

Lecture Notes on Linear Logic

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1 Introduction

In previous lectures we saw a computational interpretation of constructive proofs as functional programming via proofs-as-programs as well as a computational interpretation of proof search as logical programming via formulas-as-programs. While state-change can be understood indirectly in both paradigms as well, today's lecture develops a direct handle on a logical account of state change, thereby forming one possible basis of a logical understanding of imperative programming.¹

In this lecture we will examine ways of writing logic programs for state change (such as in *peg solitaire*) in a way that treats state logically, rather than emulated as an explicit data structure that is passed around as an argument during the computation. In order to allow this we need to generalize the logic to handle state intrinsically, something provided by *linear logic*. We provide an introduction to linear logic as a *sequent calculus*, which directly generalizes our previous way of specifying truth. The sequent calculus is a bit too general to allow an immediate operational interpretation to obtain a logic programming language, so we postpone this step to the next lecture.

2 State-Passing Style

The canonical logic programming way of representing state change is in a separate data structure that is passed around and managed manually via some custom definition. Some definition would be given that computes the representation of the resulting `NewState` from the representation of the previous `OldState` when an action `A` is activated (respectively deactivated):

¹Alternatives such as dynamic logic are considered in other courses.

```
activate(A, OldState, NewState) :- .....
deactivate(A, OldState, NewState) :- .....
```

An activation of some action called *a* with a subsequent deactivation of some action called *b* threads through the respective state representations:

```
transformation(InputState, OutputState) :-
  activate(a, InputState, State2),
  deactivate(b, State2, OutputState).
```

This pattern of code is called *state-passing* or *store-passing*.

In functional programming, the related *store-passing* style usually arises in the opposite way: if we want to turn a functional program that uses mutable storage into a pure functional program we can pass the store around as an explicit argument.

3 State-Dependent Truth

In a peg solitaire logic program, state would be represented as a list of items `peg(ij)` and `hole(ij)` for locations *ij*. Stepping back from this particular representation, it is easy to interpret `peg` and `hole` as *predicates*, and `peg(ij)` and `hole(ij)` as *propositions*. For example, we say the proposition `peg(ij)` is true if there is a peg in location *ij* on the board.

What makes this somewhat unusual, from the perspective of the logic we have considered so far, is that the notion of truth depends on the state. In some states, `peg(ij)` is true, in some it is false. In fact, the state of the board is completely characterized by the `peg` and `hole` propositions.

In mathematical logic, truth is normally invariant and does not depend on state. This is because the mathematical objects we deal with, such as natural numbers, are themselves invariant and considered universal. In philosophical logic, however, the concept of truth depending on the state of the world is central and has been investigated under the name *modal logic*, including *temporal logic* and *dynamic logic*. In temporal logic, for example, a proposition `peg(ij)` may be true now at the current state of the current time but may become false at a state in the future, for example when another peg jumped over it so that it turned into a hole. Dynamic logic distinguishes between truth before or after executing an action or program to understand state change.

Linear logic provides an elegant and logical approach to state change, which does not suffer from the frame problem that some modal or temporal logics may suffer from. Linear logic is also much closer in spirit to the constructive logics we saw so far than dynamic logic.

4 Linear Logic by a Chemistry Example

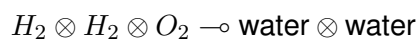
Linear logic is a logic of state or a resource-aware logic.² Any logic needs to track its current assumptions in a proof carefully (just recall the two-dimensional notation for natural deduction to remember how important assumption management is). Unlike in other logics, though, linear logic not just needs to meticulously keep track of what is true, but *any use of a truth will also consume that truth*. It is this *consumption of truth* that makes it possible for linear logic to change what holds true in a well-defined way.

Before initiating a formal treatment of the connectives of linear logic, let us intuitively develop an example of some of its operators. The most crucial connective is *linear implication* $A \multimap B$ with the lolli operator. Just like the implication $A \supset B$ from intuitionistic propositional logic, $A \multimap B$ says something about B being true if A is true. In linear logic, though, the linear implication $A \multimap B$ *consumes* the fact that A is true to produce a fact that B is true. It is, thus, better to think of the linear implication $A \multimap B$ as saying that it can convert a resource A into a resource B , but the resource A is then consumed and gone.

