

Realizability in Cyclic Proof

Extracting Ordering Information for Infinite Descent

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Motivation: Program Termination

```
struct ll { int data; ll *next; }

void rev(ll *x) { /* reverses list */ }
void shuffle(ll *x) {
    if ( x != NULL ) {

        ll *y = x -> next;

        rev(y);

        shuffle(y);
    }
}
```

Motivation: Program Termination

```
struct ll { int data; ll *next; }  
list(x,n)  $\Leftrightarrow (n = 0 \wedge x = \text{NULL}) \vee \text{list}(x \rightarrow \text{next}, n - 1)$   
void rev(ll *x) { /* reverses list */ }  
void shuffle(ll *x) {  
    if ( x != NULL ) {  
  
        ll *y = x -> next;  
  
        rev(y);  
  
        shuffle(y);  
  
    }  
}
```

Motivation: Program Termination

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struct ll { int data; ll *next; }  
list(x,n) ⇔ (n = 0 ∧ x = NULL) ∨ list(x->next,n - 1)  
void rev(ll *x) { /* reverses list */ }  
void shuffle(ll *x) { list(x,n) } {  
    if ( x != NULL ) {  
  
        ll *y = x -> next;  
  
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    }  
} { list(x,n) }
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void shuffle(ll *x) { list(x,n) } {  
    if ( x != NULL ) {  
        { list(x->next, n - 1) }  
        ll *y = x -> next;  
        { y = x->next  $\wedge$  list(y, n - 1) }  
        rev(y);  
  
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    if ( x != NULL ) {  
        { list(x->next, n - 1) }  
        ll *y = x -> next;  
        { y = x->next  $\wedge$  list(y, n - 1) }  
        rev(y);  
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        shuffle(y);  
    }  
} { list(x,n) }
```


Motivation: Program Termination

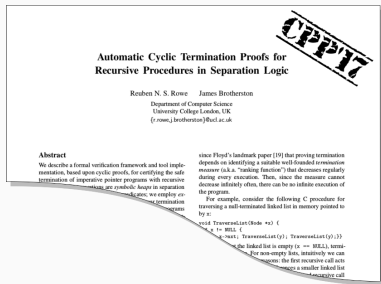
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Motivation: Program Termination

```
struct ll { int data; ll *next; }  
list(x)  $\Leftrightarrow (n = 0 \wedge x = \text{NULL}) \vee \text{list}(x \rightarrow \text{next})$   
void rev(ll *x) { list $_{\alpha}$ (x) } { ... } { list $_{\alpha}$ (x) }  
void shuffle(ll *x) { list $_{\alpha}$ (x) } {  
  if ( x != NULL ) {  
    { list $_{\beta}$ (x->next)  $\wedge \beta < \alpha$  }  
    ll *y = x -> next;  
    { y = x->next  $\wedge$  list $_{\beta}$ (y)  $\wedge \beta < \alpha$  }  
    rev(y);  
    { y = x->next  $\wedge$  list $_{\beta}$ (y)  $\wedge \beta < \alpha$  }  
    shuffle(y);  
    { y = x->next  $\wedge$  list $_{\beta}$ (y)  $\wedge \beta < \alpha$  }  
  }  
} { list $_{\alpha}$ (x) }
```



Motivation: Program Termination

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struct ll { int data; ll *next; }  
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void rev(ll *x) { list $_{\alpha}$ (x) } { ... } { list $_{\alpha}$ (x) }  
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if ( x  
  { list $_{\beta}$   
  ll *y  
  { y =  
  rev(y  
  { y =  
  shuffle(y);  
  { y = x->next  $\wedge$  list $_{\beta}$ (y)  $\wedge$   $\beta < \alpha$  }  
  }  
} { list $_{\alpha}$ (x) }
```

$[\cdot] : \text{Formulas} \rightarrow \wp(\text{Models})$

$[\cdot]_{\perp} \subseteq [\cdot]_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq [\cdot]_{\alpha} \subseteq [\cdot]_{\alpha+1} \subseteq \dots \subseteq [\cdot]$

Termination Proofs for Procedures in Separation Logic

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Abstract

We describe a formal verification framework and tool implementation, based on cyclic proofs, for certifying the safe termination of imperative pointer programs with recursive data structures. In particular, we provide a framework for proving termination of recursive programs.

since Floyd's landmark paper [19] that proving termination depends on identifying a suitable well-founded termination measure (a.k.a. "ranking function") that decreases regularly during every execution. Then, since the measure cannot decrease infinitely often, there can be no infinite execution of the program.

For example, consider the following C procedure for traversing a null-terminated linked list in memory pointed to by x :

```
void TraversalListNode *() {  
  x = NULL;  
  if (x->next) TraversalList(y); TraversalList(y);  
  // the linked list in empty (i.e. == NULL), terminate.  
  // For non-empty lists, iteratively we can suggest: the first recursive call acts on a smaller linked list (i.e. a smaller pointer value).
```

Motivation: Program Termination

```
struct ll { int data; ll *next; }  
list(x) ⇔ (n = 0 ∧ x = NULL) ∨ list(x->next)  
void rev(ll *x) { listα(x) } { ... } { listα(x) }  
void shuffle(ll *x) { listβ(x) } { ... } { listβ(x) }  
if ( x  
  { listβ  
  ll *y  
  { y =  
  rev(y  
  { y =  
  shuffle(y);  
  { y = x->next ∧ listβ(y) ∧ β < α }  
  }  
} { listα(x) }
```

$\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket : \text{Formulas} \rightarrow \wp(\text{Models})$

$\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{\perp} \subseteq \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_1 \subseteq \dots \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{\alpha} \subseteq \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_{\alpha+1} \subseteq \dots \subseteq \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$

$\forall \alpha. \llbracket P(\vec{x}) \rrbracket_{\alpha} \subseteq \llbracket Q(\vec{y}) \rrbracket_{\alpha} \equiv Q(\vec{y}) \leq P(\vec{x})$

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Termination Proofs for
Procedures in Separation Logic

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Abstract

We describe a formal verification framework and tool implementation, based upon cyclic proofs, for certifying the safe termination of imperative pointer programs with recursive data structures. In particular, we provide a systematic way to certify that recursive programs are cyclic, and we employ cyclic proofs to certify termination of recursive programs.

since Floyd's landmark paper [19] that proving termination depends on identifying a suitable well-founded termination measure (a.k.a. "ranking function") that decreases regularly during every execution. Thus, since the measure cannot decrease infinitely often, there can be no infinite execution of the program.

For example, consider the following C procedure for traversing a null-terminated linked list in memory pointed to by x :

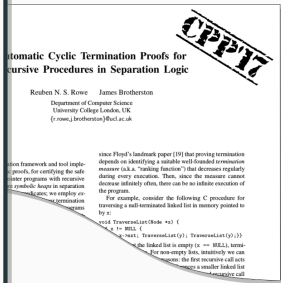
```
void TraversalListNode *() {  
  if (x == NULL) {  
    *x = NULL; TraversalList(y); TraversalList(y); }  
  else {  
    *x = x->next; TraversalList(y); TraversalList(y); }  
}
```

For non-empty lists, intuitively we can suggest that the first recursive call acts on a smaller linked list, and the second recursive call acts on a smaller linked list.

