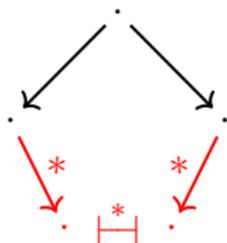


# Confluence of Cut-elimination up to Rules commutations in Linear Logic

Rémi Di Guardia

Syntax Meets Semantics, 8 January 2026



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

## Syntax

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

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- ◇ Identity of proofs / terms:  
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- ◇ Some order does not matter:

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

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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*

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- **Syntactic** equality
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- Equality up to **cut-elimination** /  **$\beta$ -reduction**
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- Equality up to **rules commutations**

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**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  $\beta$ -reduction in  $\lambda$ -calculus
- ▶ Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic
  - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
  - Why is equality more complicated than in  $\lambda$ -calculus?
  - Linking cut-elimination and rules commutations

# Simply typed $\lambda$ -calculus

**Terms**

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

**Types**

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

**$\beta$ -reduction**

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

**$\eta$ -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:**

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

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

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Here: **only equality up to  $\beta$ -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!

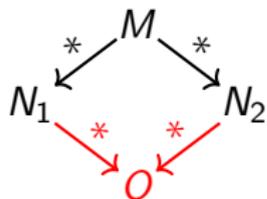
# Checking equality of terms

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## Key results:

- $\beta$  is **strongly normalizing**  
(no infinite sequence of reductions)
- $\beta$  is **confluent**



## Corollary

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

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

## Examples

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

$$\underline{2} + \underline{2} \xrightarrow{\beta^*} \underline{4} \neq \underline{3} \xleftarrow{\beta^*} \underline{2} + \underline{1}$$

- ▶ Equality of terms up to  $\beta$ -reduction in  $\lambda$ -calculus
- ▶ **Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic**
  - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
  - Why is equality more complicated than in  $\lambda$ -calculus?
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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

$$\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)} \quad \frac{\vdash A^\perp, \Gamma \quad \vdash A, \Delta}{\vdash \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}$$

$$\frac{\vdash A, B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \wp B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\wp\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Delta}{\vdash A \otimes B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (}\otimes\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash \perp, \Gamma} \text{ (}\perp\text{)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash 1} \text{ (1)}$$

$$\frac{\vdash A, \Gamma \quad \vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \& B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\&\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_1\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash B, \Gamma}{\vdash A \oplus B, \Gamma} \text{ (}\oplus_2\text{)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash \top, \Gamma} \text{ (}\top\text{)}$$

$$\frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?d)} \quad \frac{\vdash ?A, ?A, \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?c)} \quad \frac{\vdash \Gamma}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?w)} \quad \frac{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma} \text{ (!)}$$

$$X \text{ not free in } \Gamma \quad \frac{\vdash A, \Gamma}{\vdash \forall X A, \Gamma} \text{ (}\forall\text{)} \quad \frac{\vdash A\{B/X\}, \Gamma}{\vdash \exists X A, \Gamma} \text{ (}\exists\text{)}$$

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 \\
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 \end{array}$$

Curry-Howard isomorphism:  $\beta$ -reduction  $\approx$  cut-elimination



# Cut-elimination - 15 Commutative steps (To key)

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

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

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

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

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

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$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \text{ (\oplus}_1)}{\vdash A^\perp, B \oplus C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B \oplus C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (\oplus}_1)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B \oplus C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (\oplus}_1)$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \text{ (\oplus}_2)}{\vdash A^\perp, B \oplus C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B \oplus C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (cut)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, C, \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (\oplus}_2)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash B \oplus C, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (\oplus}_2)$$

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

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

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$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B[C/X], \Gamma} \text{ (\exists)} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta}}{\vdash A^\perp, \exists X B, \Gamma} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash \exists X B, \Gamma, \Delta}}{\vdash \exists X B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (\exists)} \xrightarrow{\beta} \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A^\perp, B[C/X], \Gamma} \quad \frac{\rho}{\vdash A, \Delta} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash B[C/X], \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (\exists)} \quad \frac{\tau}{\vdash \exists X B, \Gamma, \Delta} \text{ (\exists)}$$

\* X not free in ...

