

Uniform Inductive Reasoning in Transitive Closure Logic via Infinite Descent

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- Carry out formal inductive reasoning
- Do so automatically (as much as possible)
- Study/compare different 'styles' of inductive reasoning

Formalising Inductive Reasoning

Explicit Inductive Definitions

- Use clauses to inductively define predicates:

$$\phi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \phi_n \Rightarrow P(\vec{t})$$

⋮

$$\psi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \psi_m \Rightarrow P(\vec{t})$$

- We take the smallest interpretation closed under the rules

$$\overline{\mathbf{N}0} \quad \frac{\mathbf{N}x}{\mathbf{N}sx} \quad \overline{\mathbf{E}0} \quad \frac{\mathbf{O}x}{\mathbf{E}sx} \quad \frac{\mathbf{E}x}{\mathbf{O}sx}$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{N} \rrbracket = \{0, s0, ss0, \dots, s^n 0, \dots\}$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{E} \rrbracket = \{0, ss0, \dots, s^{2n} 0, \dots\}$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{O} \rrbracket = \{s0, \dots, s^{2n+1} 0, \dots\}$$

Reasoning Using Explicit Induction Principles

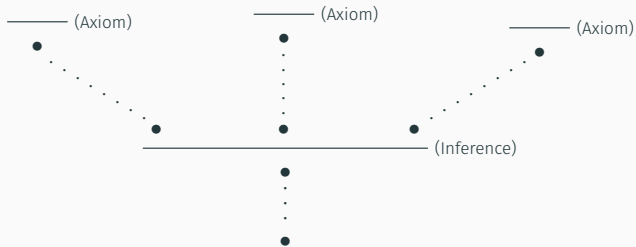
- We reason using the corresponding **induction principles**

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \text{IND}_Q(F) \text{ (}\forall Q \text{ mutually recursive with } P) \quad \Gamma, F(\vec{t}) \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, P\vec{t} \vdash \Delta}$$

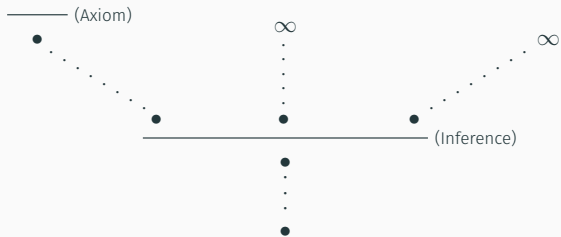
- E.g. the productions for **N** give

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash F(0) \quad \Gamma, F(x) \vdash F(sx) \quad \Gamma, F(t) \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, Nt \vdash \Delta}$$

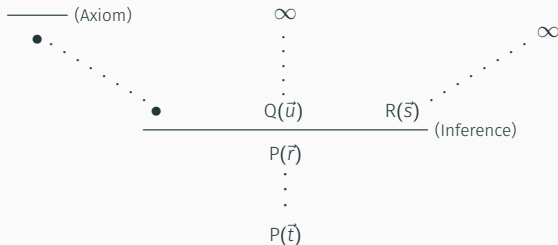
Non-well-founded Proofs: Reasoning by Infinite Descent



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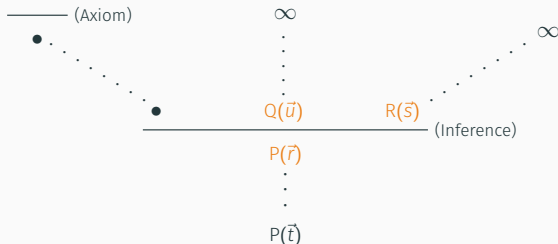


Non-well-founded Proofs: Reasoning by Infinite Descent



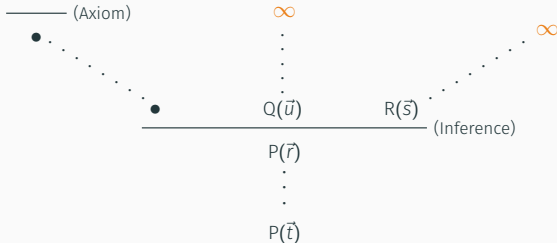
- We trace predicate instances through the proof

Non-well-founded Proofs: Reasoning by Infinite Descent



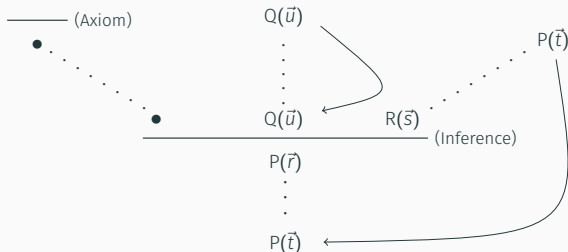
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Non-well-founded Proofs: Reasoning by Infinite Descent



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- Each infinite path must admit some **infinite descent**