Motivation: Program Termination

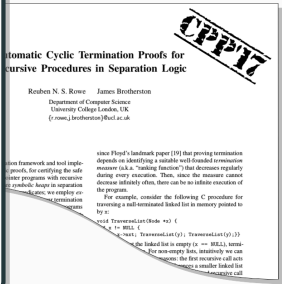
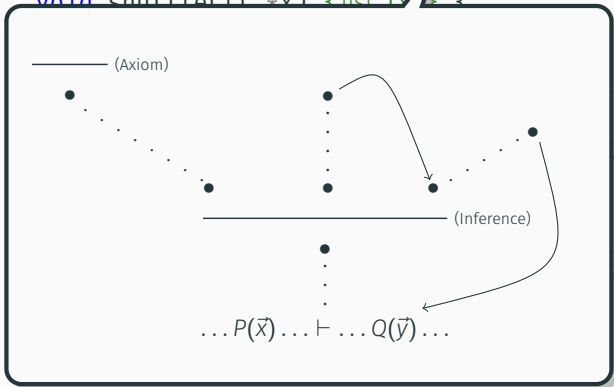
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void rev(ll *x) { list $\alpha$ (x) } { ... } { list $\alpha$ (x) }  
void shuffle(ll *x) { list(y) } { ... } { list(y) }
```

Intra-procedural analysis produces verification conditions, in the form of *entailments*, e.g.

$$x \neq \text{NULL} \wedge y = x \rightarrow \text{next} \wedge \text{list}(y) \vdash \text{list}(x)$$


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```

(Axiom)

$$Q(\vec{y}) \leq? P(\vec{x})$$

... P(\vec{x}) ... ⊢ ... Q(\vec{y}) ...

Automatic Cyclic Termination Proofs for Recursive Procedures in Separation Logic

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University College London, UK
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Since Floyd's landmark paper [19] that proving termination depends on identifying a suitable well-founded termination measure (a.k.a. "ranking function") that decreases regularly during every execution. Then, since the measure cannot decrease infinitely often, there can be no infinite execution of the program.

For example, consider the following C procedure for traversing a null-terminated linked list in memory pointed to by x :

