

Retractions for Multiplicative Linear Logic

Rémi Di Guardia



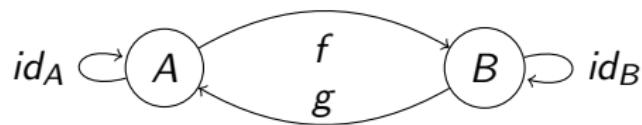
ENS Lyon (LIP), France

Bath 2024, 1 March

Isomorphisms

Isomorphisms relate types/formulas/objects A and B which are “the same”

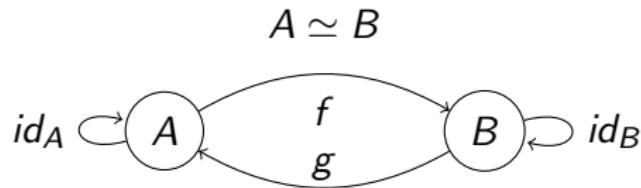
$$A \simeq B$$



Instantiation in λ -calculus, logics,...

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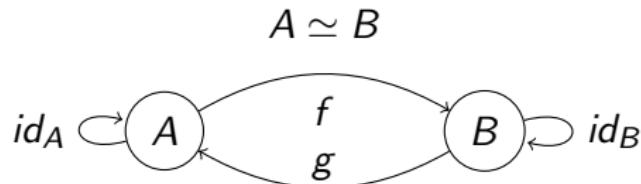


Equational theory for λ -calculus with products and unit / cartesian closed categories
[Sol83]

\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	$A \times 1 \simeq A$	$1 \rightarrow A \simeq A$

Isomorphisms

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Equational theory for Multiplicative Linear Logic / \star -autonomous categories

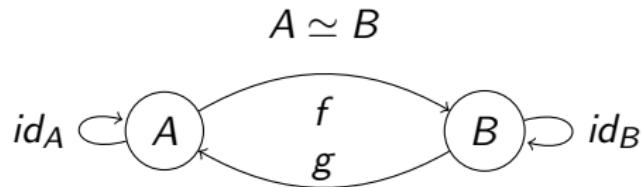
[BDC99]

Associativity	$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$	$A \wp (B \wp C) \simeq (A \wp B) \wp C$
Commutativity	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$	$A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$	$A \wp \perp \simeq A$

$$(A \otimes B) \multimap C = (A^\perp \wp B^\perp) \wp C \simeq A^\perp \wp (B^\perp \wp C) = A \multimap (B \multimap C)$$

Isomorphisms

Isomorphisms relate types/formulas/objects A and B which are “the same”



Equational theory for Multiplicative-Additive Linear Logic /
★-autonomous categories with finite products

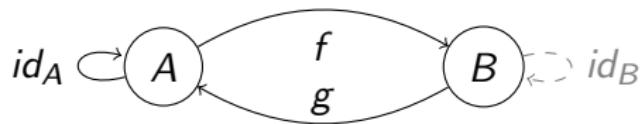
[DGL23]

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	$A \otimes B \simeq B \otimes A$	$A \wp B \simeq B \wp A$
Neutrality	$A \otimes 1 \simeq A$	$A \wp \perp \simeq A$
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	$A \otimes 0 \simeq 0$	$A \wp \top \simeq \top$

Retractions

Retractions relate A and B when A is a “sub-type” of B

$$A \trianglelefteq B$$



Instantiation in λ -calculus, logics, . . .

bool \trianglelefteq nat with $f(\text{false}) = 0$, $f(\text{true}) = 1$ and $g(n) = n$ is equal to 1

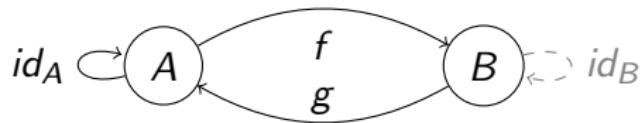
Definition

Cantor-Bernstein property: if $A \trianglelefteq B$ and $B \trianglelefteq A$ then $A \simeq B$.

Retractions

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$$A \trianglelefteq B$$



Equational theory for simply typed affine λ -calculus

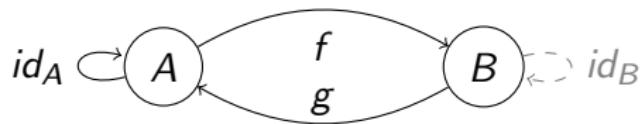
[RU02]

\simeq	$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \simeq B \rightarrow A \rightarrow C$
\trianglelefteq ($= \trianglelefteq \setminus \simeq$)	$A \trianglelefteq B \rightarrow A$ $A \trianglelefteq (A \rightarrow X) \rightarrow X$ if A is $Y_1 \rightarrow Y_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow X$

Retractions

Retractions relate A and B when A is a “sub-type” of B

$$A \trianglelefteq B$$



Equational theory for Multiplicative Linear Logic

[UNKNOWN]

\simeq	associativity and commutativity of \otimes and \wp , neutrality of 1 and \perp
\trianglelefteq ($= \trianglelefteq \setminus \simeq$)	???

Plan

- 1 Retractions in (fragments of) Linear Logic
- 2 Definitions
 - Proof Net
 - Retraction
- 3 Good properties of retractions in MLL – or why it should be easy
- 4 Retractions of the shape $X \trianglelefteq \cdot$ (universal super-types)
 - Looking for a pattern
 - Quasi-Beffara
 - Beffara $X \triangleleft X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)$
- 5 Difficulties for $A \trianglelefteq B$

Linear Logic

Formulas

$$\begin{aligned} A, B &:= | X | X^\perp && \text{(atom)} \\ &\quad | A \wp B | A \otimes B | \perp | 1 && \text{(multiplicative)} \\ &\quad | A \& B | A \oplus B | \top | 0 && \text{(additive)} \\ &\quad | ?A | !A && \text{(exponential)} \end{aligned}$$

Linear Logic

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Fragment = subset of formulas keeping atoms and the :

- additive \rightarrow Additive Linear Logic (ALL);
- multiplicative and exponential \rightarrow Multiplicative Exponential Linear Logic (MELL);
- ...

Retractions and Provability

Fact

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

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

$$A \trianglelefteq A \oplus B \iff B \vdash A \text{ is provable}$$

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

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

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No example found for Multiplicative Linear Logic, which is often the simpler fragment ☺

Plan

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2 Definitions

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Formula & Sequent

Formulas

$$A, B ::= X \mid X^\perp \mid A \stackrel{\text{not}}{\otimes} B \mid A \stackrel{\text{and}}{\otimes} B \mid A \stackrel{\text{or}}{\wp} B$$

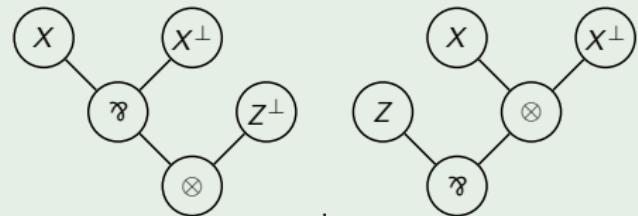
Duality

$$(X^\perp)^\perp = X$$

$$(A \otimes B)^\perp = B^\perp \wp A^\perp$$

$$(A \wp B)^\perp = B^\perp \otimes A^\perp$$

Examples



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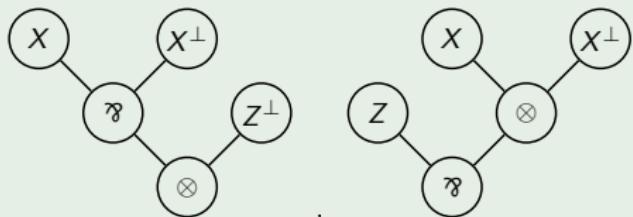
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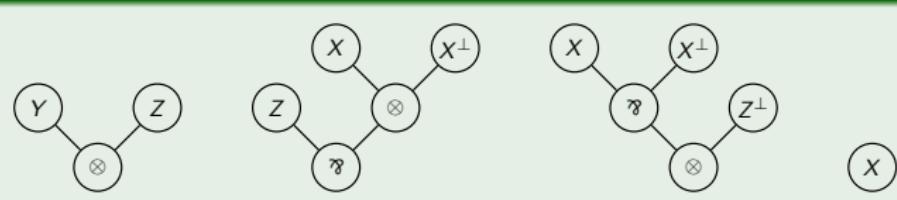
Sequent

$$\vdash A_1, \dots, A_n$$

Examples



Example



What about the units?

Result from [BDC99]

Let A and B be two formulas without sub-formulas of the shape $- \otimes 1$, $1 \otimes -$, $\perp \wp -$ nor $- \wp \perp$. Take π and π' cut-free proofs respectively of $\vdash A^\perp, B$ and $\vdash B^\perp, A$. Then all 1 and \perp -rules in π and π' belongs to the following pattern:

$$\frac{\overline{\vdash 1} \quad (1)}{\vdash \perp, 1} \quad (\perp)$$

So can replace the units by atoms, up to isomorphism.

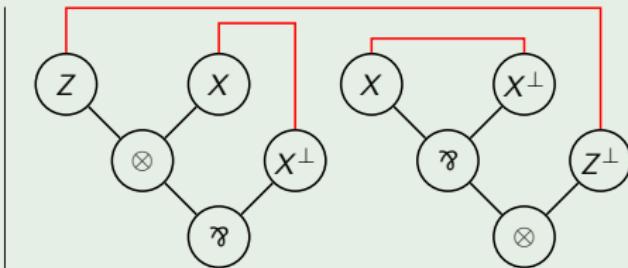
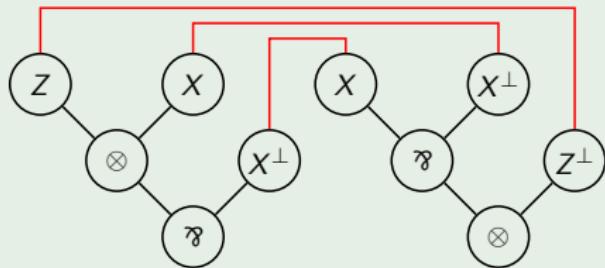
(Also easy to check the mix-rules do not matter, for the identity has none.)

Proof Structure

Proof Structure

Sequent with edges between dual leaves (some X and X^\perp), these edges partitioning the leaves of the sequent.

Examples



Correctness & Proof Net

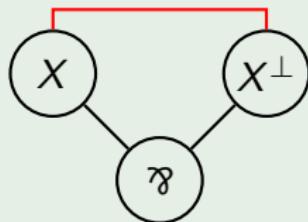
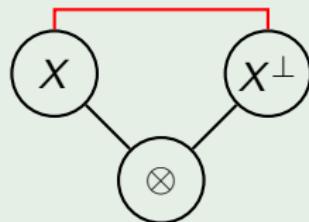
Correctness Graph

In a proof structure, keep only one premise of each \wp -node.

Danos-Regnier Correctness Criterion

A proof structure is *correct*, and called a *proof net*, if all its correctness graphs are acyclic and connected (i.e. are trees).

Toy examples



Correctness & Proof Net

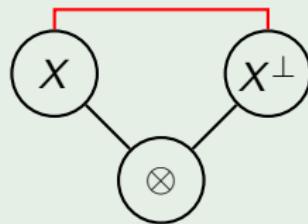
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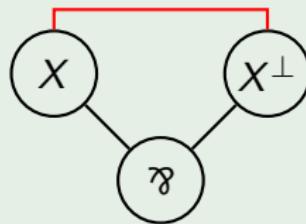
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Toy examples



Not acyclic (but connected)

INCORRECT



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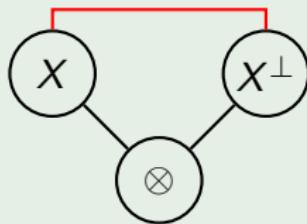
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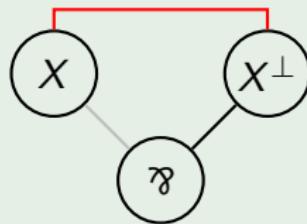
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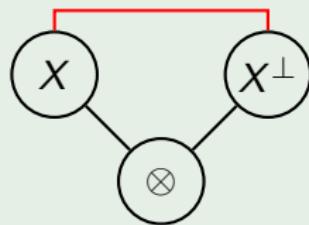
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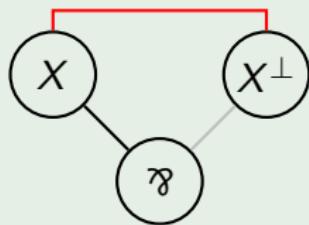
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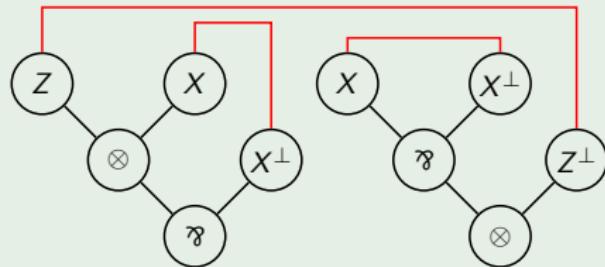
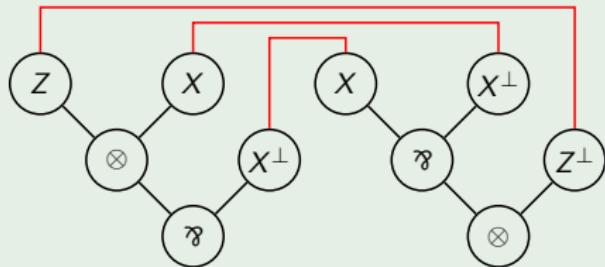
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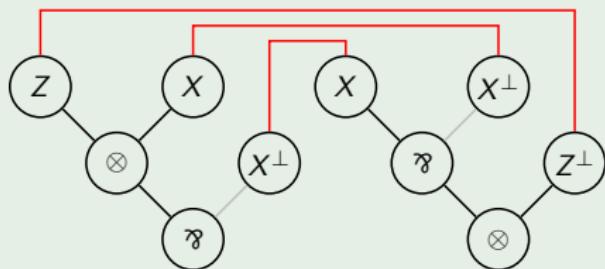
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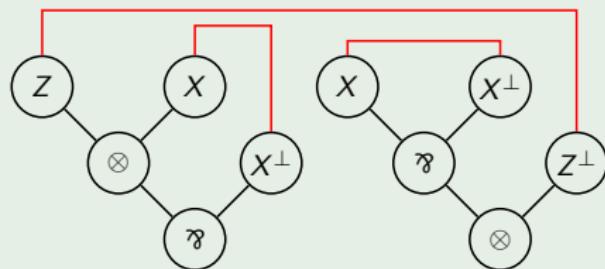
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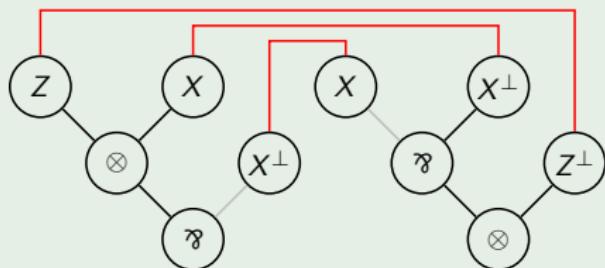
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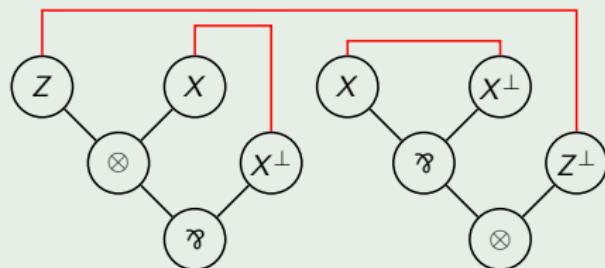
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Examples



