The Internal Languages of Univalent Categories

Niels van der Weide

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Type Theory and Category Theory



Theorem (Theorem 6.1 in Clairambault&Dybjer 2014¹) We have a biequivalence between the bicategories

- CwF^{2,=ext}: democratic categories with families with extensional identity types and sigma types
- FinLim: finitely complete categories

This biequivalence can be extended to \prod -types and LCCCs

¹ "The biequivalence of locally cartesian closed categories and Martin-Löf type theories", by Clairambault and Dybjer

Internal Language Theorems

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Final sentence of the paper by Clairambault and Dybjer:

So we can ask whether Martin-Löf type theory with extensional identity types, ∑- and ∏-types is an internal language for lcccs? And we can answer, yes, it is an internal language 'up to isomorphism'.

Internal Language Up To Isomorphism

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Univalent Categories

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Key theorem about univalent categories: if C_1 and C_2 are univalent, then the canonical map from identities $C_1=C_2$ to adjoint equivalence $C_1\simeq C_2$ is an equivalence of types. So:

- Two objects x and y in a univalent category have the same properties if they are isomorphic
- Two univalent categories have the same properties if they are equivalent.

Theorem (Theorem of Today)

We have a biequivalence between the bicategories

- DFLCompCat: democratic univalent full comprehension categories with sigma types, equalizer types, binary product types, and unit types
- FinLim: univalent finitely complete categories

This biequivalence can be extended to LCCCs, pretoposes, arithmetic pretoposes, \prod -pretoposes, elementary toposes, and elementary toposes with \mathbb{N} .

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We shall study the internal language theorem by Clairambault and Dybjer for univalent categories, and we discuss extensions. More specifically,

- We argue why comprehension categories are more suitable for interpreting dependent types than CwFs in UF
- We recall the interpretation of type formers in comprehension categories and the notion of democracy
- We show that DFLCompCat and FinLim are biequivalent
- We discuss how to modularly extend this theorem using displayed biequivalences

Throughout the talk, we highlight how univalence affects the development

Introduction

Why Comprehension Categories?

The Bicategory of Comprehension Categories

The Biequivalence for Categories with Finite Limits

Extensions

Conclusion

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Categories with Families

Definition

A category with families³ is given by

- a category C
- ► a functor $T : C \to Fam$, which sends every $\Gamma : C$ to a set $Ty(\Gamma)$ and a family $Tm_{\Gamma} : Ty(\Gamma) \to Set$

together with a representing object for the functor sending $f : \Delta \to \Gamma$ to $\mathsf{Tm}_{\Gamma}(f^*(A))$ for all $\Gamma : \mathsf{C}$ and $A : \mathsf{Ty}(\Gamma)$.

Recall: the objects of Fam are given by sets A together with a family B of sets indexed by A.

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The Set Model

However, we do not have the following CwF

- Contexts are hSets
- ▶ Types in context Γ are equivalent to families $\Gamma \rightarrow Set$
- Terms are sections of such families

This is because the type of all sets is not a set itself.

Models from Univalent Categories

Given a univalent category C with finite limits, we do not have the following CwF

- Contexts are objects in C
- Types in context Γ are equivalent to pairs of an object Γ.A and a morphism Γ.A → Γ
- Terms are sections

This is because the type of objects in a univalent category generally only forms a **1-type**.

Discrete Models for Dependent Types

Various categorical structures to interpret type theory are built around **discrete fibrations** (aka presheaves).

- Categories with attributes⁴
- Categories with families⁵
- Natural models⁶

In such models, the types in each context must form a set. This requirement is not satisfied by the objects of univalent categories.

⁴ "Generalised Algebraic Theories and Contextual Categories", Cartmell ⁵ "Internal type theory", Dybjer

⁶ "Natural models of homotopy type theory", Awodey

Rejecting Discreteness

There also are categorical structures to interpret type theory built around general **fibrations** (aka pseudofunctors into Cat).