```
void TraverseListNode (void *x) {  
  if (x == NULL) {  
    return;  
  }  
  TraverseList(x->next);  
  printf("%d\n", x->data);  
}
```

For non-empty lists, intuitively we can suggest: the first recursive call acts on a smaller linked list than the original call.

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Motivation: Program Termination

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Automatic Cyclic Termination Proofs for Recursive Procedures in Separation Logic

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... framework and tool implementation proofs, for certifying the safety of recursive programs with recursive invariants, loops in separation logic, and recursive termination proofs.

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For example, consider the following C procedure for traversing a null-terminated linked list in memory pointed to by x :

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void TraverseListNode (void *) {  
    if (x == NULL) {  
        return;  
    }  
    TraverseList(y); TraverseList(y);  
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```

... the linked list in empty (i.e. $x == NULL$), terminate. For non-empty lists, intuitively we can suggest: the first recursive call acts on a smaller linked list, and the second recursive call

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Overview of Results

We show that:

- Information about semantic inclusions between inductive predicates can be extracted from **cyclic** proofs of entailments

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- The realizability condition is equivalent to a **containment** between two weighted automata that can be constructed from the proof graph

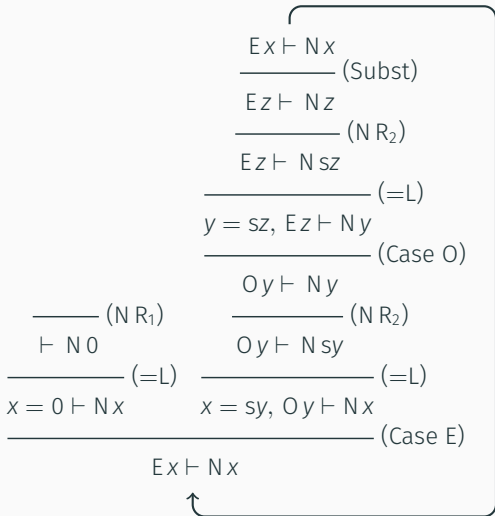
Overview of Results

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- Information about semantic inclusions between inductive predicates can be extracted from **cyclic** proofs of entailments
 - These inclusions hold when the proof graph satisfies a structural (realizability) condition that we define
- The realizability condition is equivalent to a **containment** between two weighted automata that can be constructed from the proof graph
 - Under certain extra structural conditions, this containment falls within existing decidability results

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

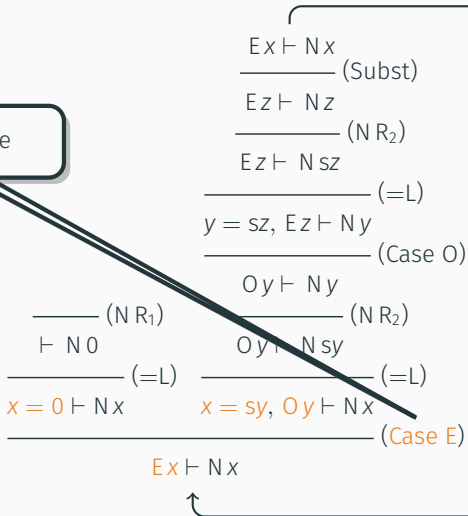
$\Rightarrow N0$
 $Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$
 $\Rightarrow E0$
 $Ox \Rightarrow Esx$
 $Ex \Rightarrow Osx$



A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

Left unfolding rule

$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
 $E x \Rightarrow O s x$



A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

Left unfolding rule

$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
 $E x \Rightarrow O s x$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash N 0} \text{ (NR}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash N x} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{O y \vdash N y} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{O y \vdash N s y} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = s y, O y \vdash N x} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = s y, O y \vdash N x} \text{ (Case E)} \\
 \frac{}{E x \vdash N x}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{E x \vdash N x} \text{ (Subst)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N z} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N s z} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{y = s z, E z \vdash N y} \text{ (Case O)} \\
 \frac{}{O y \vdash N y} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)}
 \end{array}$$

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

Right unfolding rule

$\Rightarrow \text{N0}$
 $\text{Nx} \Rightarrow \text{Nsx}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{E0}$
 $\text{Ox} \Rightarrow \text{Esx}$
 $\text{Ex} \Rightarrow \text{Osx}$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash \text{N0}} \text{(NR}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = sy, \text{Oy} \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = sy, \text{Oy} \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(Case E)} \\
 \text{Ex} \vdash \text{Nx}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\text{Ex} \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(Subst)} \\
 \frac{}{\text{Ez} \vdash \text{Nz}} \text{(NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{\text{Ez} \vdash \text{Nsz}} \text{(=L)} \\
 \frac{}{y = sz, \text{Ez} \vdash \text{Ny}} \text{(Case O)} \\
 \frac{}{\text{Oy} \vdash \text{Ny}} \text{(NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{\text{Oy} \vdash \text{Nsy}} \text{(=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = sy, \text{Oy} \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = sy, \text{Oy} \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(Case E)}
 \end{array}$$

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

Right unfolding rule

$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
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$$\begin{array}{c}
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 \end{array}$$

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 \frac{}{x = s y, O y \vdash N x} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash N x} \text{ (Case E)} \\
 \frac{}{E x \vdash N x}
 \end{array}$$

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

Right unfolding rule

$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
 $E x \Rightarrow O s x$

$$\begin{array}{c}
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 \frac{}{y = s z, E z \vdash N y} \text{ (Case O)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N s z} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N z} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{E x \vdash N x} \text{ (Subst)}
