

Notice!

In the next week, we will have a report assignment.

## Curry-Howard Correspondence

### Intuitionistic Logic

Let us consider the following proposition and proof.

**Proposition.** There is an irrational  $a$  such that  $a^b$  is rational for an irrational  $b$ .

**Proof.** Let us consider a number  $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$ . If  $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$  is irrational, then take  $a = \sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$  and  $b = \sqrt{2}$ . If  $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$  is rational, then take  $a = \sqrt{2}$  and  $b = \sqrt{2}$ .

This proof is correct in the *classical* logic, but does not exactly give us those  $a$  and  $b$ . In other words, the proof is *not constructive*. In contrast, we can prove the proposition by taking  $a = \sqrt{2}$  and  $b = 2 \log 3$  (in this case  $a^b = 3$ ). This proof is *constructive* in the sense that we have constructed this concrete pair of  $a$  and  $b$ .

The *intuitionistic logic*, very roughly speaking, is a (sort of) logic that allows only constructive proofs:  $P \vee Q$  has a proof only when we have a proof of  $P$  or a proof of  $Q$ , and  $\exists x.P(x)$  has a proof only when we find a concrete  $a$  such that  $P(a)$  holds. This is quite different from the classical logic, in which we can prove  $P \vee \neg P$  without proving  $P$  or  $\neg P$ . Notice that we used the fact that  $\sqrt{2}^{\sqrt{2}}$  is either rational or irrational in the above proof.

### Minimal (Propositional) Logic

Here, the set of propositional formulas is defined as follows.

$$A ::= P \mid A_1 \Rightarrow A_2 \mid A_1 \wedge A_2 \mid A_1 \vee A_2$$

Sometimes, we consider a special propositional letter  $\perp$ .

We will give a set of deduction rules for the minimal logic, a negation-free fragment of intuitionistic propositional logic, in the natural deduction style. The judgment  $\Delta \vdash A$  explicitly includes the assumptions as  $\Delta$ :

which is read that under a set  $\Delta$  of assumptions  $A$  holds.

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{A \in \Delta}{\Delta \vdash A} \text{AX} \quad \frac{\Delta \cup \{A_1\} \vdash A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \Rightarrow A_2} \Rightarrow\text{-I} \quad \frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \Rightarrow A_2 \quad \Delta \vdash A_1}{\Delta \vdash A_2} \Rightarrow\text{-E} \\ \\ \frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \quad \Delta \vdash A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \wedge A_2} \wedge\text{-I} \quad \frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \wedge A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1} \wedge\text{-E}_1 \quad \frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \wedge A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_2} \wedge\text{-E}_2 \\ \\ \frac{\Delta \vdash A_1}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \vee A_2} \vee\text{-I}_1 \quad \frac{\Delta \vdash A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \vee A_2} \vee\text{-I}_2 \quad \frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \Delta \cup \{A_1\} \vdash A' \quad \Delta \cup \{A_2\} \vdash A'}{\Delta \vdash A'} \vee\text{-E} \end{array}$$

We say that  $A$  is *provable* under assumptions  $\Delta$  if  $\Delta \vdash A$  is derivable (i.e., there is a derivation tree whose root concludes  $\Delta \vdash A$ ), and especially when  $\Delta = \emptyset$ , we just say that  $A$  is *provable*. Some examples of deducible formula are  $((P \Rightarrow Q) \wedge P) \Rightarrow Q$  and  $(P \wedge Q) \Rightarrow (Q \wedge P)$ . A derivation tree in a proof system is sometimes called a *proof tree*.

**Exercise.** Write proof trees for  $((P \Rightarrow Q) \wedge P) \Rightarrow Q$  and  $(P \wedge Q) \Rightarrow (Q \wedge P)$ . □

**Exercise.** Write a proof tree for  $((P \Rightarrow Q) \Rightarrow P) \wedge (P \Rightarrow (P \Rightarrow Q)) \Rightarrow Q$ . □

Adding the following rule, we will obtain a proof system of the *intuitionistic propositional logic*.

$$\frac{\Delta \vdash \perp}{\Delta \vdash A} \perp\text{-E}$$

The rule is sometimes called *ex falso quodlibet* (“from falsehood, anything”). Then, negation  $\neg A$  is given as a shorthand for  $A \Rightarrow \perp$ . Check that  $\Delta \vdash A$  and  $\Delta \vdash A \Rightarrow \perp$  implies  $\Delta \vdash \perp$ , and  $\Delta, A \vdash \perp$  implies  $\Delta \vdash A \Rightarrow \perp$ .

