

Towards a Formalization of Wörn's zigzag construction

Vojtěch Štěpančík

Outline

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Zigzag construction
- 3 Proof of correctness
- 4 Conclusion

Pushout of $A \xleftarrow{f} S \xrightarrow{g} B$ in agda-unimath

- A cocone (i, j, H) is a pushout

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S & \xrightarrow{g} & B \\ f \downarrow & \boxed{H} & \downarrow j \\ A & \xrightarrow{i} & X \end{array}$$

Pushout of $A \xleftarrow{f} S \xrightarrow{g} B$ in agda-unimath

- A cocone (i, j, H) is a pushout if every cocone under the same span

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} S & \xrightarrow{g} & B \\ f \downarrow & \boxed{K} & \downarrow v \\ A & \xrightarrow{u} & W \end{array}$$

Pushout of $A \xleftarrow{f} S \xrightarrow{g} B$ in agda-unimath

- A cocone (i, j, H) is a pushout if every cocone under the same span induces a unique map $h : X \rightarrow W$

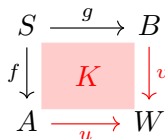
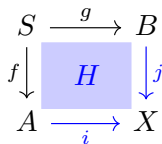
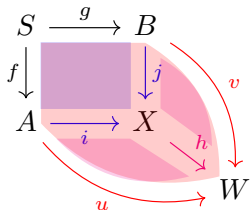
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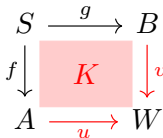
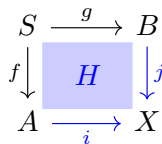
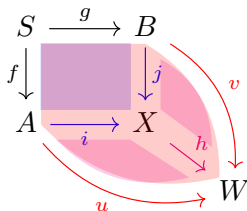
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- \Leftrightarrow "the map from $(X \rightarrow W)$ to cocones with vertex W is an equivalence"

Describing identity types of pushouts

- Pushouts are a fundamental method for creating spaces by gluing

¹Wärn. Path Spaces of Pushouts, 2023, <https://dwarn.se/po-paths.pdf>

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- Fixing $x_0 : X$ in a pushout, give $I_{x_0} : X \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ and $I_{x_0}(x) \simeq (x_0 =_X x)$

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- Wörn described the "zigzag construction"¹ in 2023
- No formalization existed for almost two years, until now!

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Setting

- Book HoTT
- Built with agda-unimath², with plans to upstream

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Consequences of choosing `agda-unimath`

- Postulated pushouts
- Reusable code
- Performance matters

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 \end{array}$$

- Recall sequential colimits of diagrams A_\bullet

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 A_0 & \xrightarrow{a_0} & A_1 & \xrightarrow{a_1} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{a_2} & \dots \\
 & \searrow \kappa_0 & \downarrow \iota_1 & \swarrow \kappa_1 & & & \\
 & \iota_0 & & \iota_2 & & & \\
 & & A_\infty & & & &
 \end{array}$$

or

$$A_0 \xrightarrow{a_0} A_1 \xrightarrow{a_1} A_2 \xrightarrow{a_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\iota} A_\infty$$

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2 Zigzag construction

3 Proof of correctness

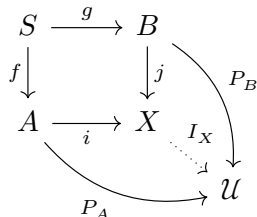
4 Conclusion

Approach

- The goal is to construct a type family
 $I_{x_0} : X \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$

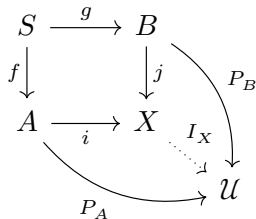
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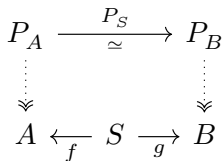
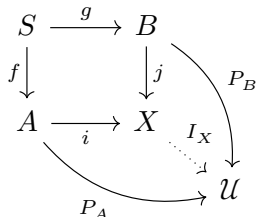
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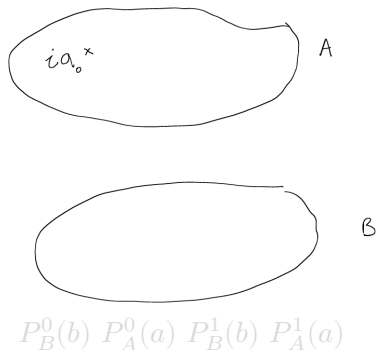
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- **Descent data** (P_A, P_B, P_S) : type families and equivalences $P_S(s) : P_A(fs) \simeq P_B(gS)$