 \end{array}$$

A callout box labeled "Right unfolding rule" points to the (NR₂) rule in the right column. A curved arrow at the bottom points from the final sequent $E x \vdash N x$ back to the (Subst) rule, indicating a cyclic dependency.

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

A cyclic proof graph is **globally sound** when every infinite path (going from conclusion to premise) is eventually followed by a **trace** of predicate formulas (on the left-hand side of sequents) which **progresses** (through a case-split) **infinitely often**

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow N0 \\ Nx &\Rightarrow Nsx \\ &\Rightarrow E0 \\ Ox &\Rightarrow Esx \\ Ex &\Rightarrow Osx \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash N0} (NR_1)$$

$$\frac{}{x=0 \vdash Nx} (=L)$$

$$\frac{Ex \vdash Nx}{\vdash Nz} (Subst)$$

$$\frac{\vdash Nz}{Ez \vdash Nsz} (NR_2)$$

$$\frac{Ez \vdash Nsz}{y=sz, Ez \vdash Ny} (=L)$$

$$\frac{y=sz, Ez \vdash Ny}{Oy \vdash Ny} (Case\ 0)$$

$$\frac{Oy \vdash Ny}{Oy \vdash Nsy} (NR_2)$$

$$\frac{Oy \vdash Nsy}{x=sy, Oy \vdash Nx} (=L)$$

$$\frac{x=sy, Oy \vdash Nx}{Ex \vdash Nx} (Case\ E)$$

Ex ⊢ Nx

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

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 \frac{}{\text{Case E}}
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$E x \vdash N x$

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 \frac{}{E z \vdash N z} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
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 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash N x} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{O y \vdash N y} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{O y \vdash N s y} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = s y, O y \vdash N x} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{E x \vdash N x} \text{ (Subst)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N z} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N s z} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{y = s z, E z \vdash N y} \text{ (Case O)} \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

$E x \vdash N x$

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

A cyclic proof graph is **globally sound** when every infinite path (going from conclusion to premise) is eventually followed by a **trace** of predicate formulas (on the left-hand side of sequents) which **progresses** (through a case-split) **infinitely often**

$\Rightarrow N0$
 $Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$
 $\Rightarrow E0$
 $Ox \Rightarrow Esx$
 $Ex \Rightarrow Osx$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash N0} \text{ (NR}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash Nx} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{Oy \vdash Ny} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{Oy \vdash Nsy} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{x = sy, Oy \vdash Nx} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{Ex \vdash Nx} \text{ (Case E)}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 Ex \vdash Nx \\
 \frac{}{} \text{ (Subst)} \\
 Ez \vdash Nz \\
 \frac{}{} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 Ez \vdash Nsz \\
 \frac{}{} \text{ (=L)} \\
 y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny \\
 \frac{}{} \text{ (Case O)}
 \end{array}$$


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$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
 $E x \Rightarrow O s x$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash N 0} \text{ (NR}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash N x} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{E x \vdash N x}{\vdash N x} \text{ (Subst)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N z} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{E z \vdash N s z} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{y = s z, E z \vdash N y}{\vdash N y} \text{ (Case O)} \\
 \frac{O y \vdash N y}{\vdash N y} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{O y \vdash N s y}{\vdash N s y} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{x = s y, O y \vdash N x}{\vdash N x} \text{ (Case E)} \\
 \hline
 E x \vdash N x
 \end{array}$$

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 \hline
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{Oy \vdash Ny} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{Oy \vdash Nsy} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{Ex \vdash Nx} \text{ (Subst)} \\
 \frac{}{Ez \vdash Nz} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{Ez \vdash Nsz} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny} \text{ (Case O)} \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

$Ex \vdash Nx$

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

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$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
 $E x \Rightarrow O s x$

$$\frac{}{\vdash N 0} (N R_1) \quad \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash N x} (=L)$$

$$\frac{}{O y \vdash N y} (N R_2) \quad \frac{}{O y \vdash N s y} (=L)$$

$$\frac{x = 0 \vdash N x \quad O y \vdash N s y}{x = s y, O y \vdash N x} (=L)$$

$$\frac{}{E x \vdash N x} (Case E)$$

$$\frac{E x \vdash N x}{E z \vdash N z} (Subst)$$

$$\frac{}{E z \vdash N s z} (N R_2)$$

$$\frac{}{y = s z, E z \vdash N y} (=L)$$

$$\frac{}{} (Case O)$$

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

A cyclic proof graph is **globally sound** when every infinite path (going from conclusion to premise) is eventually followed by a **trace** of predicate formulas (on the left-hand side of sequents) which **progresses** (through a case-split) **infinitely often**

