Exponentiation and Iteration in the Lambek Calculus and Its Variants

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The Lambek calculus **L** comes from several sources in logic and applications.

- The logical basis for Lambek categorial grammars [Lambek 1958], supported by completeness w.r.t. models on formal languages [Pentus 1995].
- L is one of the substructural logics (see [Došen 1992; Restall 2000]): in the sequent form, it has the same logical rules as Int, but lacks structural rules: weakening, contraction, permutation.
- As Int is the logic of Heyting lattices, the Lambek calculus (extended with lattice-theoretic, so-called additive operations) is the logic of a broader class—residuated lattices (see [Galatos, Jipsen, Kowalski, Ono 2007]).

4. Another natural class of residuated lattices (besides algebras of formal languages) are formed by algebras on binary relations; see completeness results [Andréka, Mikulás 1994]. This corresponds to interpreting Lambek formulae as actions (e.g., in a computational system). Extending the language with Kleene star [Kleene 1956] yields action logic [Pratt 1991; Kozen 1994] and its infinitary version [Buszkowski, Palka 2007].

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- 5. Finally, the Lambek calculus can be viewed as a version of non-commutative intuitionistic linear logic [Girard 1987; Abrusci 1990], with its informal resource interpretation. This enables adding exponential and subexponential modalities to the Lambek calculus.

$$\frac{\overline{A \to A} \text{ Id}}{\Gamma, A, B, \Delta \to C} \cdot L \qquad \frac{\Gamma \to A \quad \Delta \to B}{\Gamma, \Delta \to A \cdot B} \cdot R$$

$$\frac{\Pi \to A \quad \Gamma, B, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, \Pi, A \setminus B, \Delta \to C} \setminus L \qquad \frac{A, \Pi \to B}{\Pi \to A \setminus B} \setminus R$$

$$\frac{\Pi \to A \quad \Gamma, B, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, B / A, \Pi, \Delta \to C} / L \qquad \frac{\Pi, A \to B}{\Pi \to B / A} / R$$

$$\frac{\Pi \to A \quad \Gamma, B, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, B / A, \Pi, \Delta \to C} \cdot C \quad \text{Cut}$$

 Product is multiplicative conjunction, and divisions (residuals) are directed implications.

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- ▶ The Cut rule is eliminable.
- We allow empty left-hand sides of sequents.

$$N$$
, $(N \setminus S) / N$, $N \rightarrow S$
John likes Mary

N, $(N \setminus S) / N$, $N \rightarrow S$ John likes Mary

▶ Here only \L and /L are used.

$$N$$
, $(N \setminus S) / N$, $N \rightarrow S$

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• Here only \L and /L are used.

$$N / CN$$
, CN , $(CN \setminus CN) / (S / N)$, N , $(N \setminus S) / N$, $(N \setminus S) / N$, $N \to S$
The girl whom John likes hates John

$$N$$
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```

▶ Here we also use /R, to show that "John likes" is of type (S / N).

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the girl whom John met yesterday $\dots \rightarrow N$

$$N$$
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This is a more complicated phrase, for which an extension of the Lambek calculus is used.

► The Lambek calculus is the algebraic logic of **residuated monoids**, which a partially ordered monoids with residuals:

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• Lingustic applications motivate a concrete family of residuated monoids, whose elements are formal languages over an alphabet Σ , where

$$A \cdot B = \{uv \mid u \in A, v \in B\}$$

$$A \setminus B = \{u \in \Sigma^* \mid A \cdot \{u\} \subseteq B\}$$

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Completeness was proved by Pentus [1998].

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- Product is relational composition, and divisions are "conditional actions":

$$R \cdot S = R \circ S = \{(x, z) \in W \times W \mid \exists y \in W ((x, y) \in R \text{ and } (y, z) \in S)\}\$$

 $R \setminus S = \{(y, z) \in W \times W \mid R \circ \{(y, z)\} \subseteq S\}$
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- ► Completeness proved by Andréka and Mikulás [1994].
- Notice that completeness (for both classes of models) quickly ruins when one extends the set of operations!

Additive Operations and Constants

MALC, the multiplicative-additive Lambek calculus, is obtained from L by means of additive conjunction \land , additive disjunction \lor , and constants **0** and **1**.

$$\frac{\Gamma, A, \Delta \to C \quad \Gamma, B, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, A \lor B, \Delta \to C} \lor L \qquad \frac{\Pi \to A}{\Pi \to A \lor B} \quad \frac{\Pi \to B}{\Pi \to A \lor B} \lor R$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, A \land B, \Delta \to C} \quad \frac{\Gamma, B, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, A \land B, \Delta \to C} \land L \qquad \frac{\Pi \to A \quad \Pi \to B}{\Pi \to A \land B} \land R$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \mathbf{0}, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, \mathbf{0}, \Delta \to C} \quad \mathbf{0} L \qquad \frac{\Gamma, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, \mathbf{1}, \Delta \to C} \quad \mathbf{1} L \qquad \frac{1}{\to \mathbf{1}} \quad \mathbf{1} R$$