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

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

\* X not free in ...

# Cut-elimination on an example

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} (ax)}{\vdash A^\perp, A \otimes B, B^\perp} (\otimes) \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash B, B^\perp} (ax)}{\vdash A, A^\perp} (ax) \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} (ax)}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} (\otimes)}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} (cut)}$$

# Cut-elimination on an example

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp, A \otimes B, B^\perp} \text{ (\otimes)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash B, B^\perp} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (\otimes)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{ (cut)}}{}$$

*$\beta$ com*

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (\otimes)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (cut)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash B, B^\perp} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp} \text{ (ax)} \quad \frac{\frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (\otimes)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{ (\otimes)}}{}$$

# Cut-elimination on an example

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp, A \otimes B, B^\perp} \text{ (\otimes)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash B, B^\perp} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (\otimes)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (cut)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{ (cut)}$$

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

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \beta_{\text{key}} \\
 \swarrow \\
 \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A, A^\perp} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash A, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, C} \text{ (\otimes)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash B, B^\perp} \text{ (ax)}}{\vdash B, B^\perp} \text{ (\otimes)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{ (\otimes)}
 \end{array}$$

- ▶ Equality of terms up to  $\beta$ -reduction in  $\lambda$ -calculus
- ▶ Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic
  - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
  - Why is equality more complicated than in  $\lambda$ -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  $\lambda$ -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!

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{(ax)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash B^\perp, B} \text{(ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{(\otimes)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{(ax)} \quad \frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{(ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, A, C} \text{(\otimes)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{(cut)}$$

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

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!

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{(ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{(\otimes)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash B^\perp, B} \text{(ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, A, C} \text{(\otimes)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{(cut)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{(\otimes)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash A^\perp, A} \text{(ax)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp} \text{(\otimes)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdash C^\perp, C} \text{(ax)}}{\vdash A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, A, C} \text{(\otimes)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp \otimes C^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{(cut)}}{\vdash A \otimes B, A^\perp, B^\perp, C} \text{(cut)}}$$

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

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!**

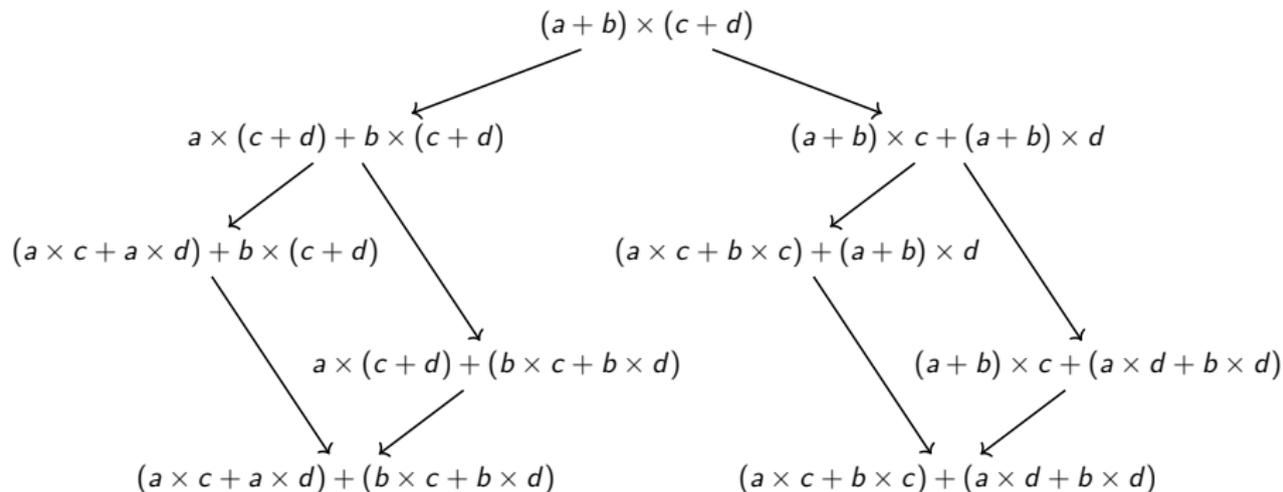
# Intuition: Confluence up to in distributivity

Exercices 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)

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

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

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

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

... and many many many more ...

