

# Cubical Type Theory

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# Synthetic geometry

## Euclid's postulates

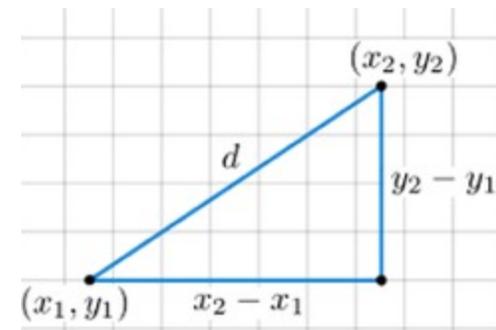
1. **To draw a straight line from any point to any point.**
2. **To produce a finite straight line continuously in a straight line.**
3. **To describe a circle with any center and distance.**
4. **That all right angles are equal to one another.**
5. **Given a line and a point not on it, there is exactly one line through the point that does not intersect the line**

# Synthetic geometry

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## Cartesian



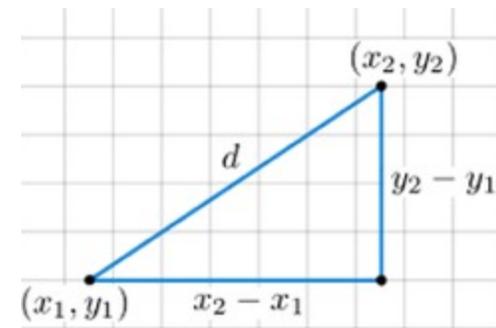
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models  
←

## Cartesian



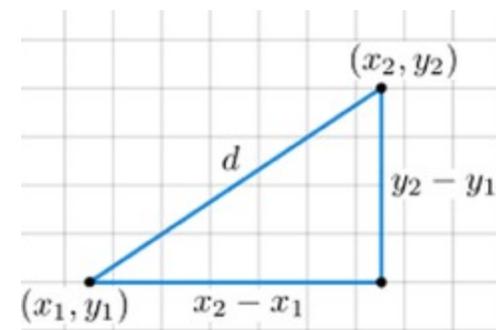
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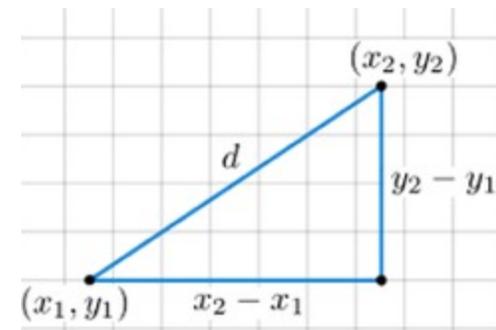
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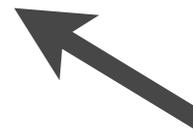
models



## Cartesian



## Spherical



# Synthetic geometry

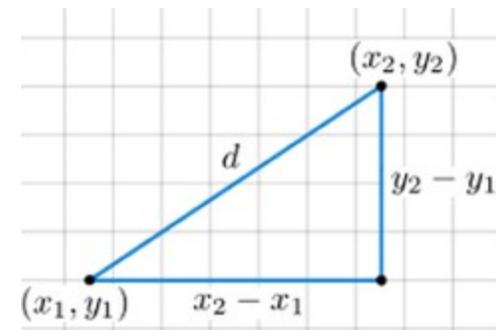
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5. Two distinct lines meet at two antipodal points.

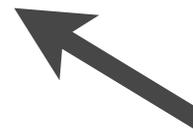
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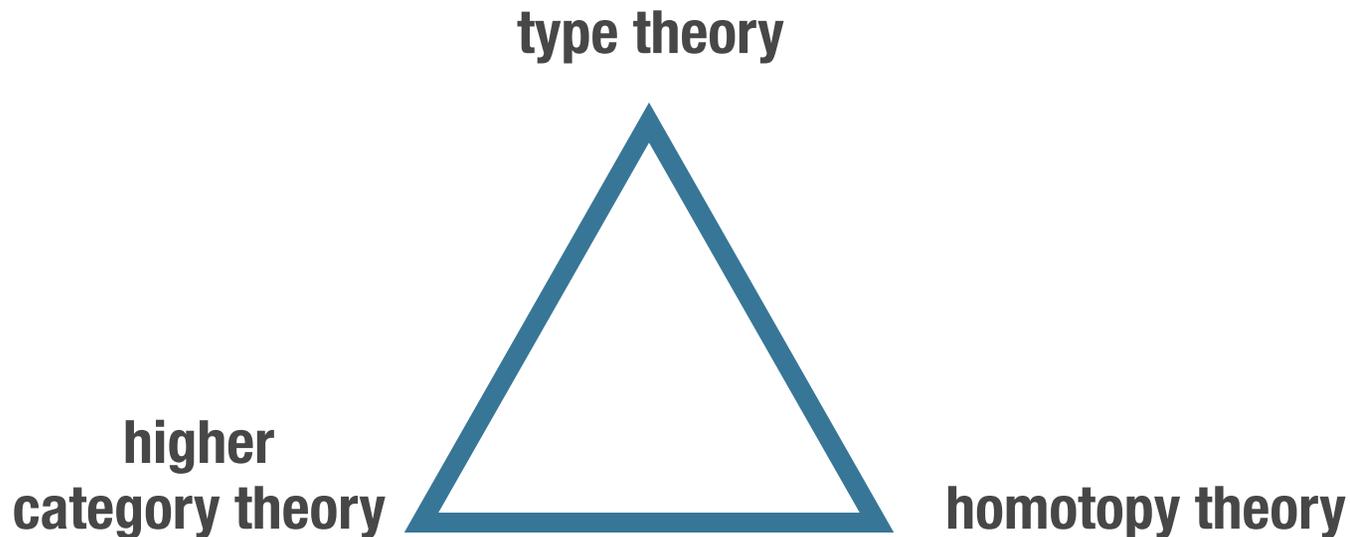
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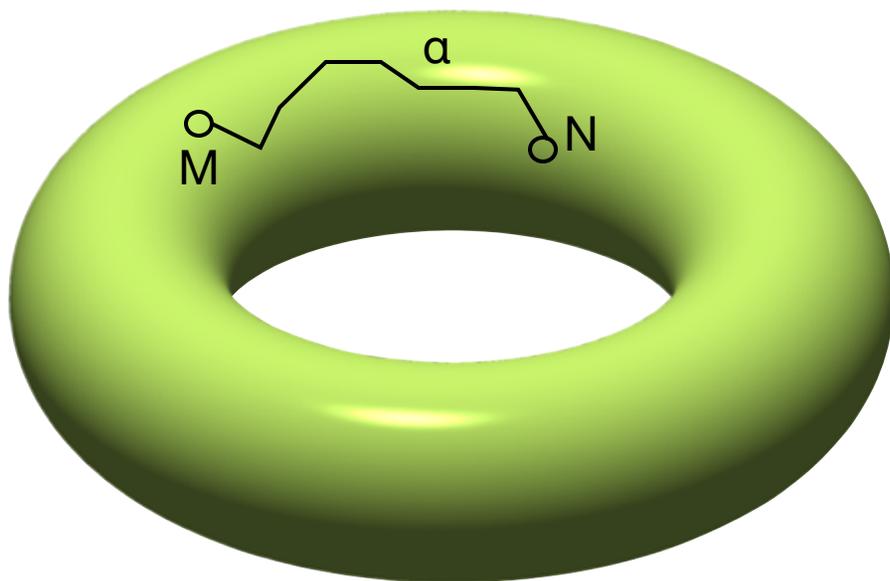
# Homotopy type theory



[Awodey, Warren, Voevodsky, Streicher, Hofmann  
Lumsdaine, Gambino, Garner, van den Berg]

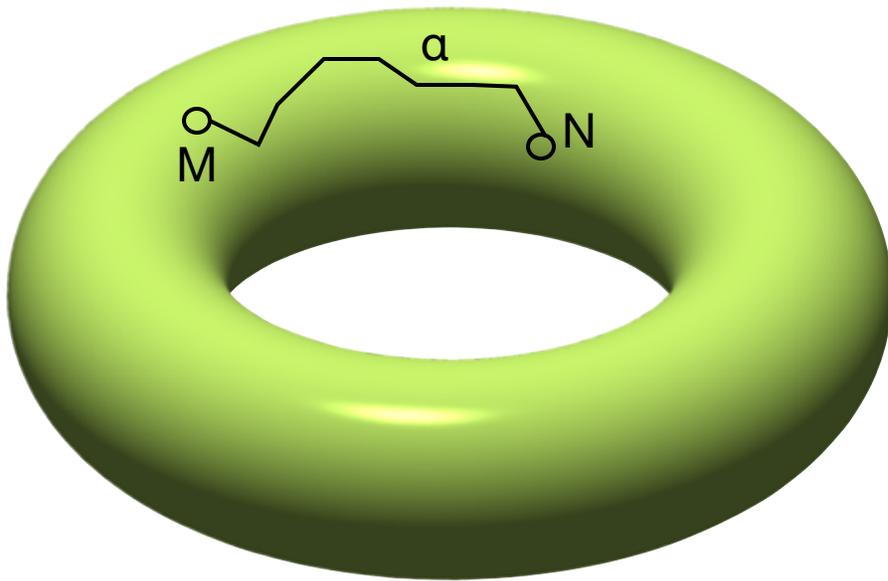
Homotopy type theory is  
a synthetic theory  
of spaces

# Types as spaces



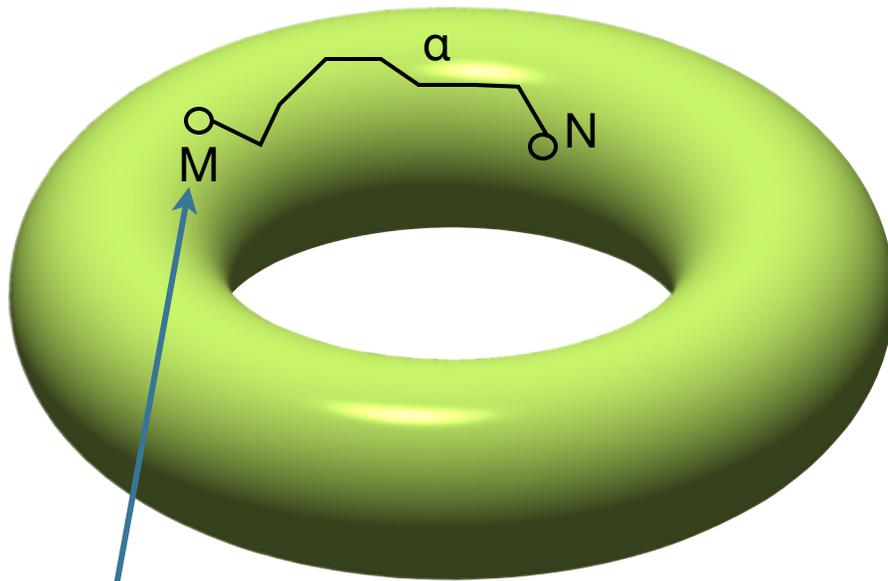
# Types as spaces

**type A is a space**



# Types as spaces

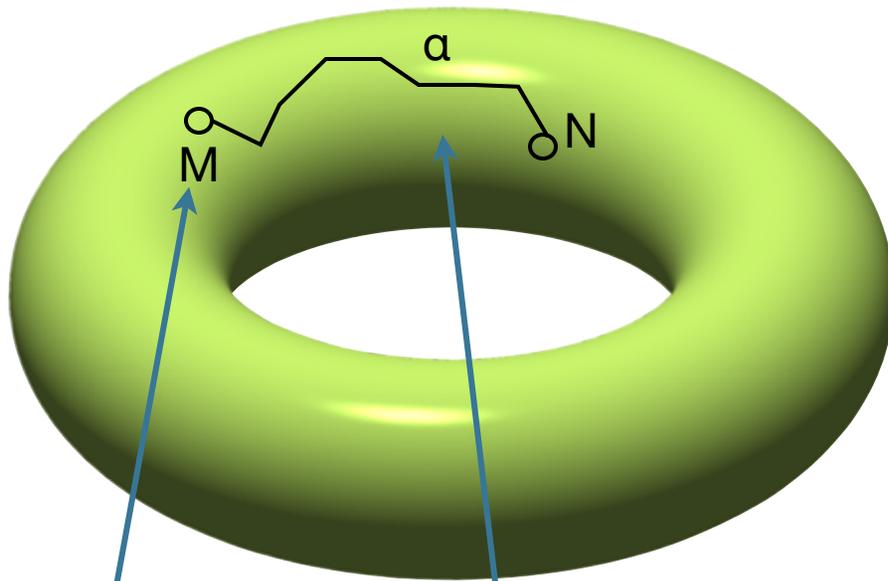
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**programs**  
 **$M:A$**   
**are points**

# Types as spaces

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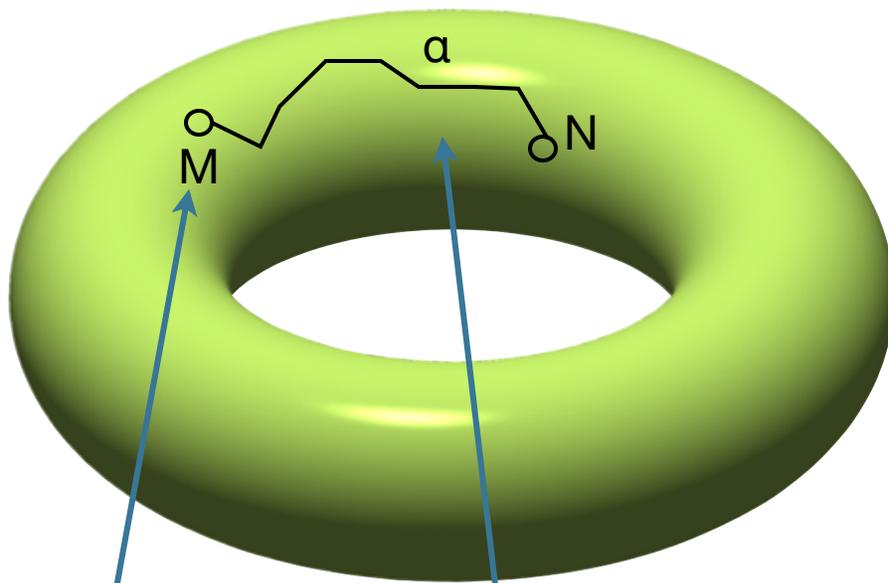
**programs**  
 $M : A$   
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**proofs of equality**  
 $\alpha : M =_A N$   
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**path operations**



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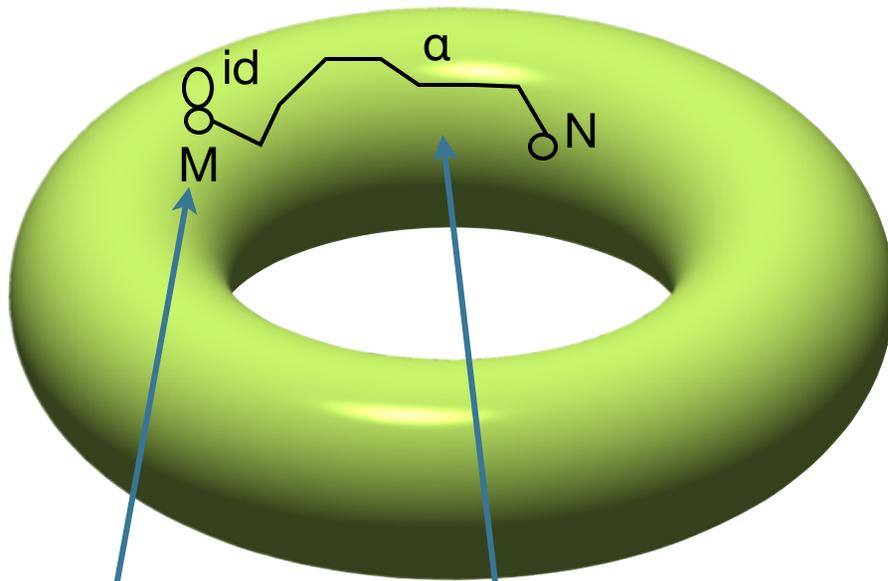
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**path operations**

$\text{id} : M = M \text{ (refl)}$

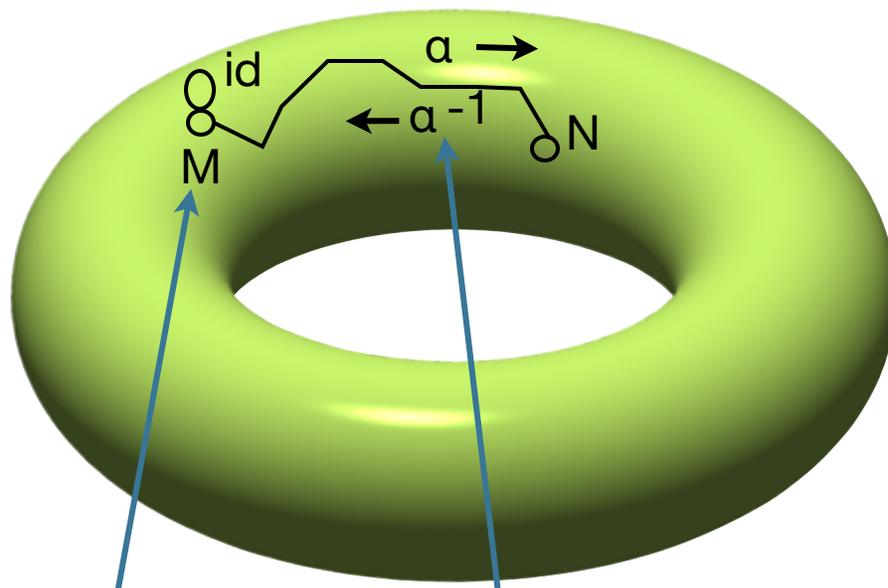


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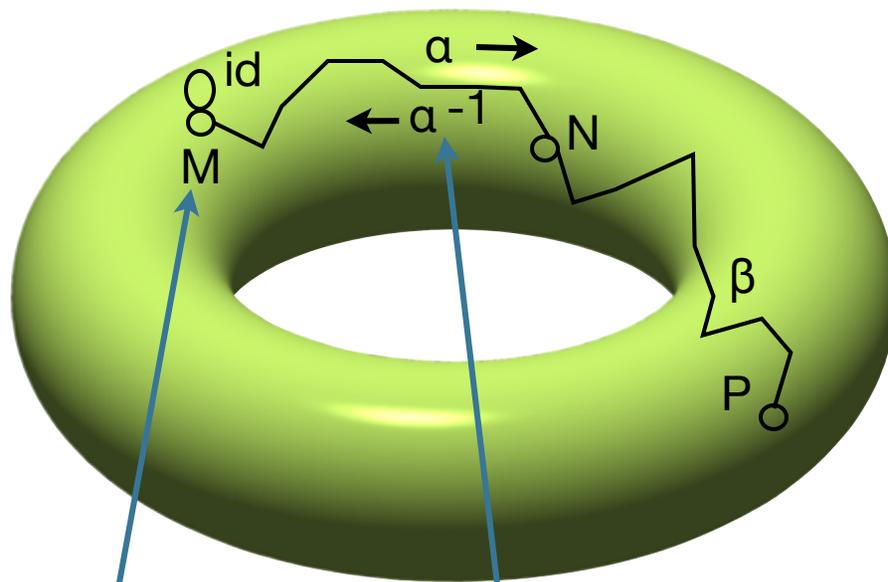
path operations

$\text{id} : M = M$  (refl)

$\alpha^{-1} : N = M$  (sym)

# Types as spaces

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$\beta \circ \alpha : M = P$  (trans)

# Homotopy

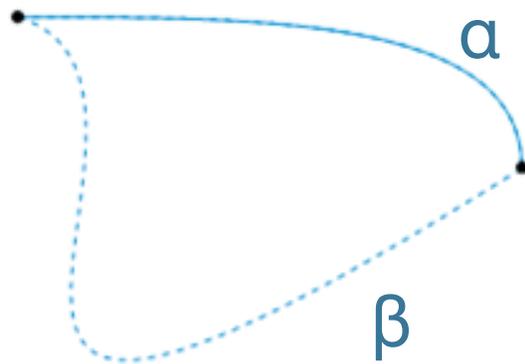
Deformation of one path into another

$\alpha$

$\beta$

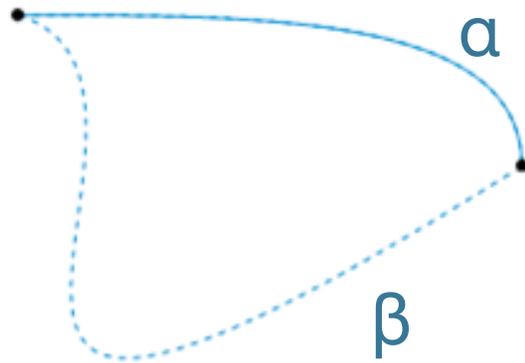
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# Homotopy

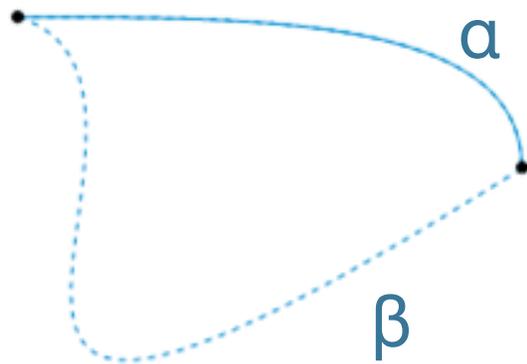
Deformation of one path into another



= 2-dimensional *path between paths*

# Homotopy

Deformation of one path into another

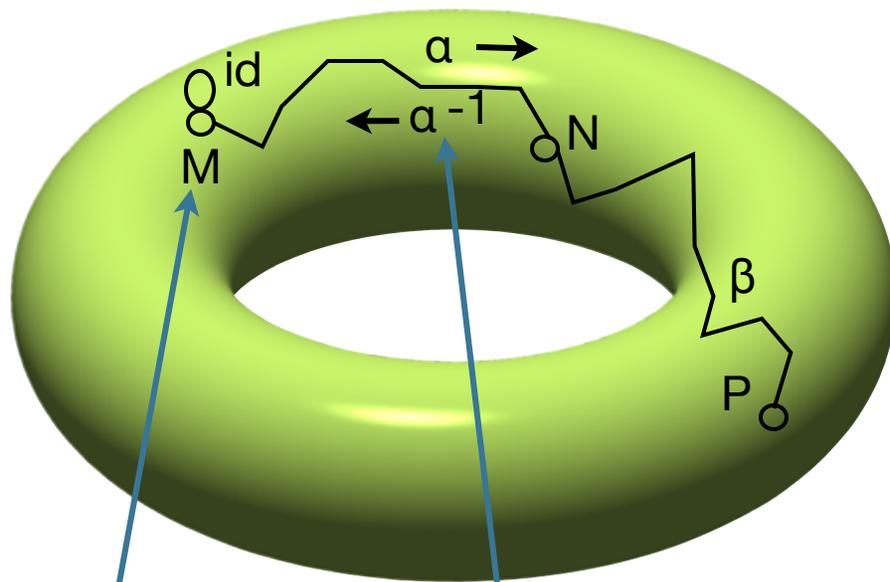


$$\delta : \alpha \stackrel{=_{x=y}}{\sim} \beta$$

= 2-dimensional *path between paths*

# Types as spaces

type A is a space



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$id : M = M$  (refl)

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homotopies

$ul : id \circ \alpha =_{M=N} \alpha$

$il : \alpha^{-1} \circ \alpha =_{M=M} id$

$asc : \gamma \circ (\beta \circ \alpha)$   
 $=_{M=P} (\gamma \circ \beta) \circ \alpha$

# Equality type

$x : A$

$p : x =_A y$

$? : p_1 =_{x=y} p_2$

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Uniqueness of Identity Proofs (UIP)

**Definition** `UIP_` :=

`forall (x y:U) (p1 p2:x = y), p1 = p2.`

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Uniqueness of Identity Proofs (UIP)

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# Proof-relevant equality

$x : A$

$p : x =_A y$

$q : p_1 =_{x=y} p_2$

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# Proof-relevant equality

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$p : x =_A y$

$q : p_1 =_{x=y} p_2$

$r : q_1 =_{p_1=p_2} q_2$

# Proof-relevant equality

$x : A$

$p : x =_A y$

$q : p_1 =_{x=y} p_2$

$r : q_1 =_{p_1=p_2} q_2$

$\vdots$

# Homotopy groups of spheres

$k^{\text{th}}$  homotopy group

n-dimensional sphere

	$\pi_1$	$\pi_2$	$\pi_3$	$\pi_4$	$\pi_5$	$\pi_6$	$\pi_7$	$\pi_8$	$\pi_9$	$\pi_{10}$	$\pi_{11}$	$\pi_{12}$	$\pi_{13}$	$\pi_{14}$	$\pi_{15}$
$S^0$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$S^1$	$\mathbb{Z}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$S^2$	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{12}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_3$	$\mathbb{Z}_{15}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{84} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^2$
$S^3$	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{12}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_3$	$\mathbb{Z}_{15}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{84} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^2$
$S^4$	0	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_{12}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{24} \times \mathbb{Z}_3$	$\mathbb{Z}_{15}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^3$	$\mathbb{Z}_{120} \times \mathbb{Z}_{12} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{84} \times \mathbb{Z}_2^5$
$S^5$	0	0	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{24}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{30}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^3$	$\mathbb{Z}_{72} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$
$S^6$	0	0	0	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{24}$	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{60}$	$\mathbb{Z}_{24} \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^3$
$S^7$	0	0	0	0	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{24}$	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{120}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2^3$
$S^8$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z}_{24}$	0	0	$\mathbb{Z}_2$	$\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}_{120}$

[image from wikipedia]

# Univalence [Voevodsky]

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- \* *Equivalence of types* is a generalization to spaces of bijection of sets

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- \* *Equivalence of types* is a generalization to spaces of bijection of sets
- \* Univalence axiom, roughly:  
all structures/properties respect equivalence

# Univalence

- \* Transporting along an equality is a generic program that lifts equivalences
- \* Can do parametricity-like reasoning about modules
- \* Provides “right” equality for mathematical structures (groups, categories, ...)

