# MELL proof nets <br> Part 1 

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## A brief recap of MLL proof nets

## Multiplicative proof structures

## Definition

A multiplicative proof structure is:

- a (directed, acyclic, multi-) graph built on the nodes



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- an ordering of the two input edges of each (8) and (8) (one left, one right)
- a labelling of edges with MLL formulas, compatible with typing rules
- a linear ordering of the conclusions


## Translation of proofs




## Cut elimination in multiplicative proof structures


provided the in/out edges do not coincide


## Switchings and proof nets



## Definition

- A switching $\sigma$ of a structure $S$, is the choice of $L$ or $R$ for each of $S$.
- The switching graph $S_{\sigma}$ is obtained by replacing each (8) accordingly.
- A proof net is a proof structure whose switching graphs are all (undirected) acyclic.
- A connected proof net is a proof net whose switching graphs have exactly one (undirected) connected component.


## Multiplicative proof nets

In proof nets, each cut can be eliminated.

## Theorem

Proof nets (resp. connected proof nets) are stable under cut elimination.

## Theorem

Cut elimination is confluent and strongly normalizing on proof nets.

## Theorem

Connected proof nets are exactly the translations of proofs.

## A warm-up: MLL with units

## Units

MLL with units:

$$
\begin{gathered}
A, B, C, \ldots::=X\left|X^{\perp}\right| A \otimes B|A \odot B| \mathbf{1} \mid \perp \\
\mathbf{1}^{\perp}:=\perp \quad \perp^{\perp}:=\mathbf{1}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Units

MLL with units:

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\frac{1}{\mathbf{1}}(\mathbf{1}) \quad
\end{gathered}
$$

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A, B, C, \ldots::=X\left|X^{\perp}\right| A \otimes B|A \ngtr B| 1 \mid \perp \\
1^{\perp}:=\perp \perp^{\perp}:=1 \\
-(\mathbf{1}) \stackrel{1}{1} \quad \frac{\pi}{\Gamma, \perp}(\perp) \mapsto
\end{gathered}
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$\leadsto$
$\varnothing$

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\end{gathered}
$$


$\varnothing$
Breaks connectedness!

## Option 1: restoring connectedness

## Definition

- A multiplicative proof structure with jumps is:
- a proof structure with units
- a jump from each (1) to some node:

- Switching graphs include jumps as edges.
- A connected proof net with jumps is a proof structure with jumps, whose switching graphs are acyclic and connected.


## Translation of proof trees

In the translation of a proof, we can jump to an arbitrary node:

$$
\frac{\stackrel{\pi}{\Gamma}}{\Gamma, \perp}(\perp) \quad \mapsto \quad \pi
$$

## Lemma

Any translation of a proof tree is a connected proof net with jumps.
Proof. Same as without units: attaching a new node with a jump does not create cycles, and does not change the number of connected components.
What about the converse?

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## Lemma

Any translation of a proof tree is a connected proof net with jumps.
Proof. Same as without units: attaching a new node with a jump does not create cycles, and does not change the number of connected components.
What about the converse? Easier with restricted jumps.

## Initial jumps

## Definition

A multiplicative proof structure with initial jumps is:
a proof structure with units

- a jump from each ( $\perp$ to some initial node:

- In the translation:

$$
\frac{\pi}{\Gamma, \perp}(\perp) \mapsto \quad \pi
$$

we can always jump to an initial node.

## Sequentialization with initial jumps

## Theorem

A connected proof net with initial jumps is always the translation of a proof.
Proof. Geometrically, this is the same as sequentialization without units, but with generalized "axioms":


## Sequentialization with jumps

## Lemma

For each connected proof net with jumps, there is a connected proof net with initial jumps with the same underlying proof structure.

Proof. Move the target of jumps up.

## Theorem

A proof structure is the translation of a proof tree iff it can be equipped with jumps to form a connected proof net with jumps.
(And we can require jumps to be initial.)

## Jumps are not canonical

- Even initial ones:

$$
\frac{\overline{A^{\perp}, A}(a x) \quad \overline{B, B^{\perp}}(a x)}{(\otimes)} \begin{gathered}
\frac{A^{\perp}, A \otimes B, B^{\perp}}{A^{\perp}, A \otimes B, B^{\perp}, \perp}
\end{gathered}
$$



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\frac{\overline{A^{\perp}, A}(a x) \overline{B, B^{\perp}}(a x)}{\frac{A^{\perp}, A \otimes B, B^{\perp}}{A^{\perp}, A \otimes B, B^{\perp}, \perp}(\perp)} \quad \mapsto \quad A A^{\perp}
$$

- Cut elimination requires re-routing jumps:



## Option 2: acyclicity only

The mix rules:

## Theorem

A proof structure is a proof net iff it is the translation of a proof of MLL $+\left(m i x_{0}\right)+($ mix $)$.
Two words about the proof. The main structure (reason by induction, finding a splitting (8) ) is essentially the same. But the existence of a splitting tensor does not really follow from the connected case.

