Complexity of Reasoning in Kleene and Action Algebras

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ESSLLI 2022 · Galway, Ireland · Gallimh, Éire

Lecture 3

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- Recall that we are developing a finitary and cut-free proof system for deciding inclusion of regular languages: A → B should be derivable iff v(A) ⊆ v(B).
- Such a calculus will be the leftmost fragment of HKA_{∞} (Das & Pous 2017).
- HKA_∞ is a hypersequent calculus, whose derivable objects are
 of the form Π → X, where Π is a sequence of formulae (reg.
 exp.) and X = Δ₁ | ... | Δ_k is a multiset of sequences of
 formulae.

The rules of HKA_{∞} , which allow only leftmost proofs, are as follows:

$$\frac{\Gamma \to \mathcal{X} \quad A, A^*, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}}{A^*, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}} *L \qquad \frac{A, B, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}}{A \cdot B, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}} \cdot L$$

$$\frac{A, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X} \quad B, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}}{A + B, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}} + L \qquad \frac{\Gamma \to \mathcal{X}}{1, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}} 1L \qquad 0, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X} 0L$$

$$\frac{\Pi \to \Delta \mid A, A^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}}{\Pi \to A^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} *R \qquad \frac{\Pi \to A, B, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}}{\Pi \to A \cdot B, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} \cdot R$$

$$\frac{\Pi \to A, \Delta \mid B, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}}{\Pi \to A + B, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} + R \qquad \frac{\Pi \to \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}}{\Pi \to 1, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} 1R$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \to \Delta_1 \mid \dots \mid \Delta_m}{\epsilon \to \epsilon} Ax \qquad \frac{\Gamma \to \Delta_1 \mid \dots \mid \Delta_m}{a, \Gamma \to a, \Delta_1 \mid \dots \mid a, \Delta_m} K$$

$$\frac{\Pi \to \mathcal{X}}{\Pi \to \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} WR \qquad \frac{\Pi \to \Delta \mid \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}}{\Pi \to \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} CR$$

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- In a circular proof, each infinite branch has a repeated copy of the sequent already seen before, with an *L between these occurrences.
- In such cases, further development of the path is replaced by a **backlink**, and the whole structure becomes finite.

Soundness and Completeness

Theorem (Das & Pous 2017)

A sequent is derivable in HKA_{∞} iff it is valid in the standard interpretation. Moreover, any valid sequent has a circular leftmost proof.

• The "only if" direction (soundness) was proved yesterday.

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Lemma

If there is a subderivation

$$\frac{\frac{\Gamma \to A^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}}{\vdots \pi}}{\frac{\Gamma \to \Delta \mid A, A^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{Y}}{\Gamma \to A^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{Y}}} *R$$

where π consists only of right logical rules, and the sequent $\Gamma \to A^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{Y}$ is valid in the standard interpretation, then so is $\Gamma \to \mathcal{X}$ (i.e., A^*, Δ there is redundant).

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This was also established yesterday.

Constructing Circular Proofs

Now we are going to prove the following two statements, which give the necessary result:

- 1. If $v(A) \subseteq v(B)$, then $A \to B$ has a leftmost proof in HKA_{∞} .
- 2. Each leftmost proof can be transformed into a circular one.

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- First (Stage 1), we eagerly apply leftmost left logical rules.
- The rules are invertible, so all leaves are valid in the standard interpretation.
- Each leaf is either $\to \mathcal{X}$ or $a, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}$.
- An important thing to mention here is that Stage 1 could generate infinite paths, e.g.:

$$\frac{\vdots}{\underbrace{\frac{1^*,\Gamma\to\mathcal{X}}{1,1^*,\Gamma\to\mathcal{X}}}} \underset{*L}{\overset{1}{}_{2}}$$

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- On Stage 2 we apply right logical rules.
- These rules are also invertible.
- However, here we cannot go eagerly, since this would result in proofs violating fairness:

$$\frac{\vdots}{\Pi \to \Delta \mid 1^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} \frac{\Pi \to \Delta \mid 1, 1^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}}{\Pi \to \Delta \mid 1, 1^*, \Delta \mid \mathcal{X}} \stackrel{1R}{\underset{*R}{}}$$

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- The latter get weakened out by Productivity Lemma (weakenings form **Stage 3**).
- Recall that our leaves are $\to \mathcal{X}$ or $a, \Gamma \to \mathcal{X}$.
- In the first case, by validity, we have $\varepsilon \in v(\mathcal{X})$. Thus, \mathcal{X} contains the empty sequence. Everything else gets weakened out.

