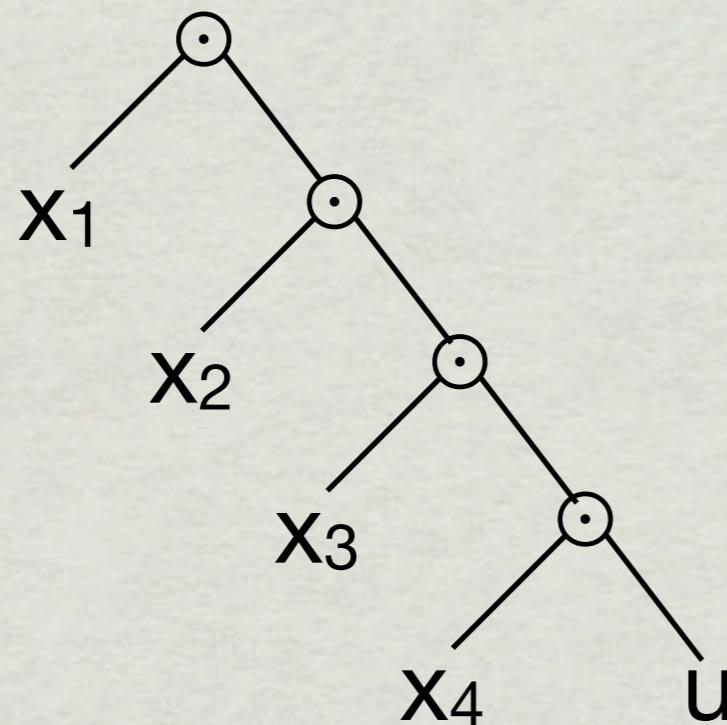
$C[\text{list } A]$

$C[\Sigma n:N.\text{vec } A n]$

# Parallel Programming

$\text{reduce} : (A \rightarrow A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A \text{ sequence} \rightarrow A$

$\text{reduce} \circ u [x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4] =$

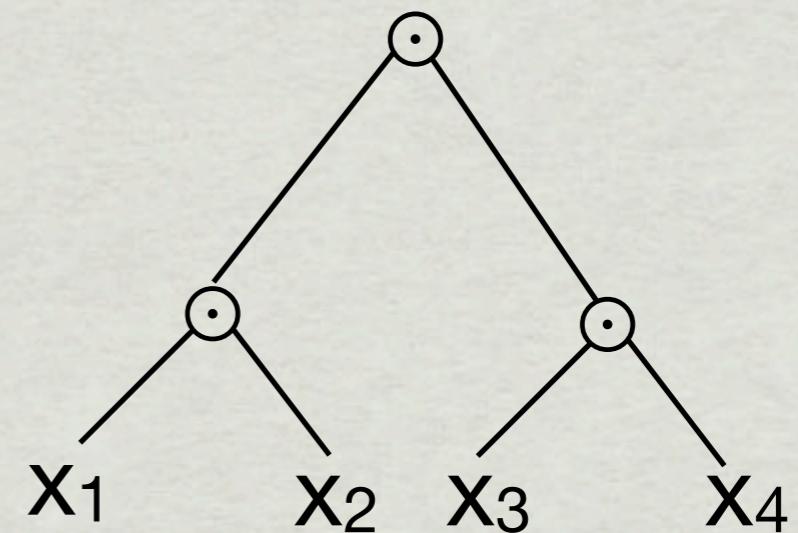
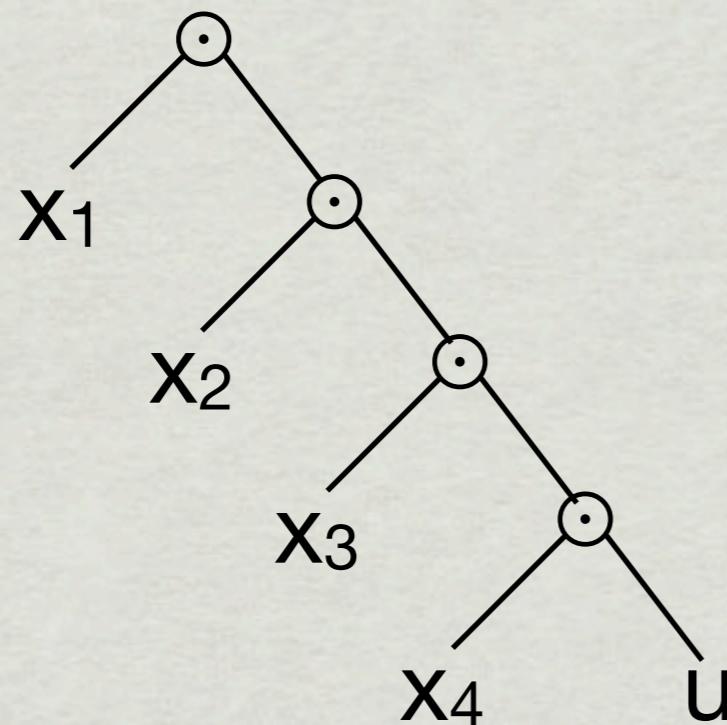