Not acyclic nor connected

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Correctness & Proof Net

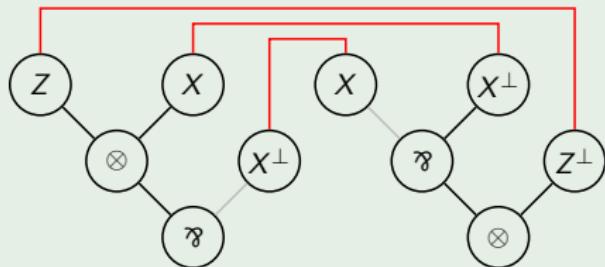
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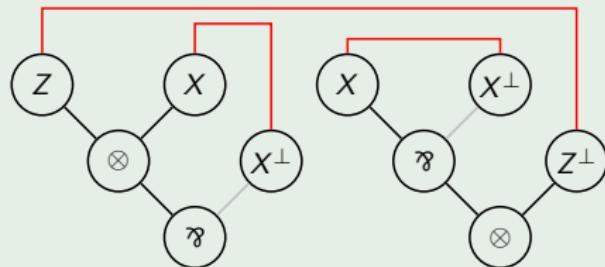
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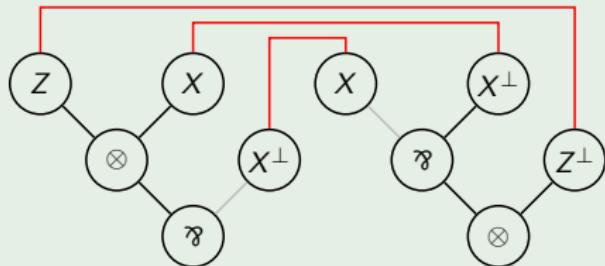
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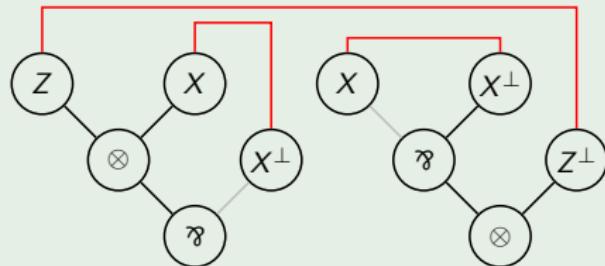
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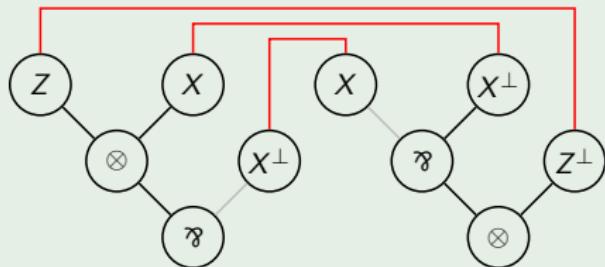
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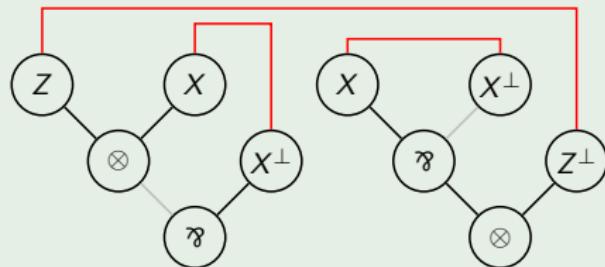
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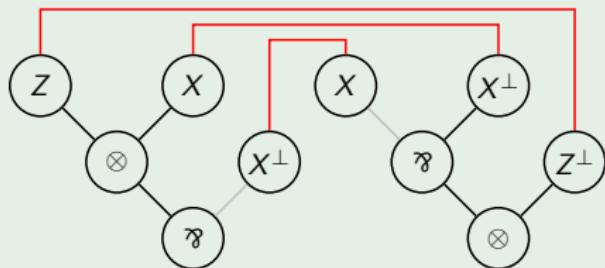
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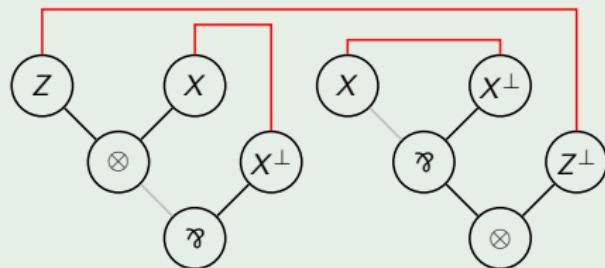
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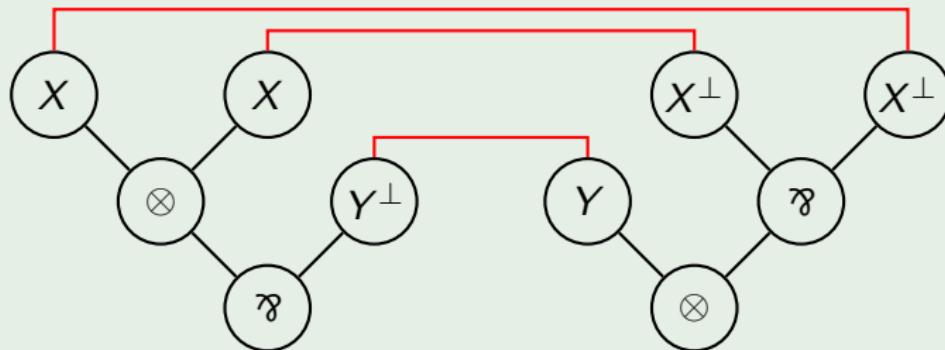
CORRECT

Identity proof net

Identity proof structure of A

In the sequent $\vdash A^\perp, A$, link each leaf in A to the dual one in A^\perp .

Example: $A = Y \otimes (X^\perp \wp X^\perp)$



Lemma

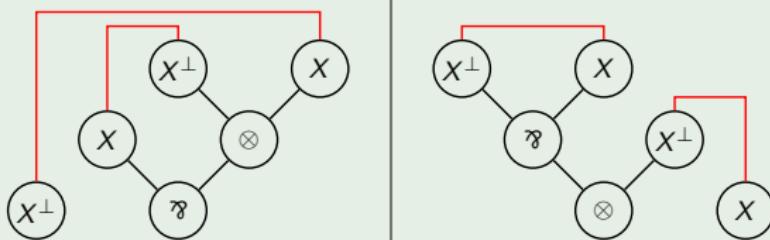
An identity proof structure is correct.

Composition by cut

Composition

Putting side by side a proof structure on $\vdash \Gamma, A$ and one on $\vdash A^\perp, \Delta$, then adding a *-node between the roots of A and A^\perp .

Example

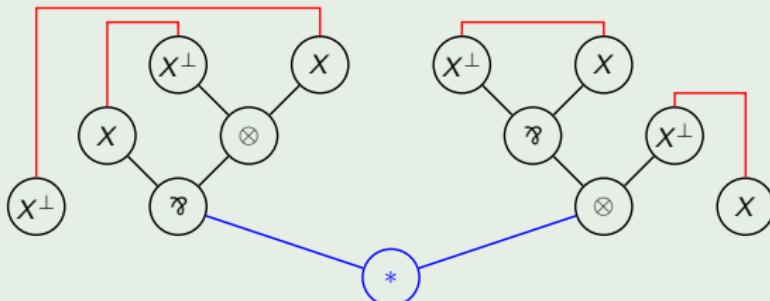


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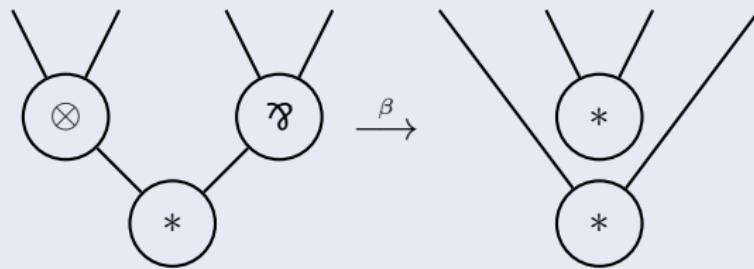
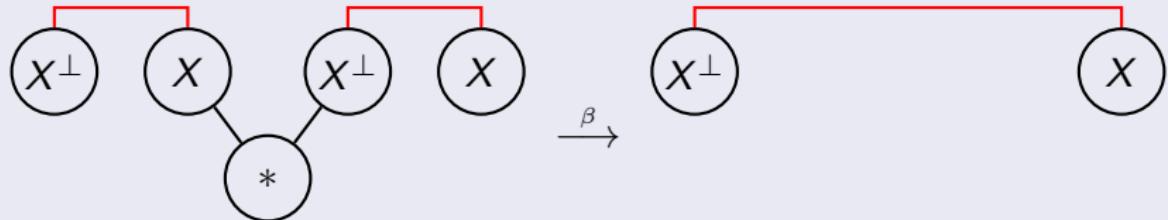
Putting side by side a proof structure on $\vdash \Gamma, A$ and one on $\vdash A^\perp, \Delta$, then adding a *-node between the roots of A and A^\perp .

Example



Cut elimination

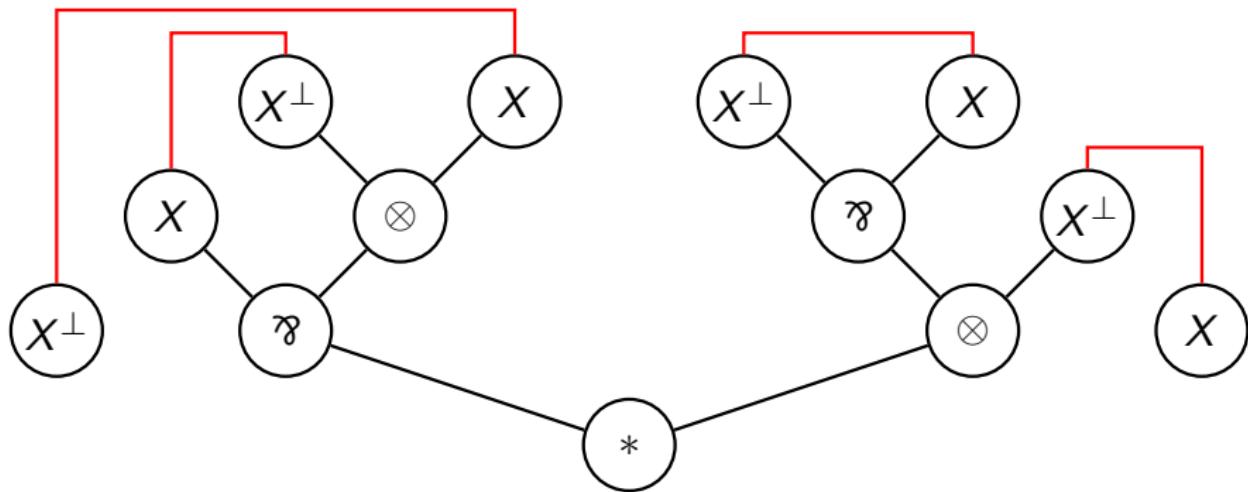
Cut elimination



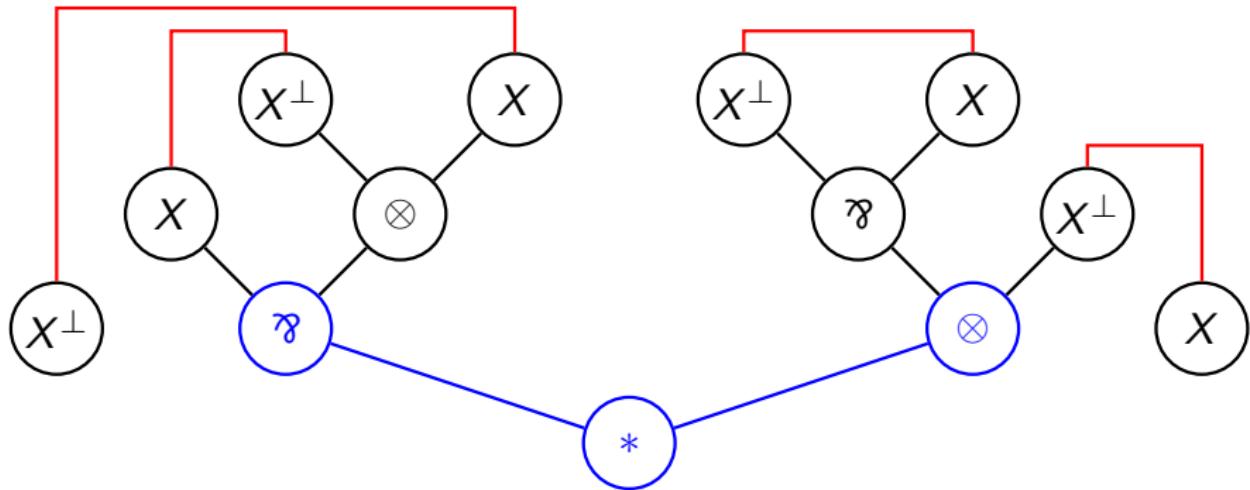
Lemma

Cut elimination preserves correction, is confluent and strongly normalizing.