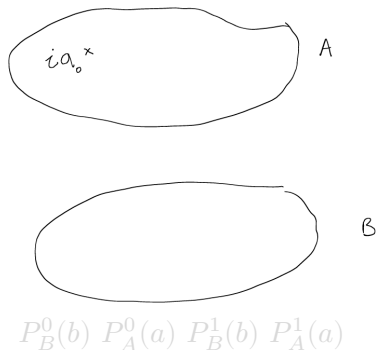
Construction of the type families

- $P_A(a)$ and $P_B(b)$ defined as sequential colimits



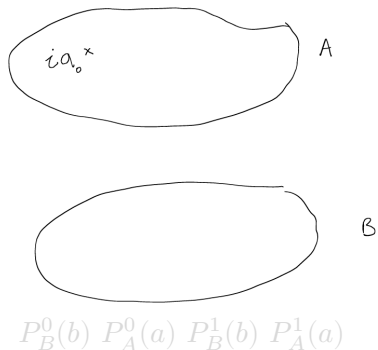
Construction of the type families

- $P_A(a)$ and $P_B(b)$ defined as sequential colimits
- $P_A^n(a) :=$ "type of paths from $i(a_0)$ to $i(a)$ allowing at most n "crossings" from B to A "



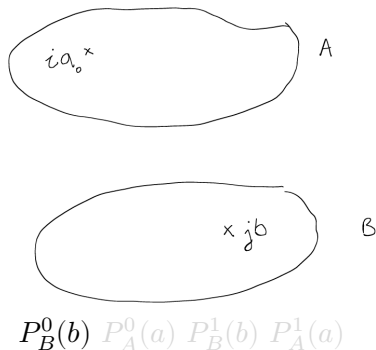
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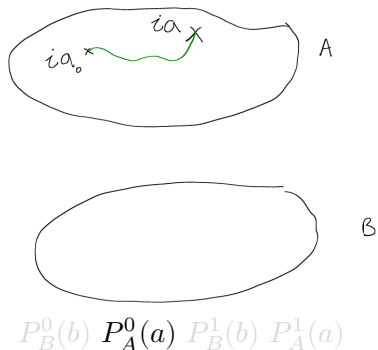
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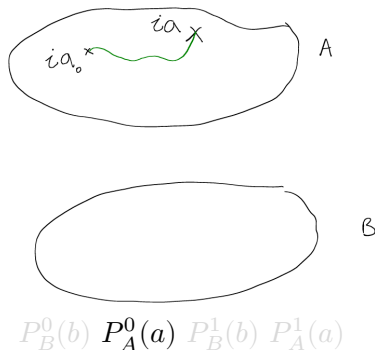
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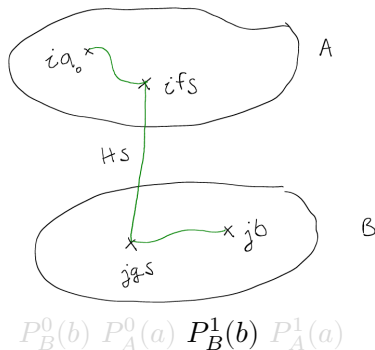
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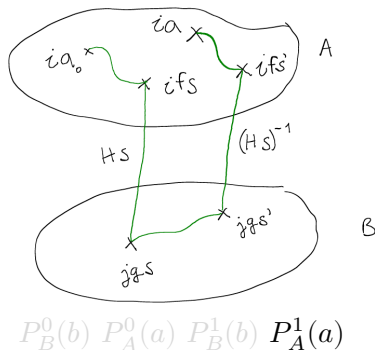
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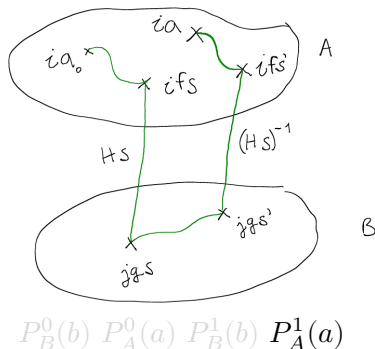
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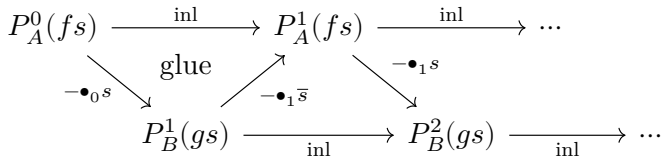
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- "Modulo backtracking": $P_A^{n+1}(a)$ and $P_B^{n+1}(b)$ are pushouts