- Pro:
- no extra data
- same switching graphs, same cut elimination with or without units.


## Option 2: acyclicity only

The mix rules:

$$
\bar{\varepsilon}\left(m i x_{0}\right) \quad \mapsto \quad \varnothing \quad \frac{\begin{array}{c}
\pi \\
\Gamma \\
\Delta
\end{array}(\text { mix })}{\Gamma, \Delta} \quad \mapsto \quad \pi \quad \pi^{\prime}
$$

## Theorem

A proof structure is a proof net iff it is the translation of a proof of MLL $+\left(\right.$ mix $\left._{0}\right)+($ mix $)$.
Two words about the proof. The main structure (reason by induction, finding a splitting (8) ) is essentially the same. But the existence of a splitting tensor does not really follow from the connected case.

- Pro:
- no extra data
- same switching graphs, same cut elimination with or without units.
- Con:
- strictly more provable sequents (including the empty one, hence $\vdash \perp$ )
- may identify some proofs that are not equal up to rule permutations


## No perfect solution

## Stumbling block

Identifying proofs of MLL with units up to rule permutations is hard: PSPACE-complete (Heijltjes-Houston, 2014).

We stick to option 2: forget about connectedness and accept the mix-rules.

MELL proof nets

## Introducing exponentials

$$
\begin{gathered}
A, B, C, \ldots::=X\left|X^{\perp}\right| A \otimes B|A \ngtr B|!A \mid ? A \\
(!A)^{\perp}:=? A^{\perp} \quad(? A)^{\perp}:=!A^{\perp}
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$$

## Cut elimination in MELL

$$
\frac{\frac{\pi^{\pi}}{? \Gamma, A}(!) \quad \frac{\pi^{\prime}}{\Delta, A^{\perp}}}{\Delta, ? A^{\perp}}(? d) \quad \leadsto \quad \frac{\pi_{\pi}^{\pi} \quad \pi^{\prime}}{? \Gamma, \Delta}(c u t) \quad \Delta, A^{\perp}(\text { cut })
$$



## Cut elimination in MELL

$$
\frac{\frac{? \Gamma}{? \Gamma, A}(!) \quad \frac{\pi^{\prime}}{\Delta \Gamma,!A}(? w)}{? \Gamma, ? A^{\perp}}(c u t) \quad \leadsto \quad \stackrel{\pi^{\prime}}{\stackrel{\Delta}{? \Gamma, \Delta}}(? w)
$$



## Cut elimination in MELL

## Promotion boxes



- allows to treat the box as one initial node
- amounts to every internal node of $S$ jumping to (1)
- boxes must be either disjoint or nested


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- allows to treat the box as one initial node
- amounts to every internal node of $S$ jumping to (1)
- boxes must be either disjoint or nested
- we add extra nodes as a convenience: box ports = conclusions of the boxed net


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- an ordering of the two input edges of each (8) and (8) (not (3c))
- a labelling of edges with MELL formulas, compatible with typing rules
- a tree order on (1) nodes ( + a root for top level) and a graph morphism to this tree
- content of a box $=$ preimage of a subtree
- (!) and (P) nodes mark the border between a box and its parent


## Translation of proofs




## Switchings and proof nets




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- The switching graph $S_{\sigma}$ is obtained by replacing each (8) or (?c) accordingly, and each box with an initial node.
- A proof net is a proof structure whose switching graphs are all (undirected) acyclic,


## Switchings and proof nets




## Definition

A switching $\sigma$ of a structure $S$, is the choice of $L$ or $R$ for each (8) or (?c) of $S$.

- The switching graph $S_{\sigma}$ is obtained by replacing each (8) or (?c) accordingly, and each box with an initial node.
- A proof net is a proof structure whose switching graphs are all (undirected) acyclic, and such that the content of each box is a proof net, inductively.


## Sequentialization

## Theorem

A proof structure is a proof net iff it is the translation of a proof of MELL $+\left(m i x_{0}\right)+(m i x)$.
Proof. Same proof as for MLL with units, inductively: treat boxes as general axioms in switching graphs.

## Cut elimination in MELL proof nets



## Cut elimination in MELLproof nets

## Commuting cuts are back



## Properties of cut elimination in MELL proof nets

## Theorem

Proof nets are stable under cut elimination
Proof. No cut elimination rule can create a cycle.

## Lemma

Cut elimination is locally confluent
Proof. Inspect critical pairs and solve them.

## Theorem

Cut elimination is confluent and strongly normalizing.
Proof (teaser). By Newman's lemma, it "suffices" to prove strong normalization:

- a general pattern is to first prove weak normalizability of cut elimination without erasing steps ( (1) vs ?w) then deduce SN;
- an example of proof technique in the next lecture.