- (Full) comprehension categories⁷
- Judgmental theories/Generalized CwFs⁸ 9

Coherent CwFs¹⁰

⁷ "Categorical Logic and Type Theory", Jacobs

 $^{\rm 8}$ "Context, Judgement, Deduction", Coraglia and Di Liberti

⁹ "A 2-categorical analysis of context comprehension", Coraglia and Emmenegger

¹⁰https://types2024.itu.dk/slides/Thorsten%20Altenkirch%20-% 20Coherent%20Categories%20with%20Families.pdf

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- Coherent CwFs¹⁰

In such structures, types are not required to be a set **Note**: we do not assume splitness. Since we focus on univalent categories, the necessary identities for substitution hold in general

⁸ "Context, Judgement, Deduction", Coraglia and Di Liberti

⁹ "A 2-categorical analysis of context comprehension", Coraglia and Emmenegger

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Note: one could also use iterative sets intead of hSets. Since iterative sets form a set, we can use them to construct a CwF representing the set model of type theory¹¹

¹¹ "The Category of Iterative Sets in Homotopy Type Theory and Univalent Foundations", Gratzer, Gylterud, Mörtberg, and Stenholm

Note: one could also use iterative sets intead of hSets. Since iterative sets form a set, we can use them to construct a CwF representing the set model of type theory¹¹ However, our focus is on models that arise from univalent categories

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Fibrations in UF: Displayed Categories

To define fibrations, we use **displayed categories**¹²

Definition

A displayed category D over C consists of

- ► For each *x* : C a type D_{*x*} of objects over *x*
- For each f : x → y, x̄ : D_x, and ȳ : D_y a set x̄ →_f ȳ of morphisms over f from x̄ to ȳ

with suitable identity and composition operations.

¹² "Displayed Categories", Ahrens and Lumsdaine

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Note:

- We can use displayed categories to define fibrations
- Analogously, we can define the notions of displayed functor and displayed natural transformation

¹² "Displayed Categories", Ahrens and Lumsdaine

Comprehension Categories

Definition

A univalent full comprehension category is given by

- \blacktriangleright a univalent category C with a terminal object $\langle\rangle$
- a univalent displayed category D over C
- a cleaving for D
- a displayed functor χ : D → C[→] over the identity (here C[→] is the displayed category representing the arrow category)
 such that χ is fully faithful and χ preserves Cartesian morphisms.

Pictorially, we represent this data as follows

$$\mathsf{D} \xrightarrow{\chi} \mathsf{C}^{\rightarrow}$$

C



We have the following univalent full comprehension category

$$\mathsf{Set}^{\rightarrow} \xrightarrow{\mathsf{id}} \mathsf{Set}^{\rightarrow}$$

Set

Introduction

Why Comprehension Categories?

The Bicategory of Comprehension Categories

The Biequivalence for Categories with Finite Limits

Extensions

Conclusion

Clairambault and Dybjer use the following type formers

- Extensional identity types
- Dependent sums (with the η -rule)

They also assume democracy (discussed after 2 slides) From these, one can derive unit types, binary product types, and equalizer types

Type Formers in Comprehension Categories

We use the following type formers:

Binary product types: fiberwise binary products

¹³Theorem 10.5.10 in "Categorical Logic and Type Theory" by Jacobs

Type Formers in Comprehension Categories

We use the following type formers:

- Binary product types: fiberwise binary products
- ► Extensional identity types: left adjoints to contraction, satisfying Beck-Chevalley and reflection. We use fiberwise equalizers, which are equivalent if there are ∑-types¹³

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- \blacktriangleright Unit types: fiberwise terminal objects and χ preserves terminal objects
- Dependent sums: left adjoints to weakening, satisfying Beck-Chevalley
- ▶ Note: we require a strongness assumption to interpret the η -rule for \sum -types. This assumption says that $\Gamma.A.B \cong \Gamma.\sum_{a:A} B a$

¹³Theorem 10.5.10 in "Categorical Logic and Type Theory" by Jacobs

Democratic Comprehension Categories

Definition

Suppose, we have a comprehension category as follows.



