# The emptiness of intersection problem for languages of k-valued categorial grammars (classical and Lambek) is undecidable

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#### **Abstract**

This paper is concerned with usual decidability questions on grammars for some classes of categorial grammars that arise in the field of learning categorial grammars. We prove that the emptiness of intersection of two langages is an undecidable problem for the following classes: k-valued classical categorial grammars, and k-valued Lambek categorial grammars, for each positive k.

#### 1 Introduction

Categorial grammars have been studied in the domain of natural language processing, we focus here on classical (or basic) categorial grammars that were introduced in [1] and on Lambek categorial grammars [7] which are closely connected to linear logic introduced by Girard [3]. These grammars are lexicalized grammars that assign types (or categories) to the lexicon; they are called k-valued, when each symbol in the lexicon is assigned to at most k types; they are also called rigid when 1-valued. Such k-valued grammars are of particular interest in recent works on learnability [6] [11]. In this context, it is important to acquire a good understanding of the properties of the class of grammars in question.

In this paper we consider the problem of emptiness of intersection, that is given two k-valued categorial grammars  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , is the intersection of  $L(G_1)$  and  $L(G_2)$  empty? This usual question on grammars is also undecidable in general for categorial grammars since they correspond to the class of context-free grammars. We show that this problem remains

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undecidable for k-valued grammars, for any  $k \geq 1$  in particular when restricted to rigid grammars, that is for k = 1. This result indicates in particular that these subclasses are not trivial (wide). Our proof consists in an encoding of Post's correspondence problem inspired from the treatment for context-free languages [4]; it relies on a specific class introduced here as PCP-grammars, a subclass of unidirectional grammars, for which we establish several properties.

## 2 Background

#### 2.1 Categorial Grammars

In this section, we introduce basic definitions. The interested reader may also consult [2,10,13,12] for further details.

Let  $\Sigma$  be a fixed alphabet.

**Types.** Types are constructed from Pr (set of primitive types) and two binary connectives / and  $\backslash$ . Tp denotes the set of types. Pr contains a distinguished type, written t, also called the principal type.

Classical categorial grammar. A classical categorial grammar over  $\Sigma$  is a finite relation G between  $\Sigma$  and Tp. If  $\langle c, A \rangle \in G$ , we say that G assigns A to c, and we write  $G: c \mapsto A$ . We write SubTp(G) the set of subformulas of types that are assigned by G to some symbol in  $\Sigma$ .

**Notation.** A sequence of types in  $Tp^*$  may be written using commas or concatenation or simple juxtaposition (this should not be confusing, since we consider grammars without product types).

**Derivation**  $\vdash_{AB}$ . The relation  $\vdash_{AB}$  is the smallest relation  $\vdash$  between  $Tp^+$  and Tp, such that for all  $\Gamma, \Delta \in Tp^+$  and for all  $A, B \in Tp$ :

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A \vdash A if \Gamma \vdash A and \Delta \vdash A \setminus B then \Gamma, \Delta \vdash B (Backward application) if \Gamma \vdash B \ / \ A and \Delta \vdash A then \Gamma, \Delta \vdash B (Forward application)
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We consider Lambek calculus restricted to the two binary connectives  $\backslash$  and / .

We give a formulation consisting in introduction rules on the left and on the right of a sequent.

**Lambek Derivation**  $\vdash_L$ . The relation  $\vdash_L$  is the smallest relation  $\vdash$  between  $Tp^+$  and Tp, such that for all  $\Gamma \in Tp^+, \Delta, \Delta' \in Tp^*$  and for all  $A, B \in Tp$  ( $\Gamma$  is non-empty):

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A \vdash A
if A, \Gamma \vdash B then \Gamma \vdash A \setminus B (\right)
if \Gamma, A \vdash B then \Gamma \vdash B / A (\right)
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if \Gamma \vdash A and \Delta, B, \Delta' \vdash C then \Delta, \Gamma, A \setminus B, \Delta' \vdash C (\left) if \Gamma \vdash A and \Delta, B, \Delta' \vdash C then \Delta, B \mid A, \Gamma, \Delta' \vdash C (\left)
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We recall that the cut rule is satisfied by both  $\vdash_{AB}$  and  $\vdash_{L}$ .

**Language.** Let G be a classical categorial grammar over  $\Sigma$ . G generates a string  $c_1 \ldots c_n \in \Sigma^+$  iff there are types  $A_1, \ldots, A_n \in Tp$  such that :  $G: c_i \mapsto A_i \ (1 \le i \le n)$  and  $A_1, \ldots, A_n \vdash_{AB} t$ .

The *language of* G, is the set of strings generated by G and is denoted L(G).

We define similarly LL(G) by replacing  $\vdash_{AB}$  with  $\vdash_{L}$  in the definition of L(G).