## $\lambda$-calculus and proof nets

## Translating the $\lambda$-calculus

One famous translation:

$$
(A \Rightarrow B) \mapsto(!A \multimap B)
$$

Given $\Gamma \vdash M: B$ with $\Gamma=x_{1}: A_{1}, \ldots, x_{n}: A_{n}$ we construct

## Translating the $\lambda$-calculus



## Translating the $\lambda$-calculus: $\Lambda \rightarrow$ NJ $\rightarrow$ MELL $\rightarrow$ MELL proof nets

$$
\frac{\Gamma, x: A \vdash}{\Gamma, x: A \vdash x: A}(\text { var }) \mapsto
$$

## Simulating $\beta$-reduction

$$
\frac{\frac{\Gamma, x: A \vdash M: B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x \cdot M: A \Rightarrow B}(a b s) \quad \Gamma \vdash N: A}{\Gamma \vdash(\lambda x . M) N: B}(a p p)
$$



## Simulating $\beta$-reduction



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## Simulating $\beta$-reduction



## Simulating substitution



## Lemma

Iterating exponential cut elimination in the above net yields the translation of $M[N / x]$.

Write $M\langle N / x\rangle$ for the above proof net.

## Simulating substitution



## Lemma

Iterating exponential cut elimination in the above net yields the translation of $M[N / x]$.
In fact, not quite. . .
Write $M\langle N / x\rangle$ for the above proof net.

## Substitutions. . .

Let $M=x(x y)$ and $N=x$.

## Substitutions. . .

Let $M=x_{1}\left(x_{2} y\right)$ and $N=x_{3}$.

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Let $M=x_{1}\left(x_{2} y\right)$ and $N=x_{3}$.


## Substitutions. . .

Let $M=z(x y)$ and $N=x$.

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Let $M=z\left(x_{1} y\right)$ and $N=x_{2}$.

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Let $M=z\left(x_{1} y\right)$ and $N=x_{2}$. $M\langle N / y\rangle$

$$
M[N / y]=z\left(x_{1} x_{2}\right)
$$



## Substitutions. . .

Let $M=z\left(x_{1} y\right)$ and $N=x_{2}$.

$$
M\langle N / y\rangle
$$

$$
M[N / y]=z\left(x_{1} x_{2}\right)
$$



## Rétoré conversions

Contraction and weakening form a commutative monoid:



We should thus consider $n$-ary contractions:


## Rétoré conversions

Contraction and weakening cross the border of boxes:


## Rétoré conversions and ?-canonical nets

## Theorem (Retore, 1987)

Up to Retoré conversions, cut elimination refines $\beta$-reduction.

## Rétoré conversions and ?-canonical nets

## Theorem (Retore, 1987)

Up to Retoré conversions, cut elimination refines $\beta$-reduction.

With $n$-ary contractions, normal forms for (the obvious orientation of) these conversions are ?-canonical nets (the old name for this is nouvelle syntaxe).
And cut elimination can be defined directly on ?-canonical nets (Danos \& Regnier, 1993).
?-canonical proof structures
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- an ordering of the two input edges of each (8) and (8)
- a tree order on (1) nodes ( + a root for top level) and a graph morphism to this tree, respecting box conditions


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$A$
$A \stackrel{\square}{\square} \downarrow$
- an ordering of the two input edges of each (8) and (8)
- a tree order on (1) nodes (+ a root for top level) and a graph morphism to this tree, respecting box conditions
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- a tree order on (1) nodes ( + a root for top level) and a graph morphism to this tree, respecting box conditions
- a labelling of edges with MELL formulas, compatible with typing rules
- moreover such that the conclusion of a $($ D must target a © $\mathbb{D}$ or (?


## The exponential cut elimination rule in ?-canonical nets



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## The exponential cut elimination rule in ?-canonical nets



## Theorem

Cut elimination in ?-canonical nets simulates $\beta$-reduction.

## Analysing $\beta$-reduction with proof nets

- Conversely, one can look for a counterpart of small-step exponential cut elimination: explicit substitutions (Di Cosmo \& Kesner, 1997).
- Untyped $\lambda$-calculus: type proof nets with $o=(o \Rightarrow o)=\left(? o^{\perp} 叉 o\right),!o, o^{\perp}$ and $? o^{\perp}$.
- A versatile tool to find better rewriting theories (e.g., for CBV via another translation of $\Rightarrow$, Carraro \& Guerrieri, 2014).


## Conclusion: what was not in this tutorial?

- explicit substitutions
- pure types for simulating the untyped $\lambda$-calculus
- variants for call-by-value $\beta$-reduction and other strategies


## Conclusion: what was not in this tutorial?

- explicit substitutions
- pure types for simulating the untyped $\lambda$-calculus
- variants for call-by-value $\beta$-reduction and other strategies
- a proof of strong normalization (next lecture)
- restrictions for implicit complexity (a hint in the next lecture)
- denotational semantics (tomorrow)
- geometry of interaction (tomorrow)
- additives, quantifiers
- polarized / intuitionistic variants
- differential nets and Taylor expansion
- etc.

