

# Identity of formulas and proofs

Rémi Di Guardia

IRIF (CNRS, Université Paris Cité), France

PACMAN, Rome, 16 May 2025



IRN  $\langle L|I \rangle$

- ▶ Equality of proofs / terms
  - In  $\lambda$ -calculus
  - In Linear Logic
  
- ▶ Equality of formulas / types
  - In  $\lambda$ -calculus
  - In Linear Logic

# Simply typed $\lambda$ -calculus

## Terms

$$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x. M \mid M N$$

## Types

$$A, B ::= O \mid A \rightarrow B$$

## $\beta$ -reduction

$$(\lambda x. M) N \xrightarrow{\beta} M[N/x]$$

## $\eta$ -expansion

$$M \xrightarrow{\eta} (\lambda x. M x)$$

# Simply typed $\lambda$ -calculus

## Terms

$$M, N := x \mid \lambda x. M \mid M N$$

## Types

$$A, B := O \mid A \rightarrow B$$

## $\beta$ -reduction

$$(\lambda x. M) N \xrightarrow{\beta} M[N/x]$$

## $\eta$ -expansion

$$M \xrightarrow{\eta} (\lambda x. M x)$$

Usually, *syntactic equality* is not enough:

- Quotient in category/denotational model:  $M =_{\beta\eta} N \implies \llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket N \rrbracket$

- Church encoding:  $\underline{n} := \lambda f. \lambda x. \overbrace{f f \dots f}^{n \text{ times}} x$   
 $\underline{2} + \underline{2}$  should be equivalent to  $\underline{2} + (\underline{1} + \underline{1})$

→ the “good” notion of equality of terms is up to **computations** (i.e.  $\beta$  and  $\eta$  equivalence closures,  $=_{\beta\eta}$ )

# Simply typed $\lambda$ -calculus

## Terms

$$M, N := x \mid \lambda x. M \mid M N$$

## Types

$$A, B := O \mid A \rightarrow B$$

## $\beta$ -reduction

$$(\lambda x. M) N \xrightarrow{\beta} M[N/x]$$

## $\eta$ -expansion

$$M \xrightarrow{\eta} (\lambda x. M x)$$

Usually, *syntactic equality* is not enough:

- Quotient in category/denotational model:  $M =_{\beta\eta} N \implies \llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket N \rrbracket$

- Church encoding:  $\underline{n} := \lambda f. \lambda x. \overbrace{f f \dots f}^{n \text{ times}} x$   
 $\underline{2} + \underline{2}$  should be equivalent to  $\underline{2} + (\underline{1} + \underline{1})$

→ the “good” notion of equality of terms is up to **computations** (i.e.  $\beta$  and  $\eta$  equivalence closures,  $=_{\beta\eta}$ )

Here: focus *only on equality up to  $\beta$ -reduction* to simplify

# Checking equality of terms

## Problem:

- $M =_{\beta} N$ ? Give a sequence of terms  $M \xleftarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \dots \xleftarrow{\beta} N$
- $M \neq_{\beta} N$ ? Prove such a sequence cannot exist!

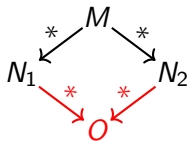
# Checking equality of terms

## Problem:

- $M =_{\beta} N$ ? Give a sequence of terms  $M \xleftarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \dots \xleftarrow{\beta} N$
- $M \neq_{\beta} N$ ? Prove such a sequence cannot exist!

## Key results:

- $\beta$  is **strongly normalizing**  
(no infinite sequence of reductions)
- $\beta$  is **confluent**



## Corollary

$$M =_{\beta} N \iff \beta(M) = \beta(N) \quad \text{where } = \text{ is syntactic equality!}$$

with  $\beta(\cdot)$  the unique normal form of the term

## Examples

$$\underline{2} + \underline{2} \xrightarrow{\beta^*} \underline{4} \xleftarrow{\beta^*} \underline{2} + (\underline{1} + \underline{1}) \qquad \underline{2} + \underline{2} \xrightarrow{\beta^*} \underline{4} \neq \underline{3} \xleftarrow{\beta^*} \underline{2} + \underline{1}$$

# Linear Logic

## Formulas

$A, B :=$	$  X   X^\perp$	(atom)
	$  A \wp B   A \otimes B   \perp   1$	(multiplicative)
	$  A \& B   A \oplus B   \top   0$	(additive)
	$  ?A   !A$	(exponential)
	$  \forall X A   \exists X A$	(quantifier)

## Orthogonality

$$(X^\perp)^\perp = X \qquad (A \otimes B)^\perp = A^\perp \wp B^\perp \qquad \dots$$

## Rules (16)

$$\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)} \quad \frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, \Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Delta}{\vdash A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes) \quad \dots$$

# Linear Logic

## Formulas

$A, B :=$	$  X   X^\perp$	(atom)
	$  A \wp B   A \otimes B   \perp   1$	(multiplicative)
	$  A \& B   A \oplus B   \top   0$	(additive)
	$  ?A   !A$	(exponential)
	$  \forall X A   \exists X A$	(quantifier)

## Orthogonality

$$(X^\perp)^\perp = X \qquad (A \otimes B)^\perp = A^\perp \wp B^\perp \qquad \dots$$

## Rules (16)

$$\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)} \quad \frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, \Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Delta}{\vdash A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes) \quad \dots$$