Medieval alchemists were trying to solve the chemical holy grail of converting other substances into gold. For example they were trying to establish ways of turning water into gold, which would have established the linear logical proposition:

$$\text{water} \multimap \text{gold}$$

That is, if one has one drop of water, the above linear implication would turn it into one unit of solid gold. Such a chemical reaction would consume the **water** and instead produce **gold**. Modern chemistry discovered that such alchemy would be too good to be true, but found other exciting chemical reactions. While you will not need any chemistry knowledge to understand this lecture's examples, you may appreciate how nicely linear logic can represent what chemistry found out. For example that two hydrogen molecules (H_2) can react with one oxygen molecule (O_2) to yield two water molecules H_2O (and energy which is conventionally ignored but still helps propel cars forward):



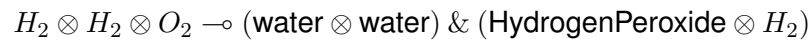
Representing this needs the *simultaneous conjunction* $A \otimes B$, which is true if we simultaneously have A and B . The proficient chemist immediately recognizes the need for linear logic in the above formula. The chemical reaction modeled by the above linear logic formula simultaneously needs *two* hydrogen molecules and one oxygen molecule, consumes all three of them, and turns that into two simultaneous water molecules. In fact, chemistry already taught you another linear logic way of sanity checking such reactions by observing that the 4 H atoms and the 2 O atoms on the left-hand side's 2 hydrogen and 1 oxygen molecule are preserved in the 4 H atoms and the 2 O atoms on the right-hand side's two water molecules, which is linear logic on atom resources.

²The term *linear* is connected to its use in algebra, but the connection is not easy to explain. For this lecture just think of "*linear*" as denoting "*must be used exactly once*".

With a nontrivial chemical process (anthraquinone-catalysis³), just one hydrogen with oxygen can also turn into hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2):



By combining the latter chemical reactions, if we have two hydrogen molecules and an oxygen molecule, we could *either* get two water molecules *or* get one hydrogen peroxide molecule and still retain one hydrogen molecule:



The *alternative conjunction* $A \& B$ expresses that we can obtain A and obtain B and we get to choose which one, but we cannot get both at once. While we can choose which side of the $\&$ we want, we cannot choose both simultaneously, because the oxygen molecule can only either split into two water molecules or turn into one hydrogen peroxide molecule, not both at once, since it's gone once it's used up.

The above linear logical formulas with $\&$ models the case where our experimental conditions get to determine whether we want water or hydrogen peroxide by our choice. *Disjunction* $A \oplus B$ would be used to model that A or B are true but we do *not* get to choose which one, because chemistry will surprise us with one of the two outcomes that we simply need to accept:



In the presence of platinum (Pt) as a catalyzer (something that enables a chemical reaction but is not itself consumed during it), two hydrogen peroxide molecules will split into two water molecules and one oxygen molecule freeing energy:



In all of these cases the assumptions on the left of \multimap are consumed and converted into the resources on the right of \multimap . It is chemically quite exciting how the presence of platinum (or other catalyzers) is required to enable this catalytic reaction, even if the platinum itself remains present and unaffected by the reaction. In the above linear logical formula, platinum is consumed on the left yet reproduced on the right to model that its presence is required to activate the reaction, but the platinum molecule itself does not vanish in the process but is reusable.⁴

If we would like to prevent the above reaction, we would have to get rid of all platinum by using the following explicit disposal



³Alexander von Humboldt is said to have first discovered a very similar barium peroxide reaction more than 200 years ago.

⁴Catalysis expert Robert Schlögel shared a truly remarkable justification how catalyzers achieve this feat, which this margin is too small to contain.

The *empty truth* $\mathbf{1}$ holds only if there are no resources at all, such that the linear implication $\multimap \mathbf{1}$ can be used to consume one platinum molecule and convert it into no resources, thereby removing one platinum from the world (which, in fact, cannot be implemented with chemistry except perhaps by having all your platinum stolen and sent on a mission to Mars).

