

Cut: Rule for using lemmas in a proof.

Cut-Elimination:

Elimination of lemmas from proofs.

Transformation to elementary proofs.

Obtain proofs with sub-formula property.

Example:

proofs of theorems in number theory may use *topological structures*. Cut-elimination yields proofs without topology.

other applications:

extraction of bounds via Herbrand's theorem

extraction of programs from proofs

Gentzens' "Hauptsatz":

For every (**LK**-) proof of a formula A there exists a proof of A without cuts (which can be constructed effectively).

The sequent calculus:

Sequent: $\mathcal{A} \vdash \mathcal{B}$, for finite multi-sets of formulas $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$.

$A_1, \dots, A_n \vdash B_1, \dots, B_m$ represents

$$\bigwedge A_i \rightarrow \bigvee B_j.$$

$\vdash$: separation-symbol.

LK: calculus on sequents,
based on *logical* and *structural* rules.

axioms: $A \vdash A$ for atoms A .

I. The logical rules:

$\wedge$ -introduction:

$$\frac{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{A \wedge B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \wedge : l1 \quad \frac{B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{A \wedge B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \wedge : l2$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta, B}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \wedge B} \wedge : r$$

$\vee$ -introduction:

$$\frac{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta \quad B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{A \vee B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \vee : l$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \vee B} \vee : r1 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, B}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \vee B} \vee : r2$$

$\rightarrow$ -introduction:

$$\frac{\Gamma_1 \vdash \Delta_1, A \quad B, \Gamma_2 \vdash \Delta_2}{A \rightarrow B, \Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \vdash \Delta_1, \Delta_2} \rightarrow : l$$

$$\frac{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta, B}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow : r$$

$\neg$ -introduction:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A}{\neg A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \neg : l \qquad \frac{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, \neg A} \neg : r$$

$\forall$ -introduction (eigenvariable cond. for $\forall : r$):

$$\frac{A(x/t), \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{(\forall x)A(x), \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \forall : l \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A(x/y)}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, (\forall x)A(x)} \forall : r$$

$\exists$ -introduction (the eigenvariable conditions for $\exists : l$ are these for $\forall : r$):

$$\frac{A(x/y), \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{(\exists x)A(x), \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \exists : l \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A(x/t)}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, (\exists x)A(x)} \exists : r$$

II. The structural rules:

weakening:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A} w : r \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} w : l$$

contraction:

$$\frac{A, A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} c : l \qquad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A, A}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A} c : r$$

cut:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \quad A, \Pi \vdash \Lambda}{\Gamma, \Pi \vdash \Delta, \Lambda} cut(A)$$

Let A be a formula s.t. A occurs in Δ and in Π . Then the *mix* is defined as:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta \quad \Pi \vdash \Lambda}{\Gamma, \Pi^* \vdash \Delta^*, \Lambda} mix(A)$$

where $\Pi^* = \Pi$ after elimination of A , similar for Δ .

LK-proof without cut:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{P(y) \vdash P(y)}{P(y) \vdash P(b), P(y)} w : r \\
\frac{P(y) \vdash P(b), P(y)}{P(y), \neg P(y) \vdash P(b)} \neg : l \quad \frac{P(b) \vdash P(b)}{P(y), P(b) \vdash P(b)} w : l \\
\hline
\frac{P(y), \neg P(y) \vdash P(b)}{P(y), \neg P(y) \vee P(b) \vdash P(b)} \vee : l \\
\frac{P(y), \neg P(y) \vee P(b) \vdash P(b)}{P(y), (\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \vdash P(b)} \forall : l \\
\frac{P(y), (\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \vdash P(b)}{(\exists x)P(x), (\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \vdash P(b)} \exists : l \\
\frac{(\exists x)P(x), (\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \vdash P(b)}{(\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \vdash (\exists x)P(x) \rightarrow P(b)} \rightarrow : r \\
\hline
\vdash (\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \rightarrow ((\exists x)P(x) \rightarrow P(b)) \rightarrow : r
\end{array}$$