**Rigid and** k-valued grammars. Categorial grammars that assign at most k types to each symbol in the alphabet are called k-valued grammars; 1-valued grammars are also called rigid grammars.

**Example 2.1** Let  $\Sigma_1 = \{John, Mary, likes\}$  and let  $Pr = \{t, n\}$  for sentences and nouns respectively.

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Let G_1 = \{John \mapsto n, Mary \mapsto n, likes \mapsto n \setminus (t / n)\}
We get (John \ likes \ Mary \in L(G_1)) since (n, n \setminus (t / n), n \vdash_{AB} t)
G_1 is a rigid (or 1-valued) grammar.
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#### 2.2 Post's problem (PCP)

Post's correspondence problem (PCP in short) is a problem based on pairs of strings (see [4] or [8] for details). Let X be an alphabet (with two or more letters). Post's correspondence problem is to determine, given a finite sequence  $D = \langle (u_1, v_1), ..., (u_k, v_k) \rangle$  of pairs of non-empty strings on X, whether there exists a finite non-empty sequence of indices  $i_1, ... i_m$  among  $\{1, ..., k\}$  (with m > 0) such that:

$$u_{i_1}u_{i_2}\dots u_{i_m} = v_{i_1}v_{i_2}\dots v_{i_m}$$

**Theorem 2.2** *Post's correspondence problem is undecidable.* 

## 3 Encoding PCP into classical rigid categorial grammars

Given an instance  $<(u_1,v_1),...,(u_k,v_k)>$  of PCP, we construct two similar grammars: for the  $u_i$ 's and for the  $v_i$ 's. The key idea is to consider, for the first grammar, (similarly for the second one) any possible writing of a word as a succession of  $u_i$ 's, and to encode it as a sequence of types with two parts  $\Gamma_1, \Delta_1$  such that  $\Gamma_1$  encodes the entire word,  $\Delta_1$  encodes the decomposition using a succession of indices and corresponding  $u_i$ 's and such that  $\Gamma_1, \Delta_1 \vdash_{AB} t$ .

We construct grammars that belong to a specific class of grammars (later called PCP-grammars).

#### 3.1 A specific class of grammars and some properties

Let  $\tilde{w}$  denote the miror image of word w and let  $\tilde{\Gamma}$  denote the sequence of types of  $\Gamma$  in reverse order.

**Rigid injective grammars.** When the grammar G is rigid, let  $\tau_G$  denote its type assignment on  $\Sigma$ ; we extend  $\tau_G$  in a natural way on  $\Sigma^*$  by:  $\tau_G(x_1x_2\dots x_q)=\tau_G(x_1),\tau_G(x_2),\dots,\tau_G(x_q)$  where  $x_i\in\Sigma$ 

We also write for a set X of words :  $\tau_G(X) = \{\tau_G(x) : x \in X\}$ 

For a rigid grammar, let us call the *grammar injective*, when the type assignment on  $\Sigma^*$  is injective.

**Definition 3.1** [PCP-grammars] Let us call a *PCP-grammar*, a classical categorial grammar over an alphabet  $\Sigma$ , (with primitives types Pr, and a distinguished type t), that assigns types A (to symbols in  $\Sigma$ ) only of the following shape:

 $A = t_1 \setminus (t_2 \setminus (\dots t_{q-1} \setminus t_q))$  where  $(q \ge 1)$  and  $(\forall i : t_i \in Pr)$  where  $t_q$  is called the *right-most type* of A and  $(t_r \setminus (\dots t_{q-1} \setminus t_q))$  are its *right-subformulas* (for  $1 \le r \le q$ ).

We define *Lambek-PCP-grammars* similarly.

**Definition 3.2** [Code-type] Given a non-empty sequence  $\Gamma$  of types  $A_i$  in Tp (not necessarily primitive), we associate to it a type written  $C(\Gamma)$  called its *Code-type* defined as follows:

$$C(A_1,A_2,\ldots,A_{q-1},A_q)=A_1\setminus (A_2\setminus (\ldots A_{q-1}\setminus A_q))$$
 (with  $C(A_1)=A_1$ )

**Example 3.3** [Using code-types] Let  $Pr = \{a, b, 1, 2, t\}, u_1 = ab, u_2 = abb$ , then  $C(1u_12) = 1 \setminus (a \setminus (b \setminus 2))$ . Note that using  $u_1$  and  $\tilde{u_1}$ :

$$\tilde{u_1}1C(1u_12) \vdash_{AB} 2$$

and that if we iterate using  $u_2$  and  $\tilde{u_2}$  we get :

$$\tilde{u_2}\tilde{u_1}1C(1u_12)C(2u_2t) \vdash_{AB} \tilde{u_2}2C(2u_2t) \vdash_{AB} t$$

We shall iterate such situations so as to mimick PCP, using words, indices and delimiters.