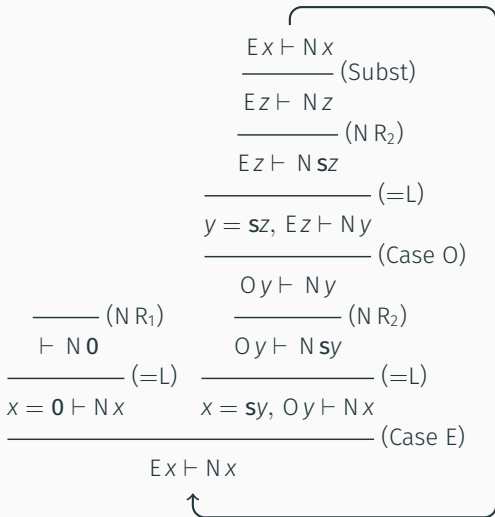
Non-well-founded Proofs: Reasoning by Infinite Descent



- We trace predicate instances through the proof
 - At certain points, these **progress** (i.e. get 'smaller')
- Each infinite path must admit some **infinite descent**
- This **global trace condition** is an ω -regular property
 - i.e. decidable using Büchi automata

An Example Cyclic Proof

$\Rightarrow N 0$
 $Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$
 $\Rightarrow E 0$
 $Ox \Rightarrow Esx$
 $Ex \Rightarrow Osx$



An Example Cyclic Proof

Left unfolding rule

$\Rightarrow N 0$

$Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$

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$\frac{}{\vdash N 0}$ (NR₁)

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

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

$\frac{Ez \vdash Nz}{}$ (NR₂)

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

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

$\frac{Oy \vdash Ny}{}$ (NR₂)

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

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

$Ex \vdash Nx$



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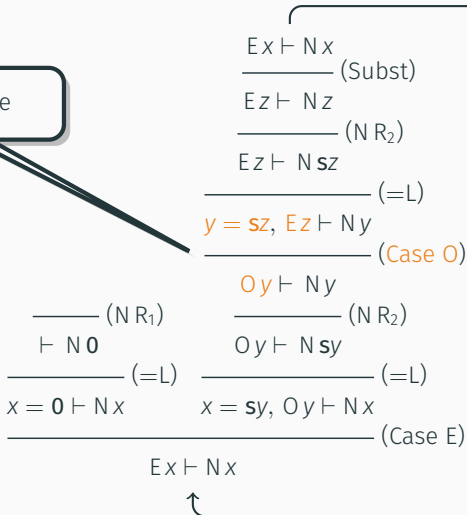
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An Example Cyclic Proof

Right unfolding rule

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{N0}$

$Nx \Rightarrow Nsx$

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{E0}$

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$Ex \Rightarrow Osx$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{}{\vdash \mathbf{N0}} \text{ (NR}_1\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{x = \mathbf{0} \vdash Nx} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{Ex \vdash Nx} \text{ (Case E)} \\
 \frac{}{Oy \vdash Ny} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{Oy \vdash Nsy} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{y = sz, Ez \vdash Ny} \text{ (Case O)} \\
 \frac{}{Ez \vdash Nsz} \text{ (=L)} \\
 \frac{}{Ez \vdash Nz} \text{ (NR}_2\text{)} \\
 \frac{}{Ex \vdash Nx} \text{ (Subst)}
 \end{array}$$



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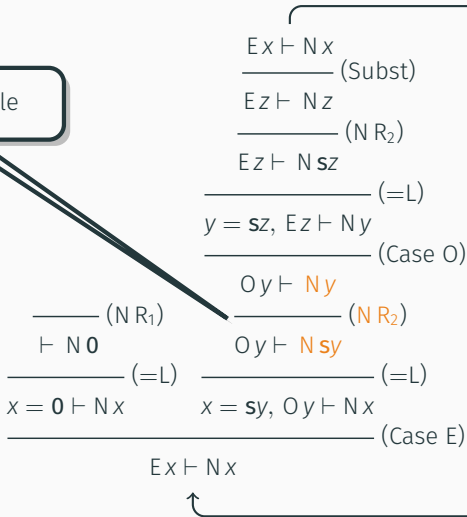
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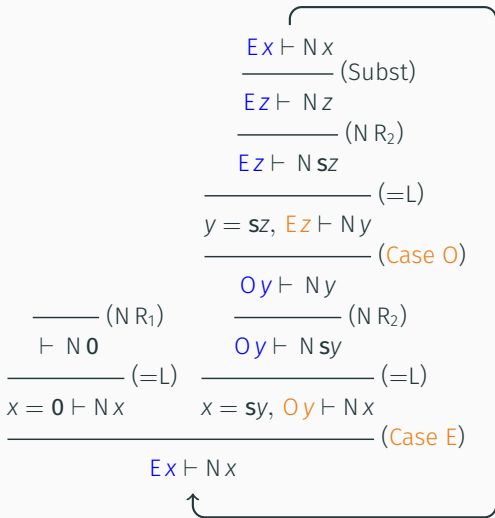
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 \frac{Ez \vdash Nz}{\quad} \text{(NR}_2\text{)} \\
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 \end{array}$$

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Comparing the Two Approaches

For FOL with Martin-Löf style inductive definitions:

[Brotherston & Simpson, 2007]

- Infinitary system sound/complete for standard semantics

- Explicit induction sound/complete for Henkin semantics

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- Infinitary system sound/complete for standard semantics
- Cyclic system subsumes explicit induction
 - Equivalent under arithmetic
 - Not equivalent in general (2-Hydra counterexample)

[Berardi & Tatsuta, 2017]

- Explicit induction sound/complete for Henkin semantics

Transitive Closure Logic

Transitive Closure Logic

Transitive Closure (TC) Logic extends FOL with formulas:

- $(RTC_{x,y} \varphi)(s, t)$
 - φ is a formula
 - x and y are distinct variables (which become bound in φ)
 - s and t are terms

whose intended meaning is an **infinite disjunction**

$$\begin{aligned} s = t \vee & \varphi[s/x, t/y] \\ & \vee (\exists w_1 . \varphi[s/x, w_1/y] \wedge \varphi[w_1/x, t/y]) \\ & \vee (\exists w_1, w_2 . \varphi[s/x, w_1/y] \wedge \varphi[w_1/x, w_2/y] \wedge \varphi[w_2/x, t/y]) \\ & \vee \dots \end{aligned}$$

Transitive Closure Logic: Standard Semantics

The formal semantics:

- M is a (standard) first-order model with domain D
- v is a valuation of terms in M :

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$$\exists a_0, \dots, a_n \in D . v(s) = a_0 \wedge v(t) = a_n$$

$$\wedge M, v[x := a_i, y := a_{i+1}] \models \varphi \quad \text{for all } i < n$$



Example: Arithmetic in TC

Take a signature $\Sigma = \{0, s\}$ + equality

$$\text{Nat}(x) \equiv (\text{RTC}_{v,w} \text{sv} = w)(0, x)$$



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“ $x = y + z$ ” \equiv

$$(RTC_{v,w} \exists n_1, n_2 . v = \langle n_1, n_2 \rangle \wedge w = \langle \mathbf{s}n_1, \mathbf{s}n_2 \rangle)(\langle \mathbf{0}, y \rangle, \langle z, x \rangle)$$

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$\langle 0, y \rangle$

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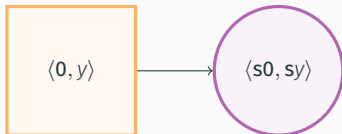
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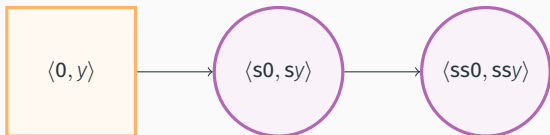
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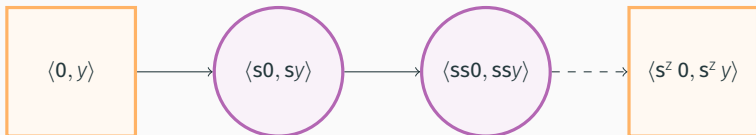
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Proof Rules for Reasoning in TC

reflexivity $\frac{}{\vdash (RTC_{x,y} \varphi)(t, t)}$

step $\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, (RTC_{x,y} \varphi)(s, r) \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta, \varphi[r/x, t/y]}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, (RTC_{x,y} \varphi)(s, t)}$

induction $\frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta, \psi[s/x] \quad \Gamma, \psi(x), \varphi(x, y) \vdash \Delta, \psi[y/x] \quad \Gamma, \psi[t/x] \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, (RTC_{x,y} \varphi)(s, t) \vdash \Delta}$

$x \notin \text{fv}(\Gamma, \Delta)$ and $y \notin \text{fv}(\Gamma, \Delta, \psi)$

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case-split $\frac{\Gamma, s = t \vdash \Delta \quad \Gamma, (RTC_{x,y} \varphi)(s, z), \varphi[z/x, t/y] \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma, (RTC_{x,y} \varphi)(s, t) \vdash \Delta}$ (z fresh)

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Advantages of TC as a Formal Framework

- It is only a **minimal** extension of FOL
- It only requires a single, **uniform** induction principle
- No need to 'choose' particular inductive definitions
- Inductive definitions can use arbitrary formulas
- It is a sufficiently **expressive** logic

Theorem (Avron '03)

All finitely inductively definable relations[†] are definable in TC.

A. Avron, *Transitive Closure and the Mechanization of Mathematics*.

[†]as formalised in: S. Feferman, *Finitary Inductively Presented Logics*, 1989

Comparing Styles of Induction for TC

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- Infinitary system sound/complete for standard semantics
- Cyclic system subsumes explicit induction
 - Equivalent under arithmetic
 - **Don't know if they are inequivalent in general!**
 - 2-Hydra does not work since all inductive definitions available via *RTC*
- Explicit induction sound/complete for Henkin semantics

Future Work

- open question of equivalence for **TC** proof systems
- Implementation to support automated reasoning.
- Use **TC** to better study implicit vs explicit induction.
- Adapt **TC** for coinductive reasoning?

Thank you!