**Computations:** through the Curry-Howard isomorphism,  $\beta$ -reduction corresponds to **cut-elimination** and  $\eta$ -expansion to **axiom-expansion**

# Cut-elimination

## Key steps (9)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash A, \Gamma} \pi \\
 \hline
 \vdash A, \Gamma \\
 \hline
 \frac{}{\vdash A, \Gamma} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \vdash A, \Gamma
 \end{array}$$

*"true" computations*

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash B^\perp, A^\perp, \Gamma} \pi \quad \frac{}{\vdash B^\perp \wp A^\perp, \Gamma} \text{ (}\wp\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash B^\perp \wp A^\perp, \Gamma \\
 \hline
 \frac{}{\vdash A, \Delta} \rho \quad \frac{}{\vdash B, \Sigma} \tau \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, \Delta, \Sigma \quad \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma \quad \text{ (cut)}
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow{\beta}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash B^\perp, A^\perp, \Gamma} \pi \quad \frac{}{\vdash B, \Sigma} \tau \\
 \hline
 \vdash A^\perp, \Gamma, \Sigma \quad \text{ (cut)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{}{\vdash A, \Delta} \rho \\
 \hline
 \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma \quad \text{ (cut)}
 \end{array}$$

## Commutative steps (15)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, B, C, \Gamma} \pi \quad \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, B \wp C, \Gamma} \text{ (}\wp\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A^\perp, B \wp C, \Gamma \\
 \hline
 \frac{}{\vdash A, \Delta} \rho \\
 \hline
 \vdash A, \Delta \\
 \hline
 \vdash B \wp C, \Gamma, \Delta \quad \text{ (cut)}
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow{\beta}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, B, C, \Gamma} \pi \quad \frac{}{\vdash A, \Delta} \rho \\
 \hline
 \vdash A^\perp, B, C, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, \Delta \\
 \hline
 \vdash B, C, \Gamma, \Delta \quad \text{ (cut)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash B \wp C, \Gamma, \Delta \quad \text{ (}\wp\text{)}
 \end{array}$$

*used to reach a key step*

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, B^\perp, \Gamma} \pi \quad \frac{}{\vdash A, \Delta} \rho \\
 \hline
 \vdash A^\perp, B^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, \Delta \\
 \hline
 \vdash B^\perp, \Gamma, \Delta \quad \text{ (cut)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{}{\vdash B, \Sigma} \tau \\
 \hline
 \vdash B, \Sigma \\
 \hline
 \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma \quad \text{ (cut)}
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow{\beta}
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, B^\perp, \Gamma} \pi \quad \frac{}{\vdash B, \Sigma} \tau \\
 \hline
 \vdash A^\perp, B^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Sigma \\
 \hline
 \vdash A^\perp, \Gamma, \Sigma \quad \text{ (cut)} \\
 \hline
 \frac{}{\vdash A, \Delta} \rho \\
 \hline
 \vdash A, \Delta \\
 \hline
 \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma \quad \text{ (cut)}
 \end{array}$$

# Cut-elimination on an example

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} (ax) \quad \frac{}{\vdash B, B^\perp} (ax) \quad \frac{}{\vdash A, A^\perp} (ax) \quad \frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} (ax) \\
 \hline
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A \otimes B, B^\perp} (\otimes) \quad \frac{}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} (\otimes) \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \quad (cut)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \beta_{com} \\
 \searrow \\
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} (ax) \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash A, A^\perp} (ax) \quad \frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} (ax)}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} (\otimes) \\
 \hline
 \vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C \quad (cut) \quad \frac{}{\vdash B, B^\perp} (ax) \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \quad (\otimes)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \beta_{key} \\
 \swarrow \\
 \frac{\frac{}{\vdash A, A^\perp} (ax) \quad \frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} (ax)}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} (\otimes) \quad \frac{}{\vdash B, B^\perp} (ax) \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \quad (\otimes)
 \end{array}$$

# Checking equality of proofs

## Problem:

- $\pi =_{\beta} \rho$ ? Give a sequence of proofs  $\pi \xleftarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdots \xleftarrow{\beta} \rho$
- $\pi \neq_{\beta} \rho$ ? Prove such a sequence cannot exist!

# Checking equality of proofs

## Problem:

- $\pi =_{\beta} \rho$ ? Give a sequence of proofs  $\pi \xleftarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdots \xleftarrow{\beta} \rho$
- $\pi \neq_{\beta} \rho$ ? Prove such a sequence cannot exist!

## Can we do the same as in $\lambda$ -calculus?

- Cut-elimination is **strongly normalizing**?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Cut-elimination is **confluent**?

# Checking equality of proofs

## Problem:

- $\pi =_{\beta} \rho$ ? Give a sequence of proofs  $\pi \xleftarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdots \xleftarrow{\beta} \rho$
- $\pi \neq_{\beta} \rho$ ? Prove such a sequence cannot exist!

## Can we do the same as in $\lambda$ -calculus?

- Cut-elimination is **strongly normalizing**?

**Almost:** an infinite reduction has an infinite suffix made only of

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^{\perp}, B^{\perp}, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B^{\perp}, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^{\perp}, B^{\perp}, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma}}{\vdash A^{\perp}, \Gamma, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)}$$

- Cut-elimination is **confluent**?