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$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{}{x = 0 \vdash N x}}{x = 0 \vdash N x} (=L)}{\vdash N 0} (NR_1)}{x = 0 \vdash N x} (=L)}{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{}{O y \vdash N y}}{O y \vdash N y} (NR_2)}{O y \vdash N s y} (=L)}{x = s y, O y \vdash N x} (=L)}{x = s y, O y \vdash N x} (Case E)}{y = s z, E z \vdash N y} (Case O)}{y = s z, E z \vdash N y} (=L)}{E z \vdash N s z} (NR_2)}{E z \vdash N z} (Subst)}{E z \vdash N x} (Case E)$$

$E x \vdash N x$

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

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 $\Rightarrow E0$
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 $Ex \Rightarrow Osx$

$\frac{}{\vdash N0}$ (NR₁)
 $\frac{}{x = 0 \vdash Nx}$ (=L)
 $\frac{}{Oy \vdash Ny}$ (NR₂)
 $\frac{}{Oy \vdash Nsy}$ (NR₂)
 $\frac{}{x = sy, Oy \vdash Nx}$ (=L)
 $\frac{}{Ex \vdash Nx}$ (Case E)

$\frac{Ex \vdash Nx}{}$ (Subst)
 $\frac{Ez \vdash Nz}{}$ (NR₂)
 $\frac{Ez \vdash Nsz}{}$ (=L)
 $\frac{y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny}{}$ (Case O)

A Cyclic Proof in LK Sequent Calculus with Equality

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$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash N0} \text{(NR}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash Nx} \text{(=L)} \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 Ex \vdash Nx \\
 \hline \text{(Subst)} \\
 Ez \vdash Nz \\
 \hline \text{(NR}_2\text{)} \\
 Ez \vdash Nsz \\
 \hline \text{(=L)} \\
 y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny \\
 \hline \text{(Case O)} \\
 Oy \vdash Ny \\
 \hline \text{(NR}_2\text{)} \\
 Oy \vdash Nsy \\
 \hline \text{(=L)} \\
 x = sy, Oy \vdash Nx \\
 \hline \text{(Case E)} \\
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 \end{array}$$

Inductive Predicate Definitions and their Semantics

Definition (Inductive Definition Set)

An *inductive definition set* contains productions $P_1 \vec{t}_1, \dots, P_j \vec{t}_j \Rightarrow P_0 \vec{t}_0$

Definition (Characteristic Operators)

Inductive definition sets Φ induce *characteristic operators* φ_Φ on predicate interpretations X (functions from predicate formulas to sets of models):

$$\varphi_\Phi(X)(P \vec{t} \theta) = \{m \mid P_1 \vec{t}_1, \dots, P_j \vec{t}_j \Rightarrow P \vec{t} \in \Phi, m \in X(P_i \vec{t}_i \theta) \text{ for all } 1 \leq i \leq j\}$$

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The ordered set of predicate interpretations $(\mathcal{X}, \sqsubseteq)$ is a **complete lattice**

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Characteristic operators φ_Φ are **monotone** wrt \sqsubseteq

We interpret predicates using the least fixed point, $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mu X. \varphi_\Phi(X)$

$$X_\perp \sqsubseteq \varphi_\Phi(X_\perp) \sqsubseteq \varphi_\Phi(\varphi_\Phi(X_\perp)) \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq \varphi_\Phi^\alpha(X_\perp) \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq \mu X. \varphi_\Phi(X)$$

Inductive Predicate Definitions and their Semantics

Definition (Inductive Definition Set)

An *inductive definition set* contains productions $P_1 \vec{t}_1, \dots, P_j \vec{t}_j \Rightarrow P_0 \vec{t}_0$

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We interpret predicates using the least fixed point, $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_\Phi \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mu X. \varphi_\Phi(X)$

$$\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_0^\Phi \sqsubseteq \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_1^\Phi \sqsubseteq \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_2^\Phi \sqsubseteq \dots \sqsubseteq \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket_\alpha^\Phi \sqsubseteq \dots \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket^\Phi$$

Cyclic Proof Formalises Infinite Descent

- Suppose, for contradiction, that the conclusion of the proof is not valid
 - That is, there is a counter-model of the sequent

Cyclic Proof Formalises Infinite Descent

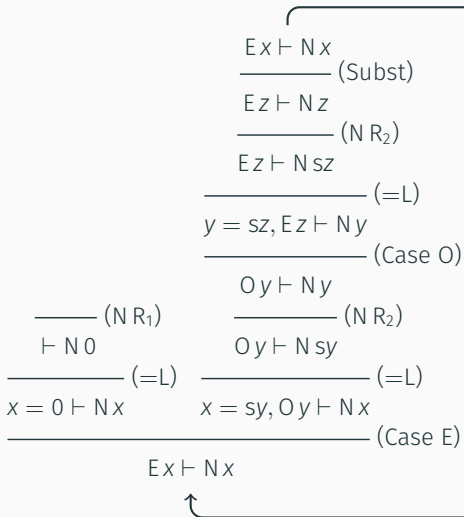
- Suppose, for contradiction, that the conclusion of the proof is not valid
 - That is, there is a counter-model of the sequent
- By **local** soundness of the inference rules, we obtain an infinite sequence of counter-models for some infinite path in the proof
 - Each model can be mapped to an ever smaller approximation $\llbracket P \vec{t} \rrbracket_{\alpha}^{\Phi}$ in which it appears
 - These **strictly** decrease over a case-split

Cyclic Proof Formalises Infinite Descent

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 - Each model can be mapped to an ever smaller approximation $\llbracket P \vec{t} \rrbracket_{\alpha}^{\Phi}$ in which it appears
 - These **strictly** decrease over a case-split
- By **global** soundness of the proof, this gives an infinitely descending chain in $(\mathcal{X}, \sqsubseteq)$
 - But $(\mathcal{X}, \sqsubseteq)$ is a well-ordered set \Rightarrow contradiction!

Extracting Semantic Orderings from Cyclic Proofs

$\Rightarrow N0$
 $Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$
 $\Rightarrow E0$
 $Ox \Rightarrow Esx$
 $Ex \Rightarrow Osx$



Extracting Semantic Orderings from Cyclic Proofs

The inductive definitions/semantics give immediately, e.g.

$$\forall m, \alpha : m \in \llbracket \text{O sx} \rrbracket_{\alpha} \Rightarrow m \in \llbracket \text{E x} \rrbracket_{\alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{N 0}$$

$$\text{N x} \Rightarrow \text{N s x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{E 0}$$

$$\text{O x} \Rightarrow \text{E s x}$$

$$\text{E x} \Rightarrow \text{O s x}$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \text{N 0}} \text{(N R}_1\text{)}$$

