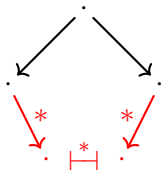


Confluence of Cut-elimination up to Rules commutations in Linear Logic

Rémi Di Guardia

Syntax Meets Semantics, 8 January 2026



- ◇ **Identity** of proofs / terms:
when are two proofs equal?

Syntax

- Syntactic equality
 - × too constraint: $2 + 2 \neq 1 + 3$

Semantics

- ◇ Identity of proofs / terms:
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- Equality up to cut-elimination / β -reduction

Semantics

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- Equality up to rules commutations

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- ◇ Identity of proofs / terms:
when are two proofs equal?

- ◇ Some order does not matter:

$$\frac{\frac{\vdash A, B, C, D}{\vdash A, B, C \vee D}^{(\vee)}}{\vdash A \vee B, C \vee D}^{(\vee)} \sim \frac{\frac{\vdash A, B, C, D}{\vdash A \vee B, C, D}^{(\vee)}}{\vdash A \vee B, C \vee D}^{(\vee)}$$

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In Linear Logic equality up to cut-elimination
is exactly equality up to rules commutations!

Why LL? fine-grained enough for this to be relevant, LK equates all proofs

Syntax

- **Syntactic** equality
 - × too constraint: $2 + 2 \neq 1 + 3$
- Equality up to **cut-elimination** / **β -reduction**
- **Observational** equivalence
- Equality up to **rules commutations**

Semantics

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In **Linear Logic** equality up to **cut-elimination**
is exactly equality up to **rules commutations**!

Why LL? fine-grained enough for this to be relevant, LK equates all proofs

Motivations:

- instance of *when are two morphisms in a category equal?*
- relevant for **isomorphisms**: *when are two formulas A and B equal?*
- useful when looking for a **canonical** representative: proof-nets!

- ▶ Equality of terms up to β -reduction in λ -calculus
- ▶ Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic
 - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
 - Why is equality more complicated than in λ -calculus?
 - Linking cut-elimination and rules commutations

Simply typed λ -calculus

Terms

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

Types

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

β -reduction

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

η -expansion

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

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Syntactic equality is usually not enough:

- **Church encoding:** $\underline{n} := \lambda f. \lambda x. \underbrace{f f \dots f}_n x$

$\underline{2} + \underline{2}$ should be *equivalent* to $\underline{2} + (\underline{1} + \underline{1})$

- **Quotient in category / denotational model:**

$$M \stackrel{\beta\eta}{=} N \implies \llbracket M \rrbracket = \llbracket N \rrbracket$$

\longrightarrow a useful notion of equality is up to **computations** = $\beta\eta$ equivalence

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- **Quotient in category / denotational model:**

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Here: **only equality up to β -reduction** (the most interesting)

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!

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Key results:

- β is **strongly normalizing**
(no infinite sequence of reductions)
- β is **confluent**



Corollary

$$M =_{\beta} N \iff \beta(M) = \beta(N)$$

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

Examples

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

$$\underline{2} + \underline{2} \xrightarrow{\beta^*} \underline{4} \not\equiv \underline{3} \xleftarrow{\beta^*} \underline{2} + \underline{1}$$

- ▶ Equality of terms up to β -reduction in λ -calculus
- ▶ Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic
 - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
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Linear Logic

Formulas

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

Involutive Negation / Orthogonality

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

$$(A \wp B)^\perp = A^\perp \otimes B^\perp \quad (A \otimes B)^\perp = A^\perp \wp B^\perp \quad \perp^\perp = 1 \quad 1^\perp = \perp$$

$$(A \oplus B)^\perp = A^\perp \& B^\perp \quad (A \& B)^\perp = A^\perp \oplus B^\perp \quad 0^\perp = \top \quad \top^\perp = 0$$

$$(?A)^\perp = !A^\perp \quad (!A)^\perp = ?A^\perp \quad (\forall X A)^\perp = \exists X A^\perp \quad (\exists X A)^\perp = \forall X A^\perp$$

Sub-systems

- MLL = atom + multiplicative
- MALL = atom + multiplicative + additive
- ...