LK-proof with cut:

$$\frac{\frac{(\varphi_1)}{(\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \vdash A} \quad \frac{(\varphi_2)}{A \vdash (\exists x)P(x) \rightarrow P(b)}}{(\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \vdash (\exists x)P(x) \rightarrow P(b)} \text{ cut}$$

$$\vdash (\forall x)(\neg P(x) \vee P(b)) \rightarrow ((\exists x)P(x) \rightarrow P(b)) \rightarrow : r$$

for $A = (\forall x)\neg P(x) \vee P(b)$ and

$\varphi_2 =$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{P(y) \vdash P(y)}{P(y) \vdash P(b), P(y)} w : r}{P(y), \neg P(y) \vdash P(b)} \neg : l}{P(y), (\forall x)\neg P(x) \vdash P(b)} \forall : l \quad \frac{P(b) \vdash P(b)}{P(y), P(b) \vdash P(b)} w : l}{\frac{P(y), (\forall x)\neg P(x) \vee P(b) \vdash P(b)}{(\exists x)P(x), (\forall x)\neg P(x) \vee P(b) \vdash P(b)} \exists : l} \vee : l$$

$$\frac{(\exists x)P(x), (\forall x)\neg P(x) \vee P(b) \vdash P(b)}{(\forall x)\neg P(x) \vee P(b) \vdash (\exists x)P(x) \rightarrow P(b)} \rightarrow : r$$

Gentzen's method of cut-elimination:

- reduction of *rank* and *grade*.
- “peeling” the cut-formulas from outside.
- elimination of an uppermost cut.

The method can be described as a

normal form computation

based on a set of rules $\mathcal{R}$.

Computational features:

- very slow
- weak in detecting redundancy.

Example of a Gentzen reduction:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)} \forall : l \quad \frac{\frac{P(b) \vdash P(b)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(b)} \forall : l}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a) \wedge P(b)} \wedge : r \quad \frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{P(a) \wedge P(b) \vdash P(a)} \wedge : l}{P(a) \wedge P(b) \vdash (\exists x)P(x)} \exists : r}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash (\exists x)P(x)} cut$$

rank = 3, grade = 1.

reduce to rank = 2, grade = 1:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)} \forall : l \quad \frac{\frac{P(b) \vdash P(b)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(b)} \forall : l}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a) \wedge P(b)} \wedge : r \quad \frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{P(a) \wedge P(b) \vdash P(a)} \wedge : l}{\frac{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash (\exists x)P(x)} \exists : r} cut$$

$$\frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)} \forall : l \quad \frac{P(b) \vdash P(b)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(b)} \forall : l}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a) \wedge P(b)} \wedge : r \quad \frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{P(a) \wedge P(b) \vdash P(a)} \wedge : l$$

$$\frac{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash (\exists x)P(x)} \exists : r \quad cut$$

rank = 2, grade = 1.

reduce to grade = 0, rank = 3:

$$\frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)} \forall : l \quad P(a) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)} cut$$

eliminate cut with axiom:

$$\frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash P(a)} \forall : l}{(\forall x)P(x) \vdash (\exists x)P(x)} \exists : r$$

Cut-elimination by Resolution (CERES):

based on a structural analysis of **LK**-proofs.

sub-derivation into cuts

φ

sub-derivation into end sequent

$CL(\varphi)$: *characteristic clause set*,
carries substantial information on derivations
of cut formulas.

clause = atomic sequent.

sequent = $\Gamma \vdash \Delta$. Γ, Δ multisets of formulas

cut-elimination = reduction to *atomic cuts*.