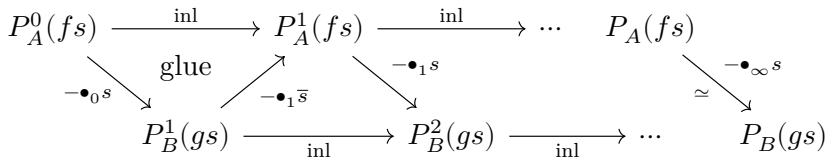
Construction of the equivalences

- To get $P_S(s)$, construct a zigzag between $P_A^\bullet(fs)$ and $P_B^\bullet(g_s)$:



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- To get $P_S(s)$, construct a zigzag between $P_A^\bullet(fs)$ and $P_B^\bullet(gs)$:



- The zigzag gives an equivalence $P_S(s) := -\bullet_\infty s$, completing (P_A, P_B, P_S) , defining I_{x_0}

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Identity systems

- To show $I_{x_0}(x) \simeq (x_0 = x)$, it suffices to show that I_{x_0} is an *identity system*

³Restatement of Kraus, von Raumer. Path Spaces of Higher Inductive Types in Homotopy Type Theory, 2019

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Definition (Induction principle of identity types of pushouts)

(P_A, P_B, P_S) with $p_0 : P_A(a_0)$ is an **identity system** if for all dependent descent data $\mathcal{Q} := (Q_A, Q_B, Q_S)$, the evaluation map $\text{ev-refl} : \text{sect}(\mathcal{Q}) \rightarrow Q_A(p_0)$ has a section.

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- Actually suffices to give a map $Q_A(p_0) \rightarrow \text{sect}(\mathcal{Q})$

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Zigzag construction is an identity system

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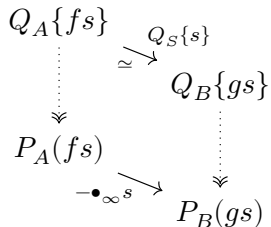
- Given

$$Q_A\{a\} : P_A^\infty(a) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

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$$Q_S\{s\} : (p : P_A^\infty(fs)) \rightarrow Q_A(p) \simeq Q_B(p \bullet_\infty s)$$

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and $q_0 : Q_A(p_0)$, we need to produce

$$s_A\{a\} : (p : P_A^\infty(a)) \rightarrow Q_A(p)$$

$$s_B\{b\} : (p : P_B^\infty(b)) \rightarrow Q_B(p)$$

$$s_S\{s\} : (p : P_A^\infty(fs)) \rightarrow Q_S(s_A(p)) = s_B(p \bullet_\infty s).$$

Proof outline

- To get $s_A(a)$ and $s_B(b)$, do induction on the colimits $P_A(a)$ and $P_B(b)$: we need dependent functions

$$s_A^n\{a\} : (p : P_A^n(a)) \rightarrow Q_A(\iota_A^n(p))$$

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- The maps s_A^n and s_B^n are defined together by induction on n
- Construct $s_S\{s\}$ by proving and using functoriality theorems for sequential colimits