# Higher inductive types

[Bauer,Lumsdaine,Shulman,Warren]

*New way of forming types:*

Inductive type specified by generators  
not only for points (elements), but also for paths

# Higher inductive types

- \* Subsume quotient types, which have been problematic in intensional type theory
- \* Direct constructive definitions of spaces and other mathematical concepts
- \* Some nascent programming applications

# Homotopy in HoTT

$$\pi_1(\mathbf{S}^1) = \mathbb{Z}$$

**Freudenthal**

**Van Kampen**

$$\pi_{k < n}(\mathbf{S}^n) = 0$$

$$\pi_n(\mathbf{S}^n) = \mathbb{Z}$$

**Covering spaces**

**Hopf fibration**

**$K(G, n)$**

**Whitehead**

$$\pi_2(\mathbf{S}^2) = \mathbb{Z}$$

**Blakers-Massey**

**for n-types**

$$\pi_3(\mathbf{S}^2) = \mathbb{Z}$$

**Cohomology**

**Mayer-Vietoris**

James

**axioms**

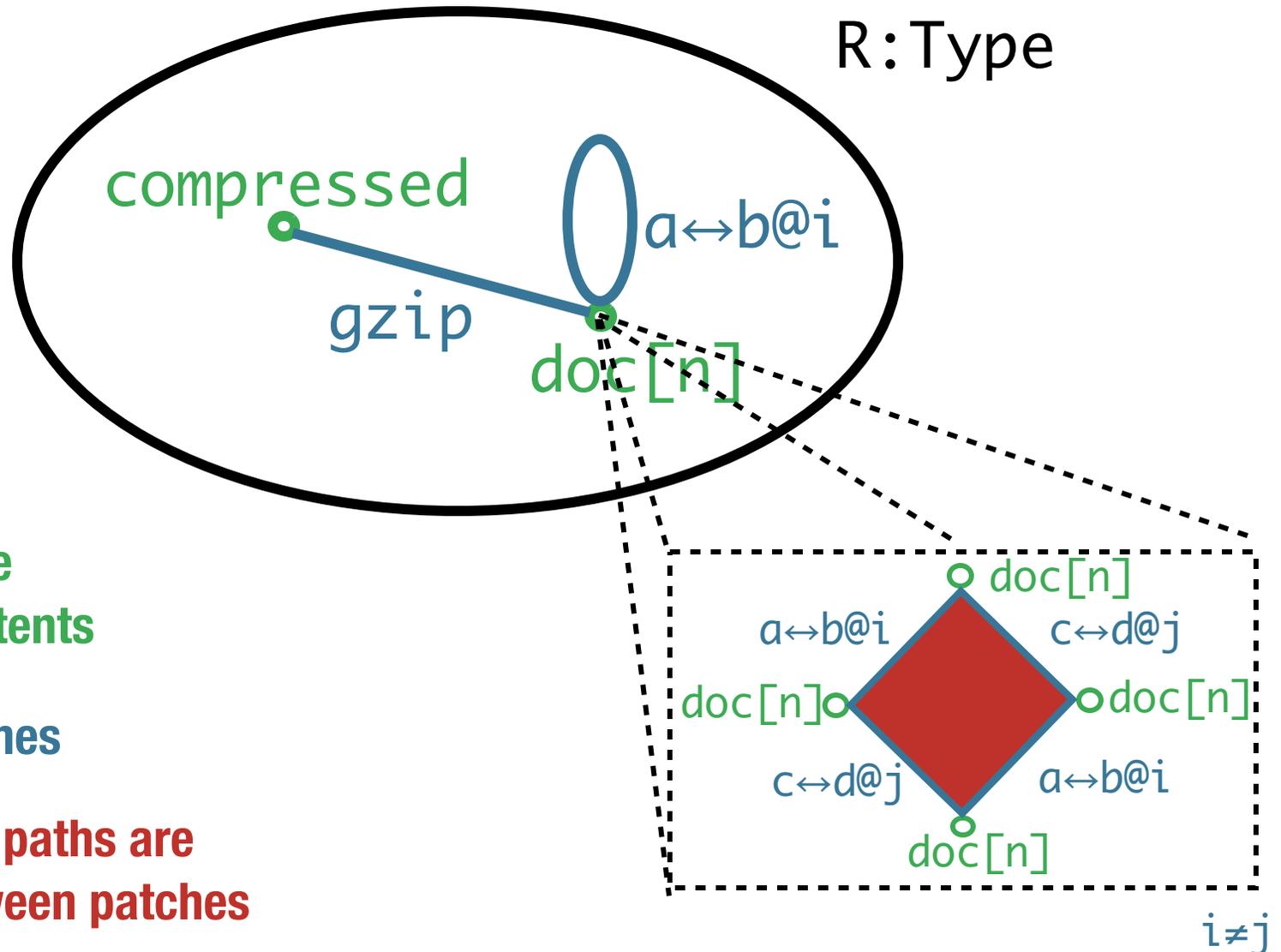
$$\mathbf{T}^2 = \mathbf{S}^1 \times \mathbf{S}^1$$

Construction

$$\pi_4(\mathbf{S}^3) = \mathbb{Z}?$$

**[Brunerie, Cavallo, Finster, Hou, Licata, Lumsdaine, Shulman]**

# A patch theory as a HIT



points describe  
repository contents

paths are patches

paths between paths are  
equations between patches

# Computation

[Coquand, Huber, Bezem, Barras,  
Licata, Harper, Brunerie, Shulman,  
Altenkirch, Kaposi, Polansky...]

- \* Bezem, Coquand, Huber, 2013 gave a constructive model of type theory in Kan cubical sets; evaluator based on this
- \* This work: a syntactic type theory based on these ideas

# Everything Respects Equivalence

# Respect Equivalence

$$\alpha : A \approx B$$

$$\alpha' : A' \approx B'$$

---

$$\alpha \times \alpha' : A \times A' \approx B \times B'$$

# Respect Equivalence

$$\alpha : A \simeq B$$

$$\alpha' : A' \simeq B'$$

---

$$\alpha \times \alpha' : A \times A' \simeq B \times B'$$

$$\alpha \times \alpha' (a:A, a':A') = (\alpha a, \alpha' a')$$

# Respect Equivalence

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$$\alpha \times \alpha' (a:A, a':A') = (\alpha a, \alpha' a')$$

$$(\alpha \times \alpha')^{-1}(b:B, b':B') = (\alpha^{-1} b, \alpha'^{-1} b')$$

# Respect Equivalence

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$$(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha')^{-1}(g : B \rightarrow B') = \alpha'^{-1} \cdot g \cdot \alpha$$

# Respect Equivalence

$$\alpha : A \simeq B$$

$$p_0 : a_0 =_{\alpha} b_0 \quad p_1 : a_1 =_{\alpha} b_1$$

---

$$p_0 =_{\alpha} p_1 : a_0 =_A a_1 \simeq b_0 =_B b_1$$

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$$p : a_0 =_A a_1 \quad \square$$

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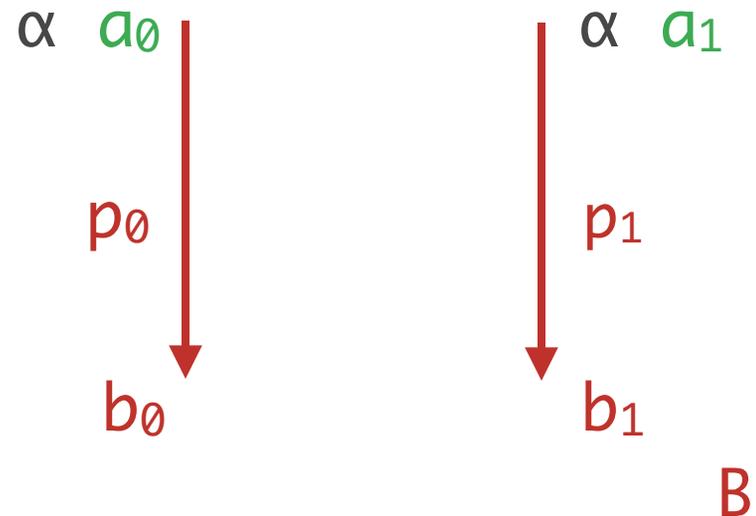
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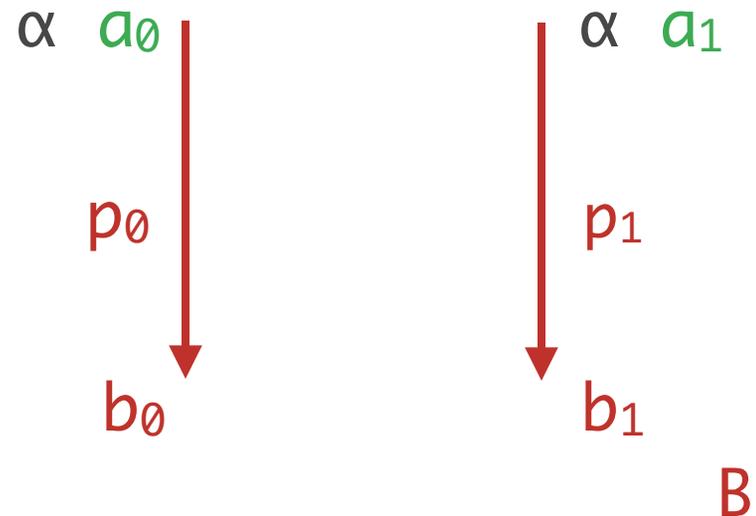

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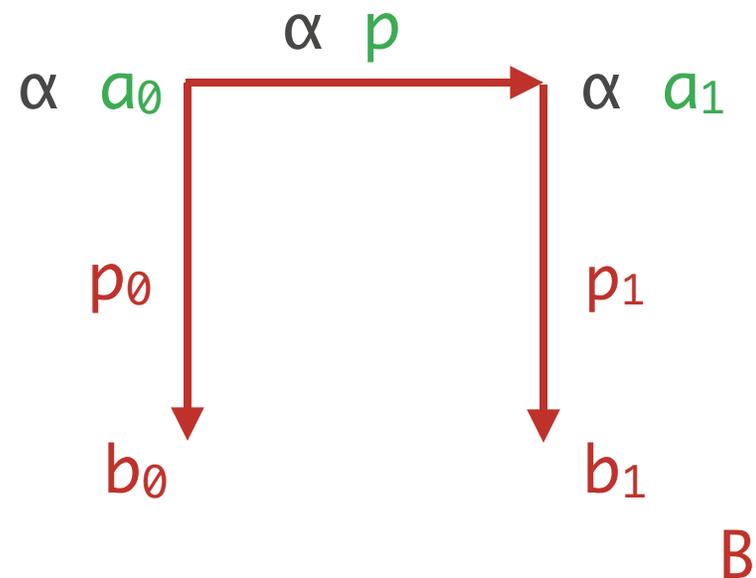

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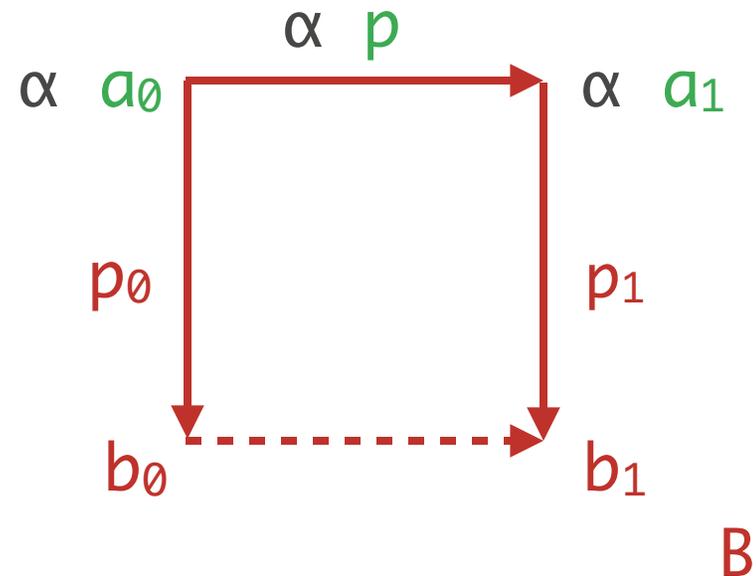

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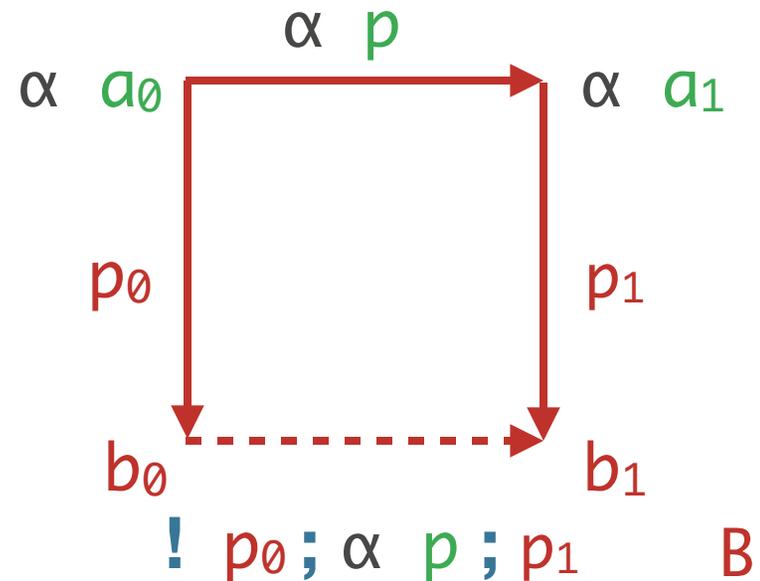

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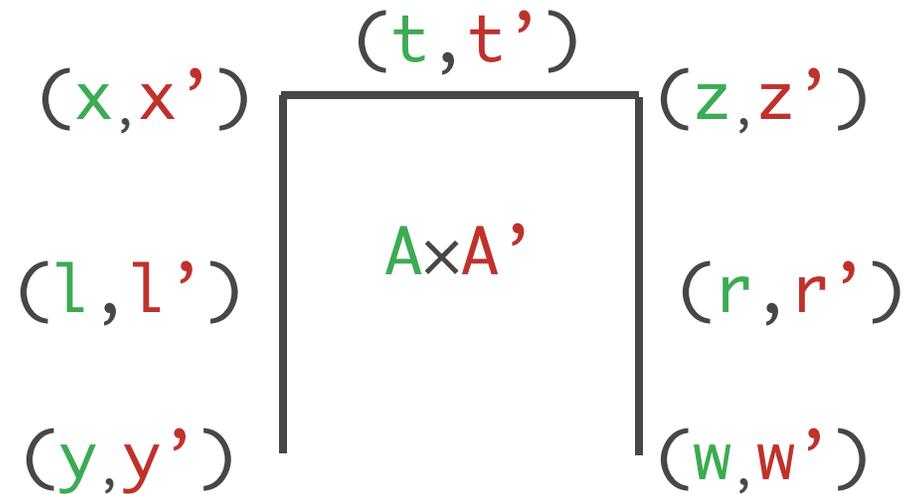
$$\alpha p : \alpha a_0 =_B \alpha a_1$$



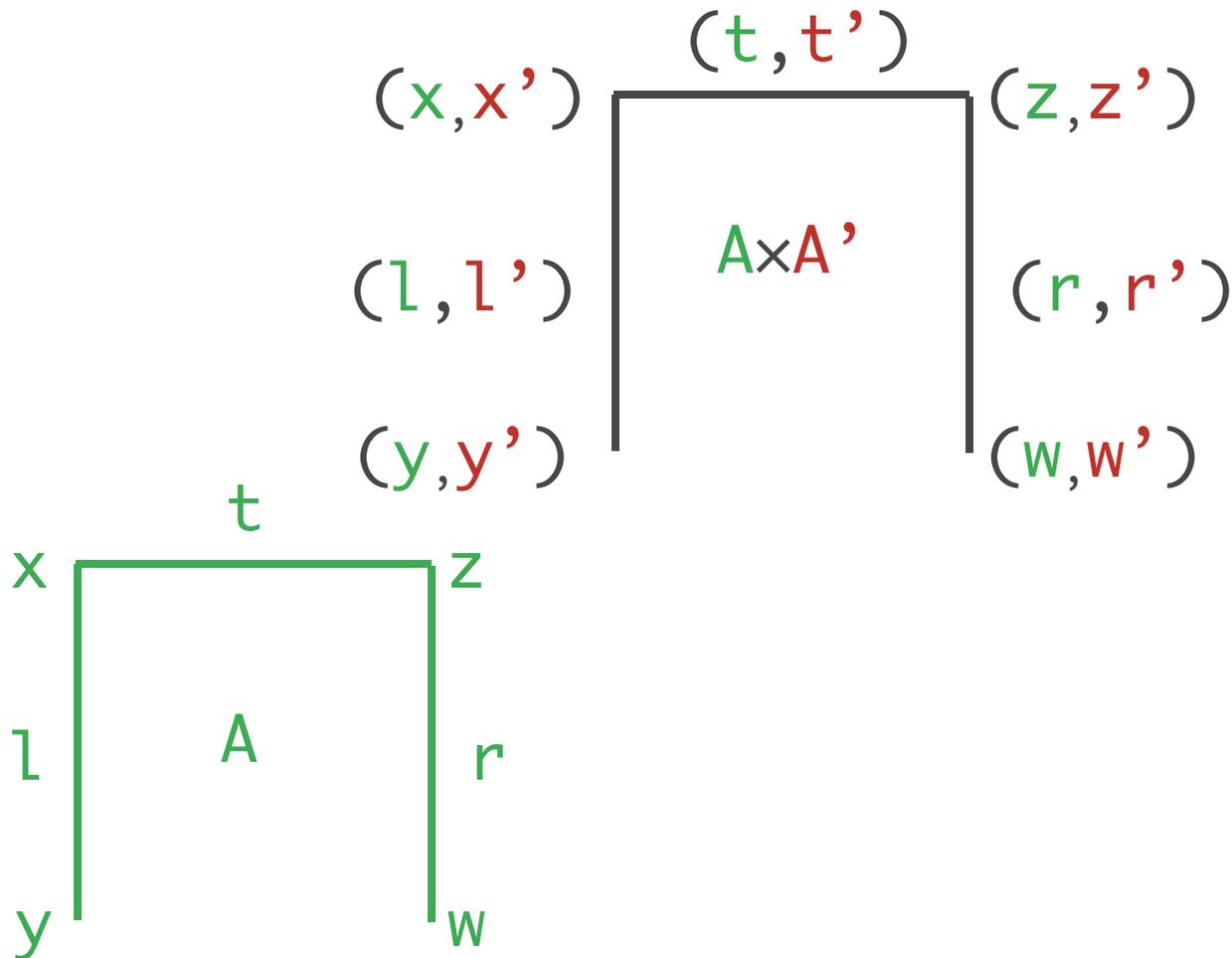
# Missing Sides

$$\frac{p : x =_A y \quad p' : x' =_{A'} y'}{(p, p') : (x, x') =_{A \times A'} (y, y')}$$

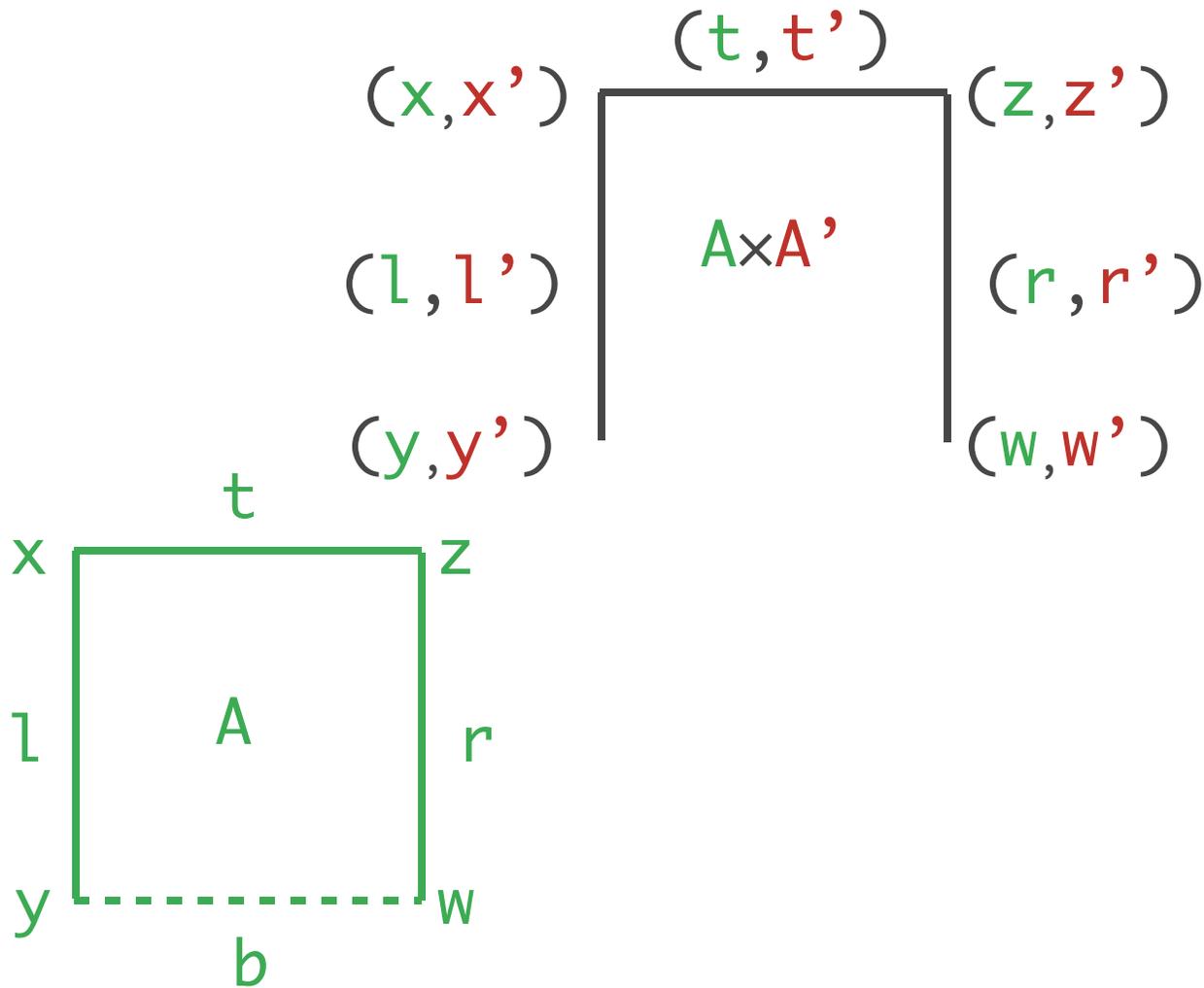
$$\frac{p : x =_A y \quad p' : x' =_{A'} y'}{(p, p') : (x, x') =_{A \times A'} (y, y')}$$



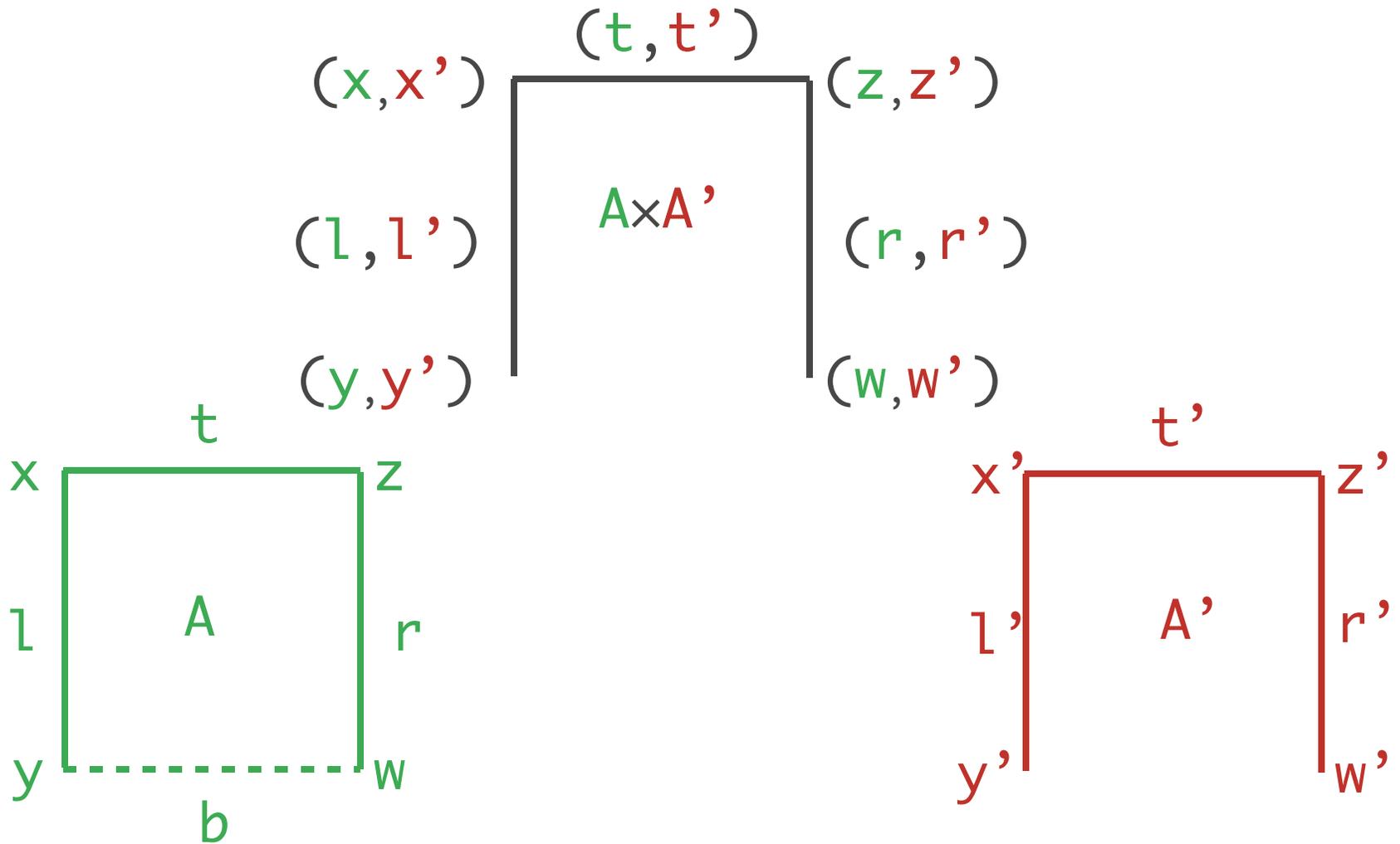
$$\frac{p : x =_A y \quad p' : x' =_{A'} y'}{(p, p') : (x, x') =_{A \times A'} (y, y')}$$



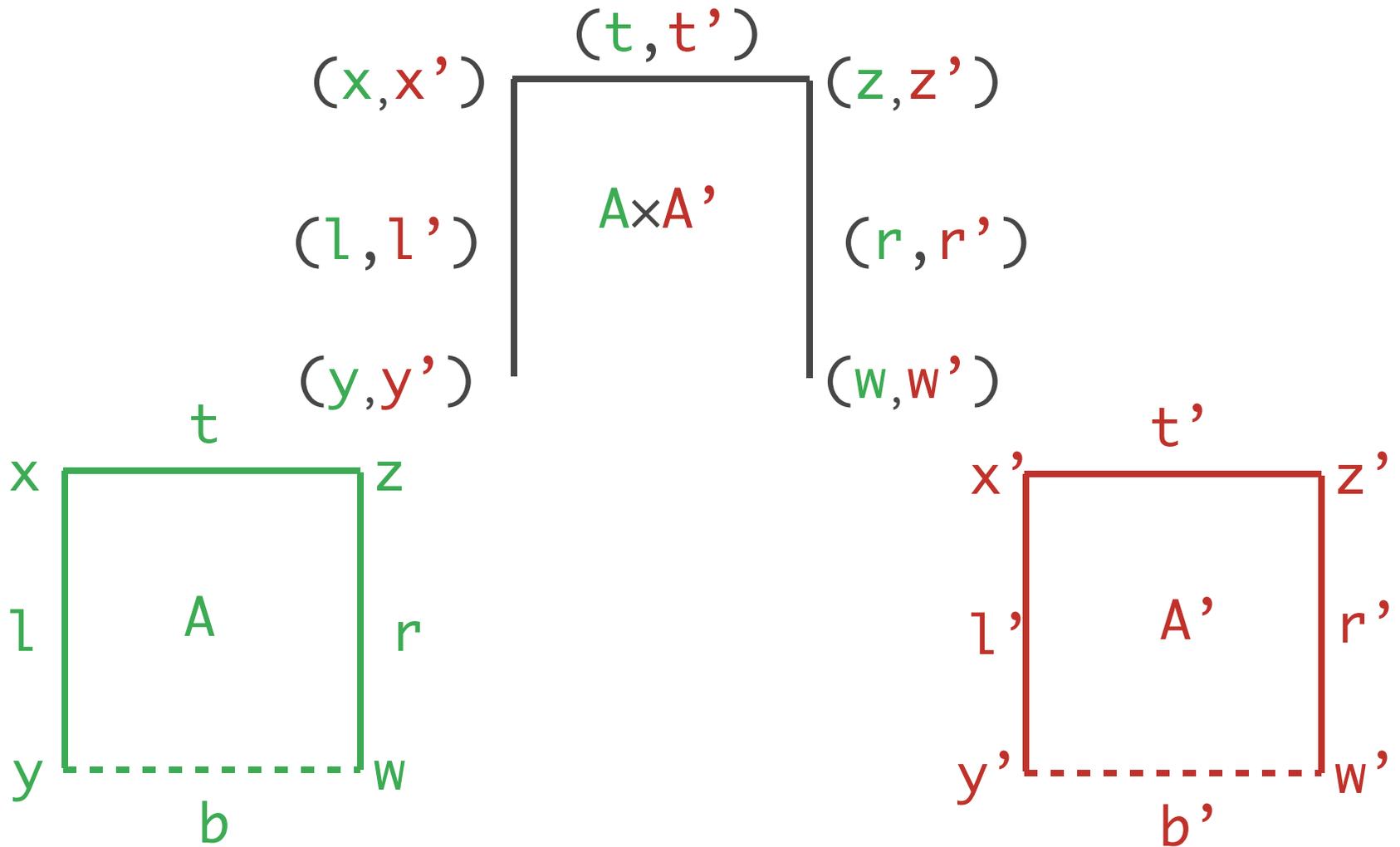
$$\frac{p : x =_A y \quad p' : x' =_{A'} y'}{(p, p') : (x, x') =_{A \times A'} (y, y')}$$