# Checking equality of proofs

## Problem:

- $\pi =_{\beta} \rho$ ? Give a sequence of proofs  $\pi \xleftarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdot \xrightarrow{\beta} \cdots \xleftarrow{\beta} \rho$
- $\pi \neq_{\beta} \rho$ ? Prove such a sequence cannot exist!

## Can we do the same as in $\lambda$ -calculus?

- Cut-elimination is **strongly normalizing**?

**Almost:** an infinite reduction has an infinite suffix made only of

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^{\perp}, B^{\perp}, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B^{\perp}, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^{\perp}, B^{\perp}, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma}}{\vdash A^{\perp}, \Gamma, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)}$$

- Cut-elimination is **confluent**?

**Not at all!**

# Cut-elimination is not confluent!

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash B^\perp, B} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \text{ (cut)} \\
 \swarrow \beta^* \quad \searrow \beta^* \\
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \text{ (}\otimes\text{)}
 \end{array}
 \quad \neq \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash B^\perp, B} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \text{ (}\otimes\text{)}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Irreversible choice at the beginning: first commutative case with the **left**  $\otimes$ -rule or with the **right** one?

No confluence even in the *simplest* sub-systems: unit-free MLL, ALL, ...

# Cut-elimination is not confluent!

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash B^\perp, B} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, A, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, A, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \text{ (cut)} \\
 \swarrow \beta^* \quad \searrow \beta^* \\
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash B^\perp, B} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \text{ (}\otimes\text{)}
 \end{array}
 \neq
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash B^\perp, B} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C \text{ (}\otimes\text{)}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Irreversible choice at the beginning: first commutative case with the **left**  $\otimes$ -rule or with the **right** one?

No confluence even in the *simplest* sub-systems: unit-free MLL, ALL, ...

But confluence up to **rule commutation**!

## Idea

$(a + b) \times (c + d)$  reduces by distributivity laws to both  $(a \times c + a \times d) + (b \times c + b \times d)$  and  $(a \times c + b \times c) + (a \times d + b \times d)$  which are equal *up to* associativity and commutativity of  $+$ .

# Rule commutations (from a list of cases)

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\frac{\rho}{\vdash A, D, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma}}{\vdash A \otimes B, D, \Delta, \Sigma} (\otimes)}{\vdash A \otimes B, C \otimes D, \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} (\otimes) \equiv \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, D, \Delta}}{\vdash A, C \otimes D, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes) \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma}}{\vdash A \otimes B, C \otimes D, \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} (\otimes)$$

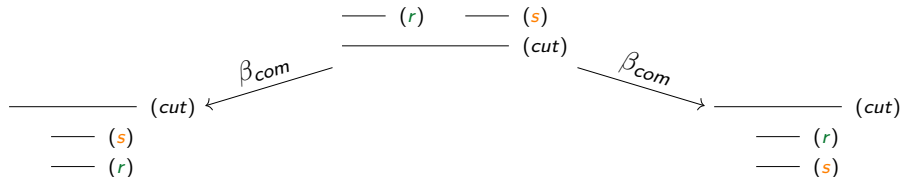
$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, B, C, \Gamma} (\wp) \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash D, \Delta}}{\vdash A \wp B, C \otimes D, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes) \equiv \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, B, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash D, \Delta}}{\vdash A, B, C \otimes D, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes) \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A \wp B, C \otimes D, \Gamma, \Delta} (\wp)$$

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\frac{\rho}{\vdash B, C, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, D, \Delta}}{\vdash B, C \& D, \Delta} (\&)}{\vdash A \otimes B, C \& D, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes) \equiv \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash B, C, \Delta}}{\vdash A \otimes B, C, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes) \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, D, \Delta}}{\vdash A \otimes B, D, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes)}{\vdash A \otimes B, C \& D, \Gamma, \Delta} (\&)$$

... (and many many many more)

# Rule commutations (from a general method)

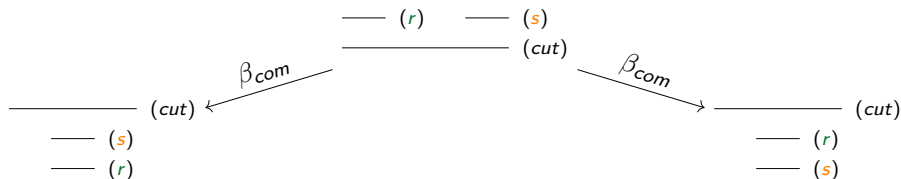
Every pair  $\frac{\text{---} (s)}{\text{---} (r)} \equiv \frac{\text{---} (r)}{\text{---} (s)}$  coming from:



Approximately  $N^2$  commutations with  $N$  the number of rules  $\rightarrow 93$  in LL!

# Rule commutations (from a general method)

Every pair  $\frac{\text{---} (s)}{\text{---} (r)} \equiv \frac{\text{---} (r)}{\text{---} (s)}$  coming from:



Approximately  $N^2$  commutations with  $N$  the number of rules  $\rightarrow 93$  in LL!

## Remarks

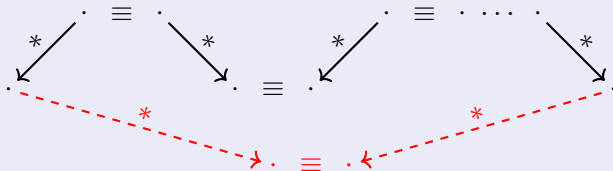
- $\equiv \subseteq =_{\beta}$  trivially
- $\equiv$  is exactly the usual rule commutations **without** the  $! - ?_c$  and  $! - ?_w$  commutations!