16 Rules of Linear Logic

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)} \quad \frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, \Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\vdash A, B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \wp B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\wp\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Delta}{\vdash A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash \perp, \Gamma} \text{ (}\perp\text{)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash 1} \text{ (1)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \& B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\&\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_1\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_2\text{)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash \top, \Gamma} \text{ (}\top\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?d)} \quad \frac{\vdash ?A, ?A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?c)} \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?w)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma} \text{ (!)} \\
 \\
 X \text{ not free in } \Gamma \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash \forall X A, \Gamma} \text{ (}\forall\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A\{B/X\}, \Gamma}{\vdash \exists X A, \Gamma} \text{ (}\exists\text{)}
 \end{array}$$

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 \\
 \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \& B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\&\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_1\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_2\text{)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash \top, \Gamma} \text{ (}\top\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?d)} \quad \frac{\vdash ?A, ?A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?c)} \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?w)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma} \text{ (!)} \\
 \\
 X \text{ not free in } \Gamma \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash \forall X A, \Gamma} \text{ (}\forall\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A\{B/X\}, \Gamma}{\vdash \exists X A, \Gamma} \text{ (}\exists\text{)}
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 \frac{\vdash A, B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \wp B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\wp\text{)} \qquad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Delta}{\vdash A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \qquad \frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash \perp, \Gamma} \text{ (}\perp\text{)} \qquad \frac{}{\vdash 1} \text{ (1)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \& B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\&\text{)} \qquad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_1\text{)} \qquad \frac{\vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_2\text{)} \qquad \frac{}{\vdash \top, \Gamma} \text{ (}\top\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?d)} \qquad \frac{\vdash ?A, ?A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?c)} \qquad \frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?w)} \qquad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma} \text{ (!)} \\
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 \end{array}$$

Curry-Howard isomorphism: β -reduction \approx cut-elimination

Cut-elimination - 9 Key steps (Computations)

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{ax} \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash A^\perp, A} \quad \overline{\vdash A, \Gamma} \quad \pi}{\vdash A, \Gamma} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \vdash A, \Gamma \\
 \\
 \wp - \otimes \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash B^\perp, A^\perp, \Gamma}{\vdash B^\perp \wp A^\perp, \Gamma} (\wp) \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash A, \Delta}{\vdash A \otimes B, \Delta}, \Sigma}{\vdash A \otimes B, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \pi}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\vdash B^\perp, A^\perp, \Gamma}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma, \Sigma} \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \perp - 1 \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash \perp, \Gamma} (\perp) \quad \overline{\vdash 1} (1)}{\vdash \Gamma} \xrightarrow{\beta} \vdash \Gamma \\
 \\
 \& - \oplus_1 \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash B^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A^\perp, \Gamma}{\vdash B^\perp \& A^\perp, \Gamma} (\&) \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Delta}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Delta} (\oplus_1)}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, \Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \& - \oplus_2 \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash B^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A^\perp, \Gamma}{\vdash B^\perp \& A^\perp, \Gamma} (\&) \quad \frac{\vdash B, \Delta}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Delta} (\oplus_2)}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\vdash B^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 ?d - ! \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A^\perp, \Gamma} (?d) \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Delta}{\vdash !A, ?\Delta} (!)}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, ?\Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 ?c - ! \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash ?A^\perp, ?A^\perp, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A^\perp, \Gamma} (?c) \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Delta}{\vdash !A, ?\Delta} (!)}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\frac{\vdash A^\perp, ?A^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, ?\Delta}{\vdash ?A^\perp, \Gamma, ?\Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Delta}{\vdash !A, ?\Delta} (!)}{\frac{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta, ?\Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} (?c)} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 ?w - ! \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash ?A^\perp, \Gamma} (?w) \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Delta}{\vdash !A, ?\Delta} (!)}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} (?w)}{\vdash \Gamma, ?\Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \forall - \exists \quad \text{X not free in } \Gamma \quad \frac{\frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma}{\vdash \forall X A^\perp, \Gamma} (\forall) \quad \frac{\vdash A[B/X], \Delta}{\vdash \exists X A, \Delta} (\exists)}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi[B/X]}{\vdash A[B/X]^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash A[B/X], \Delta}{\vdash A[B/X], \Delta} (\exists)}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}
 \end{array}$$