Looking back, the above reactions are of slightly different kinds. Some of them nature provides for free, others require a lot of effort and careful experimental setup to even enable. In fact, since linear logical formulas ought to be thought of as resources, the above linear implications themselves are resources as well and could either be available or absent. That is what the *exponential connective* $!A$ is good for, which means that we can obtain any number of copies of A . With this, the following proposition would indicate that we can *always* turn two hydrogen and one oxygen into two water molecules:

$$!(H_2 \otimes H_2 \otimes O_2 \multimap \text{water} \otimes \text{water})$$

But the following linear logical proposition has no exponential, since we have to invest nontrivial effort to make its chemical reaction even possible at all:

$$H_2 \otimes O_2 \multimap \text{HydrogenPeroxide}$$

The simultaneous conjunction of both linear logical propositions would then describe the available linear implication or rewrite rules of chemical reactions:

$$(H_2 \otimes O_2 \multimap \text{HydrogenPeroxide}) \otimes !(H_2 \otimes H_2 \otimes O_2 \multimap \text{water} \otimes \text{water})$$

The chemical details are exciting but not crucial for the advancement of understanding in this course. Yet, it should have become clear at this time that a formal understanding of linear logic should be explicit about understanding *propositions as resources* that are explicitly tracked in a sequent calculus while enabling explicit ways of consuming and creating resources in accordance to the meaning of the linear logical connectives.

5 Linear Logic

Linear logic has been described as a logic of state or a resource-aware logic. Formally, it arises from complementing the usual notion of logical assumption with so-called *linear assumptions* or *linear hypotheses*. Unlike traditional assumptions which may be used many times in a proof, linear assumptions must be used *exactly once* during a proof. Linear assumptions then become (consumable) *resources* in the course of a proof. Because linear assumptions are consumable, they can represent *ephemeral truth* about the current state, e.g., of a computation, because what is no longer true can be consumed and is then gone. Facts that become true can be made available as resources.

This generalization of the usual mathematical standpoint may seem slight, but as we will see it is quite expressive. We write

$$A_1 \text{ res}, \dots, A_n \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}$$

for a linear hypothetical judgment with resources A_1, \dots, A_n and goal C . If we can prove this, it means that we can achieve that C is true, given resources A_1 through A_n . Here, all A_i and C are propositions.⁵ The version of linear logic defined by this judgment is called *intuitionistic linear logic*, sometimes contrasted with *classical linear logic* in which the sequent calculus has multiple conclusions. While it is possible to develop classical linear logic programming it is more difficult to understand and use.

Hidden in the judgment are other assumptions, usually abbreviated as Γ , which can be used arbitrarily often (including not at all), and are therefore called the *unrestricted assumptions*. If we need to make them explicit in a rule we will write

$$\Gamma; \Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}$$

where Δ abbreviates the resources. As in our development so far, unrestricted assumptions are fixed and are carried through from every conclusion to all premisses. Eventually, we will want to generalize this, but not quite yet.

The first rule of linear logic is that if we have a resource P we can achieve goal P , where P is an atomic proposition. It will be a consequence of our definitions that this will be true for arbitrary propositions A , but we need it as a rule only for the atomic case, where the structure of the propositions can not be broken down further.

$$\frac{}{P \text{ res} \Vdash P \text{ true}} \text{ id}$$

We call this the *identity rule*, it is also sometimes called the *init* rule to emphasize that P is atomic, and the sequent $P \Vdash P$ is called an *initial sequent*.

6 Connectives of Linear Logic

One of the curious phenomena of linear logic is that the ordinary connectives multiply. This is because the presence of linear assumptions allows us to make finer distinctions we ordinarily could not. The first example of this kind is conjunction. It turns out that linear logic possesses two forms of conjunction.

Simultaneous Conjunction ($A \otimes B$). A simultaneous conjunction $A \otimes B$ is true if we can achieve both A and B in the same state. This means we have to subdivide our resources, devoting some of them to achieve A and the others to achieve B .

$$\frac{\Delta = (\Delta_A, \Delta_B) \quad \Delta_A \Vdash A \quad \Delta_B \Vdash B}{\Delta \Vdash A \otimes B} \otimes R$$

⁵In the end it will turn out that $A \text{ res}$ and $A \text{ true}$ are interchangeable in that we can go from each one to the other. At this point, however, we do not know this yet, so the judgment we make about our resources is not that they are true, but that they are given resources.

The order of linear assumptions is irrelevant, so in $\Delta = (\Delta_A, \Delta_B)$ the comma denotes the multi-set union. In other words, every occurrence of a proposition in Δ will end up in exactly one of Δ_A and Δ_B .