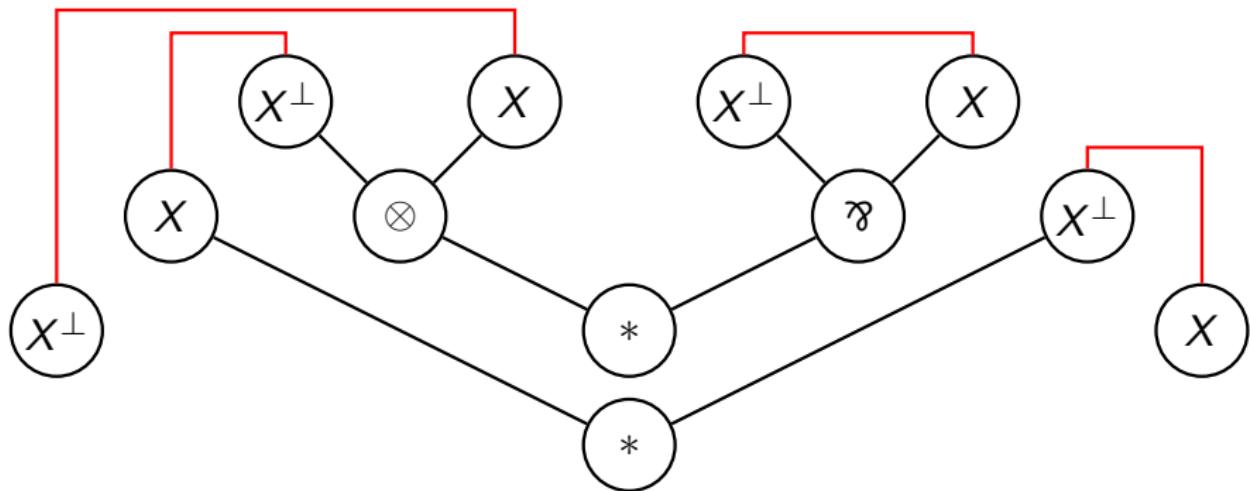
Example of cut elimination



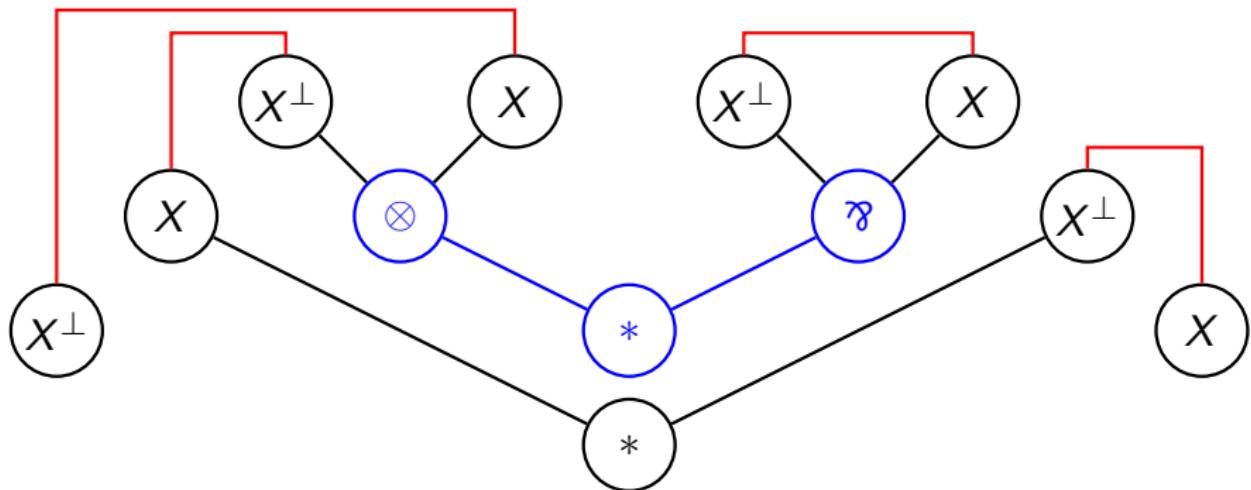
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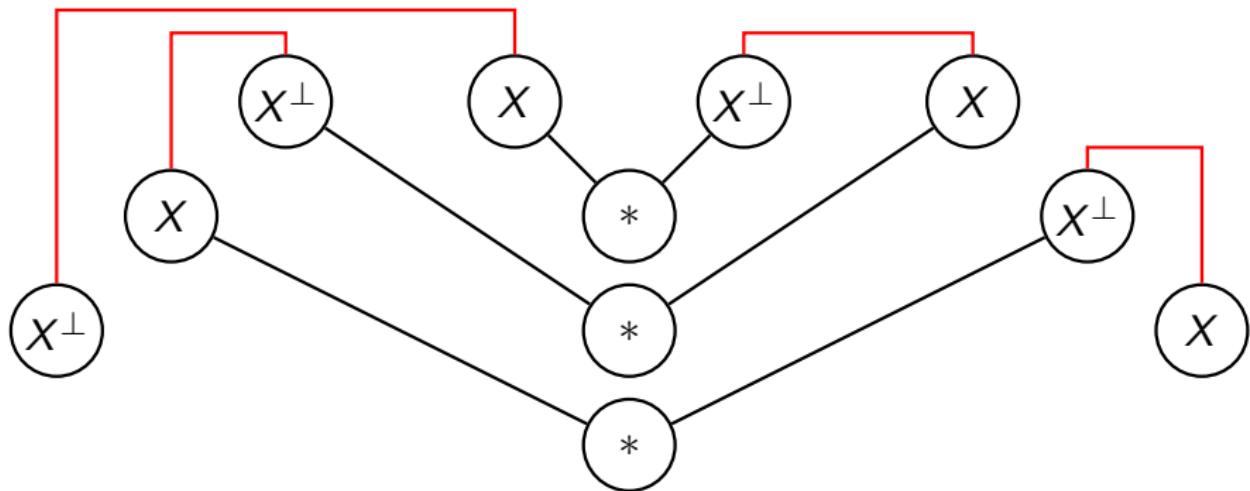
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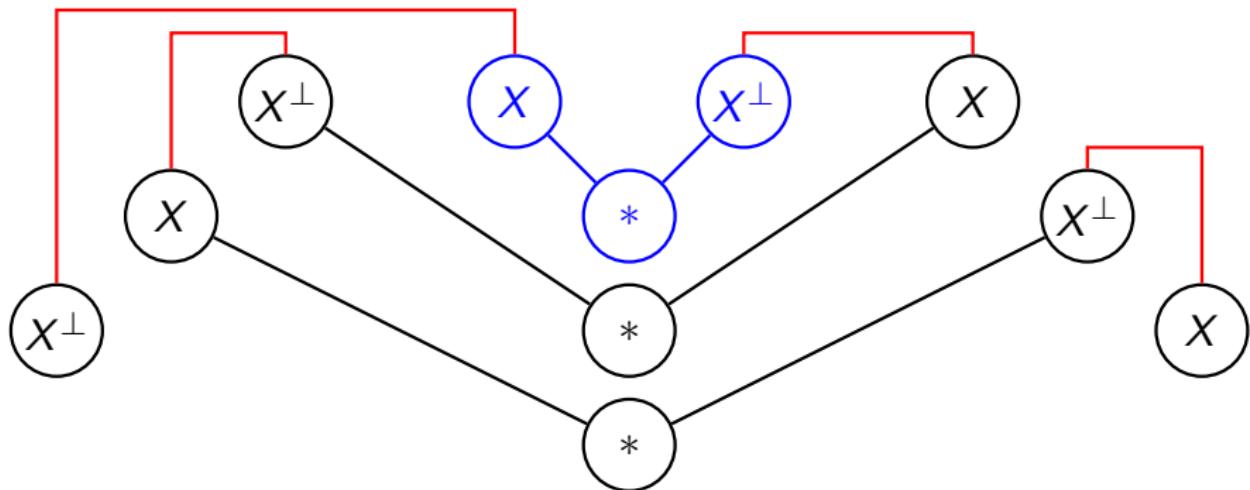
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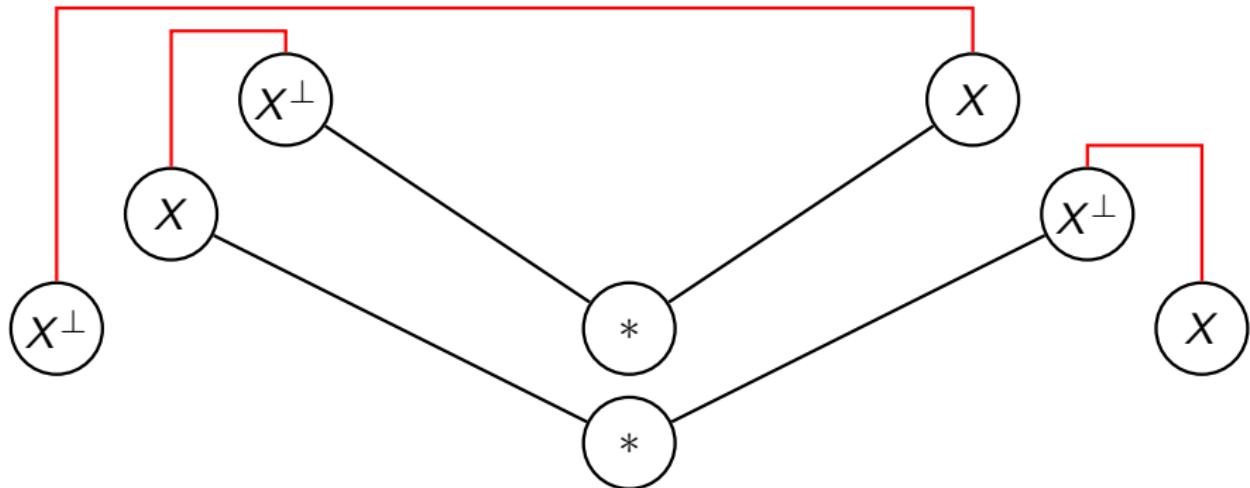
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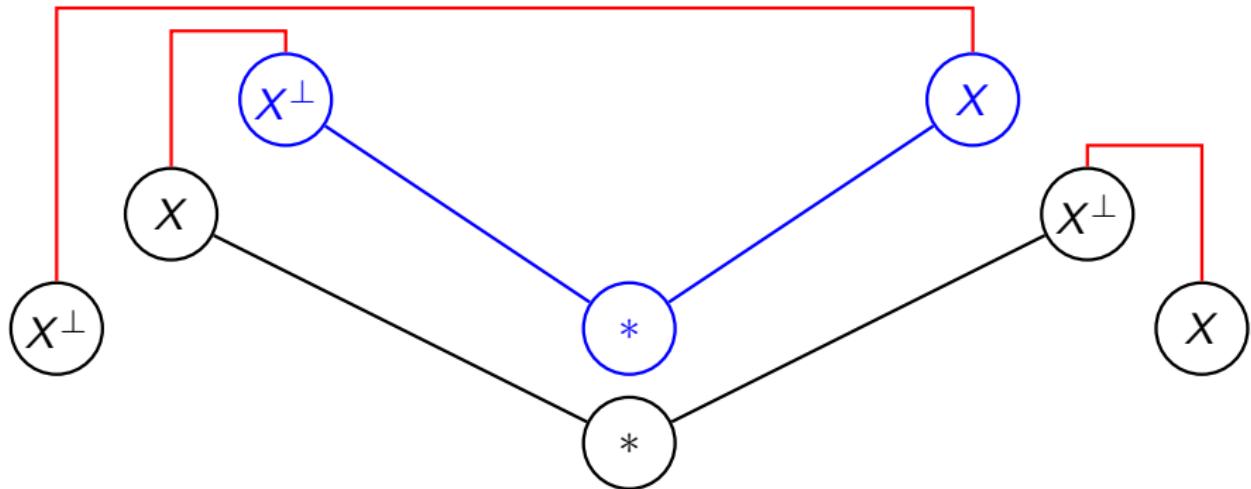
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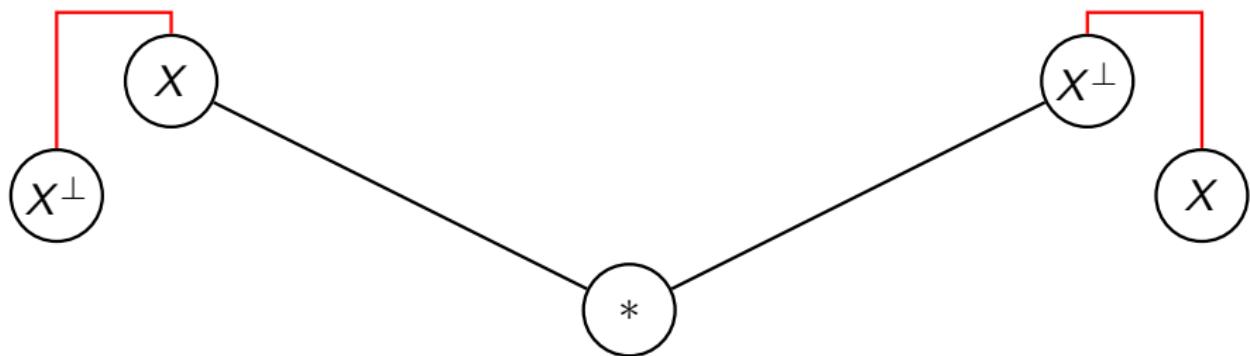
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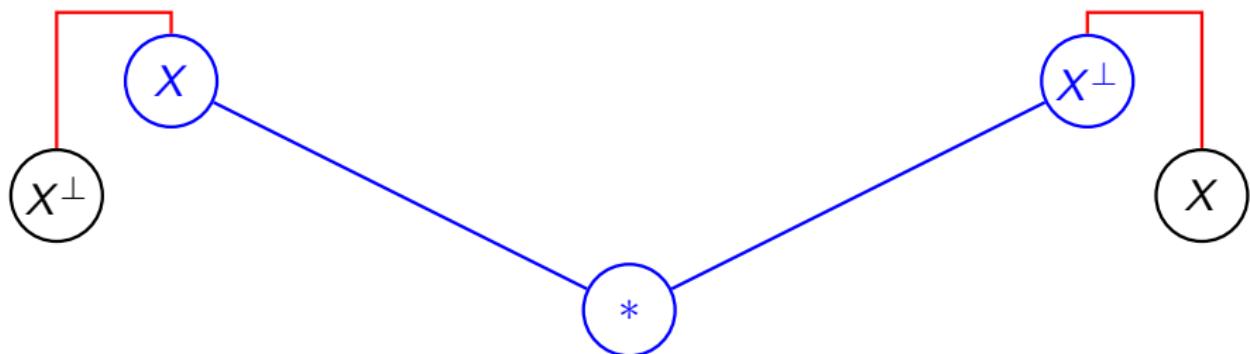
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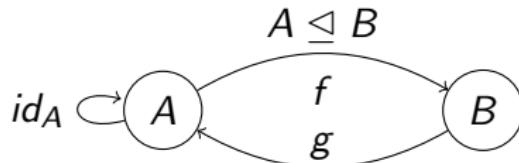