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!)}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_c) \not\equiv \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!)}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_c) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!)}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_w) \not\equiv \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!)}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_w)$$

# Confluence up to rule commutation

Theorem (Proved in MALL [DL23] – also on a term syntax in [CP05]; in progress for full LL)

Cut-elimination is **Church-Rosser modulo** rule commutation.



# Confluence up to rule commutation

Theorem (Proved in MALL [DL23] – also on a term syntax in [CP05]; in progress for full LL)

Cut-elimination is **Church-Rosser modulo** rule commutation.



## Theorem 2.2 from [AT12]

Let  $\vdash$ ,  $\rightarrow$  and  $\sim$  be relations such that  $\vdash$  is symmetric and  $\sim \subseteq \vdash$ . Set  $\Rightarrow = \rightarrow \cup \sim$ . Suppose:

- 1  $\rightarrow \cdot \sim^*$  is strongly normalizing
- 2  $\leftarrow \cdot \rightarrow \subseteq \Rightarrow^* \cdot \vdash \cdot * \Leftarrow$
- 3  $\vdash \cdot \rightarrow \subseteq (\vdash \cdot * \Leftarrow) \cup (\rightarrow \cdot \Rightarrow^* \cdot \vdash \cdot * \Leftarrow)$

Then  $\rightarrow$  is Church-Rosser modulo  $\vdash^*$ .

# Confluence up to rule commutation

Theorem (Proved in MALL [DL23] – also on a term syntax in [CP05]; in progress for full LL)

Cut-elimination is **Church-Rosser modulo** rule commutation.



## Theorem 2.2 from [AT12]

Let  $\vdash$ ,  $\rightarrow$  and  $\leadsto$  be relations such that  $\vdash$  is symmetric and  $\leadsto \subseteq \vdash$ . Set  $\Rightarrow = \rightarrow \cup \leadsto$ . Suppose:

**1**  $\rightarrow \cdot \leadsto^*$  is strongly normalizing

**2**  $\leftarrow \cdot \rightarrow \subseteq \Rightarrow^* \cdot \overline{\vdash} \cdot * \Leftarrow$

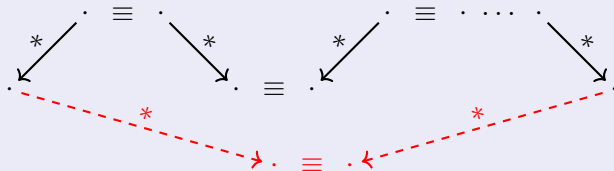
**3**  $\vdash \cdot \rightarrow \subseteq (\overline{\vdash} \cdot * \Leftarrow) \cup (\rightarrow \cdot \Rightarrow^* \cdot \overline{\vdash} \cdot * \Leftarrow)$

Then  $\rightarrow$  is Church-Rosser modulo  $\vdash^*$ .

# Confluence up to rule commutation

Theorem (Proved in MALL [DL23] – also on a term syntax in [CP05]; in progress for full LL)

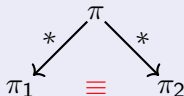
Cut-elimination is **Church-Rosser modulo** rule commutation.



**Corollary: Confluence up to rule commutation**

If  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  are cut-free proofs obtained by cut-elimination from a same proof  $\pi$ , then

$\pi_1 \equiv \pi_2$ .



**Corollary: Equality on normal forms**

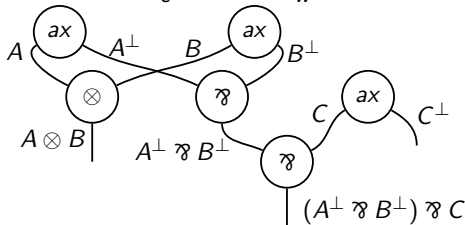
Between cut-free proofs,  $=_\beta$  is exactly  $\equiv$ .

# Consequences

- “Bureaucracy”: have to order all rules in sequent calculus, but some order does not matter and no **canonical** choice

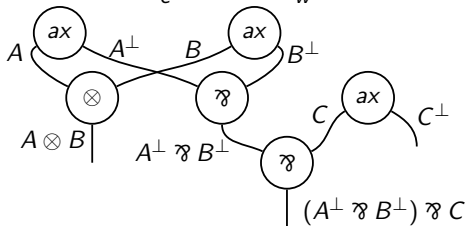
# Consequences

- “Bureaucracy”: have to order all rules in sequent calculus, but some order does not matter and no **canonical** choice
- **Proof-nets**: identify proofs exactly up to rule commutation  $\equiv$ 
  - $=_{\beta}$  is simply **equality of graphs** (for normal forms)!
  - cut-elimination is **confluent** in proof-nets!
  - some difficulties for  $! - ?_c$  and  $! - ?_w$



# Consequences

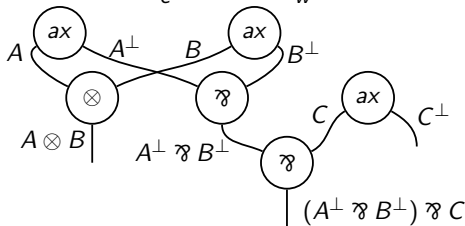
- “Bureaucracy”: have to order all rules in sequent calculus, but some order does not matter and no **canonical** choice
- **Proof-nets**: identify proofs exactly up to rule commutation  $\equiv$ 
  - $=_{\beta}$  is simply **equality of graphs** (for normal forms)!
  - cut-elimination is **confluent** in proof-nets!
  - some difficulties for  $! - ?_c$  and  $! - ?_w$