**Proposition 3.4 (Code-types)** Let G be a categorial grammar between  $\Sigma$  and Tp:

(1) for  $\Gamma \in Tp^*$ ,  $\Gamma' \in Tp^+$  sequences of types ( $\Gamma'$  non-empty):

$$\underbrace{\tilde{\Gamma}, C(\Gamma, \Gamma')}_{AB} \vdash_{AB} C(\Gamma')$$

(2) for  $k \ge 1$ ,  $1 \le j \le k$ ,  $1 \le i \le k+1$ ,  $\Gamma_j \in Tp^*$  (possibly empty) and  $A_i \in Tp$ :

$$\underbrace{\tilde{\Gamma}_k, \tilde{\Gamma}_{k-1}, \dots, \tilde{\Gamma}_1}, A_1, \underbrace{C(A_1, \Gamma_1, A_2), \dots, C(A_{k-1}, \Gamma_{k-1}, A_k), C(A_k, \Gamma_k, A_{k+1})}_{\vdash AB} \vdash_{AB} A_{k+1}$$

**Notation.** We use underbraces for ease of presentation only.

**Proposition 3.5 (Rigid PCP-grammars)** *Let* G *be a rigid categorial grammar between*  $\Sigma$  *and* Tp, *then* :

(3) if G is a rigid PCP-grammar then for  $w \in \Sigma^+$  and  $A \in Tp$ :

$$\tau_G(w) \vdash_{AB} A \ implies \ A \in SubTp(G)$$

(4) if G is a rigid PCP-grammar and if A is not a strict right-subformula in SubTp(G) then for  $w \in \Sigma^+$ :

$$\tau_G(w) \vdash_{AB} A \ implies \ \tau_G(w) = A$$

Proofs are given in Appendix.

### 3.2 Construction of the grammars encoding a PCP-instance

Let  $D=<(u_1,v_1),...,(u_n,v_n)>$  be an instance of PCP over a fixed alphabet  $X=\{a,b\}$ . Let  $X'=Pr_D=X\cup\{1,\ldots,n\}\cup\{t,\#\}$  (numbers and # are intended as special marks). We associate to D, two grammars  $G_{1D}$  and  $G_{2D}$  over an alphabet  $\Sigma_D$  as follows:

$$\Sigma_D = \{c_a, c_b, c_\#\} \cup \{c_{i,j} : i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \ j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \cup \{t\}\}$$
$$\cup \{d_{i,j} : i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \ j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \cup \{t\}\}$$

**Definition 3.6** We define  $G_{1D}$  as the following assignments, (where  $u_i \in \{a, b\}^*$ ):

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_a & \mapsto a \\ c_b & \mapsto b \\ c_\# & \mapsto \# \end{bmatrix} \quad c_{i,j} & \mapsto C(iu_ij) : for \ i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \ j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \cup \{t\} \\ d_{i,j} & \mapsto C(\#u_ij) : for \ i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \ j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \cup \{t\} \end{bmatrix}$$

We define  $G_{2D}$  similarly, by exchanging the roles of all  $u_i$  and  $v_i$ .

**Proposition 3.7**  $G_{1D}$  and  $G_{2D}$  are both rigid injective PCP-grammars.

**Example 3.8** Let  $D_1 = \{(ab, abbb), (bb, b) > \text{we get } Pr_{D_1} = \{a, b, 1, 2, t, \#\}$  and  $G_{1D_1}$  as follows:

	$c_{1,1} \mapsto C(1ab1)$	$d_{1,1} \mapsto C(\#ab1)$
	$c_{1,2} \mapsto C(1ab2)$	$d_{1,2} \mapsto C(\#ab2)$
$c_a \mapsto a$	$c_{1,t} \mapsto C(1abt)$	$d_{1,t} \mapsto C(\#abt)$
$ \begin{vmatrix} c_b & \mapsto b \\ c_\# & \mapsto \# \end{vmatrix} $	$c_{2,1} \mapsto C(2bb1)$	$d_{2,1} \mapsto C(\#bb1)$
	$c_{2,2} \mapsto C(2bb2)$	$d_{2,2} \mapsto C(\#bb2)$
	$c_{2,t} \mapsto C(2bbt)$	$d_{2,t} \mapsto C(\#bbt)$

We observe that *abbbbb* admits two decompositions (ab.bb.bb=abbb.b.b)

according to indices : 1, 2, 2. A correspondence between this solution and  $L(G_{1D_1})$  is illustrated by the following derivation :

The following technical proposition is useful to describe the languages of the above grammars.