# Rules commutations (from a list of cases)

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

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

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

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

... and many many many more ...

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

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

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

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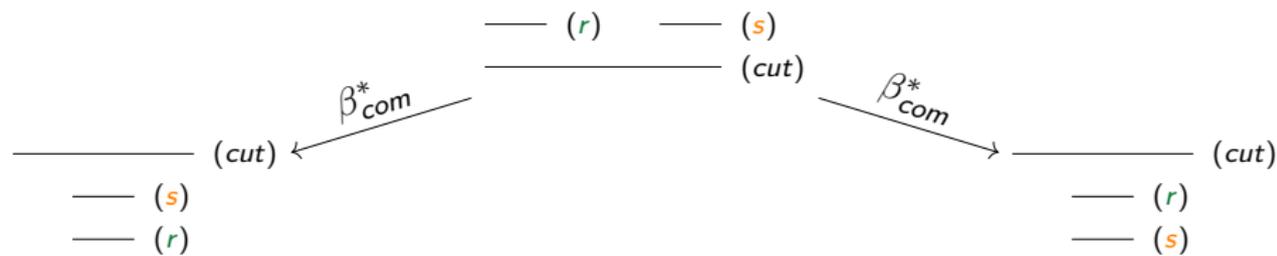
... and many many many more ...

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

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

# Rules commutations (from a general method)

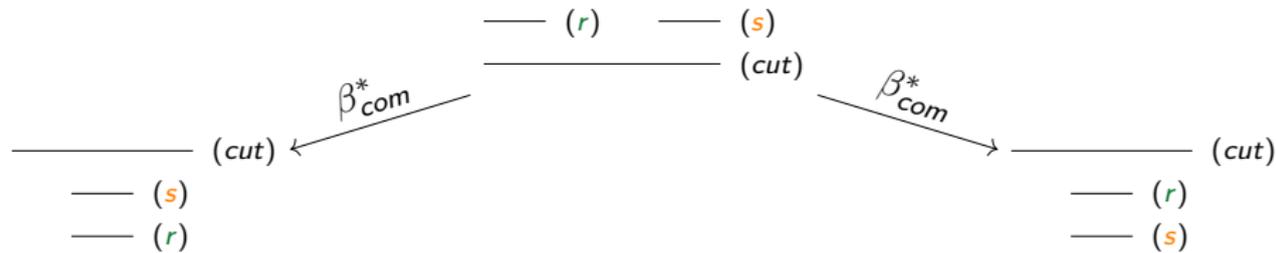
Every pair  $\begin{array}{c} \text{---} (s) \\ \text{---} (r) \end{array} \vdash \begin{array}{c} \text{---} (r) \\ \text{---} (s) \end{array}$  coming from:



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

# Rules commutations (from a general method)

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



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## Remarks

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

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma} (!)}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_c) \not\vdash \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?B, ?B, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_c) \text{ and } \frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash !A, ?\Gamma} (!)}{\vdash !A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_w) \not\vdash \frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash A, ?\Gamma}}{\vdash A, ?B, ?\Gamma} (?_w) (!)$$

- ▶ Equality of terms up to  $\beta$ -reduction in  $\lambda$ -calculus
- ▶ Equality of proofs up to cut-elimination in Linear Logic
  - Quick sketch of Linear Logic
  - Why is equality more complicated than in  $\lambda$ -calculus?
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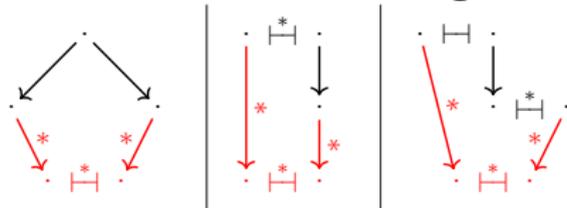
# Proving Confluence up to