We further extend MALC by means of linear logic exponential modality, yielding !MALC:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \frac{\Gamma,A,\Delta \to C}{\Gamma,!A,\Delta \to C} \text{!L} & \frac{!A_1,\ldots,!A_n \to B}{!A_1,\ldots,!A_n \to !B} \text{!R} & \frac{\Gamma,\Delta \to C}{\Gamma,!A,\Delta \to C} \text{!W} \\ \\ \frac{\Gamma,B,!A,\Delta \to C}{\Gamma,!A,B,\Delta \to C} & \frac{\Gamma,!A,B,\Delta \to C}{\Gamma,B,!A,\Delta \to C} \text{!P} & \frac{\Gamma,!A,!A,\Delta \to C}{\Gamma,!A,\Delta \to C} \text{!C} \\ \end{array}$$

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A more fine-grained structural control is given by subexponentials, in a polymodal system of !^s indexed by s ∈ I, where I bears a partial order ≤.

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- A more fine-grained structural control is given by subexponentials, in a polymodal system of !^s indexed by s ∈ I, where I bears a partial order ≤.
- ► Introduction rules:

$$\frac{\Gamma, A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !^s A, \Delta \to C} \text{!L} \qquad \frac{!^{s_1} A_1, \dots, !^{s_n} A_n \to B}{!^{s_1} A_1, \dots, !^{s_n} A_n \to !^s B} \text{!R, } s_i \succeq s$$

▶ In \mathcal{I} , we designate three subsets, \mathcal{W} , \mathcal{E} , and \mathcal{C} , upward-closed under \leq .

- In \(\mathcal{I}\), we designate three subsets, \(\mathcal{W}\), \(\mathcal{E}\), and \(\mathcal{C}\), upward-closed under \(\times \).
- ▶ These sets control which structural rules are allowed:

$$\frac{\Gamma, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !^{w}A, \Delta \to C} ! W, w \in \mathscr{W} \qquad \frac{\Gamma, B, !^{e}A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !^{e}A, B, \Delta \to C} \frac{\Gamma, !^{e}A, B, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, B, !^{e}A, \Delta \to C} ! P, e \in \mathscr{E}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma,!^{c}A,\Phi,!^{c}A,\Delta \to C}{\Gamma,!^{c}A,\Phi,\Delta \to C} \quad \frac{\Gamma,!^{c}A,\Phi,!^{c}A,\Delta \to C}{\Gamma,\Phi,!^{c}A,\Delta \to C} \text{ !NC, } c \in \mathscr{C}$$

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$$\Gamma, !^{c}A, \Phi, !^{c}A, \Delta \to C \qquad \Gamma, !^{c}A, \Phi, !^{c}A, \Delta \to C \qquad \square \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, !^{c}A, \Phi, !^{c}A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !^{c}A, \Phi, \Delta \to C} \quad \frac{\Gamma, !^{c}A, \Phi, !^{c}A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, \Phi, !^{c}A, \Delta \to C} \text{ !NC, } c \in \mathscr{C}$$

Notice that contaction here appears in its non-local form, otherwise cut-elimination fails for $c \in \mathscr{C} - \mathscr{E}$ [Bayu Surarso, Ono 1996; Kanovich, K., Nigam, Scedrov 2018].

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- [Bayu Surarso, Ono 1996; Kanovich, K., Nigam, Scedrov 2018].
- ▶ Since !W and !NC simulate !P, we postulate $\mathcal{W} \cap \mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$.