$$\frac{}{x = 0 \vdash \text{N x}} \text{(=L)}$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \text{N x}} \text{(Case E)}$$

$$\frac{\text{E x} \vdash \text{N x}}{} \text{(Subst)}$$

$$\frac{\text{E z} \vdash \text{N z}}{} \text{(N R}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{\text{E z} \vdash \text{N s z}}{} \text{(=L)}$$

$$\frac{y = \text{s z}, \text{E z} \vdash \text{N y}}{} \text{(Case O)}$$

$$\frac{\text{O y} \vdash \text{N y}}{} \text{(N R}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{\text{O y} \vdash \text{N s y}}{} \text{(=L)}$$

$$\frac{x = \text{s y}, \text{O y} \vdash \text{N x}}{} \text{(Case E)}$$

$$\text{E x} \vdash \text{N x}$$

Extracting Semantic Orderings from Cyclic Proofs

The inductive definitions/semantics give immediately, e.g.

$$\forall m, \alpha : m \in \llbracket \text{OSX} \rrbracket_\alpha \Rightarrow m \in \llbracket \text{EX} \rrbracket_\alpha$$

and even

$$\forall m, \alpha : m \in \llbracket \text{OSX} \rrbracket_\alpha \Rightarrow \exists \beta < \alpha. m \in \llbracket \text{EX} \rrbracket_\beta$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{N0}$$

$$\text{Nx} \Rightarrow \text{Nsx}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{E0}$$

$$\text{Ox} \Rightarrow \text{Esx}$$

$$\text{Ex} \Rightarrow \text{Osx}$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \text{N0}} \text{(NR}_1\text{)}$$

$$\frac{}{x = 0 \vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(=L)}$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash \text{Nx}} \text{(Case E)}$$

$$\frac{\text{Ex} \vdash \text{Nx}}{} \text{(Subst)}$$

$$\frac{\text{Ez} \vdash \text{Nz}}{} \text{(NR}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{\text{Ez} \vdash \text{NsZ}}{} \text{(=L)}$$

$$\frac{y = \text{sz}, \text{Ez} \vdash \text{Ny}}{} \text{(Case O)}$$

$$\frac{\text{Oy} \vdash \text{Ny}}{} \text{(NR}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{\text{Oy} \vdash \text{Nsy}}{} \text{(=L)}$$

$$\frac{x = \text{sy}, \text{Oy} \vdash \text{Nx}}{} \text{(Case E)}$$

$$\text{Ex} \vdash \text{Nx}$$

Extracting Semantic Orderings from Cyclic Proofs

The global soundness already gives

$$\forall m : m \in \llbracket Ex \rrbracket \Rightarrow m \in \llbracket Nx \rrbracket$$

$\Rightarrow N0$
 $Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$
 $\Rightarrow E0$
 $Ox \Rightarrow Esx$
 $Ex \Rightarrow Osx$

$\frac{}{\vdash N0} \text{ (NR}_1\text{)}$
 $\frac{}{x = 0 \vdash Nx} \text{ (=L)}$

$\frac{Ex \vdash Nx}{\vdash Nx} \text{ (Subst)}$
 $\frac{Ez \vdash Nz}{\vdash Nz} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)}$
 $\frac{Ez \vdash Nsz}{\vdash Nsz} \text{ (=L)}$
 $\frac{y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny}{\vdash Ny} \text{ (Case O)}$
 $\frac{Oy \vdash Ny}{\vdash Ny} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)}$
 $\frac{Oy \vdash Nsy}{\vdash Nsy} \text{ (=L)}$
 $\frac{x = sy, Oy \vdash Nx}{\vdash Nx} \text{ (Case E)}$

$Ex \vdash Nx$

Extracting Semantic Orderings from Cyclic Proofs

The global soundness already gives

$$\forall m : m \in \llbracket Ex \rrbracket \Rightarrow m \in \llbracket Nx \rrbracket$$

but we would also like to know whether

$$\forall \alpha \forall m : m \in \llbracket Ex \rrbracket_\alpha \Rightarrow m \in \llbracket Nx \rrbracket_\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow N0$$

$$Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$$

$$\Rightarrow E0$$

$$Ox \Rightarrow Esx$$

$$Ex \Rightarrow Osx$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash N0} \text{ (NR}_1\text{)}$$

$$\frac{\vdash N0}{x = 0 \vdash Nx} \text{ (=L)}$$

$$\frac{x = 0 \vdash Nx}{Ex \vdash Nx} \text{ (Case E)}$$

$$\frac{Ex \vdash Nx}{Ez \vdash Nz} \text{ (Subst)}$$

$$\frac{Ez \vdash Nz}{Ez \vdash Nsz} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{Ez \vdash Nsz}{y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny} \text{ (=L)}$$

$$\frac{y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny}{Oy \vdash Ny} \text{ (Case O)}$$

$$\frac{Oy \vdash Ny}{Oy \vdash Nsy} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{Oy \vdash Nsy}{x = sy, Oy \vdash Nx} \text{ (=L)}$$

$$\frac{x = sy, Oy \vdash Nx}{Ex \vdash Nx} \text{ (Case E)}$$

$$Ex \vdash Nx$$

Extracting Semantic Orderings from Cyclic Proofs

The global soundness already gives

$$\forall m : m \in \llbracket Ex \rrbracket \Rightarrow m \in \llbracket Nx \rrbracket$$

but we would also like to know whether

$$\forall \alpha \forall m : m \in \llbracket Ex \rrbracket_\alpha \Rightarrow m \in \llbracket Nx \rrbracket_\alpha$$

i.e. $Nx \leq Ex$

$$\Rightarrow N0$$

$$Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$$

$$\Rightarrow E0$$

$$Ox \Rightarrow Esx$$

$$Ex \Rightarrow Osx$$

$$\frac{}{\vdash N0} \text{ (NR}_1\text{)}$$

$$\frac{}{x = 0 \vdash Nx} \text{ (=L)}$$

$$\frac{}{Ex \vdash Nx} \text{ (Case E)}$$

$$\frac{Ex \vdash Nx}{\vdash Nx} \text{ (Subst)}$$

$$\frac{Ez \vdash Nz}{\vdash Nz} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{Ez \vdash Nsz}{\vdash Nsz} \text{ (=L)}$$

$$\frac{y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny}{\vdash Ny} \text{ (Case O)}$$

$$\frac{Oy \vdash Ny}{\vdash Ny} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)}$$

$$\frac{Oy \vdash Nsy}{\vdash Nsy} \text{ (=L)}$$

$$\frac{x = sy, Oy \vdash Nx}{\vdash Nx} \text{ (Case E)}$$

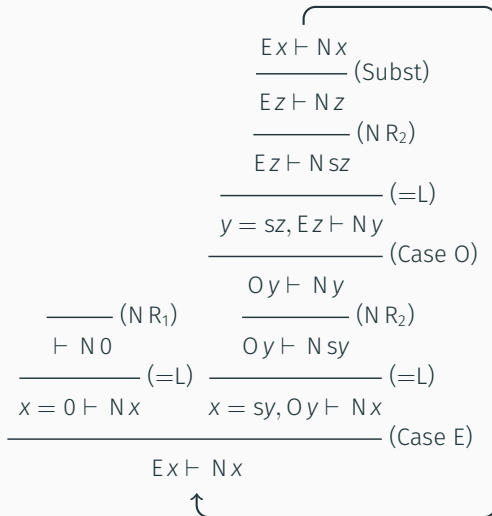
Extracting Semantic Orderings: Basic Ideas

To extract these semantic relationships from cyclic proofs:

- We have to consider traces along the **right-hand** side of sequents, which are
 - **maximally** finite
 - matched by some left-hand trace along the same path
- We then count the number of times each trace **progresses**
 - the left-hand one must progress **at least as often** as the right-hand one

Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I