## 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  $\rightarrow$**  & **closing some diagrams**



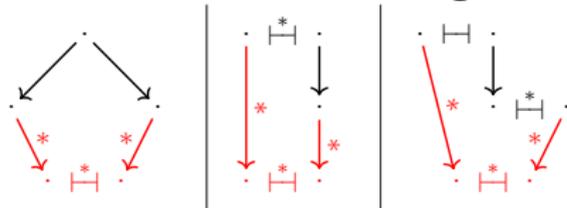
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## Difficulties:

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

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

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

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:

- $a \rightarrow \cdot \Rightarrow^* \cdot \overline{\vdash} \cdot * \leftarrow c$   
or

- $a \rightarrow \cdot \Rightarrow^* \cdot \overline{\vdash} \cdot * \leftarrow \cdot \leftarrow b \rightarrow c$

Then  $\rightarrow$  is Church-Rosser modulo  $\overline{\vdash}^*$ .

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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  $\xrightarrow{\bar{\beta}} = (\xrightarrow{\beta}$  without cut-cut).

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Strong Normalization Property  
for Second Order Linear Logic

Michele Pagani<sup>1,3</sup>, Lorenzo Tortora de Falco<sup>3</sup>

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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  $\lambda$ -calculus, non terminating computations start from  $\lambda$ -terms that strongly exploit *self-application*: every  $\lambda$ -term can be applied to itself (see for example [13]). Termination fails for the  $\lambda$ -calculus (even in its weak form WN), but holds for some of its most remarkable subsystems: the simply typed  $\lambda$ -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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<sup>3</sup>This work has been supported by the poncic 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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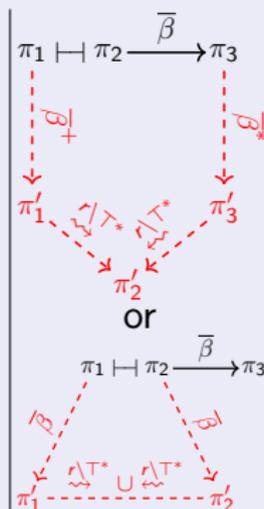
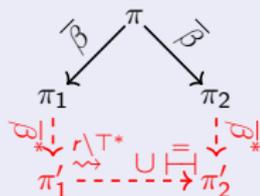
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Theorem (Proved in MALL [CP05; DL23]; in redaction for LL)

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

Proof.

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



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

□

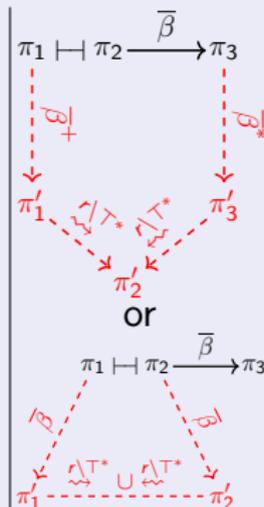
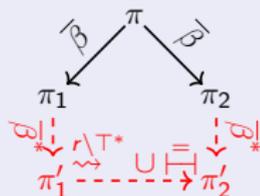
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*Thousands of similar cases to check*

→ 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  
cut-elimination  
without cut-cut*

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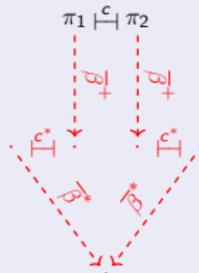
=

Equality up to  
cut-elimination  
*without cut-cut*

## Proof.

Follows from:

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



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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 {

