Jérôme Fortier, with Luigi Santocanale

## Cuts in circular proofs



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## Natural numbers

## (Circular) Definition

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$$
\mathbb{N}=\mu X .(1+X)
$$

## Other inductive types...

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- $\mu X .(1+A \times X)=A^{*}=$ Finite words over $A$

$$
\begin{aligned}
* & \mapsto \varepsilon \\
\langle a, w\rangle & \mapsto a \cdot w
\end{aligned}
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- $\mu X .(1+A \times X \times X)=$ Finite binary labelled trees



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\begin{aligned}
& \|_{\langle\text {head, tail }\rangle}^{A^{\omega}} \\
& A \times A^{\omega}
\end{aligned}
$$

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Final coalgebra!

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\begin{aligned}
& A \times X \underset{i d \times f}{\operatorname{id} \times A^{\omega}}
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$$
A^{\omega}=\nu X .(A \times X)
$$

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- $\nu X .(A \times X \times X)=$ Infinite binary labelled trees



## Lattice $\mu$-calculus

Lattice $\mu$-terms are generated by the following grammar:

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t:=X|1| t \times t|0| t+t|\mu X . t| \nu X . t
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## Functorial interpretation

- $\times,+=$ Product / Coproduct;
- $0,1=$ Initial / Final object;
- $\mu X . F(X), \nu X . F(X)=$ Initial $F$-algebra / Final $F$-coalgebra.


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## Definition

A category $\mathcal{C}$ is $\mu$-bicomplete iff this interpretation makes sense in $\mathcal{C}$.

## Game semantics (in Sets)

$$
t=\nu X .(A \times \mu Y .(1+X \times Y))
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$$

$\mathcal{S}(t):$

## Game semantics (in Sets)

$$
\begin{gathered}
t=\nu X \cdot(A \times \mu Y \cdot(1+X \times Y)) \\
\mathcal{S}(t): \quad X={ }_{\nu} \quad A \times Y
\end{gathered}
$$

## Game semantics (in Sets)

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t=\nu X .(A \times \mu Y .(1+X \times Y))
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$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{S}(t): & X \\
& ={ }_{\nu} \quad A \times Y \\
& A=\sum_{a \in A} 1
\end{aligned}
$$

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& \mathcal{S}(t): \quad X \quad={ }_{\nu} \quad A \times Y \\
& A={ }_{\nu} \quad \sum_{a \in A} 1 \\
& Y={ }_{\mu} \quad 1+Z
\end{aligned}
$$

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& \mathcal{S}(t): \quad X \quad={ }_{\nu} \quad A \times Y \\
& A={ }_{\nu} \quad \sum_{a \in A} 1 \\
& Y={ }_{\mu} 1+Z \\
& Z={ }_{\mu} \quad X \times Y
\end{aligned}
$$

## Game semantics (in Sets)

$$
\begin{align*}
& t=\nu X .(A \times \mu Y .(1+X \times Y)) \\
& \mathcal{S}(t): \quad X={ }_{\nu} \quad A \times Y  \tag{2}\\
& A={ }_{\nu} \quad \sum_{a \in A} 1  \tag{2}\\
& Z={ }_{\mu} \quad X \times Y \text { (1) } \tag{1}
\end{align*}
$$

$\operatorname{Priority}(V)$ is $\begin{cases}\text { even } & \text {, if } V={ }_{\nu} \ldots \\ \text { odd } & , \text { if } V={ }_{\mu} \ldots\end{cases}$

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$\mathcal{S}(t): \quad X={ }_{\nu} \quad A \times Y$
$\begin{array}{lll}A & ={ }_{\nu} & \sum_{a \in A} 1 \\ Y & ={ }_{\mu} & 1+Z \\ Z & ={ }_{\mu} & X \times Y\end{array}$


Priority $(V)$ is $\begin{cases}\text { even } & , \text { if } V={ }_{\nu} \ldots \\ \text { odd } & , \text { if } V={ }_{\mu} \ldots\end{cases}$

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## Parity games!