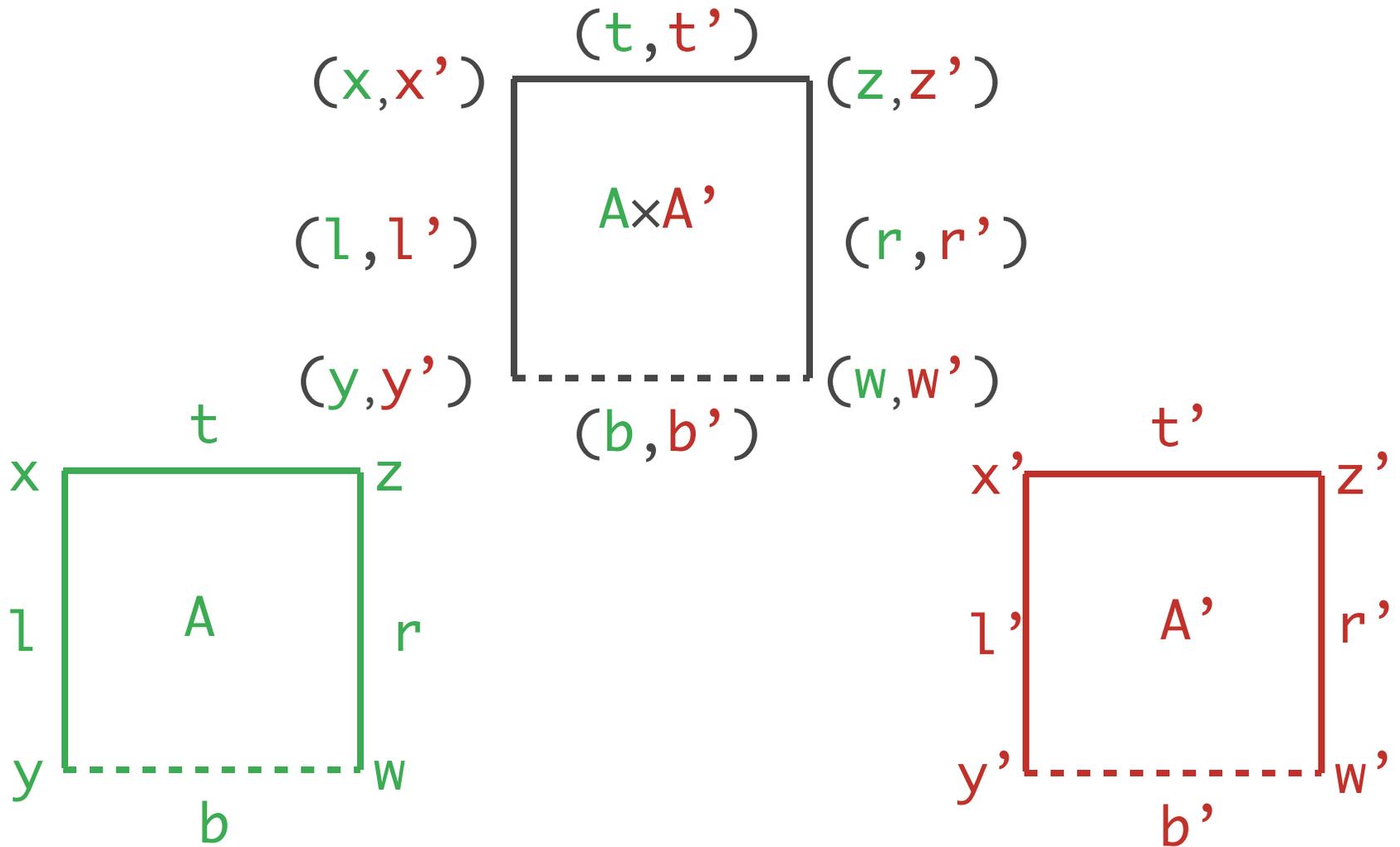
$$\frac{p : x =_A y \quad p' : x' =_{A'} y'}{(p, p') : (x, x') =_{A \times A'} (y, y')}$$



$$\frac{p : x =_A y \quad p' : x' =_{A'} y'}{(p, p') : (x, x') =_{A \times A'} (y, y')}$$

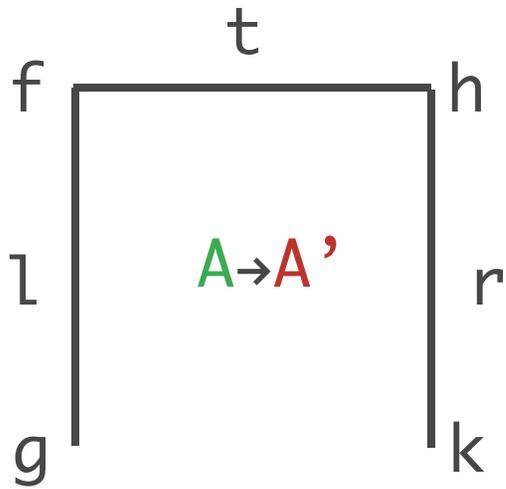


$$\frac{p : x =_A y \quad p' : x' =_{A'} y'}{(p, p') : (x, x') =_{A \times A'} (y, y')}$$

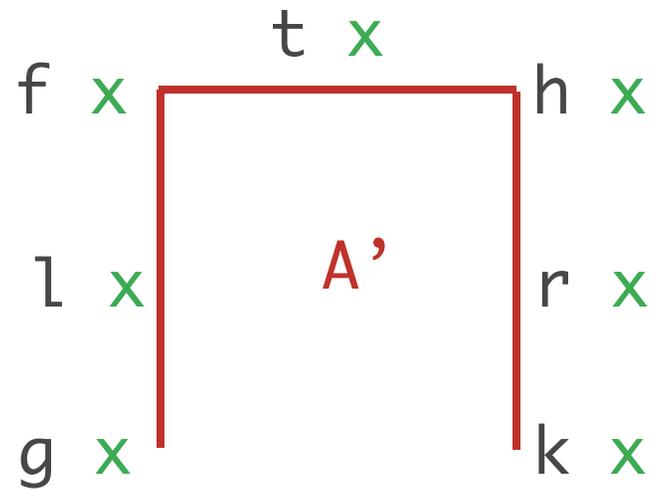
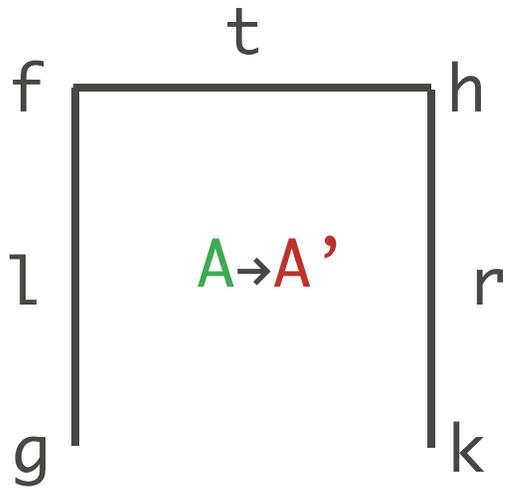


$$\frac{x:A \vdash p : f \ x =_{A'} g \ x}{\lambda x.p : f =_{A \rightarrow A'} g}$$

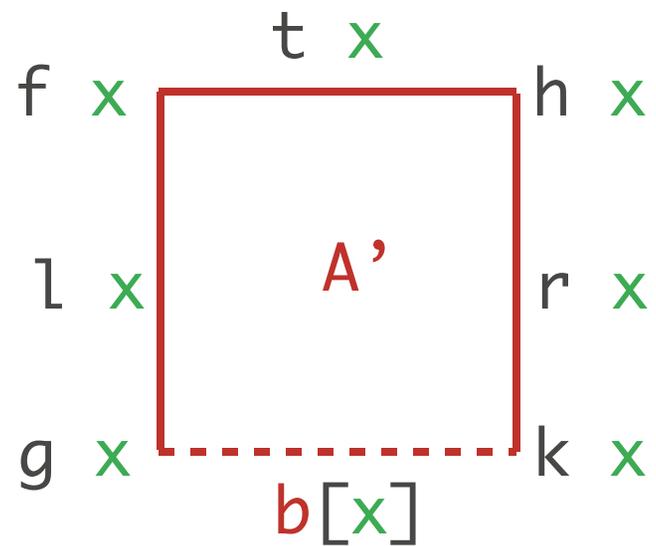
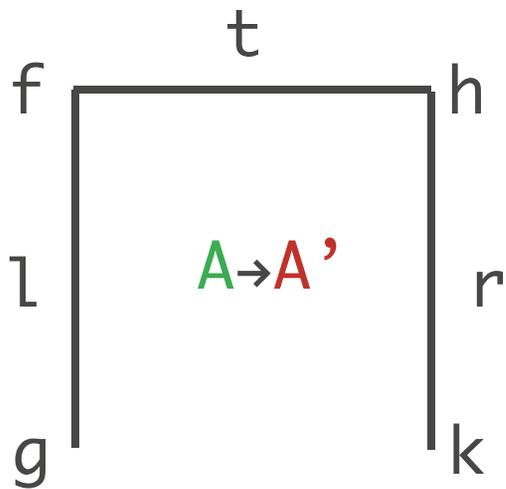
$$\frac{x:A \vdash p : f \ x =_{A'} g \ x}{\lambda x.p : f =_{A \rightarrow A'} g}$$



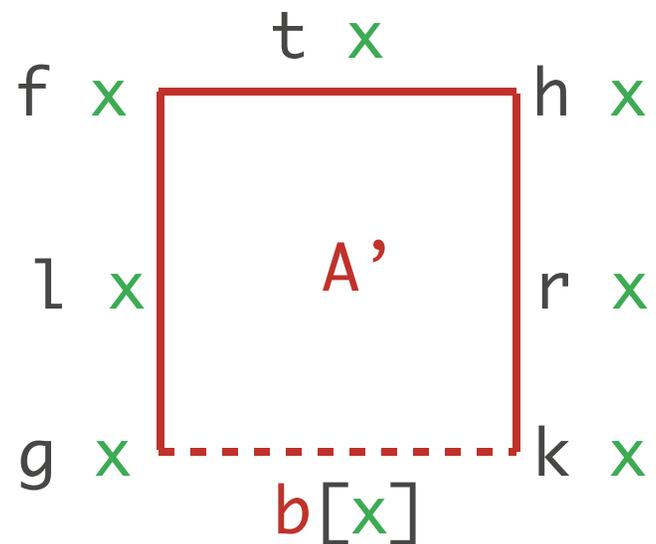
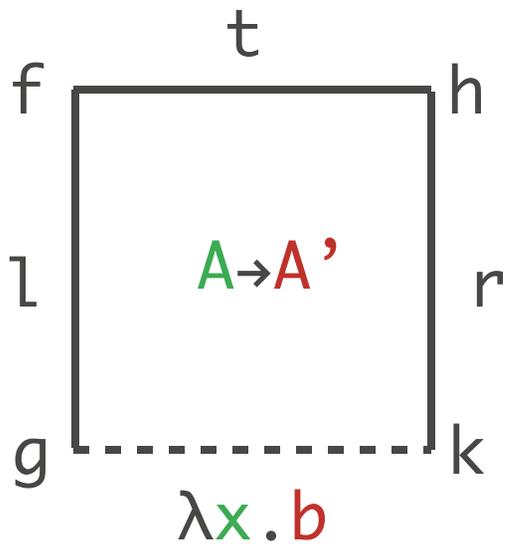
$$\frac{x:A \vdash p : f \ x =_{A'} g \ x}{\lambda x.p : f =_{A \rightarrow A'} g}$$

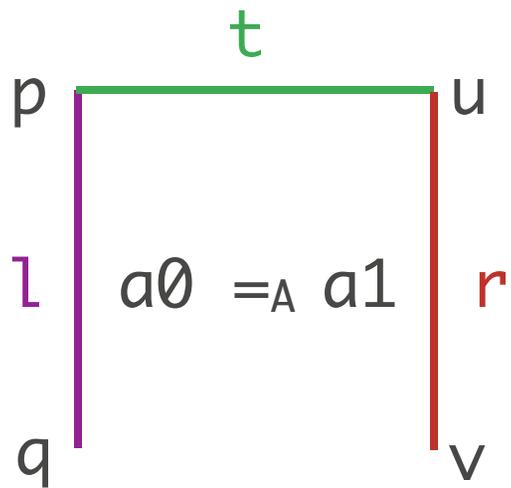


$$\frac{x:A \vdash p : f \ x =_{A'} g \ x}{\lambda x.p : f =_{A \rightarrow A'} g}$$



$$\frac{x:A \vdash p : f \ x =_{A'} g \ x}{\lambda x.p : f =_{A \rightarrow A'} g}$$



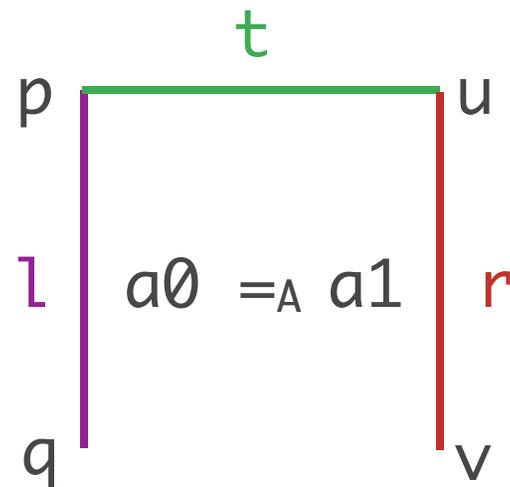
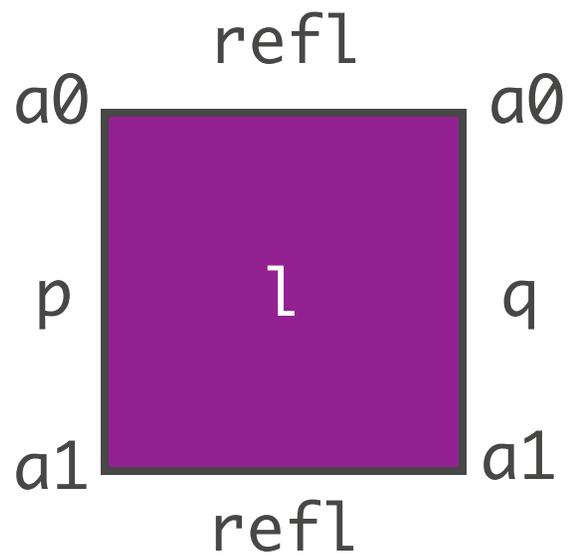


$p \ q \ u \ v : a0 =_A a1$

$l : p =_{a0=a1} q$

$t : p =_{a0=a1} u$

$r : u =_{a0=a1} v$

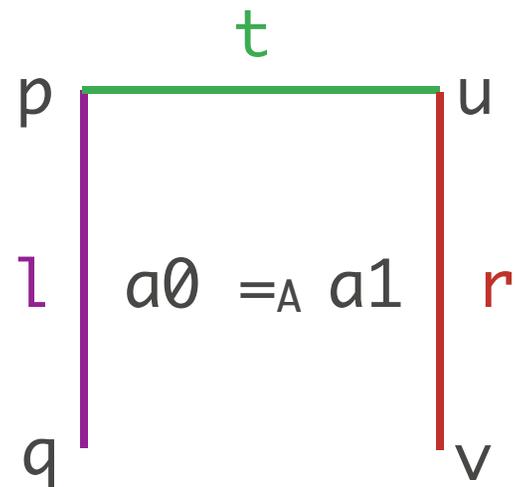
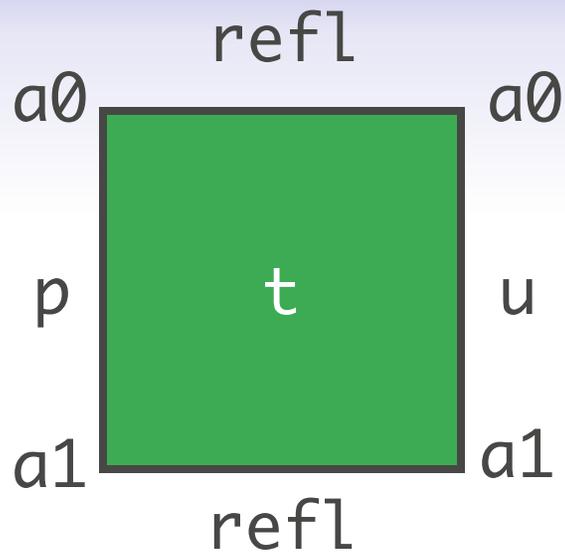
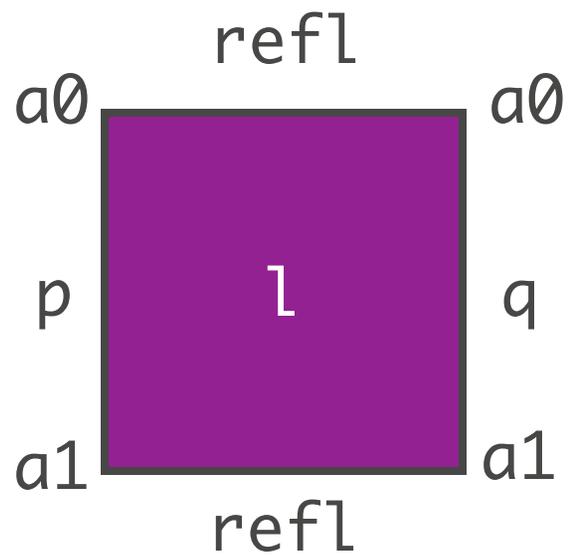


$p \ q \ u \ v : a0 =_A a1$

$l : p =_{a0=a1} q$

$t : p =_{a0=a1} u$

$r : u =_{a0=a1} v$

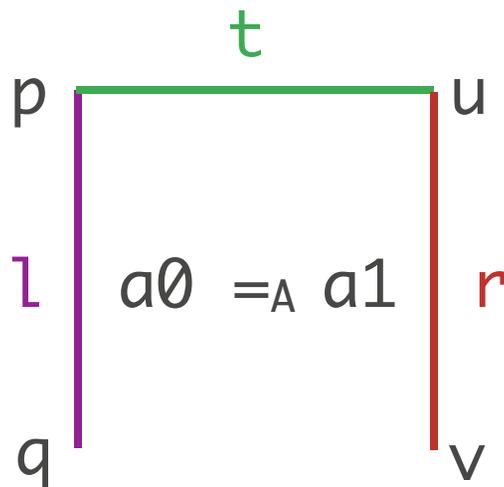
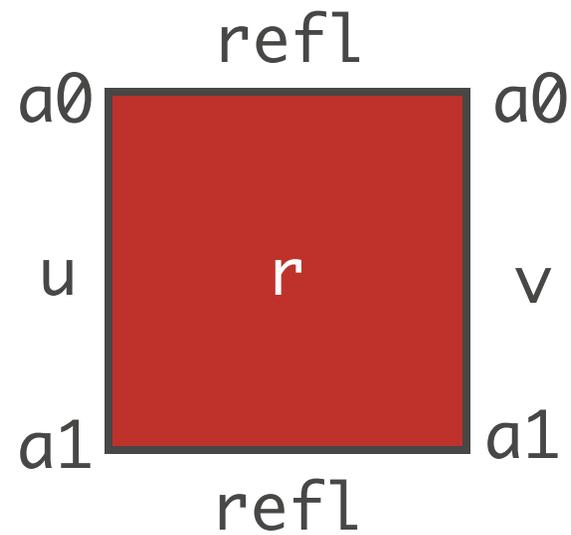
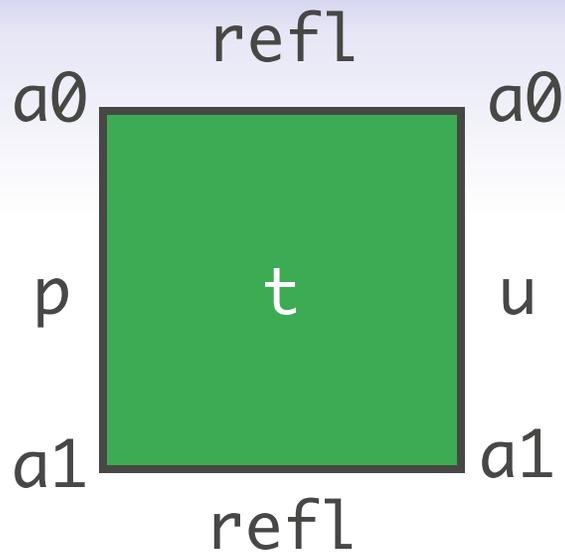
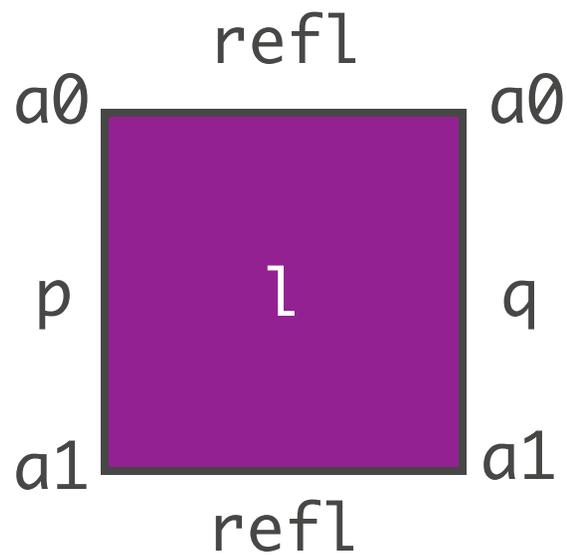


$p \ q \ u \ v : a0 =_A a1$

$l : p =_{a0=a1} q$

$t : p =_{a0=a1} u$

$r : u =_{a0=a1} v$

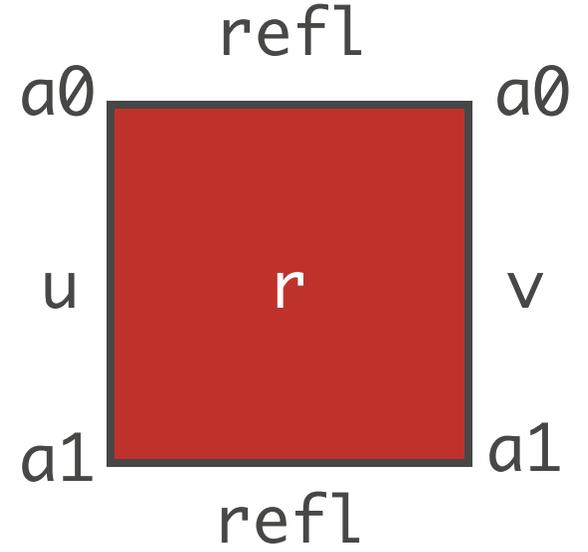
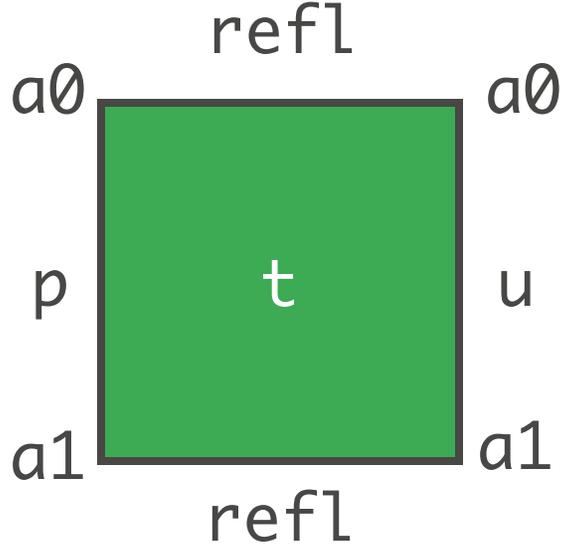
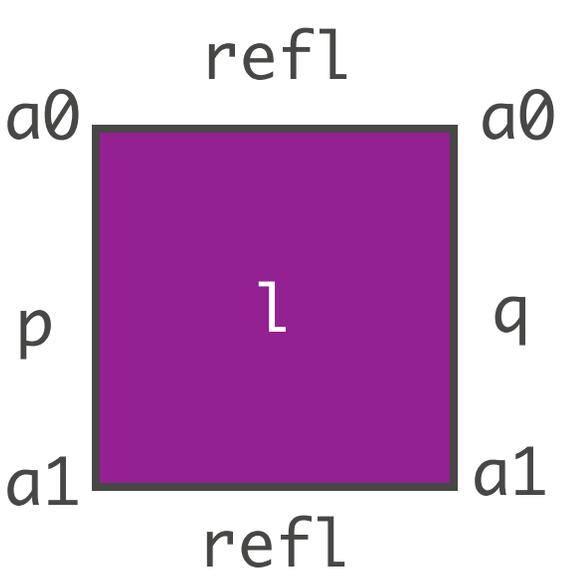
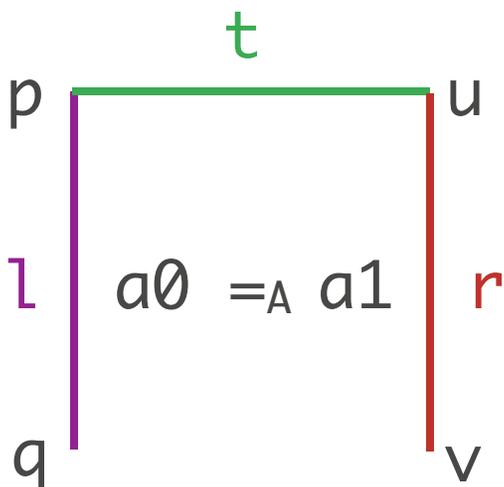


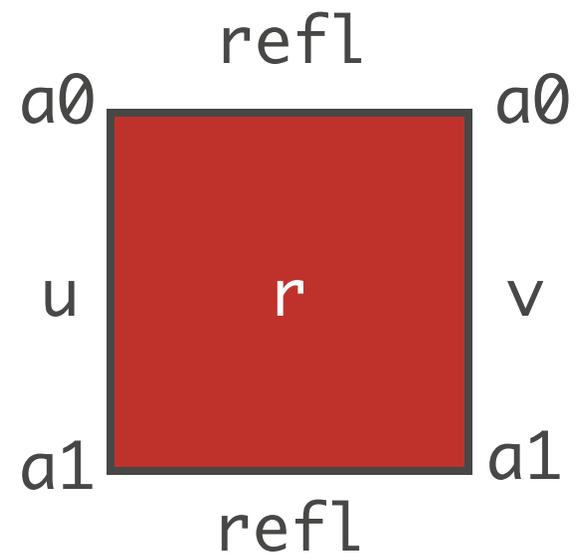
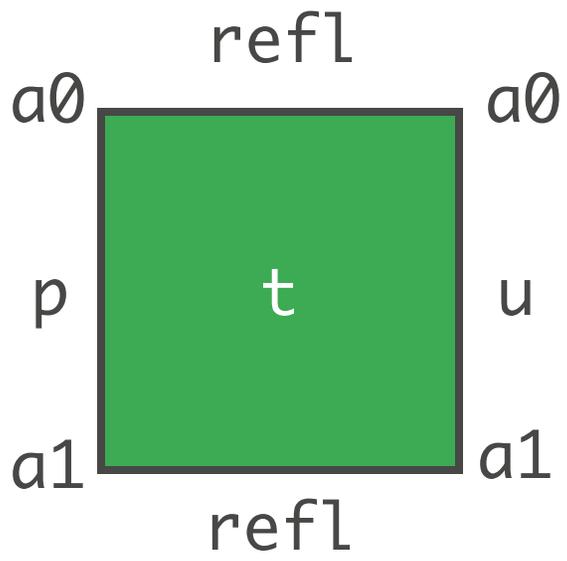
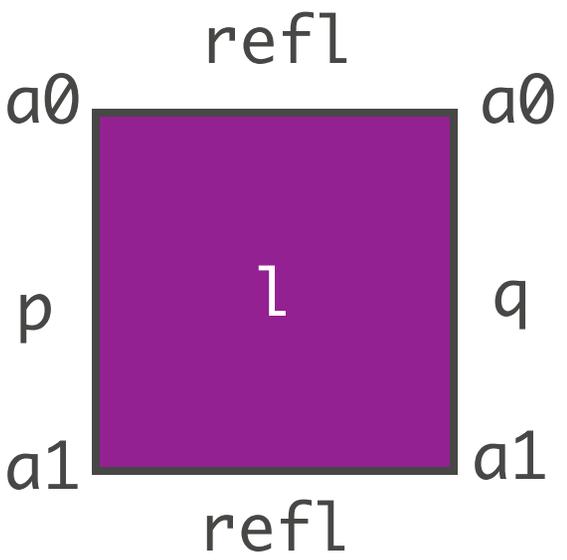
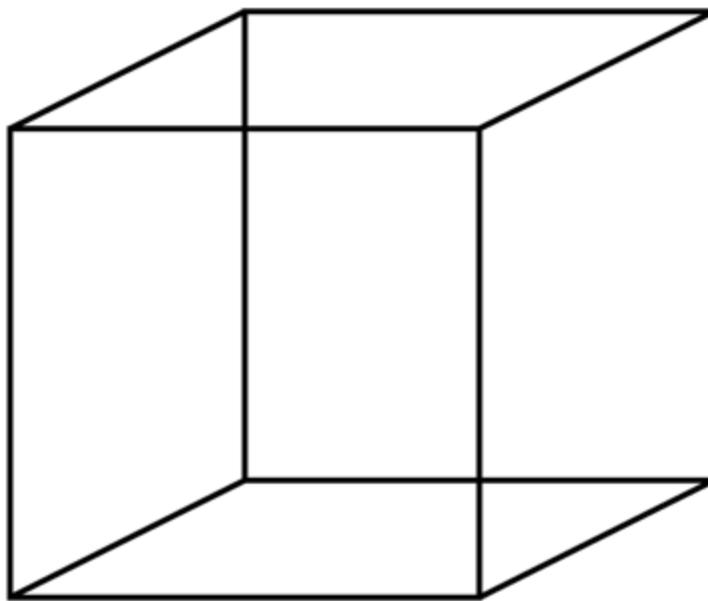
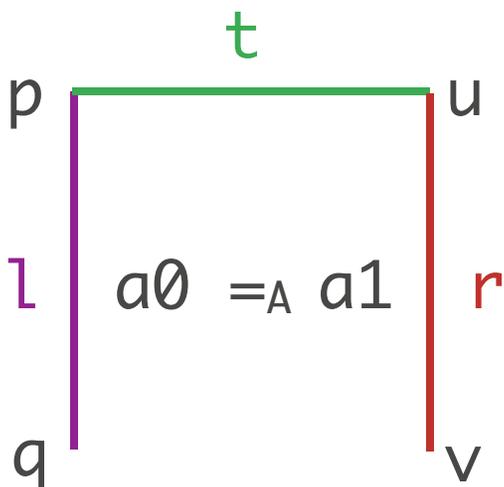
$p \ q \ u \ v : a_0 =_A a_1$