Cut-elimination - 15 Commutative steps (To key)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \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} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \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} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \vdash \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \wp C, \Gamma} \text{ (?)} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B, C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (?)} \\
 \vdash B \wp C, \Gamma, \Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash C, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \otimes C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash C, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \vdash B \otimes C, \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \otimes C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma}}{\vdash C, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \vdash B \otimes C, \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, \perp, \Gamma} \text{ (}\perp\text{)} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (}\perp\text{)} \\
 \vdash \perp, \Gamma, \Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \& C, \Gamma} \text{ (&)} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \vdash B \& C, \Gamma, \Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \oplus C, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_1\text{)} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (}\oplus_1\text{)} \\
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 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \oplus C, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_2\text{)} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (}\oplus_2\text{)} \\
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$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash \Gamma, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\top\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, \Gamma} \text{ (?d)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (?d)} \\
 \vdash ?B, \Gamma, \Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, ?B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, \Gamma} \text{ (?c)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, ?B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash ?B, ?B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (?c)} \\
 \vdash ?B, \Gamma, \Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, \Gamma} \text{ (?w)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (?w)} \\
 \vdash ?B, \Gamma, \Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A^\perp, B, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, ?\Delta}}{\vdash ?A^\perp, !B, ?\Gamma} \text{ (!)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, ?\Delta} \text{ (!)} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A^\perp, B, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, ?\Delta}}{\vdash B, ?\Gamma, ?\Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, ?\Delta} \text{ (!)} \\
 \vdash !B, ?\Gamma, ?\Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, \forall X B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\forall\text{)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (}\forall\text{)} \\
 \vdash \forall X B, \Gamma, \Delta \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B[C/X], \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, \exists X B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\exists\text{)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \quad \xrightarrow{\beta} \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B[C/X], \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B[C/X], \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (}\exists\text{)} \\
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 \end{array}$$

* X not free in ...

Cut-elimination - 15 Commutative steps (To key)

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 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B^\perp, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma, \Sigma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, C, \Gamma} \text{ (?)}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \wp C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B, C, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash B \wp C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (?) } \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash C, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \otimes C, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Sigma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash C, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \otimes C, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Sigma} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B \otimes C, \Gamma, \Delta, \Sigma} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \text{ (}\bot\text{)}}{\vdash A^\perp, \bot, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\bot\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \text{ (}\&\text{)}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \& C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \oplus C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \oplus C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash C, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash A^\perp, B \oplus C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B \oplus C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\oplus\text{)}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \text{ (}\top\text{)}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\pi}{\vdash \Gamma, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\top\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \text{ (?)}}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash ?B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (?) } \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, ?B, \Gamma} \text{ (?)}}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, ?B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash ?B, ?B, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash ?B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (?) } \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \text{ (?)}}{\vdash A^\perp, ?B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash ?B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (?) } \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A^\perp, B, ?\Gamma} \text{ (I)}}{\vdash ?A^\perp, !B, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, ?\Delta} \text{ (I)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A^\perp, B, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, ?\Delta} \text{ (I)}}{\vdash B, ?\Gamma, ?\Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash !B, ?\Gamma, ?\Delta} \text{ (I)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\vee\text{)}}{\vdash A^\perp, \forall X B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash \forall X B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\vee\text{)} \\
 \\
 \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B[C/X], \Gamma} \text{ (}\exists\text{)}}{\vdash A^\perp, \exists X B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B[C/X], \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B[C/X], \Gamma, \Delta} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash \exists X B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\exists\text{)}
 \end{array}$$

* X not free in ...