Example of cut elimination



Retraction

In category theory



In λ -calculus

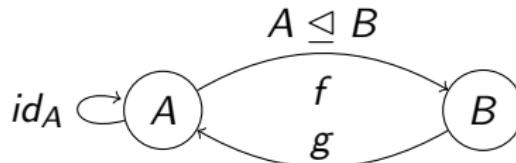
Retraction $A \triangleleft B$

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

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

Retraction

In category theory



In λ -calculus

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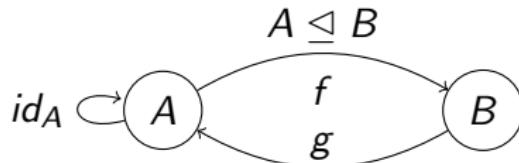
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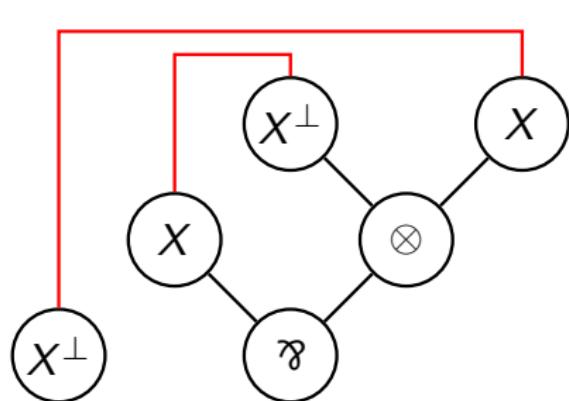
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$$A \trianglelefteq B \iff A^\perp \trianglelefteq B^\perp$$

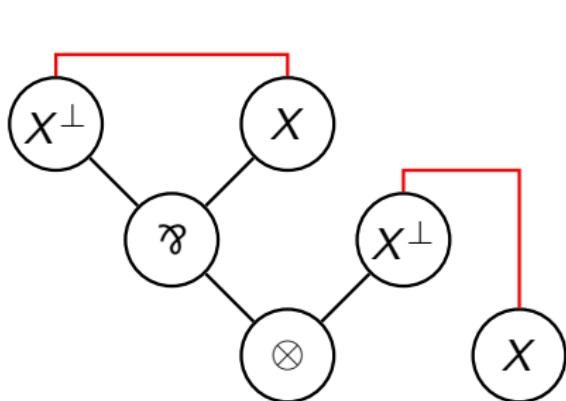
Beffara's retraction

Beffara's retraction

$$X \triangleleft X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X) \quad \text{or dually} \quad X \triangleleft X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)$$



$$X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X)$$



$$(X^\perp \wp X) \otimes X^\perp$$

Can also be seen as $X \triangleleft (X \multimap X) \multimap X$

Plan

1 Retractions in (fragments of) Linear Logic

2 Definitions

- Proof Net
- Retraction

3 Good properties of retractions in MLL – or why it should be easy

4 Retractions of the shape $X \trianglelefteq \cdot$ (universal super-types)

- Looking for a pattern
- Quasi-Beffara
- Beffara $X \triangleleft X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)$

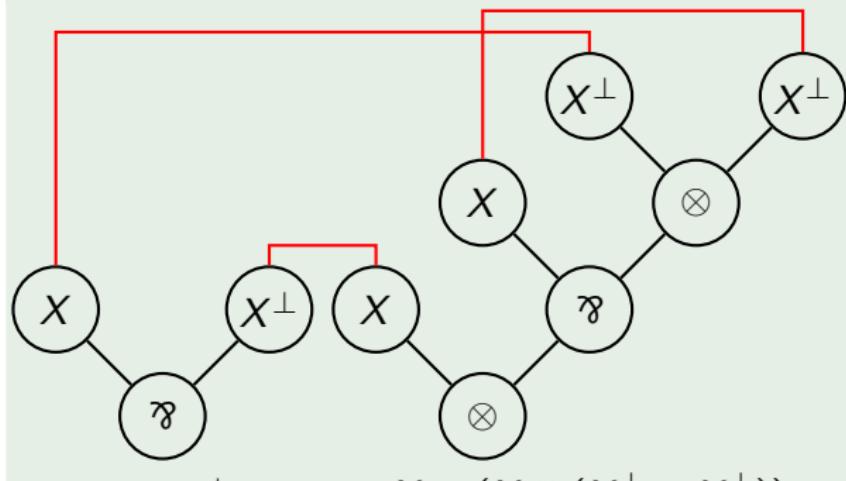
5 Difficulties for $A \trianglelefteq B$

Half-Bipartiteness

Definition

A proof-net on $\vdash A, \Gamma$ is *half-bipartite* in A if there is no link between leaves of A .

Example



Half-bipartite in
 $X \wp X^\perp$ but not in
 $X \otimes (X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X^\perp))$.

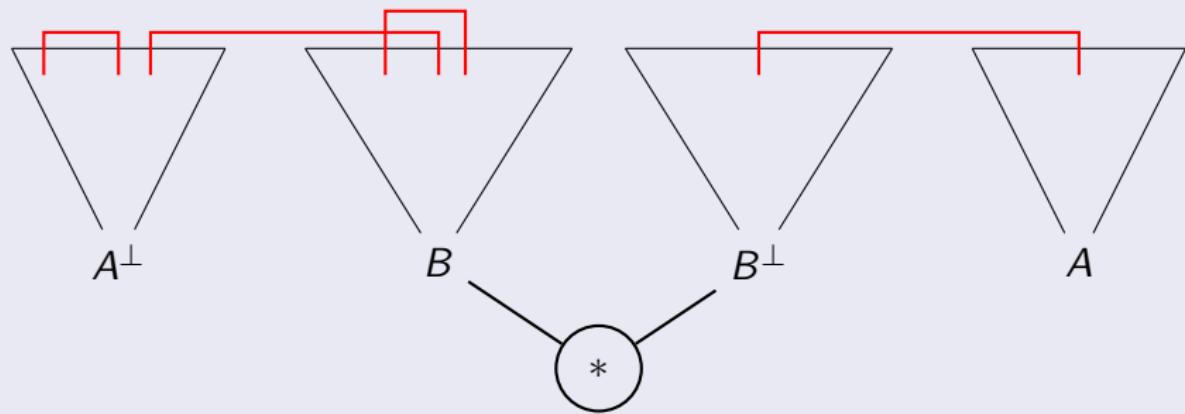
Half-Bipartiteness in retractions

Lemma

Proof nets of $A \trianglelefteq B$ are half-bipartite in A^\perp and A respectively.

Proof.

A link between leaves of A^\perp or A would survive cut elimination, and appears in the resulting identity proof net: contradiction.



Consequences of Half-Bipartiteness

Corollary

Up to renaming leaves, in $A \trianglelefteq B$ one can assume leaves of A to be distinct atoms X, Y, Z, \dots without any $X^\perp, Y^\perp, Z^\perp, \dots$ in A .

Proof.

Can rename leaves of A to respect this; no clash by half-bipartiteness.
A renaming preserves correction and steps of cut elimination. □

Consequences of Half-Bipartiteness

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Proof.

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In this setting:

Retraction $A \trianglelefteq B$

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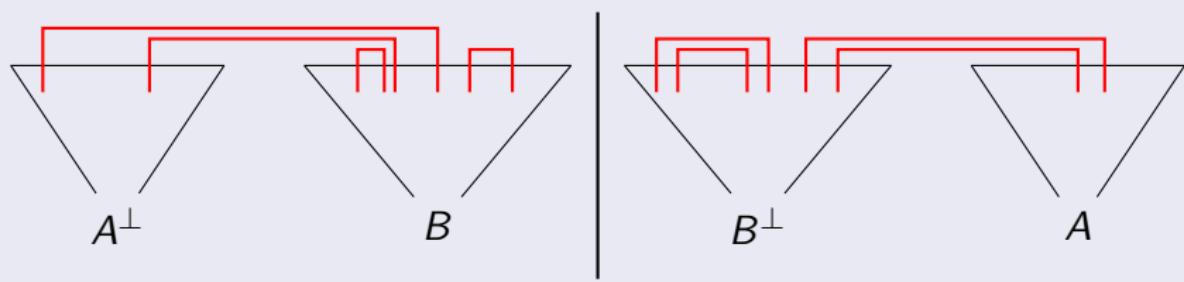
Property on sizes

Theorem

Let A and B be unit-free MLL formulas such that $A \trianglelefteq B$.

Then $s(B) = s(A) + 2 \times n$, with $n = 0$ iff $A \simeq B$.

Proof.



□

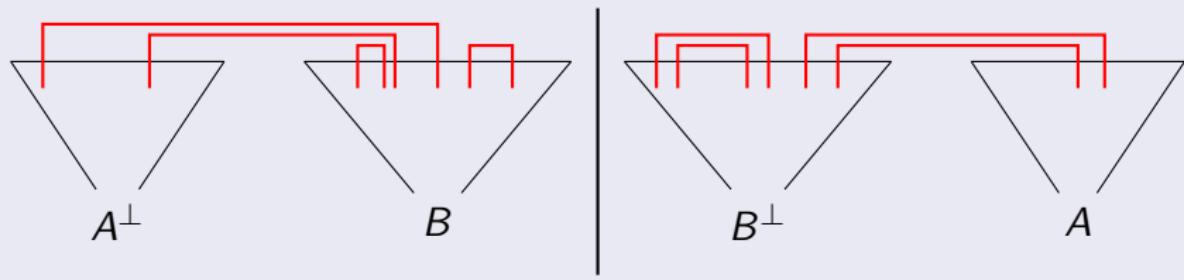
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Cantor-Bernstein holds for unit-free MLL, and then for MLL.

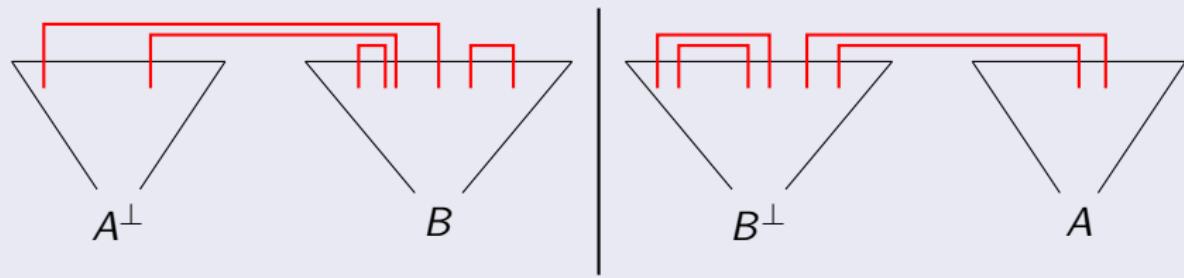
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Proof.



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Cantor-Bernstein holds for unit-free MLL, and then for MLL.

$$X \otimes Y \not\trianglelefteq X \wp Y, X \otimes (Y \wp Z) \not\trianglelefteq Y \wp (X \otimes Z), \dots$$

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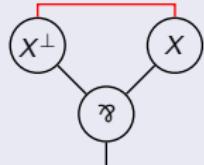
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Key Result

Lemma

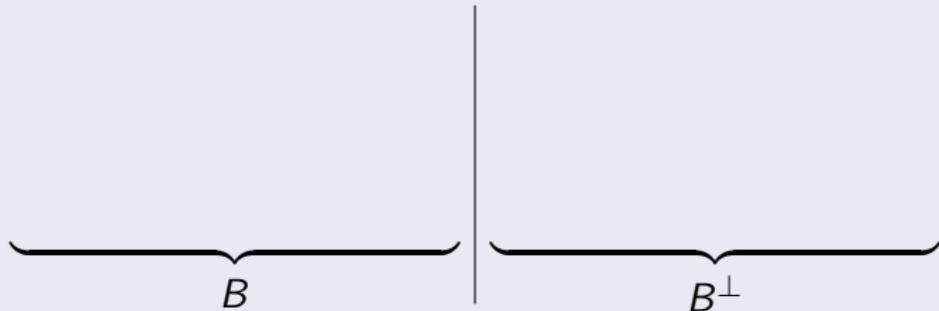
In $X \triangleleft B$ one of the two proof nets contains:



Proof.

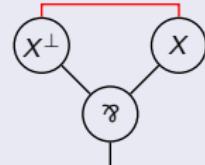
We build a sequence (GOI path) finding such a pattern.