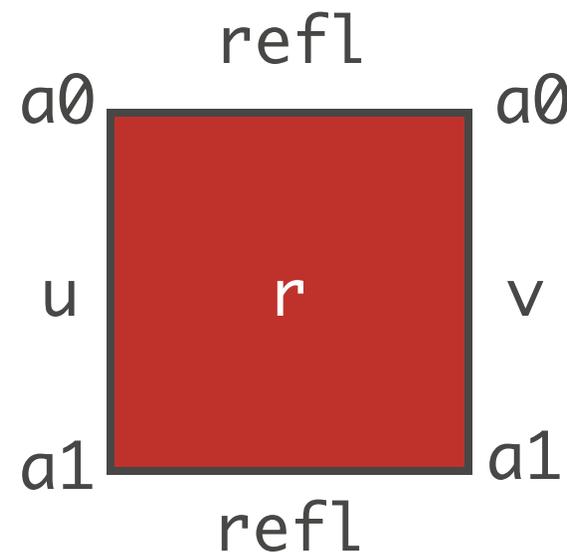
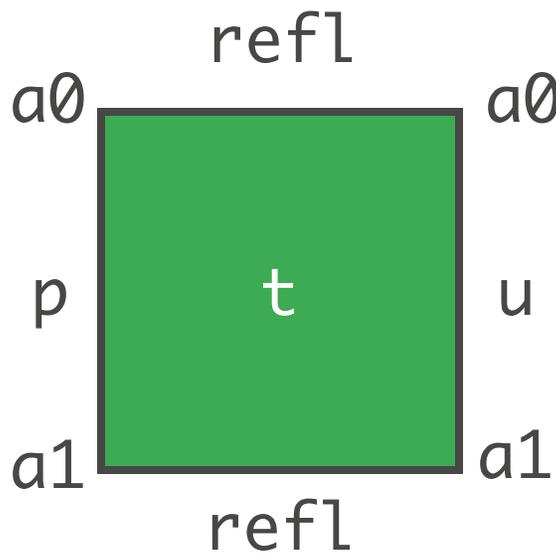
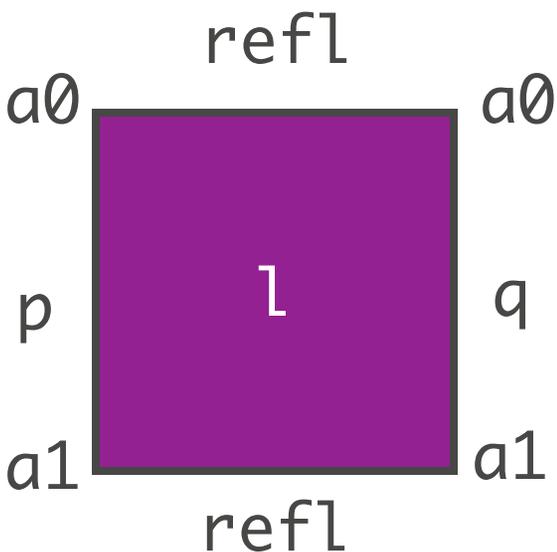
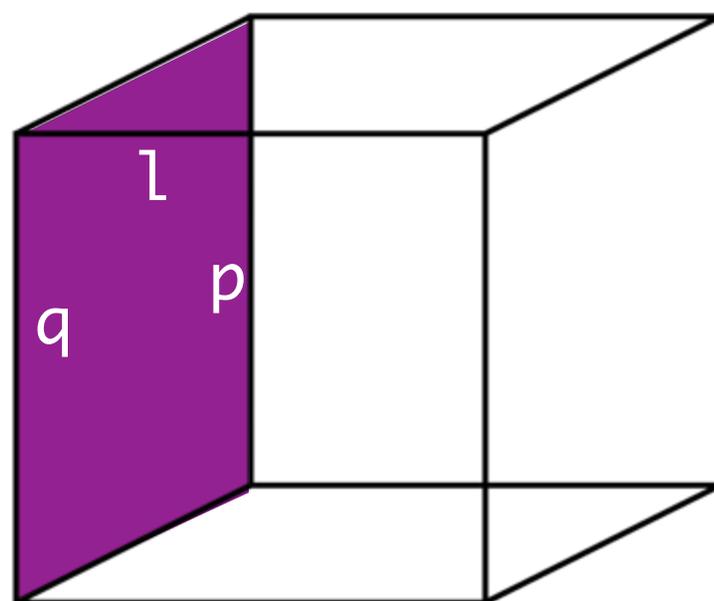
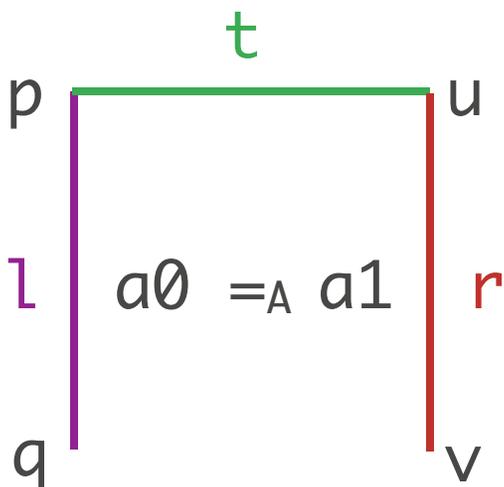
$l : p =_{a_0=a_1} q$

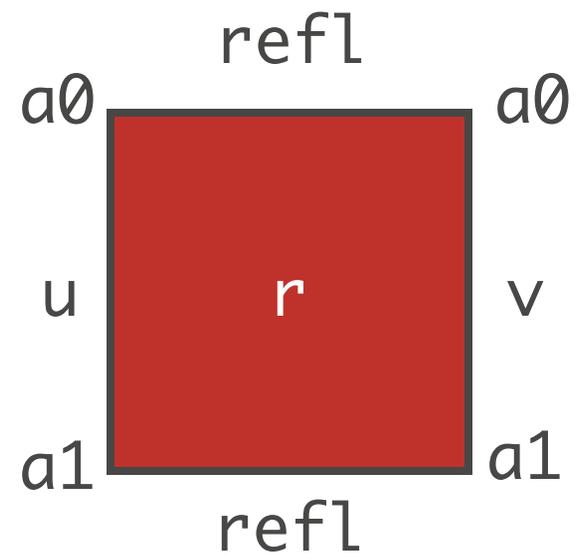
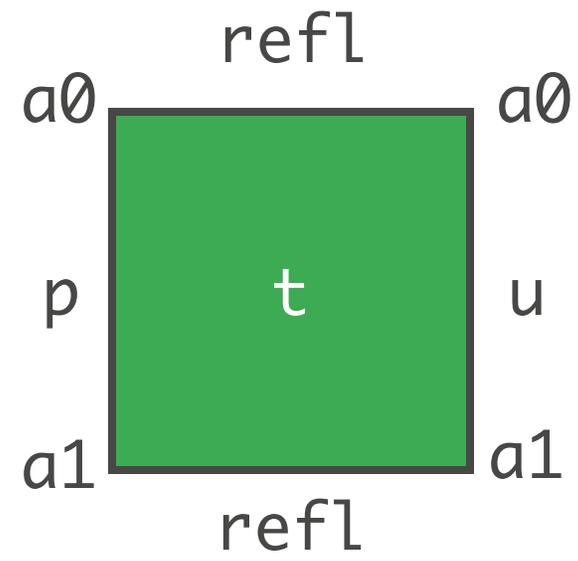
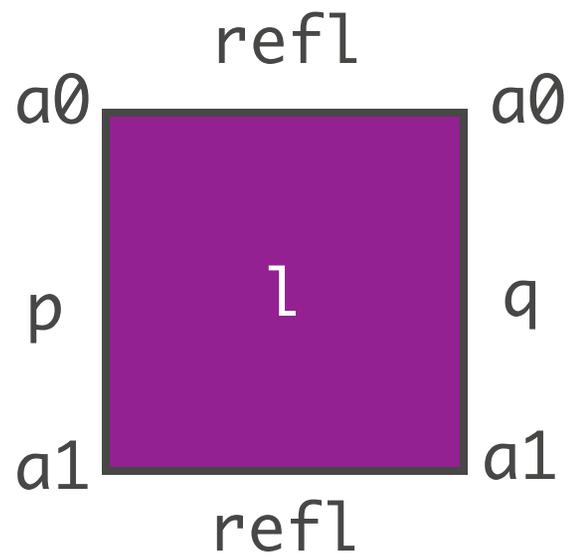
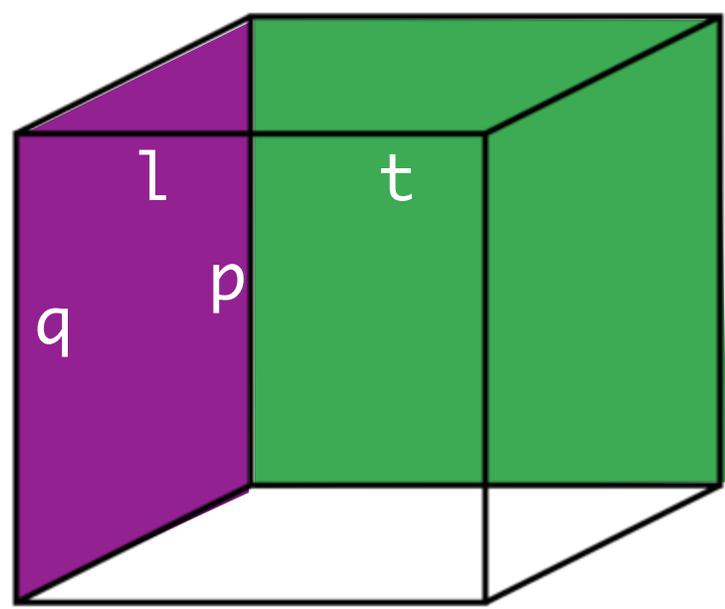
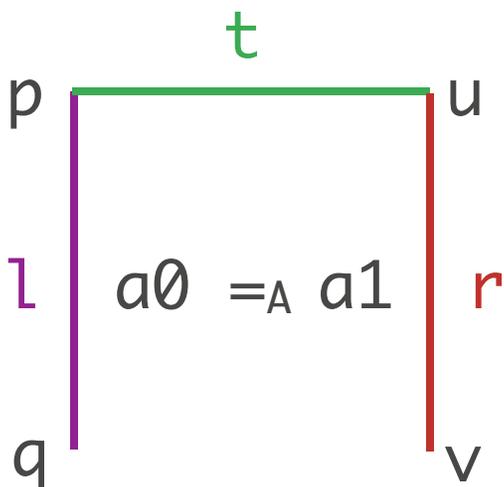
$t : p =_{a_0=a_1} u$

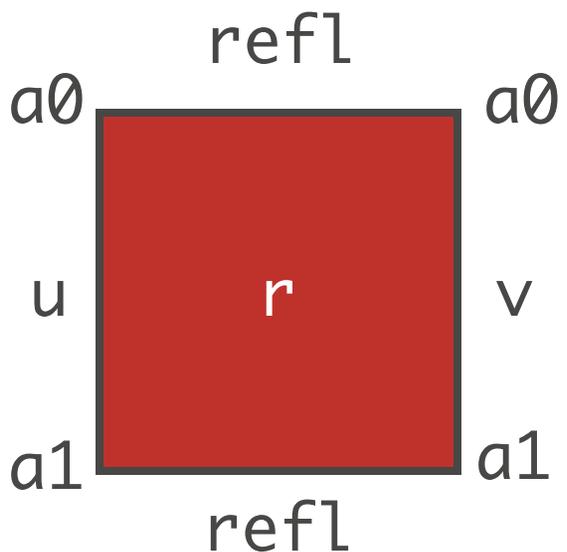
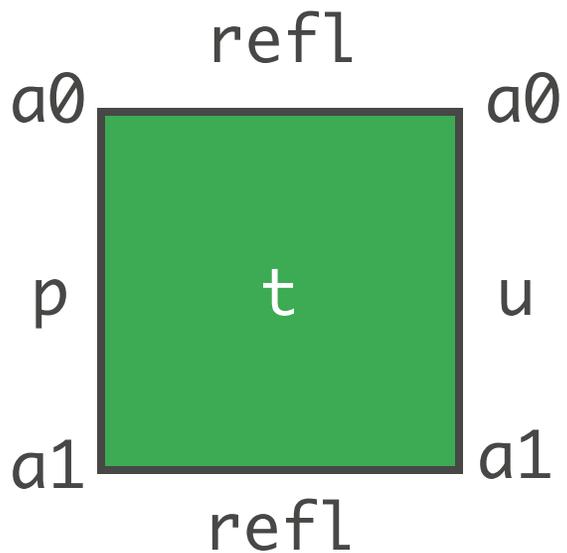
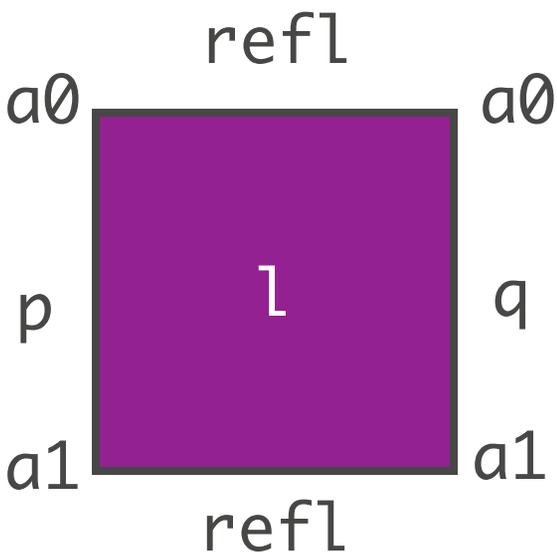
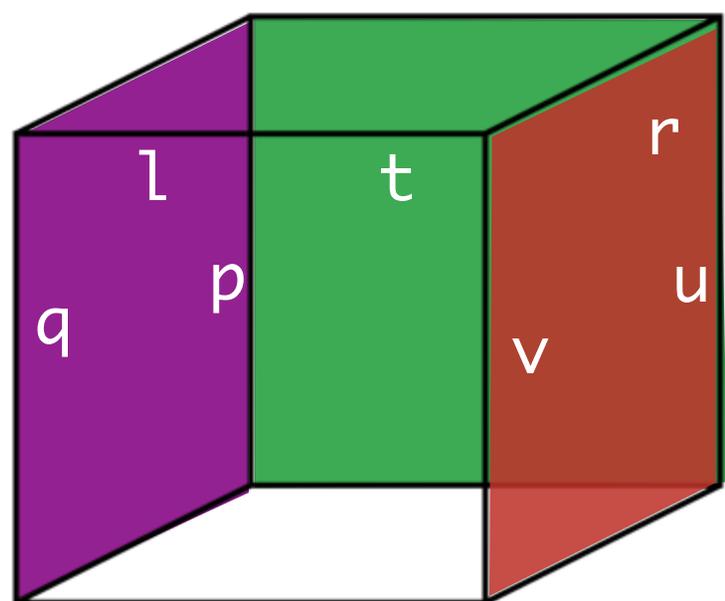
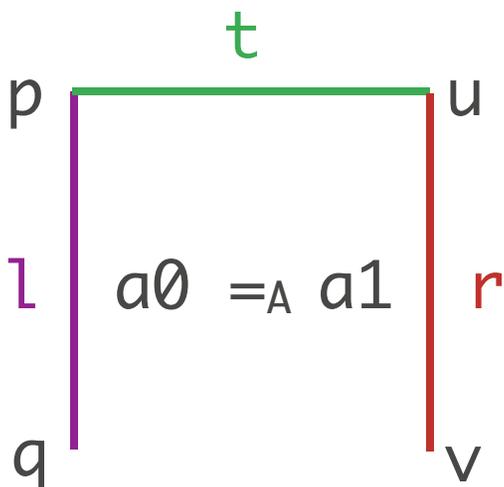
$r : u =_{a_0=a_1} v$

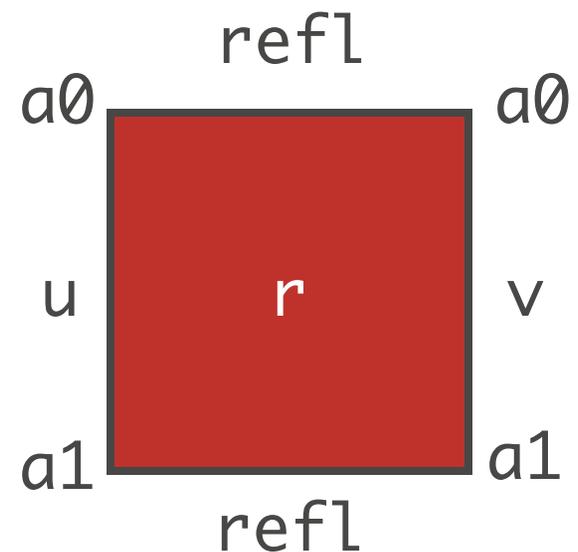
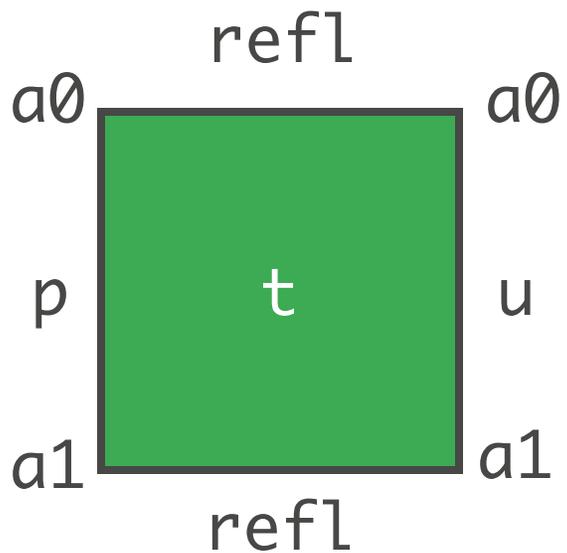
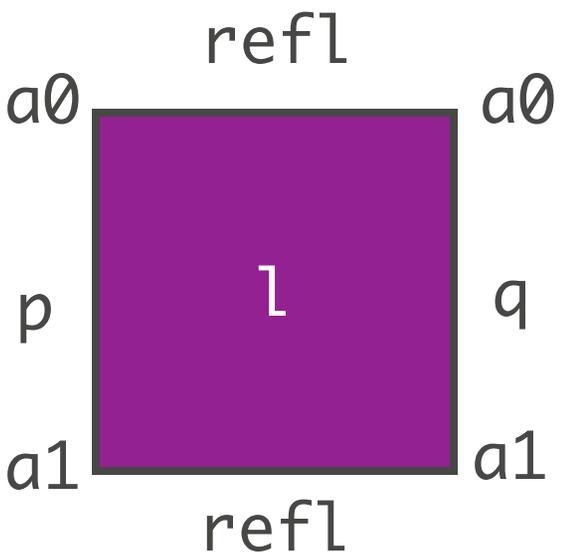
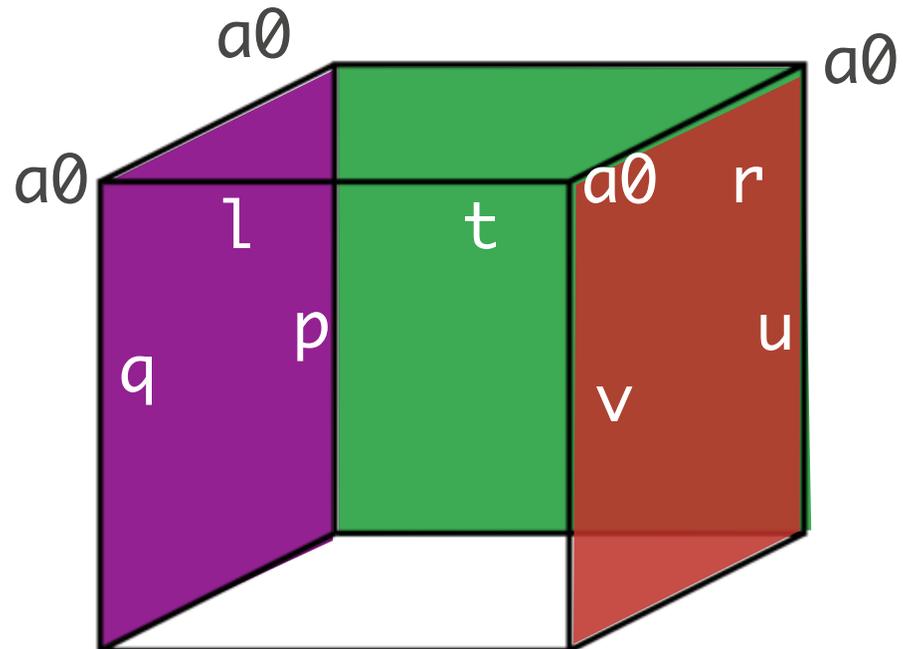
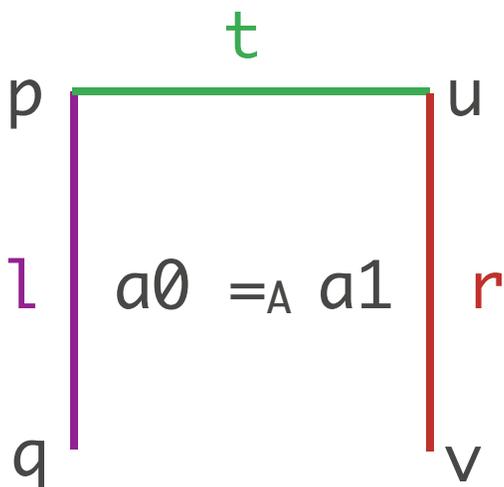


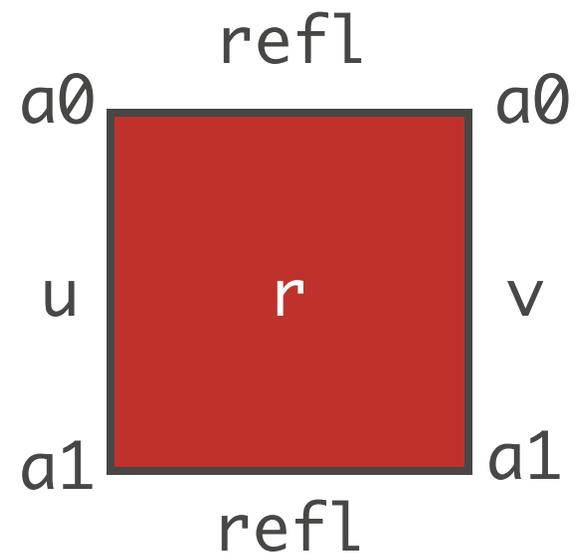
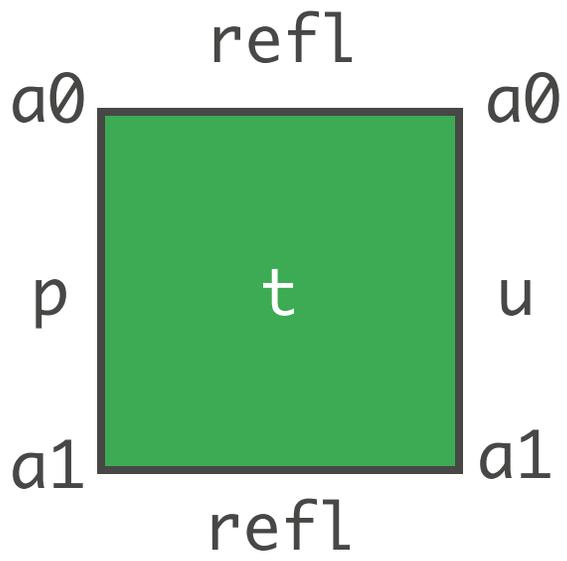
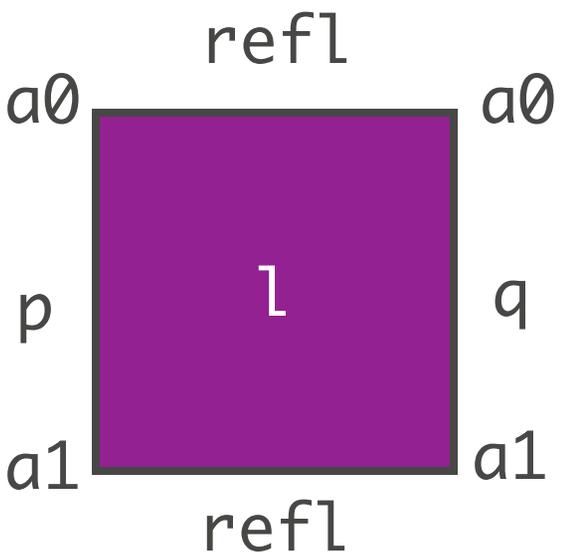
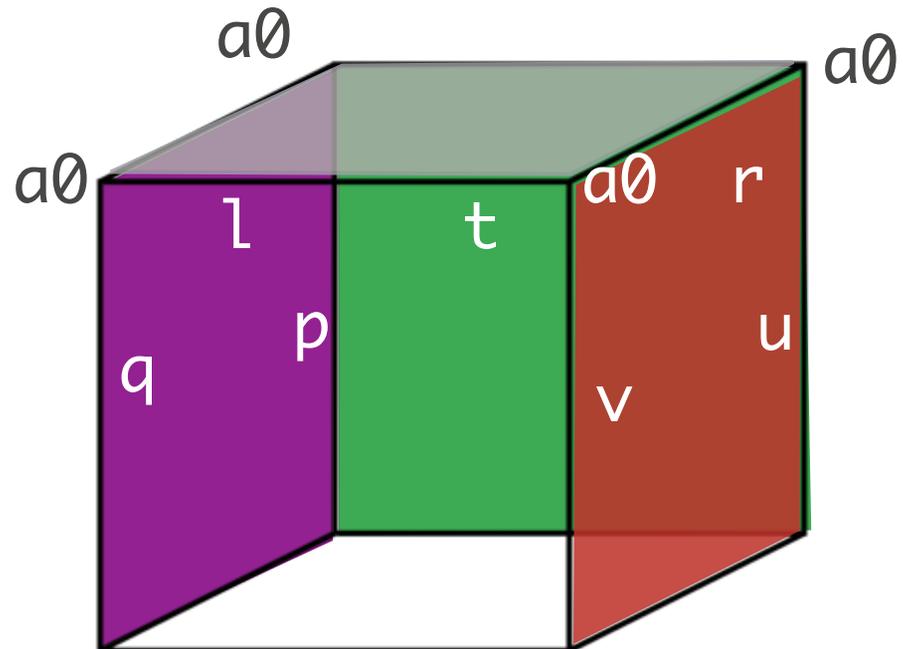
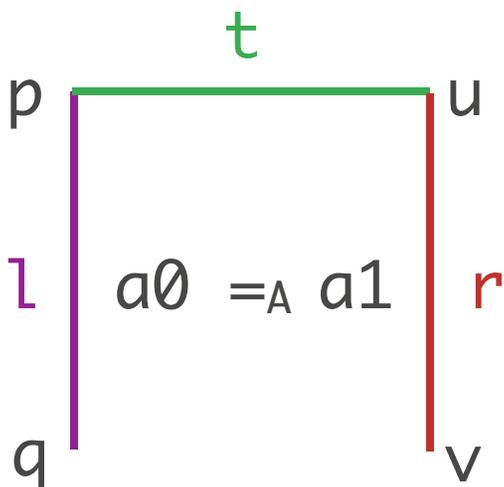