Cut-elimination on an example

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

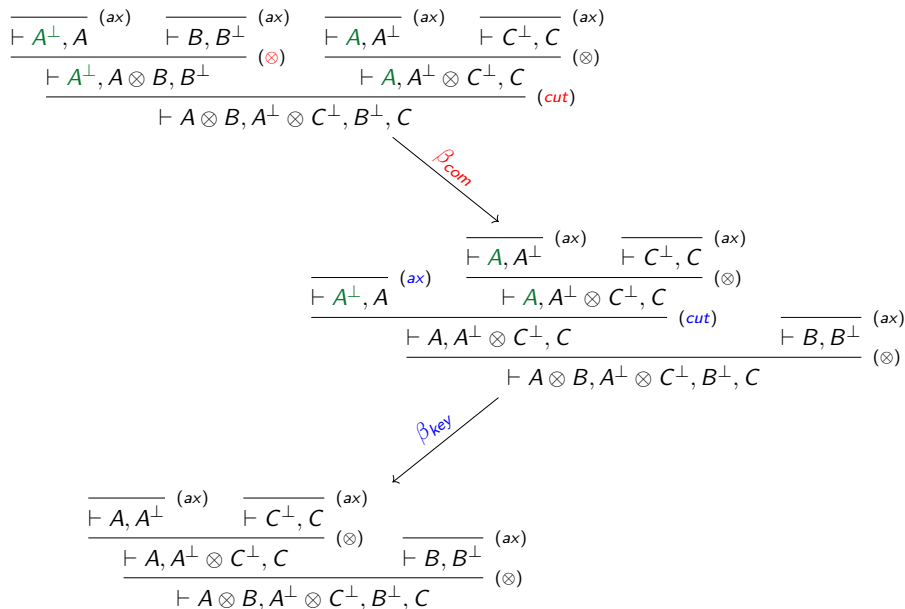
Cut-elimination on an example

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

β_{com}

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

Cut-elimination on an example



- ▶ Equality of terms up to β -reduction in λ -calculus
- ▶ Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic
 - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
 - Why is equality more complicated than in λ -calculus?
 - Linking cut-elimination and rules commutations

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!

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Can we do the same as in λ -calculus?

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

- Cut-elimination is **confluent**?

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

—→ let's just **ignore those** for now

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—→ let's just **ignore those** for now

- Cut-elimination is **confluent**?

Not at all!

Cut-elimination is not confluent!

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

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!

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

Irreversible choice at the beginning:

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

But confluence **up to rules commutation!**

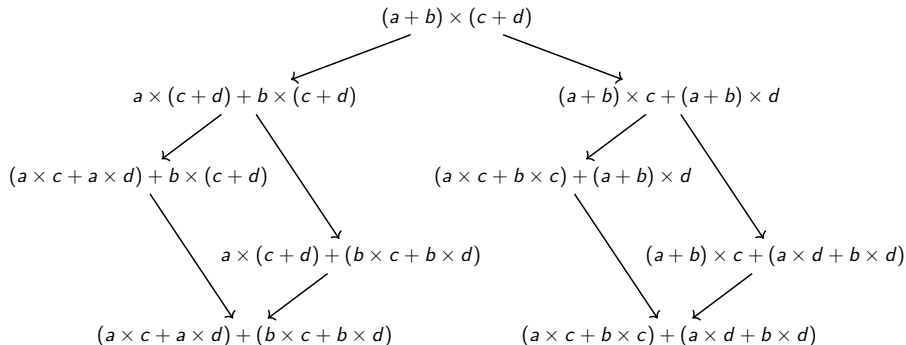
Intuition: Confluence up to in distributivity

Exercises from junior high school: **distributivity** of \times over $+$

$$a \times (b + c) \rightarrow (a \times b) + (a \times c)$$

$$(b + c) \times a \rightarrow (b \times a) + (c \times a)$$

Not confluent:



But confluent **up to** associativity and commutativity of $+$

Rules commutations (from a list of cases)

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

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

$$\frac{}{\vdash \top, ?A, \Gamma} (\top) \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash \top, ?A, ?A, \Gamma} (\top)}{\vdash \top, ?A, \Gamma} (?_c)$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \top, A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\top) \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash \top, A, \Gamma} (\top) \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash B, \Delta}}{\vdash \top, A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes)$$

... and many many many more ...

Rules commutations (from a list of cases)

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

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

$$\frac{}{\vdash \top, ?A, \Gamma} (\top) \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash \top, ?A, ?A, \Gamma} (\top)}{\vdash \top, ?A, \Gamma} (?_c)$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \top, A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\top) \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash \top, A, \Gamma} (\top) \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash B, \Delta}}{\vdash \top, A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes)$$

... and many many many more ...

! Non-trivial: **duplicates** / merges sub-proofs

Rules commutations (from a list of cases)

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

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

$$\frac{}{\vdash \top, ?A, \Gamma} (\top) \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash \top, ?A, ?A, \Gamma} (\top)}{\vdash \top, ?A, \Gamma} (?_c)$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \top, A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\top) \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash \top, A, \Gamma} (\top) \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash B, \Delta}}{\vdash \top, A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} (\otimes)$$

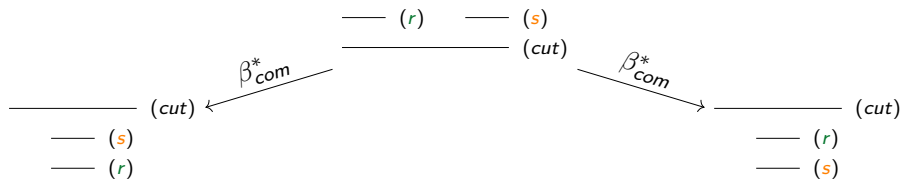
... and many many many more ...