С

This comprehension is **democratic** if for every Γ : C there is $A : D[\langle \rangle]$ and an isomorphism $\Gamma \cong \langle \rangle A$ (domain of $\chi(A)$).

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This comprehension is **democratic** if for every Γ : C there is $A : D[\langle \rangle]$ and an isomorphism $\Gamma \cong \langle \rangle . A$ (domain of $\chi(A)$). A **democratic finite limit comprehension category** is a democratic univalent full comprehension category with

- unit types
- binary product types
- equalizer types
- dependent sums

Morphisms of Comprehension Categories

Morphisms from $\chi_1: D_1 \to C_1^{\to}$ to $\chi_2: D_2 \to C_2^{\to}$ are given by functors $F: C_1 \to C_2$ and displayed functor $\overline{F}: D_1 \to D_2$ over F together with a displayed **natural isomorphism** over the identity as follows



such that F preserves fiberwise terminal objects, fiberwise binary products, and fiberwise equalizers.

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Note: we can derive that

- dependent sums are preserved (see Clairambault and Dybjer)
- democracy is preserved (if you want to know, you can ask after the talk)

The Bicategory of Comprehension Categories

Definition

We have a univalent bicategory DFLCompCat such that

- Objects are democratic finite limit comprehension categories
- Morphisms are pseudomorphisms as discussed on the previous slide
- 2-cells: if you want to know, ask a question after the talk

Theorem DFLCompCat *is univalent* Introduction

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Univalent Categories with Finite Limits

Theorem

We have a biequivalence between FinLim and DFLCompCat.

Here is FinLim the bicategory whose

- objects are univalent categories with finite limits,
- 1-cells are functors that preserve finite limits
- 2-cells are natural transformations

Overview of the Biequivalence

We must construct:

- ▶ a pseudofunctor H : FinLim \rightarrow DFLCompCat
- ▶ a pseudofunctor U : DFLCompCat \rightarrow FinLim
- a pseudotransformation $\xi : H \cdot U \Rightarrow id_{FinLim}$
- ► a pseudotransformation ζ : id_{DFLCompCat} \Rightarrow U · H

and we must prove that ξ and ζ are pointwise adjoint equivalences.

Construction of H : FinLim \rightarrow DFLCompCat

Every univalent category with finite limits gives rise to the following DFL comprehension category



Note:

- one can show that this comprehension category has all necessary type formers
- one can show that this is suitably pseudofunctorial (matter of having some willpower)

Short Intermezzo: Splitting the Fibration

In set theory, one also need to replace the fibration by a split one:

$\mathsf{Split}(\mathsf{C}^{\rightarrow}) \stackrel{\simeq}{\longrightarrow} \mathsf{C}^{\rightarrow} \stackrel{\mathsf{id}}{\longrightarrow} \mathsf{C}^{\rightarrow}$

С

Construction of U : DFLCompCat \rightarrow FinLim

Every DFL comprehension category

$$\mathsf{D} \xrightarrow{\chi} \mathsf{C}^{\rightarrow}$$

С

gives rise to a category

Construction of U : DFLCompCat \rightarrow FinLim

Every DFL comprehension category

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Every DFL comprehension category



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gives rise to a category C The challenge lies in verifying that C is finitely complete.

$\mathsf{Construction}\ of\ U:\mathsf{DFLCompCat}\to\mathsf{FinLim}$

Key lemma:

Lemma If we have a



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then the functor χ is fiberwise (split) essentially surjective. Note: we assumed that χ is fully faithful

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then the functor χ is fiberwise (split) essentially surjective. Note: we assumed that χ is fully faithful **This lemma gives us an equivalence from** D **to** C \rightarrow , **and univalence gives us the relevant transport principles** In particular, we can transport structure/properties from fiber categories D[x] to slice categories C/x.