The Method CERES:

Example:

$$\frac{\varphi_1}{(\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))} \frac{\varphi_2}{(\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))} cut$$

$$\varphi_1 =$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{P(u)^* \vdash P(u)}{P(u)^*, P(u) \rightarrow Q(u) \vdash Q(u)^*} \rightarrow : l}{P(u) \rightarrow Q(u) \vdash (P(u) \rightarrow Q(u))^*} \rightarrow : r}{P(u) \rightarrow Q(u) \vdash (\exists y)(P(u) \rightarrow Q(y))^*} \exists : r}{(\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash (\exists y)(P(u) \rightarrow Q(y))^*} \forall : l}{(\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash (\forall x)(\exists y)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(y))^*} \forall : r$$

$$\varphi_2 =$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)^* \quad Q(v)^* \vdash Q(v)}{P(a), (P(a) \rightarrow Q(v))^* \vdash Q(v)} \rightarrow : l}{(P(a) \rightarrow Q(v))^* \vdash P(a) \rightarrow Q(v)} \rightarrow : r}{(P(a) \rightarrow Q(v))^* \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))} \exists : r}{(\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))^* \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))} \exists : l}{(\forall x)(\exists y)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(y))^* \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))} \forall : l$$

$$S_1 = \{P(u) \vdash\}, \quad S_2 = \{\vdash Q(u)\}, \\ S_3 = \{\vdash P(a)\}, \quad S_4 = \{Q(v) \vdash\}.$$

$$S = S_1 \times S_2 = \{P(u), Q(u)\}.$$

$$S' = S_3 \cup S_4 = \{\vdash P(a); Q(v) \vdash\}.$$

$$\text{CL}(\varphi) = S \cup S' = \\ \{P(u) \vdash Q(u); \vdash P(a); Q(v) \vdash\}.$$

Projection to $CL(\varphi)$:

- *Skip inferences leading to cuts.*
- Obtain cut-free proof of end-sequent
+ a clause in $CL(\varphi)$.

Let φ be the proof of the sequent

$S: (\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))$
shown above.

$$\text{CL}(\varphi) = \{P(u) \vdash Q(u); \vdash P(a); Q(v) \vdash\}.$$

Skip inferences in φ_1 leading to cuts:

$$\frac{\frac{P(u) \vdash P(u) \quad Q(u) \vdash Q(u)}{P(u), P(u) \rightarrow Q(u) \vdash Q(u)} \rightarrow : l}{P(u), (\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash Q(u)} \forall : l$$

$$\varphi(C_1) =$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{P(u) \vdash P(u) \quad Q(u) \vdash Q(u)}{P(u), P(u) \rightarrow Q(u) \vdash Q(u)} \rightarrow : l}{P(u), (\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash Q(u)} \forall : l}{P(u), (\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y)), Q(u)} w : r$$

For $C_2 = \vdash P(a)$ we obtain the projection $\varphi(C_2)$:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{P(a) \vdash P(a)}{P(a) \vdash P(a), Q(v)} w : r}{\vdash P(a) \rightarrow Q(v), P(a)} \rightarrow : r}{\vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y)), P(a)} \exists : l}{(\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y)), P(a)} w : l$$

next step:

- Construct an R-refutation γ of $\text{CL}(\varphi)$,
- insert the projections of φ into γ .

Let φ be the proof of

$$S: (\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)) \vdash (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y))$$

as defined above. Then

$$\text{CL}(\varphi) =$$

$$\{C_1 : P(u) \vdash Q(u), C_2 : \vdash P(a), C_3 : Q(u) \vdash\}.$$

First we define a resolution refutation δ of $\text{CL}(\varphi)$:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdash P(a)}{\vdash Q(a)} \quad P(u) \vdash Q(u)}{\vdash} R \quad Q(v) \vdash}{\vdash} R$$

$R = \text{atomic mix} + \text{most general unification.}$

ground projection γ of δ :

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdash P(a)}{\vdash Q(a)} \quad P(a) \vdash Q(a)}{\vdash} R \quad Q(a) \vdash}{\vdash} R$$

The ground substitution defining the ground projection is

$$\sigma : \{u \leftarrow a, v \leftarrow a\}.$$

Let $\chi_1 = \varphi(C_1)\sigma$,
 $\chi_2 = \varphi(C_2)\sigma$ and
 $\chi_3 = \varphi(C_3)\sigma$.