General results about sequential colimits

- "A homotopy of dependent diagram morphisms induces a homotopy of induced functions": $(s_\bullet \sim t_\bullet) \rightarrow (s_\infty \sim t_\infty)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 D_0 & \longrightarrow & D_1 & \longrightarrow & \dots & & D_\infty \\
 s_0 \left(\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \uparrow \end{array} \right) t_0 & & s_1 \left(\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \uparrow \end{array} \right) t_1 & & & & s_\infty \left(\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \uparrow \end{array} \right) t_\infty \\
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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_B^1 & \longrightarrow & Q_B^2 & \longrightarrow & \dots & & Q_B \\
 \uparrow & & \uparrow & & & & \uparrow s_B \\
 P_A^0 & \longrightarrow & P_A^1 & \longrightarrow & \dots & & P_A \\
 \swarrow \scriptstyle s_0 & & \swarrow \scriptstyle s_1 & & & & \swarrow \scriptstyle s_{\infty} \\
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 Q_A^0 & \longrightarrow & Q_A^1 & \longrightarrow & \dots \\
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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 P_A^0 & \longrightarrow & P_A^1 & \longrightarrow & \dots & & P_A & \\
 \searrow_{-\bullet_0 s} & & \searrow_{-\bullet_1 s} & & & & \searrow_{-\bullet_{\infty} s} & \\
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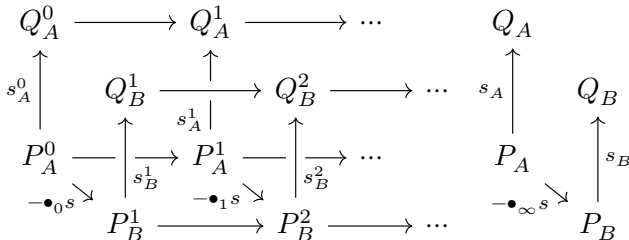
General results about sequential colimits

- "A homotopy of dependent diagram morphisms induces a homotopy of induced functions": $(s_{\bullet} \sim t_{\bullet}) \rightarrow (s_{\infty} \sim t_{\infty})$
- "Taking the colimit preserves composition of a morphism and a dependent morphism": $s_{\infty} \circ f_{\infty} \sim (s_{\bullet} \circ f_{\bullet})_{\infty}$ (*)
- "Taking the colimit preserves composition of a fiberwise morphism and a dependent morphism": $e_{\infty} \circ s_{\infty} \sim (e_{\bullet} \circ s_{\bullet})_{\infty}$
- "Dependent cubes induce a dependent square in the colimit":

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^0 & \longrightarrow & Q_A^1 & \longrightarrow & \dots & & Q_A & \\
 \uparrow s_A^0 & & \uparrow & & & & \uparrow s_A & \\
 P_A^0 & \longrightarrow & P_A^1 & \longrightarrow & \dots & & P_A & \\
 \searrow \bullet_0 s & & \searrow \bullet_1 s & & & & \searrow \bullet_{\infty} s & \\
 & & P_B^1 & \longrightarrow & P_B^2 & \longrightarrow & \dots & P_B
 \end{array}$$

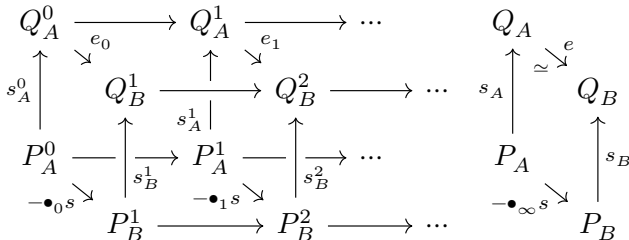
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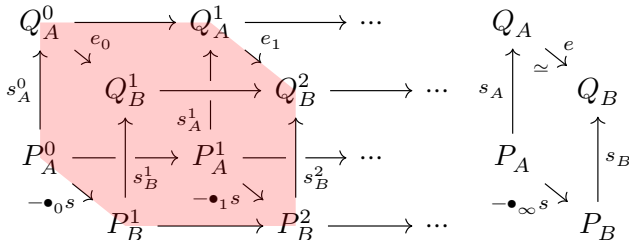
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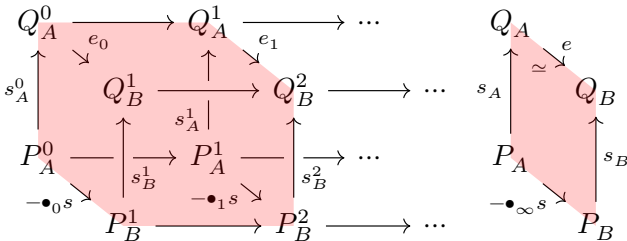
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1 Motivation