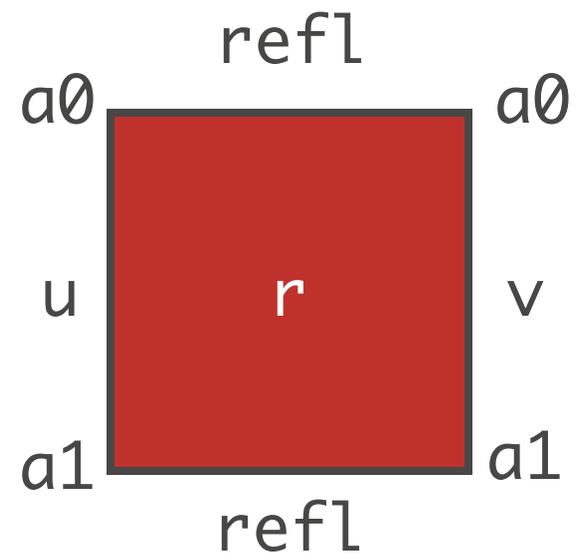
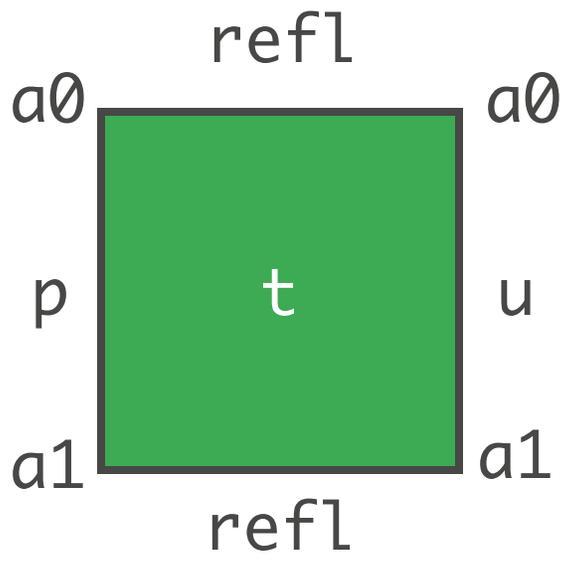
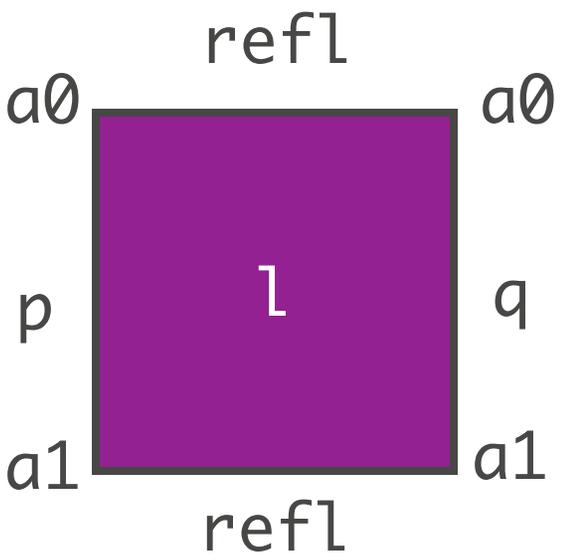
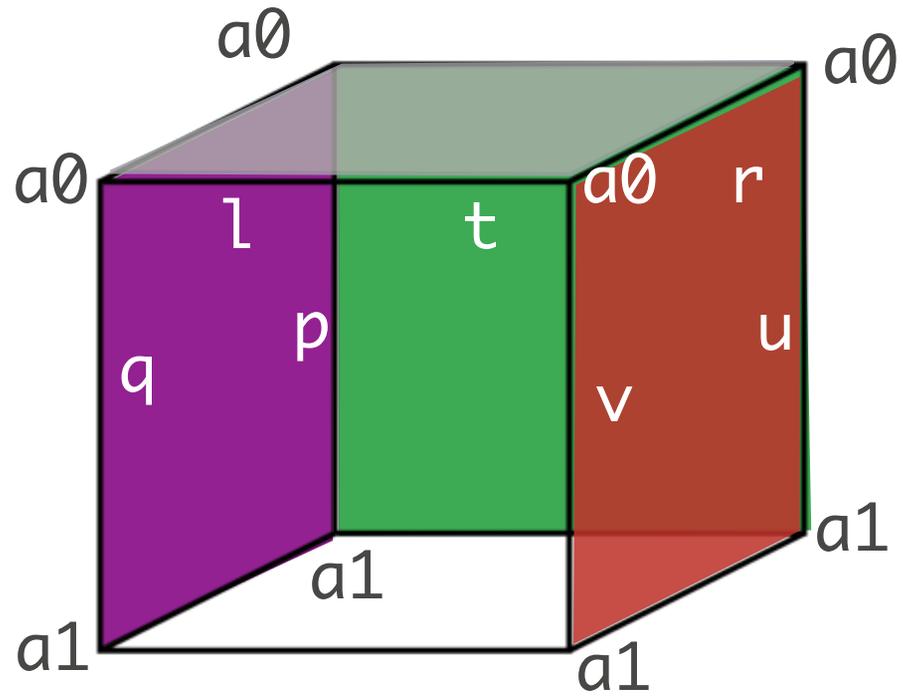
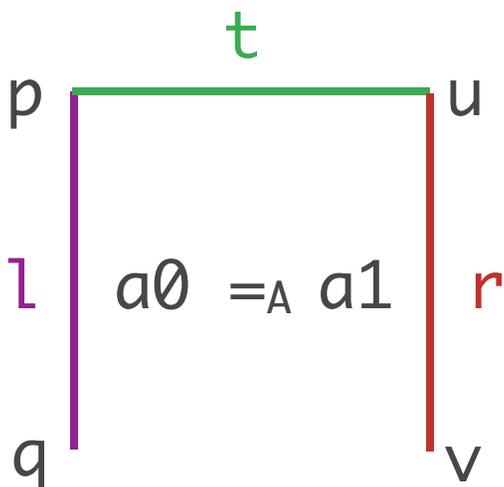


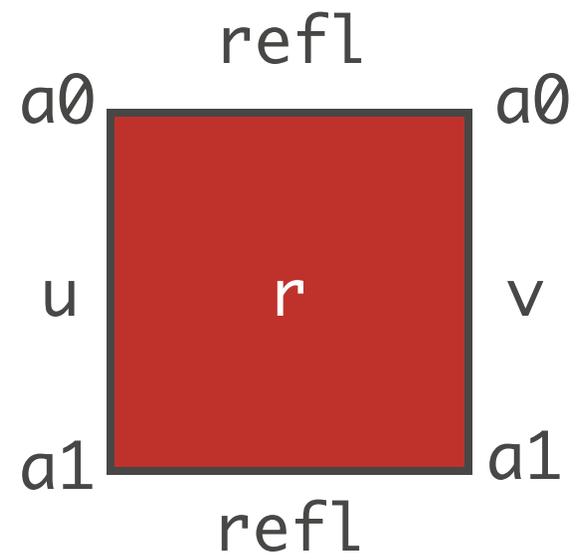
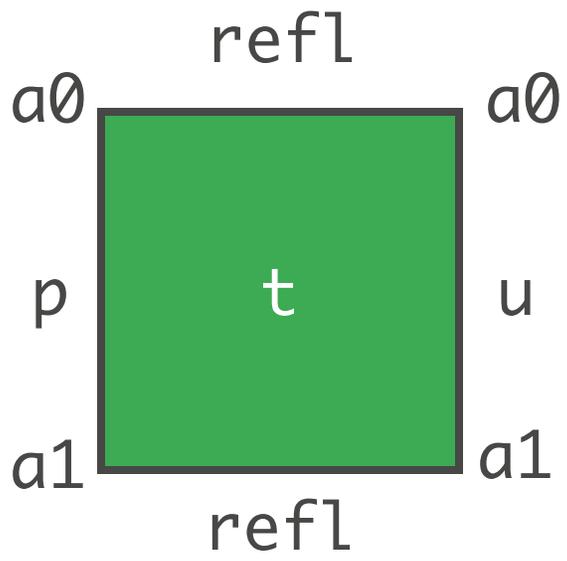
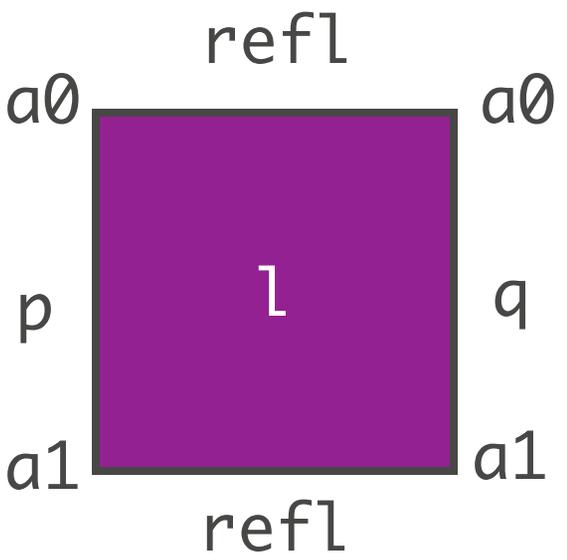
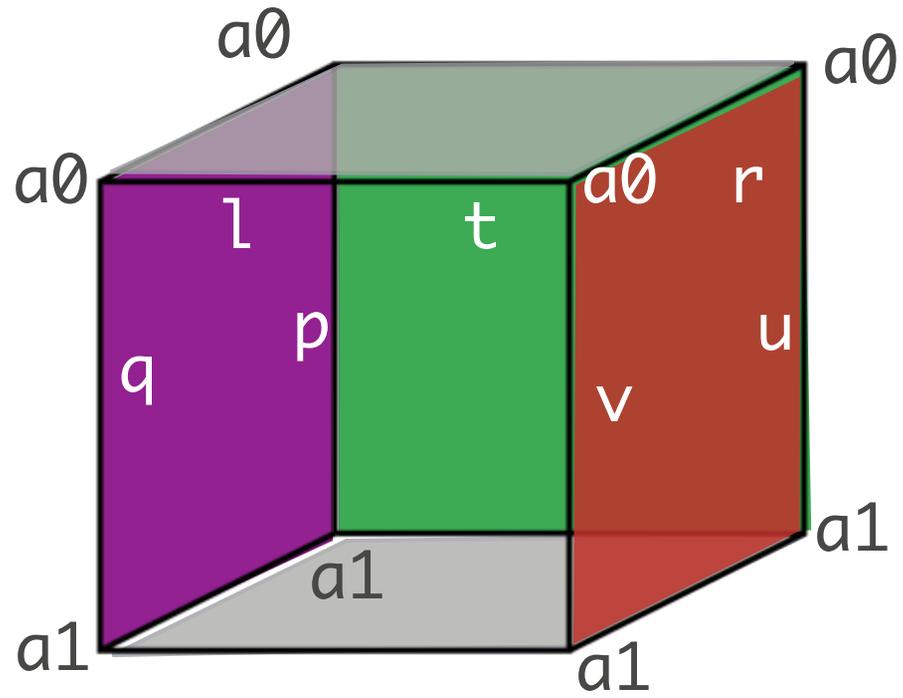
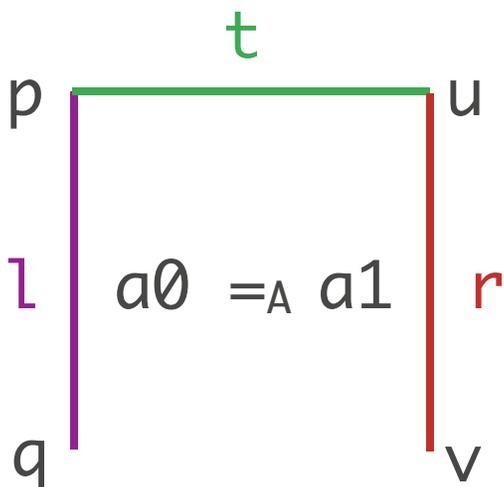


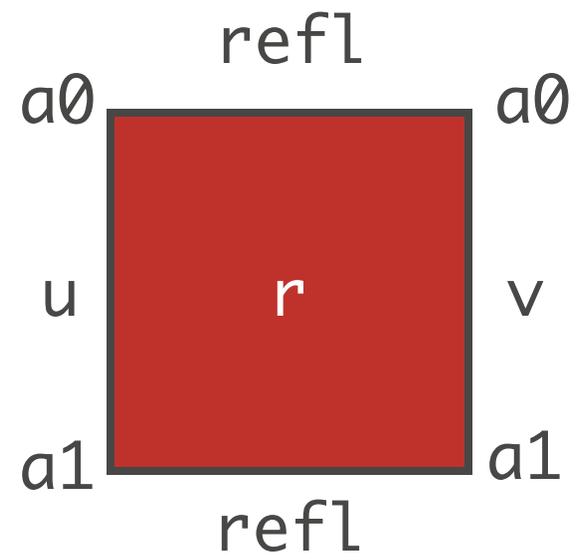
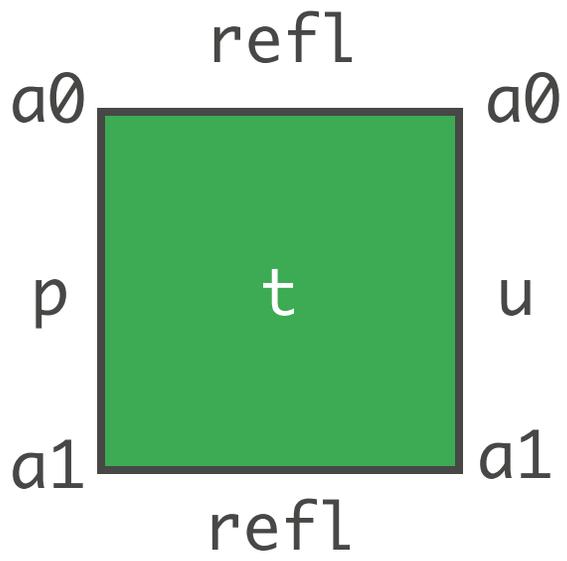
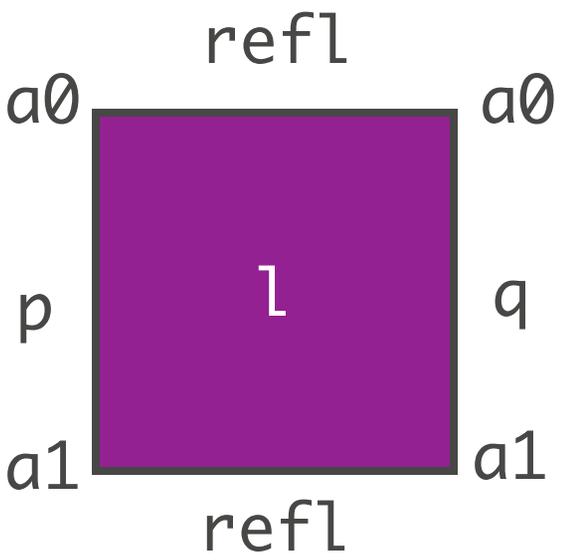
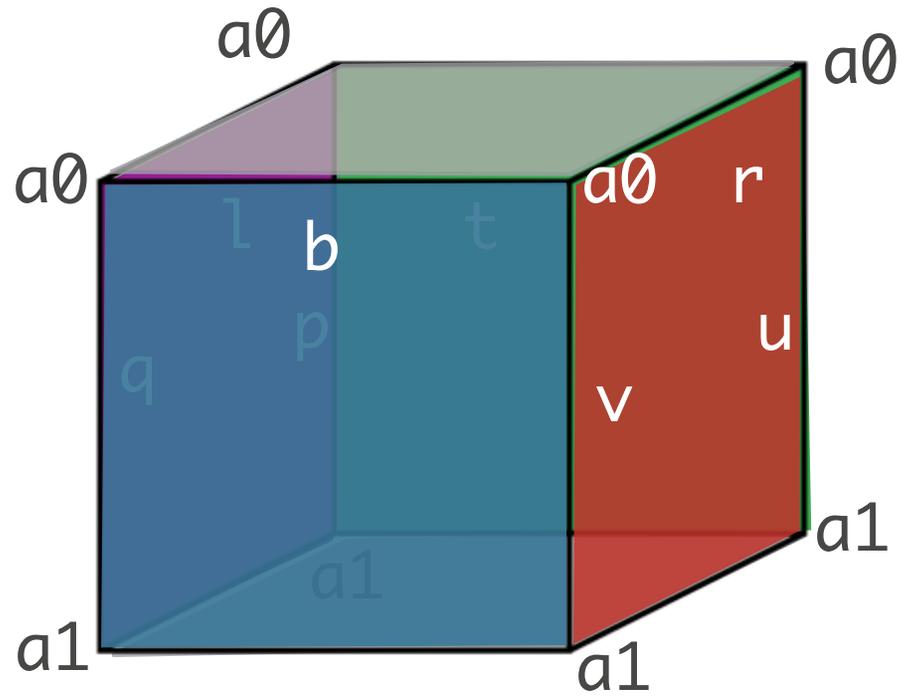
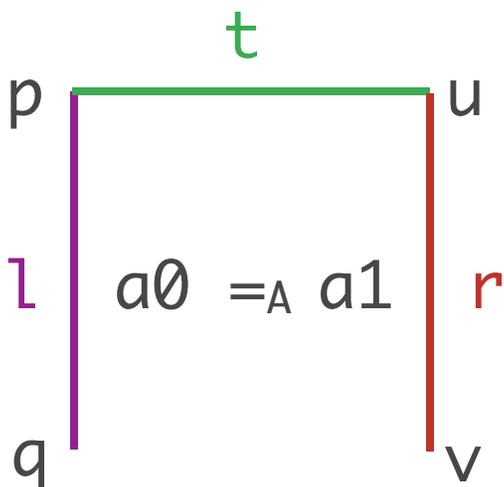


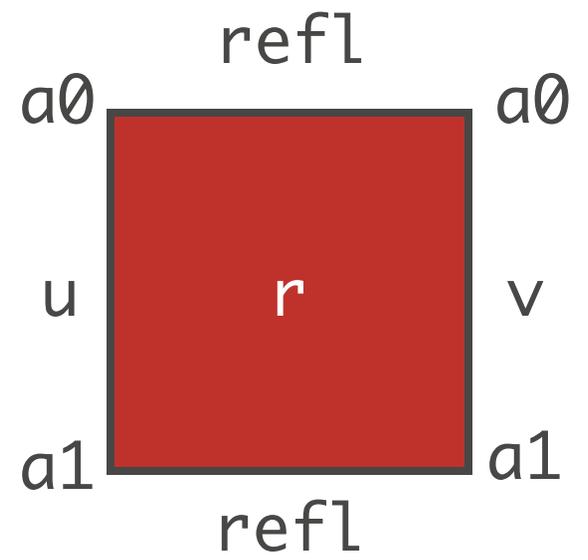
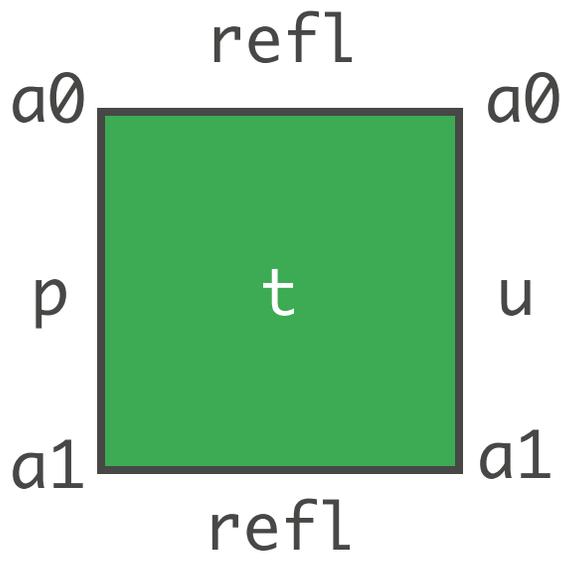
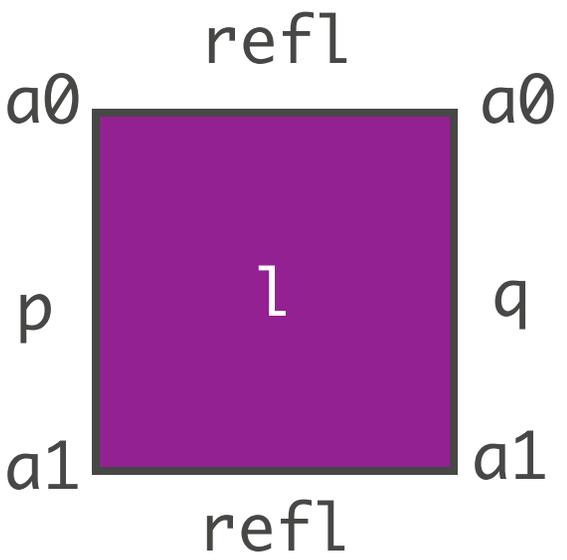
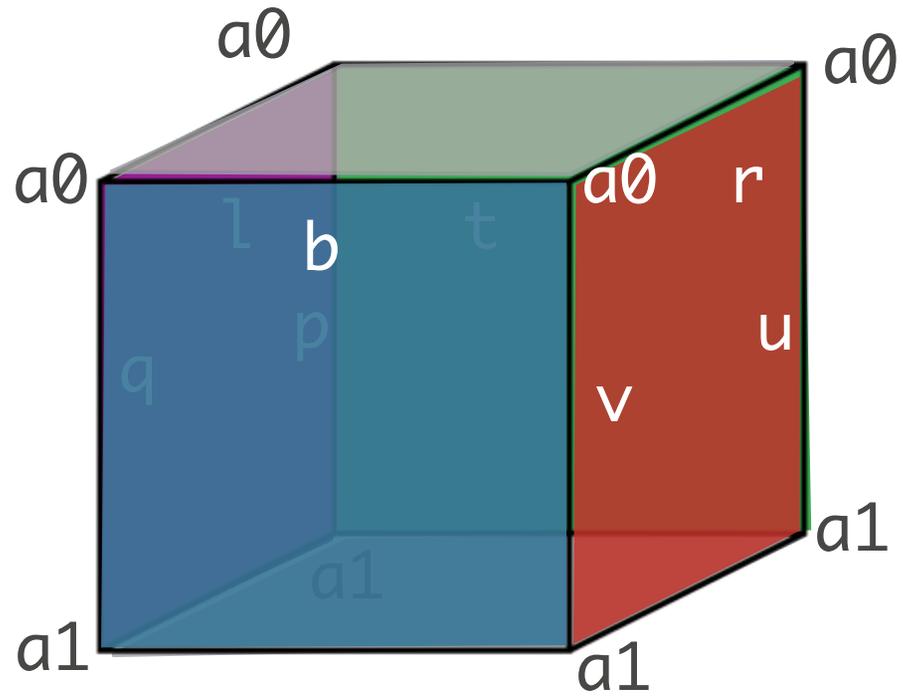
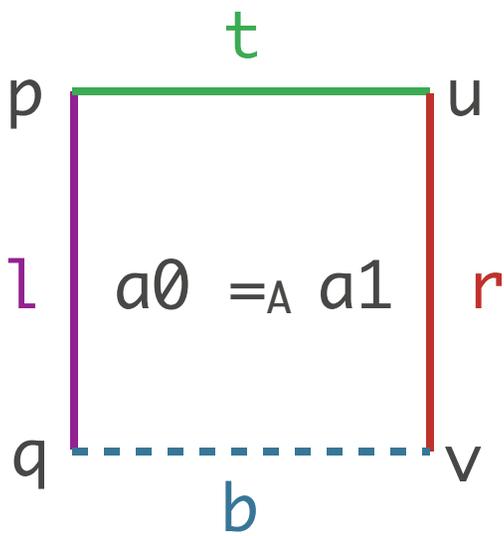








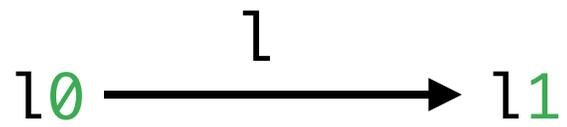




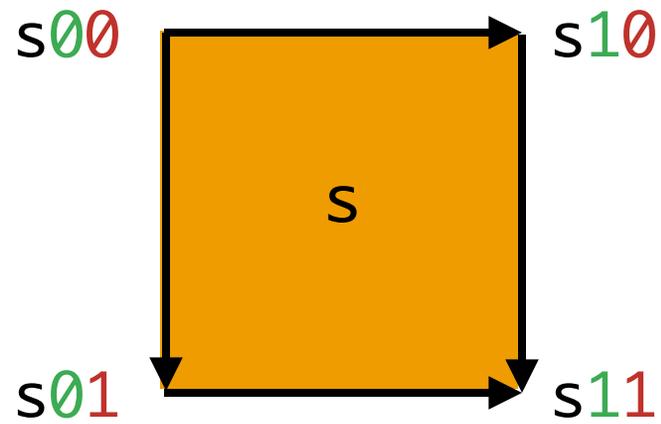
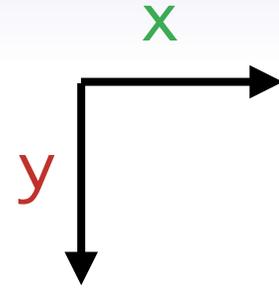
Kan condition:  
any  $n$ -dimensional  
open box has a lid,  
and an inside

# Cubes

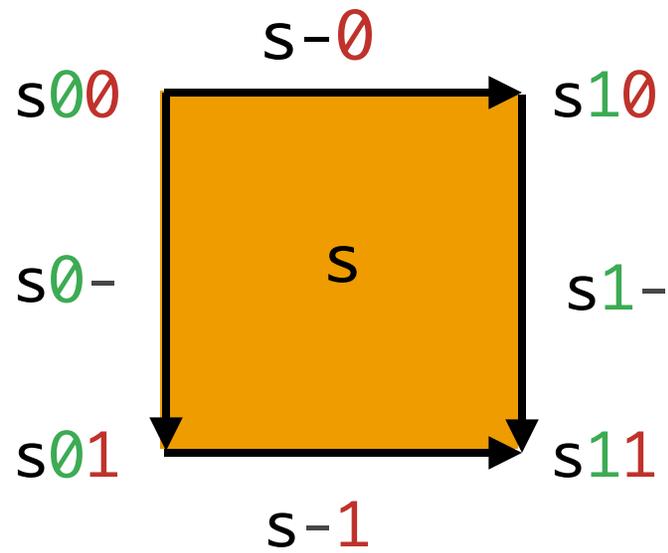
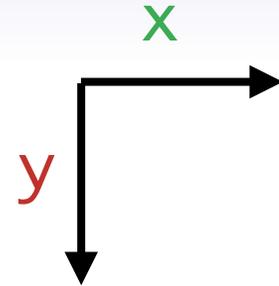
# Line