$$B = (\forall x)(P(x) \rightarrow Q(x)),$$

$$C = (\exists y)(P(a) \rightarrow Q(y)).$$

Then $\varphi(\gamma) =$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{(\chi_2)}{B \vdash C, P(a)} \quad \frac{(\chi_1)}{P(a), B \vdash C, Q(a)}}{B, B \vdash C, C, Q(a)} \text{ cut} \quad \frac{(\chi_3)}{Q(a), B \vdash C}}{\frac{B, B, B \vdash C, C, C}{B \vdash C} \text{ contractions}} \text{ cut}$$

Definition 1

- $\mathcal{SK}$ = set of all **LK**-derivations with skolemized end-sequents.
- $\mathcal{SK}_\emptyset$ = set of all cut-free proofs in $\mathcal{SK}$.
- $\mathcal{SK}^i$ = derivations in $\mathcal{SK}$ with cut-formulas of formula complexity $\leq i$. #

Goal: reduction to derivations with only atomic cuts, i.e.

transform $\varphi \in \mathcal{SK}$ into $\psi \in \mathcal{SK}^0$.

first step: construction of the
characteristic clause set

Characteristic Clause Set:

Let φ be an **LK**-derivation of S and let Ω be the set of all occurrences of cut formulas in φ . We define the set of clauses $CL(\varphi)$ inductively:

Let ν be the occurrence of an initial sequent in φ and seq_ν the corresponding sequent. Then

$$S/\nu = \{seq(\nu, \Omega)\}$$

where $seq(\nu, \Omega)$ is the subsequent of seq_ν containing the ancestors of Ω .

Assume:

S/ν already constructed for $\text{depth}(\nu) \leq k$.

$\text{depth}(\nu) = k + 1$:

(a) ν is the consequent of μ :

$S/\nu = S/\mu$.

(b) ν is the consequent of μ_1 and μ_2 :

(b1) The auxiliary formulas of ν are *ancestors* of Ω , i.e. the formulas occur in $\text{seq}(\mu_1, \Omega), \text{seq}(\mu_2, \Omega)$:

(+) $S/\nu = S/\mu_1 \cup S/\mu_2$.

(b2) The auxiliary formulas of ν are *not ancestors* of Ω :

($\times$) $S/\nu = S/\mu_1 \times S/\mu_2$.

$\text{CL}(\varphi) = S/\nu_0$ where ν_0 is the occurrence of the end-sequent.

Remark: If φ is a cut-free proof then there are no occurrences of cut formulas in φ and $\text{CL}(\varphi) = \emptyset$.

Proposition 1

*Let φ be an **LK**-derivation. Then $\text{CL}(\varphi)$ is unsatisfiable.*

Projection:

Lemma 1

Let φ be a deduction in $\mathcal{SK}$ of a sequent $S : \Gamma \vdash \Delta$. Let $C: \bar{P} \vdash \bar{Q}$ be a clause in $\text{CL}(\varphi)$. Then there exists a deduction

$\varphi(C)$ of $\bar{P}, \Gamma \vdash \Delta, \bar{Q}$

s.t.

$$\varphi(C) \in \mathcal{SK}_\emptyset \quad \text{and} \quad l(\varphi(C)) \leq l(\varphi).$$

Projection of φ to C : construct $\varphi(C)$.

the remaining steps:

- Construct an R-refutation γ of $\text{CL}(\varphi)$,
- insert the projections of φ into γ .
- add some contractions and obtain a proof with (only) atomic cuts.
- (• eliminate the atomic cuts)

CERES does *not only* work for **LK**.

- any sound sequent calculus for classical logic (with cut) does the job.
- unary rules do not “count”.
- *necessary*: auxiliary formulas, principal formulas, ancestor relation

Example: LKDe

LK + equality rules + definition introduction.

Important to *formalization of mathematical proofs*.

Corresponding clausal calculus:

resolution + paramodulation.

Example:

If a divides b then it divides b^2 .