X_1^\perp



Key Result

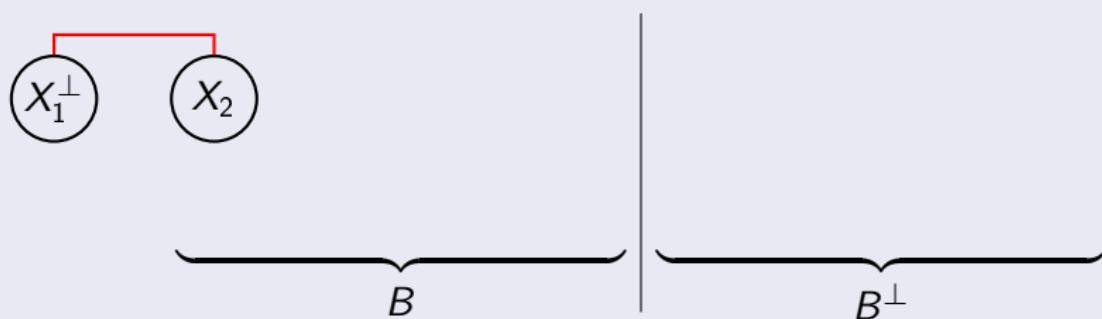
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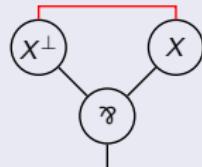
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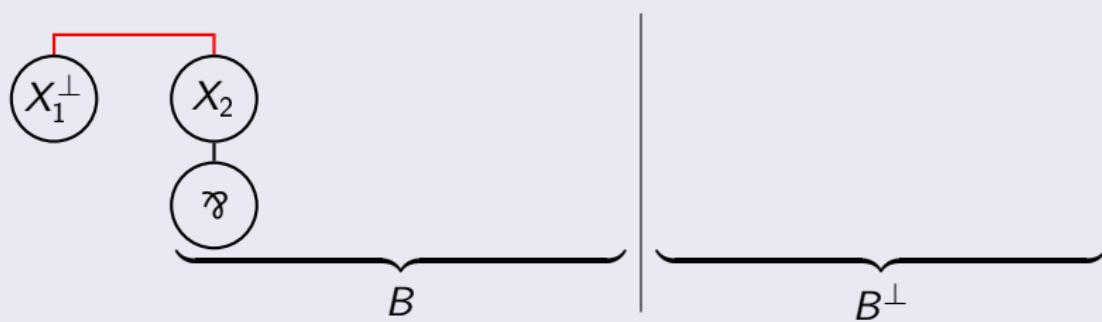
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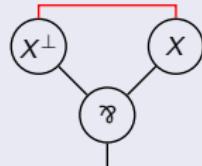
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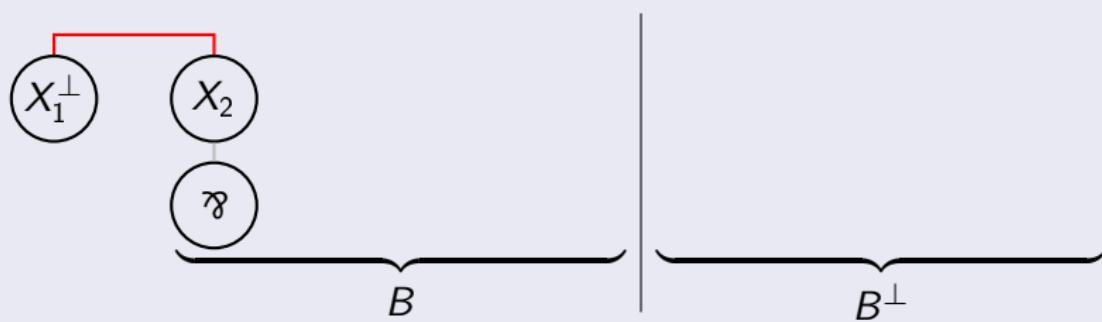
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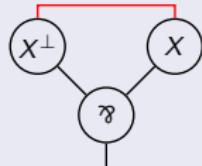
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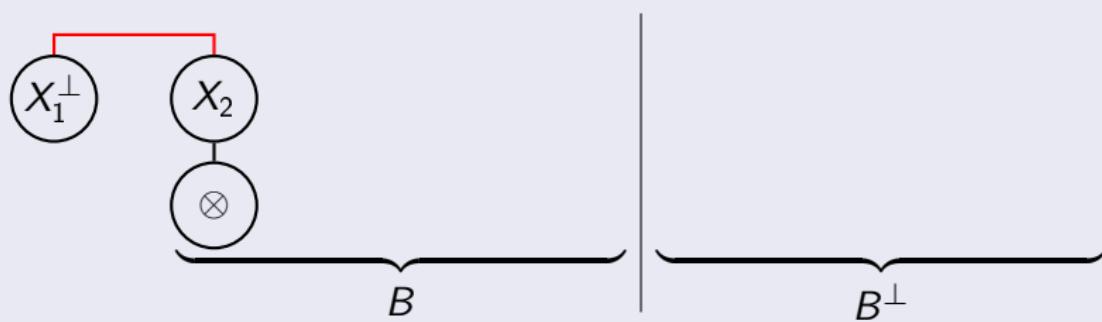
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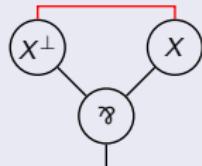
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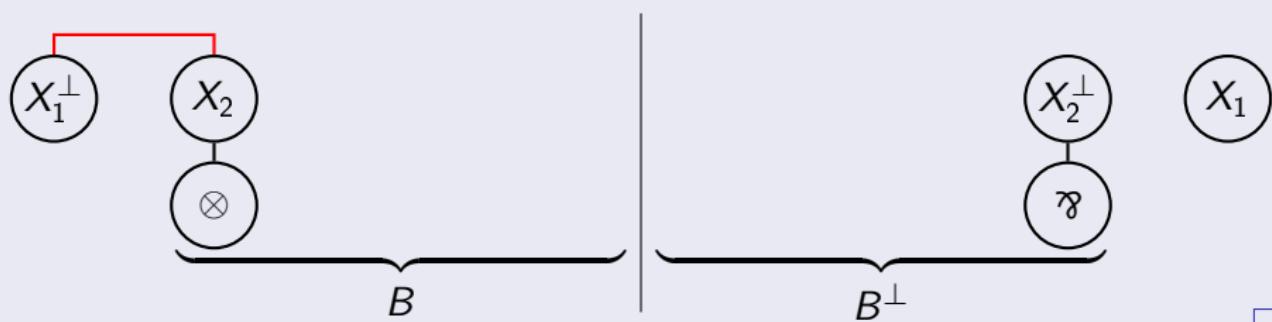
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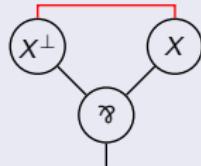
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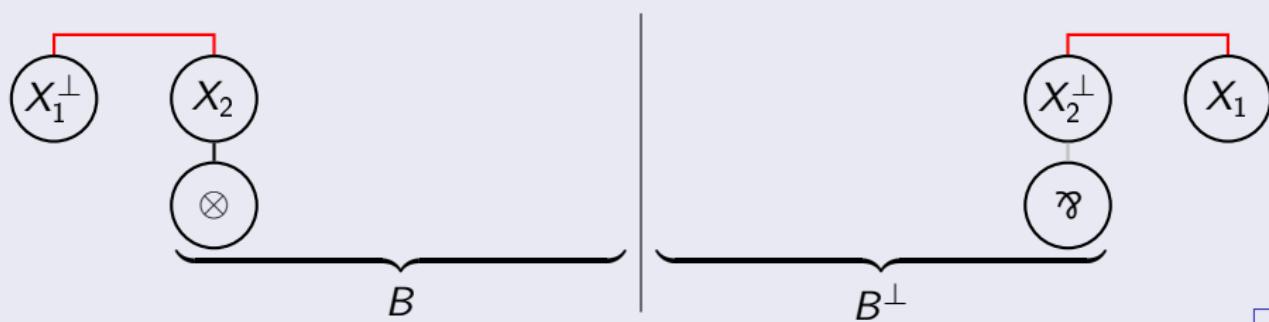
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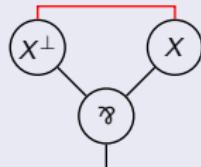
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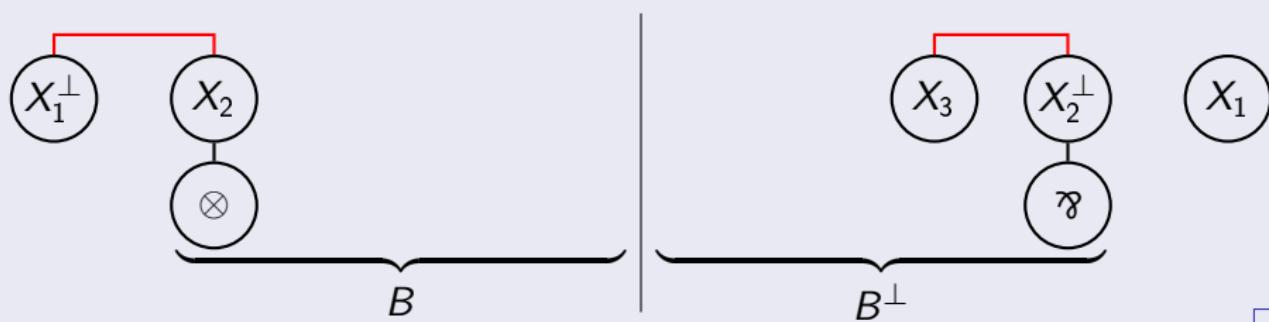
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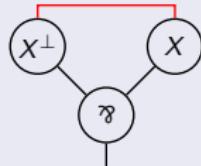
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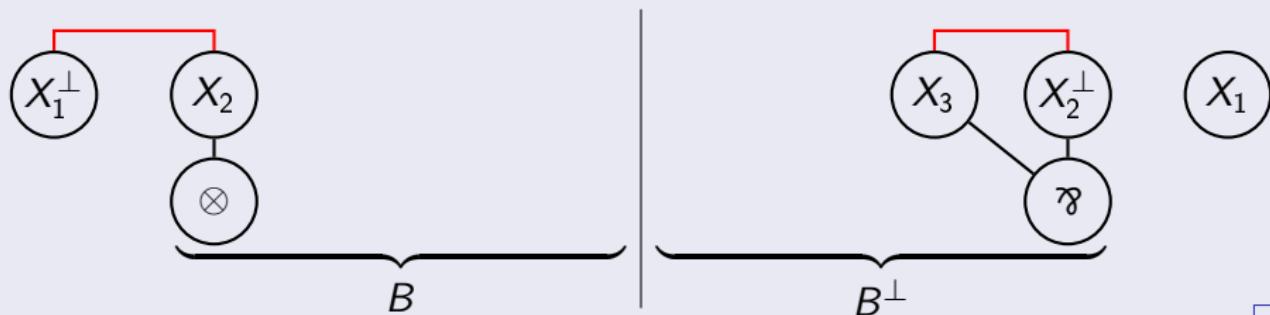
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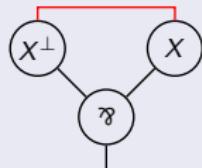
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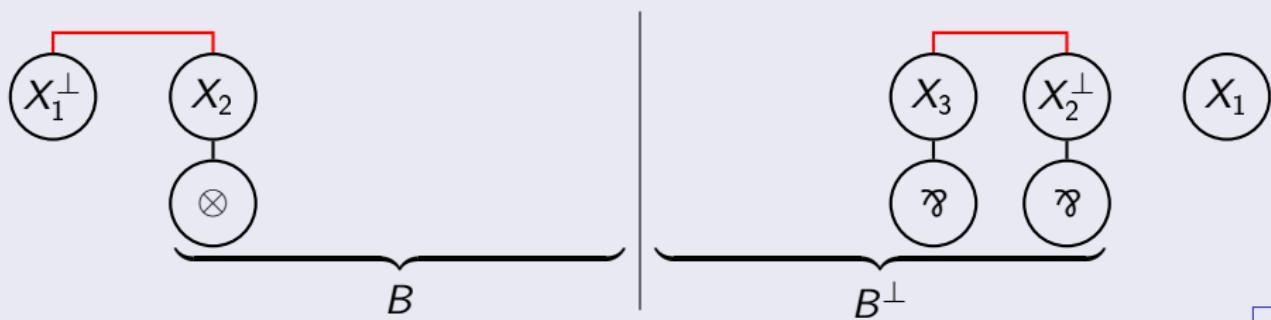
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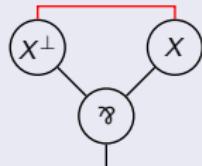
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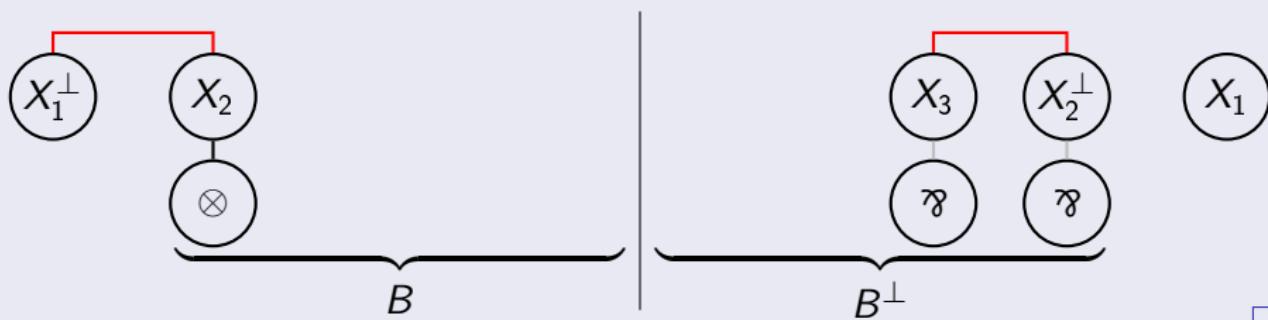
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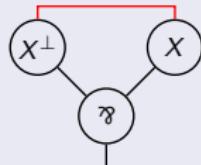
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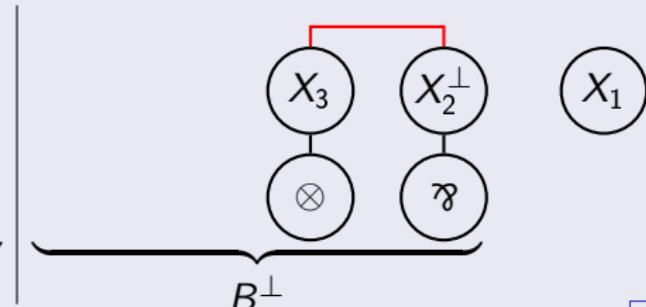
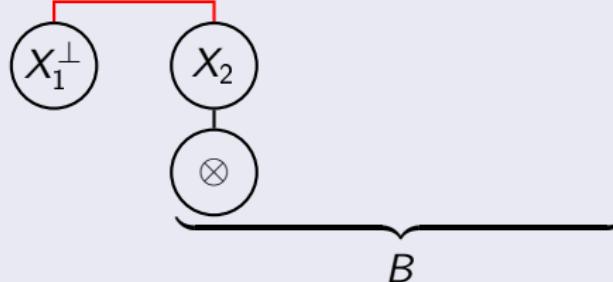
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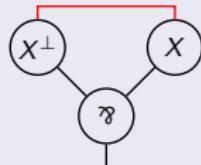
Invariant: every X of B is above a \otimes , and every X^\perp above a \wp .



