

Rzk proof assistant and simplicial HoTT formalisation[†]

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Lab of Programming Languages and Compilers



[†]joint with Emily Riehl and Jonathan Weinberger

1. Rzk in context
2. Simplicial type theory in Rzk
3. Simplicial HoTT formalization²
4. Development of Rzk
5. Conclusion

²joint with Emily Riehl and Jonathan Weinberger

Rzk in context



Synthetic theories and proof assistants

1. Reasoning directly in (higher) **category theory** (or **homotopy theory**) is hard, because one has to check coherences on (infinitely) many levels
2. *Synthetic theories* allow to internalize some of the arguments in such a way that (some) proofs become easier
3. *Proof assistants* check or even derive proofs in synthetic theories

Applications¹

(Physics, Biology, Computer Science, etc.)

Homotopy Theory	(Higher) Category Theory

¹see Applied Category Theory at <https://www.appliedcategorytheory.org>

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Homotopy Type Theory	Type Theory for Synthetic ∞ -categories
UniMath, cubical Agda, redtt, etc.	Rzk

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Towards directed type theory

1. HoTT

- all types are ∞ -groupoids (aka $(\infty, 0)$ -categories)
- identity types provide the ∞ -groupoid structure

2. simplicial HoTT

- some types are ∞ -categories (aka $(\infty, 1)$ -categories)
- identity types provide the ∞ -groupoid structure as in HoTT
- simplicial types give rise to an independent higher structure
- in Segal types (pre- ∞ -categories), hom-types provide categorical structure
- in Rezk types (∞ -categories), isomorphisms become equivalent to paths, merging the two higher structures

3. directed type theory

- all/some types are (∞, ∞) -categories
- no definitive theory exists yet (but there is work in progress)
- in particular, (Riehl and Shulman 2017, Section 3.1) suggests that using different shapes in their type theory should yield such theories and even combine them

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HoTT is successfully formalized in many proof assistants:

- **UniMath** (**Coq** library)
- **agda-unimath** (**Agda** library)
- **agda/cubical** (**Cubical Agda** library)
- **arend-lib** (**Arend** library)
- **Lean 2 HoTT** exists, but since then Lean had UIP built in, prohibiting HoTT.

To formalize type theory with shapes (Riehl and Shulman 2017), we need *extension types*. To the best of my knowledge, these are only supported w.r.t. the cubical interval in proof assistants for cubical type theories (such as **Cubical Agda**, **Arend**, **Aya**, **red***).

This means that simplicial type theory can be formalized either with a lot of extra bookkeeping², in a new proof assistant, or in an extension of an existing one.

² it might be possible to utilize user-define rewrite rules to some extent

Simplicial type theory in Rzk

A type theory for synthetic ∞ -categories (Riehl and Shulman 2017) is an extension over an (intentional) Martin-Löf Type Theory with two important features:

1. *extension types*

- reduce bookkeeping in proofs
- rely heavily on judgemental equality
- may introduce local judgemental equalities into scopes

2. *tope logic*

- allows to "carve out" shapes of (categorical) diagrams
- requires a fully automated (intuitionistic) constraint solver

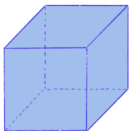
Rzk is an experimental proof assistant (and a language) based on this type theory.

github.com/rzk-lang/rzk or rzk-lang.github.io

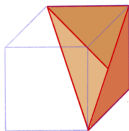
Type theory with shapes

A 3-layer type theory:

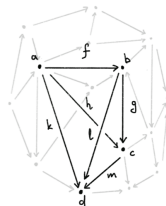
1. *cubes* provide spaces where points come from;
2. *topes* provide restrictions of those spaces;
3. *types* and *terms* are indexed by points in cubes, restricted by topes.



$$(t_1, t_2, t_3) : 2^3$$



$$\begin{aligned} &(t_3 \equiv 0 \wedge t_2 \leq t_1) \vee \\ &(t_3 \leq t_2 \wedge t_1 \equiv 1) \vee \\ &(t_3 \leq t_2 \wedge t_2 \equiv t_1) \end{aligned}$$



$a, b, c, d : A$
 f, g, h, k, l, m

$$\begin{aligned} g \circ f &= h \\ m \circ g &= l \\ m \circ h &= k \end{aligned}$$

Cubes and toposes

Cubes: directed interval 2 , directed square 2×2 , directed cube $2 \times 2 \times 2$, etc.