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Player $\oplus$ wins if:

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- Or the game is infinite, and the highest priority visited infinitely often is even.


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Player $\otimes$ wins in the dual situation.


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Player $\otimes$ wins in the dual situation.


## Theorem (Santocanale, 2002)

Solutions for variable $V$ in $\mathcal{S}(t) \simeq$
The set of deterministic winning strategies for $\oplus$ from position $V$.

Therefore, we have a combinatorial (dynamic) characterization of the $\mu$-defined objects.

## Curry-Howard correspondence

## Goal

Find a "good" (dynamic) syntax for expressing (and computing) functions (arrows) between objects of this kind.

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Cartesian
Closed
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$\mu$-bicomplete
Categories

## Inference rules (Gentzen style)

Axioms:

$$
\overline{0 \vdash t} \mathrm{LAx}
$$

$$
\overline{t \vdash 1} \mathrm{RAx}
$$

$$
\overline{t \vdash t} \mathrm{Id}
$$

$\begin{aligned} & \text { Product: } \\ & (\text { conjunction })\end{aligned} \frac{s_{i} \vdash t}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t} \mathrm{~L} \times{ }_{i} \quad \frac{s \vdash t_{0} \quad s \vdash t_{1}}{s \vdash t_{0} \times t_{1}} \mathrm{R} \times$
Coproduct: (disjunction)

$\frac{s \vdash t_{i}}{s \vdash t_{0}+t_{1}} \mathrm{R}+i$
Fixpoint: $\quad \frac{F(X) \vdash t}{X \vdash t} \operatorname{LFix} \quad \frac{s \vdash F(X)}{s \vdash X}$ RFix $\quad$ if $X=F(X)$
Cut:

$$
\frac{r \vdash s \quad s \vdash t}{r \vdash t} \mathrm{Cut}
$$

## Categorical interpretation

Axioms: $\overline{0 \xrightarrow{? ~} t} \mathrm{LAx} \quad \overline{t \xrightarrow{!_{t}} 1} \mathrm{RAx} \quad \overline{t \xrightarrow{\mathrm{id} t_{t}} t} \mathrm{Id}$
$\begin{aligned} & \text { Product: } \\ & \text { (conjunction) }\end{aligned} \underset{s_{0} \times s_{1} \xrightarrow{s_{i} \xrightarrow{p r} t \cdot f} t}{ } \mathrm{~L} \times \times_{i} \xrightarrow{s \xrightarrow{s} t_{0}} \stackrel{s \xrightarrow{g} t_{1}}{s f, g\rangle} t_{0} \times t_{1} \quad \mathrm{R} \times$
Coproduct:
(disjunction)

$$
\frac{s_{0} \xrightarrow{f} t \quad s_{1} \xrightarrow{g} t}{s_{0}+s_{1} \xrightarrow{\{f, g\}} t} \mathrm{~L}+\quad \frac{s \xrightarrow{f} t_{i}}{s \xrightarrow{f \cdot \mathrm{in}_{i}} t_{0}+t_{1}} \mathrm{R}+i
$$

Fixpoint:

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
\frac{F(X) \stackrel{f}{\rightarrow} t}{} \text { LFix } & \frac{s \xrightarrow{f} F(X)}{s \xrightarrow{\zeta_{X}^{-1} \cdot f} t} \text { R. } \zeta_{X} X & \text { if } X={ }_{\mu} F(X) \\
\frac{F(X) \xrightarrow{f} t}{X \xrightarrow{\xi_{X} \cdot f} t} \text { LFix } & \frac{s \xrightarrow{f} F(X)}{s \xrightarrow{f \cdot \xi_{X}^{-1}} X} \text { RFix } & \text { if } X={ }_{\nu} F(X) \\
\frac{r \xrightarrow{f} s s^{g} t}{r \xrightarrow{f \cdot g} t} \text { Cut } &
\end{array}
$$

Cut:

## Primitive recursion

$$
N={ }_{\mu} 1+N
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Solution:

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1+\mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{\{0, \text { suc }\}} \mathbb{N}
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Let

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\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{double}(0) & =0 \\
\operatorname{double}(\operatorname{suc}(n)) & =\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{double}(n)))
\end{aligned}
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$$

$$
\frac{1+N \vdash N}{N \vdash N}
$$

double( $\operatorname{suc}(n))=\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{double}(n)))$

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& 1+\mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{\{0, \text { suc }\}} \mathbb{N} \quad \frac{1 \vdash 1+N}{1 \vdash N} \text { RFix } \\
& N \vdash N \\
& \text { Let } \\
& 1+N \vdash N \\
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& N \vdash N \\
& \text { double(suc }(n))=\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{double}(n)))
\end{aligned}
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## Primitive recursion

$$
N={ }_{\mu} 1+N
$$

## Solution:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \qquad \begin{array}{l}
1+\mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{\{0, \text { suc }\}} \mathbb{N} \\
\text { Let } \begin{array}{l}
\frac{1 \vdash 1}{\frac{1 \vdash 1+N}{1 \vdash N} \mathrm{RFix}+0} \\
\\
\text { double}(0)=0
\end{array} \\
\text { double(suc }(n))=\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{suc}(\operatorname{double}(n)))
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

Let

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Solution: } \\
& \qquad \begin{array}{l}
1+\mathbb{N} \xrightarrow{\{0, \text { suc }\}} \mathbb{N} \quad \frac{\frac{1}{1 \vdash 1} \mathrm{RAx}}{\frac{1 \vdash 1+N}{} \mathrm{R}+0} \frac{N \vdash 1+N}{\frac{1 \vdash N}{R F i x} \frac{N \vdash N}{N \vdash i x}} \mathrm{~L}+ \\
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\text { Let } \\
\operatorname{LFix} \\
\operatorname{double}(0)=0 \\
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\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

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$$

| Solution: |  | $\overline{1 \vdash 1}^{R A x}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{N \vdash 1+N}{N \vdash N} \mathrm{RFix}$ |
| $1+\mathbb{N} \underline{\{0,}$ | $\xrightarrow{\text { c }}$ N |  | $\frac{1 \vdash 1+N}{} \mathrm{R}+0$ | ${\underset{N \vdash 1+N}{R+1}}^{R+1}$ |
|  |  | $1 \vdash N$ | $N \vdash N$ |
| Let |  | $1+N \vdash N$ |  |
| double(0) | $=$ | $N \vdash$ |  |
| double(suc(n)) | $=$ | double(n))) |  |

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## Proofs $\Rightarrow$ Systems of equations



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Solution: $f_{0}=$ double

## Stream differential equations

$$
\begin{array}{rl}
X & ={ }_{\nu} \\
2 & 2 \times X \times X \\
& ={ }_{\nu}
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Solution (Kupke-Rutten, 2012)

$$
S \xrightarrow{\langle\text { head,even,odd }\rangle} 2 \times S \times S
$$

## Stream differential equations

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X={ }_{\nu} \quad 2 \times X \times X
$$

$$
2={ }_{\nu} 1+1
$$

Solution (Kupke-Rutten, 2012)

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S \xrightarrow{\langle\text { head,even,odd }\rangle} 2 \times S \times S
$$

## Thue-Morse stream

$$
\begin{aligned}
\sigma & =\langle 0, \sigma, \tau\rangle \\
\tau & =\langle 1, \tau, \sigma\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

## Stream differential equations

$$
\begin{array}{rr}
X={ }_{\nu} \quad 2 \times X \times X & \text { Thue-Morse stream } \\
2={ }_{\nu} 1+1 & \sigma=\langle 0, \sigma, \tau\rangle \\
\tau & =\langle 1, \tau, \sigma\rangle
\end{array}
$$



## Non-valid circular proofs

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## Guard condition

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## Definition

A path in $\Pi$ has a left $\mu$-trace if it

- contains a left fixpoint rule, and the highest priority is odd;
- turns left at every cut.


