## Topological Correctness Criteria for Linear Logic Proof Structures

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#### proofs vs proof nets

In his seminal article on linear logic (1987), Jean-Yves Girard develops two alternative notations for proofs:

 a sequential syntax where proofs are expressed as derivation trees in a sequent calculus,

$$\frac{\vdash A, A^{\perp} \qquad \vdash, B, B^{\perp}}{\vdash A \otimes B, B^{\perp}, A^{\perp}} \otimes \\ \frac{\vdash A \otimes B, B^{\perp} \otimes A^{\perp}}{\vdash A \otimes B, B^{\perp} \otimes A^{\perp}} \otimes$$

• a parallel syntax where proofs are expressed as bipartite graphs called proof-nets



## the proof nets notation

- it exhibits more of the intrinsic structure of proofs than the derivation tree notation, and is closer to denotational semantics.
- while a derivation tree defines a unique proof-net, a proof-net may represent several derivation trees, each derivation tree witnessing a particular order of sequentialization of the proof-net.
- it requires to separate "real proofs" (proof-nets) from "proof alikes" (called proof-structures) using a correctness criteria
- correctness criteria reveal the "geometric" essence of the logic, beyond its "grammatical" (inductive) presentation as a sequent calculus.

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## MLL formulas and negation

- an MLL formula A, B, C, ... is a tree with leaves p, q, r, ... and  $p^{\perp}, q^{\perp}, r^{\perp}, ...$  called atoms, and binary connectives  $\otimes, \otimes$ .
- the **negation**  $A^{\perp}$  of a formula A is the formula defined inductively by so-called **de Morgan laws**:

$$(p)^{\perp} = p^{\perp} \ (p^{\perp})^{\perp} = p \ (A \otimes B)^{\perp} = A^{\perp} \otimes B^{\perp} \ (A \otimes B)^{\perp} = A^{\perp} \otimes B^{\perp}$$

• it follows that  $(A^{\perp})^{\perp} = A$  for every formula A.

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- An MLL sequent is a finite sequence of formulas,  $\vdash A_1, ..., A_n$ .
- We usually write finite sequences of formulas as greek letters  $\Gamma, \Delta, ...$
- A derivation is a tree with a sequent at each node, constructed inductively by the rules below (Exchange rule is implicit)

• identity: 
$$A, A^{\perp}$$
 ax  $\Gamma, A \quad \Delta, A^{\perp}$  cut

• multiplicatives: 
$$\frac{\Gamma, A \quad \Delta, B}{\Gamma, \Delta, A \otimes B} \otimes \frac{\Gamma, A, B}{\Gamma, A \otimes B} \otimes$$

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## MLL links

An MLL link is a graph of the following form, whose edges (resp., vertexes) are labeled with MLL formulas (resp., connectives):



- Axiom link with two conclusions A and  $A^{\perp}$ , and no premise;
- Cut link with two premises A and  $A^{\perp}$ , and no conclusion;
- ⊗ and ⊗ links where the formula A is the first premise, the formula B is the second premise, and A ⊗ B (or A⊗B) is the conclusion.

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# MLL proof-structure (PS)

A PS  $\pi$  is a graph built by links s.t. every (occurrence of) formula is the conclusion of one link, and the premise of at most one link.

Every derivation tree (inductively) defines a PS:



but conversely, not every PS is deduced from a derivation tree.

none derivation de-sequentializes into

So, which proof-structures exactly are obtained from derivation trees?