$\mathsf{Construction}\ of\ U:\mathsf{DFLCompCat}\to\mathsf{FinLim}$

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then the functor χ is fiberwise (split) essentially surjective. Note: we assumed that χ is fully faithful **This lemma gives us an equivalence from** D **to** C \rightarrow , **and univalence gives us the relevant transport principles** In particular, we can transport structure/properties from fiber categories D[x] to slice categories C/x. Since D[$\langle \rangle$] is finitely complete, so is C.

Construction of ξ

If C is a univalent category with finite limits, then U(H(C)) is C. So: for ξ we take the pointwise identity.

Construction of $\boldsymbol{\zeta}$

Starting with $\chi: D \to C^{\to}$, we obtain the following DFL comprehension category

$$C^{\rightarrow} \xrightarrow{id} C^{\rightarrow}$$
 C

Construction of ζ

Starting with $\chi: D \to C^{\to}$, we obtain the following DFL comprehension category



For ζ we use the following adjoint equivalence of DFL comprehension categories:



By the key lemma: this is an adjoint equivalence

Univalence

There are several points in the proof where we use univalence:

- interpreting substitution
- transporting along equivalences
- characterizing adjoint equivalences (of comprehension categories and of pseudofunctors)

Pseudonatural Adjoint Equivalences

We use the following theorem

Theorem

A pseudotransformation is an adjoint equivalence in the bicategory of pseudofunctors if it is a pointwise adjoint equivalence.

This can be proven using mate calculus¹⁴

¹⁴Proposition 6.2.16 in "2-Dimensional Categories" by Johnson and Yau

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- Displayed bicategories
- Equivalence induction

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Displayed Bicategories

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A displayed bicategory¹⁵ D over a bicategory B consists of

For each x : B a type D_x of objects over x

- ► For each $f : x \to y$, $\overline{x} : D_x$, and $\overline{y} : D_y$ a type $\overline{x} \to_f \overline{y}$ of 1-cells over f from \overline{x} to \overline{y}
- ► For each 2-cell $\tau : f \Rightarrow g$ and 1-cells $\overline{f} : \overline{x} \to_f \overline{y}$ and $\overline{g} : \overline{x} \to_g \overline{y}$ a set $\overline{f} \Rightarrow_\tau \overline{g}$ of 2-cells over τ

and much more

¹⁵ "Bicategories in univalent foundations", Ahrens, Frumin, Maggesi, Veltri, Van der Weide

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- and much more

Example of a displayed bicategory over UnivCat

- Objects over C: fibrations on C
- 1-cells over F: Cartesian functors over F
- 2-cells over τ : natural transformations over τ

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Characterizing Adjoint Equivalences

Often we want to show that some pseudofunctor reflects adjoint equivalences

Characterizing Adjoint Equivalences

If we use displayed bicategories, we can use equivalence induction

By induction on e: we only have to consider morphisms over identities

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Extending the Biequivalence (\prod -types)

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- LCCC: univalent locally Cartesian closed categories

Key observation:

- This biequivalence is an extension of the biequivalence between DFLCompCat and FinLim.
- We can use displayed biequivalences

Total Bicategories

Definition

Every displayed bicategory D over B gives rise to a **total bicategory** $\int D$:

- Objects: pairs x : B and \overline{x} over x
- ▶ 1-cells from (x, \overline{x}) to (y, \overline{y}) : pairs $f : x \to y$ and $\overline{f} : \overline{x} \to_f \overline{y}$
- ▶ 2-cells from (f,\overline{f}) to (g,\overline{g}) : pairs $\tau: f \to g$ and $\overline{\tau}: \overline{f} \Rightarrow_{\tau} \overline{g}$

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The total bicategory $\int D$ extends B with the structure in D **Examples**:

- LCCC: total bicategory of the displayed bicategory over FinLim whose objects over C are proofs that C is locally Cartesian closed.
- ► DFLCompCat_Π: total bicategory of the displayed bicategory over DFLCompCat whose objects over a comprehension category are interpretations of ∏-types.

