

# Expansion Nets

## Proof Nets for Classical Logic

Richard McKinley

University of Bern

ALCOP 2011

## If you enjoyed your visit to Bern...

Why not come to “Gentzen Systems and Beyond ’11”?

Satellite workshop of TABLEAUX 2011, 4th July.

# Bureaucracy in syntax

To write down a proof in the sequent calculus, we have to make arbitrary choices

$$\frac{\frac{\Gamma, A, B, C, D}{\Gamma, A \vee B, C, D} \vee}{\Gamma, A \vee B, C \vee D} \vee \quad \text{vs} \quad \frac{\frac{\Gamma, A, B, C, D}{\Gamma, A, B, C \vee D} \vee}{\Gamma, A \vee B, C \vee D} \vee$$

We would like a representation of proofs where such choices are not necessary.

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# Abstract proof objects

We look for objects which :

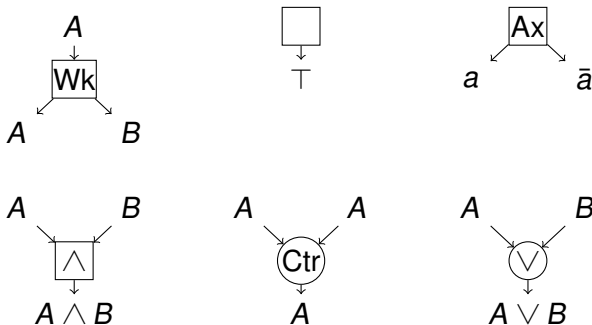
- Represent equivalence classes of sequent proofs
- under natural notions of identity of proofs
- such that proof-checking takes at worst polynomial time.
- with syntactic cut-elimination

# Proof nets

Girard's proof nets [87] provide just such a framework for linear logic.

- Graph-based representation of proofs
- Inductive translation from sequent proofs to nets...
- identifying proofs differing by commuting conversions
- Correctness is polynomial time.

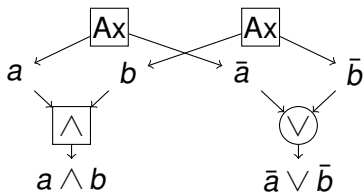
# Robinson's proof nets for classical propositional logic[00]



A proof structure is a graph built from the above elements, with no incoming edges.

# Robinson's proof nets for classical propositional logic[00]

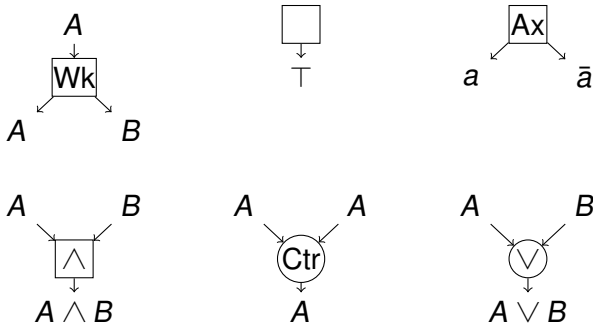
Example of a proof structure:



The conclusion of a proof-structure is a sequent: here it's  $a \wedge b, \bar{a} \vee \bar{b}$