$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
 $E x \Rightarrow O s x$



Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I

$\Rightarrow N 0$

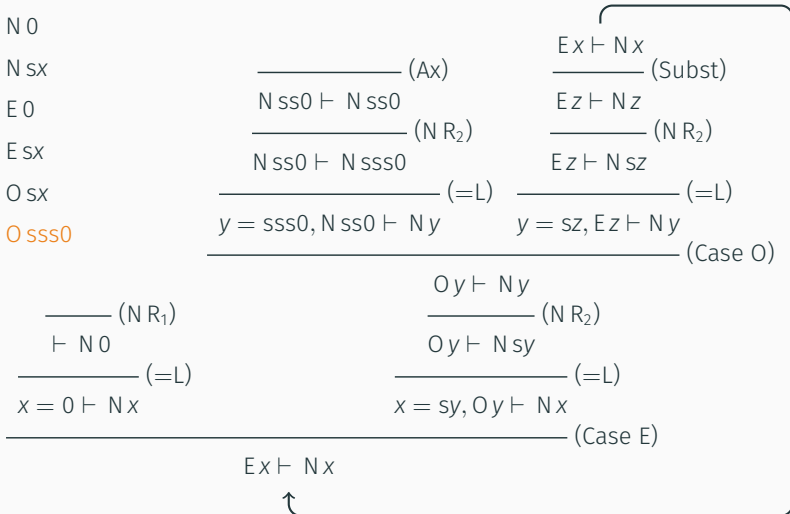
$N x \Rightarrow N s x$

$\Rightarrow E 0$

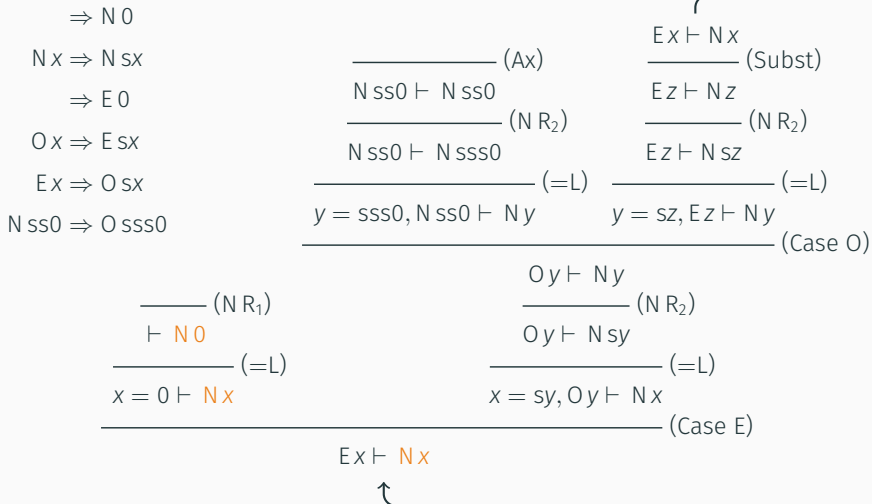
$O x \Rightarrow E s x$

$E x \Rightarrow O s x$

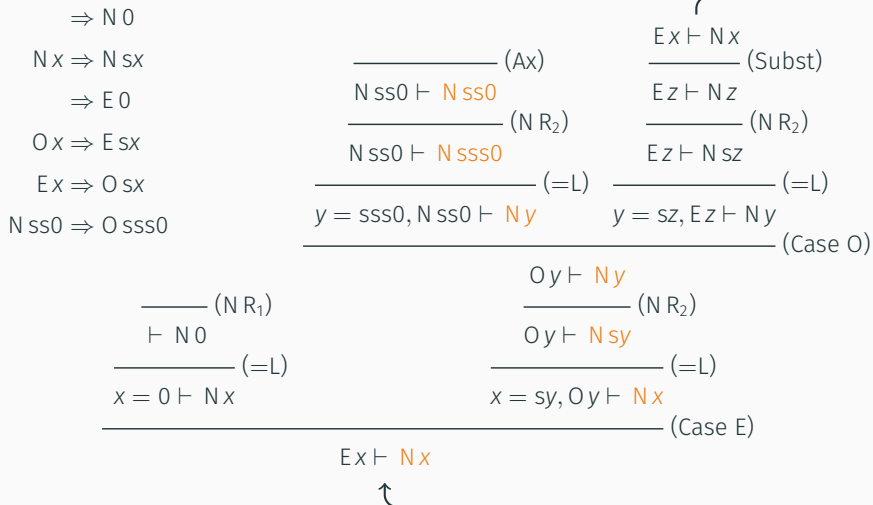
$N s s 0 \Rightarrow O s s s 0$



Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I



Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I

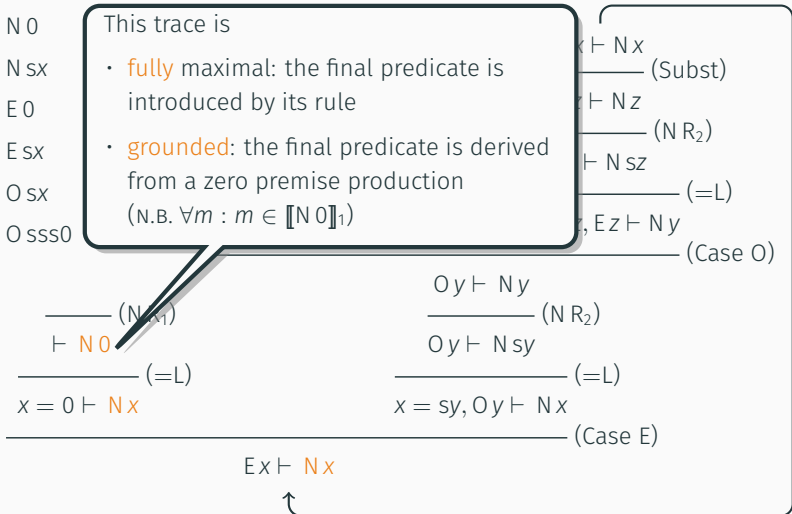


Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I

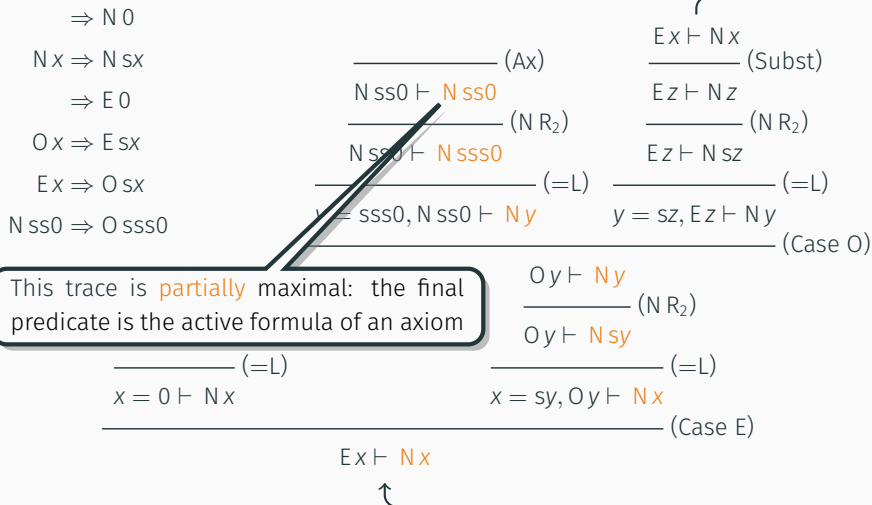
$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $N x \Rightarrow N s x$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $O x \Rightarrow E s x$
 $E x \Rightarrow O s x$
 $N s s 0 \Rightarrow O s s s 0$

This trace is

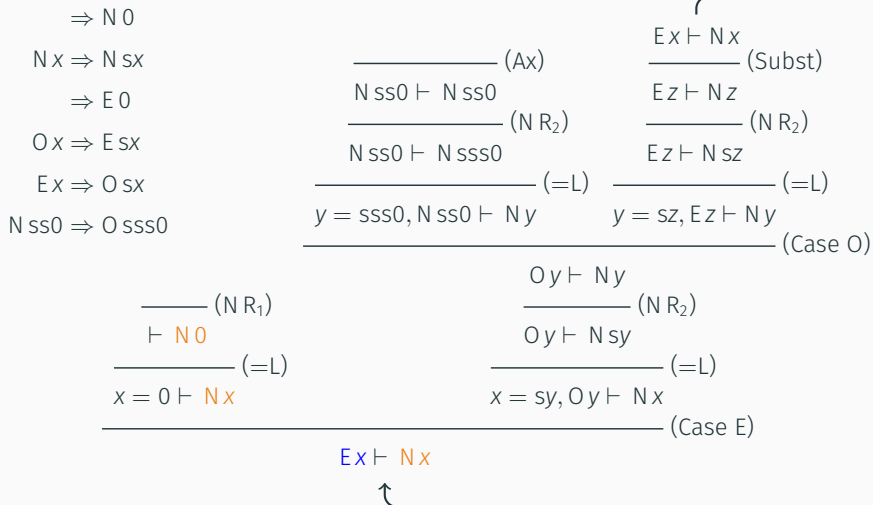
- **fully** maximal: the final predicate is introduced by its rule
- **grounded**: the final predicate is derived from a zero premise production (N.B. $\forall m : m \in \llbracket N 0 \rrbracket_1$)



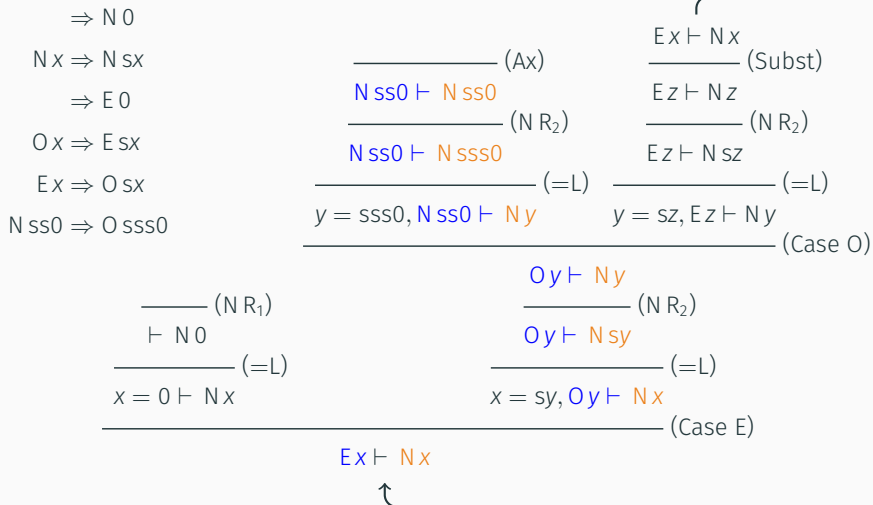
Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I



Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I



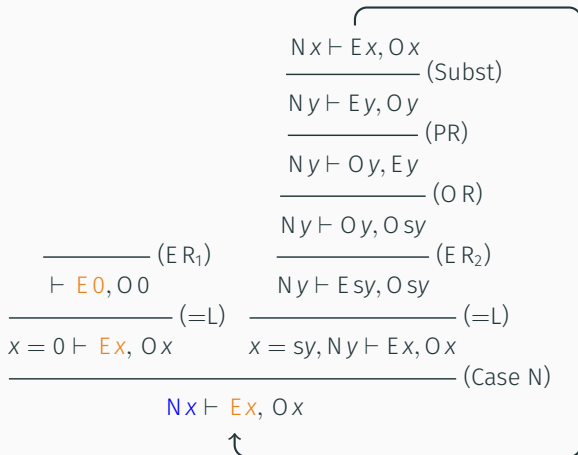
Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example I



Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example II

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash E0, O0} \text{ (ER}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash Ex, Ox} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \hline
 Nx \vdash Ex, Ox \text{ (Case N)}
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{Nx \vdash Ex, Ox}{Ny \vdash Ey, Oy} \text{ (Subst)} \\
 \frac{Ny \vdash Ey, Oy}{Ny \vdash Oy, Ey} \text{ (PR)} \\
 \frac{Ny \vdash Oy, Ey}{Ny \vdash Oy, Osy} \text{ (OR)} \\
 \frac{Ny \vdash Oy, Osy}{Ny \vdash E sy, O sy} \text{ (ER}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{Ny \vdash E sy, O sy}{x = sy, Ny \vdash Ex, Ox} \text{ (=L)}
 \end{array}$$

Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example II



Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example II

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash E0, \mathbf{O}0} \text{ (ER}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = 0 \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \hline
 \mathbf{N}x \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 \frac{Nx \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x}{Ny \vdash Ey, \mathbf{O}y} \text{ (Subst)} \\
 \frac{}{Ny \vdash Oy, Ey} \text{ (PR)} \\
 \frac{}{Ny \vdash Oy, \mathbf{O}sy} \text{ (OR)} \\
 \frac{}{Ny \vdash E sy, \mathbf{O}sy} \text{ (ER}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = sy, Ny \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x} \text{ (=L)} \\
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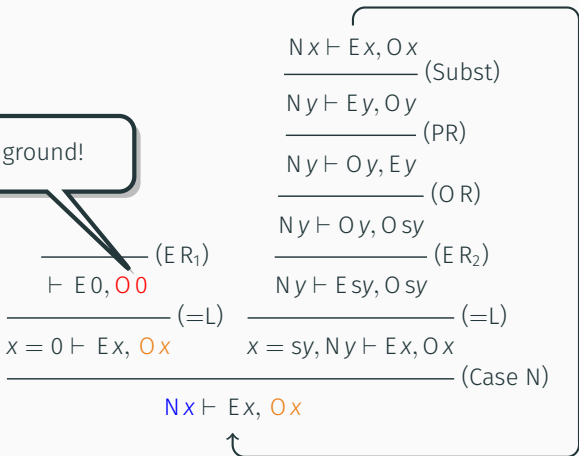
Diagram illustrating the extraction of semantic orderings for Example II. The derivation is structured as follows:

- Left side (ER₁):**
 - Starts with $\vdash E0, \mathbf{O}0$ (ER₁).
 - Derives $x = 0 \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x$ (=L).
 - Final result: $\mathbf{N}x \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x$.
- Right side (Subst, PR, OR, ER₂):**
 - Starts with $Nx \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x$.
 - Derives $Ny \vdash Ey, \mathbf{O}y$ (Subst).
 - Derives $Ny \vdash Oy, Ey$ (PR).
 - Derives $Ny \vdash Oy, \mathbf{O}sy$ (OR).
 - Derives $Ny \vdash E sy, \mathbf{O}sy$ (ER₂).
- Bottom side (Case N):**
 - Derives $x = sy, Ny \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x$ (=L).
 - Final result: $\mathbf{N}x \vdash Ex, \mathbf{O}x$ (Case N).

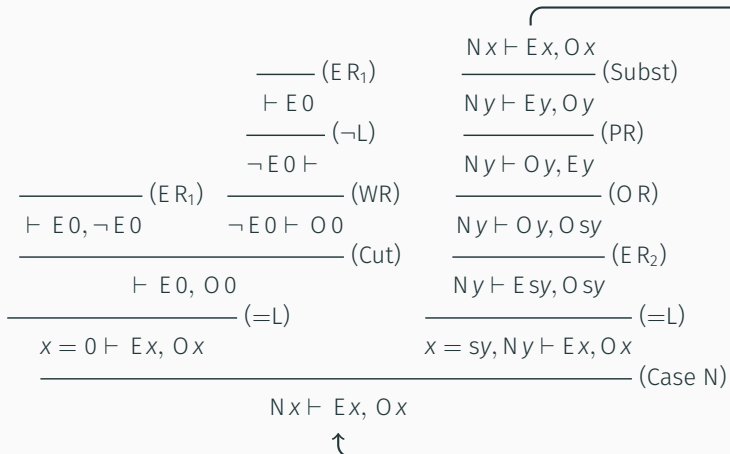
Arrows indicate the flow of information: one arrow points from the final result of the right side to the final result of the left side, and another arrow points from the final result of the bottom side to the final result of the left side.

Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example II

Not ground!

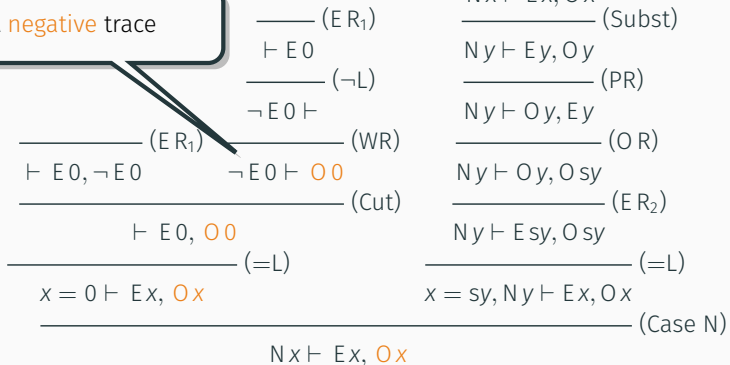


Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example II



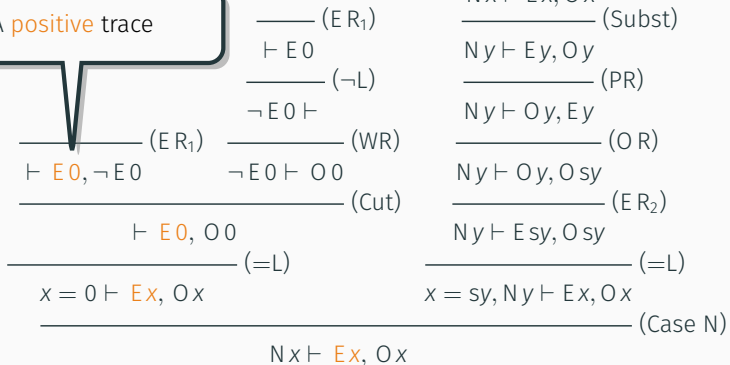
Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example II

A **negative** trace



Extracting Semantic Orderings: Example II

A **positive** trace



Definition (Realizability Condition)

For every positive maximal right-hand trace, there must exist a left-hand trace following some prefix of the same path such that:

- either the right-hand trace is grounded, or it is partially maximal with the left-hand trace matching in the length and final predicate
- right unfoldings \leq left unfoldings

Soundness of the Realizability Condition

Theorem

Suppose \mathcal{P} is a cyclic proof of $P\vec{x} \vdash Q\vec{y}$ satisfying the realizability condition, then $\llbracket P\vec{x} \rrbracket_\alpha \subseteq \llbracket Q\vec{y} \rrbracket_\alpha$, for all α (i.e. $Q\vec{y} \leq P\vec{x}$)

Proof.

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Proof.

Pick a model $m \in \llbracket P\vec{x} \rrbracket_\alpha$ (i.e. $\exists \beta \leq \alpha : m \in \llbracket P\vec{x} \rrbracket_\beta$)

- m corresponds to a positive maximal right-hand trace in \mathcal{P}
- Since \mathcal{P} is a proof $P\vec{x} \vdash Q\vec{y}$ is valid, in particular $m \in \llbracket Q\vec{y} \rrbracket$
- The number of unfoldings in this right-hand trace is an **upper** bound on the least approximation $\llbracket Q\vec{y} \rrbracket_\gamma$ containing m
- The number of unfoldings in any left-hand trace following the same path is a **lower** bound on the least approximation $\llbracket P\vec{x} \rrbracket_\delta$ containing m