Key Result

Lemma

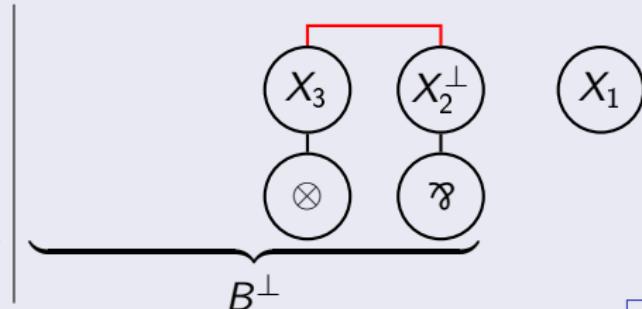
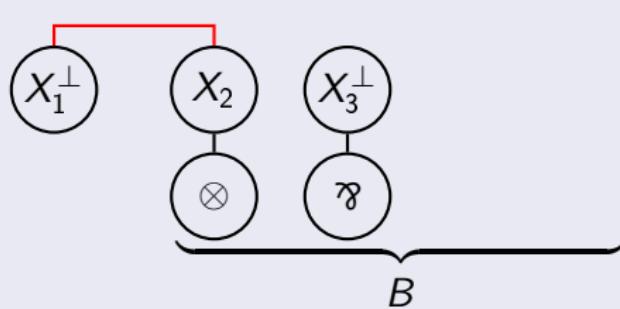
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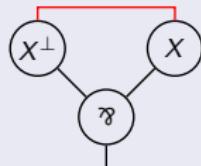
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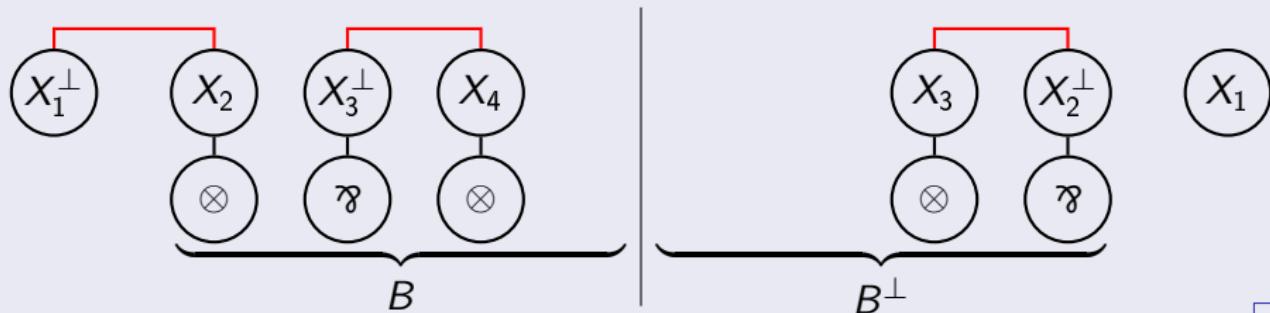
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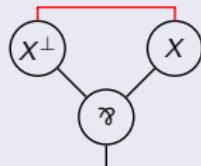
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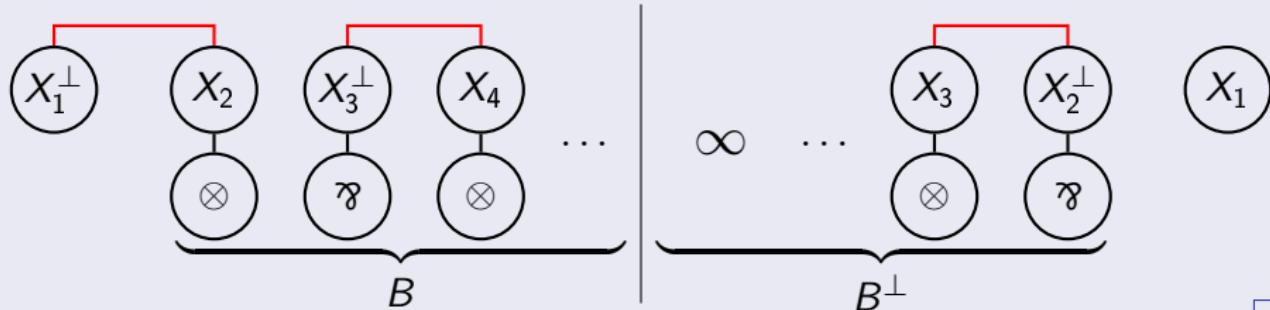
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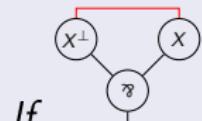
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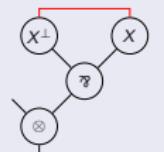


Extended pattern

Lemma

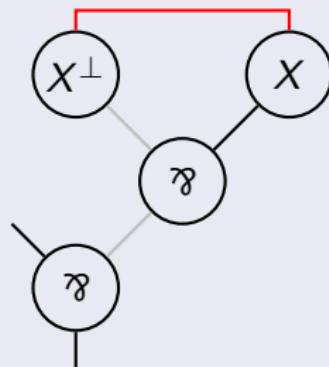


If *has a node below it, then this is a*



Proof.

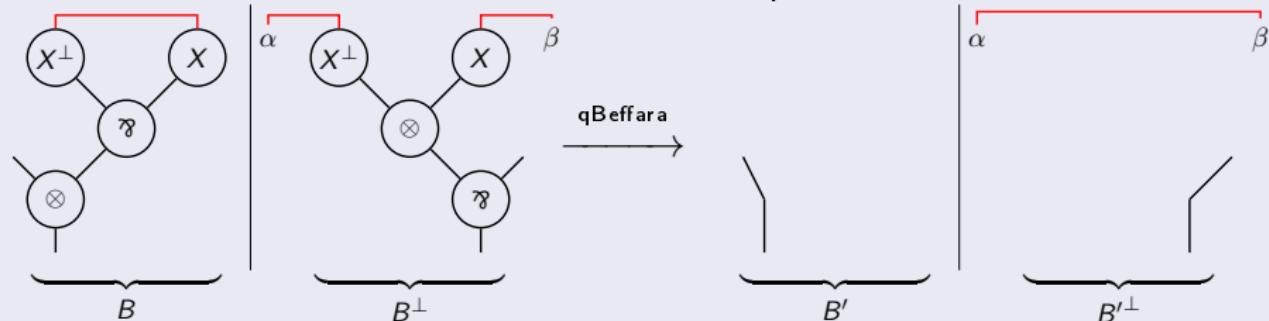
The connector below the pattern cannot be a \wp by connectivity:



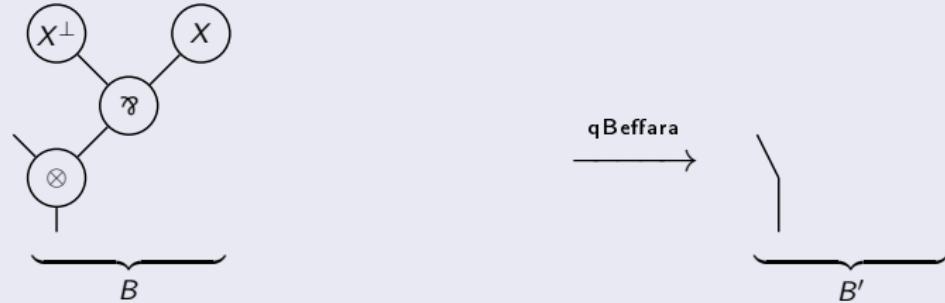
Quasi-Beffara

Definition

Quasi-Beffara is this local transformation on proofs of a retraction $A \trianglelefteq B$:



By extension, this defines two transformations on a formula B (by duality):



Coherence of Quasi-Beffara

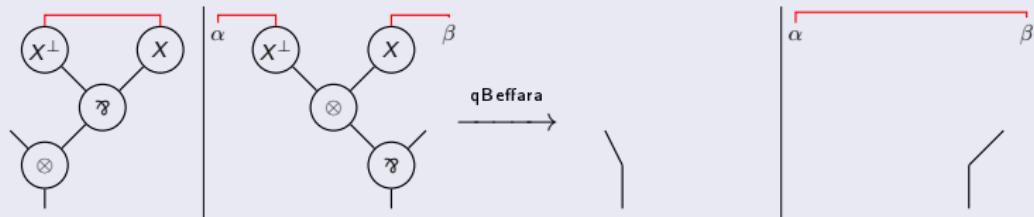
Lemma

If $(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S})$ are proofs of $A \sqsubseteq B$ and $(\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{S}) \xrightarrow{\text{qBaffara}} (\mathcal{R}', \mathcal{S}')$, then $(\mathcal{R}', \mathcal{S}')$ are proofs of $A \sqsubseteq B'$ with $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBaffara}} B'$.

Proof.

Quasi-Beffara preserves:

- being a proof structure



Coherence of Quasi-Beffara

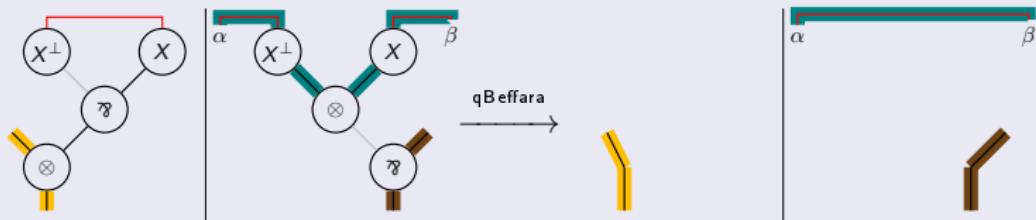
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Proof.

Quasi-Beffara preserves:

- being a proof structure
- acyclicity of correctness graphs



Coherence of Quasi-Beffara

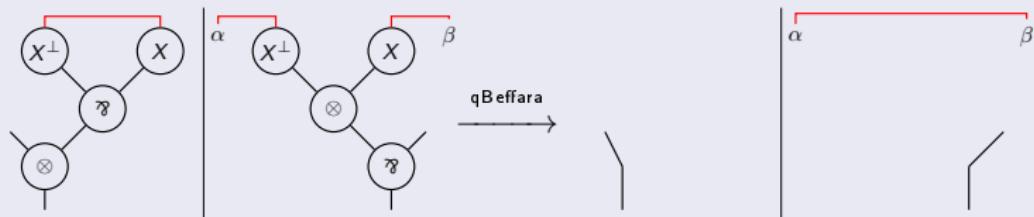
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Proof.

Quasi-Beffara preserves:

- being a proof structure
- acyclicity of correctness graphs
- the number $|V| + |\mathcal{V}| - |E|$ of cc. of any correctness graph:
it removes 4 vertices, including 1 \otimes , and 5 edges



Coherence of Quasi-Beffara

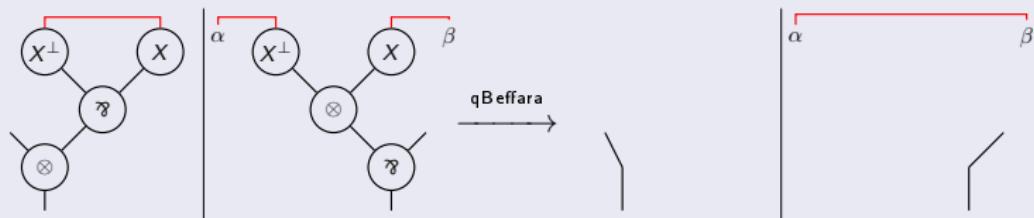
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Proof.

Quasi-Beffara preserves:

- being a proof structure
- acyclicity of correctness graphs
- the number $|V| + |\mathfrak{F}| - |E|$ of cc. of any correctness graph
- (normal form for cut elimination)



Completeness of Quasi-Beffara

Proposition

If $X \trianglelefteq B$ then $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBeffara}}^* X$.

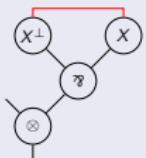
Proof.

By induction on the size of B . Trivial if $B = X$.

Else, by previous results:



- ① we find some



- ② which is a

- ③ $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBeffara}} B'$, $X \trianglelefteq B'$ and B' of strictly smaller size



Quasi-Beffara & Beffara (statement)

- Remember Beffara's retraction:

$$X \triangleleft X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X) \quad X \triangleleft X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X)$$

- Corresponding transformations inside a formula:

$$X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X) \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} X \quad X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X) \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} X$$

Quasi-Beffara & Beffara (statement)

- Remember Beffara's retraction:

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$$X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X) \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} X \quad X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X) \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} X$$

Proposition

If $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBeffara}}^* X$, then $B \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}}^* X$ **up to isomorphism**
(associativity and commutativity of \wp and \otimes)

Quasi-Beffara & Beffara (proof)

By induction on the size of B .

Base cases: $B \in \{X; X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X); X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)\}$

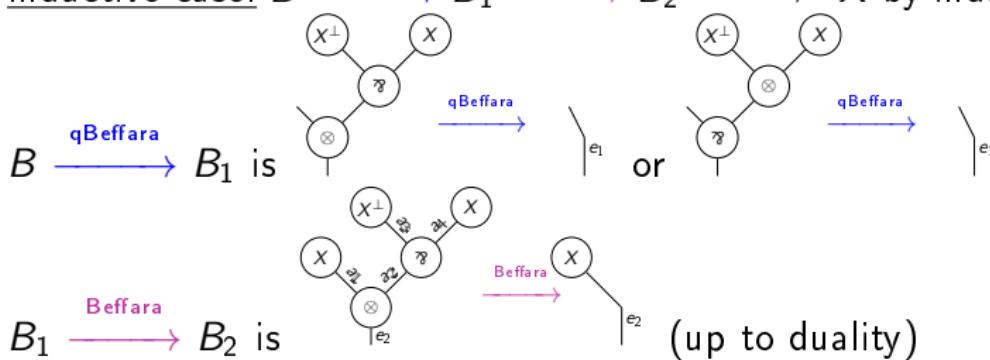
Inductive case: $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBaffara}} B_1 \xrightarrow{\text{Baffara}} B_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Baffara}}^* X$ by induction hypothesis.