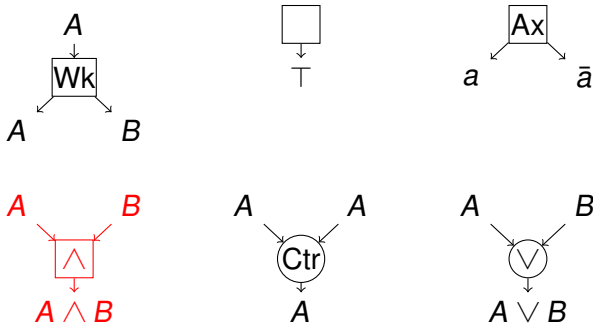


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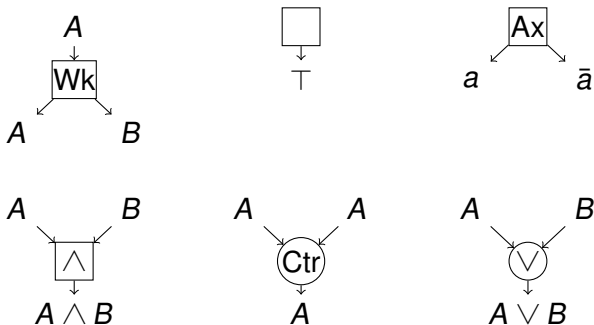
# Robinson's proof nets for classical propositional logic[00]

There is a translation from sequent proofs to structures

$$\frac{\vdash \Gamma_1, A \quad \vdash \Gamma_2, B}{\vdash \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2, A \wedge B} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\pi_1} \quad \boxed{\pi_2} \\ \parallel \quad | \quad | \quad \parallel \\ \Gamma_1 \quad A \quad B \quad \Gamma_2 \\ \wedge \\ A \wedge B \end{array}$$

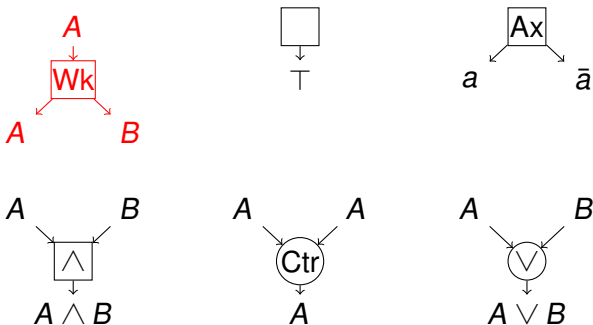
Call the translation of a sequent proof a **net**.

# Robinson's proof nets for classical propositional logic[00]



Weakening creates problems with the translation

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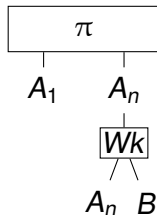


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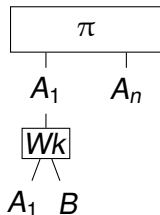
→



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# Unattached weakening

Why not define weakening like this instead?

$$\frac{\vdash A_1, \dots, A_n}{\vdash A_1, \dots, A_n, B} \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\pi} \quad \boxed{Wk'} \\ | \quad | \quad | \\ A_1 \quad A_n \quad B \end{array}$$

Causes problems with *correctness*



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# The problem with weakening

- With Robinson's weakening,
  - Decide if a structure comes from a sequent proof in polynomial time
  - No canonical map from proofs to structures
- Without weakening attachment
  - Canonical map from sequent proofs to structures
  - Correctness is NP-complete.

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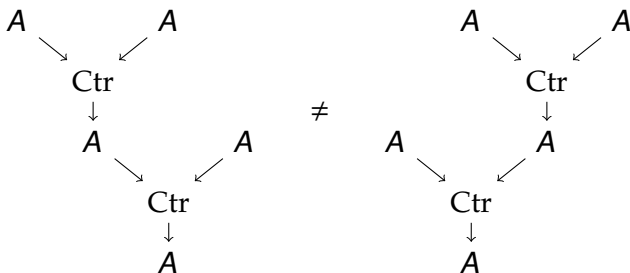
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# Proposed solutions

- Lamarche-Strassburger[05]:  $\mathbb{B}/\mathbb{N}$ -nets.
- Hughes [06]: Combinatorial proofs.

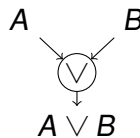
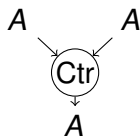
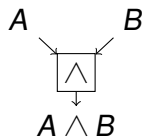
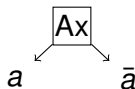
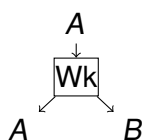
Both approaches fail to capture equivalence classes of sequent proofs.