A tope is essentially an (intuitionistic) logical formula that restricts which points in a given space we consider:

1. TOP selects all points in a given space (no restrictions, think true);
2. BOT selects nothing (think false);
3. $(\psi \wedge \zeta)$ selects all points that satisfy both ψ and ζ ;
4. $(\psi \vee \zeta)$ selects all points that satisfy either ψ or ζ ;
5. $(t \equiv s)$ selects all points such that $t = s$;
6. $(t \leq s)$ selects all points such that $t \leq s$ (when t and s are in 2);

Basic shapes: simplices

Basic shapes over (products of) the directed interval cube:

```
1  #define  $\Delta^1$ 
2    : 2  $\rightarrow$  TOPE
3    := \ _  $\rightarrow$  TOP
4
5  #define  $\Delta^2$ 
6    : (2  $\times$  2)  $\rightarrow$  TOPE
7    := \ (t, s)  $\rightarrow$  (s  $\leq$  t)
8
9  #define  $\Delta^3$ 
10   : (2  $\times$  2  $\times$  2)  $\rightarrow$  TOPE
11   := \ ((t_1, t_2), t_3)  $\rightarrow$  (t_3  $\leq$  t_2)  $\wedge$  (t_2  $\leq$  t_1)
```



Basic shapes: horns

```
1  #define  $\Lambda$ 
2    : (2  $\times$  2)  $\rightarrow$  TOPE
3    := \ (t, s)  $\rightarrow$  (s  $\equiv$  02)  $\vee$  (t  $\equiv$  12)
4
5  #define  $\Lambda'$ 
6    : ( (t, s) : 2  $\times$  2 |  $\Delta^2$  (t, s) )  $\rightarrow$  TOPE
7    := \ (t, s)  $\rightarrow$  (s  $\equiv$  02)  $\vee$  (t  $\equiv$  12)
8
9  #define  $\Lambda''$ 
10   :  $\Delta^2 \rightarrow$  TOPE
11   := \ (t, s)  $\rightarrow$  (s  $\equiv$  02)  $\vee$  (t  $\equiv$  12)
```



Type layer: dependent functions

Dependent function types allow result type to depend on the *value* of a previously introduced argument. Here are some equivalent notations for an identity function:

```
1  #define identity
2    : (A : U) → (x : A) → A
3    := \ A x → x
4
5  -- omit x in the type
6  #define identity2
7    : (A : U) → (A → A)
8    := \ A x → x
9
10 -- introduce A for type and term at the same time
11 #define identity3 (A : U)
12   : A → A
13   := \ x → x
```

Type layer: dependent functions

A dependently-typed version of flipping arguments of a function:

```
1  -- Flipping the arguments of a function.
2  #define flip
3      ( A B : U)                -- For any types A and B
4      ( C : A → B → U)          -- and a type family C
5      ( f : (x : A) → (y : B) → C x y) -- given a function f : A → B → C
6      : (y : B) → (x : A) → C x y    -- we construct a function of type B → A → C
7      := \ y x → f x y              -- by swapping the arguments
8
9  -- Flipping a function twice is the same as not doing anything
10 #define flip-flip-is-id
11     ( A B : U)                -- For any types A and B
12     ( C : A → B → U)          -- and a type family C
13     ( f : (x : A) → (y : B) → C x y) -- given a function f : A → B → C
14     : f = flip B A (\ y x → C x y)
15         (flip A B C f)        -- flipping f twice is the same as f
16     := refl                    -- proof by reflexivity
```

Type layer: identity/path types

```
1  #variable X : U
2  #variable Y : X → U
3
4  -- transport in a type family along a path in the base
5  #define transport
6    ( x y : X)
7    ( p : x = y)
8    ( u : Y x)
9    : Y y
10 := idJ ( X, x, \ y' p' -> Y y', u, y, p )
```