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## ribbon diagrams

idea: we associate to each link (at least) one ribbon diagram (or *switching position*) with a directed border labeled by

decorated formulas  $(A)^{\downarrow}, (A)^{\uparrow}$ 

- axiom and cut links are replaced by simple ribbon diagrams



- each **conclusion** C is replaced by a 2-dimensional "cul-de-sac":

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## ribbon diagrams

– each  $\otimes\text{-link}$  is replaced by the following ribbon diagram



- each  $\otimes$ -link is replaced by the choice of one of the two ribbon diagrams



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the border orientation defines a trajectory for a particle visiting the proof

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## topological correction criterion (Mellies, 2003)

#### Definition (switching or test)

Given a proof-structure  $\pi$ , a **switching or test**  $S(\pi)$  is the ribbon surface obtained by replacing every link and conclusion by (the choice of one of) the associated ribbon diagrams and pasting all diagrams together.

#### Definition (topological criterion)

A proof-net (PN) is a proof-structure  $\pi$  such that each switching  $S(\pi)$  (ribbon surface) is homeomorphic to the disk.

#### Remarks

- intuitively, an "homeomorphism" is a map between topological spaces modeling a "deformation without tearing"
- this criterion is equivalent to the original Girard's one (1987) based on long trips: a proof-structure is a proof-net when, for every switching, the particle visits every part of the proof net without being captured into a (proper) cycle.

### an instance of correct proof structure



$$\frac{\vdash A, A^{\perp} \quad \vdash, B, B^{\perp}}{\vdash A \otimes B, B^{\perp}, A^{\perp}} \otimes \frac{\vdash A \otimes B, B^{\perp}, A^{\perp}}{\vdash A \otimes B, B^{\perp} \otimes A^{\perp}} \otimes$$

there are only two switchings: both of them homeomorphic to the disk:



## an instance of un-correct proof structure



 $\pi$  is not correct (i.e., it is not image of any derivation) since there exists a switching  $S_R(\pi)$  that is not homeomorphic to the disk (symmetrically, the switching  $S_L(\pi)$  with position  $\mathcal{D}_L$ )

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## a larger fragment: MALL

Since its inception (1987) the problem of finding a "good notion" of MALL proof nets has remained open. Some works on MALL

- 1996, Girard, Monomial Nets;
- 2003, Hughes-van Glabbeek, Linkings Nets;
- 2005, Curien-Faggian, Ludics-nets;
- 2007, Maieli, Contractible MALL PN;
- 2008, Maieli-Laurent, strong normalization for Monomial PN;
- 2008, Mogbil-de Naurois. Correctness of MALL is PS NL-Complete;
- 2008, Tortora de Falco, Gol for MALL;
- 2011, Heijltjes, MALL proof nets with units;
- 2015, Bagnol, MALL proof equivalence is Logspace-complete.

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#### MALL Sequent Calculus

*Formulas* A, B, ... are built from *literals* by the binary connectives  $\otimes$  (*tensor*),  $\otimes$  (*par*), & (*with*) and  $\oplus$  (*plus*).

*Negation*  $(.)^{\perp}$  extends to any formula by de Morgan laws:

$$(A \otimes B)^{\perp} = (B^{\perp} \otimes A^{\perp}) \qquad (A \otimes B)^{\perp} = (B^{\perp} \otimes A^{\perp}) (A \& B)^{\perp} = (B^{\perp} \oplus A^{\perp}) \qquad (A \oplus B)^{\perp} = (B^{\perp} \& A^{\perp})$$

MALL Sequents  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Delta$  are proved using the following rules:

• identity:  $\overline{A, A^{\perp}}$  ax  $\overline{\Gamma, A \quad \Delta, A^{\perp}}$  cut • multiplicatives:  $\overline{\Gamma, A \quad \Delta, B}$   $\otimes$   $\overline{\Gamma, A, B}$   $\otimes$ • additives:  $\overline{\Gamma, A \quad \Gamma, B}$   $\otimes$   $\overline{\Gamma, A \otimes B} \otimes$   $\overline{\Gamma, A \otimes B} \otimes$ • additives:  $\overline{\Gamma, A \otimes B} \otimes$   $\overline{\Gamma, A \otimes B} \oplus_1$   $\overline{\Gamma, A \oplus B} \oplus_2$ 

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## MALL Proof Structures (PSs)

Concerning PSs, the **problem** is to cope with the &-rule for which a **superposition** of two proof structures  $\pi_{\Gamma,A}$  and  $\pi_{\Gamma,B}$  must be made.