Adding *either* one of the following rules to the proof system of the intuitionistic propositional logic, we will obtain a proof system for the *classical propositional logic*.

$$\frac{\Delta \vdash (A \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow \perp}{\Delta \vdash A} \text{DNE} \quad \frac{}{\Delta \vdash A \vee (A \Rightarrow \perp)} \text{EM} \quad \frac{\Delta \cup \{A \Rightarrow \perp\} \vdash \perp}{\Delta \vdash A} \text{PBC}$$

The system is known to be sound and complete; i.e.,  $A$  is provable if and only if  $A$  is a tautology. Also, it is known that  $A$  is provable in the classical logic if and only if  $\neg\neg A$  is provable in the intuitionistic logic.

**Exercise.** Write a proof tree of  $((P \Rightarrow Q) \Rightarrow P) \Rightarrow P$  in the classical propositional logic.

## Curry-Howard Correspondence

We define the function  $\phi(-)$  from types to propositional formulas as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(P) &= P && (P \text{ is a base type}) \\ \phi(\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2) &= \phi(\tau_1) \Rightarrow \phi(\tau_2) \\ \phi(\tau_1 \times \tau_2) &= \phi(\tau_1) \wedge \phi(\tau_2) \\ \phi(\tau_1 + \tau_2) &= \phi(\tau_1) \vee \phi(\tau_2) \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,  $\phi(-)$  is a bijection. Also, we define the function  $\text{erase}(-)$  as follows.

$$\text{erase}(\Gamma) = \{\phi(\tau) \mid (x, \tau) \in \Gamma\}$$

Then, we have a following theorem.

**Theorem** (Curry-Howard Correspondence).

- For any  $\Gamma$ ,  $M$  and  $\tau$ ,  $\Gamma \vdash M : \tau$  implies  $\text{erase}(\Gamma) \vdash \phi(\tau)$ .
- For any  $\Delta$  and  $A$ , there exist  $\Gamma$  and  $M$  such that  $\Delta \vdash A$  implies  $\Gamma \vdash M : \phi^{-1}(A)$ , and  $\Delta = \text{erase}(\Gamma)$ .

We do not show the complete proof (that can be done by induction on the derivations), but show intuition underlying the proof by writing corresponding typing/deduction rules side by side, as follows.

$\frac{(x, \tau) \in \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash x : \tau} \text{T-VAR}$	$\frac{A \in \Delta}{\Delta \vdash A} \text{AX}$
$\frac{\Gamma \uplus \{x \mapsto \tau_1\} \vdash M : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x. M : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2} \text{T-ABS}$	$\frac{\Delta \cup \{A_1\} \vdash A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \rightarrow A_2} \Rightarrow\text{-I}$
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2 \quad \Gamma \vdash N : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash M N : \tau_2} \text{T-APP}$	$\frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \Rightarrow A_2 \quad \Delta \vdash A_1}{\Delta \vdash A_2} \Rightarrow\text{-E}$
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau_1 \quad \Gamma \vdash N : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash (M, N) : \tau_1 \times \tau_2} \text{T-PAIR}$	$\frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \quad \Delta \vdash A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \wedge A_2} \wedge\text{-I}$
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \pi_1 M : \tau_1} \text{T-FST}$	$\frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \wedge A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1} \wedge\text{-E}_1$
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau_1 \times \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \pi_2 M : \tau_2} \text{T-SND}$	$\frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \wedge A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_2} \wedge\text{-E}_2$
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau_1}{\Gamma \vdash \text{lnL } M : \tau_1 + \tau_2} \text{T-LEFT}$	$\frac{\Delta \vdash A_1}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \vee A_2} \vee\text{-I}_1$
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau_2}{\Gamma \vdash \text{lnR } M : \tau_1 + \tau_2} \text{T-RIGHT}$	$\frac{\Delta \vdash A_2}{\Delta \vdash A_1 \vee A_2} \vee\text{-I}_2$
$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \tau_1 + \tau_2 \quad \Gamma \uplus \{x \mapsto \tau_1\} \vdash N_1 : \tau' \quad \Gamma \uplus \{y \mapsto \tau_2\} \vdash N_2 : \tau'}{\Gamma \vdash \text{case } M \text{ of } (x.N_1) (y.N_2) : \tau'} \text{T-CASE}$	$\frac{\Delta \vdash A_1 \vee A_2 \quad \Delta \cup \{A_1\} \vdash A' \quad \Delta \cup \{A_2\} \vdash A'}{\Delta \vdash A'} \vee\text{-E}$

In this sense, a  $\lambda$ -term represents a proof in the minimal logic. Such a term representing a proof is sometimes called a *proof term*.