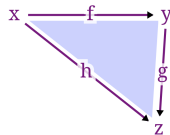
Simplicial types: hom

```
1  -- [RS17, Definition 5.1]
2  -- The type of arrows in A from x to y.
3  #def hom
4    ( A : U)    -- A type.
5    ( x y : A)  -- Two points in A.
6    : U
7    := (t :  $\Delta^1$ )  $\rightarrow$  A [
8      t  $\equiv$  02  $\mapsto$  x,
9      t  $\equiv$  12  $\mapsto$  y
10   ]
```

x \longrightarrow y

Simplicial types: hom2

```
1  -- [RS17, Definition 5.2]
2  -- The type of commutative triangles in A.
3  #def hom2
4      ( A : U)
5      ( x y z : A)
6      ( f : hom A x y)
7      ( g : hom A y z)
8      ( h : hom A x z)
9      : U
10     := ( (t1, t2) :  $\Delta^2$  )  $\rightarrow$  A [
11         t2  $\equiv$  02  $\mapsto$  f t1,
12         t1  $\equiv$  12  $\mapsto$  g t2,
13         t2  $\equiv$  t1  $\mapsto$  h t2
14     ]
```



Composition of cofibrations [RS17, Theorem 4.4]


```
1  #define cofibration-composition
2  ( I : CUBE)
3  (  $\chi$  : I  $\rightarrow$  TOPE)
4  (  $\psi$  :  $\chi$   $\rightarrow$  TOPE)
5  (  $\phi$  :  $\psi$   $\rightarrow$  TOPE)
6  ( X :  $\chi$   $\rightarrow$  U)
7  ( a : (t :  $\phi$ )  $\rightarrow$  X t)
8  : Equiv
9  ( (t :  $\chi$ )  $\rightarrow$  X t [ $\phi$  t  $\mapsto$  a t])
10 (  $\Sigma$  ( f : (t :  $\psi$ )  $\rightarrow$  X t [ $\phi$  t  $\mapsto$  a t]) ,
11      ( (t :  $\chi$ )  $\rightarrow$  X t [ $\psi$  t  $\mapsto$  f t]))
12 :=
13 ( \ h  $\rightarrow$  (\ t  $\rightarrow$  h t , \ t  $\rightarrow$  h t) ,
14   ( ( \ (_f , g) t  $\rightarrow$  g t , \ h  $\rightarrow$  refl) ,
15     ( ( \ (_f , g) t  $\rightarrow$  g t , \ h  $\rightarrow$  refl))))
```

Composition of cofibrations [RS17, Theorem 4.4]

```

1  #define cofibration-composition
2  ( I : CUBE)
3  ( χ : I → TOPE)
4  ( ψ : χ → TOPE)
5  ( φ : ψ → TOPE)
6  ( X : χ → U)
7  ( a : (t : φ) → X t)
8  : Equiv
9  ( (t : χ) → X t [φ t ↦ a t])
10 ( Σ ( f : (t : ψ) → X t [φ t ↦ a t]) ,
11     ( (t : χ) → X t [ψ t ↦ f t]))
12 :=
13 ( \ h → ( \ t → h t , \ t → h t) ,
14   ( ( \ (_f , g) t → g t , \ h → refl) ,
15     ( ( \ (_f , g) t → g t , \ h → refl))))

```



$$(\Delta^2 \rightarrow A) \simeq \sum_{x,y,z:A} \sum_{f:\text{hom}_A(x,y)} \sum_{g:\text{hom}_A(y,z)} \sum_{h:\text{hom}_A(x,z)} \text{hom}_A^2(f,g;h)$$

Simplicial HoTT formalization[†]

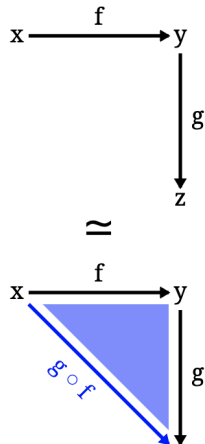
[†]joint with Emily Riehl and Jonathan Weinberger

Segal types (pre- ∞ -categories)

```
1  #define is-segal
2    ( A : U)
3    : U
4    :=
5      (x : A) →
6      (y : A) →
7      (z : A) →
8      (f : hom A x y) →
9      (g : hom A y z) →
10     is-contr (Σ (h : hom A x z) ,
11                (hom2 A x y z f g h))
```

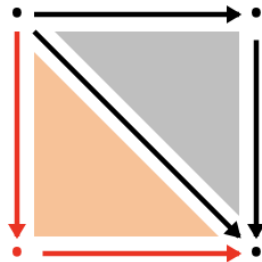
Segal types (pre- ∞ -categories) — alternative characterization

```
1  #define horn-restriction
2    ( A : U)
3    : (  $\Delta^2 \rightarrow A$ )  $\rightarrow$  (  $\Lambda \rightarrow A$ )
4    := \ f t  $\rightarrow$  f t
5
6  #define is-local-horn-inclusion
7    ( A : U)
8    : U
9    := is-equiv (  $\Delta^2 \rightarrow A$ ) (  $\Lambda \rightarrow A$ )
10   (horn-restriction A)
```