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## Definition

A path in $\Pi$ has a left $\mu$-trace if it

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- turns left at every cut.


## Definition

A path in $\Pi$ has a right $\nu$-trace if it

- contains a right fixpoint rule, and the highest priority is even;
- turns right at every cut.


## Guard conditions

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(1) Every cycle in $\Pi$ either has a left $\mu$-trace or a right $\nu$-trace.

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(2) Every infinite path $\Gamma$ in $\Pi$ has a tail $\Gamma^{\prime}$ that has either a left $\mu$-trace or a right $\nu$-trace and every fixpoint rule in $\Gamma^{\prime}$ occurs infinitely often.

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(1) Every cycle in $\Pi$ either has a left $\mu$-trace or a right $\nu$-trace.
(2) Every infinite path $\Gamma$ in $\Pi$ has a tail $\Gamma^{\prime}$ that has either a left $\mu$-trace or a right $\nu$-trace and every fixpoint rule in $\Gamma^{\prime}$ occurs infinitely often.
(3) Every strongly connected component of $\Pi$ either has a left $\mu$-trace or a right $\nu$-trace.

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(3) Every strongly connected component of $\Pi$ either has a left $\mu$-trace or a right $\nu$-trace.

## Definition

A circular proof is a finite pre-proof that satisfies the guard conditions.

## Semantical results

## Soundness Theorem (F.-S. 2013)

Every circular proof denotes a unique arrow of the free $\mu$-bicomplete category $\mathcal{M}$.

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By induction on $\sharp(\Pi)=\left(\sharp_{L}(\Pi)+\sharp_{R}(\Pi), \operatorname{card}(\Pi)\right)$.

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By induction on $\sharp(\Pi)=\left(\sharp_{L}(\Pi)+\sharp_{R}(\Pi), \operatorname{card}(\Pi)\right)$.

- If $\Pi$ is not strongly connected: we can split $\Pi$ in two parts $\Pi_{1}, \Pi_{2}$ s.t. $\operatorname{card}\left(\Pi_{1}\right), \operatorname{card}\left(\Pi_{2}\right)<\operatorname{card}(\Pi)$.


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- If $\Pi$ is strongly connected: take a cycle $\Gamma$ that covers $\Pi$.


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- If $\Pi$ is strongly connected: take a cycle $\Gamma$ that covers $\Pi$. If $\Gamma$ has a left $\mu$-trace, split $\Pi$ in parts $\Pi_{i}$ s.t. $\forall i, \sharp_{\mathrm{L}}\left(\Pi_{i}\right)<\sharp(\Pi)$.


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- If $\Pi$ is strongly connected: take a cycle $\Gamma$ that covers $\Pi$. If $\Gamma$ has a left $\mu$-trace, split $\Pi$ in parts $\Pi_{i}$ s.t. $\forall i, \sharp_{\mathrm{L}}\left(\Pi_{i}\right)<\sharp(\Pi)$. Then glue the parts together with the Yoneda Lemma.


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By induction on $\sharp(\Pi)=\left(\sharp_{L}(\Pi)+\sharp_{R}(\Pi), \operatorname{card}(\Pi)\right)$.

- If $\Pi$ is not strongly connected: we can split $\Pi$ in two parts $\Pi_{1}, \Pi_{2}$ s.t. $\operatorname{card}\left(\Pi_{1}\right), \operatorname{card}\left(\Pi_{2}\right)<\operatorname{card}(\Pi)$.We then glue the two solutions together using the Bekič Lemma.
- If $\Pi$ is strongly connected: take a cycle $\Gamma$ that covers $\Pi$. If $\Gamma$ has a left $\mu$-trace, split $\Pi$ in parts $\Pi_{i}$ s.t. $\forall i, \sharp_{\mathrm{L}}\left(\Pi_{i}\right)<\sharp(\Pi)$. Then glue the parts together with the Yoneda Lemma. If $\Gamma$ as a right $\nu$-trace, same reasoning.