- **Complexity**: rule commutation is not a “nice” equivalence relation; deciding if two MLL proofs are equivalent is **PSPACE-complete** [HH16]! Still easier to manipulate than  $=_{\beta}$

# Consequences

- “Bureaucracy”: have to order all rules in sequent calculus, but some order does not matter and no **canonical** choice
- **Proof-nets**: identify proofs exactly up to rule commutation  $\equiv$ 
  - $=_{\beta}$  is simply **equality of graphs** (for normal forms)!
  - cut-elimination is **confluent** in proof-nets!
  - some difficulties for  $! - ?_c$  and  $! - ?_w$



- **Complexity**: rule commutation is not a “nice” equivalence relation; deciding if two MLL proofs are equivalent is **PSPACE-complete** [HH16]! Still easier to manipulate than  $=_{\beta}$
- **Axiom-expansion** to take into account, along with its interactions with cut-elimination (e.g. commutations as rewriting systems) ...

# Interlude: What about Classical Logic?

Cut-elimination **equalizes** all proofs of a same sequent (by Lafont in [GLT89, Appendix B.1]):  $=_{\beta}$  is the largest possible!

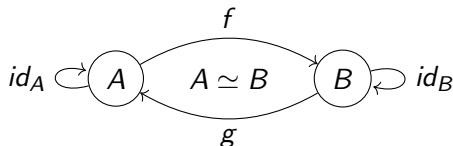
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A} (w)}{\vdash C, A} & \frac{\frac{\rho}{\vdash A} (w)}{C \vdash A} & \\
 & (cut) & \\
 \hline
 \frac{\vdash A, A}{\vdash A} (c) & & \\
 \swarrow \beta & & \searrow \beta \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A} (w)}{\vdash A, A} & & \frac{\frac{\rho}{\vdash A} (w)}{\vdash A, A} \\
 \hline
 \vdash A & & \vdash A \\
 \sim & & \sim \\
 \frac{\pi}{\vdash A} & & \frac{\rho}{\vdash A}
 \end{array}$$

- ▶ Equality of proofs / terms
  - In  $\lambda$ -calculus
  - In Linear Logic
- ▶ Equality of formulas / types
  - In  $\lambda$ -calculus
  - In Linear Logic

# Equality of formulas as Isomorphisms

**(Type) Isomorphisms** relate types/formulas/objects which are “the same”, *i.e.* which are indistinguishable.

Generally in **category theory**:

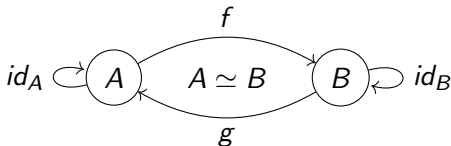


Instantiation in  $\lambda$ -calculi, logics, ...

# Equality of formulas as Isomorphisms

(Type) **Isomorphisms** relate types/formulas/objects which are “the same”, i.e. which are indistinguishable.

Generally in **category theory**:



Instantiation in  $\lambda$ -calculi, logics, ...

General question: give a **characterisation** of all isomorphisms in a category  
→ an **equational theory** = basic isomorphisms from which all others follow

**Soundness** → Easy (but tedious) work.

**Completeness** → Two main approaches:

**Syntactic** the analysis of pairs of terms composing to the identity should provide information on their type (if = is simple)

**Semantic** find a model with the same isomorphisms than in the syntax but where they can be computed more easily (typically reducing to equality between combinatorial objects)

# Isomorphisms in $\lambda$ -calculus

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Terms  $M$  of  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $N$  of  $B \rightarrow A$  such that

$$N \circ M =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^A. x \quad \text{and} \quad M \circ N =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^B. x$$

## Examples

- $A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \simeq B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)$   
with  $M = \lambda f. \lambda b. \lambda a. (f \ a) \ b$   
and  $N = \lambda f. \lambda a. \lambda b. (f \ b) \ a$
- $A \times B \simeq B \times A$   
with  $M = N = \lambda c. (\pi_2 \ c, \pi_1 \ c)$
- $(A \times B) \rightarrow C \simeq A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$

# Isomorphisms in $\lambda$ -calculus

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Terms  $M$  of  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $N$  of  $B \rightarrow A$  such that

$$N \circ M =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^A. x \quad \text{and} \quad M \circ N =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^B. x$$

## Examples

- $A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C) \simeq B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)$   
with  $M = \lambda f. \lambda b. \lambda a. (f \ a) \ b$   
and  $N = \lambda f. \lambda a. \lambda b. (f \ b) \ a$
- $A \times B \simeq B \times A$   
with  $M = N = \lambda c. (\pi_2 \ c, \pi_1 \ c)$
- $(A \times B) \rightarrow C \simeq A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$

Definition **simple** but **hard to use** practically:

- Tedious to prove  $A \simeq B$ : give terms  $M$  and  $N$  then show both compositions  $=_{\beta\eta}$  the identity.
- Horrible to prove  $A \not\simeq B$ : argue for every terms  $M$  and  $N$ , one composition  $\neq_{\beta\eta}$  the identity.