# The (smaller) problem with binary contraction



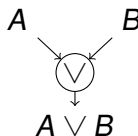
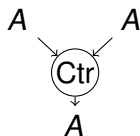
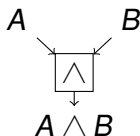
and other problems concerning the interaction between contractions and weakenings, or contractions and disjunctions.

# From graphs to linked forests



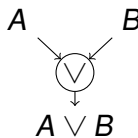
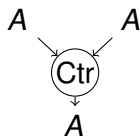
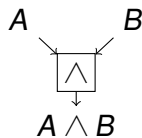
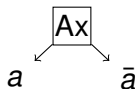
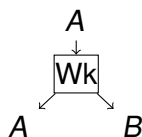
A proof net as a multiset  $F$  of typed trees with a set of “links”.

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The e-annotated sequent calculus  $LK_{ed}$ 

$$\frac{}{\vdash 1 : \top} \text{Ax}_{\top}$$

$$\frac{}{(\bar{x}) : \bar{p}, (x) : p} \text{Ax}$$

$$\frac{F, t : A, s : B}{F, t \vee s : A \vee B} \vee$$

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# Completeness

Forgetting the annotating trees yields a sequent-calculus complete for propositional classical logic:

## Theorem

*A sequent  $A_1, \dots, A_n$  of propositional logic is provable in **LK** if and only if there are terms  $t_1, \dots, t_n$  with*

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# Example

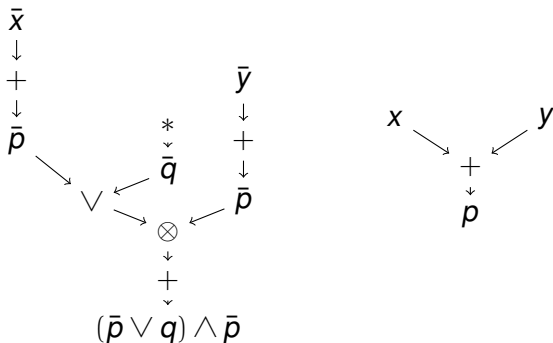
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{(\bar{x}) : \bar{a}, (x) : a} \text{Ax} \quad \frac{}{(\bar{y}) : \bar{a}, (y) : a} \text{Ax} \\
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 \frac{}{(\bar{x}) : \bar{a}, (\bar{y}) : \bar{a}, \bar{z} : \bar{a}, ((x \otimes y) \otimes z) : (a \wedge a) \wedge a} \wedge \\
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 \end{array}$$

# Annotated sequents and Proof nets

The following annotated sequent represents a proof of Pierce's law

$$(((\bar{x}) \vee *) \otimes (\bar{y})) : (\bar{p} \vee q) \wedge \bar{p}, \quad (x + y) : p$$

The **graph** of this annotated sequent is

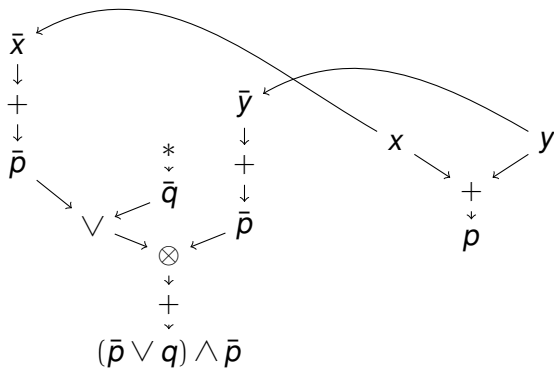


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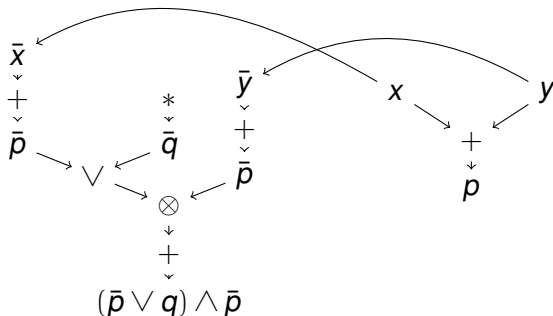
Correctness based on usual proof-net correctness techniques.