**Proposition 3.9 (Type descriptions)** *Let*  $G_{1D}$  *be associated to* D *with type assignment*  $\tau_{1D}$  :

(5) if 
$$A \in \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$$
 (ie  $A$  is an assigned type) then for  $w \in \Sigma_D^+$ :  $\tau_{1D}(w) \vdash_{AB} A \text{ implies } \tau_{1D}(w) = A$ 

(6) if  $A \notin \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$  (ie A is not an assigned type) then for  $w \in \Sigma_D^+$ : <sup>2</sup>

$$\tau_{1D}(w) \vdash_{AB} A \ implies$$

$$\exists k > 0 \ \exists i_1, \dots i_k \in \{1, \dots, n\} \ \exists u' \ (possibly \ empty) :$$

$$\tau_{1D}(w) = \tilde{u}' \underbrace{\tilde{u}_{i_{k-1}} \dots \tilde{u}_{i_1}}_{t_{k-1}} \# \underbrace{C(\#u_{i_1}i_2) \dots C(i_{k-1}u_{i_{k-1}}i_k)}_{t_k} C(y_k u'A)$$

$$such \ that \ \exists t_p \dots t_q \in Pr_D \ (1 \le p \le q) : \begin{cases} u_{i_k} = u't_p \dots t_{q-1} \\ A = C(t_p \dots t_{q-1}t_q) \end{cases}$$

$$where \ y_1 = \# \ and \ if \ k > 1 : y_k = i_k$$

Proofs are given in Appendix; (5) is a corollary of (4); (6) is more technical (using (3) (4) (5)).

### 3.3 The correspondence

We now describe  $^3$  the languages of  $G_{1D}$  and  $G_{2D}$  (with type-assignment  $\tau_{1D}$  and  $\tau_{2D}$ ) associated to a PCP-instance  $D=<(u_1,v_1),...,(u_n,v_n)>$ .

**Proposition 3.10 (Language description)** The language  $L(G_{1D}) = \{w : \tau_{1D}(w) \vdash_{AB} t\}$  associated to  $G_{1D}$  can be described as follows ( $L(G_{2D})$  can be described similarly): <sup>4</sup>

$$L(G_{1D}) = \{ w : \tau_{1D}(w) = \underbrace{\tilde{u}_{i_k} \tilde{u}_{i_{k-1}} \dots \tilde{u}_{i_1}}_{and \ i_1, \dots, i_k \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \ y_1 = \# \ and \ if \ k > 1 : y_k = i_k \}$$

in the degenerate case when k=1,  $\tau_{1D}(w)$  is as follows:  $\tau_{1D}(w)=\tilde{u}'\#C(\#u'A)$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> proofs are corollaries of (2) and (6): see Appendixx.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> in the degenerate case when k=1,  $\tau_{1D}(w)$  is as follows:  $\tau_{1D}(w)=u_{i_1}\#C(\#u_{i_1}t)$ 

Note that  $\tau_{1D}(w)$  consists in two main different parts separated by a # whose left part has no  $\setminus$  operator and whose right part is made of codetypes. The intended meaning is as follows: for a PCP-instance, the left part encodes the writing of a full word, while the right part encodes the succession of indices and the respective decompositions.

**Proposition 3.11 (Simulation)**  $L(G_{1D}) \cap L(G_{2D}) \neq \emptyset$  *iff* D *is a positive instance of PCP.* 

**Corollary 3.12 (Main)** The emptiness of intersection problem for k-valued categorial grammars is undecidable for any  $k \geq 1$  (in particular for rigid injective PCP-grammars).

## 4 Extension to k-valued Lambek grammars

We show a similar result for k-valued Lambek grammars. This relies on the following property:

**Proposition 4.1** Let G denote a PCP-grammar,  $\forall t_0 \in Pr$  (primitive) :  $\tau_G(w) \vdash_{AB} t_0$  iff  $\tau_G(w) \vdash_L t_0$ 

**Corollary 4.2** For a PCP-grammar, L(G) with respect to  $\vdash_{AB}$  and LL(G) with respect to  $\vdash_{L}$  coincide.

**Corollary 4.3 (Main)** The emptiness of intersection problem for k-valued Lambek categorial grammars is undecidable for any  $k \geq 1$  (in particular for rigid injective Lambek-PCP-categorial grammars).

**Note.** This result seems to extend similarly to the non-associative version, but not to the commutative one.

This result clearly applies to the Lambek calculus with product [7] (by the sub-formula property and Cut elimination, the language of a PCP-grammar is the same for  $\vdash_L$  with or without product). A similar argument also holds for  $L \diamond [9,5]$  the Lambek calculus extended by a pair of residuation modalities ( $L \diamond$  also enjoys the sub-formula property and Cut elimination).

### 5 Conclusion

This paper has answered a decidability question concerning each class of k-valued classical categorial grammars, and each class of k-valued Lambek grammars: the emptiness of intersection of two langages is an undecidable problem for each class. The proof relies on a specific class introduced here as PCP-grammars, a subclass of unidirectional grammars, for which we establish several properties. In particular, the problem we have focused on is undecidable for this subclass (thus not trivial).