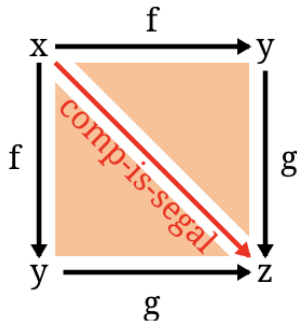
Associativity for Segal types: unfolding square

```
1  #define unfolding-square
2  ( A : U)
3  ( triangle :  $\Delta^2 \rightarrow A$ )
4  :  $\Delta^1 \times \Delta^1 \rightarrow A$ 
5  :=
6  \ (t , s)  $\rightarrow$ 
7    recOR
8    ( t  $\leq$  s  $\mapsto$  triangle (s , t) ,
9      s  $\leq$  t  $\mapsto$  triangle (t , s))
```



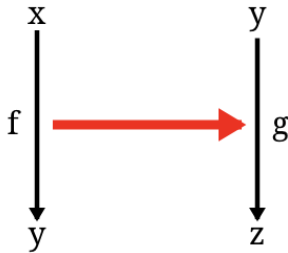
Associativity for Segal types: unfolding composition square

```
1  #define witness-square-comp-is-segal
2    ( A : U)
3    ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4    ( x y z : A)
5    ( f : hom A x y)
6    ( g : hom A y z)
7    :  $\Delta^1 \times \Delta^1 \rightarrow A$ 
8    := unfolding-square A
9      (witness-comp-is-segal A is-segal-A x y z f g)
```



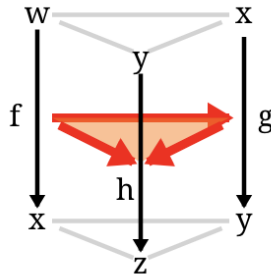
Associativity for Segal types: arrows in arrow type

```
1  #define arr-in-arr-is-segal
2    ( A : U)
3    ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4    ( x y z : A)
5    ( f : hom A x y)
6    ( g : hom A y z)
7    : hom (arr A) f g
8    := \ t s →
9      witness-square-comp-is-segal A is-segal-A x y z f g (t , s)
```



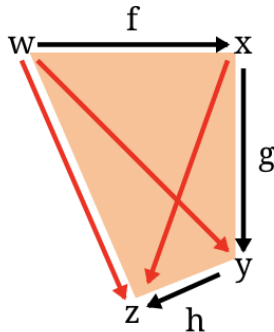
Associativity for Segal types: associativity prism

```
1  #define witness-associative-is-segal uses (extext)
2  ( A : U)
3  ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4  ( w x y z : A)
5  ( f : hom A w x)
6  ( g : hom A x y)
7  ( h : hom A y z)
8  : hom2 (arr A) f g h
9      (arr-in-arr-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y f g)
10     (arr-in-arr-is-segal A is-segal-A x y z g h)
11     (comp-is-segal (arr A) (is-segal-arr A is-segal-A)
12      f g h
13      (arr-in-arr-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y f g)
14      (arr-in-arr-is-segal A is-segal-A x y z g h))
15 :=
16     witness-comp-is-segal
17     ( arr A)
18     ( is-segal-arr A is-segal-A)
19     f g h
20     ( arr-in-arr-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y f g)
21     ( arr-in-arr-is-segal A is-segal-A x y z g h)
```



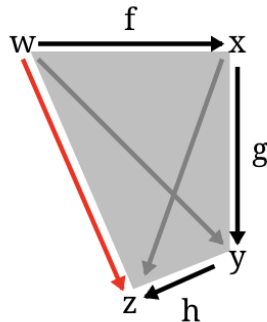
Associativity for Segal types: associativity tetrahedron

```
1  #define tetrahedron-associative-is-segal uses (exttext)
2  ( A : U)
3  ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4  ( w x y z : A)
5  ( f : hom A w x)
6  ( g : hom A x y)
7  ( h : hom A y z)
8  :  $\Delta^3 \rightarrow A$ 
9  :=
10 \ ((t , s) , r) →
11 (witness-associative-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y z f g h)
12 (t , r) s
```