## Theorem

*An annotated sequent  $F$  is correct if and only if  $\vdash F$  can be derived in the annotated system.*

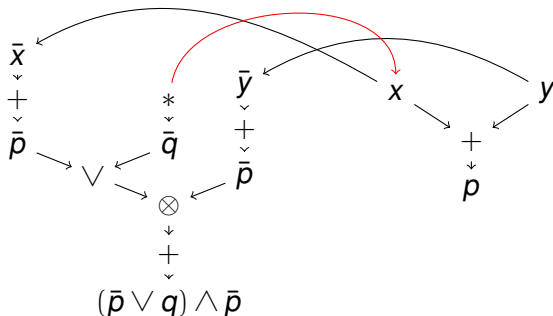
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Correctness for annotated sequents is exponential-time, because we need to find an *attachment* for the weakenings:



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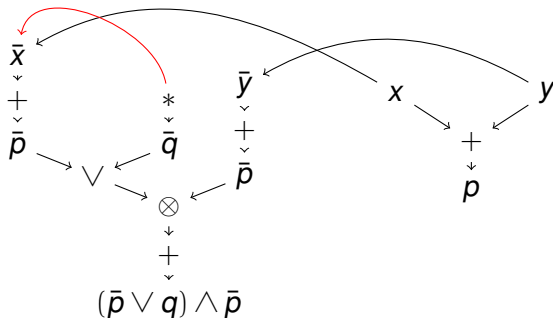
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# Default attachments

If the subtree  $*$  appears in a disjunction  $* \vee t$  or  $t \vee *$ , such that  $t \neq *$ , then it has a *default* attachment, namely  $t$ .

Checking correctness for forests in which every  $*$  is default-attached can be done in polynomial time.

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Checking correctness for forests in which every  $*$  is default-attached can be done in polynomial time.

# The sequent calculus $LK^*$

$$\frac{}{a, \bar{a}} Ax \quad \frac{}{\top} Ax_{\top}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A}{\Gamma, A \vee B} \vee_0 \quad \frac{\Gamma, A, B}{\Gamma, A \vee B} \vee \quad \frac{\Gamma, B}{\Gamma, A \vee B} \vee_1$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, a, a}{\Gamma, a} C \quad \frac{\Gamma, \bar{a}, \bar{a}}{\Gamma, \bar{a}} C \quad \frac{\Gamma, A \wedge B, A \wedge B}{\Gamma, A \wedge B} C$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A \quad \Delta, B}{\Gamma, \Delta, A \wedge B} \wedge \quad \frac{\Gamma \quad \Delta}{\Gamma, \Delta} \text{Mix}$$

## E-annotating LK\*

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$$\frac{F \quad G}{F, G} \text{Mix} \quad \frac{F, t : A \quad G, s : B}{F, G, (t \otimes s) : A \wedge B} \wedge$$

# Expansion-nets

$A$  is a theorem of propositional classical logic if and only if  $\mathbf{LK}^* \vdash t : A$  for some  $t$ .

Given an arbitrary  $t$ , we can check if  $\mathbf{LK}^* \vdash t : A$  in polynomial time.

Two derivations of  $t : A$  differ by rule permutations and rearrangements of contractions.

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## Discussion of Cut-elimination (if time permits)

Cut-reduction in  $\mathbf{LK}^*$  is *non-local*.

Cut-reduction in classical proof-nets is *always* non-local: one deletes/duplicates subnets.

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# Conclusions, further work

Expansion nets represent equivalence classes of sequent proofs, are canonical, and have polynomial-time correctness.

Further work:

- Strong normalization/weakly normalizing subsystems
- Equivalence of proofs containing cuts
- First/Higher-order logic
- Computational interpretation (Curry-Howard)