If we name the initial state of peg solitaire Δ_0 , then we have $\Delta_0 \Vdash \text{peg}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(03) \otimes \dots$ for some “...” because we can achieve a state with a peg at location 33 and hole at location 03. On the other hand, we cannot prove $\Delta_0 \Vdash \text{peg}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(33) \otimes \dots$ because we cannot have both a peg and an empty hole at location 33 in the same state. We will make the ellipsis “...” precise below as *consumptive truth* \top .

In a linear sequent calculus, the right rules show when we can conclude a proposition. The left rules show how we can use a resource. In this case, the resource $A \otimes B$ means that we have A and B simultaneously since we established $A \otimes B$ after splitting up the resources, so the left rule reads

$$\frac{\Delta, A \text{ res}, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \otimes B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \otimes L$$

Alternative Conjunction ($A \& B$). An alternative conjunction is true if we can achieve both conjuncts, separately, with the current resources. This means if we have a linear assumption $A \& B$ we have to make a choice: either we use A or we use B , but we cannot use them both since $A \text{ true}$ and $B \text{ true}$ are formed from the same resources in $\&R$.

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true} \quad \Delta \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \& B \text{ true}} \&R$$

$$\frac{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \& B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \&L_1 \qquad \frac{\Delta, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \& B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \&L_2$$

It looks like the right rule duplicates the assumptions, but this does not violate linearity because any use of the assumption $A \& B \text{ res}$ will have to commit to one or the other.

Returning to the solitaire example, we have $\Delta_0 \Vdash \text{peg}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(03) \otimes \dots$ and we also have $\Delta_0 \Vdash \text{hole}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(03) \otimes \dots$ because we can certainly reach states with these properties. However, we cannot reach a single state with both of these, because the two properties of location 33 clash. If we want to express that both are reachable (separately), we can form their alternative conjunction

$$\Delta_0 \Vdash (\text{peg}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(03) \otimes \dots) \& (\text{hole}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(03) \otimes \dots).$$

Consumptive Truth (\top). We have seen two forms of conjunction, which are distinguished because of their resource behavior. There are also two truth constants, which correspond to zero-ary conjunctions. The first is *consumptive truth* \top . A proof of it consumes all current resources. As such we can extract no information from its presence as an assumption.

$$\frac{}{\Delta \Vdash \top \text{ true}} \top R \qquad \frac{\text{no } \top L \text{ rule}}{\Delta, \top \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}$$

Consumptive truth is important in applications where there is an aspect of the state we do not care about, because of the stipulation of linear logic that *every* linear assumption must be used *exactly once*. In the examples above so far we cared about only two locations, 33 and 03. The state will have a linear assumption for every location, which means we can *not* prove, for example, $\Delta_0 \Vdash \text{peg}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(03)$. However, we *can* prove $\Delta_0 \Vdash \text{peg}(33) \otimes \text{hole}(03) \otimes \top$, because the consumptive truth matches any remaining state.

Consumptive truth is the unit of alternative conjunction: $A \& \top$ is equivalent to A .

Empty Truth (1). The other form of truth holds only if there are no resources. If we have this as a linear hypothesis we can transform it into the empty set of resources.

$$\frac{\Delta = (\cdot)}{\Delta \Vdash \mathbf{1} \text{ true}} \mathbf{1}R \qquad \frac{\Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, \mathbf{1} \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \mathbf{1}L$$

Empty truth can be useful to dispose explicitly of specific resources (for example $D \multimap \mathbf{1}$ with the linear implication \multimap discussed next would allow the disposal of resource D).

Linear Implication ($A \multimap B$). A linear implication $A \multimap B$ is true if we can achieve B given resource A .

$$\frac{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \multimap B \text{ true}} \multimap R$$

Conversely, if we have $A \multimap B$ as a resource, it means that we could transform the resource A into the resource B . We capture this in the following left rule:

$$\frac{\Delta = (\Delta_A, \Delta_B) \quad \Delta_A \Vdash A \text{ true} \quad \Delta_B, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \multimap B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \multimap L.$$

An assumption $A \multimap B$ therefore represents a means to transition from a state with A to a state with B . But we, of course, still have to divide up our available resources Δ into those that are used to establish A true and those that remain when making use of B res to establish the original C true.