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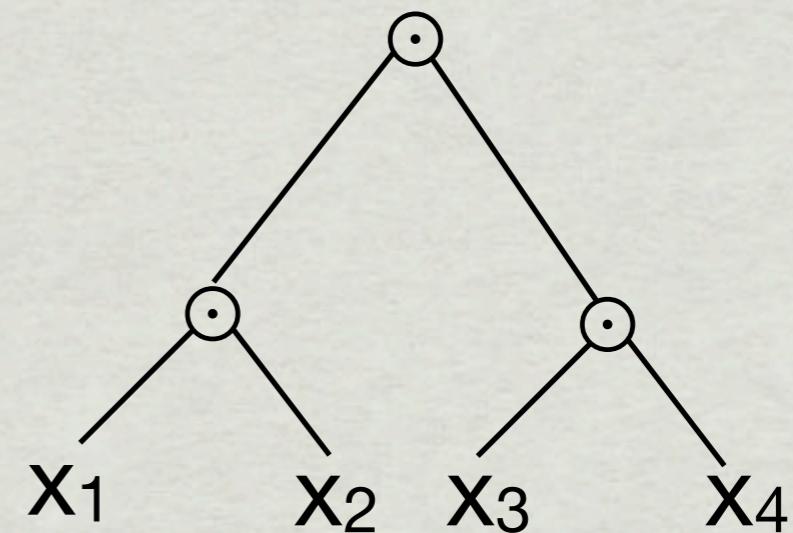
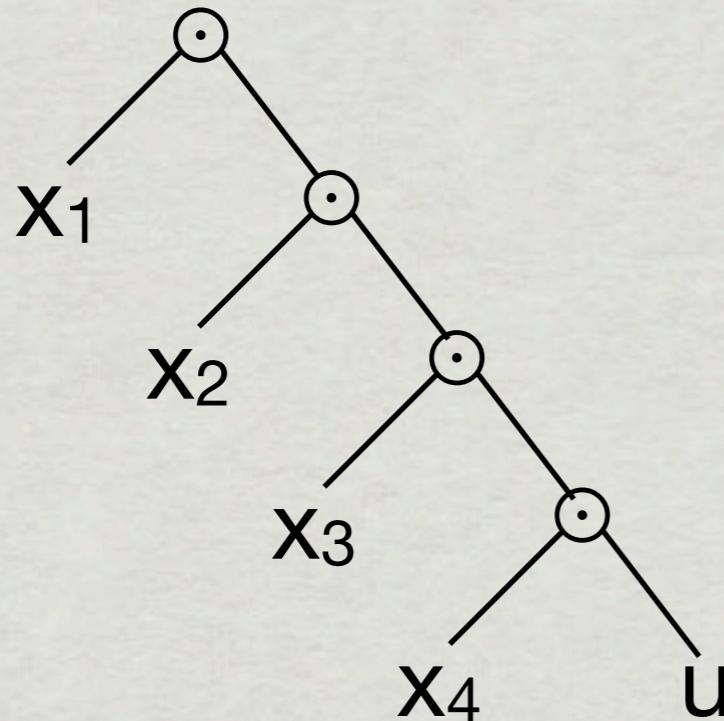
# Parallel Programming

monoid

reduce :  $(A \rightarrow A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A \rightarrow A \text{ sequence} \rightarrow A$

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# Monoid

Monoid : set → set

Monoid  $X = \Sigma \odot : X \rightarrow X \rightarrow X.$

$\Sigma u : X.$

$(\prod_{x,y,z:X} \text{Id}(x \odot (y \odot z)) ((x \odot y) \odot z))$

\*  $(\prod_x \text{Id}(x \odot u) x)$

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# Monoid

E.g. (append, [], ...) : Monoid (list A)