2 Zigzag construction

3 Proof of correctness

4 Conclusion

Conclusion

- The construction is formalized and proven correct
- No major issues with formalizing the construction itself
- Defining the sections s_A^n and s_B^n was more difficult, computation-wise
- Drawing the right diagrams helps finding statements of intermediate lemmas, but not so much proving them

Future work

- Formalizing applications
- Generalizing results about sequential colimits
- Optimizing: main file takes ~ 2.5 minutes⁴, 11 GB of RAM, the rest of the library takes ~ 7.5 minutes; 93% spent in two definitions I didn't talk about

⁴Intel Core Ultra 7 155H

Related work

- Wörn's second article on the subject gives an "unstraightened" version of the construction
- Connors and Thorbjørnsen worked on an independent formalization in Rocq, at the time of writing the commutativity square needs to be formalized
- My master's thesis contains a more extensive description of the development of properties of various colimits leading to the formalization of the zigzag construction

Thank you for your time!

Construction of sections

- $s_A^0(\text{refl}) := q_0$, $s_B^0 := \text{ex-falso}$

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- Next steps by pushout induction

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \uparrow & \searrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_B^{n+1} \\
 & s_A^n \mid & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \bullet_n \\
 & \searrow & \vdots \\
 P_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_B^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

Construction of sections

- $s_A^0(\text{refl}) := q_0$, $s_B^0 := \text{ex-falso}$
- Next steps by pushout induction

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \uparrow & \swarrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_B^{n+1} \\
 & s_A^n \downarrow & \uparrow \text{---} s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \bullet_n \text{---} \\
 & & \searrow \\
 P_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_B^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 & & \uparrow \text{---} s_A^{n+1} \\
 & & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) \\
 & & \nearrow g_n \\
 & & \bullet_{n+1} \text{---} \\
 & & \searrow \\
 P_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_A^{n+1} \\
 & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} & \nearrow \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) &
 \end{array}$$

Construction of sections

- $s_A^0(\text{refl}) := q_0$, $s_B^0 := \text{ex-falso}$
- Next steps by pushout induction
- Multiple choices for g_n

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \uparrow & \swarrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_B^{n+1} \\
 & s_A^n \downarrow & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \bullet_n \\
 s_B^n \uparrow & & \vdots \\
 P_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_B^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 & & \uparrow s_A^{n+1} \\
 s_A^n \uparrow & & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) \\
 & & \nearrow g_n \\
 P_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_A^{n+1} \\
 & s_B^{n+1} \uparrow & \uparrow \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) & \bullet_{n+1} \bar{s}
 \end{array}$$

Construction of sections

- $s_A^0(\text{refl}) := q_0$, $s_B^0 := \text{ex-falso}$
- Next steps by pushout induction
- Multiple choices for g_n
- Action of s_B^{n+1} on glue_B using $e_n \circ e_n^{-1} \sim \text{id}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \uparrow & \swarrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_B^{n+1} \\
 & s_A^n \downarrow & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \bullet_n s \\
 & & \searrow \\
 P_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_B^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 & & \uparrow s_A^{n+1} \\
 & & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) \\
 & & \swarrow g_n \\
 P_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_A^{n+1} \\
 & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} & \uparrow \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) & \bullet_{n+1} \bar{s}
 \end{array}$$

Construction of sections

- $s_A^0(\text{refl}) := q_0$, $s_B^0 := \text{ex-falso}$
- Next steps by pushout induction
- Multiple choices for g_n
- Action of s_B^{n+1} on glue_B using $e_n \circ e_n^{-1} \sim \text{id}$
- Action of s_A^{n+1} on glue_A using the square induced by Q_S and path algebra

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \uparrow & \swarrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_B^{n+1} \\
 & s_A^n \downarrow & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \bullet_n s \\
 & \uparrow s_B^n & \searrow \\
 P_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_B^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 & \uparrow s_A^n & \uparrow s_A^{n+1} \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) & \bullet_{n+1} \bar{s} \\
 & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} & \nearrow g_n \\
 P_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_A^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