For future work, we keep interested in closure, decidability and complexity issues concerning k-valued categorial grammars. In particular we leave open the decidability question of the inclusion problem.

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### **APPENDIX**

**Proof of (1)** by induction on the length  $|\Gamma| \ge 0$  of sequence  $\Gamma$ 

- case  $|\Gamma| = 0$  is  $C(\Gamma') \vdash_{AB} C(\Gamma')$  that is an axiom
- case  $|\Gamma| > 0$ , let  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1$ ,  $A_1$  where  $A_1$  is a type of Tp:

$$\tilde{\Gamma}, C(\Gamma, \Gamma') = A_1, \tilde{\Gamma}_1, C(\Gamma_1, A_1, \Gamma')$$

By induction applied on  $|\Gamma_1|$ , where  $|\Gamma'| > 0$ :

$$\tilde{\Gamma}_1, C(\Gamma_1, A_1, \Gamma') \vdash_{AB} \underbrace{C(A_1, \Gamma')}_{=A_1 \setminus C(\Gamma')}$$

From which, by backward application together with axiom  $(A_1 \vdash_{AB} A_1)$ 

$$A_1, \underbrace{\tilde{\Gamma}_1, C(\Gamma_1, A_1, \Gamma')}_{\vdash_{AB} A_1 \setminus C(\Gamma')} \vdash C(\Gamma')$$

which is the desired result

**Proof of (2)** by induction on the number k of sequences  $\Gamma_i$ . For ease of presentation, let us write:

 $\Delta_k = \tilde{\Gamma}_k, \tilde{\Gamma}_{k-1}, \dots, \tilde{\Gamma}_1, A_1, C(A_1, \Gamma_1, A_2), \dots, C(A_{k-1}, \Gamma_{k-1}, A_k), C(A_k, \Gamma_k, A_{k+1})$ then (2) also rewrites to  $\Delta_k \vdash_{AB} A_{k+1}$ .

- case k = 1 is a subcase of (1) with  $A_2 = C(A_2) : \tilde{\Gamma}_1, A_1, C(A_1, \Gamma_1, A_2) \vdash A_2$
- case k > 1, by induction for k 1:  $\Delta_{k-1} \vdash_{AB} A_k$ , that is :

$$\underbrace{\tilde{\Gamma}_{k-1},\ldots,\tilde{\Gamma}_{1}},A_{1},\underbrace{C(A_{1},\Gamma_{1},A_{2}),\ldots,C(A_{k-1},\Gamma_{k-1},A_{k})}_{\vdash AB}\vdash_{AB}A_{k}$$

by backward application with axiom  $A_k \vdash_{AB} A_k$ : <sup>5</sup>

$$\underbrace{\Delta_{k-1}}_{\vdash_{AB}A_k}, \underbrace{C(A_k, \Gamma_k, A_{k+1})}_{=A_k \setminus C(\Gamma_k, A_{k+1})} \vdash_{AB} C(\Gamma_k, A_{k+1})$$

by (1) where  $C(A_{k+1}) = A_{k+1}$ :

$$\underbrace{\tilde{\Gamma_k}, C(\Gamma_k, A_{k+1}) \vdash_{AB} A_{k+1}}_{A}$$

then by CUT on  $C(\Gamma_k, A_{k+1})$ :

$$\widetilde{\Gamma_k}, \underbrace{\Delta_{k-1}, C(A_k, \Gamma_k, A_{k+1})}_{\vdash_{AB} C(\Gamma_k, A_{k+1})} \vdash_{AB} A_{k+1}$$

which is a writing of the desired result  $\Delta_k \vdash_{AB} A_{k+1}$ 

where  $C(A_k, \Gamma_k, A_{k+1}) = A_k \setminus C(\Gamma_k, A_{k+1})$ when  $\Gamma_k$  is empty  $C(\Gamma_k, A_{k+1})$  is  $C(A_{k+1})$ 

**Proof of (3)** ( $\tau_G$  is written as  $\tau$ ) by easy induction on the length  $|\mathcal{D}|$  of a derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  ending in  $\tau(w) \vdash_{AB} A$ 

- case  $|\mathcal{D}|=0$ , it is an axiom with  $\tau(w)=A$  and clearly  $w\in \Sigma$  therefore  $A\in SubTp(G)$
- case  $|\mathcal{D}| > 0$ , if the last rule is forward application : then the induction hypothesis would lead to a type with / in SubTp(G) which is not possible for PCP-grammars.
- case  $|\mathcal{D}| > 0$ , if the last rule is backward application: the antecedents of  $\mathcal{D}$  are of the form, where  $\tau(w) = \Gamma, \Delta$  and  $\exists w_1, w_2 \in \Sigma^+ : \tau(w_1) = \Gamma, \tau(w_2) = \Delta$ :

$$\Gamma \vdash A_1 \text{ and } \Delta \vdash A_1 \setminus A$$

by induction hypothesis,  $A_1 \setminus A \in SubTp(G)$  which implies  $A \in SubTp(G)$  by definition of SubTp