## Semantical results

## Fullness Theorem (F.-S. 2013)

Every arrow $f: s \rightarrow t$ of $\mathcal{M}$ is the solution of a circular proof.

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Except for this one!

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F(x)-F(f)---F(a) \\
& \left.\xi_{x}\right|_{x-------} \prod_{a} \alpha=\llbracket \Pi \rrbracket \\
& f=\alpha \cdot F(f) \cdot \xi_{x}^{-1}
\end{aligned}
$$



## Cut-elimination



## Cut-elimination



Theorem (Santocanale, 2001)
There is no cut-free circular proof whose interpretation in Sets is the diagonal $\Delta: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{2}$.

## Diagonal map (with cuts)

$$
\begin{array}{rll}
\Delta & : & \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{2} \\
n & \mapsto & (n, n) \\
& \\
N & ={ }_{\mu} & 1+N \\
M & ={ }_{\mu} & N+M
\end{array}
$$



## Cut-elimination

## WHITHWUGOUSTIEB <br> DITHITE PRODIS?

## Cut-elimination



## Tape automaton

Strategy: "Push" the cuts away from the root.

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$$
\frac{t_{0} \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2}}{\frac{t_{0} \vdash t_{2}}{} \mathrm{Cut} \quad t_{2} \vdash t_{3}} t_{0} \vdash t_{3} \mathrm{Cut}
$$

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$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{t_{0} \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2}}{\frac{t_{0} \vdash t_{2}}{} \text { Cut }} \begin{array}{ll}
t_{2} \vdash t_{3} \\
t_{0} \vdash t_{3} & \text { Cut }
\end{array} & \Leftarrow \\
t_{0} \vdash t_{3} & \frac{t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad t_{2} \vdash t_{3}}{t_{1} \vdash t_{3}} \text { Cut }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Tape automaton

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{t_{0} \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2}}{t_{0} \vdash t_{2}} \mathrm{Cut} \Rightarrow t_{2} \vdash t_{3} \\
& t_{0} \vdash t_{3} \\
& \mathrm{Cut} \Leftarrow \\
& t_{0} \vdash t_{1} \vdash t_{3} \frac{t_{1} \vdash t_{2} t_{2} \vdash t_{3}}{t_{1} \vdash t_{3}} \mathrm{Cut} \\
& \text { Cut }
\end{aligned}
$$

$\Downarrow$ Merge

$$
\frac{t_{0} \vdash t_{1}}{} \begin{array}{lll}
t_{1} \vdash t_{2} & t_{2} \vdash t_{3} \\
t_{0} \vdash t_{3} & \mathrm{Cut}
\end{array}
$$

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## Definition <br> A tape is a finite list $M:=\left[u_{1}, \ldots, u_{n}\right]$ of composable vertices of $\Pi$.

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- Finite state machine (over a circular proof $\Pi$ ).
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## Cut Man - A tape automaton

- Finite state machine (over a circular proof $\Pi$ ).
- Carries a tape (of states) in memory.
- Outputs a branch (chosen nondeterministically) of the cut-free infinite proof tree.