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- Next, we apply K (Stage 4).
- Above *K*, we have new valid sequents, on which we again start with Stage 1.
- Notice that there is not (transfinite) induction here, we do not care for reducing any sort of parameter.
- The only thing we should care about is that the proof never gets stuck, and fairness is maintained.

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- To prove fairness, for each infinite path we consider two possibilities.
- Case 1: the branch eventually ends in one stage. Then it should be Stage 1, and fairness is maintained (see above).
- Case 2: the branch traverses Stages 1-4 infinitely.
- In this case, consider the size of the antecedent. This size gets strictly reduced at each Stage 4, thus, it should be restored, which can be done only by *L.

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Lemma

In a leftmost proof, each sequence is strictly increasing w.r.t. \leq .

• Corollary: the length of such a sequence is bounded by the size of the goal sequent.

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- We identify two such instances with an application of *L in between, and make a cycle.
- This makes $\mathbf{K}\mathbf{A}_{\omega}$ r.e., and by Post's theorem we obtain decidability.
- A more accurate consideration shows that each path reaches its cycle in polynomial number of steps, which makes KA_{ω} PSPACE.

Example

$$\frac{a^{*} \to a, (aa)^{*} \mid (aa)^{*}}{\vdots} \frac{a^{*} \to a, (aa)^{*} \mid (aa)^{*}}{\vdots} \frac{a^{*} \to a, (aa)^{*} \mid (aa)^{*}}{a, a^{*} \to a, (aa)^{*} \mid a, (aa)^{*}} K}{\frac{a, a^{*} \to \varepsilon \mid aa, (aa)^{*} \mid a, (aa)^{*}}{\varepsilon} \cdot R} \frac{WR}{\frac{\varepsilon \to (aa)^{*} \mid a(aa)^{*}}{\varepsilon} + R} \frac{R}{\frac{a, a^{*} \to \varepsilon \mid aa, (aa)^{*} \mid a(aa)^{*}}{\varepsilon} \cdot R} \frac{R}{\frac{a, a^{*} \to (aa)^{*} \mid a(aa)^{*}}{\varepsilon} + R}} \frac{R}{\frac{a, a^{*} \to (aa)^{*} \mid a(aa)^{*}}{\varepsilon} + R}}$$

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 - Notice that this is an abstract *-continuous KA, not the standard interpretation.

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- The proof is by a standard Lindenbaum–Tarski canonical model argument.
- Recall that an abstract *-continuous KA is an algebraic structure in which axioms and rules of KA_(i) are valid.
- One can consider only algebras of regular subsets of monoids (but not necessarily the free monoid Σ^*).

Complexity Results

The following complexity results for entailment in *-continuous KAs are due to Kozen (2002):

${\mathscr H}$ includes only	Π_2^0 -complete
monoid equations	
${\mathcal H}$ includes only	Π_1^0 -complete
length-preserving	
monoid equations	
${\mathscr H}$ is arbitrary	Π^1_1 -complete

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- For monoid equations, one can show that entailment in arbitrary KAs from such $\mathcal H$ is equivalent to validity in $\mathsf{REG}(\Sigma^*)/\mathcal H$ (i.e., the factor-algebra of the algebra of regular languages).

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- Now the validity of $C \to D$ is equivalent to

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- This is Π_2^0 .
- If the equations are length-preserving, then the $\exists y$ quantifier is decidable, thus Π_1^0 .

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 - 3. $\vdash = \vdash \text{ and } = \dashv$.

Theorem

If t is the halting state, then $\vdash xqy \dashv \equiv_{\mathscr{H}} \vdash ztw \dashv if$ and only if $\vdash ztw \dashv is$ obtained from $\vdash xqy \dashv by$ the run of our TM.