Quasi-Beffara & Beffara (proof)

By induction on the size of B .

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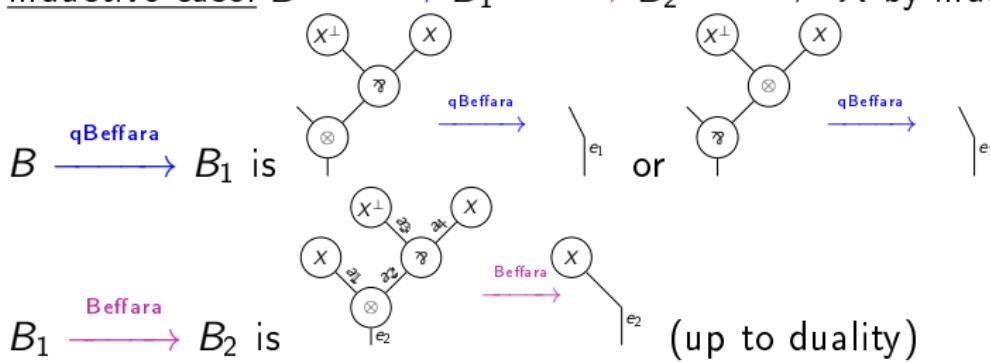


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By induction on the size of B .

Base cases: $B \in \{X; X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X); X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)\}$

Inductive case: $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBaffara}} B_1 \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} B_2 \xrightarrow{*} X$ by induction hypothesis.



- $e_1 \notin \{a_1; a_2; a_3; a_4\}$ (including $e_1 = e_2$)

The rewritings commute: $B \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} B'_1 \xrightarrow{\text{qBaffara}} B_2 \xrightarrow{*} X$, so by

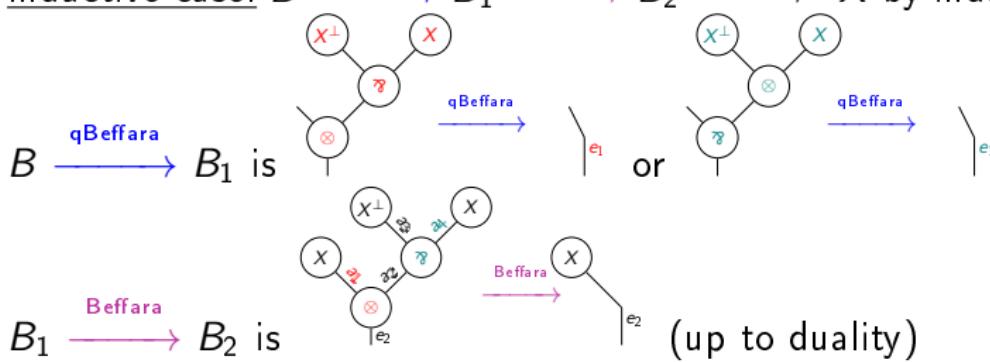
induction $B \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} B'_1 \xrightarrow{*} X$

Quasi-Beffara & Beffara (proof)

By induction on the size of B .

Base cases: $B \in \{X; X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X); X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)\}$

Inductive case: $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBaffara}} B_1 \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} B_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}}^* X$ by induction hypothesis.



- $e_1 \notin \{a_1; a_2; a_3; a_4\}$ (including $e_1 = e_2$) ✓

- $e_1 = a_2$

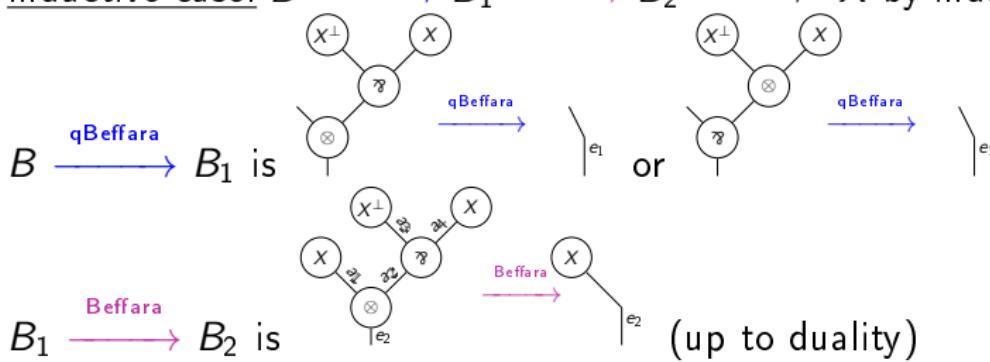
Up to isomorphism $e_1 = a_1$ or $e_1 = a_4$

Quasi-Beffara & Beffara (proof)

By induction on the size of B .

Base cases: $B \in \{X; X \wp (X^\perp \otimes X); X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)\}$

Inductive case: $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBeffara}} B_1 \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} B_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}}^* X$ by induction hypothesis.



- $e_1 \notin \{a_1; a_2; a_3; a_4\}$ (including $e_1 = e_2$) ✓

- $e_1 = a_2$ ✓

- $e_1 \in \{a_1; a_3; a_4\}$

$B \xrightarrow{\text{qBeffara}} B_1$ is also a $B \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}} B_1$

Characterization of $X \trianglelefteq B$

Theorem

The followings are equivalent:

- ① $X \trianglelefteq B$
- ② $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBeffara}}^* X$
- ③ $B \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}}^* X$ (up to iso)

Characterization of $X \trianglelefteq B$

Theorem

The followings are equivalent:

① $X \trianglelefteq B$

② $B \xrightarrow{\text{qBeffara}}^* X$

③ $B \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}}^* X \text{ (up to iso)}$

④ $B \in \mathcal{P} \text{ (up to iso)}$

$$\mathcal{P} ::= X \mid \mathcal{P} \otimes (\mathcal{N} \wp \mathcal{P}) \mid \mathcal{P} \wp (\mathcal{N} \otimes \mathcal{P})$$

$$\mathcal{N} ::= X^\perp \mid \mathcal{N} \otimes (\mathcal{P} \wp \mathcal{N}) \mid \mathcal{N} \wp (\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{N})$$

Characterization of $X \trianglelefteq B$

Theorem

The followings are equivalent:

① $X \trianglelefteq B$

qBeffara

② $B \xrightarrow{*} X$

Beffara

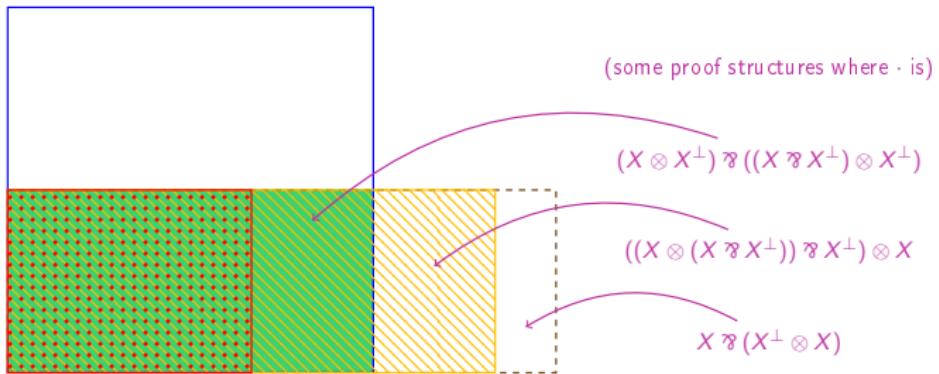
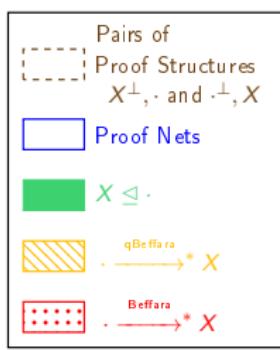
③ $B \xrightarrow{*} X$ (up to iso)

④ $B \in P$ (up to iso)

$$P ::= X \mid P \otimes (N \wp P) \mid P \wp (N \otimes P)$$

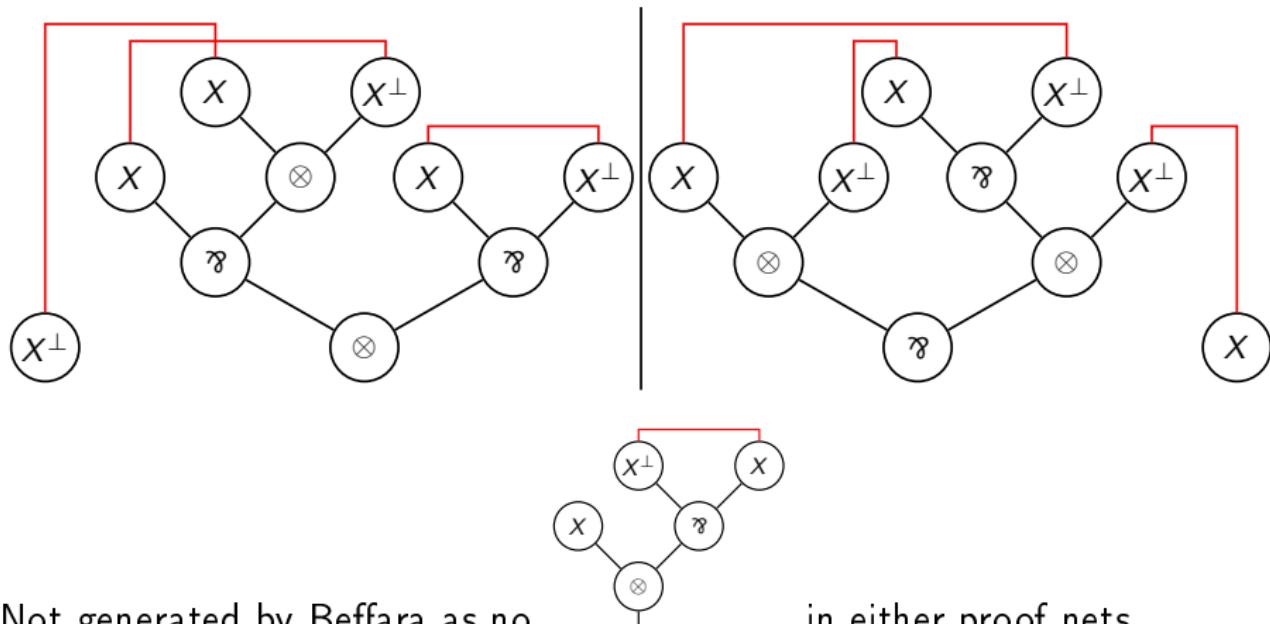
$$N ::= X^\perp \mid N \otimes (P \wp N) \mid N \wp (P \otimes N)$$

... but this is when looking at *formulas*! Looking at *proofs*, this is messier:



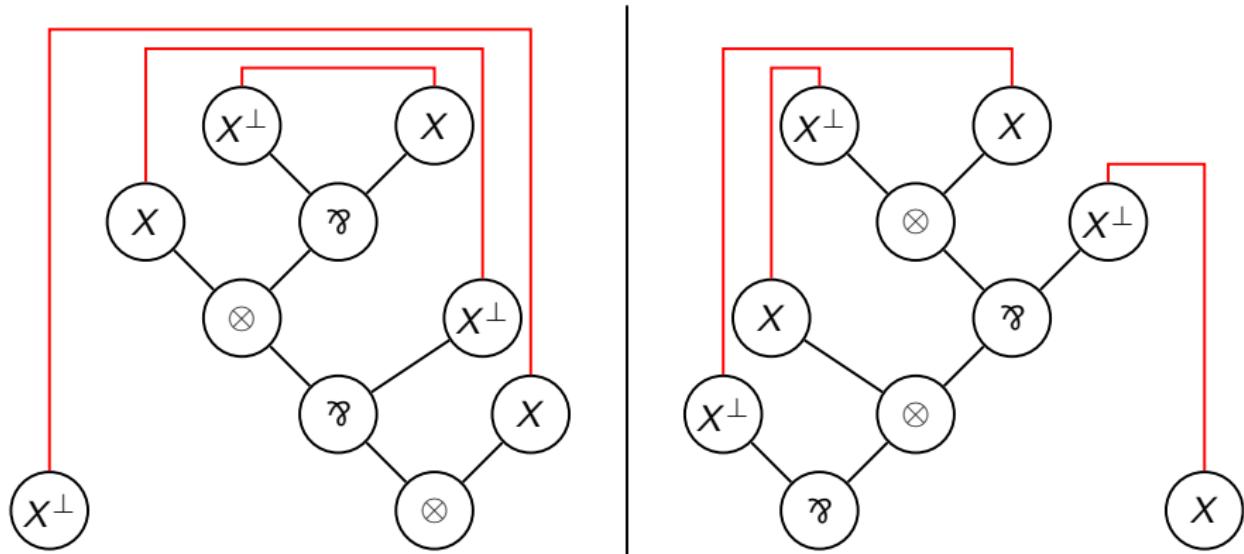
Retraction not generated by Beffara

Proof of $X \triangleleft (X \otimes X^\perp) \wp ((X \wp X^\perp) \otimes X^\perp)$



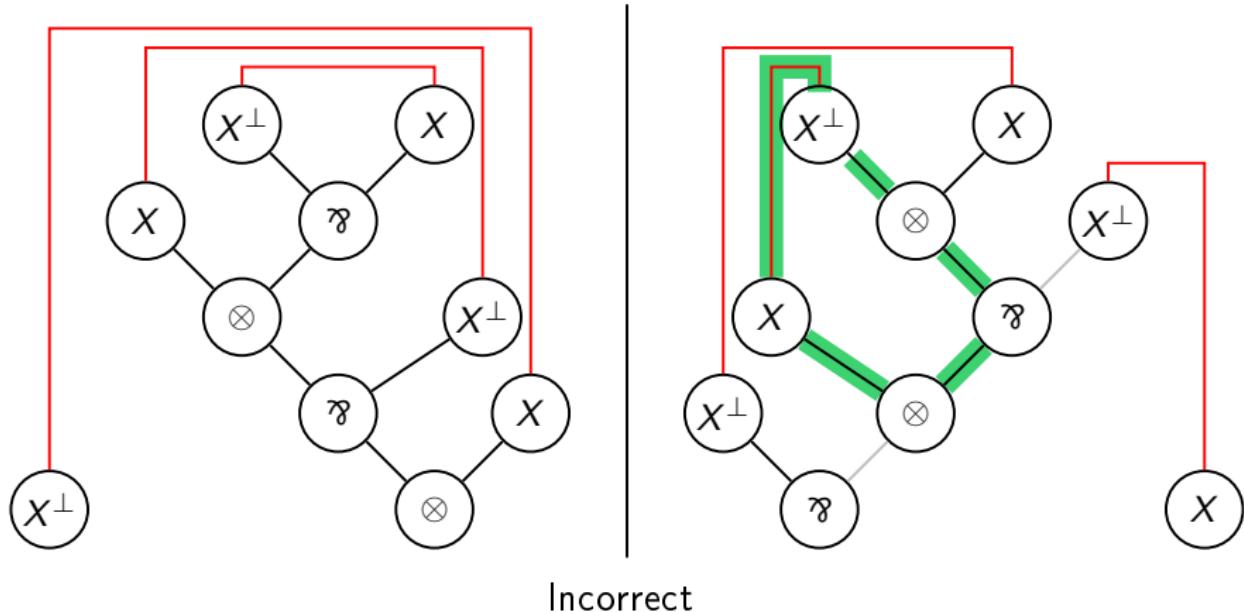
Incorrect retraction generated by Quasi-Beffara