Unrestricted Assumptions Γ . The left rule for linear implication points at a subtlety: the linear implication is itself linear and therefore consumed in the application of that rule. If we want to specify via a linear logic program how state may change, we will need to reuse its clauses over and over again, rather than consuming a clause forever upon its first resulting use of rule $\multimap L$. This can be accomplished by a *copy* rule which takes an unrestricted assumption from Γ and makes a linear copy of it.⁶

$$\frac{A \text{ res} \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma; \Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Gamma; \Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}} \text{ copy}$$

⁶It is actually very much like the focusing rule in a focused calculus.

We label the unrestricted assumptions as unrestricted resources, $A \text{ ures}$. In the logic programming interpretation, the whole program will end up in Γ as unrestricted assumptions, since the program clauses can be used arbitrarily often during a computation, including zero times.

Resource Independence (!A). The exponential proposition $!A$ is true if we can prove A without using any resources. This means we can produce as many copies of A as we need (since it costs nothing) and a linear resource $!A$ licenses us to make the unrestricted assumption A .

$$\frac{\Gamma; \cdot \Vdash A \text{ true}}{\Gamma; \cdot \Vdash !A \text{ true}} \text{!R} \qquad \frac{(\Gamma, A \text{ ures}); \Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Gamma; \Delta, !A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \text{!L}$$

A transition from a state with A to a state with B that is always allowed (as opposed to being consumed upon use) is represented by $!(A \multimap B)$. For example, $!(\text{peg}(33) \multimap \text{hole}(33)) \otimes \text{peg}(33) \multimap \text{hole}(33)$ would represent the (admittedly silly) question whether position 33 could ever have a hole on a broken peg solitaire board that has an actual hole at position 33 through which all pegs could possibly fall through any number of times.

Disjunction ($A \oplus B$). The familiar conjunction from logic was split into two connectives in linear logic: the simultaneous and the alternative conjunction. Disjunction does not split the same way unless we introduce an explicit judgment for falsehood (which we will not pursue). The goal $A \oplus B$ can be achieved if we can achieve either A or B .

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \oplus B \text{ true}} \oplus R_1 \qquad \frac{\Delta \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \oplus B \text{ true}} \oplus R_2$$

Conversely, if we are given $A \oplus B$ as a resource, we do not know which of the two is true, so we have to account for both eventualities. Our proof splits into cases, and we have to show that we can achieve our goal in either case from remaining resources Δ .

$$\frac{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true} \quad \Delta, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \oplus B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \oplus L$$

Again, it might appear as if linearity is violated due to the duplication of Δ and even C . However, only one of A or B will be true in a disjunction, so only one part of the plan represented by the two premisses really applies, preserving linearity.

Falsehood (0). There is no way to prove falsehood 0 , so there is no right rule for it. On the other hand, if we have 0 as an assumption we know we are really in an impossible state so we are permitted to succeed, whatever Δ holds as remaining resources.

$$\frac{\text{no } 0R \text{ rule}}{\Delta \Vdash 0 \text{ true}} \qquad \frac{}{\Delta, 0 \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} 0L$$

We can also formally think of falsehood as a disjunction between zero alternatives and arrive at the same rule.

7 Resource Management

The connectives of linear logic are generally classified into *multiplicative*, *additive*, and *exponential*.⁷

The multiplicative connectives, when their rules are read from conclusion to the premisses, split their resources between the premisses. The connectives \otimes , $\mathbf{1}$, and \multimap have this flavor.

The additive connectives, when their rules are read from conclusion to premisses, propagate their resources to all premisses. The connectives $\&$, \top , \oplus , and $\mathbf{0}$ have this flavor.

The exponential connectives mediate the boundary between linear and non-linear reasoning. The connective $!$ has this flavor.

During proof search (and therefore in the logic programming setting), a significant question is how to handle the resources. It is clearly impractical, for example, in the rule

$$\frac{\Delta = (\Delta_A, \Delta_B) \quad \Delta_A \Vdash A \text{ true} \quad \Delta_B \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \otimes B \text{ true}} \otimes R$$

to simply enumerate all possibilities and try to prove A and B in each combination until one distribution of resources is found that works for both.

Instead, we pass in all resources Δ into the first subgoal A and keep track which resources are consumed. We then pass the remaining ones to the proof of B . Of course, if B fails we may have to find another proof of A which consumes a different set of resources and then retry B , and so on. In the logic programming setting this is certainly an issue the programmer has to be aware of, just as the programmer has to know which subgoal is solved first, or which clause is tried first.

We will return to this question in the next lecture where we will make resource-passing explicit in the operational semantics.