# Isomorphisms in $\lambda$ -calculus

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Terms  $M$  of  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $N$  of  $B \rightarrow A$  such that

$$N \circ M =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^A. x \quad \text{and} \quad M \circ N =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^B. x$$

For  $\lambda$ -calculus with products and unit type / cartesian closed categories Semantic (finite sets) [Sol83]

$\times$	$A \times (B \times C) \simeq (A \times B) \times C$	$A \times B \simeq B \times A$
$\times$ and $\rightarrow$	$(A \times B) \rightarrow C \simeq A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)$	$A \rightarrow (B \times C) \simeq (A \rightarrow B) \times (A \rightarrow C)$
1	$1 \times A \simeq A$	$1 \rightarrow A \simeq A$
		$A \rightarrow 1 \simeq 1$

Reduction to Tarski's High School Algebra Problem: can all equalities involving product, exponential and 1 be found using only

$$a(bc) = (ab)c$$

$$ab = ba$$

$$c^{ab} = (c^b)^a$$

$$(bc)^a = b^a c^a$$

$$1a = a$$

$$a^1 = a$$

$$1^a = 1$$

# Isomorphisms in $\lambda$ -calculus

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Terms  $M$  of  $A \rightarrow B$  and  $N$  of  $B \rightarrow A$  such that

$$N \circ M =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^A. x \quad \text{and} \quad M \circ N =_{\beta\eta} \lambda x^B. x$$

---

For  $\lambda$ -calculus with products, unit type and sums / cartesian closed categories with binary coproducts [FDB02]

NOT FINITELY AXIOMATISABLE

Give an infinite family of isomorphisms that cannot be obtained by any finite number of isomorphisms.

# Interlude: What about Classical Logic?

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{A \vdash B \quad B \vdash A}{A \vdash A} \text{ (cut)} \stackrel{\pi}{=} \beta\eta \overline{A \vdash A} \text{ (ax)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{B \vdash A \quad A \vdash B}{B \vdash B} \text{ (cut)} \stackrel{\rho}{=} \beta\eta \overline{B \vdash B} \text{ (ax)}$$

---

## Reminder

Cut-elimination **equalizes** all proofs of a same sequent.

## Fact

$$A \simeq B \iff A \dashv\vdash B$$

Not very exiting, but **not trivial**: deciding  $A \dashv\vdash B$  is equivalent to deciding provability!

# Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{\frac{\rho}{B \vdash A} \quad \frac{\pi}{A \vdash B}}{A \vdash A} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{A \vdash A}^{(ax)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash A}}{B \vdash B} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{B \vdash B}^{(ax)}$$

## Conjecture

Associativity	$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$ $A \oplus (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \oplus B) \oplus C$		$A \wp (B \wp C) \simeq (A \wp B) \wp C$ $A \& (B \& C) \simeq (A \& B) \& C$	
Commutativity	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$	$A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$	$A \oplus B \simeq B \oplus A$	$A \& B \simeq B \& A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$	$A \wp \perp \simeq A$	$A \oplus 0 \simeq A$	$A \& \top \simeq A$
Distributivity	$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C)$		$A \wp (B \& C) \simeq (A \wp B) \& (A \wp C)$	
Annihilation	$A \otimes 0 \simeq 0$		$A \wp \top \simeq \top$	
Seely	$!(A \& B) \simeq !A \otimes !B$ $!\top \simeq 1$		$?(A \oplus B) \simeq ?A \wp ?B$ $?0 \simeq \perp$	
Quantifiers	$\forall X(A \& B) \simeq \forall XA \& \forall XB$ $\forall XA \wp B \simeq \forall X(A \wp B)^*$		$\exists X(A \oplus B) \simeq \exists XA \oplus \exists XB$ $\exists XA \otimes B \simeq \exists X(A \otimes B)^*$	

\* if  $X$  not free in  $B$

# Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{\frac{\rho}{B \vdash A} \quad \frac{\pi}{A \vdash B}}{A \vdash A} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{A \vdash A}^{(ax)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash A}}{B \vdash B} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{B \vdash B}^{(ax)}$$

## Conjecture

Associativity	$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$ $A \oplus (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \oplus B) \oplus C$	$A \wp (B \wp C) \simeq (A \wp B) \wp C$ $A \& (B \& C) \simeq (A \& B) \& C$
Commutativity	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$ $A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$	$A \oplus B \simeq B \oplus A$ $A \& B \simeq B \& A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$ $A \wp \perp \simeq A$	$A \oplus 0 \simeq A$ $A \& \top \simeq A$
Distributivity	$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C)$	$A \wp (B \& C) \simeq (A \wp B) \& (A \wp C)$
Annihilation	$A \otimes 0 \simeq 0$	$A \wp \top \simeq \top$
Seely	$!(A \& B) \simeq !A \otimes !B$ $!\top \simeq 1$	$?(A \oplus B) \simeq ?A \wp ?B$ $?0 \simeq \perp$
Quantifiers	$\forall X(A \& B) \simeq \forall XA \& \forall XB$ $\forall XA \wp B \simeq \forall X(A \wp B)^*$	$\exists X(A \oplus B) \simeq \exists XA \oplus \exists XB$ $\exists XA \otimes B \simeq \exists X(A \otimes B)^*$

\* if  $X$  not free in  $B$

**Semantic method complicated:** most models come with  $\top \otimes A \simeq \top \otimes B$   
while in the syntax  $\top \otimes A \not\simeq \top \otimes B$

# Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{\frac{\rho}{B \vdash A} \quad \frac{\pi}{A \vdash B}}{A \vdash A} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{A \vdash A}^{(ax)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash A}}{B \vdash B} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{B \vdash B}^{(ax)}$$

## For Multiplicative Linear Logic / $\star$ -autonomous categories Syntactic (proof-nets) [BD99]

Associativity	$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$ $A \oplus (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \oplus B) \oplus C$	$A \wp (B \wp C) \simeq (A \wp B) \wp C$ $A \& (B \& C) \simeq (A \& B) \& C$
Commutativity	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$ $A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$	$A \oplus B \simeq B \oplus A$ $A \& B \simeq B \& A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$ $A \wp \perp \simeq A$	$A \oplus 0 \simeq A$ $A \& \top \simeq A$
Distributivity	$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C)$	$A \wp (B \& C) \simeq (A \wp B) \& (A \wp C)$
Annihilation	$A \otimes 0 \simeq 0$	$A \wp \top \simeq \top$
Seely	$!(A \& B) \simeq !A \otimes !B$ $!\top \simeq 1$	$?(A \oplus B) \simeq ?A \wp ?B$ $?0 \simeq \perp$
Quantifiers	$\forall X(A \& B) \simeq \forall XA \& \forall XB$ $\forall XA \wp B \simeq \forall X(A \wp B)^*$	$\exists X(A \oplus B) \simeq \exists XA \oplus \exists XB$ $\exists XA \otimes B \simeq \exists X(A \otimes B)^*$
	$\forall X \top \simeq \top$ $\exists X 0 \simeq 0$	$\forall X \forall Y A \simeq \forall Y \forall X A$ $\exists X \exists Y A \simeq \exists Y \exists X A$

\* if  $X$  not free in  $B$

# Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{\frac{\rho}{B \vdash A} \quad \frac{\pi}{A \vdash B}}{A \vdash A} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{A \vdash A}^{(ax)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash A}}{B \vdash B} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{B \vdash B}^{(ax)}$$

For Multiplicative-Additive Linear Logic /  $\star$ -autonomous categories  
with finite products Syntactic (proof-nets) [DL23]

Associativity	$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$ $A \oplus (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \oplus B) \oplus C$	$A \wp (B \wp C) \simeq (A \wp B) \wp C$ $A \& (B \& C) \simeq (A \& B) \& C$
Commutativity	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$ $A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$	$A \oplus B \simeq B \oplus A$ $A \& B \simeq B \& A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$ $A \wp \perp \simeq A$	$A \oplus 0 \simeq A$ $A \& \top \simeq A$
Distributivity	$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C)$	$A \wp (B \& C) \simeq (A \wp B) \& (A \wp C)$
Annihilation	$A \otimes 0 \simeq 0$	$A \wp \top \simeq \top$
Seely	$!(A \& B) \simeq !A \otimes !B$ $!\top \simeq 1$	$?(A \oplus B) \simeq ?A \wp ?B$ $?0 \simeq \perp$
Quantifiers	$\forall X(A \& B) \simeq \forall XA \& \forall XB$ $\forall XA \wp B \simeq \forall X(A \wp B)^*$	$\exists X(A \oplus B) \simeq \exists XA \oplus \exists XB$ $\exists XA \otimes B \simeq \exists X(A \otimes B)^*$

\* if  $X$  not free in  $B$

# Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{\frac{\rho}{B \vdash A} \quad \frac{\pi}{A \vdash B}}{A \vdash A} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{A \vdash A}^{(ax)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash A}}{B \vdash B} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{B \vdash B}^{(ax)}$$

## For Polarized Linear Logic

Semantic (games, forest isomorphisms) [Lau05]

Associativity	$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$ $A \oplus (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \oplus B) \oplus C$	$A \wp (B \wp C) \simeq (A \wp B) \wp C$ $A \& (B \& C) \simeq (A \& B) \& C$
Commutativity	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$ $A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$	$A \oplus B \simeq B \oplus A$ $A \& B \simeq B \& A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$ $A \wp \perp \simeq A$	$A \oplus 0 \simeq A$ $A \& \top \simeq A$
Distributivity	$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C)$	$A \wp (B \& C) \simeq (A \wp B) \& (A \wp C)$
Annihilation	$A \otimes 0 \simeq 0$	$A \wp \top \simeq \top$
Seely	$!(A \& B) \simeq !A \otimes !B$ $!\top \simeq 1$	$?(A \oplus B) \simeq ?A \wp ?B$ $?0 \simeq \perp$
Quantifiers	$\forall X(A \& B) \simeq \forall XA \& \forall XB$ $\forall XA \wp B \simeq \forall X(A \wp B)^*$	$\exists X(A \oplus B) \simeq \exists XA \oplus \exists XB$ $\exists XA \& B \simeq \exists X(A \& B)^*$

\* if  $X$  not free in  $B$

# Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{\frac{\rho}{B \vdash A} \quad \frac{\pi}{A \vdash B}}{A \vdash A} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{A \vdash A}^{(ax)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash A}}{B \vdash B} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{B \vdash B}^{(ax)}$$