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**Code reuse:**

Given  $\text{Iso}(\text{list } A, \sum_{n:N} \text{vec } A \ n)$

make  $\text{Monoid}(\text{list } A) \rightarrow \text{Monoid}(\sum_{n:\text{nat.}} \text{vec } A \ n)$

# Interchange iso. sets

Make  $\text{Monoid}(\text{list } A) \rightarrow \text{Monoid}(\sum n:\text{nat}. \text{ vec } A n)$

From

# Interchange iso. sets

Make  $\text{Monoid}(\text{list } A) \rightarrow \text{Monoid}(\sum n:\text{nat}. \text{vec } A n)$

From  $(\text{fromlist}, \text{tolist}, \dots) : \text{Iso}(\text{list } A, \sum n:\text{N}. \text{vec } n)$

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$P : C[M]$

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univalence :  $\text{Iso}(A, B) \rightarrow \text{Id}_{\text{set}}(A, B)$

# Interchange iso. sets

Make  $\text{Monoid}(\text{list } A) \rightarrow \text{Monoid}(\sum n:\text{nat}. \text{vec } A n)$   
**subst<sub>Monoid</sub>(univalence (fromlist, tolist, ...))**

From  $(\text{fromlist}, \text{tolist}, \dots) : \text{Iso}(\text{list } A, \sum n:\text{N}. \text{vec } n)$

$$\frac{C : A \rightarrow \text{set} \\ \alpha : \text{Id}_A(M, N) \\ P : C[M]}{\text{subst}_C \alpha P : C[N]}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{univalence} &: \text{Iso}(A, B) \\ &\rightarrow \text{Id}_{\text{set}}(A, B) \end{aligned}$$

# Interchange iso. sets

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**type-generic lifting of isos**

From  $(\text{fromlist}, \text{tolist}, \dots) : \text{Iso}(\text{list } A, \sum n:\text{N}. \text{vec } n)$

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# Failure of Canonicity

Recall that the only computation rule for subst is:

$$\text{subst}_C \text{ refl } P = P$$

Therefore

$\text{subst}_{\text{Monoid}}(\text{univalence} (\text{fromlist}, \text{tolist}, \dots))$

**is well-typed but *stuck*:  
violates Progress**

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***How do you compute with univalence?***

# Outline

- \* What is homotopy type theory?
- \* Univalence axiom breaks canonicity
- \* **Contributions: Judgemental 2-dimensional type theory and proof of canonicity**

$\text{Monoid} : \text{type} \rightarrow \text{type}$

$\text{Monoid } X = \Sigma \odot : X \rightarrow X \rightarrow X. \Sigma u : X. \dots$

Given       $\text{iso}(f, f^{-1}, \alpha, \beta) : \text{Iso}(A, B)$

and       $(\odot, u, \dots) : \text{Monoid}(A)$

make       $(\odot', u', \dots) : \text{Monoid}(B)$

Monoid : type → type

Monoid X =  $\Sigma \odot:X\rightarrow X\rightarrow X. \Sigma u:X. \dots$

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and       $(\odot, u, \dots) : \text{Monoid}(A)$

make       $(\odot', u', \dots) : \text{Monoid}(B)$

$$\odot' = \lambda y_1, y_2 : B. f((f^{-1} y_1) \odot (f^{-1} y_2))$$

$$u' = f u$$

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$$\odot' = \lambda y_1, y_2 : B. f((f^{-1} y_1) \odot (f^{-1} y_2))$$

$$u' = f u$$

$$(y \odot' u') = f((f^{-1} y) \odot (f^{-1} (f u)))$$

$$= f(f^{-1} y \odot u) \quad \text{by } \alpha$$

$$= f(f^{-1} y) \quad \text{by unit law for } \odot \text{ and } u$$

$$= y \quad \text{by } \beta$$

# subst as a generic program

$i = \text{univalence}(\text{iso}(f, f^{-1}, \alpha, \beta))$

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`substX:set.Monoid(X) i (⊙, u, ...)`

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`substX:set.Monoid(X) i (⊙, u, ...)`