8 Historical Notes

Linear logic in a slightly different form than we present here is due to Girard [Gir87]. He insisted on a classical negation in his formulation, which can get in the way of an elegant logic programming formulation. The judgmental presentation we use here was developed for several courses on *Linear Logic* [Pfe95] at CMU. Some additional connectives, and some interesting connections between the two formulations in linear logic are developed by Chang, Chaudhuri and Pfenning [CCP03]. We'll provide some references on linear logic programming in the next lecture.

⁷Again, we will not try to explain the mathematical origins of this terminology.

9 Summary of Intuitionistic Linear Logic

In the rules in Fig. 1, we show the unrestricted assumptions Γ only where affected by the rule. In all other rules it is propagated unchanged from the conclusion to all the premisses. Also recall that the order of hypotheses is irrelevant, and Δ_A, Δ_B stands for the multiset union of two collections of linear assumptions, which are shown here in the simpler notation.

Linear logic, summarized in Figure 1, is a fundamental tool for understanding the change of state in logic. But we did not yet get around to imposing any structure on the proof search question, that is more daunting in linear logic than in intuitionistic propositional logic, because of its need for careful resource management. This lecture studies inversion as a fundamental tool for identifying which linear logic rules can be used without regret in any proof search.

10 Linear Cuts

The fundamental tool for understanding logic that this course considered so far is the admissibility of cuts. This result ended up being used to subsequently justify several other constructions, especially also those that limit proof search without losing completeness. Let's repeat this success for linear logic, if we can. In order to simplify our notation, we only consider the case without unlimited resources Γ here. Hence we write $\Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}$ as short for $;\Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}$ and we elide the judgment *res*, because it is the only one in the antecedent Δ .

The first obstacle is that naive statements of the cut theorem could not possibly transfer to linear logic:

If $\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true}$ and $\Delta, A \Vdash C \text{ true}$ then $\Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}$?

This cannot be a correct statement, because linear logic carefully tracks all its resources so cannot use Δ twice. Any resources that went into proving that A is true are no longer available to establish C from A . Even if the cut theorem does not hold, a modified version called linear cuts still does.

Theorem 1 (Linear cut). *If $\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true}$ and $\Delta', A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}$ then $\Delta, \Delta' \Vdash C \text{ true}$.*

Proof: The proof is built in analogy to the cut proof for intuitionistic propositional logic following a similar structure. We only show some cases of the proof. In all uses of the induction hypothesis is it important to appeal to it on strictly smaller instances by a well-founded order. We need to reduce

$$\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta', A \Vdash C \text{ true} \quad \text{to} \quad \Delta, \Delta' \Vdash C \text{ true}$$

Case: \mathcal{D} is an initial sequent, \mathcal{E} is arbitrary.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{}{A \Vdash A \text{ true}} \text{ id} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta', A \Vdash C \text{ true}$$

Judgmental Rules

$$\frac{}{P \text{ res} \Vdash P \text{ true}} \text{id} \qquad \frac{A \text{ ures} \in \Gamma \quad \Gamma; \Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Gamma; \Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}} \text{copy}$$

Multiplicative Connectives

$$\frac{\Delta_A \Vdash A \quad \Delta_B \Vdash B}{\Delta_A, \Delta_B \Vdash A \otimes B} \otimes R \qquad \frac{\Delta, A \text{ res}, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \otimes B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \otimes L$$

$$\frac{}{\cdot \Vdash \mathbf{1} \text{ true}} \mathbf{1}R \qquad \frac{\Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, \mathbf{1} \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \mathbf{1}L$$

$$\frac{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \multimap B \text{ true}} \multimap R \qquad \frac{\Delta_A \Vdash A \text{ true} \quad \Delta_B, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta_A, \Delta_B, A \multimap B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \multimap L$$

Additive Connectives

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true} \quad \Delta \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \& B \text{ true}} \&R \qquad \frac{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \& B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \&L_1$$

$$\frac{\Delta, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \& B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \&L_2$$

$$\frac{}{\Delta \Vdash \top \text{ true}} \top R \qquad \text{no } \top L \text{ rule}$$

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \oplus B \text{ true}} \oplus R_1$$

$$\frac{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true} \quad \Delta, B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \oplus B \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \oplus L$$

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \oplus B \text{ true}} \oplus R_2$$

$$\text{no } \mathbf{0}R \text{ rule} \qquad \frac{}{\Delta, \mathbf{0} \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} \mathbf{0}L$$

