

INTRODUCTION TO PROOF THEORY  
**Exercises 3 - Gentzen's sequent calculus**

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# The system LK

## INITIAL AND STRUCTURAL RULES

$$\text{id} \frac{}{A \vdash A} \quad \text{w-l} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \quad \text{w-r} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A} \quad \text{c-l} \frac{A, A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{A, \Gamma \vdash \Delta} \quad \text{c-r} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A, A}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A}$$

## PROPOSITIONAL RULES:

$$\perp\text{-l} \frac{}{\perp \vdash} \quad \left( \perp\text{-r} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, \perp} \right) \quad \rightarrow\text{-l} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \quad B, \Gamma \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, A \rightarrow B \vdash \Delta} \quad \rightarrow\text{-r} \frac{\Gamma, A \vdash B, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash A \rightarrow B, \Delta}$$

## QUANTIFIER RULES:

$$\forall\text{-l} \frac{\Gamma, A[t/x] \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \forall x.A \vdash \Delta} \quad \forall\text{-r} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A[y/x]}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, \forall x.A} \quad \exists\text{-r} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A[t/x]}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, \exists x.A} \quad \exists\text{-l} \frac{\Gamma, A[y/x] \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, \exists x.A \vdash \Delta}$$

where  $y \notin \text{FV}(\Gamma, \Delta, A)$ .

## CUT RULE:

$$\text{cut} \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, A \quad A, \Gamma' \vdash \Delta'}{\Gamma, \Gamma' \vdash \Delta, \Delta'}$$

## Exercises, Lecture 3

- ① We saw that modus ponens could be simulated in LK. Give cut-free LK proofs for each of the three propositional axioms of  $\mathcal{F}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}(\text{wk}) \quad & A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow A) \\(\text{dist}) \quad & (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)) \\(\text{neg}) \quad & ((A \rightarrow \perp) \rightarrow \perp) \rightarrow A\end{aligned}$$

- ② What about the quantifier axioms and rule:

$$\text{gen} \frac{A}{\forall x A} \quad \forall x. A \rightarrow A[t/x] \\ \forall x. (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \forall x. B) \quad \text{as long as } x \notin \text{FV}(A)$$

**(NB:** this concludes the proof of completeness of LK).

- ③ What possible rules might we need if we had  $\vee$  and  $\wedge$  in our language?
- ④ (**Puzzle**). There are 100 ants on a 1m stick, facing either end of the stick. They start moving at 1m/s and, every time they collide, they perfectly rebound. How long does it take for all the ants to fall off the stick (in the worst case)?
- ⑤ (**Still hard**). Revisiting Exercise 4 (Propositional logic) from Lecture 1: can you now show that Peirce's law,  $((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A$ , is not intuitionistically valid?

**Hint:** use completeness of cut-free proof search in LJ for intuitionistic logic.