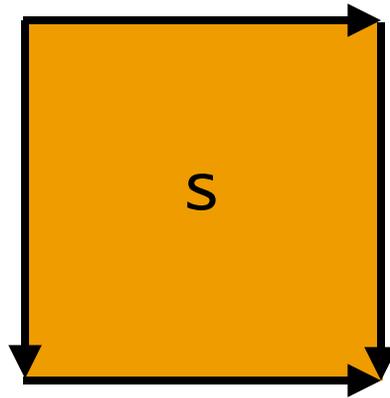
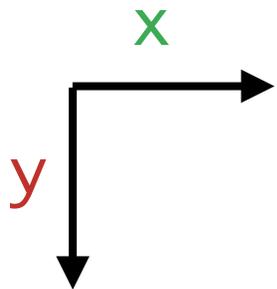
# Square



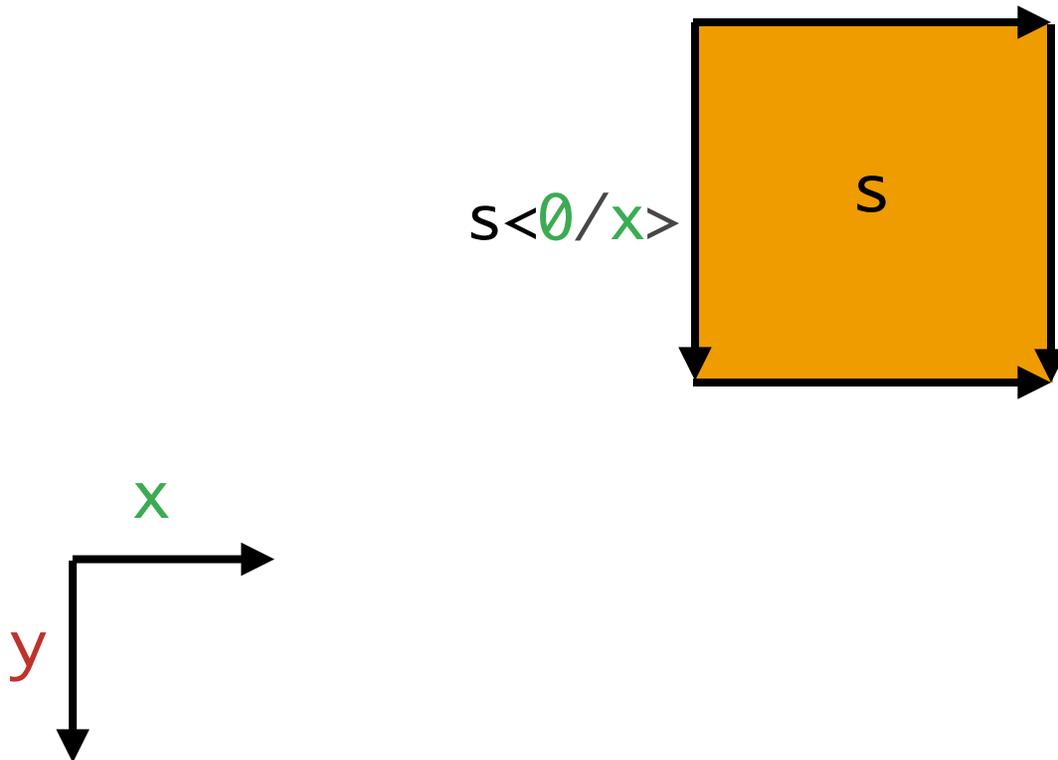
# Square



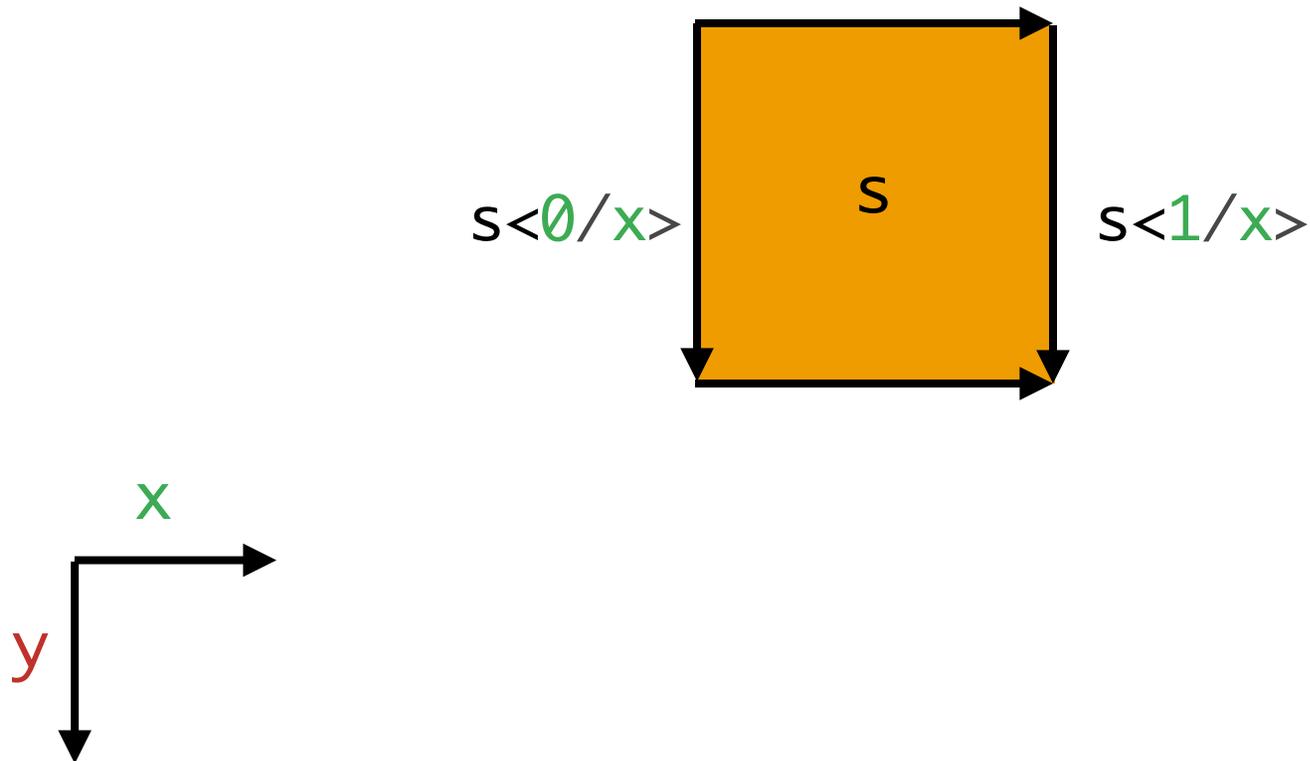
# Square with its boundary



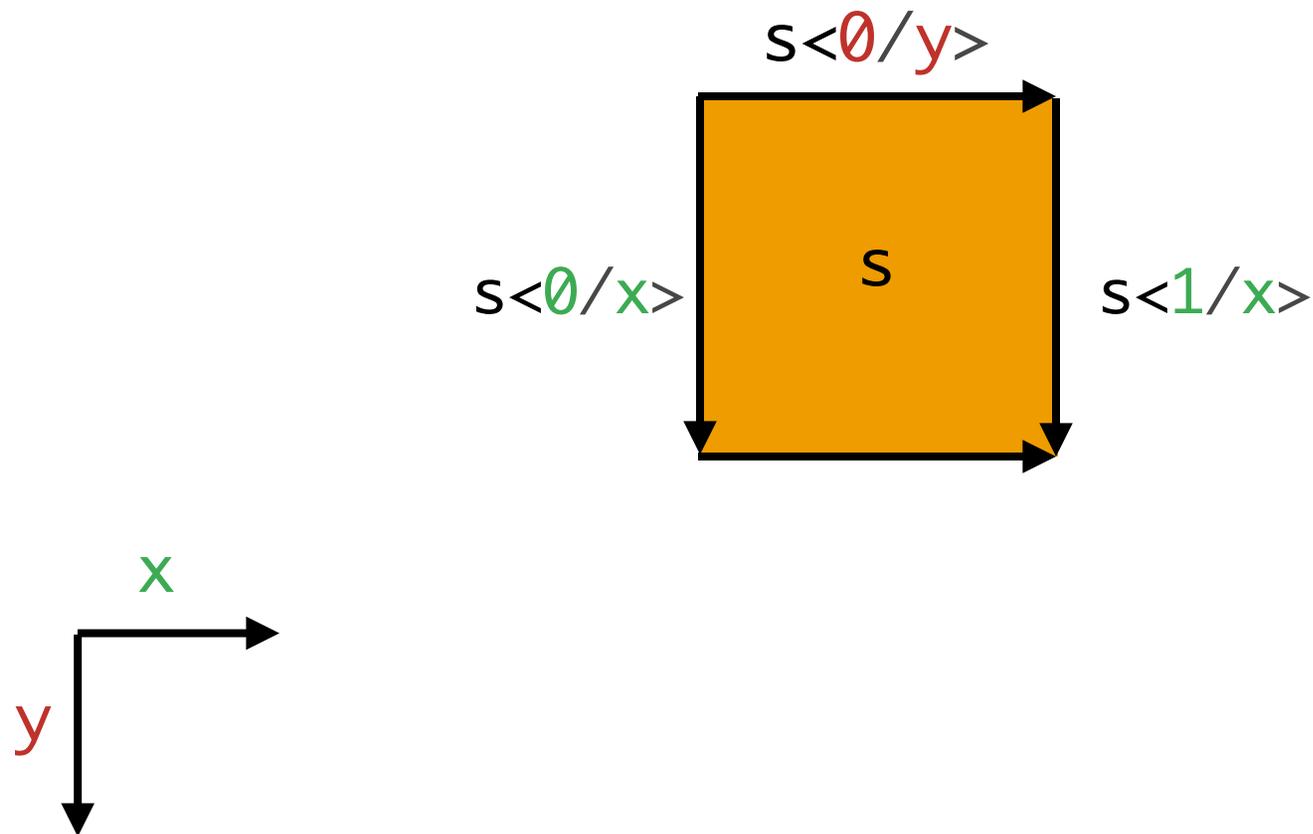
# Square with its boundary



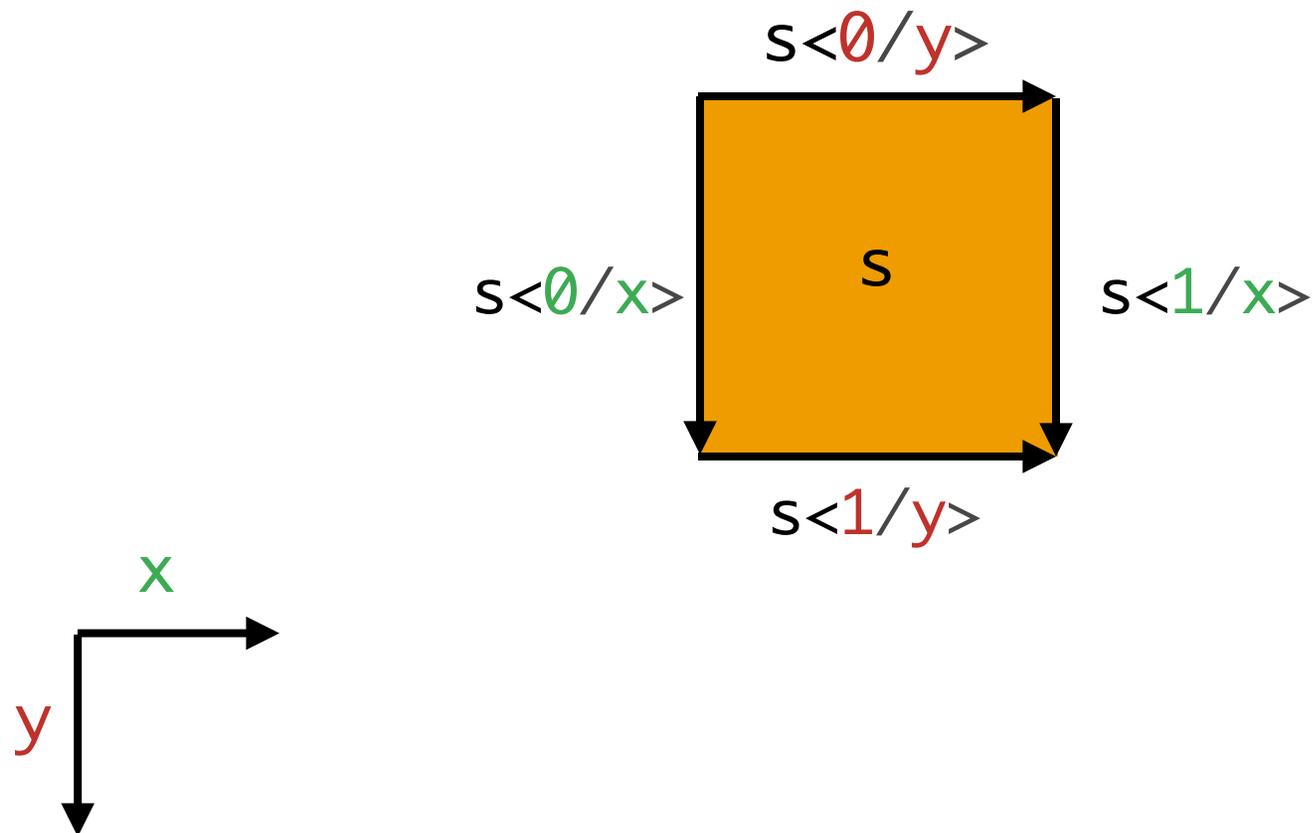
# Square with its boundary



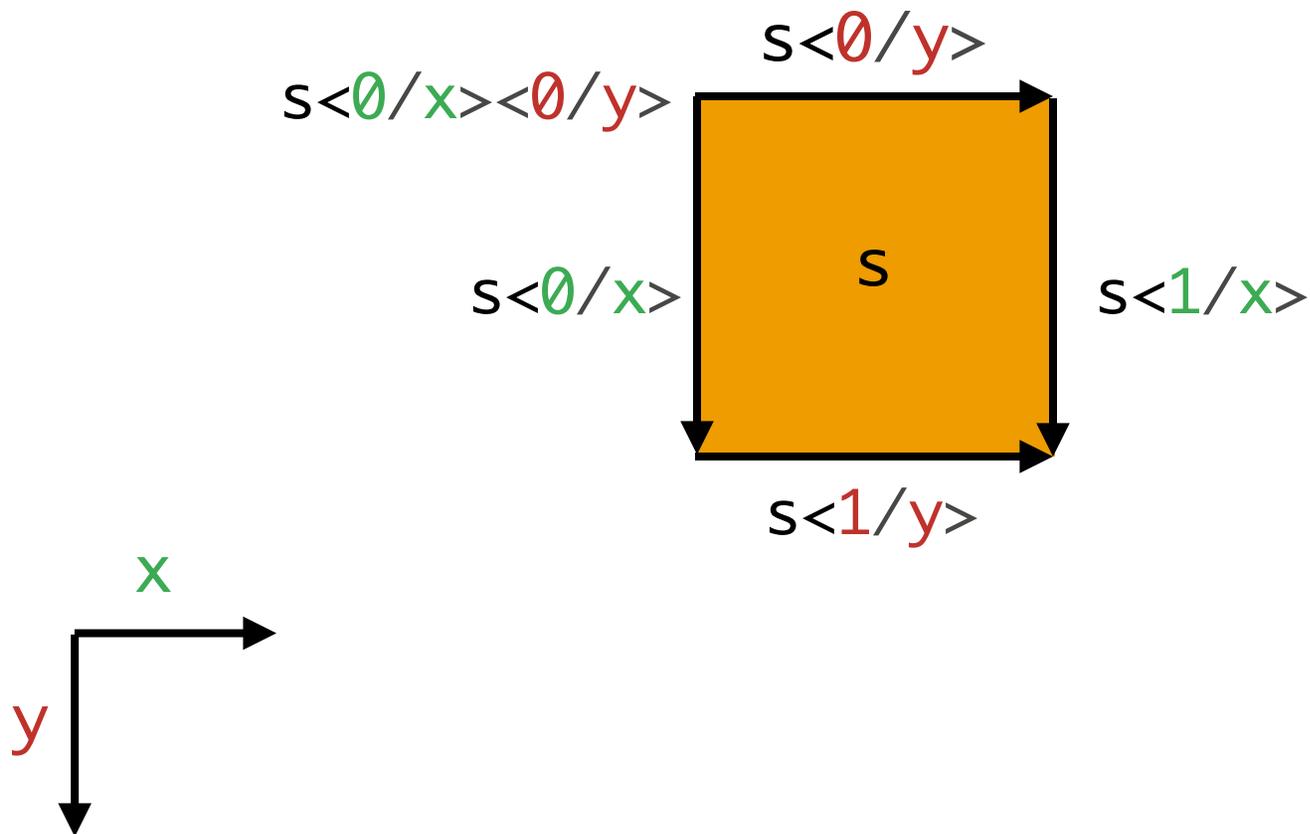
# Square with its boundary



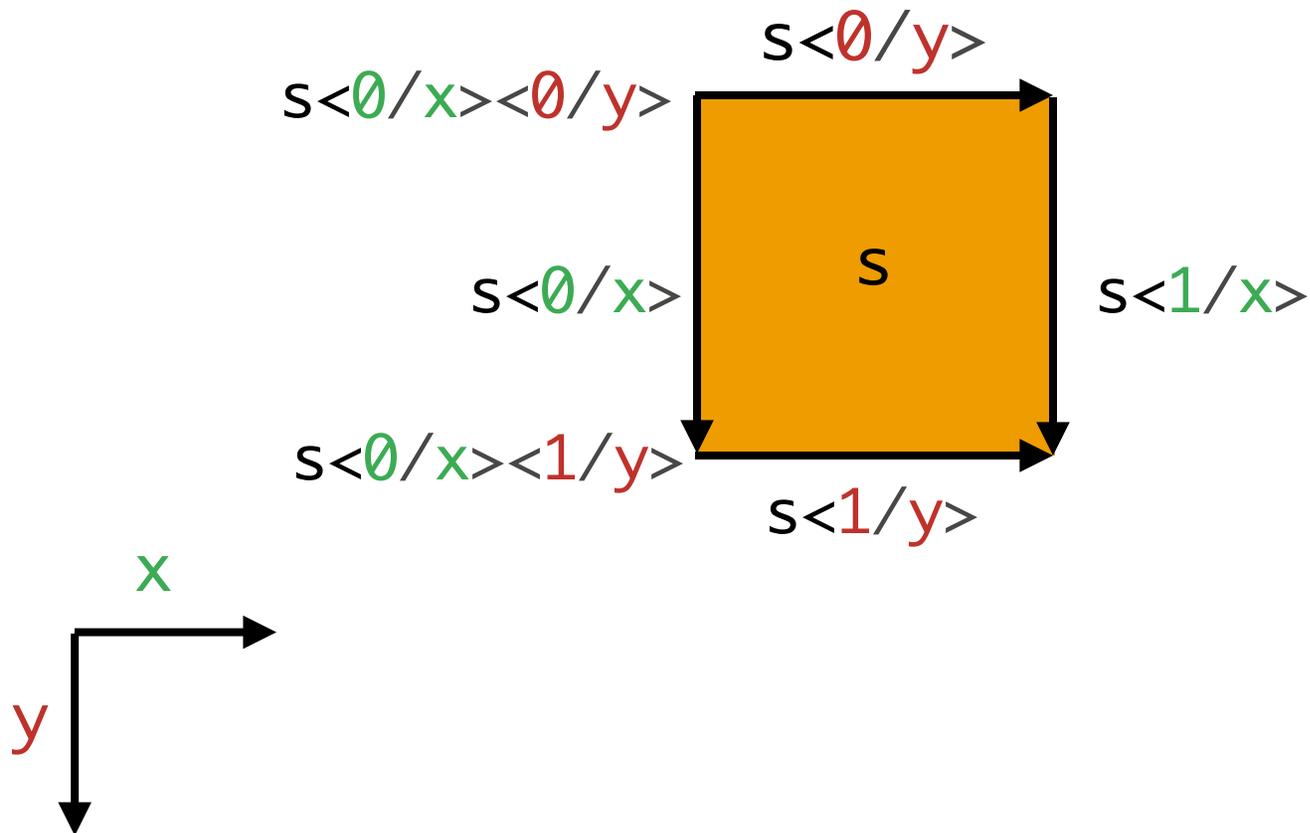
# Square with its boundary



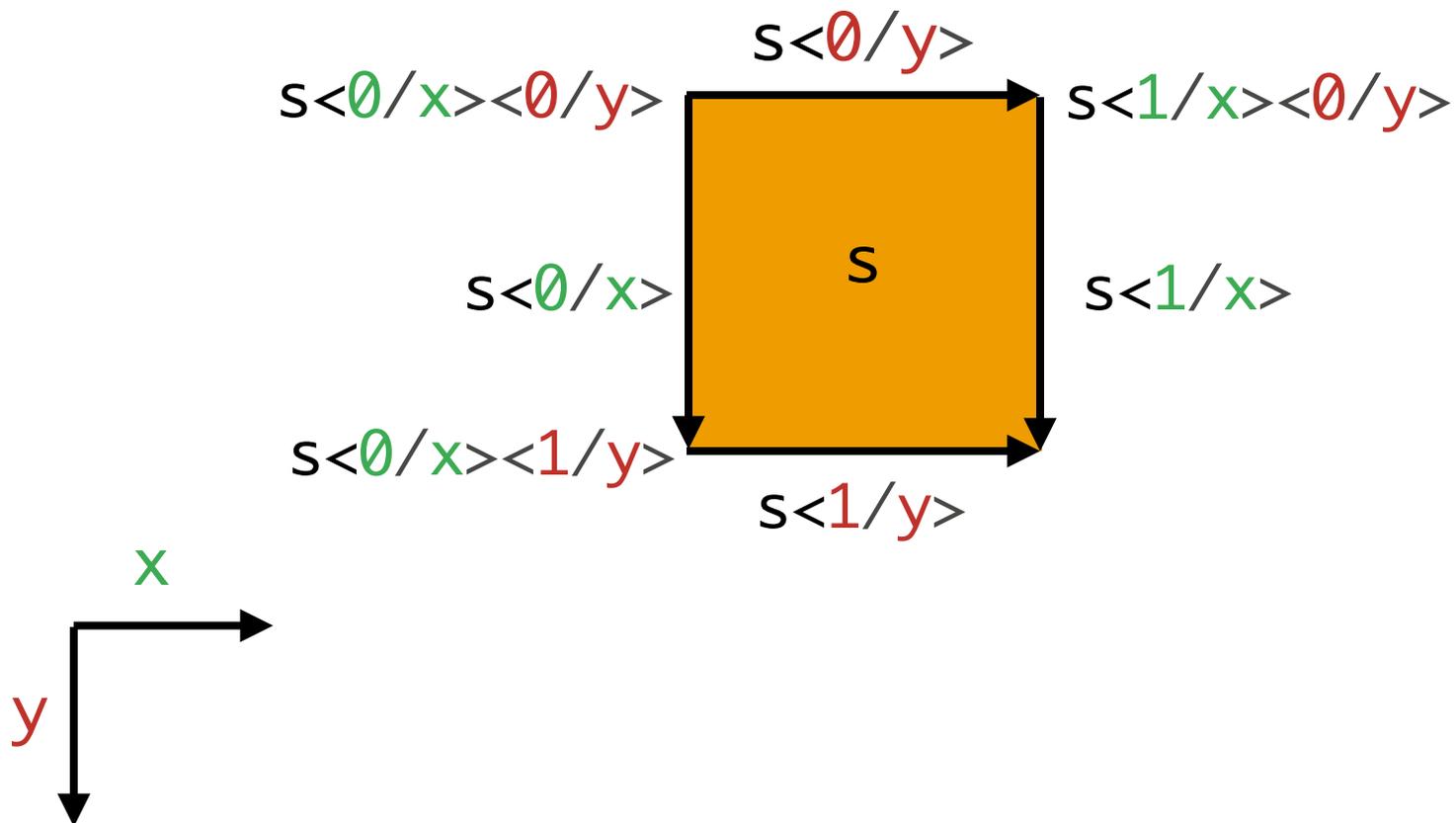
# Square with its boundary



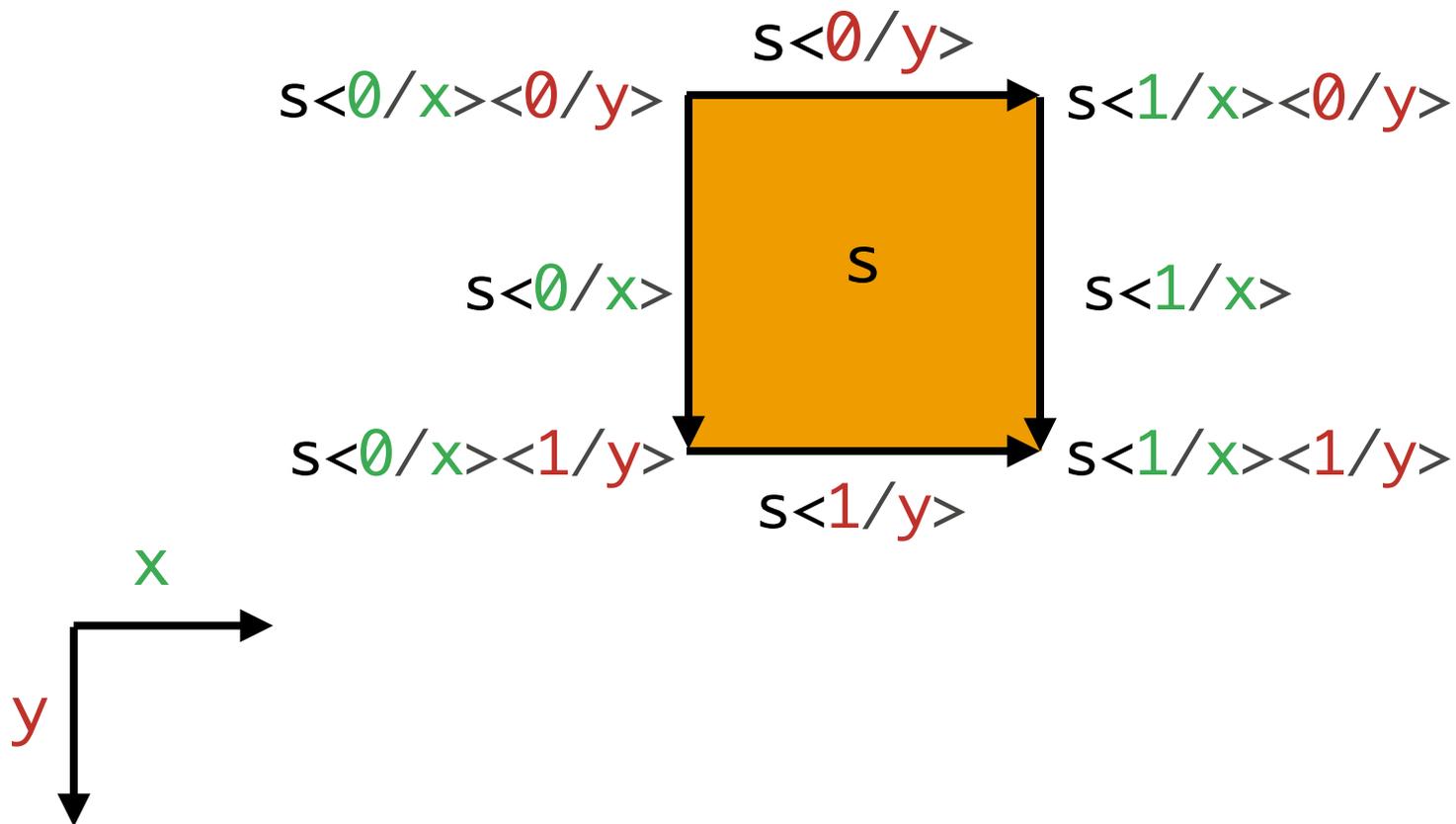
# Square with its boundary



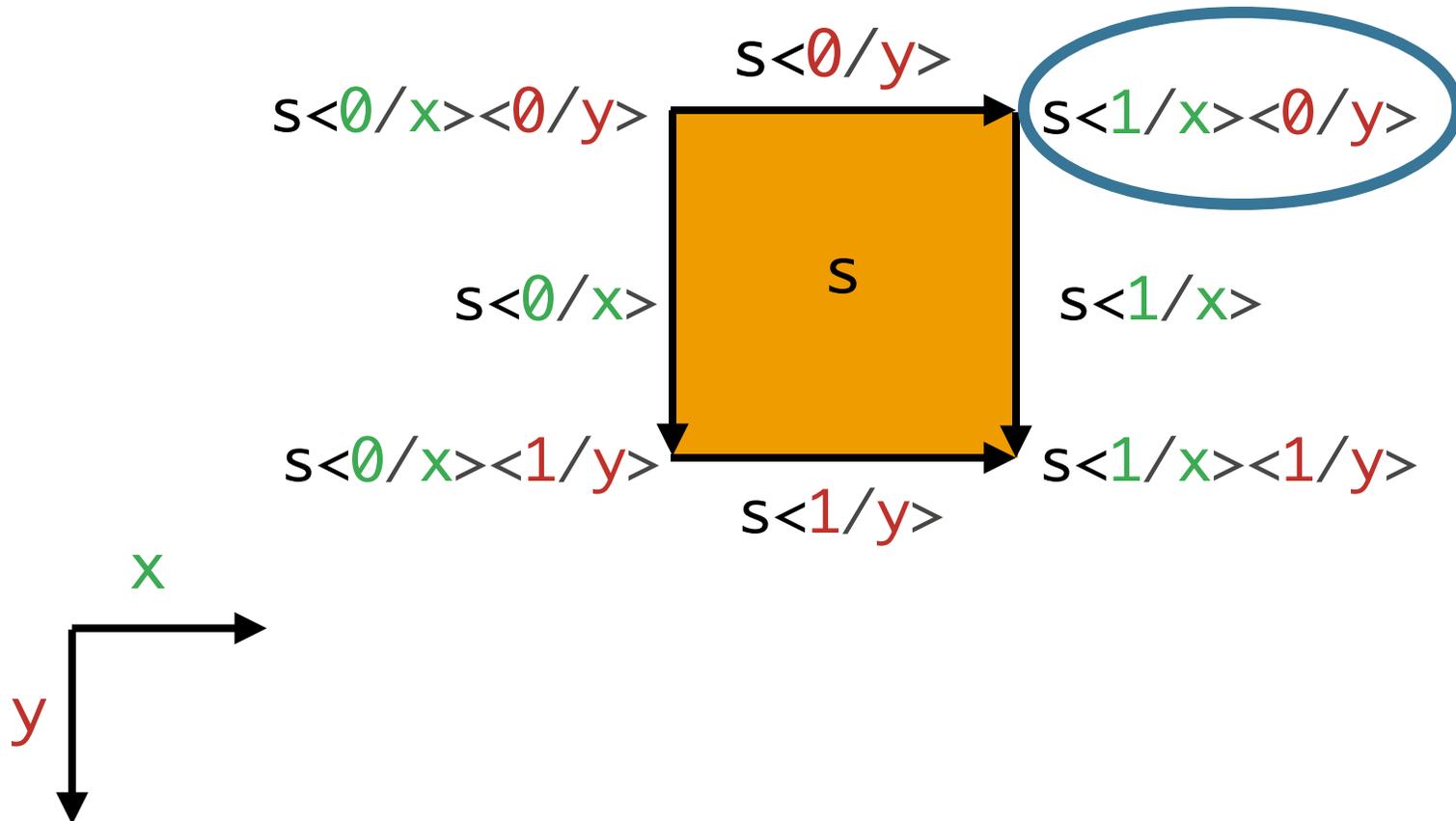
# Square with its boundary



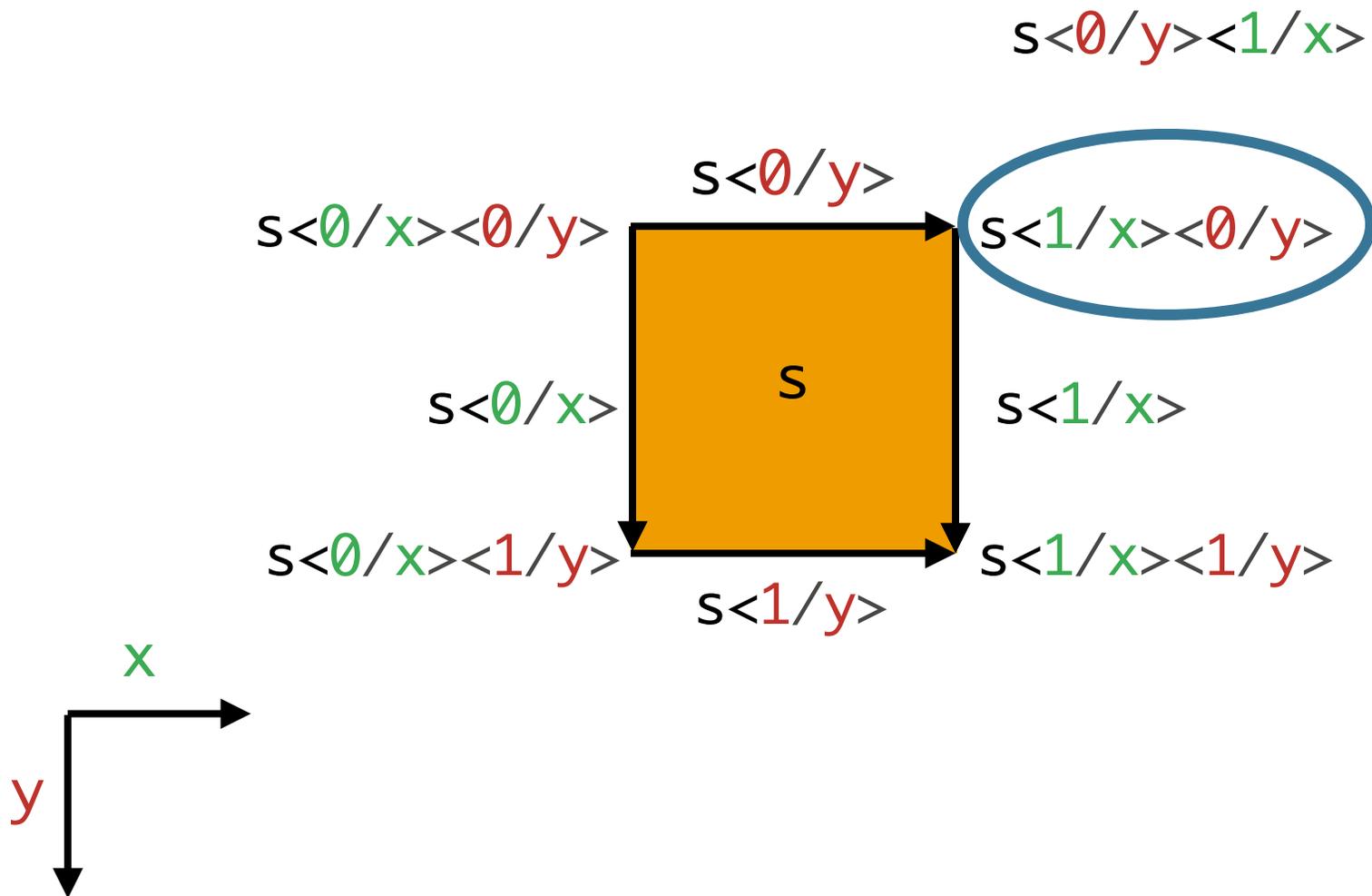
# Square with its boundary



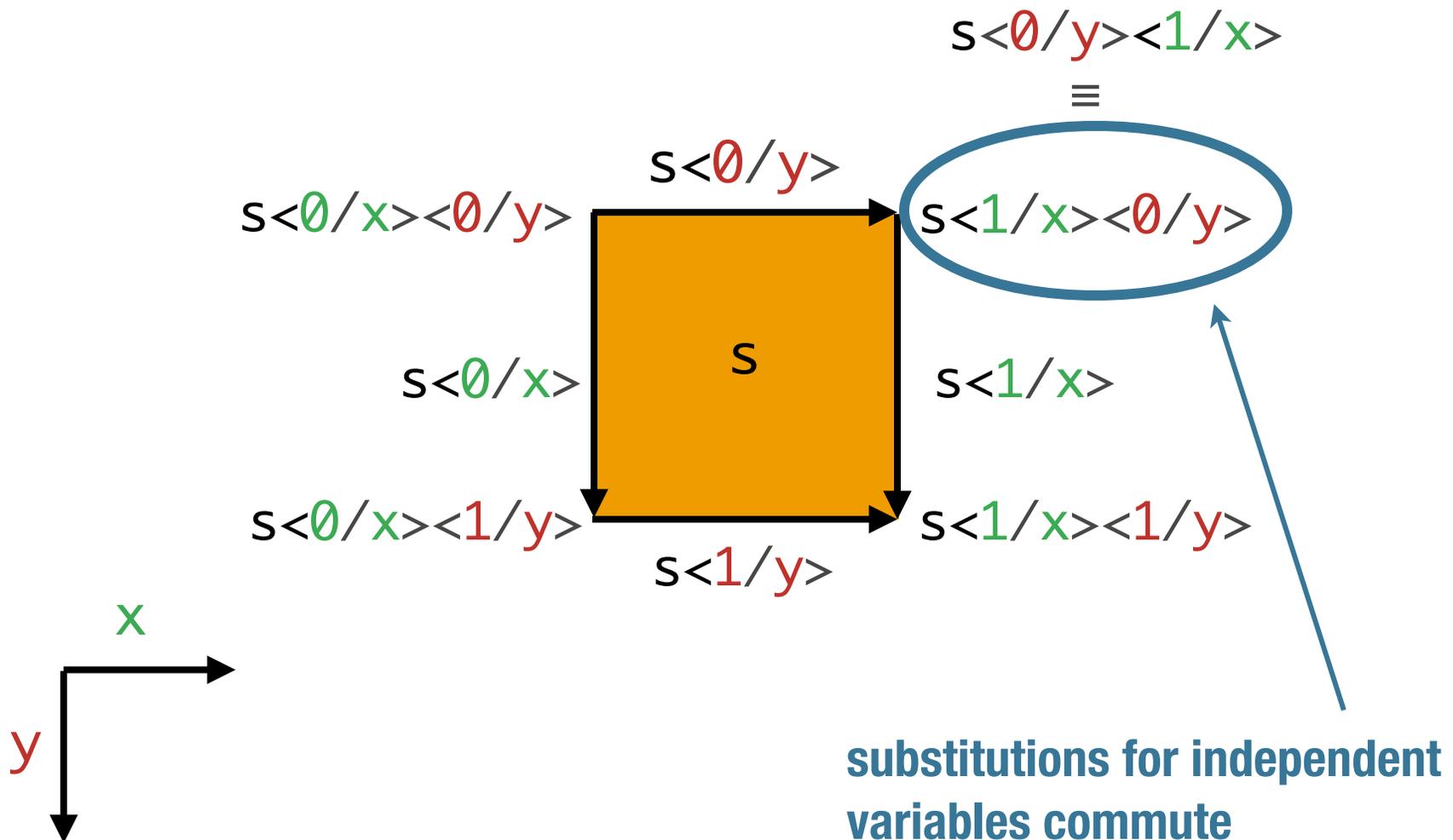
# Square with its boundary



# Square with its boundary

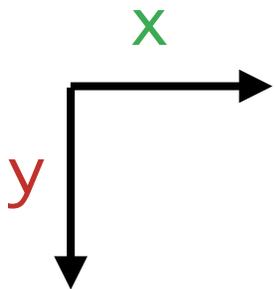


# Square with its boundary



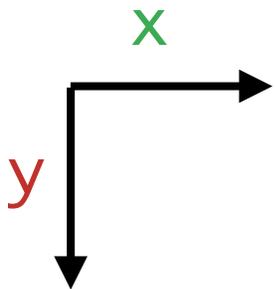
# Degeneracies

a



# Degeneracies

$a$

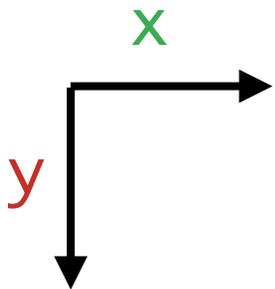


# Degeneracies

a



$$a \uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$



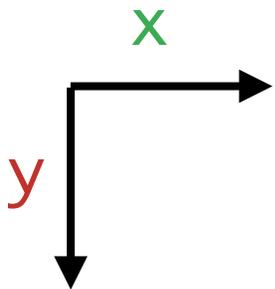
# Degeneracies

$a$



$$a \uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a \uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$



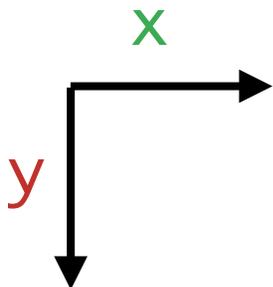
# Degeneracies

a



$$a\uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a\uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$



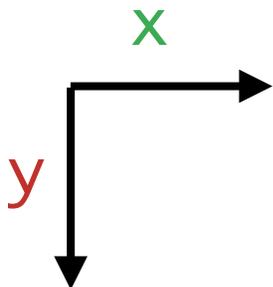
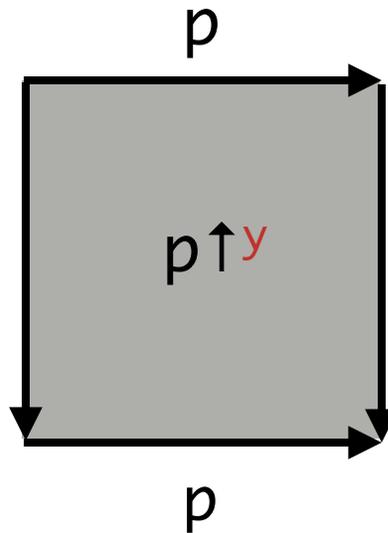
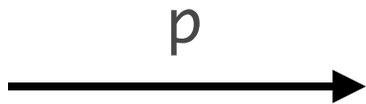
# Degeneracies

a



$$a\uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a\uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$

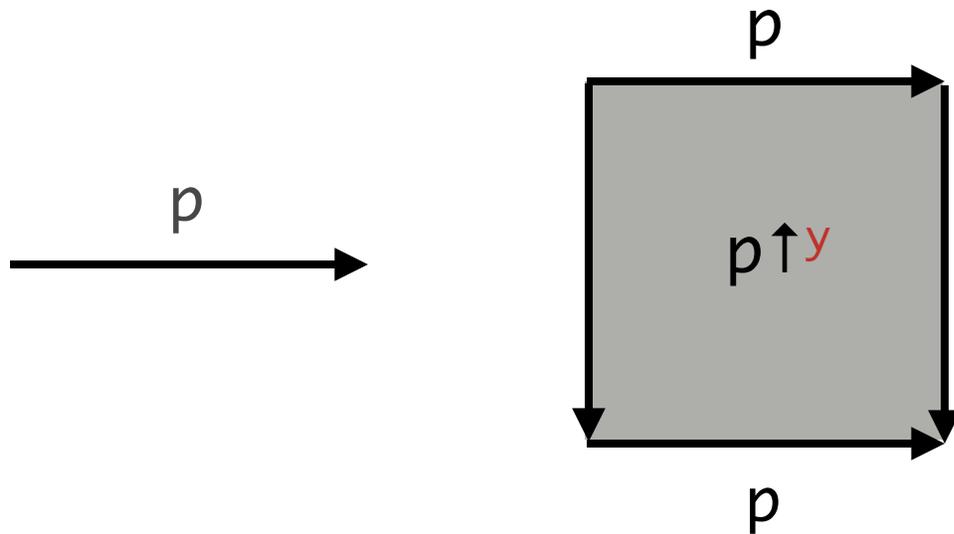


# Degeneracies



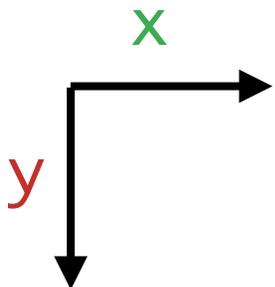
$$a \uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a \uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$



$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/y \rangle = p$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 1/y \rangle = p$$