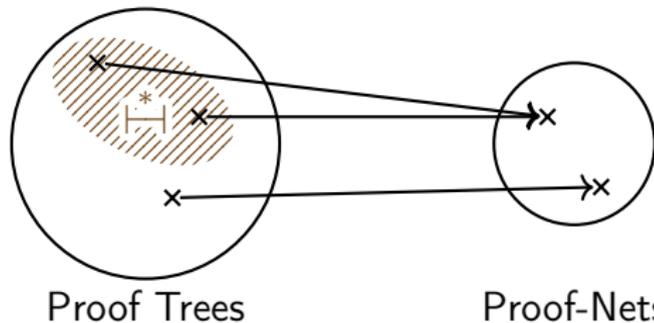
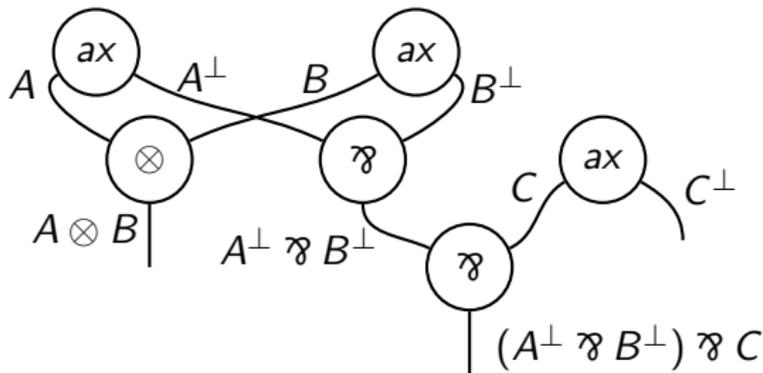


## Consequences & Avail

- “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  $\pi$  and  $\rho$ , 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
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

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

## 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:

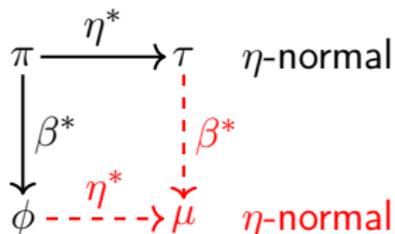
$$\frac{\overline{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, \top}^{(\top)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T \oplus T}^{(\oplus_i)} \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash !A, \top}^{(\top)} \quad \overline{\vdash T_A}^{(T_A)}}{\vdash !A \otimes T_A, T}^{(\otimes)} \quad \vdash \quad \frac{\overline{\vdash !A, \top}^{(\top)}}{\vdash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

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

□

# We may have more than cut-elimination . . .

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



(holds without 2<sup>nd</sup> order quantifiers)

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

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

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

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

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- One may want **more commutations**, yielding even more cases!
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$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma}}{\vdash ?A, ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?}_w\text{)}}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma} \text{ (?}_c\text{)} \rightsquigarrow \frac{\pi}{\vdash ?A, \Gamma}$$

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Thank you!

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# Back-up: Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

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

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

\* if  $X$  not free in  $A$

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

\* if  $X$  not free in  $A$

With the  $! - ?_c$ ,  $! - ?_w$  and  $?_c - ?_w$  commutations and reductions

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

# Back-up: Isomorphisms in Linear Logic

## Isomorphism $A \simeq B$

Proofs  $\pi$  of  $A \vdash B$  and  $\rho$  of  $B \vdash A$  such that

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

## 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	$\forall X(A \& B) \simeq \forall X A \& \forall X B$ $\exists X(A \oplus B) \simeq \exists X A \oplus \exists X B$	$\forall X \top \simeq \top$ $\exists X 0 \simeq 0$
Optional	$\forall X A \simeq A^{\dagger}$ $\exists X A \simeq A^{\dagger}$	$1 \simeq \perp^{\dagger}$ $0 \simeq \top^{\clubsuit}$

\* if X not free in A

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

when  $\pi$  is "witness irrelevant"

$$\ddagger \text{ if } \frac{\pi}{\vdash \Gamma} \text{ (mix}_0\text{)} \equiv \frac{\pi}{\vdash \Gamma} \text{ (mix}_2\text{)}$$

$\clubsuit$  with  $\vdash \Gamma$   $(\emptyset)$