D stands for “divides” and is defined by

$$D(x, y) \leftrightarrow \exists z x * z = y.$$

The active equations are written in boldface.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{a * z_0 = b \vdash \mathbf{a * z_0 = b} \quad \vdash b * b = b * b}{=: r}}{a * z_0 = b \vdash (a * z_0) * b = b * b}{=: r}}{\vdash (\mathbf{a * z_0}) * b = \mathbf{a * (z_0 * b)}}}{a * z_0 = b \vdash a * (z_0 * b) = b * b}{\exists: r}}{\frac{a * z_0 = b \vdash \exists z. a * z = b * b}{\exists: l}}{\frac{\exists z. a * z = b \vdash \exists z. a * z = b * b}{\text{def}_D: r}}{\frac{\exists z. a * z = b \vdash D(a, b * b)}{\text{def}_D: l}}{\frac{D(a, b) \vdash D(a, b * b)}{\rightarrow: r}}{\vdash D(a, b) \rightarrow D(a, b * b)}$$

Axioms:

- (1) an instance of associativity,
- (2) $\vdash b * b = b * b$ (instance of reflexivity),
- (3) $a * z_0 = b \vdash a * z_0 = b$.

Experiments with CERES:

- underlying theorem prover: OTTER.
- very large proofs can be handled.
- Analysis of an example from C. Urban.
mathematically different proofs from CERES.
- work in progress:
 - analysis of a proof from the BOOK.
 - elimination of topological arguments from a proof in number theory.
- system ceres available at
<http://www.logic.at/ceres/>

Complexity:

complexity of cut-elimination is *nonelementary*.

Orevkov, Statman (1979):

There exists a sequence of **LK**-proofs φ_n of sequents S_n s.t.

- $\|\varphi_n\| \leq 2^{k*n}$ and
- for all cut-free proofs ψ of φ_n :
 $\|\psi\| > s(n)$ where
 $s(0) = 1, s(n+1) = 2^{s(n)}$.

There exists no cheap way of cut-elimination
in principle!

CERES:

main point of complexity: resolution proof.

φ : **LK**-proof of S .

Let γ be a resolution refutation of $\text{CL}(\varphi)$.

Then there exists a proof ψ of S with (only) atomic cuts s.t.

$$\|\psi\| \leq 2 * \|\gamma\| * \|\varphi\|.$$

If all axioms are standard ($A \vdash A$) then there exists a cut-free proof ψ' of S s.t.

$$\|\psi'\| \leq 2^{d * \|\gamma\| * \|\varphi\|}.$$

CERES is superior to Gentzen:

nonelementary speed-up of Gentzen by CERES:

- There exists a sequence of LK-proofs φ_n s.t.
 $\|\varphi_n\| \leq 2^{k*n}$ and
all Gentzen-eliminations are of size $> s(n)$.

CERES produces $\leq 2^{m*n}$ symbols.

- There is no nonelementary speed-up of CERES
by Gentzen!

Characteristic Clause Sets and Cut-Reduction

Lemma 2

*Let φ, φ' be **LK**-derivations with $\varphi > \varphi'$ for a cut reduction relation $>$ based on $\mathcal{R}$. Then $\text{CL}(\varphi) \leq_{ss} \text{CL}(\varphi')$.*

proof:

by cases according to the definitions of $>$ and $\mathcal{R}$. ◇

$\mathcal{R}$ = set of cut-reduction rules extracted from Gentzen's proof.

$\leq_{ss}$: subsumption relation on clause sets.

Theorem 1

*Let φ be an **LK**-deduction and ψ be a normal form of φ under a cut reduction relation $>$ based on $\mathcal{R}$. Then*

$$\text{CL}(\varphi) \leq_{ss} \text{CL}(\psi).$$

Theorem 2

*Let φ be an **LK**-derivation and ψ be a normal form of φ under a cut reduction relation $>_{\mathcal{R}}$ based on $\mathcal{R}$. Then there exists a resolution refutation γ of $\text{CL}(\varphi)$ s.t.*

$$\gamma \leq_{ss} \text{RES}(\psi).$$

$\text{RES}(\psi) =$ (standard) resolution refutation of $\text{CL}(\psi)$.