Exponential Connective

$$\frac{\Gamma; \cdot \Vdash A \text{ true}}{\Gamma; \cdot \Vdash !A \text{ true}} !R \qquad \frac{(\Gamma, A \text{ ures}); \Delta \Vdash C \text{ true}}{\Gamma; \Delta, !A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}} !L$$

Figure 1: Intuitionistic Linear Logic

$\Delta = A$ This case
 $\Delta', A \Vdash C \text{ true}$ \mathcal{E}
 $\Delta, \Delta' \Vdash C \text{ true}$ by above since $\Delta = A$

Case:

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{\Delta_1 \Vdash A_1 \text{ true}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_2}{\Delta_2 \Vdash A_2 \text{ true}}}{\Delta_1, \Delta_2 \Vdash A_1 \otimes A_2 \text{ true}} \otimes R \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{E} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{E}_1}{\Delta', A_1, A_2 \Vdash C \text{ true}}}{\Delta', A_1 \otimes A_2 \Vdash C \text{ true}} \otimes L$$

$\Delta', \Delta_1, A_2 \Vdash C \text{ true}$ By IH on $A_1 \prec A_1 \otimes A_2, \mathcal{D}_1 \prec \mathcal{D}$ and $\mathcal{E}_1 \prec \mathcal{E}$
 $\Delta', \Delta_1, \Delta_2 \Vdash C \text{ true}$ By IH on $A_2 \prec A_1 \otimes A_2, \mathcal{D}_2 \prec \mathcal{D}$, and previous line

At this point in the proof do we again see how important it is that the well-founded order used for induction accepts arbitrarily big deductions as long as the cut formula got smaller.

Case: If \mathcal{D} ended with an $\otimes L$:

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_1}{\Delta, B_1, B_2 \Vdash A \text{ true}}}{\Delta, B_1 \otimes B_2 \Vdash A \text{ true}} \otimes L \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\mathcal{E}}{\Delta', A \Vdash C \text{ true}}$$

$\Delta = (\Delta_1, B_1 \otimes B_2)$ This case
 $\Delta_1, B_1, B_2, \Delta' \Vdash C \text{ true}$ By IH on $A, \mathcal{D}_1 \prec \mathcal{D}$ and \mathcal{E}
 $\Delta_1, B_1 \otimes B_2, \Delta' \Vdash C \text{ true}$ By rule $\otimes L$ from above
 $\Delta, \Delta' \Vdash C \text{ true}$ Since $\Delta = (\Delta_1, B_1 \otimes B_2)$

Again, we observe how important it is that the induction hypothesis applies if nothing changed except that at least one of the deductions got smaller.

Several other cases are needed to complete the proof of cuts, but this should suffice to give the idea. □

Cuts establish one direction of the correspondence of the resource and truth judgments. Expanding the abbreviated judgments leads to:

If $\Delta \Vdash A \text{ true}$ and $\Delta', A \text{ res} \Vdash C \text{ true}$ then $\Delta, \Delta' \Vdash C \text{ true}$.

Hence, if A is proved to be true in linear logic, then it can be used (once!) as a resource. Any C that is provable as a result is also provable directly when assuming the resources Δ that went into proving the truth of A in the first place.

11 Identity

The identity theorem also holds for linear logic. It establishes that every proposition A that is available as a resource can be proved to be true. Taking cuts and identity together allow us to retroactively blur the distinction of the truth and resource judgment somewhat in linear logic, because there is a way to relate them.

Theorem 2 (Identity). *For any proposition A of linear logic: $A \Vdash A$ true.*

Proof: The proof is by induction on the structure of the proof of A .

Case: $A = P$ is an atomic proposition, then the rule for initial sequents suffices directly:

$$\frac{}{P \Vdash P \text{ true}} \text{ id}$$

Case: $A = A_1 \& A_2$:

$A_1 \Vdash A_1 \text{ true}$	By IH on $A_1 \prec A_1 \& A_2$
$A_2 \Vdash A_2 \text{ true}$	By IH on $A_2 \prec A_1 \& A_2$
$A_1 \& A_2 \Vdash A_1 \text{ true}$	By $\&L_1$ on first line
$A_1 \& A_2 \Vdash A_2 \text{ true}$	By $\&L_1$ on second line
$A_1 \& A_2 \Vdash A_1 \& A_2 \text{ true}$	By $\&R$ on last two lines

The other cases of the identity theorem require an inductive proof that will be pursued in the homework. □

12 Inversion

Before we get too carried away with the (exciting) study of metaproperties about linear logic, let's put them to good use in studying more disciplined proof search for linear logic.