**Exercise.** Give  $\lambda$ -terms of the types  $((P \rightarrow Q) \times P) \rightarrow Q$  and  $(P \times Q) \rightarrow (Q \times P)$ , where  $P$  and  $Q$  are some base types. Show their typing derivations.  $\square$

**Exercise.** Give a  $\lambda$ -term of the type  $((P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow P) \wedge (P \rightarrow (P \rightarrow Q)) \rightarrow Q$ , where  $P$  and  $Q$  are some base types. Show its typing derivation.  $\square$

**Exercise.** Give a  $\lambda$ -term of the type  $((P + (P \rightarrow R)) \rightarrow R) \rightarrow R$ , where  $P$  and  $R$  are some types. Show its typing derivation.  $\square$

## Consistency via Curry-Howard

**Definition** (Consistency). We call a proof system *consistent* if  $\perp$  is not provable in the system.  $\square$

**Theorem.** The minimal logic is consistent.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\emptyset \vdash \perp$ . Then, by Curry-Howard correspondence, we have a term  $M$  such that  $\emptyset \vdash M : \perp$ . (That is, the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus is a model of the minimal logic.) By the subject reduction property and strong normalization, we have a value  $V$  such that  $\emptyset \vdash V : \perp$ . Then, we perform case analysis of the form of  $V$  to show that  $V$  cannot have type  $\perp$  for each case.

If  $V$  has the form of  $\lambda x.V'$  for some  $V'$ . Its type must have the form of  $\tau_1 \rightarrow \tau_2$ , which cannot be  $\perp$ . Similar discussions apply to the cases  $V = (V_1, V_2)$ ,  $V = \text{InL } V'$ , and  $V = \text{InR } V'$ . Then, we consider the case where  $V = W$  for a neutral term  $W$ . However, it is easy to show that  $\text{FV}(W) \neq \emptyset$  and  $W$  cannot have any type under the empty type environment.  $\square$

In the proof, subjection reduction and strong normalization play very important roles in showing consistency. Generally speaking, these two properties are important in a proof calculus based on Curry-Howard correspondence, such as the calculus of construction and the Martin-Löf type theory. Both are (quite big) extension of the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus, and underlie proof assistants Coq and Agda, respectively.

## FYI: Simply-Typed $\lambda$ -Calculus for Intuitionistic Propositional Logic with Negation

We add following construct to the simply-typed  $\lambda$ -calculus with pairs and sums.

$$M, N ::= \dots \mid \text{error } M$$

Accordingly, we add  $\perp$  to the set of types. Its reduction rules are given by:

$$\frac{}{(\text{error } M) N \longrightarrow \text{error } M} \quad \frac{}{\pi_i (\text{error } M) \longrightarrow \text{error } M}$$

$$\frac{}{\text{case } (\text{error } M) \text{ of } (x.N_1) (y.N_2) \longrightarrow \text{error } M} \quad \frac{}{\text{error } (\text{error } M) \longrightarrow \text{error } M}$$

alongside with

$$\frac{M \longrightarrow M'}{\text{error } M \longrightarrow \text{error } M'}$$

Intuitively, **error** propagates the “exception” that something wrong has happened.

We also extend the set of values.

$$V ::= \dots \mid \text{error } W$$

The typing rule for **error** is designed as a correspondent to the rule  $\perp$ -E.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \perp}{\Gamma \vdash \text{error } M : \tau} \text{T-ERROR}$$

Still we have many important properties, including subject reduction, progress, and strong normalization. Also, check that there is no value that has type  $\perp$  under the empty type environment.

**Exercise.** Give a  $\lambda$ -term of type  $((P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow P) \rightarrow ((P \rightarrow \perp) \rightarrow \perp)$ . Show its typing derivation.

## FYI: Kripke Model of Intuitionistic Logic

In the classical logic, a proposition is either true or false. However, in the intuitionistic logic, things are not that simple; there is a proposition  $A$  such that  $A$  is not provable whereas  $\neg A$  leads to contradiction (i.e.,  $\neg\neg A$  is provable). So, what does a proposition in the intuitionistic logic *represent*?