## Conjecture

Associativity	$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$ $A \oplus (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \oplus B) \oplus C$	$A \wp (B \wp C) \simeq (A \wp B) \wp C$ $A \& (B \& C) \simeq (A \& B) \& C$
Commutativity	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$ $A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$	$A \oplus B \simeq B \oplus A$ $A \& B \simeq B \& A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$ $A \wp \perp \simeq A$	$A \oplus 0 \simeq A$ $A \& \top \simeq A$
Distributivity	$A \otimes (B \oplus C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \oplus (A \otimes C)$	$A \wp (B \& C) \simeq (A \wp B) \& (A \wp C)$
Annihilation	$A \otimes 0 \simeq 0$	$A \wp \top \simeq \top$
Seely	$!(A \& B) \simeq !A \otimes !B$ $!\top \simeq 1$	$?(A \oplus B) \simeq ?A \wp ?B$ $?0 \simeq \perp$
Quantifiers	$\forall X(A \& B) \simeq \forall XA \& \forall XB$ $\forall XA \wp B \simeq \forall X(A \wp B)^*$	$\exists X(A \oplus B) \simeq \exists XA \oplus \exists XB$ $\exists XA \otimes B \simeq \exists X(A \otimes B)^*$

\* if  $X$  not free in  $B$

## Natural perspectives:

- MELL

- M(A)LL with quantifiers

# Retractions in Linear Logic

## Retraction $A \trianglelefteq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

$$\frac{\frac{\rho}{B \vdash A} \quad \frac{\pi}{A \vdash B}}{A \vdash A} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{\quad} (ax) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash A}}{B \vdash B} (cut) =_{\beta\eta o} \overline{\quad} (ax)$$

---

## Example

$$A \trianglelefteq (A \multimap A) \otimes A$$

No conjecture, even in MLL!

Indecidable in propositional LL!

Thank you!

# References I

- [AT12] Takahito Aoto and Yoshihito Toyama. “A Reduction-Preserving Completion for Proving Confluence of Non-Terminating Term Rewriting Systems”. In: *Logical Methods in Computer Science* 8.1 (Mar. 2012), pp. 1–29. DOI: 10.2168/LMCS-8(1:31)2012.
- [BD99] Vincent Balat and Roberto Di Cosmo. “A Linear Logical View of Linear Type Isomorphisms”. In: *Computer Science Logic*. Ed. by Jörg Flum and Mario Rodríguez-Artalejo. Vol. 1683. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer, 1999, pp. 250–265.

# References II

- [CP05] Robin Cockett and Craig Pastro. “A Language For Multiplicative-additive Linear Logic”. In: *Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science* 122 (2005). Proceedings of the 10th Conference on Category Theory in Computer Science (CTCS 2004), pp. 23–65. DOI: [/10.1016/j.entcs.2004.06.049](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.entcs.2004.06.049). URL: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1571066105000320>.

# References III

- [DL23] Rémi Di Guardia and Olivier Laurent. “Type Isomorphisms for Multiplicative-Additive Linear Logic”. In: *International Conference on Formal Structures for Computation and Deduction (FSCD)*. Ed. by Marco Gaboardi and Femke van Raamsdonk. Vol. 260. Leibniz International Proceedings in Informatics (LIPIcs). Full version with proofs on <https://hal.science/hal-04082204>. Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz-Zentrum fuer Informatik, July 2023, 26:1–26:21. DOI: 10.4230/LIPIcs.FSCD.2023.26.
- [FDB02] Marcelo Fiore, Roberto Di Cosmo, and Vincent Balat. “Remarks on Isomorphisms in Typed Lambda Calculi with Empty and Sum Types”. In: *Proceedings of the seventeenth annual symposium on Logic In Computer Science*. IEEE. Copenhagen: IEEE Computer Society Press, July 2002, pp. 147–156.

## References IV

- [GLT89] Jean-Yves Girard, Yves Lafont, and Paul Taylor. *Proofs and Types*. Cambridge tracts in theoretical computer science 7. Cambridge University Press, 1989.
- [HH16] Willem Heijltjes and Robin Houston. “Proof equivalence in MLL is PSPACE-complete”. In: *Logical Methods in Computer Science* 12.1 (2016). DOI: 10.2168/LMCS-12(1:2)2016.
- [Lau05] Olivier Laurent. “Classical isomorphisms of types”. In: *Mathematical Structures in Computer Science* 15.5 (Oct. 2005), pp. 969–1004.
- [Lin95] Patrick Lincoln. “Deciding provability of linear logic formulas”. In: *Advances in Linear Logic*. Ed. by Jean-Yves Girard, Yves Lafont, and Laurent Regnier. Vol. 222. London Mathematical Society Lecture Note Series. Cambridge University Press, 1995, pp. 109–122.

# References V

- [Sol83] Sergei Soloviev. “The category of finite sets and cartesian closed categories”. In: *Journal of Soviet Mathematics* 22.3 (1983), pp. 1387–1400.

# Retractions and Provability

## Fact

$$!X \sqsubseteq !X \otimes !(X \otimes A) \iff \vdash A \text{ is provable}$$

$$X \sqsubseteq X \& (X \otimes A) \iff \vdash A \text{ is provable}$$

$$A \sqsubseteq A \oplus B \iff \vdash B^\perp, A \text{ is provable}$$

Fragment	Provability
LL	Undecidable ☹
MELL	TOWER-hard ☹ (decidability is open)
MALL	PSPACE-complete ☹
ALL	P-complete

(an overview of these results on provability can be found in [Lin95])