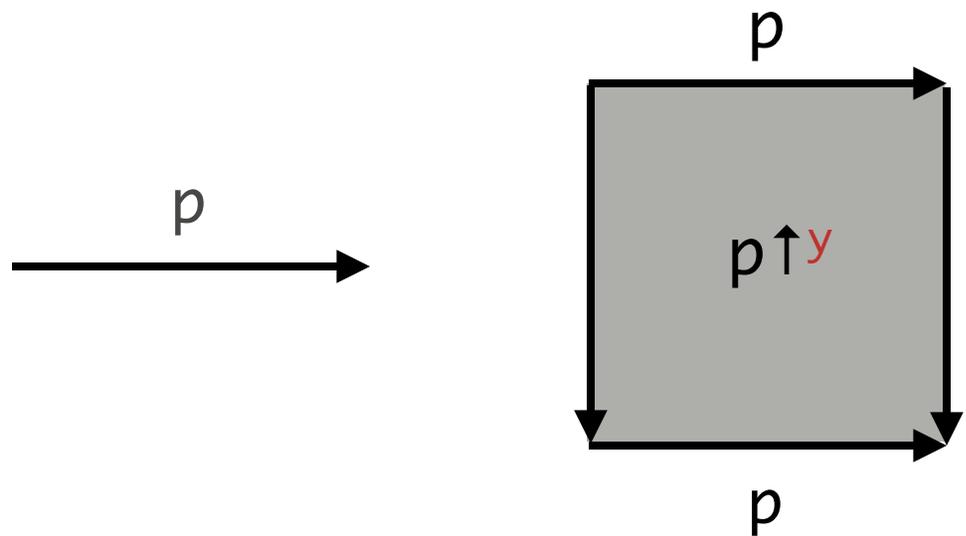


# Degeneracies



$$a \uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a \uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$



$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/y \rangle = p$$

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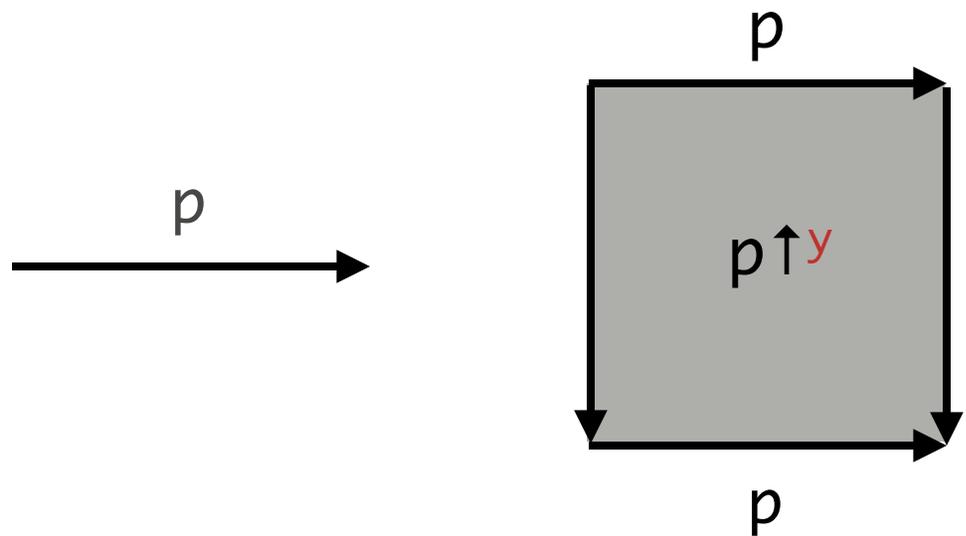
$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/x \rangle = (p \langle 0/x \rangle) \uparrow^y$$

# Degeneracies



$$a \uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a \uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$



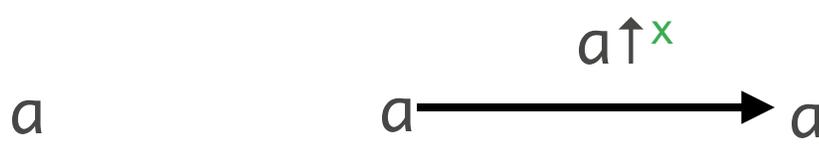
$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/y \rangle = p$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 1/y \rangle = p$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/x \rangle = (p \langle 0/x \rangle) \uparrow^y$$

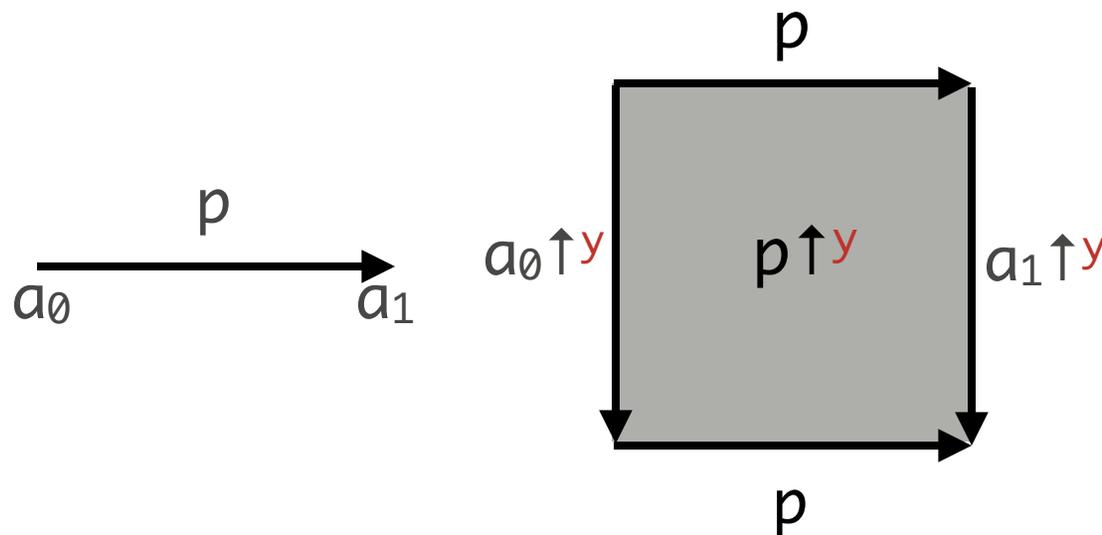
$$p \uparrow^y \langle 1/x \rangle = (p \langle 1/x \rangle) \uparrow^y$$

# Degeneracies



$$a \uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a \uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$

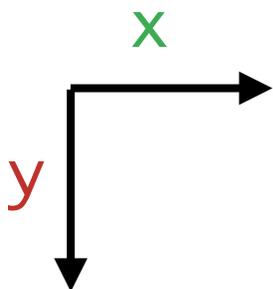


$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/y \rangle = p$$

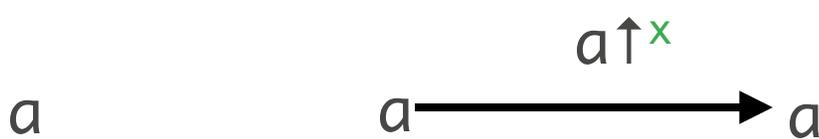
$$p \uparrow^y \langle 1/y \rangle = p$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/x \rangle = (p \langle 0/x \rangle) \uparrow^y$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 1/x \rangle = (p \langle 1/x \rangle) \uparrow^y$$

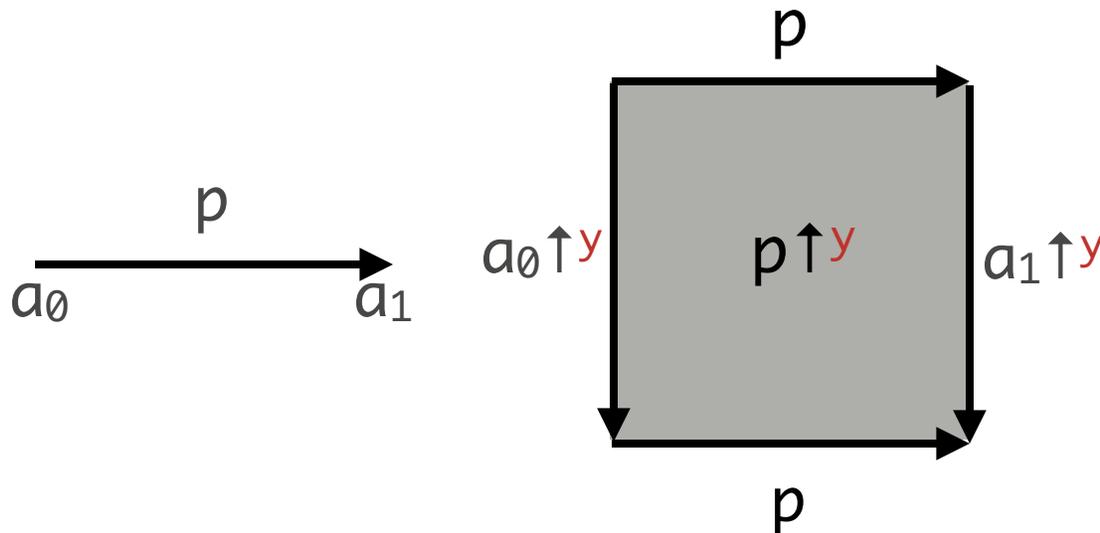


# Degeneracies



$$a \uparrow^x \langle 0/x \rangle = a$$

$$a \uparrow^x \langle 1/x \rangle = a$$

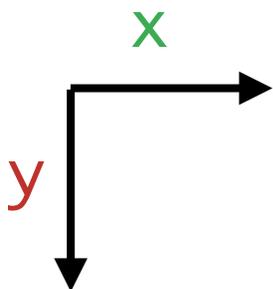


$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/y \rangle = p$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 1/y \rangle = p$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 0/x \rangle = (p \langle 0/x \rangle) \uparrow^y$$

$$p \uparrow^y \langle 1/x \rangle = (p \langle 1/x \rangle) \uparrow^y$$

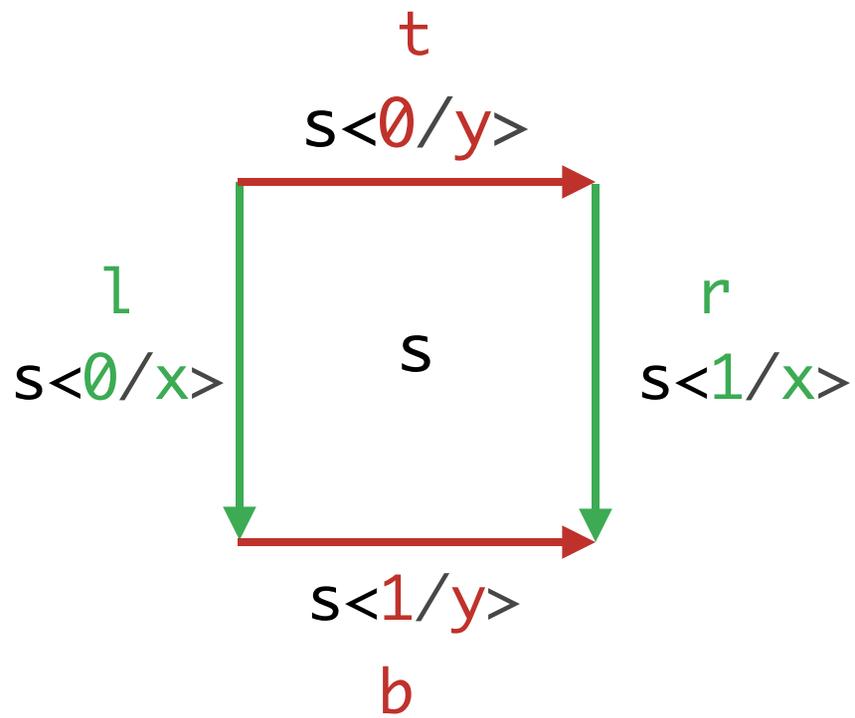


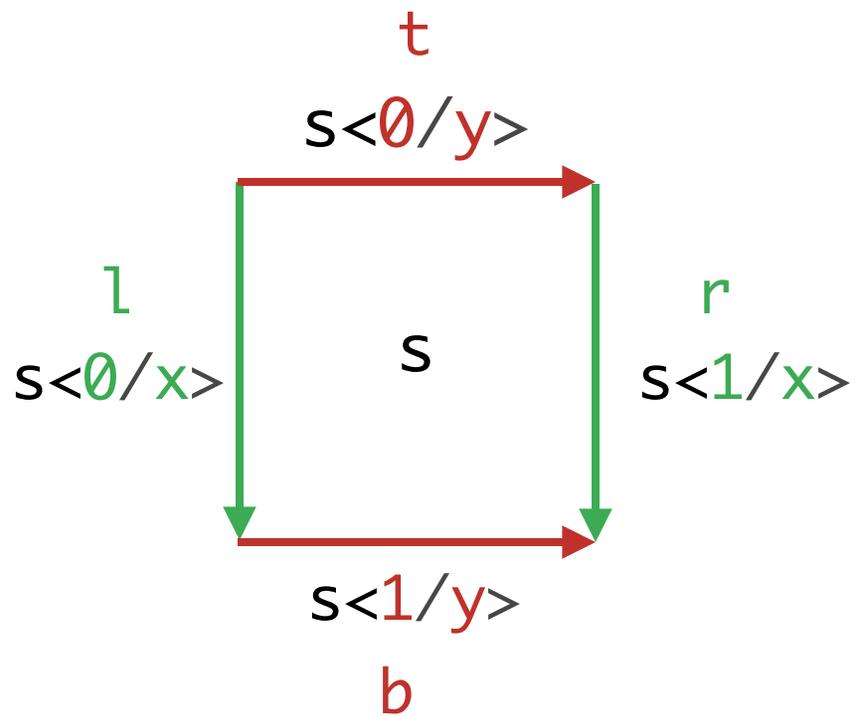
**substitution after weakening is identity,  
otherwise pushes inside**