!! Non-trivial: **duplicates** / merges sub-proofs

!! Tricky: **produces** / deletes rules and sub-proofs

Rules commutations (from a general method)

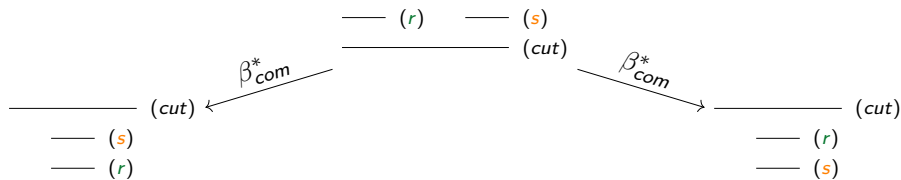
Every pair $\frac{\text{---} (s)}{\text{---} (r)} \vdash \frac{\text{---} (r)}{\text{---} (s)}$ coming from:



$\approx \#|rules|^2$ commutations \rightarrow 93 equations in LL!

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$\approx \#|rules|^2$ commutations \rightarrow 93 equations in LL!

Remarks

- $\vdash \subseteq =_{\beta}$
- \vdash is the usual (cut-free) commutations **without** $! - ?_c$ and $! - ?_w$

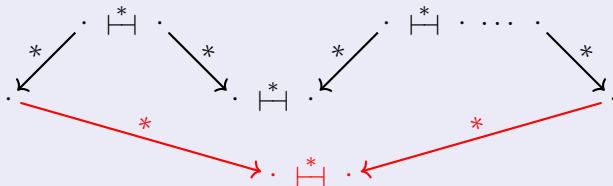
$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}^{(!)} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}^{(?_c)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}^{(!)} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}^{(?_w)} \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}^{(?_w)} \quad \frac{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma}^{(!)}$$

- ▶ Equality of terms up to β -reduction in λ -calculus
- ▶ Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic
 - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
 - Why is equality more complicated than in λ -calculus?
 - Linking cut-elimination and rules commutations

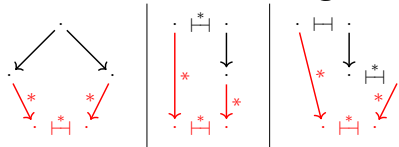
Proving Confluence up to

Definition: Church-Rosser modulo

\rightarrow is **Church-Rosser modulo** an equivalence relation \equiv^* when:



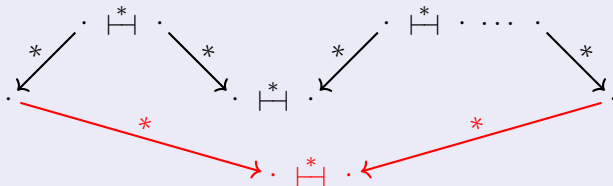
How to prove it? Several theorems in rewriting theory. Usual hypotheses:
strong normalization of $\rightarrow \cdot | \cdot$ & **closing some diagrams**



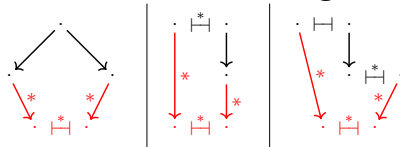
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\rightarrow is **Church-Rosser modulo** an equivalence relation \equiv^* when:



How to prove it? Several theorems in rewriting theory. Usual hypotheses:
strong normalization of $\rightarrow \cdot \vdash^*$ & **closing some diagrams**



Difficulties:

- \vdash^* is too complex, we prefer \vdash
- $\rightarrow \cdot \vdash^*$ is **not** strongly normalizing!

$\rightarrow \cdot \vdash^*$ is not strongly normalizing!