## Commutative reductions (left)



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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \quad \frac{\overline{0 \vdash t}_{1}}{\mathrm{LAx}} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots \\
& 0 \vdash t_{n} \\
& \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1}}{X \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{LFix} \\
& \frac{\text { LFlip }}{\rightleftharpoons} \frac{t_{1} \vdash t_{2}}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \mathrm{LAx} \\
& X \vdash t_{n} \\
& \text { Lut }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Commutative reductions (left)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\overline{0 \vdash}^{\frac{\text { t }}{1}} \quad \mathrm{LAx} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut } \stackrel{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \mathrm{LAx} \\
& \frac{\frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1}}{X \vdash t_{1}} \text { LFix }_{t_{1} \vdash t_{2}}^{X \vdash t_{n}}}{\square} \stackrel{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{\frac{X \vdash t_{n}}{X \vdash t_{n}} \text { LFix }} \text { Cut }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Commutative reductions (left)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\overline{0 \vdash t}_{1} \mathrm{LAx} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut } \stackrel{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \mathrm{LAx} \\
& \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1}}{X \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{LFix} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots \cdot \text { Cut } \quad \underset{X \vdash t_{n}}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{X \vdash t_{n}} \text { LFix } \\
& \frac{\frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{1}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{~L} \times_{k} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Commutative reductions (left)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\overline{0 \vdash t}_{1} \mathrm{LAx} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut } \stackrel{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \mathrm{LAx} \\
& \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1}}{X \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{LFix} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots \cdot \text { Cut } \quad \underset{X \vdash t_{n}}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{X \vdash t_{n}} \text { LFix } \\
& \frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{1}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{~L} \times_{k} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots . \quad \mathrm{cut} \stackrel{\text { FFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \stackrel{s_{k} \vdash t_{1} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{\frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{n}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{n}} \mathrm{~L} \times{ }_{k}} \mathrm{Cut}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Commutative reductions (left)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\overline{0 \vdash}_{1} \mathrm{LAx} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut } \stackrel{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \mathrm{LAx}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{1}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{~L} \times_{k} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots . \quad \text { Cut } \quad \stackrel{\text { LFlip }}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{n}} \xlongequal{\frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \ldots}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{n}} \mathrm{~L} \times_{k}} \text { Cut } \\
& \frac{s_{0} \vdash t_{1} \quad s_{1} \vdash t_{1}}{s_{0}+s_{1} \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{~L}+t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots \quad \text { Cut }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Commutative reductions (left)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\overline{0 \vdash t}_{1} \mathrm{LAx} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut } \stackrel{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{}{0 \vdash t_{n}} \text { LAx } \\
& \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1}}{X \vdash t_{1}} \text { LFix } t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots \quad \text { Cut } \quad \underset{X \vdash t_{n}}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\text { LFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{X \vdash t_{n}} \text { LFix } \\
& \frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{1}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{1}} \mathrm{~L} \times_{k} t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots . ~ C u t ~ \stackrel{\text { Flip }}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{n}} \stackrel{\frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{1} \quad t_{1} \vdash t_{2} \quad \cdots}{\frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{n}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{n}}} \mathrm{~L} \times k}{\Longrightarrow} \text { Cut }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Commutative reductions (right)

$\frac{\cdots \quad t_{n-2} \vdash t_{n-1}}{t_{0} \vdash 1} \overline{t_{n-1} \vdash 1} \mathrm{RAx} \mathrm{Cut} \stackrel{\text { RFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \overline{t_{0} \vdash 1} \mathrm{RAx}$
$\frac{\cdots t_{n-2} \vdash t_{n-1} \frac{t_{n-1} \vdash F(X)}{t_{n-1} \vdash X} \text { RFix }}{t_{0} \vdash X} \stackrel{\text { RFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\cdots t_{n-2} \vdash t_{n-1} \quad t_{n-1} \vdash F(X)}{t_{0} \vdash F(X)}$ tut $_{t_{0} \vdash X}$ RFix
$\frac{\cdots \quad t_{n-2} \vdash t_{n-1} \frac{t_{n-1} \vdash s_{k}}{t_{n-1} \vdash s_{0}+s_{1}} \mathrm{R}+k}{t_{0} \vdash s_{0}+s_{1}} \mathrm{Cut} \stackrel{\text { RFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{t_{n-2} \vdash t_{n-1} \quad \frac{t_{n-1} \vdash s_{k}}{t_{n-1} \vdash s_{k}}}{t_{0} \vdash s_{0}+s_{1}} \mathrm{R}+{ }_{k}$
$\xlongequal[t_{0} \vdash s_{0} \times s_{1}]{\cdots t_{n-2} \vdash t_{n-1} \frac{t_{n-1} \vdash s_{0} t_{n-1} \vdash s_{1}}{t_{n-1} \vdash s_{0} \times s_{1}} \mathrm{R} \times} \mathrm{Cut} \stackrel{\text { RFlip }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\cdots t_{n-2} \vdash t_{n-1} t_{n-1} \vdash s_{0}}{t_{0} \vdash s_{0}}$ Cut $\frac{t_{0} \vdash s_{0} \times s_{1}}{t_{0} \vdash s_{1}} \mathrm{R} \times$