Recall from a previous lecture on intuitionistic logic that a proof rule is *invertible* if all premises hold whenever the conclusion does. Invertible proof rules can be applied without regret, because the provability of a sequent is not damaged by trying the rule.

Recall the rule for showing linear implications:

$$\frac{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash B \text{ true}}{\Delta \Vdash A \multimap B \text{ true}} \multimap R$$

Proving that $\multimap R$ is invertible amounts to proving that its inverse is admissible:

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash A \multimap B \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash B \text{ true}} \multimap R^{-1}$$

Recall that a proof rule is *admissible* if everything that is provable with the rule is also provable without that rule.

Theorem 3. Rule $\multimap R$ is invertible, because its inverse is admissible:

$$\frac{\Delta \Vdash A \multimap B \text{ true}}{\Delta, A \text{ res} \Vdash B \text{ true}} \multimap R^{-1}$$

Proof: A direct proof by induction on the structure of the deduction of $\Delta \Vdash A \multimap B \text{ true}$ would succeed. But this would also be a fair amount of extra work, because all of the proof rules of linear logic need to be considered in the process. And the proof would have to be repeated every time we change the logic. Instead, we will appeal to the cut and identity theorems for help.

$$\begin{array}{l} \Delta \Vdash A \multimap B \text{ true} \\ A \Vdash A \text{ true} \\ B \Vdash B \text{ true} \\ A, A \multimap B \Vdash B \text{ true} \\ \Delta, A \Vdash B \text{ true} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{By premise of } \multimap R^{-1} \\ \text{By identity} \\ \text{By identity} \\ \text{By } \multimap L \text{ on previous two lines} \\ \text{By cut with } A \multimap B \text{ on the first and last line} \end{array}$$

□

13 Polarity

Now that we have the concept of inversion at our disposal also for linear logic, we can benefit from it in similar ways to intuitionistic logic proof search. Invertible right rules and invertible left rules should be used directly. Rules that require a choice that might turn out to be wrong will be postponed instead. In fact, since, unlike intuitionistic rules, linear rules consume the original formula, we will not have to worry too much about going in never-ending circles during proof search.

Now even if that is the case with the individual rules, we may still end up not being able to prove properties because resources were partitioned inadequately. The right rule for the exponential connective is invertible.

Theorem 4. Rule $!R$ is invertible:

$$\frac{\Gamma; \cdot \Vdash A \text{ true}}{\Gamma; \cdot \Vdash !A \text{ true}} !R$$

Proof: Prove that the inverse rule $!R^{-1}$ of $!R$ is admissible:

$$\begin{array}{l} \Gamma; \cdot \Vdash !A \text{ true} \\ \Gamma, A; A \Vdash A \text{ true} \\ \Gamma, A; \cdot \Vdash A \text{ true} \\ \Gamma; !A \Vdash A \text{ true} \\ \Gamma; \cdot \Vdash A \text{ true} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{By premise of } !R^{-1} \\ \text{By identity} \\ \text{By copy rule on previous line} \\ \text{By } !R \text{ on previous line} \\ \text{By cut with } !A \text{ on the first and last line} \end{array}$$

□

But the rule also requires the resource context Δ to be empty. The rule is perfectly invertible *if* that is the case, however and just not applicable otherwise. Unfortunately, a sequent $\Delta \Vdash !A$ *true* with a nonempty linear resource context Δ is not necessarily nonprovable either. For example, a different order of using proof rules would work when Δ contains resources that can still be consumed and end up yielding an empty context.

As previously, we now call connectives *negative* if their right rule is invertible, so they can be used immediately. We call them *positive* if their left rule is invertible, so they can be used immediately.

Negative (R-invertible)	A^-	::=	$A \multimap B \mid A \& B \mid \top$
Positive (L-invertible)	A^+	::=	$A \otimes B \mid A \oplus B \mid \mathbf{1} \mid \mathbf{0} \mid !A$
Formulas	A	::=	$A^- \mid A^+$

At this point, we should no longer be shocked to hear that atomic propositions P have no natural polarity but could be chosen either way.

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