A solution is to introduce for each &-link a boolean variable

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \qquad \Gamma, B}{\Gamma, A \& B} \&_{p} \qquad p \text{ is called eigen-wight}$$

which distinguishes between two slices of the superposition:

This immediately opens to the **problem of which kind of superposition** can be performed over already de-sequentialized PSs?

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## Example

Assume a sequential proof as follows:

By hypothesis of induction (MLL case):

 $\Pi_1$  desequentializes in to  $\pi_1$  and  $\Pi_2$  desequentializes in to  $\pi_2$  as below



But, then there are different possibilities of superposing  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  in order to get a proof structure  $\pi$  that is a desequentialization of  $\Pi$ .

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# solution 1: minimal superposition

#### only the conclusions superpose



this solution allows to preserve the monomiality of boolean weights associated to a proof structure [Girard, 1996]

Image: A math and A math and

## solution 2: "moderate" superposition

only some links (other than conclusions) superpose:



different choices of unary  $\oplus$ -links cannot be superposed!

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## solution 3: maximal superposition

all formula-tree conclusions superpose (like in the MLL case).



Warning! this solution:

- requires binary  $\oplus$ -links;
- disrupts the monomiality of weights [Hughes-Van Glabbeek, 2003]

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## an example of PS with non-monomial weights



this proof de-sequentializes into a PS with some links weighted by "non-monomial" weights.

Still, terminal (conclusion) links are labeled by the monomial weight 1.



## MALL Proof Structures: links

An MALL link is a graph of the following form, whose edges (resp., vertexes) are labeled with MALL formulas (resp., connectives):



Entering (resp. emerging) edges are **premises** (resp. **conclusions**)

Pending edges are called **conclusions of**  $\pi$ .

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## MALL Proof Structures: weights

- a set of Boolean variables denoted by p, q, ...
- a **monomial weight** *w*, *v*, ... is a product "." (conjunction) of variables or negation of variables
- 1, for the empty product
- 0, for a product where both p and  $\bar{p}$  appear
- two weights, v and w, are **disjoint** when v.w = 0
- a weight w depends on a variable p when p or  $\overline{p}$  appears in w

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## MALL Proof Structures: definition

A PS  $\pi$  is a graph built on links with assigned **weights** as follows:

- we assign a (different) eigen weight p, to each & node of π (notation &<sub>p</sub>):
- We assign a weight w ≠ 0 to each node; two nodes have the same weight if they have a common edge, except when:



neither p nor  $\bar{p}$  occurs in w

 $wp.w\bar{p}=0$ 

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- a conclusion node has weight 1;
- if w in  $\pi$  depends on p, then  $w \le v$ , where v is the weight of the  $\&_p$  node (monomial condition).

## MALL Proof Structures: example 1

The following is a PS:



Observe that  $q, \bar{q} \leq 1$ 

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## MALL Proof Structures: (counter-)example 2

The following is not a PS:



Remark. it violates the monomial condition on PS: there exists a axiom (with weight p) depending on  $\&_p$  (with weight q) but  $p \not\leq q$ 

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#### Proof Nets: valuation, slices, switchings, criterion

• a valuation for  $\pi$  is a function  $\varphi: p \mapsto \{0,1\} \ (\varphi: w \mapsto \{0,1\})$ 

fixed a φ, a slice φ(π) is the graph obtained from π by keeping only those nodes (together its emerging edges) whose weights are ≠ 0.

#### Definition (topological criterion)

A PS  $\pi$  is correct if, for each slice, every switching is homeomorphic to the disk with the (oriented) **border not containing** any **red trip** as below



## an instance of un-correct PS



## an instance of un-correct PS



#### thank you for your kind attention!

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