# Dimensions [Coquand,Pitts]

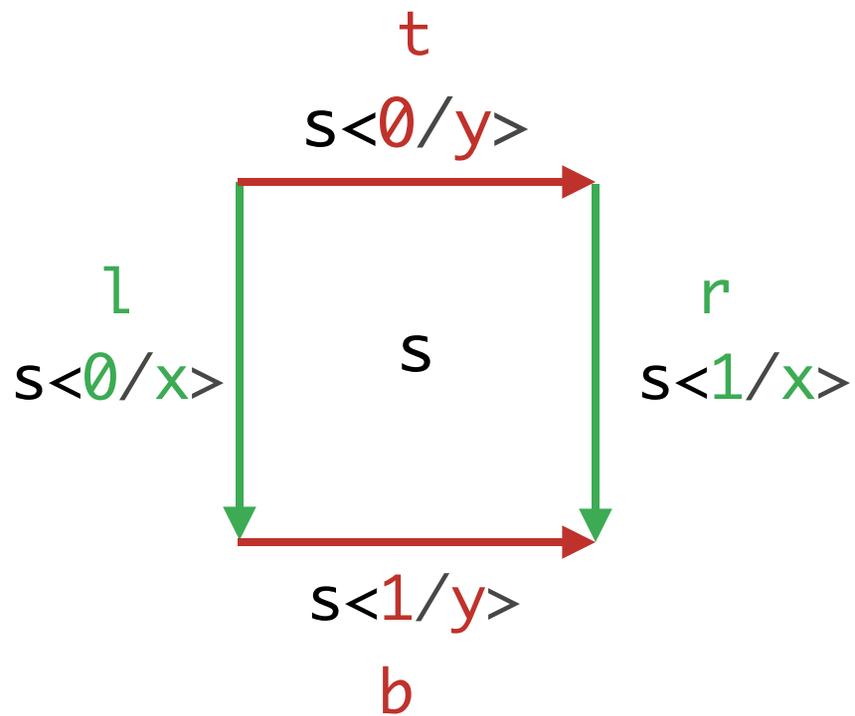
- \* n-dimensional cube has n dimension names free
- \*  $\alpha$ -equivalence: make  $\{x, \dots\}$ -cube into  $\{x', \dots\}$ -cube
- \* Substitution of 0 or 1: faces
- \* Weakening: degeneracy/reflexivity

Properties are *cubical identities*



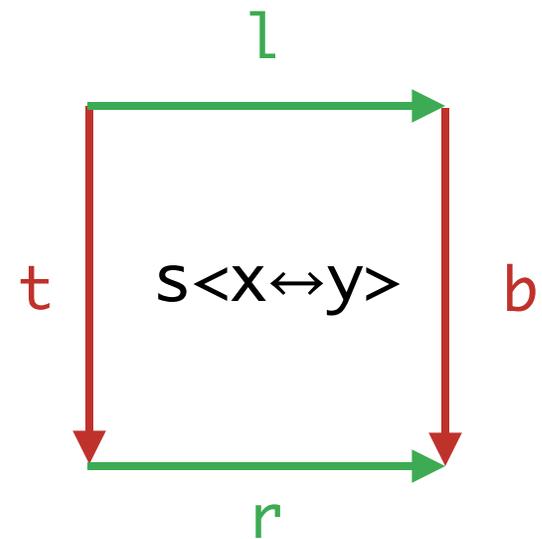
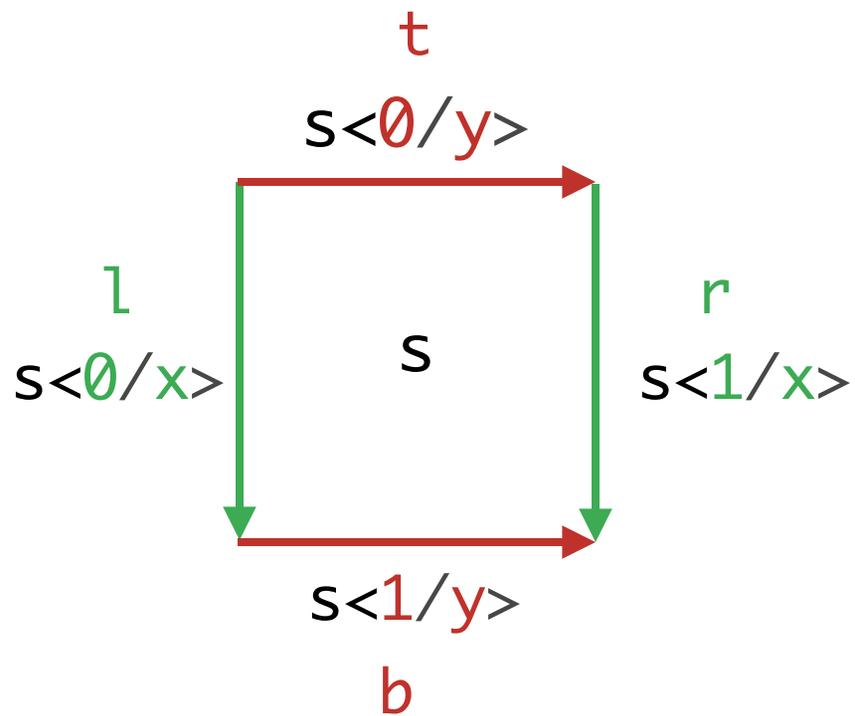


$$s\langle x \leftrightarrow y \rangle \langle 0/x \rangle = s\langle 0/y \rangle$$



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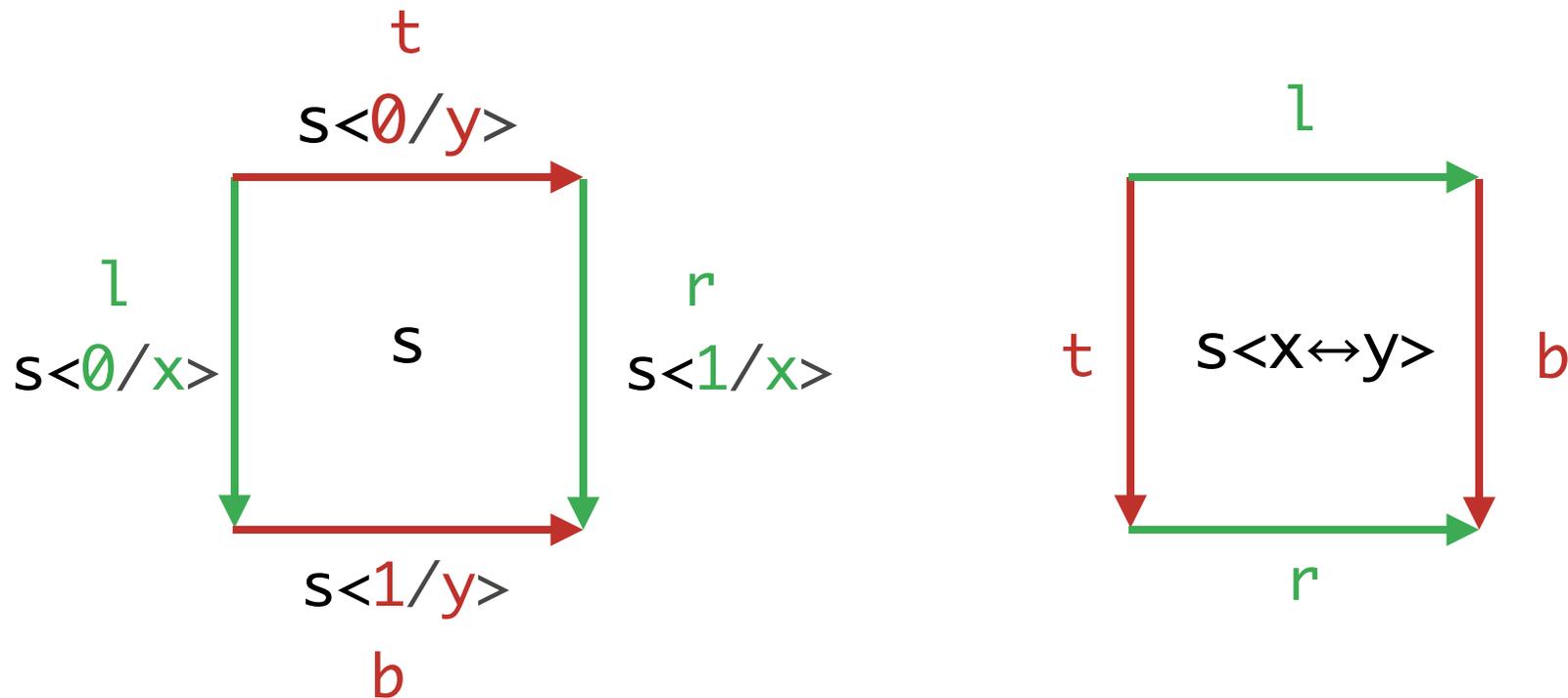
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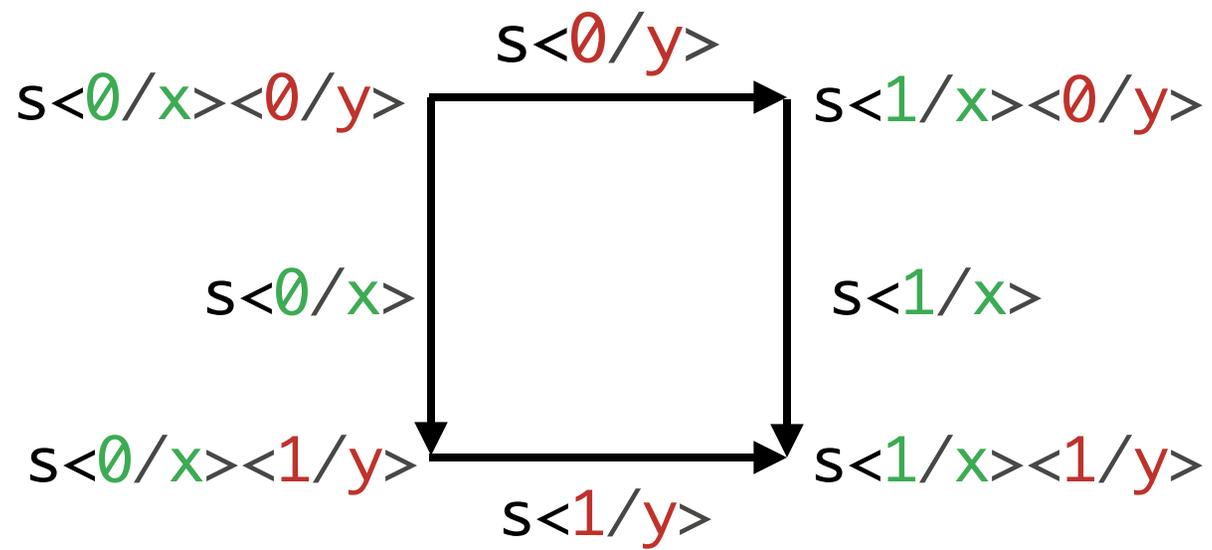
$$s\langle x \leftrightarrow y \rangle \langle 0/y \rangle = s\langle 0/x \rangle$$

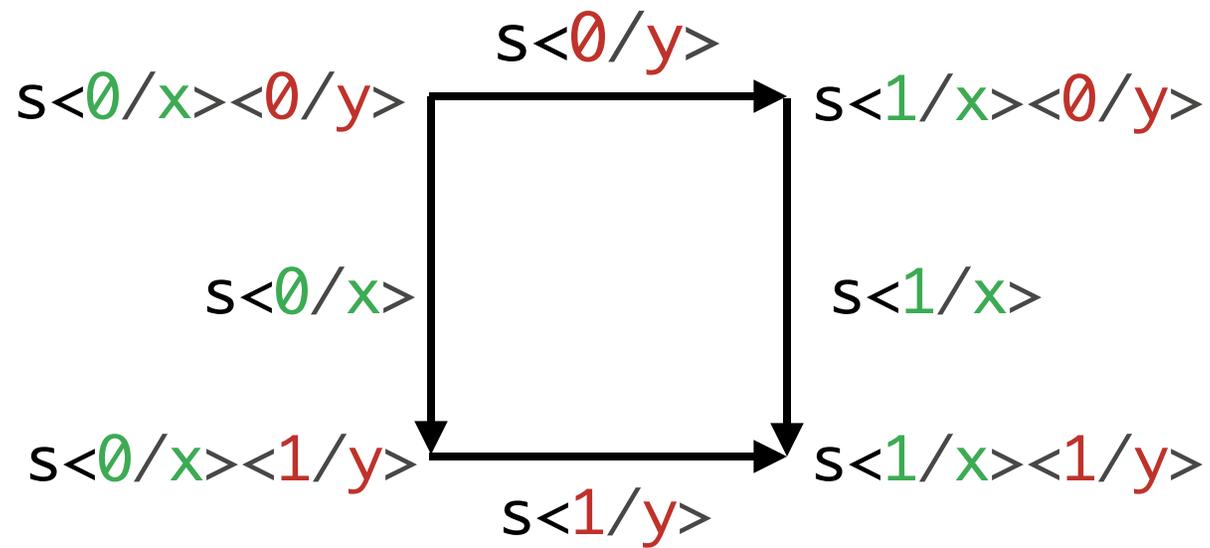
# Symmetries



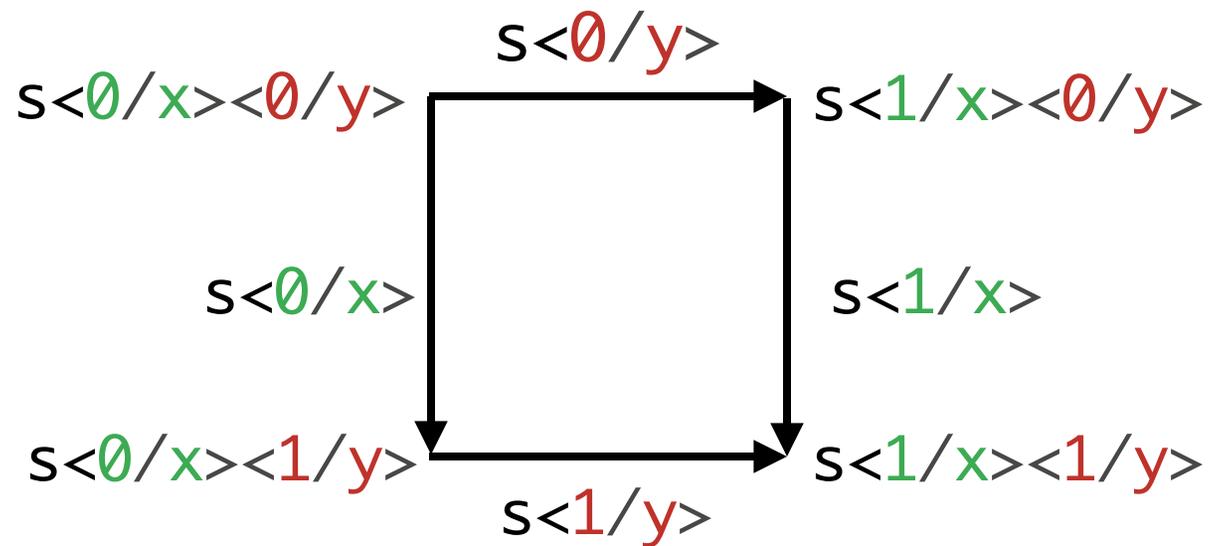
$$s\langle x \leftrightarrow y \rangle \langle 0/x \rangle = s\langle 0/y \rangle$$

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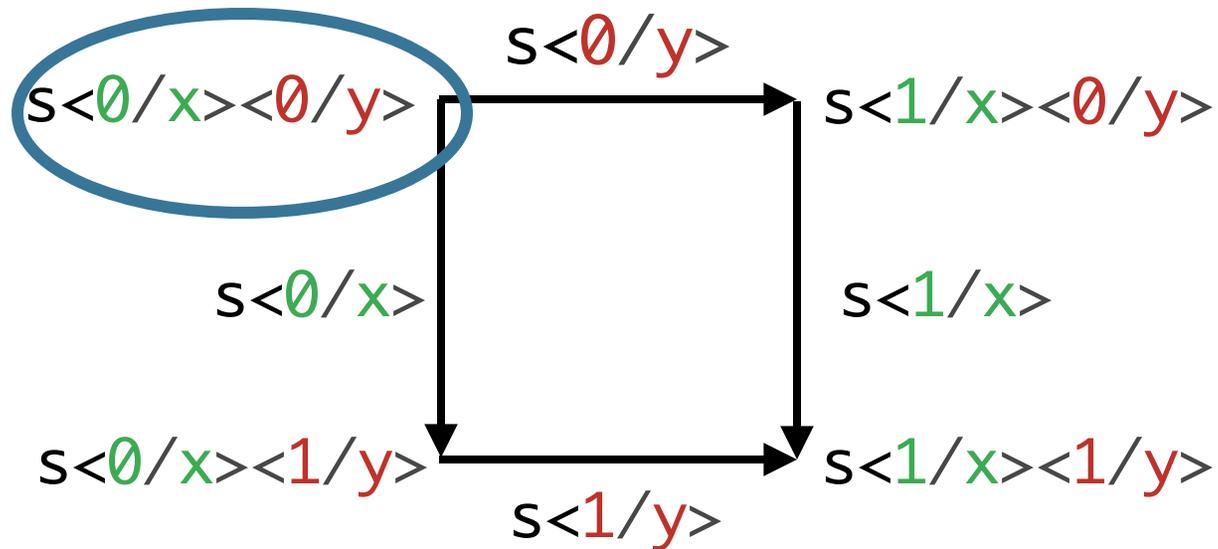


$s\langle x/y \rangle$  is a line ( $\{x\}$ -cube)



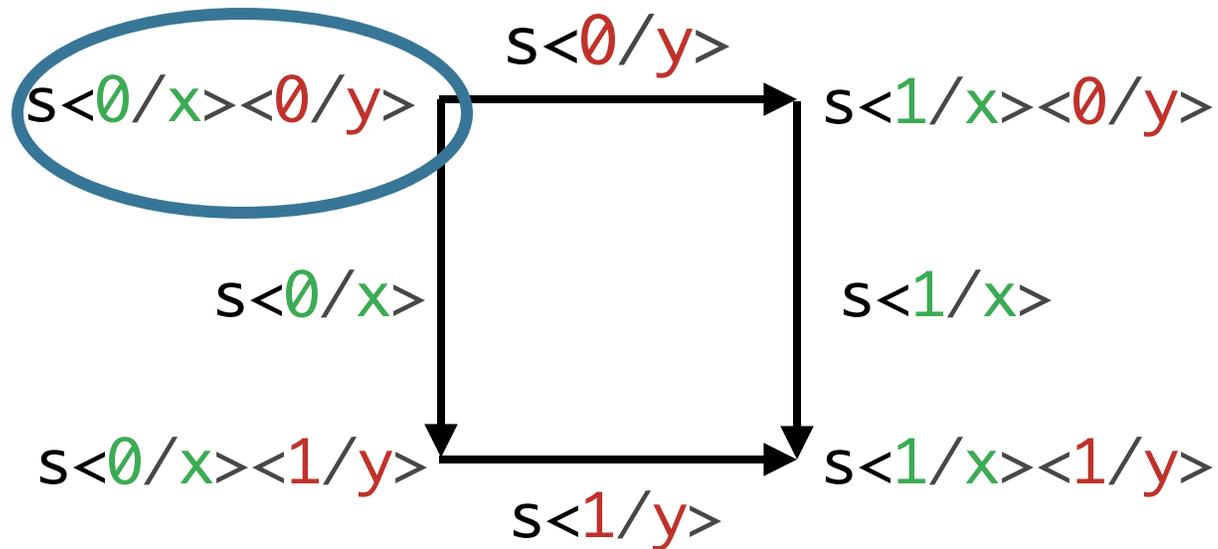
$s\langle x/y \rangle$  is a line ( $\{x\}$ -cube)

$$s\langle x/y \rangle \langle 0/x \rangle = s\langle 0/x \rangle \langle 0/y \rangle$$



$s\langle x/y \rangle$  is a line ( $\{x\}$ -cube)

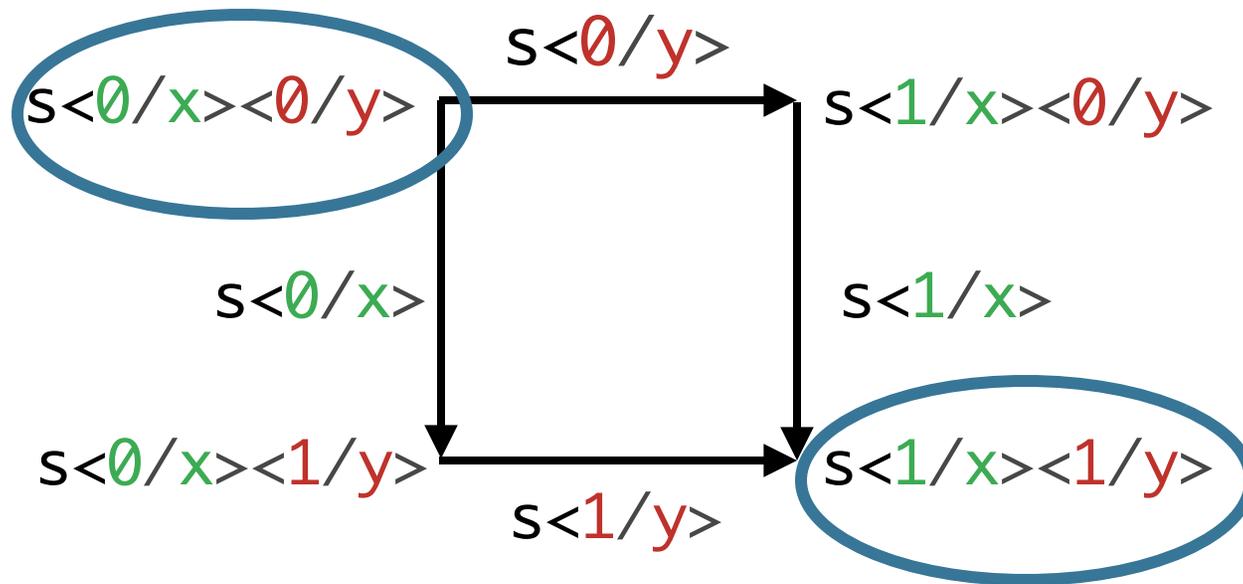
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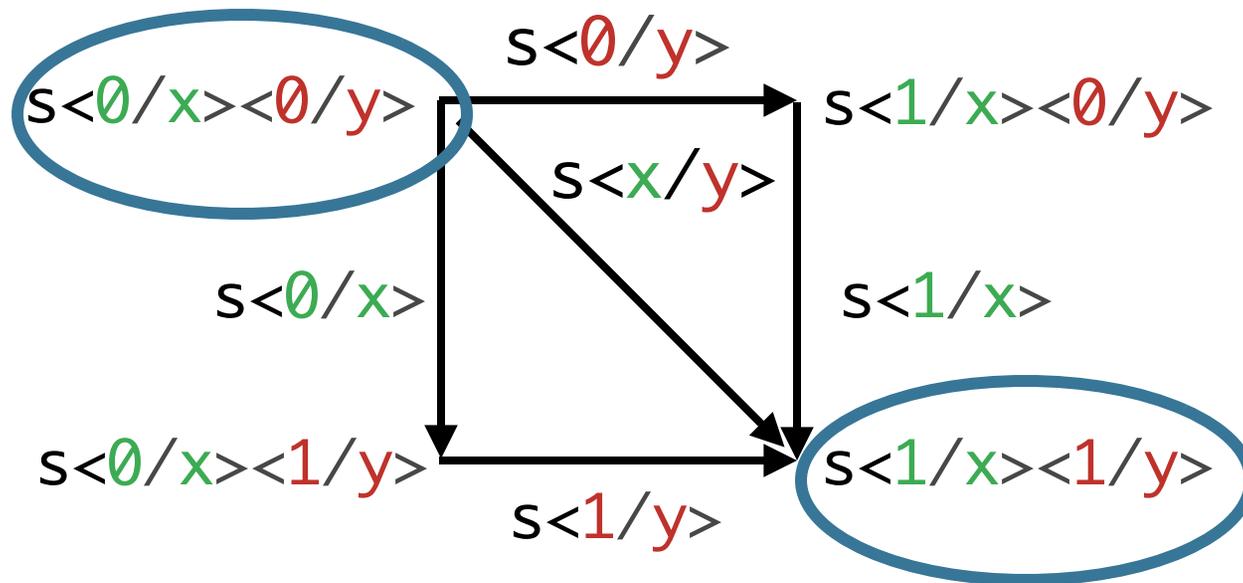
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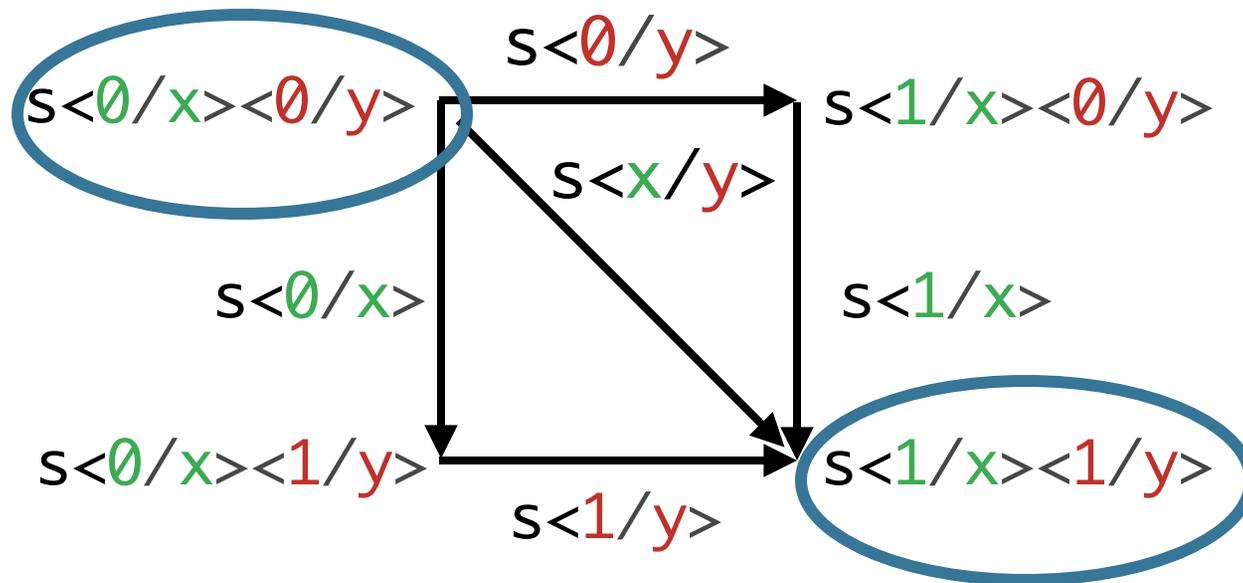


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# Diagonals



$s\langle x/y \rangle$  is a line ( $\{x\}$ -cube)

$$s\langle x/y \rangle \langle 0/x \rangle = s\langle 0/x \rangle \langle 0/y \rangle$$

$$s\langle x/y \rangle \langle 1/x \rangle = s\langle 1/x \rangle \langle 1/y \rangle$$

# Dimensions [Coquand,Pitts]

- \* n-dimensional cube has n dimension names free
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- \* Substitution of 0 or 1: faces
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Properties are *cubical identities*