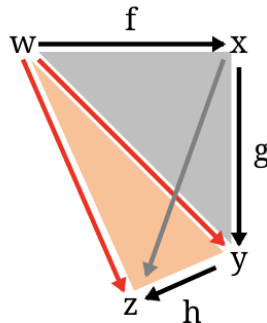
Associativity for Segal types: triple composition

```
1  #define triple-comp-is-segal uses (extext)
2  ( A : U)
3  ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4  ( w x y z : A)
5  ( f : hom A w x)
6  ( g : hom A x y)
7  ( h : hom A y z)
8  : hom A w z
9  :=
10 \ t →
11   tetrahedron-associative-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y z f g h
12   ( (t , t) , t)
```



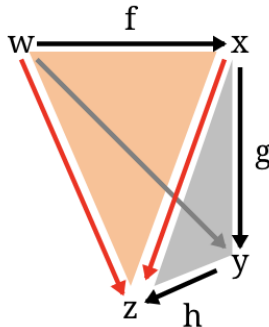
Associativity for Segal types: left witness

```
1  #define left-witness-associative-is-segal uses (extext)
2  ( A : U)
3  ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4  ( w x y z : A)
5  ( f : hom A w x)
6  ( g : hom A x y)
7  ( h : hom A y z)
8  : hom2 A w y z
9    (comp-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y f g)
10   h
11   (triple-comp-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y z f g h)
12 :=
13   \ (t , s) →
14   tetrahedron-associative-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y z f g h
15   ( (t , t) , s)
```



Associativity for Segal types: right witness

```
1  #define right-witness-associative-is-segal uses (extext)
2  ( A : U)
3  ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4  ( w x y z : A)
5  ( f : hom A w x)
6  ( g : hom A x y)
7  ( h : hom A y z)
8  : hom2 A w x z
9  ( f)
10 ( comp-is-segal A is-segal-A x y z g h)
11 ( triple-comp-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y z f g h)
12 :=
13 \ ( t , s) →
14   tetrahedron-associative-is-segal A is-segal-A w x y z f g h
15   ( ( t , s) , s)
```



A formalized proof of the ∞ -categorical Yoneda lemma

Our initial aim was to write a formalized proof of the ∞ -categorical Yoneda lemma.

github.com/emilyriehl/yoneda or emilyriehl.github.io/yoneda/

- proof from Riehl and Shulman 2017
- formalizations written by Nikolai Kudasov, Emily Riehl, Jonathan Weinberger
- completed March 12 – April 17, 2023

```
1  #def yoneda-lemma uses (funext)
2    ( A : U)
3    ( is-segal-A : is-segal A)
4    ( a : A)
5    ( C : A → U)
6    ( is-covariant-C : is-covariant A C)
7    : is-equiv ((z : A) → hom A a z → C z) (C a) (evid A a C)
8    := ( ( ( yon A is-segal-A a C is-covariant-C) ,
9           ( yon-evid A is-segal-A a C is-covariant-C)) ,
10         ( ( yon A is-segal-A a C is-covariant-C) ,
11           ( evid-yon A is-segal-A a C is-covariant-C)))
```

See more details at arxiv.org/abs/2309.08340

Fixing a proof

Rzk helped find an bug (circular reasoning) in a proof of Riehl and Shulman 2017, Proposition 8.13.

Fortunately, the proof could be fixed* in a fairly straightforward way.

* [emilyriehl/yoneda#6](#)

Proposition 8.13. *Let A be a type and fix $a : A$. Then the type family*

$$\lambda x. \text{hom}_A(a, x) : A \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

is covariant if and only if A is a Segal type.

Proof. The condition of Definition 8.2 asserts that for each $b, c : A$, $f : \text{hom}_A(a, b)$, and $g : \text{hom}_A(b, c)$, the type

$$\sum_{h : \text{hom}_A(a, c)} \left\langle \prod_{s:2} \text{hom}_A(a, g(s)) \Big|_{[f, h]}^{\beta \Delta^1} \right\rangle$$

is contractible. Applying Theorem 4.4, this is easily seen to be equivalent to

$$\left\langle 2 \times 2 \rightarrow A \Big|_{[\text{id}_a, f, g]}^d \right\rangle$$

where d is the “cubical horn”

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_a} & \cdot \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{g} & \cdot \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_a} & \cdot \\ f \downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{g} & \cdot \end{array} \right)$$