Curry-Howard correspondence suggests that a proposition  $A$  represents a set of proofs for  $A$ : a proof for  $A_1 \wedge A_2$  is a pair of proofs for  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  respectively, a proof for  $A_1 \vee A_2$  is either a left-tagged proof of  $A_1$  or a right-tagged proof of  $A_2$ , and a proof for  $A_1 \Rightarrow A_2$  is a function that maps a proof of  $A_1$  to a proof of  $A_2$ . This view of propositions is known as the *BHK* interpretation, which clarify the constructive nature of the intuitionistic logic.

Here, we introduce another model of the intuitionistic propositional logic called the Kripke model.

**Definition** (Kripke model). A Kripke model is a triple  $(W, \preceq, \Vdash)$  of a non-empty set  $W$ , a partial-order  $\preceq$  on  $W$ , and binary relation  $\Vdash$  between  $W$  and propositional formulas, satisfying the following conditions for any  $w \in W$  and any propositions  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ .

- if  $w \preceq w'$ ,  $w \Vdash P$  implies  $w' \Vdash P$  for any propositional letter  $P$ .
- $w \Vdash A_1 \wedge A_2$  if and only if  $w \Vdash A_1$  and  $w \Vdash A_2$ .
- $w \Vdash A_1 \vee A_2$  if and only if either  $w \Vdash A_1$  or  $w \Vdash A_2$ .
- $w \Vdash A_1 \Rightarrow A_2$  if and only if  $w' \Vdash A_2$  for any  $w'$  such that  $w \preceq w'$  and  $w' \Vdash A_1$ .
- $w \Vdash \perp$  does not hold for any  $w \in W$ . □

Elements of  $W$  are sometimes called *world*. Intuitively,  $w \preceq w'$  means that  $w'$  is a future of  $w$ , and  $w \Vdash A$  means that we *know* that  $A$  holds at world  $w$ . The first line says that, once we know that  $P$  holds, we also know that  $P$  holds in any future. The condition of  $w \Vdash A_1 \Rightarrow A_2$  means that if we know that  $A_1$  holds now or in some future,  $A_2$  must hold from this point. Notice that, for any world  $w$ , we have that  $w \Vdash \neg A$  if and only if  $w' \not\Vdash A$

for any world  $w'$  such that  $w \preceq w'$ . In other words,  $A$  does not hold neither now nor in the future. We omit the last line if we consider the minimal logic instead of the full intuitionistic propositional logic.

Sometimes, for a Kripke model  $\mathcal{M} = (W, \preceq, \Vdash)$ , we write  $\mathcal{M}, w \Vdash A$  to clarify the model we consider. For a Kripke model  $\mathcal{M} = (W, \preceq, \Vdash)$ , we write  $\mathcal{M}, w \Vdash \Delta$  if  $\mathcal{M}, w \Vdash A$  for all  $A \in \Delta$ . Also, we write  $\Delta \Vdash A$  if for every Kripke model  $\mathcal{M} = (W, \preceq, \Vdash)$  and world  $w \in W$ ,  $\mathcal{M}, w \Vdash \Delta$  implies  $\mathcal{M}, w \Vdash A$ .

It is known that the proof system of the intuitionistic propositional logic is sound and complete with respect to the Kripke model.

**Theorem.**  $\Delta \vdash A$  if and only  $\Delta \Vdash A$ . □

Model theory is sometimes useful to show that a certain proposition is not provable.

**Example(s).** We show that  $\Vdash ((P \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow P$  by giving a concrete model  $\mathcal{M} = (W, \preceq, \Vdash)$  such that  $w \not\Vdash ((P \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow P$  for some  $w \in W$ . To give such a model, there must be a world such that  $w \Vdash ((P \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow \perp)$  but not  $w \Vdash P$ . The former condition means that for any world  $w'$  with  $w \preceq w'$ , there is some  $w''$  such that  $w' \preceq w''$  and  $w'' \Vdash P$ . That is,  $P$  necessarily holds, but  $P$  is not required to be true now. Thus,  $\mathcal{M} = (\{w_1, w_2\}, \{(w_1, w_2)\}^*, \{(w_2, P)\})$  is such a model because  $w_1 \Vdash (P \Rightarrow \perp) \Rightarrow \perp$  holds but  $w_1 \not\Vdash P$  does not. We can illustrate this model as follows.



Here, a world is represented by a circle labeled by the propositional letters that hold in the world. □