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash X^\perp, X} (ax)}{\vdash X^\perp \wp X} (\wp)}{\vdash !(X^\perp \wp X)} (!) \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (\top)}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (?_w)}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (?_c)}{\vdash \top} (cut)
 \end{array}
 \rightarrow
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash X^\perp, X} (ax)}{\vdash X^\perp \wp X} (\wp)}{\vdash !(X^\perp \wp X)} (!) \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash X^\perp, X} (ax)}{\vdash X^\perp \wp X} (\wp)}{\vdash !(X^\perp \wp X)} (!) \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (\top)}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (?_w)}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (?_c)}{\vdash \top} (cut)
 \end{array}
 \downarrow
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash X^\perp, X} (ax)}{\vdash X^\perp \wp X} (\wp)}{\vdash !(X^\perp \wp X)} (!) \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (\top)}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (?_w)}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (?_c)}{\vdash \top} (cut)
 \end{array}
 \quad \vdash \quad \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash X^\perp, X} (ax)}{\vdash X^\perp \wp X} (\wp)}{\vdash !(X^\perp \wp X)} (!) \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (\top)}{\vdash ?(X^\perp \otimes X), \top} (\top)}{\vdash \top} (cut)
 \end{array}$$

We have an infinity of **key** cut-elimination cases!

Idea

The problem comes from the **production** of rules / sub-proofs.

Confluence up to rules commutation

Theorem (Proved in MALL [CP05; DL23]; in redaction for LL)

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

Theorem (inspired from Theorem 2.2 in [AT12])

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

- 1 $\rightarrow \cdot \rightsquigarrow^*$ is strongly normalizing
- 2 $\leftarrow \cdot \rightarrow \subseteq \Rightarrow^* \cdot \overline{\vdash} \cdot^* \Leftarrow$
- 3 if $a \vdash b \rightarrow c$ then either:
 - $a \rightarrow \cdot \Rightarrow^* \cdot \overline{\vdash} \cdot^* \Leftarrow c$
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Confluence up to rules commutation – SN

Proposition

Set \rightsquigarrow the rules commutations *without \top -commutations in the direction “creating rules”*, plus the cut-cut step of cut-elimination.

Then $\xrightarrow{\bar{\beta}} \cdot \rightsquigarrow^*$ is strongly normalizing, with $\xrightarrow{\bar{\beta}} = (\xrightarrow{\beta} \text{ without cut-cut})$.

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Strong Normalization Property
for Second Order Linear Logic

Michele Pagani^{a,1}, Lorenzo Tortora de Falco^b

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Abstract

The paper contains the first complete proof of strong normalization (SN) for full second order linear logic (LL); Girard's original proof uses a standardization theorem which is not proven. We introduce sliced pure structures (sps), a very general version of Girard's proof-nets, and we apply to sps Gandy's method to infer SN from weak normalization (WN). We prove a standardization theorem for sps: if WN without erasing steps holds for an sps, then it enjoys SN. A key step in our proof of standardization is a confluence theorem for sps obtained by using only a very weak form of correctness, namely acyclicity slice by slice. We conclude by showing how standardization for sps allows to prove SN of LL, using as usual Girard's reducibility candidates.

Key words: (weak strong) normalization, confluence, standardization, linear logic, proof-nets, additive connectives, sliced pure structures

1. Introduction

In every abstract approach to computation, the distinction between terminating and non-terminating processes is crucial. A rewriting system enjoys *weak normalization* (WN) if every term of the system can be executed in a finite number of steps.

In the λ -calculus, non terminating computations start from λ -terms that strongly exploit *self-application*: every λ -term can be applied to itself (see for example [13]). Termination fails for the λ -calculus (even in its weak form WN), but holds for some of its most remarkable subsystems: the simply typed λ -calculus and its extension Girard's system F ([6]). The proofs of WN for these calculi have a deep logical content: they correspond to proofs of consistency in the logical sense, as highlighted by the *proofs-as-programs* paradigm. This paradigm is also called *Curry-Howard isomorphism* and establishes a correspondence between a fragment of intuitionistic natural deduction

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¹This work has been supported by the pondus fellowship “Ricerche sulla geometria della logica”, Dipartimento di Filosofia, Università Roma Tre

[PT10] almost do it
“Just” check that some additions at the
start go through the 61 pages of this
technical proof using non-standard
proof-nets!

Confluence up to rules commutation

Theorem (Proved in MALL [CP05; DL23]; in redaction for LL)

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

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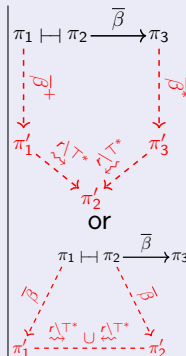
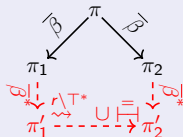
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Theorem (Proved in MALL [CP05; DL23]; in redaction for LL)

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Proof.