## Elimination of identities

$$
\frac{\cdots \quad t_{i-1} \vdash s \quad \overline{s \vdash s}^{\cdots} \mathrm{Id} \quad s \vdash t_{i+2} \quad \cdots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}}
$$

## Elimination of identities

$$
\begin{gathered}
\frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s \quad \overline{s \vdash s} \quad s \vdash t_{i+2} \quad \cdots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut } \\
\Downarrow_{\text {IdElim }} \\
\frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s \quad s \vdash t_{i+2} \quad \cdots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
\end{gathered}
$$

$\operatorname{IdElim}(M, i)=$ Remove $u_{i}$ from $M$.

## Essential reductions

Otherwise, $M=[\mathrm{R} \ldots \mathrm{RL} \ldots \mathrm{L}]$.

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$$
\frac{\ldots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0} \quad t_{i-1} \vdash s_{1}}{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0} \times s_{1}} \mathrm{R} \times \frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{i+1}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}} \mathrm{~L} \times_{k} \ldots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
$$

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$\frac{\ldots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0} \quad t_{i-1} \vdash s_{1}}{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0} \times s_{1}} \mathrm{R} \times \frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{i+1}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}} \mathrm{~L} \times{ }_{k} \ldots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}}$ Cut

$$
\stackrel{\text { Reduce }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\cdots}{} \quad t_{i-1} \vdash s_{k} \quad s_{k} \vdash t_{i+1} \quad \cdots \quad \text { Cut }
$$

$$
\frac{\cdots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{k}}{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0}+s_{1}} \mathrm{R}+k \frac{s_{0} \vdash t_{i+1} \quad s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}}{s_{0}+s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}} \mathrm{~L}+\ldots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
$$

$$
\stackrel{\text { Reduce }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\cdots \quad t_{i-1} \vdash s_{k} \quad s_{k} \vdash t_{i+1} \quad \cdots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
$$

## Essential reductions

Otherwise, $M=[\mathrm{R} \ldots \mathrm{RL} \ldots \mathrm{L}]$.

$$
t_{1} \vdash t_{n}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{\cdots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{k}}{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0}+s_{1}} \mathrm{R}+{ }_{k} \frac{s_{0} \vdash t_{i+1} \quad s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}}{s_{0}+s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}} \mathrm{~L}+\ldots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut } \\
& \ldots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash F(X)}{t_{i-1} \vdash X} \text { RFix } \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{i+1}}{X \vdash t_{i+1}} \text { LFix }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Essential reductions

Otherwise, $M=[\mathrm{R} \ldots \mathrm{RL} \ldots \mathrm{L}]$.
$\frac{\ldots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0} \quad t_{i-1} \vdash s_{1}}{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0} \times s_{1}} \mathrm{R} \times \frac{s_{k} \vdash t_{i+1}}{s_{0} \times s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}} \mathrm{~L} \times{ }_{k} \ldots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}}$ Cut

$$
\stackrel{\text { Reduce }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\cdots \quad t_{i-1} \vdash s_{k} \quad s_{k} \vdash t_{i+1} \quad \cdots}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
$$

$$
\frac{\cdots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{k}}{t_{i-1} \vdash s_{0}+s_{1}} \mathrm{R}+k \frac{s_{0} \vdash t_{i+1} \quad s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}}{s_{0}+s_{1} \vdash t_{i+1}} \mathrm{~L}+}{t_{0} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
$$