$\equiv (\lambda y_1, y_2. f((f^{-1} y_1) \odot (f^{-1} y_2))$   
 $f u, ...)$

# subst as a generic program

$i = \text{univalence}(\text{iso}(f, f^{-1}, \alpha, \beta))$

$\text{subst}_{\mathbf{X}:\text{set}. \mathbf{Monoid}(\mathbf{X})} i (\odot, u, \dots)$

$\equiv \text{subst}_{\mathbf{X}:\text{set}. \Sigma_{\odot:\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{X}}. \Sigma_{u:\mathbf{X} \dots}} i (\odot, u, \dots)$

$\equiv (\lambda y_1, y_2. f((f^{-1} y_1) \odot (f^{-1} y_2))$   
 $f u, \dots)$

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 $\text{subst}_{\mathbf{X}.\mathbf{X}} i u, \dots)$

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# Contributions

1. Define a 2-dimensional type theory
  - \* judgemental formulation of equivalence
  - \* **Key idea:** define subst/resp as generic programs
2. Prove canonicity:  
every closed  $M : \text{bool}$  is  $\equiv$  true or false
  - \* extend NuPRL semantics from setoids to groupoids
3. Internalize  $\simeq$  as Id-type and derive J

# Contributions

$\text{Id}_A$  can have  
comp. content but  
 $\text{Id}_{\text{Id}(M,N)}$  is discrete

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# 2-Dimensional Type Theory

Types

$\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}$

= of M's and  $\alpha$ 's

Terms

$\Gamma \vdash M : A$

2D means no equivalence  
of equivalences

Equivalence  $\Gamma \vdash \alpha : M \simeq_A N$

Families respect  
equivalence:  
generic programs

$x:A \vdash C : \text{type}$

$\alpha : M \simeq_A N$

$P : C[M/x]$

---

$\text{subst}_{x.C} \alpha P : C[N/x]$

$x:A \vdash P : B$

$\alpha : M \simeq_A N$

---

$\text{resp}(x.P) \alpha : \text{map}_{x.B} \alpha P[M/x] \simeq_{B[N]} P[N/x]$

# Contributions

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# Canonicity Theorem

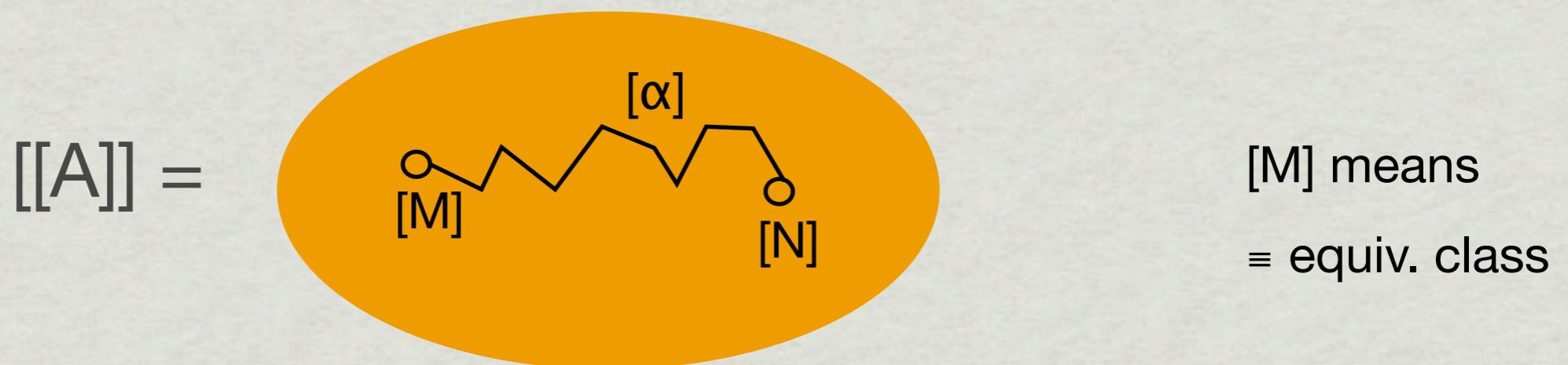
No stuck closed terms, up to judgemental equality:

***If*  $\cdot \vdash M:\text{bool}$  *then either*  $M \equiv \text{true}$  *or*  $M \equiv \text{false}$**

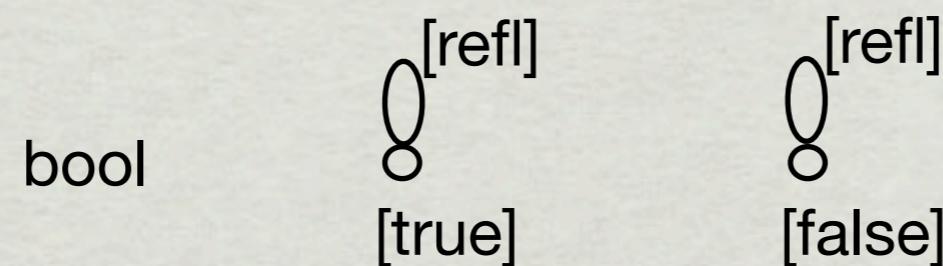
Proof extends reducibility from sets to spaces!

**Canonicity: If  $\cdot \vdash M:\text{bool}$  then  
either  $M \equiv \text{true}$  or  $M \equiv \text{false}$**

Associate a **reducibility groupoid** with each type

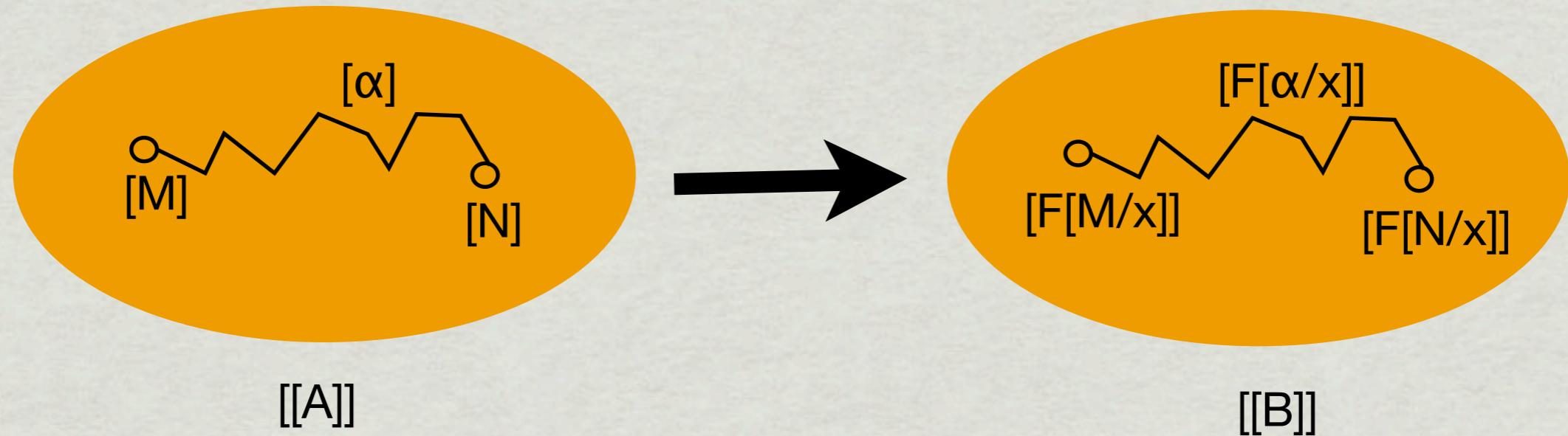


Reducibility groupoid for bool is discrete:



**Canonicity: If  $\cdot \vdash M:\text{bool}$  then  
either  $M \equiv \text{true}$  or  $M \equiv \text{false}$**

Reducible open terms are functors:  
 $x:A \vdash F : B$  is reducible iff



Fund. Lemma: *Well-formed types/terms are reducible*

# Contributions

1. Define a 2-dimensional type theory

- \* judgemental formulation of equivalence

2. Prove canonicity:

every closed  $M : \text{bool}$  is  $\equiv$  true or false

- \* extend NuPRL semantics  
from setoids to groupoids

3. Internalize  $\simeq$  as Id-type and derive  $J \leftarrow$

validates  
judgemental  
approach

# Related Work

- \* Categorical/homotopy semantics of dependent types
- \* Type-directed equality for 1-dim type theory in OTT
- \* Coercive subtyping
- \* Explicit coercions
- \* Generic programming via functors

This work: computational interpretation of computationally-relevant equivalence for all of MLTT, in syntax

# Future Work

$$\frac{\alpha : P \approx_{\text{Id}(M,N)} Q}{P \equiv Q}$$

Canonicity is necessary for an operational semantics, but not sufficient

- \*  $\equiv$  has more than  $\beta$ :  
equality reflection for 2-dimensionality
- \* equational deduction, not reduction