Corollary 1

*Let φ be an **LK**-derivation and ψ be a normal form of φ under a cut reduction relation $>_{\mathcal{R}}$ based on $\mathcal{R}$. Then there exists a resolution refutation γ of $\text{CL}(\varphi)$ s.t.*

$$l(\gamma) \leq l(\text{RES}(\psi)) \leq l(\psi) * 2^{2*l(\psi)}.$$

Corollary 2

*Let φ be an **LK**-derivation and ψ be a normal form of φ under a cut reduction relation $>_{\mathcal{R}}$ based on $\mathcal{R}$. Then there exists a proof χ obtained from φ by CERES s.t.*

$$l(\chi) \leq l(\varphi) * l(\psi) * 2^{2*l(\psi)}.$$

Proof: χ is defined by inserting the projections of φ into a refutation γ of $\text{CL}(\varphi)$. $\diamond$

Corollary 3

*Let φ be an **LK**-derivation and ψ be a normal form of φ under Gentzen's or Tait's method. Then there exists a proof χ obtained from φ by CERES s.t.*

$$l(\chi) \leq l(\varphi) * l(\psi) * 2^{2*l(\psi)}.$$

Proof: Gentzen's and Tait's methods are based on $\mathcal{R}$. ◇

Cut Reduction Rules:

If a cut-derivation ψ is transformed to ψ' then we define

$$\psi > \psi'$$

where $\psi =$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} (\rho) \\ \Gamma \vdash \Delta \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} (\sigma) \\ \Pi \vdash \Lambda \end{array}}{\Gamma, \Pi^* \vdash \Delta^*, \Lambda} \text{ cut}$$

3.11. rank = 2.

The last inferences in ρ, σ are logical ones and the cut-formula is the principal formula of these inferences:

3.113.31.

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{(\rho_1)}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A} \quad \frac{(\rho_2)}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, B}}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \wedge B} \wedge : r \quad \frac{\frac{(\sigma')}{A, \Pi \vdash \Lambda}}{A \wedge B, \Pi \vdash \Lambda} \wedge : l}{\Gamma, \Pi \vdash \Delta, \Lambda} cut(A \wedge B)$$

transforms to

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{(\rho_1)}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A} \quad \frac{(\sigma')}{A, \Pi \vdash \Lambda}}{\Gamma, \Pi^* \vdash \Delta^*, \Lambda} cut(A)}{\Gamma, \Pi \vdash \Delta, \Lambda} w : *$$

For the other form of $\wedge : l$ the transformation is straightforward.

3.113.33.

$$\frac{\frac{(\rho'[\alpha])}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, B_{\alpha}^x} \quad \frac{(\sigma')}{B_t^x, \Pi \vdash \Lambda} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, (\forall x)B \quad (\forall x)B, \Pi \vdash \Lambda}{\Gamma, \Pi \vdash \Delta, \Lambda} \quad \frac{\forall : r \quad \forall : l}{cut((\forall x)B)}$$

transforms to

$$\frac{\frac{(\rho'[t])}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, B_t^x} \quad \frac{(\sigma')}{B_t^x, \Pi \vdash \Lambda}}{\Gamma, \Pi^* \vdash \Delta^*, \Lambda} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \Pi^* \vdash \Delta^*, \Lambda}{\Gamma, \Pi \vdash \Delta, \Lambda} \quad \frac{cut(B_t^x)}{w : *}$$

3.113.34. The last inferences in ρ, σ are $\exists : r, \exists : l$: symmetric to 3.113.33.

3.12. rank > 2 :

3.121. right-rank > 1 :

3.121.2. The cut formula does not occur in the antecedent of the end-sequent of ρ .

3.121.23. The last inference in σ is binary:

3.121.231. The case $\wedge : r$. Here

$$\frac{\frac{(\rho) \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta, B \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta, C}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, B \wedge C} \wedge : r}{\Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta, B \wedge C} cut(A)$$

transforms to

$$\frac{\frac{(\rho) \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta, B}{\Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta, B} cut(A) \quad \frac{(\rho) \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta, C}{\Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta, C} cut(A)}{\Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta, B \wedge C} \wedge : r$$

3.121.232. The case $\vee : l$. Then ψ is of the form

$$\frac{\frac{(\rho)}{\Pi \vdash \Lambda} \quad \frac{(\sigma_1)}{B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \quad \frac{(\sigma_2)}{C, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}}{B \vee C, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \vee : l \quad \frac{}{\Pi, (B \vee C)^*, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta} cut(A)$$

$(B \vee C)^*$ is empty if $A = B \vee C$ and $B \vee C$ otherwise.