- From the realizability condition, we have that $\delta \geq \gamma$

Deciding the Realizability Condition

- We use **weighted automata** to decide whether the realizability condition holds
- We construct weighted automata that count the progression points in left and right-hand traces
- The realizability condition corresponds to an **inclusion** of the right-hand trace automaton within the left-hand one

Weighted Automata

Definition (Weighted Automata)

Let Σ be an alphabet, and (V, \oplus, \otimes) a semiring of weights. A weighted automaton \mathcal{A} is a tuple (Q, q_I, F, γ) consisting of a set Q of states containing an initial state $q_I \in Q$, a set $F \subseteq Q$ of final states, and a weighted transition function $\gamma : (Q \times \Sigma \times Q) \rightarrow V$.

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1. The value of a run of \mathcal{A} is the semiring product of all its transitions
2. The value of a word is the semiring sum of all runs accepting that word
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$\mathcal{L}_1 \leq \mathcal{L}_2$ if and only if for every word w such that $\mathcal{L}_1(w)$ is defined, $\mathcal{L}_2(w)$ is also defined and $\mathcal{L}_1(w) \leq \mathcal{L}_2(w)$

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Sum automata are weighted automata over $(\mathbb{N}, +, \max)$

Weighted Automata: Existing Results

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Theorem (Krob '94, Almagor Et Al. '11)

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Definition

A weighted automaton is called **finite-valued** if there exists a bound on the number of distinct values of accepting runs on any given word

Theorem (Filiot, Gentilini & Raskin '14)

Given two finite-valued weighted automata \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} , it is decidable whether $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}} \leq \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{B}}$

Weighted Automata from Cyclic Entailment Proofs

Given a cyclic entailment proof \mathcal{P} , we can construct two kinds of finite-valued sum automata, $\mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{P}}[n]$ ($n \in \mathbb{N}$) and $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{P}}$, which count the unfoldings in left- and right-hand traces, respectively:

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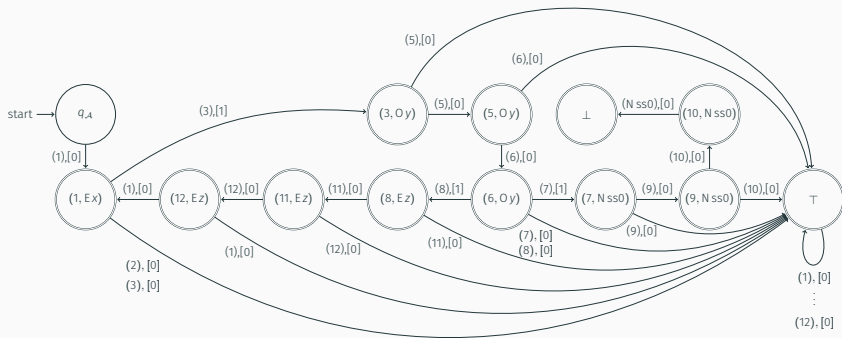
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 - A complete automaton can be constructed but is not, in general, finite-valued
- $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{P}}$ is grounded when all final states correspond to ground predicate instances

Weighted Automata from Cyclic Entailment Proofs

The full left-hand automaton for the example proof of $Ex \vdash Nx$



An Equivalence between Realizability and Weighted Inclusion

The construction of the weighted automata admits the following result:

Theorem

Let \mathcal{P} be a cyclic entailment proof which is *dynamic* and *balanced*; then \mathcal{P} satisfies the realizability condition if and only if $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{P}} \leq \mathcal{A}_{\mathcal{P}}[N]$ and $\mathcal{C}_{\mathcal{P}}$ is grounded (where N is a function of \mathcal{P})

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The proof is:

- *balanced* when every (reachable) basic trace cycle has a non-zero number of progression points
- *dynamic* when (reachable) basic *binary* trace cycles has equal numbers of left and right-hand progression points
 - a binary cycle is a pair of left and right-hand trace cycles following the same path

The bound N is a function of other graph-theoretic quantities of \mathcal{P}

Corollary: Bootstrapping Cyclic Entailment Systems

Suppose we deduce $Q\vec{u} \leq P\vec{t}$ from a proof of $\Gamma, P\vec{t} \vdash \Sigma, Q\vec{u}$

Then we can safely trace across an active cut formula

$$\frac{\Gamma, P\vec{t} \vdash \Sigma, Q\vec{u} \quad Q\vec{u}, \Pi \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, P\vec{t}, \Pi \vdash \Sigma, \Delta} \text{ (Cut)}$$

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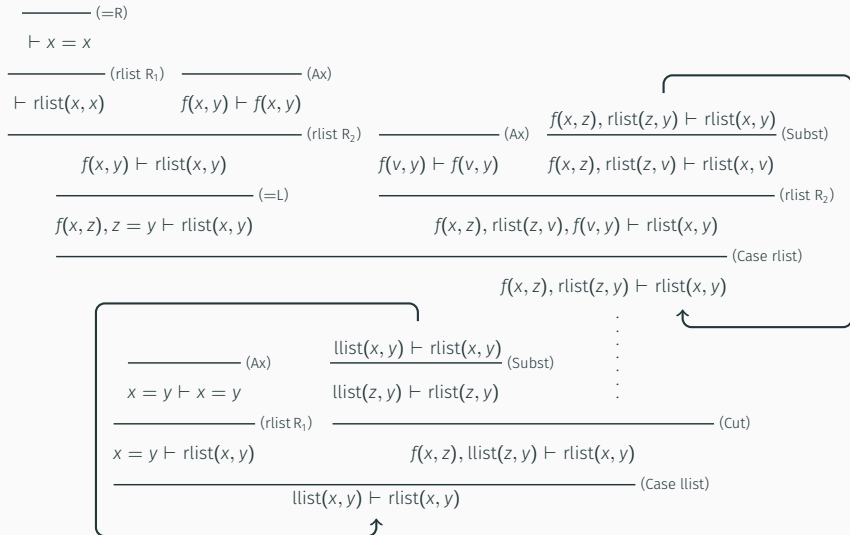
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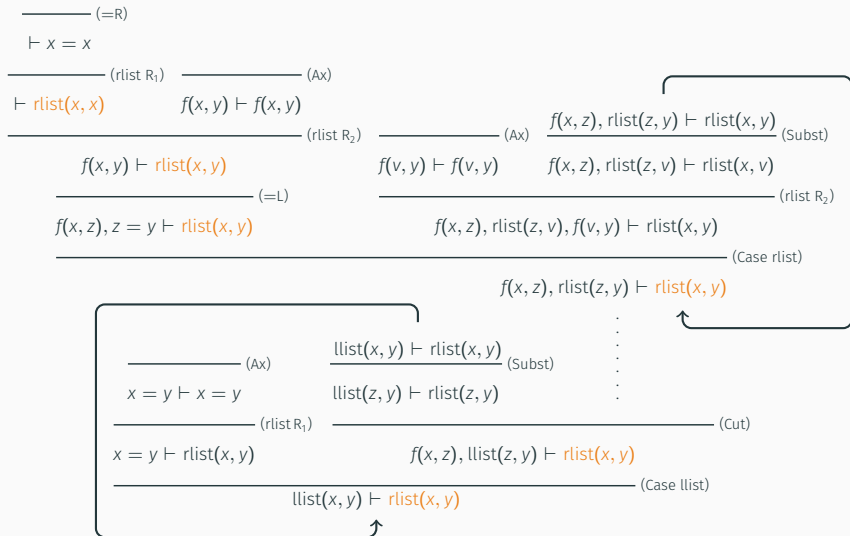
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This is explicitly forbidden in existing cyclic proof systems, precisely because there is no way to ensure in general that there is an inclusion between $\llbracket P\vec{t} \rrbracket_\alpha$ and $\llbracket Q\vec{u} \rrbracket_\alpha$

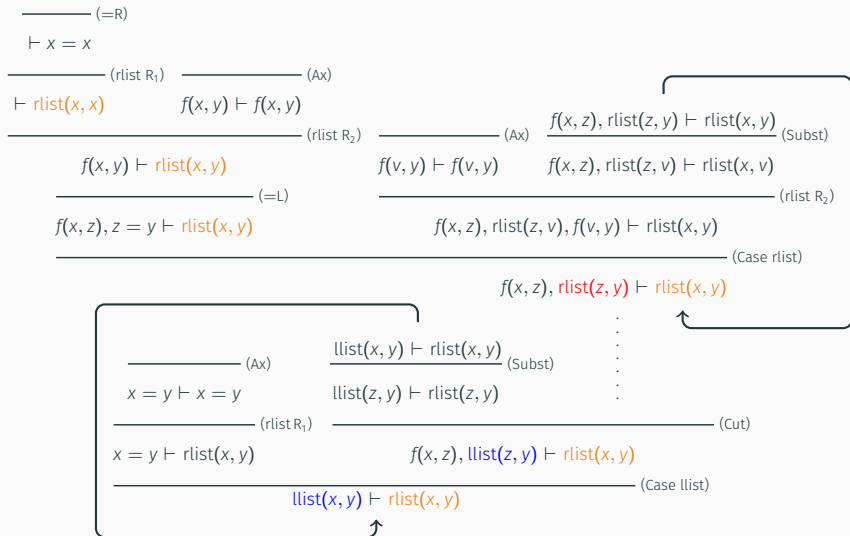
Limitations: Problems with Cuts



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Conclusions

- We have shown that information about inclusions between the semantics of inductive predicates can be extracted from cyclic proofs of entailments
- This information can be used to construct ranking functions for programs
- Our results are formulated abstractly, and so hold for any cyclic proof system whose rules satisfy certain properties (e.g. separation logic)
- We use the term **realizability** because we extract semantic information from the proofs

Future Work

- Implement the decision procedure within the cyclic proof-based verification framework CYCLIST
- Evaluate to what extent entailments found ‘in the wild’ satisfy the realizability condition
- Extend the results to better handle cuts in proofs
- Investigate further theoretical questions:
 - are there weaker structural properties of proofs that still admit completeness with the approximate automata
 - If the semantic inclusion $\llbracket P\vec{x} \rrbracket_\alpha \subseteq \llbracket Q\vec{y} \rrbracket_\alpha$ holds, is there a cyclic proof of $P\vec{x} \vdash Q\vec{y}$ satisfying the realizability condition?