$\#(\text{cut steps})^2$
 $\approx \#|\text{rules}|^2$ cases



$\#(\text{cut steps}) \times$
 $\#(\text{commutations})$
 $\approx \#|\text{rules}|^3$ cases



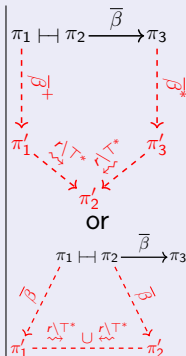
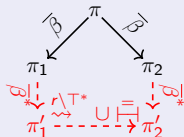
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$\#(\text{cut steps}) \times$
 $\#(\text{commutations})$
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Thousands of similar cases to check

→ horrible and tedious with pen and paper, better in a **proof assistant!**

But the **exchange** rule over-complicates everything. . .



Confluence up to rules commutation

Theorem (Proved in MALL [CP05; DL23]; in redaction for LL)

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

We still need to add the *cut – cut* cut-elimination step back.

Proposition

*Equality up to
cut-elimination*

=

*Equality up to
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without cut-cut*

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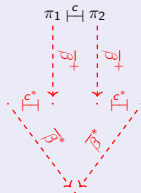
=

*Equality up to
cut-elimination
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Proof.

Follows from:

- strong normalization of $\xrightarrow{\bar{\beta}} \cdot \vdash^{c^*}$ with \vdash^c a cut-cut commutation
-



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Proposition

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=

Equality up to
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Corollary: Equality on cut-free proofs

Between cut-free proofs, $=_\beta$ is exactly $=_{\bar{\beta}}$ which is exactly \vdash^* .

cut-free proofs {



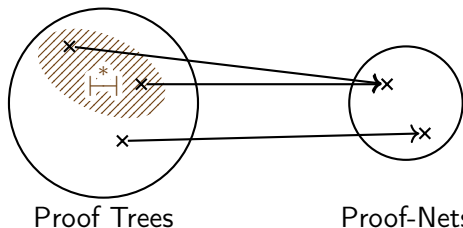
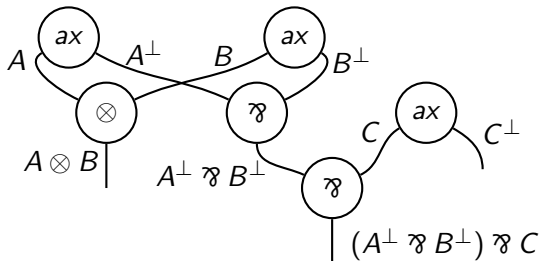
Consequences & Avail

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

Consequences & Avail

- “Bureaucracy”: have to order all rules, but some order does not matter and **no canonical** choice
- **Proof-nets**: identify proofs exactly up to rules commutation \vdash^*

- ▶ \vdash is **equality of graphs**
- ▶ cut-elimination is **confluent** and has **only key steps**
- ▶ defined **only in some sub-systems** of LL



\vdash^* is better than $=_\beta$ but is not “nice”

Proof Equivalence problem: *given proofs π and ρ , does $\pi \vdash^* \rho$ hold?*

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Sub-system	Complexity of Proof Equivalence	Method
ALL	in P [Hei11]	through proof-nets
unit-free MLL	in P	through proof-nets
unit-free MALL	in EXPTIME [HG05; HG16]	through proof-nets

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$LL^2 \setminus T$	decidable	finite number of proofs in a class

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MALL	decidable	finite number of cut-free proofs
$LL^2 \setminus T$	decidable	finite number of proofs in a class
LL	undecidable	reduces to provability

Lemma

$$\frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T, T}^{(T)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_1)} \vdash^* \frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T, T}^{(T)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_2)} \iff A \text{ is provable}$$

$\implies \vdash^*$ decidable would imply provability decidable, but it is not [Lin95]

Rules commutations & Provability

Lemma

$$\frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T, T}^{(\top)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_1)} \vdash^* \frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T, T}^{(\top)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_2)} \iff A \text{ is provable}$$

Proof.

◆ If A is provable ($\iff !A$ is provable)

We use its proof to find a sequence of commutations:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T}^{(\top)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_i)} \vdash \frac{\vdash !A \quad \overline{\vdash T_A, T}^{(\top)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T}^{(\otimes)} \vdash \frac{\vdash !A \quad \overline{\vdash T_A, T}^{(\top_A)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T}^{(\otimes)} \vdash \frac{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_i)} \\ & \vdash \frac{\vdash !A \quad \overline{\vdash T_A, T}^{(\top_A)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_i)} \vdash \frac{\vdash !A \quad \overline{\vdash T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\top_A)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\otimes)} \end{aligned}$$

Rules commutations & Provability

Lemma

$$\frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T, T}^{(T)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_1)} \vdash^* \frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T, T}^{(T)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_2)} \iff A \text{ is provable}$$

Proof.