Future work: find deterministic operational semantics for 2TT, and for fully higher-dimensional type theory

# Homotopy Type Theory

*Intensional identity types are compatible with rich notions of equivalence, where two terms can be equivalent in multiple different, computationally relevant, ways.*

## This work:

- \* computational interpretation of 2D univalence by generic programming
- \* extend reducibility from relations to groupoids

# Reducibility

Reducibility groupoid  $\langle \Gamma \rangle$  for  $\Gamma$

- Objects: a set of eq. cls. of substitutions  $\langle\theta\rangle : \Gamma$
- Maps: a set of  $\langle\delta\rangle : \langle\theta_1\rangle \rightarrow_{\langle\Gamma\rangle} \langle\theta_2\rangle$  s.t.  $\delta : \theta_1 \simeq \theta_2 : \Gamma$

Similarly for closed types,  $A$

Reducibility functor  $F : \langle A \rangle \rightarrow \langle B \rangle$  for  $x : A \vdash M : B$

- Objects:  $F(\langle N \rangle) = \langle [N/x]M \rangle$  for all objects  $\langle N \rangle$  in  $\langle A \rangle$
- Maps:  $F(\langle \alpha \rangle) = \langle \text{resp}_B(\alpha)(M) \rangle$  for every  
 $\langle \alpha \rangle : \langle N_1 \rangle \rightarrow_{\langle A \rangle} \langle N_2 \rangle$

# Reducibility

Reducibility family  $F : \langle \Gamma \rangle \rightarrow \mathbf{GPD}$  for  $\Gamma \vdash A$

- $F(\ll\theta_1\gg)$  is a red. gpd. for  $A[\theta_1]$
- $F(\ll\delta\gg)$  is a red. func. for  $x : A[\theta_1] \vdash \text{map}_A(\delta)(x) : A[\theta_2]$ , for each  $\ll\delta\gg : \ll\theta_1\gg \rightarrow_{\langle A \rangle} \ll\theta_2\gg$

# Interpretation of Types

Define  $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$  by induction:

- $\llbracket \bullet \rrbracket = 1$ ;
- $\llbracket \Gamma, x:A \rrbracket = \int_{\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket} \llbracket A \rrbracket$ : formal Grothendieck construction

Define family over  $\llbracket \Gamma \rrbracket$  for  $\llbracket \Gamma \vdash A \rrbracket$  by induction:

- $\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{set} \rrbracket = \mathbf{const}(\text{set})$ : a universe of sets
- $\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \text{El}(M) \rrbracket = \mathbf{elt}[M_*]$ : discrete groupoids
- $\llbracket \Gamma \vdash \Pi x:A.B \rrbracket = \mathbf{pi}_{\llbracket \Gamma \vdash A \rrbracket} \llbracket \Gamma, x:A \vdash B \rrbracket$ : dep. exponential

# Canonicity

Everything in sight is reducible and preserves reducible equivalences. For example,

If  $\Gamma \text{ ctx}$ , then  $[\![\Gamma]\!]$  is a red. gpd. for  $\Gamma$ .

If  $\Gamma \vdash A \text{ type}$ , then  $[\![\Gamma \vdash A]\!]$  is a red. fam. for  $A$  over  $[\![\Gamma]\!]$ .

If  $\Gamma \vdash M : A$ , then

- $\langle\!\langle M[\theta_1] \rangle\!\rangle \in \text{Ob } [\![\Gamma \vdash A]\!](\langle\!\langle \theta_1 \rangle\!\rangle)$  for all  $\langle\!\langle \theta_1 \rangle\!\rangle \in \text{Ob } [\![\Gamma]\!]$ .
- $\langle\!\langle M[\delta] \rangle\!\rangle : \langle\!\langle \text{map}_A(\delta)(M[\theta_1]) \rangle\!\rangle \rightarrow_{[\![\Gamma \vdash A]\!](\theta_2)} \langle\!\langle M[\theta_2] \rangle\!\rangle$ , whenever  $\langle\!\langle \delta \rangle\!\rangle : \langle\!\langle \theta_1 \rangle\!\rangle \rightarrow_{[\![\Gamma]\!]} \langle\!\langle \theta_2 \rangle\!\rangle$ .