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- However, this is true, due to determinism of the TM and the fact that *t* is the halting state.
- An accurate proof is given, e.g., in Davis' textbook.
- Thus, using only monoid equations, we can encode the halting problem, which gives Σ_0^1 -hardness even without Kleene star (in particular, for the finitary **KA** theory).

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• For length-preserving equalities, we shall have totality for linearly bounded Turing machines, which models, e.g., totality of context-free grammars (which is Π_1^0 -hard).

• The more interesting result is Π^1_1 -hardness of entailment from arbitrary \mathcal{H} 's.

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- This is also due to Kozen (2002), and the Π₁¹-hard problem encoded is well-foundedness of infinite recursive graphs (WF).
- Vertices of the graph G are natural numbers and the fact whether there is an edge (m, n) is determined by a TM.
- The WF problem is to determine whether all paths in *G* which start from 0 are finite.

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- The machine works as follows:

$$\vdash a^m s a^n \dashv \to_M^* \begin{cases} \vdash a^n t \dashv & \text{if } (m, n) \text{ is an edge} \\ \vdash r \dashv & \text{if not} \end{cases}$$

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Additionally, we include the inequation

$$t \leq sa^*$$

into \mathcal{H} .

- Now we claim that WF holds iff \mathcal{H} entails $\vdash t \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$.
- Suppose WF holds. This means
 0 ∈ W = {k | all paths from k are finite}.
- We show that if $k \in W$, then \mathscr{H} entails $\vdash a^k t \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$.
- In the simple case k has just no outgoing edges.
- Then we entail $\vdash a^k t \dashv \preceq \vdash a^k s a^* \dashv$, and next $\vdash a^k s a^* \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$ is obtained by the ω -rule (no (k, m) is an edge).

- In the general case, we proceed by transfinite induction on W.
- If $k \in W$, then for each edge (k, m) we have $m \in W$, and, moreover, we may apply induction hypothesis to m.
- Thus, we have $\vdash a^m t \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$.
- Next, the desired $\vdash a^k s a^* \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$ is derived by the ω -rule from $\vdash a^k s a^m \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$.
- If (k, m) is not an edge, it is immediate, otherwise by transitivity with $\vdash a^m t \dashv$.

- The "if" direction, from entailment to WF, is performed via a specially constructed *-continuous KA.
- In this *-continuous KA, \mathcal{H} holds, and $\vdash a^k t \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$ implies $k \in W$.
- This KA is a variant of the algebra of languages.
- In fact, for a language A over our alphabet, we define σ(A) as the operator which extends A by words obtained using (in)equations from ℋ.
- In particular, $t \leq sa^*$ allows adding utv, if there is already usa^kv for any k.
- If $x \equiv_{\mathcal{H}_0} y$, where \mathcal{H}_0 is the monoid part of \mathcal{H} , then x may be replaced by y in one step of σ .
- The closure of A under infinite iteration of σ is denoted by A.

 Now the operations and constants of our KA are defined as follows:

$$A \oplus B = \overline{A \cup B}$$

$$A \odot B = \overline{A \cdot B}$$

$$1 = \{\varepsilon\}$$

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- This is a *-continuous Kleene algebra, and it satisfies \mathcal{H} .
- In this algebra, we have $A \leq B$ if $A \subseteq \overline{B}$.

- Now suppose that $\vdash a^k t \dashv \preceq \vdash r \dashv$ is true in this KA.
- This means that $\vdash a^k t \dashv \in \overline{\{\vdash r \dashv\}}$.
- Again, we proceed by transfinite induction on the closure $\overline{\{\vdash r \dashv \}}$.
- $\vdash a^k t \dashv$ was obtained from $\vdash a^k s a^m \dashv$ for all m.
- The latter was either obtained immediately from $\vdash r \dashv$, which means that (k, m) is not an edge, or from $\vdash a^m t \dashv$, to which we apply the induction hypothesis yielding $m \in W$.
- Thus, $k \in W$.

- Thus, as we see, adding possibility to derive from hypotheses increases complexity dramatically.
- And, in particular, now the finitary system KA (or circular fragment of HKA_{∞}) is not a complete axiomatisation.