But since 2×2 is the pushout of two copies of Δ^2 over their diagonal faces, our type is now also equivalent to

$$\sum_{k : \text{hom}_A(a, c)} \left(\text{hom}_A^2 \left(a \begin{array}{c} f \quad b \quad g \\ \quad \quad k \end{array} c \right) \times \sum_{h : \text{hom}_A(a, c)} \text{hom}_A^2 \left(a \begin{array}{c} \text{id}_a \quad a \quad h \\ \quad \quad k \end{array} c \right) \right)$$

Now by Proposition 5.10, we have

$$\left(\sum_{h : \text{hom}_A(a, c)} \text{hom}_A^2 \left(a \begin{array}{c} \text{id}_a \quad a \quad h \\ \quad \quad k \end{array} c \right) \right) \simeq \sum_{h : \text{hom}_A(a, c)} \langle h = k \rangle,$$

which is contractible. Thus, it remains to consider

$$\sum_{k : \text{hom}_A(a, c)} \text{hom}_A^2 \left(a \begin{array}{c} f \quad b \quad g \\ \quad \quad k \end{array} c \right)$$

which is contractible if and only if A is a Segal type. \square

Formalizing synthetic ∞ -categories

We are now on a path to formalize more results from synthetic ∞ -categories in Rzk:

github.com/rzk-lang/sHoTT or rzk-lang.github.io/sHoTT/

The aim is to formalize results from

- Type theory for synthetic ∞ -categories (Riehl and Shulman 2017)
- Limits and colimits of synthetic ∞ -categories (Bardomiano Martínez 2022)
- Synthetic fibered $(\infty,1)$ -category theory (Buchholtz and Weinberger 2023)

Recently, new contributors joined the formalization project during the school “Interactions between Proof Assistants and Mathematics” in Regensburg:

rzk-lang.github.io/sHoTT/CONTRIBUTORS/

Development of Rzk

With active users, Rzk has gained some tooling and editor support:

- VS Code extension and Rzk Language Server
(maintained by Abdelrahman Abouneqm)
- Tooling for documentation of formalizations:
 - `literate Rzk Markdown`
 - leveraging MkDocs Material for rendering
 - `pygments-rzk` for syntax highlighting
 - `mkdocs-plugin-rzk` for definition anchors and diagram rendering
(maintained by Abdelrahman Abouneqm)

See more details about these and other satellite tools at

github.com/rzk-lang

Rzk features

Currently Rzk has primitive syntax and only a few of convenience features:

- fully automated tope logic solver
- Coq-style sections and variables
- experimental diagram rendering

VS Code extension provides:

- semantic syntax highlighting
- automatic checking in the background
- basic diagnostics
- basic autocompletion for top-level definitions

There is also an online Rzk playground at rzk-lang.github.io/rzk/v0.6.6/playground/

Quite a few features are currently missing, but should be added:

- hierarchy of universes
- type and term inference, which should bring
 - typed holes
 - implicit arguments
 - reasoning with chains of equations
- local definitions (e.g. `#let` command, `let`-expression and `where`-clause)
- user-defined (directed) higher-inductive types
- user-defined cubes and topes

VS Code extension is also planned to support:




- better diagnostics (details, hints, warnings, quick fixes)
- Rzk InfoView (à la Lean's Info View)

Conclusion

Conclusion

1. Rzk is an experimental(!), but usable proof assistant for synthetic ∞ -categories.
rzk-lang.github.io
2. With Emily Riehl and Jonathan Weinberger, we have formalized the ∞ -categorical Yoneda lemma in Rzk.
emilyriehl.github.io/yoneda/
3. We have started to formalize more with new contributors (feel free to join!):
rzk-lang.github.io/sHoTT/
4. Rzk and tools around it are growing (we need your help/feedback):
github.com/rzk-lang

Thank you!

-  Bardomiano Martínez, César (2022). *Limits and colimits of synthetic ∞ -categories*. arXiv: 2202.12386 [math.CT].
-  Buchholtz, Ulrik and Jonathan Weinberger (2023). “Synthetic fibered $(\infty, 1)$ -category theory”. In: *Higher Structures* 7 (1), pp. 74–165. arXiv: 2105.01724 [math.CT].
-  Riehl, Emily and Michael Shulman (2017). “A type theory for synthetic ∞ -categories”. In: *Higher Structures* 1 (1). arXiv: 1705.07442 [math.CT].