**Proof of (4)**  $(\tau_G \text{ is written as } \tau)$  by induction on the length  $|\mathcal{D}|$  of a derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  ending in  $\tau(w) \vdash_{AB} A$ 

- case  $|\mathcal{D}| = 0$ , it is an axiom, and clearly  $\tau(w) = A$
- case  $|\mathcal{D}| > 0$ , the last rule of  $\mathcal{D}$  is backward application (as in (3), forward application is not possible) the antecedents of  $\mathcal{D}$  are of the form:

$$\Gamma \vdash A_1 \text{ and } \Delta \vdash A_1 \setminus A$$

where  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  are non-empty and  $\Gamma, \Delta = \tau(w)$ ; but in this case  $\exists w_1 : \tau(w_1) = \Delta$  and by (3) :  $A_1 \setminus A \in SubTp(G)$  hence A would be a strict right-subformula in SubTp(G), which is not possible by assumption

**Proof of (5)** this is a particular case of (4) specialized to grammars  $G_{1D}$ , such that by construction : if  $A \in \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$  ( $\{a,b,\#\}$  if primitive) then A is not a strict right-subformula in  $SubTp(G_{1D})$ 

**Proof of (6)** by induction on the length  $|\mathcal{D}|$  of a derivation  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $\tau_{1D}(w) \vdash A$ ; suppose  $A \notin \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$ 

- case  $|\mathcal{D}| = 0$ , it is an axiom :  $\tau_{1D}(w) = A$ , which implies  $w \in \Sigma_D$  but this is impossible since A is not an assigned type.
- case  $|\mathcal{D}|>0$ , the last rule of  $\mathcal{D}$  is backward application, (as in (3), forward application is not possible) the antecedents of  $\mathcal{D}$  are of the form:

$$\Gamma \vdash A_1 \text{ and } \Delta \vdash A_1 \setminus A \qquad \text{with } \Gamma, \Delta = \tau_{1D}(w)$$

by (3)  $A_1 \setminus A \in SubTp(G_{1D})$  and by construction of  $G_{1D} : A_1 \in (Pr_D - \{t\}) = \{a, b\} \cup \{1, ..., n\} \cup \{\#\}.$ 

We now discuss according to whether  $A_1 \in \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$  or not.

· subcase  $A_1 \in \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$  (it is also primitive), then  $A_1 \in X \cup \{\#\}$ 

 $\{a, b, \#\}$  and by (4) we get (since  $\Gamma = \tau_{1D}(w_1)$  for some prefix  $w_1$  of w)

—On the other hand, if  $A_1 \neq \#$  by induction hypothesis (6) applied to  $\Delta \vdash A_1 \setminus A$  we get :

$$\exists k > 0 \ \exists i_1, \dots i_k \in \{1, \dots, n\} \ \exists u'_1 \ (possibly \ empty) :$$

$$\Delta = \tilde{u_1}' \underbrace{\tilde{u}_{i_{k-1}} \dots \tilde{u}_{i_1}}_{y_1} y_1 \underbrace{C(y_1 u_{i_1} y_2) \dots C(y_{k-1} u_{i_{k-1}} y_k)}_{C(y_k u'_1 \ A_1 \setminus A)} C(y_k u'_1 \ A_1 \setminus A)$$

$$\exists k > 0 \ \exists i_{1}, \dots i_{k} \in \{1, \dots, n\} \ \exists u'_{1} \ (possibly \ empty) :$$

$$\Delta = \tilde{u_{1}}' \underbrace{\tilde{u}_{i_{k-1}} \dots \tilde{u}_{i_{1}}}_{y_{1}} \underbrace{C(y_{1}u_{i_{1}}y_{2}) \dots C(y_{k-1}u_{i_{k-1}}y_{k})}_{C(y_{k}u'_{1} \ A_{1} \setminus A)} C(y_{k}u'_{1} \ A_{1} \setminus A)$$

$$where \ \exists t_{p} \dots t_{q} \in Pr_{D} : \begin{cases} u_{i_{k}} = u'_{1}t_{p} \dots t_{q-1} \\ A_{1} \setminus A = C(t_{p} \dots t_{q-1}t_{q}) \\ 1 \leq p \leq q \end{cases}$$

$$y_{1} = \# , \ and \ (\forall i \in \{2, \dots k\} : y_{i} = i_{i})$$

For ease of presentation, let us write:

$$\Delta_k = \underbrace{\tilde{u}_{i_{k-1}} \dots \tilde{u}_{i_1}}_{} y_1 \underbrace{C(y_1 u_{i_1} y_2) \dots C(y_{k-1} u_{i_{k-1}} y_k)}_{} \text{(with } \Delta_1 = y_1)$$

we then rewrite:

$$\Delta = \tilde{u_1}' \Delta_k C(y_k u_1' A_1 \setminus A)$$

we first observe that  $A_1 = t_p$ , and  $A = C(t_{p+1} \dots t_{q-1}t_q)$  with  $1 \le p+1 \le q$ 

then by adjoining  $\Gamma = A_1$ , if we let  $u' = u'_1 A_1 = u'_1 t_p$  we get the desired result as follows:

$$\tau_{1D}(w) = \underbrace{\Gamma}_{A_1 u_1'} \Delta_k \underbrace{C(y_k u_1' A)}_{=C(y_k u_1' A_1 A) = C(y_k u_1' A_1)} \Delta_k \underbrace{C(y_k u_1' A)}_{=C(y_k u_1' A_1 A) = C(y_k u_1' A)} \Delta_k$$
where
$$\begin{cases} u_{i_k} = u_1' t_{p+1} \dots t_{q-1} = u_1' t_{p} \dots t_{q-1} \\ A = C(t_{p+1} \dots t_{q-1} t_q) \\ 1 \le p+1 \le q \end{cases}$$

— If  $A_1 = \#$ , by construction  $\# \setminus A \in SubTp(G_{1D})$  is an assigned type and by (5) we have  $\Delta = A_1 \setminus A$ , therefore :

$$\Gamma, \Delta = \#, \# \setminus A$$

which is a particular (degenerate) case of (6) where  $u' = \epsilon$  and  $A = u_{i_1} t_q$ (by construction) for some  $u_{i_1}$  in the D instance and some primitive  $t_q$ . subcase  $A_1 \notin \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$ , we have already  $A_1 \in (Pr_D - \{t\})$  and  $A_1 \setminus A \in$  $SubTp(G_{1D})$  then  $A_1$  is a number, and by construction  $A_1 \setminus A \in \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$ with shape  $C(iu_ij)$  where  $i \in \{1 \dots n\}, j \in \{1 \dots n\} \cup \{t\}$  and  $u_i$  from the given PCP-instance D; by (4) we then get (since  $\Delta = \tau_{1D}(w_2)$  for some suffix  $w_2$  of w):

$$\Delta = A_1 \setminus A$$

On the other hand the induction hypothesis applied to  $A_1$  gives, where we use  $\Delta_k$  as in previous case :

$$\exists k > 0 \ \exists i_1, \dots i_k \in \{1, \dots, n\} \ \exists u'_1 \ (possibly \ empty) :$$

$$\Gamma = \tilde{u_1}' \Delta_k C(y_k u'_1 \ A_1)$$

where 
$$\exists t'_{p'} \dots t'_{q'} \in Pr_D : \begin{cases} u_{i_k} = u'_1 t'_{p'} \dots t'_{q'-1} \\ A_1 = C(t'_{p'} \dots t'_{q'-1} t'_{q'}) \\ 1 \le p' \le q' \end{cases}$$

 $A_1$  being a number, we first observe that  $A_1 = t_1'$ , p' = q' = 1 and  $u_{i_k} = u_1'$ ; then by adjoining  $\Delta = A_1 \setminus A$ , let us write  $i_{k+1} = y_{k+1} = A_1$ ,  $u' = \epsilon$  (empty), and let  $t_1 \dots t_q \in Pr_D$  be such that  $A = C(t_1 \dots t_q)$  (possible and unique by construction) and let  $u_{i_{k+1}} = u_i = t_1 \dots t_{q-1}$ , we then get the desired result (involving k+1 instead of k) as follows:

$$\Gamma, \Delta = \underbrace{\tilde{u}'}_{=\epsilon} \underbrace{\tilde{u}_{i_{k}}}_{i_{k}} \Delta_{k} \underbrace{C(y_{k}u_{i_{k}}y_{k+1})}_{=C(y_{k}u'_{1}A_{1})} \underbrace{C(y_{k+1}u'A)}_{=C(A_{1}A)}$$

$$where \exists t_{p}, \dots t_{q} \in Pr_{D} : \begin{cases} u_{i_{k+1}} = u't_{1} \dots t_{q-1} \\ A = C(t_{1} \dots t_{q-1}t_{q}) \\ 1 = p \leq q \end{cases}$$

$$y_{1} = \# , and (\forall i \in \{2, \dots k, k+1\} : y_{j} = i_{j})$$

**Proof of proposition 3.10.** On the one hand all such strings w are in  $L(G_{1D})$  (ie  $\tau_{1D}(w) \vdash_{AB} t$ ): by property (2) above where  $A_{k+1} = t$ ;  $A_1 = \#; A_2 = i_2; \ldots; A_k = i_k$  and  $\Gamma_j = u_{i_j}$  for  $1 \le j \le k$ .