Construction of sections

- $s_A^0(\text{refl}) := q_0$, $s_B^0 := \text{ex-falso}$
- Next steps by pushout induction
- Multiple choices for g_n
- Action of s_B^{n+1} on glue_B using $e_n \circ e_n^{-1} \sim \text{id}$
- Action of s_A^{n+1} on glue_A using the square induced by Q_S and path algebra
- K_A^n and K_B^n hold by computation rules for pushouts, completing s_A and s_B

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \uparrow & \swarrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_B^{n+1} \\
 & s_A^n \downarrow & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \bullet_n \\
 s_B^n \uparrow & & \searrow \\
 P_B^n(b) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_B^{n+1}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 s_A^n \uparrow & & \uparrow s_A^{n+1} \\
 & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) & \nearrow g_n \\
 P_A^n(a) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & P_A^{n+1} \\
 & s_B^{n+1} \uparrow & \nearrow \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) & \bullet_{n+1} \bar{s}
 \end{array}$$

Construction of the square

- The prisms can be filled using coherences of computation rules of pushouts

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 g_n \nearrow & \uparrow & \searrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{s_A^n} & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) \\
 \uparrow s_B^n & \downarrow P_A^n(fs) & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 P_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{-\bullet_n \bar{s}} & P_B^{n+1}(gs)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{e_n} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 \uparrow s_A^n & \searrow & \nearrow g_n \\
 & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) & \\
 P_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{s_B^{n+1}} & P_A^{n+1}(fs) \\
 \searrow -\bullet_n s & \uparrow & \nearrow -\bullet_{n+1} \bar{s} \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) &
 \end{array}$$

Construction of the square

- The prisms can be filled using coherences of computation rules of pushouts
- Pasting the prisms along the diagonal gives almost the correct cubes, the top face needs adjustment

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 g_n \nearrow & \uparrow & \searrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{s_A^n} & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) \\
 \uparrow s_B^n & & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \searrow \bullet_n s & \nearrow \\
 P_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{\bullet_n \bar{s}} & P_B^{n+1}(gs)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{e_n} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 \uparrow s_A^n & & \nearrow g_n \\
 & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) & \uparrow s_A^{n+1} \\
 P_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{s_B^{n+1}} & P_A^{n+1}(fs) \\
 \searrow \bullet_n s & \nearrow & \searrow \bullet_{n+1} \bar{s} \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) &
 \end{array}$$

Construction of the square

- The prisms can be filled using coherences of computation rules of pushouts
- Pasting the prisms along the diagonal gives almost the correct cubes, the top face needs adjustment
- Proper abstraction and path induction fixes the top face

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 g_n \nearrow & \uparrow & \searrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{s_A^n} & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) \\
 \uparrow s_B^n & & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \\
 \nearrow -\bullet_n s & & \searrow -\bullet_n \bar{s} \\
 P_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{-\bullet_n \bar{s}} & P_B^{n+1}(gs)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{e_n} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 \uparrow s_A^n & & \nearrow g_n \\
 & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) & \uparrow s_A^{n+1} \\
 P_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{-\bullet_n s} & P_A^{n+1}(fs) \\
 \searrow -\bullet_n \bar{s} & & \nearrow -\bullet_{n+1} \bar{s} \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) &
 \end{array}$$

Construction of the square

- The prisms can be filled using coherences of computation rules of pushouts
- Pasting the prisms along the diagonal gives almost the correct cubes, the top face needs adjustment
- Proper abstraction and path induction fixes the top face
- The cubes induce the desired square s_S , which finishes the proof

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Q_A^n(fs) & \\
 g_n \nearrow & \uparrow & \searrow e_n \\
 Q_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{s_A^n} & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) \\
 \uparrow s_B^n & & \uparrow s_B^{n+1} \\
 & P_A^n(fs) & \\
 & \searrow \bullet_n s & \nearrow \\
 P_B^n(gs) & \xrightarrow{\bullet_n \bar{s}} & P_B^{n+1}(gs)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Q_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{e_n} & Q_A^{n+1} \\
 \uparrow s_A^n & & \nearrow g_n \\
 & Q_B^{n+1}(gs) & \uparrow s_A^{n+1} \\
 P_A^n(fs) & \xrightarrow{s_B^{n+1}} & P_A^{n+1}(fs) \\
 \searrow \bullet_n s & & \nearrow \bullet_{n+1} \bar{s} \\
 & P_B^{n+1}(gs) &
 \end{array}$$