Displayed Gadgets and Modularity

We have many gadgets in our toolkit for modular constructions

- displayed bicategories for constructing bicategories
- displayed pseudofunctors for constructing pseudofunctors
- displayed pseudotransformations for constructing pseudotransformations
- displayed invertible modifications for constructing invertible modifications
- displayed biequivalences for constructing biequivalences

The definitions of pseudofunctors, displayed pseudotransformations, displayed invertible modifications, and displayed biequivalences are left to your imagination (and the literature¹⁶)

¹⁶ "Bicategories in univalent foundations", Ahrens, Frumin, Maggesi, Veltri, Van der Weide

Extending the Biequivalence (\prod -types)

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- ► DFLCompCat_Π: democratic univalent full comprehension categories with equalizer types, binary product types, unit types, sigma types, and ∏-types
- LCCC: univalent locally Cartesian closed categories

We prove this by constructing a displayed biequivalence over the biequivalence between DFLCompCat and FinLim.
Extending the Biequivalence (local properties)

Many type formers, such as quotients, disjoint sums, a type of propositions, are interpreted in essentially the same way: the slice categories C/x must have some categorical structure and the substitution functors preserve it

- Disjoint sum types: the slices C/x are extensive, substitution preserves coproducts
- Quotient types: the slices C/x are exact, substitution preserves regular epis
- Type of propositions: the slices C/x have a subobject classifier, substitution preserves subobject classifiers

General notion: local property¹⁷

 $^{^{17}\,^{\}prime\prime}\text{Modular}$ correspondence between dependent type theories and categories including pretopoi and topoi" by Maietti

Local Properties

Definition

A local property is given by

- a proposition P_{Cat}(C) for each univalent category C with finite limits;
- ▶ a proposition $P_{Fun}(F)$ for each functor $F : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$ such that F preserves finite limits and such that $P_{Cat}(C_1)$ and $P_{Cat}(C_2)$.

such that

- P_{Cat} is closed under slicing
- the identity satisfies P_{Fun} and P_{Fun} is closed under composition
- If F : C₁ → C₂ is a functor preserving finite limits such that P_{Fun}(F), then we also have P_{Fun}(F/x) for each x : C₁. This is not in Maietti, but necessary for a biequivalence

Examples of Local Properties

Examples of local properties:

- being exact
- being extensive
- being a pretopos
- having a subobject classifier
- having a (parameterized) natural number objects

Extensions with Local Properties

Theorem

Let P be a local property. We have a biequivalence between the bicategories

- DFLCompCat_P: democratic univalent full comprehension categories with equalizer types, binary product types, unit types, sigma types, such that each fiber satisfies P_{Cat} and the substitution functors satisfy P_{Fun}.
- FinLim_P: univalent categories with finite limit that satisfy P_{Cat}

Extensions to Toposes

Theorem We have a biequivalence between the bicategories $\mathsf{PreTop} \simeq \mathsf{CompCat}_{\mathsf{PreTop}}$ $\mathsf{PreTop}_{\mathbb{N}} \simeq \mathsf{CompCat}_{\mathsf{PreTop}_{\mathbb{N}}}$ $\mathsf{PreTop}_{\Pi} \simeq \mathsf{CompCat}_{\mathsf{PreTop}_{\Pi}}$ $ElemTop \simeq CompCat_{ElemTop}$ $\mathsf{ElemTop}_{\mathbb{N}}\simeq\mathsf{CompCat}_{\mathsf{ElemTop}_{\mathbb{N}}}$

Introduction

Why Comprehension Categories?