Conversely, suppose w is a string in  $L(G_{1D})$  that is we have a deduction for  $\tau_{1D}(w) \vdash t$ . The result is obtained by property (6) above where  $A = t \not\in \tau_{1D}(\Sigma_D)$  (and p = q with  $u_{i_k} = u'$ )

**Proof of proposition 3.11.** For ease of presentation, for any finite sequence of indices  $s = i_1, ... i_p$ , we write

$$c_{\langle s \rangle} = d_{i_1, i_2} c_{i_2, i_3} \dots c_{i_l, i_{l+1}} \dots c_{i_{(p-1)}, i_p} c_{i_p, t}$$

We may describe the languages equivalently as follows:

$$L(G_{1D}) = \{ \tilde{w_0} \ c_\# c_{< i_1, \dots i_f >} : i_1, \dots i_f \in \{1 \dots n\} \ with \ \tau_{1D}(w_0) = u_{i_1} u_{i_2} \dots u_{i_f} \in X^+ \}$$

$$L(G_{2D}) = \{ \tilde{w_0'} \ c_\# c_{< i_1', \dots i_{f'}' >} : i'_1, \dots i'_{f'} \in \{1 \dots n\}, \tau_{2D}(w_0') = v_{i'_1} v_{i'_2} \dots v_{i'_{f'}} \in X^+ \}$$

• If  $w \in L(G_{1D}) \cap L(G_{2D})$ , then there exists  $i_1, ... i_f, i'_1, ... i'_{f'} \in \{1 ... n\}$  such that

$$w = \tilde{w_0} c_{\#} c_{\langle i_1, \dots i_f \rangle} = \tilde{w'_0} c_{\#} c_{\langle i'_1, \dots i'_{f'} \rangle}$$

where  $\tau_{1D}(w_0) = u_{i_1}u_{i_2}..u_{i_f}$  and  $\tau_{2D}(w_0') = v_{i'_1}v_{i'_2}..v_{i'_{f'}}$  which gives  $c_{\langle i_1,...i_f \rangle} = c_{\langle i'_1,...i'_{f'} \rangle}$ , that is the two sequences of indices

are equal, and  $w_0 = w_0'$  with:

$$\tau_{1D}(w_0) = u_{i_1} u_{i_2} ... u_{i_f} = \tau_{2D}(w_0') = v_{i_1} v_{i_2} ... v_{i_f}$$

hence D is positive instance of PCP.

• Conversely, let us suppose there exists  $i_1,...i_f \in \{1...n\}$  such that  $u_{i_1}u_{i_2}...u_{i_f} = v_{i_1}v_{i_2}...v_{i_f}$  then let  $w_0$  be the word on alphabet  $\{c_a,c_b\}$  such that  $\tau_{1D}(w_0) = u_{i_1}u_{i_2}...u_{i_f}$  then clearly  $\tau_{1D}(w_0) = \tau_{2D}(w_0)$ , hence :

$$\tilde{w_0} c_\# c_{< i_1, \dots i_f>} \in L(G_{1D}) \cap L(G_{2D})$$

**Proof of proposition 4.1** by induction. Clearly if  $\tau(w) \vdash_{AB} t_0$  then  $\tau(w) \vdash_L t_0$ .

We show the following generalized converse: if  $\Gamma_0 \vdash_L t_0$  where  $\Gamma_0$  consists in types of SubTp(G) only then  $\Gamma_0 \vdash_{AB} t_0$ . We proceed easily by induction on the length of deduction.

- axiom case :  $\Gamma_0 = t_0$ , it is also an axiom for  $\vdash_{AB}$ .
- rules /left and /right are never possible here due to the *subformula* property of Lambek calculus and since / does not occurr in SubTp(G) of a PCP-grammar.
- rule  $\label{eq:left} | left$  with conclusion

$$\underbrace{\Delta, \Gamma, A \setminus B, \Delta'}_{\equiv \Gamma_0} \vdash t_0$$

and antecedents

$$\Gamma \vdash A \ and \ \Delta, B, \Delta' \vdash t_0$$

where  $\Delta, \Gamma, A \setminus B, \Delta' = \Gamma_0$ .

Clearly  $A \in Pr$  since  $\Gamma_0 \subseteq SubTp(G)^*$  is assumed , with in particular  $A \setminus B \in SubTp(G)$ .

We may then apply the induction hypothesis to both antecedents, where A and  $t_0$  are primitive:

$$\Gamma \vdash_{AB} A \ and \ \Delta, B, \Delta' \vdash_{AB} t_0$$

From which we get the result by  $\label{eq:left} \ | left$  for  $\vdash_{AB}$