◆ If A is provable ($\iff !A$ is provable)

◆ If A is not provable ($\iff !A$ is not provable)

We can compute the full equivalence class in this case:

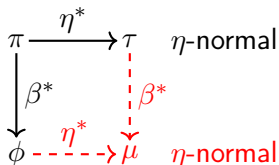
$$\frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T}^{(T)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_i)} \vdash \frac{\overline{\vdash !A, T}^{(T)} \quad \overline{\vdash T_A}^{(T_A)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T}^{(\otimes)} \vdash \frac{\overline{\vdash !A, T}^{(T)}}{\vdash !A, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_i)} \quad \overline{\vdash T_A}^{(T_A)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\otimes)}$$

Remark we use $!A$ instead of A to prevent commutations in $\overline{\vdash !A, T}^{(T)}$, as $!$ is the sole rule not commuting with T .



We may have more than cut-elimination . . .

- **Axiom-expansion** and its interactions with cut-elimination



(holds without 2nd order quantifiers)

We may have more than cut-elimination ...

- **Axiom-expansion** and its interactions with cut-elimination
- One may want **more commutations**, yielding even more cases!

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!) \quad \equiv \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_c) \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!)$$

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma} (!) \quad \equiv \quad \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_w) \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!)$$

$$\frac{\pi_B}{\vdash A[B/X], \Gamma} (\exists) \quad \equiv \quad \frac{\pi_C}{\vdash A[C/X], \Gamma} (\exists) \quad \text{when } \pi_B \text{ and } \pi_C \text{ are "witness irrelevant"}$$

We may have more than cut-elimination . . .

- **Axiom-expansion** and its interactions with cut-elimination
- One may want **more commutations**, yielding even more cases!
- One may want **other rewritings**, with interactions to check

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma}}{\vdash ?A, ?A, \Gamma} \quad (?_w) \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma}$$

$\quad \quad \quad (?_c)$

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$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma}}{\vdash ?A, ?A, \Gamma} \quad (?_w) \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma}$$

$\quad \quad \quad (?_c)$

Thank you!

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Back-up: Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs π of $A \vdash B$ and ρ of $B \vdash A$ such that

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

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	$\forall X (A \& B) \simeq \forall X A \& \forall X B$ $\forall X B \wp A \simeq \forall X (B \wp A)^*$	$\exists X (A \oplus B) \simeq \exists X A \oplus \exists X B$ $\exists X B \otimes A \simeq \exists X (B \otimes A)^*$ $\forall X \top \simeq \top$ $\exists X 0 \simeq 0$ $\forall X \forall Y A \simeq \forall Y \forall X A$ $\exists X \exists Y A \simeq \exists Y \exists X A$

* if X not free in A

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

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Quantifiers	$\forall X (A \& B) \simeq \forall X A \& \forall X B$ $\forall X B \wp A \simeq \forall X (B \wp A)^*$	$\forall X \top \simeq \top$ $\forall X \forall Y A \simeq \forall Y \forall X A$
Optional	$\exists X (A \oplus B) \simeq \exists X A \oplus \exists X B$ $\exists X B \otimes A \simeq \exists X (B \otimes A)^*$	$\exists X 0 \simeq 0$ $\exists X \exists Y A \simeq \exists Y \exists X A$
	$\forall X A \simeq A^{\dagger}$ $\exists X A \simeq A^{\ddagger}$	$1 \simeq \perp^{\ddagger}$ $0 \simeq \top^{\clubsuit}$

* if X not free in A

$$\dagger \text{ if } \frac{\pi_B}{\vdash A[B/X], \Gamma} (\exists) \equiv \frac{\pi_C}{\vdash A[C/X], \Gamma} (\exists) \equiv \frac{\pi}{\vdash \exists X A, \Gamma} (\exists)$$

when π is "witness irrelevant"

$$\ddagger \text{ if } \frac{\pi}{\vdash \Gamma} \frac{-}{\vdash} (mix_0) \equiv \frac{\pi}{\vdash \Gamma} (mix_2) \equiv \frac{\pi}{\vdash \Gamma} (\emptyset)$$

\clubsuit with $\vdash \Gamma$