The Bicategory of Comprehension Categories

The Biequivalence for Categories with Finite Limits

Extensions

Conclusion

Summary

- We proved an analogue of the theorem by Clairambault and Dybjer for univalent categories
- To do so, we used non-discrete structures (comprehension categories) instead of discrete ones (CwFs)
- Univalence simplified several constructions and proofs (transporting along equivalences, characterizing adjoint equivalences)
- We also extended this theorem to various classes of toposes following Maietti
- Displayed biequivalences were our main tool to construct extensions

Future Work

There are several interesting future directions:

- What would be a suitable syntax for univalent full comprehension categories?
- What about the semantics of intensional type theory using univalent categories? Relevant work: equivalence between path categories and certain comprehension categories¹⁸

¹⁸ "Semantics of Axiomatic Type Theory" by Otten and Spadetto, https://types2024.itu.dk/abstracts.pdf#page=206

Internal Languages for Univalent Categories

So we can ask whether Martin-Löf type theory with extensional identity types, ∑- and ∏-types is an internal language for **univalent** lcccs? And we can answer, yes. We can answer the analogous question in the same way for pretoposes, ∏-pretoposes, elementary toposes, and elementary toposes with an NNO.

Preprint: https://arxiv.org/abs/2411.06636

Morphisms of Comprehension Categories

Morphisms from $\chi_1 : D_1 \to C_1^{\to}$ to $\chi_2 : D_2 \to C_2^{\to}$ are given by functors $F : C_1 \to C_2$ and displayed functor $\overline{F} : D_1 \to D_2$ over F together with a displayed **natural isomorphism** over the identity as follows



Call the natural isomorphism F_{χ} .

2-cells of comprehension categories

A 2-cell from $(\mathsf{F},\overline{\mathsf{F}},\mathsf{F}_\chi)$ to $(\mathsf{G},\overline{\mathsf{G}},\mathsf{G}_\chi)$ consists of

▶ a natural transformation τ : F \Rightarrow G

▶ a displayed natural transformation $\overline{\tau} : \overline{F} \Rightarrow \overline{G}$ over τ such that the compositions below are equal.



Pseudonatural Adjoint Equivalences

Theorem

A pseudotransformation is an adjoint equivalence in the bicategory of pseudofunctors if it is a pointwise adjoint equivalence.

Pseudonatural Adjoint Equivalences

B, and B, bicat RawPsfunctor (B, , B2) Hor Map (B, B2) Bi Map (B, Bz)

Pseudonatural Adjoint Equivalences

Theorem

A morphism $(F, \overline{F}, F_{\chi})$ of full comprehension categories is an adjoint equivalence if F and \overline{F} are adjoint equivalences.

Same Idea for Comprehension Categories



Preservation of Democracy

Suppose, that we have democratic full univalent comprehension categories $\chi_1 : D_1 \to C_1^{\to}$ and $\chi_2 : D_2 \to C_2^{\to}$, and a morphism $(F, \overline{F}, F_{\chi})$ from χ_1 to χ_2 . Then for each $\Gamma : C_1$ there is an isomorphism $d_{\Gamma} : F(\overline{\Gamma}) \cong \diamond_{F(\Gamma)}^*(\overline{F(\Gamma)})$ making the following diagram commute.

 $\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{F}(\Gamma) & \xrightarrow{\mathsf{F}(\gamma_{\Gamma})} & \mathsf{F}(\langle\rangle,\overline{\Gamma}) \\ & & \downarrow^{\mathsf{F}_{\chi}(\overline{\Gamma})} \\ & & \langle\rangle.\overline{\mathsf{F}(\Gamma)} & \leftarrow_{\langle\diamond_{\mathsf{F}(\langle\rangle)},\mathfrak{q}\rangle} & \mathsf{F}(\langle\rangle).\diamond^{*}_{\mathsf{F}(\Gamma)}(\overline{\mathsf{F}(\Gamma)}) & \leftarrow_{\mathsf{F}(\langle\rangle).d_{\Gamma}} & \mathsf{F}(\langle\rangle).\diamond^{*}_{\mathsf{F}(\Gamma)}(\mathsf{F}(\overline{\Gamma})) \end{array}$

Here $\gamma_{\Gamma} : \Gamma \cong \langle \rangle.\overline{\Gamma}$ and $\gamma_{\mathsf{F}(\Gamma)} : \mathsf{F}(\Gamma) \cong \langle \rangle.\overline{\mathsf{F}(\Gamma)}$