Not-Proof of $X \lhd ((X \otimes (X \wp X^\perp)) \wp X^\perp) \otimes X$



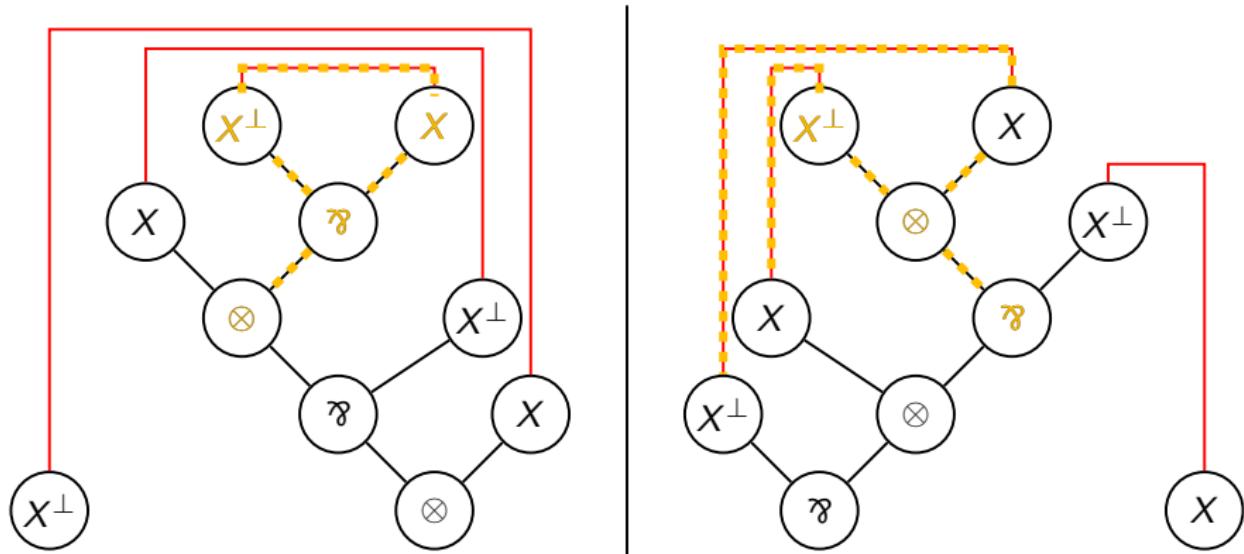
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Incorrect retraction generated by Quasi-Beffara

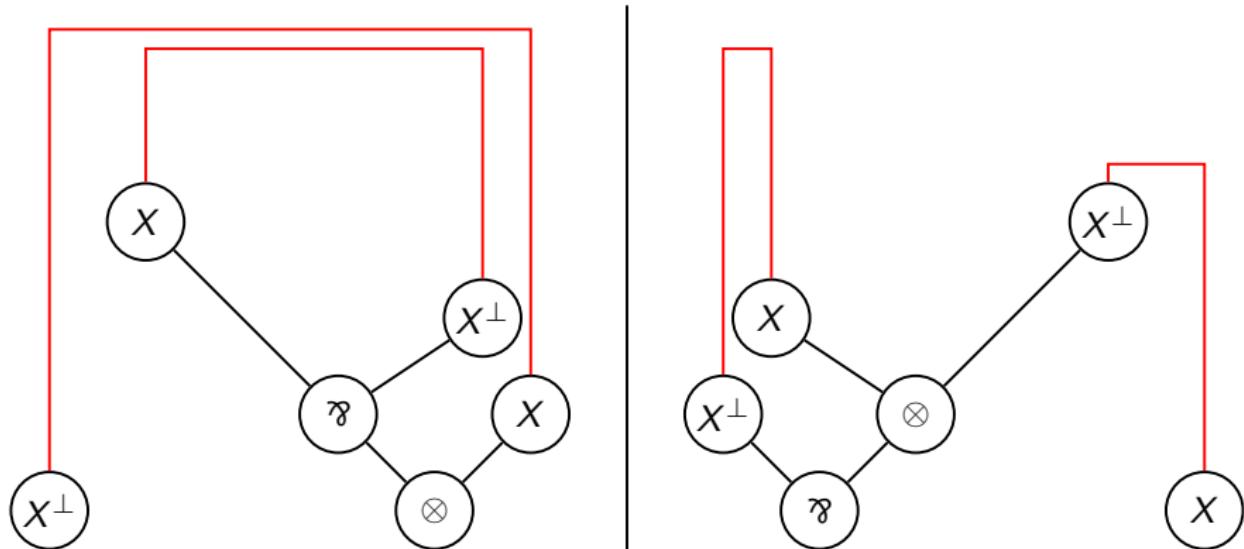
Not-Proof of $X \lhd ((X \otimes (X \wp X^\perp)) \wp X^\perp) \otimes X$



Can apply one step of Quasi-Beffara

Incorrect retraction generated by Quasi-Beffara

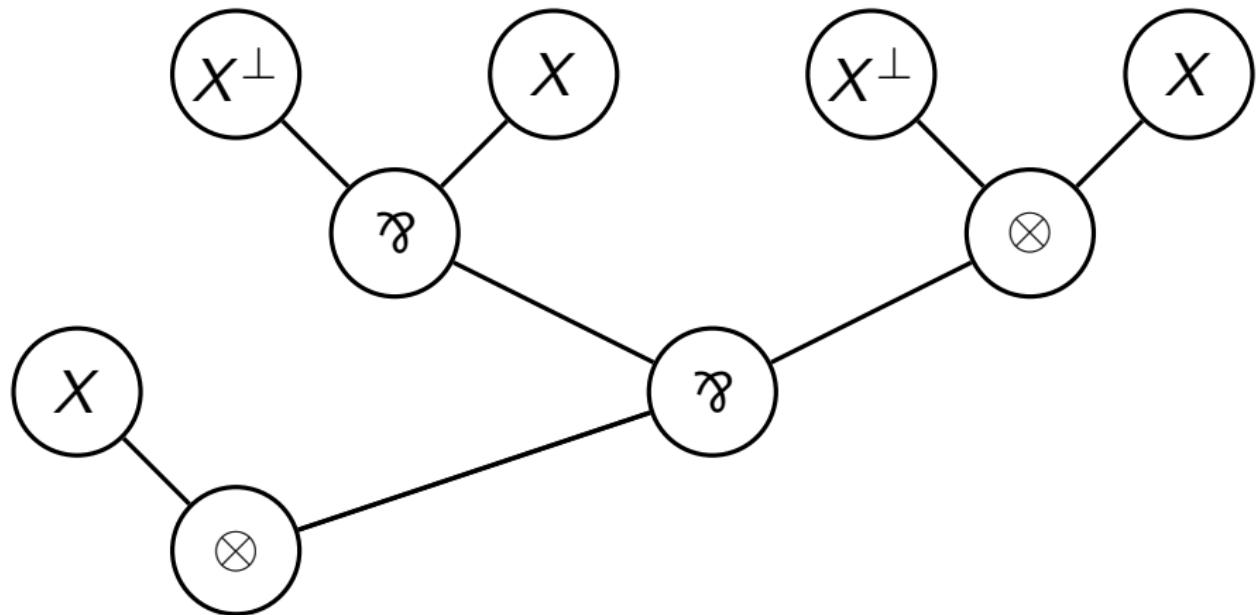
Not-Proof of $X \lhd ((X \otimes (X \wp X^\perp)) \wp X^\perp) \otimes X$



This is Beffara, attainable from X by one step of Quasi-Beffara

Formula not generated by Beffara without iso

$$X \triangleleft X \otimes ((X^\perp \wp X) \wp (X^\perp \otimes X))$$



Generated by Beffara only up to isomorphism!

Plan

1 Retractions in (fragments of) Linear Logic

2 Definitions

- Proof Net
- Retraction

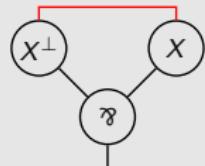
3 Good properties of retractions in MLL – or why it should be easy

4 Retractions of the shape $X \trianglelefteq \cdot$ (universal super-types)

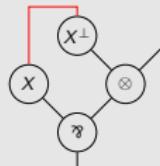
- Looking for a pattern
- Quasi-Beffara
- Beffara $X \triangleleft X \otimes (X^\perp \wp X)$

5 Difficulties for $A \trianglelefteq B$

Difficulties for $A \trianglelefteq B$

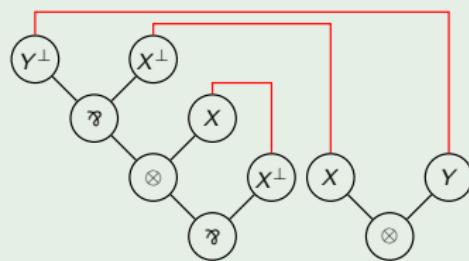
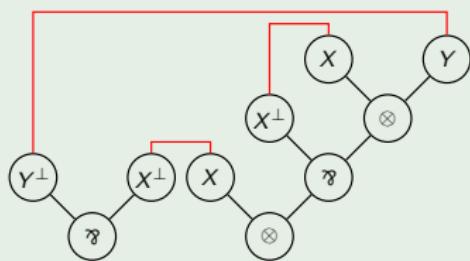


Not only as a pattern, also

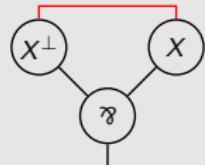


(and others?)

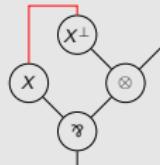
Example: $X \otimes Y \trianglelefteq X \otimes (X^\perp \wp (X \otimes Y))$



Difficulties for $A \trianglelefteq B$

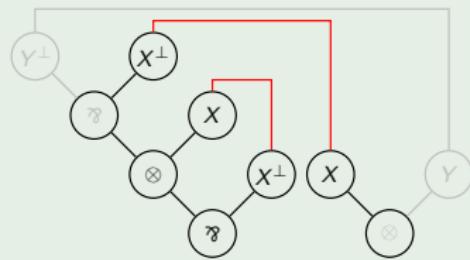
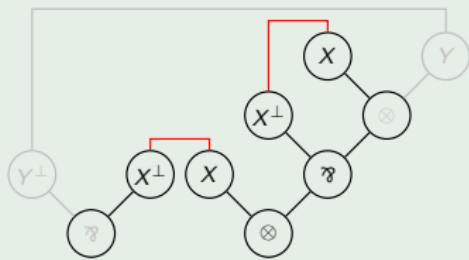


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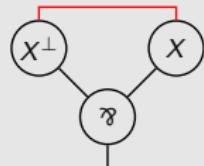


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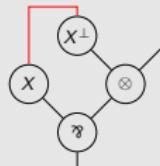


Difficulties for $A \trianglelefteq B$



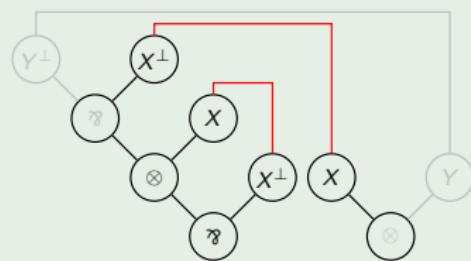
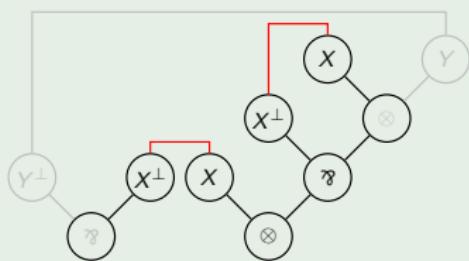
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(and others?)

Example: $X \otimes Y \trianglelefteq X \otimes (X^\perp \wp (X \otimes Y))$



May not be finitely axiomatisable (on formulas)?

$\{\otimes X_i\} \triangleleft \{\otimes X_i\} \wp (X_1 \otimes (X_1^\perp \wp (\dots (X_{n-1} \otimes (X_{n-1}^\perp \wp (X_n \otimes X_n^\perp)) \dots)))$
And $(A \otimes X) \wp B \not\triangleleftharpoons (A \otimes X) \wp (X \otimes (X^\perp \wp B))$

What about the other “simple” fragments?

- For **exponential** formulas, there are new retractions:

$$?A \trianglelefteq ??A \quad ?!A \trianglelefteq ?!?!A$$

Look like the only “basic” ones?

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$$A \trianglelefteq A \& B \iff \vdash A^\perp, B \quad \text{or} \quad A \trianglelefteq A \oplus B \iff \vdash A, B^\perp$$

Retraction of an atom manageable.

But generally composition is bad due to the side condition:

$$X \oplus Y \triangleleft ((X \oplus Z) \& (X \oplus Y)) \oplus Y$$

comes from $X \oplus Y \triangleleft (X \oplus Y) \oplus Y$ without $\vdash X \oplus Z, (X \oplus Y)^\perp$

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- Cantor-Bernstein holds in ALL. More complicated in MALL...

Conclusion

- $X \trianglelefteq B \iff B \xrightarrow{\text{Beffara}}^* X$ up to isomorphism
with some subtleties on the proof morphisms
- good properties: Cantor-Bernstein, result on sizes, only provability of a particular shape no consider, ...
- still the problem may be difficult?!

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Thank you
for your attention!

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