$$
\stackrel{\text { Reduce }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\cdots}{} t_{i-1} \vdash s_{k} \quad s_{k} \vdash t_{i+1} \quad \cdots \quad \text { Cut }
$$

$$
\frac{\ldots \frac{t_{i-1} \vdash F(X)}{t_{i-1} \vdash X} \mathrm{RFix} \frac{F(X) \vdash t_{i+1}}{X \vdash t_{i+1}} \text { LFix } \ldots}{t_{1} \vdash t_{n}} \text { Cut }
$$

$$
\stackrel{\text { Reduce }}{\Longrightarrow} \frac{\cdots}{} t_{i-1} \vdash F(X) \quad F(X) \vdash t_{i+1} \quad \cdots \quad \text { Cut }
$$

## Cut-elimination algorithm

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- Repeat forever...


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## Theorem (F.-S., 2013)

For every input tape $M$, the internal phase halts!

$$
M_{1}=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Merge $\Downarrow$

$$
M_{2}=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
u_{21} & u_{22} & u_{23} & u_{24}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Merge $\Downarrow$

$$
M_{3}=\left[\begin{array}{lllll}
u_{31} & u_{32} & u_{33} & u_{34} & u_{35}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Reduce $\Downarrow$

$$
M_{4}=\left[\begin{array}{lllll}
u_{41} & u_{42} & u_{43} & u_{44} & u_{45}
\end{array}\right]
$$

IdElim $\Downarrow$

$$
M_{5}=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
u_{51} & u_{52} & u_{53} & u_{54}
\end{array}\right]
$$

Reduce $\Downarrow$

$$
M_{6}=\left[\begin{array}{llll}
u_{61} & u_{62} & u_{63} & u_{64}
\end{array}\right]
$$



Proof. Suppose it does not halt...


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$\psi \quad:=$


- $\Psi$ is an infinite finitely branching tree.
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- The set $\mathcal{B}_{\infty}(\Psi)$ of its infinite branches is non-empty. (Kőnig)
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- Infinite branches of $\Psi$, correspond to infinite paths in $\Pi$. Therefore, they satisfiy the guard condition!

$$
\mathcal{B}_{\infty}(\Psi)=\mu \text {-branches } \cup \nu \text {-branches }
$$

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$$
\mathcal{B}_{\infty}(\Psi)=\mu \text {-branches } \cup \nu \text {-branches }
$$

## Lemma (F.-S., 2013)

(1) The least infinite branch of $\Psi$ is a $\nu$-branch.
(2) Let $E$ be a nonempty collection of $\nu$-branches and let $\gamma=\bigvee E$. Then $\gamma$ is a $\nu$-branch.
(3) If $\beta$ is a $\nu$-branch, then there exists another $\nu$-branch $\beta^{\prime} \succ \beta$.

## So what?

Let

$$
E=\text { All the } \nu \text {-branches }
$$

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## So what?

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$$
E=\text { All the } \nu \text {-branches }
$$

By $1 E \neq \varnothing$. Let $\gamma=\bigvee E$. By $2, \gamma$ is a $\nu$-branch. Hence by 3 , there is another $\nu$-branch $\gamma^{\prime} \succ \gamma$. But then, $\gamma^{\prime} \in E$ and therefore $\gamma^{\prime} \preceq \bigvee E=\gamma$.


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- We can cut eliminate a cut-free infinite proof against a fixed circular proof $\Pi$.
- We obtain a cut-free infinite proof.


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## Cut-eliminating infinite proof-trees

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$$
\begin{aligned}
X & \simeq \text { Winning strategies for } \oplus \text { in some game } \\
& \simeq \text { Cut-free infinite valid proofs of } 1 \vdash X
\end{aligned}
$$

Cut-elimination is a generic algorithm for computing all the $\mu$-definable functions.

## Computability problems

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- Philosophical question: What is the meaning of circularity in mathematical reasoning?


[^0]Cuts in circular proofs
Delft, February 2014
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[^0]:    Jérôme Fortier (UQAM / AMU)