We first define the proof τ :

$$\frac{\frac{(\rho)}{\Pi \vdash \Lambda} \quad \frac{(\sigma_1)}{B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}}{B^*, \Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta} cut(A) \quad \frac{(\rho)}{\Pi \vdash \Lambda} \quad \frac{(\sigma_2)}{C, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}}{C^*, \Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta} cut(A) \\ \frac{\frac{}{B, \Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta} x \quad \frac{}{C, \Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta} x}{B \vee C, \Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta} \vee : l$$

Note that, in case $A = B$ or $A = C$, the inference x is $w : l$; otherwise x is the identical transformation and can be dropped.

If $(B \vee C)^* = B \vee C$ then ψ transforms to τ .

If, on the other hand, $(B \vee C)^*$ is empty (i.e. $B \vee C = A$) then we transform ψ to

$$\frac{\frac{(\rho) \quad \Pi \vdash \Lambda \quad \tau}{\Pi, \Pi^*, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Lambda^*, \Delta} \text{ cut}(A)}{\Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Lambda^*, \Delta} c :^*$$

3.121.233. The last inference in ψ_2 is $\rightarrow: l$.
Then ψ is of the form:

$$\frac{\frac{(\psi_1)}{\Pi \vdash \Sigma} \quad \frac{\frac{(\chi_1)}{\Gamma \vdash \Theta, B} \quad \frac{(\chi_2)}{C, \Delta \vdash \Lambda}}{B \rightarrow C, \Gamma, \Delta \vdash \Theta, \Lambda} \rightarrow: l}{\Pi, (B \rightarrow C)^*, \Gamma^*, \Delta^* \vdash \Sigma^*, \Theta, \Lambda} cut(A)$$

As in 3.121.232 $(B \rightarrow C)^* = B \rightarrow C$ for $B \rightarrow C \neq A$ and $(B \rightarrow C)^*$ empty otherwise.

3.121.233.1. A occurs in Γ and in Δ . Again we define a proof τ :

$$\frac{\frac{(\psi_1)}{\Pi \vdash \Sigma} \quad \frac{(\chi_1)}{\Gamma \vdash \Theta, B}}{\Pi, \Gamma^* \vdash \Sigma^*, \Theta, B} cut(A) \quad \frac{\frac{(\psi_1)}{\Pi \vdash \Sigma} \quad \frac{(\chi_2)}{C, \Delta \vdash \Lambda}}{C^*, \Pi, \Delta^* \vdash \Sigma^*, \Lambda} cut(A) \quad x}{\frac{B \rightarrow C, \Pi, \Gamma^*, \Pi, \Delta^* \vdash \Sigma^*, \Theta, \Sigma^*, \Lambda}{} \rightarrow: l}$$

If $(B \rightarrow C)^* = B \rightarrow C$ then, as in 3.121.232, ψ is transformed to τ + some additional contractions. Otherwise an additional cut with cut formula A is appended.

3.121.233.2 A occurs in Δ , but not in Γ . As in 3.121.233.1 we define a proof τ :

$$\frac{\frac{(\chi_1)}{\Gamma \vdash \Theta, B} \quad \frac{\frac{(\psi_1)}{\Pi \vdash \Sigma} \quad \frac{(\chi_2)}{C, \Delta \vdash \Lambda}}{C^*, \Pi, \Delta^* \vdash \Sigma^*, \Lambda} \text{cut}(A)}{\frac{C, \Pi, \Delta^* \vdash \Sigma^*, \Lambda}{B \rightarrow C, \Gamma, \Pi, \Delta^* \vdash \Theta, \Sigma^*, \Lambda} x} \rightarrow: l$$

Again we distinguish the cases $B \rightarrow C = A$ and $B \rightarrow C \neq A$ and define the transformation of ψ exactly like in 3.121.233.1.

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