Subexponentials in Lambek Grammars

▶ The permutation modality ($e \in \mathcal{E}$, $e \notin W \cap \mathcal{E}$) is used for modelling **medial extraction**:

```
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- ▶ Notice that weakening is linguistically inacceptable, so we have the so-called **relevant modality**: $r \in \mathcal{C} \cap \mathcal{E}$, $r \notin \mathcal{W}$.
- ▶ In real linguistic applications, even more sophisticated, semi-non-associative, systems of structural control are used [Morrill 1992; Moortgat 1996].

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- Derivability in MALC is also decidable, being PSPACE-complete [Kanovich 1994; ...]
- ▶ In contrast, !MALC is undecidable (Σ_1^0 -complete).
- The reason is undecidability of entailment from finite sets of hypotheses. The latter is encoded via modalised deduction theorem:

$$\rightarrow A_1, ..., \rightarrow A_n \vdash_{\mathbf{MALC}} \Pi \rightarrow C \iff \vdash_{\mathbf{!MALC}} !A_1, ..., !A_n, \Pi \rightarrow C.$$

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- ▶ To compare, in the commutative case undecidability of linear logic uses additive disjunction [Lincoln, Mitchell, Scedrov, Shankar 1992].
- (Un)decidability of MELL (multiplicative-additive commutative linear logic) is a long-standing open question.

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- In fact, for undecidability it is sufficient to have a subexponential which allows non-local contraction (c ∈ C) [Kanovich, K., Nigam, Scedrov 2018].
 - ▶ If no subexponential allows contraction, the system is decidable.
- With local contraction, cut-elimination can be restored in two ways. One either restricts the right rule

$$\frac{\Gamma, A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !A, \Delta \to C} \text{ !L } \qquad \frac{!A \to B}{!A \to !B} \text{ !}_1 \text{R} \qquad \frac{\Gamma, !A, !A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !A, \Delta \to C} \text{ !C}$$

or allows contraction of sequences of !-formulae:

$$\frac{\Gamma, A, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !A, \Delta \to C} !L \qquad \frac{!\Pi \to B}{!\Pi \to !B} !R \qquad \frac{\Gamma, !\Pi, !\Pi, \Delta \to C}{\Gamma, !\Pi, \Delta \to C} !MC$$

(Here if
$$\Pi = A_1, ..., A_n$$
, then $!\Pi = !A_1, ..., !A_n$.)

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- Namely, ! is interpreted as a monotone idempotent operation on binary relations which maps any relation to its dense subrelation.
- ▶ For the second system, ! should also commute with product: $!R \circ !S \subseteq !(R \circ S)$.

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- ► This gives action lattices and their *-continuous subclass [Pratt 1991; Kozen 1994].
- **Positive iteration** ("Kleene plus") is defined: $A^+ = A \cdot A^*$.

(Infinitary) Action Logic

▶ The algebraic logic of *-continuous action lattices is **infinitary action logic** ACT_{ω} [Palka 2007], obtained from **MALC** by the following rules:

$$\frac{\left(\Gamma, A^n, \Delta \to C\right)_{n=0}^{\infty}}{\Gamma, A^*, \Delta \to C} * \mathsf{L}_{\omega} \qquad \frac{\Pi_1 \to A \quad \dots \quad \Pi_n \to A}{\Pi_1, \dots, \Pi_n \to A^*} * \mathsf{R}_n$$

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▶ Notice that Cut is eliminable in ACT_{ω} , but not in ACT.

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Now the grammar is total iff the following sequent is derivable in ACT₀:

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- ► For proving undecidability of the weaker system **ACT**, we introduce the notion of **regular totality** for context-free grammars, which captures **circular runs** of Turing machines.
- ▶ A grammar *G* is **regularly total**, if it includes the following rules:

$$S \Rightarrow aYT \qquad T \Rightarrow a \qquad T \Rightarrow aT$$

and the following holds: (1) $Y \Rightarrow^* w$ for each w with |w| = n; (2) $S \Rightarrow^* w$ for each w with $|w| \le n + 1$.

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- ▶ We construct $G_{\mathbb{M}}$ in such way that if M gets into q_c (looping), then $G_{\mathbb{M}}$ is regularly total.
- ▶ For a regularly total $G_{\mathbb{M}}$, the sequent $E^+ \to S$ is provable already in **ACT**.
- ▶ Unfortunately, the converse does not hold: there could be cases where $E^+ \to S$ is derivable in **ACT**, but M does not loop.

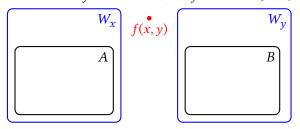
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- Let W_r be the r.e. set of index x.
- ► Two disjoint sets $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ are effectively inseparable, if there is a computable function f(x, y) with the following property. If $W_x \supseteq A$, $W_y \supseteq B$, and $W_x \cap W_y = \emptyset$, then $f(x, y) \notin W_x \cup W_y$.

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W_x \\
A
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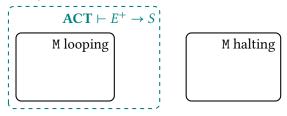


▶ *f* effectively prevents *A* and *B* from being separated by a decidable set.

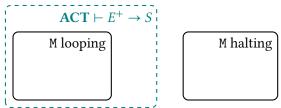
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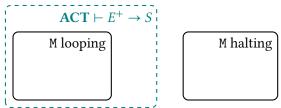


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- ▶ Moreover, as follows from [Myhill 1955], any r.e. set separating two r.e. effectively inseparable sets, is Σ_1^0 -complete.
- ▶ This proves Σ_1^0 -completeness of **ACT** [K. 2021].

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- ▶ Kozen encodes the **well-foundedness problem** for a recursively defined relation $R \subseteq \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$.
- Next we, again, internalise reasoning from hypotheses into
 !ACT_ω using modalised deduction theorem.

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- ▶ We add an "infinitary semi-Thue rule" $t \Rightarrow s a^*$, which is responsible for restarting the computation on input (y, z), for all z.
- ▶ Well-foundedness of R is equivalent to well-foundedness (e.g., correctness) of the proof of $t, b^* \to r$ from the given set of hypotheses in \mathbf{ACT}_{ω} .

▶ By combining Kozen's reasoning and the construction from [Buszkowski 1982], we can trade product and iteration for division and **iterative division**—a compound connective of the form $A \setminus B = A^* \setminus B$ [Kanovich, K., Scedrov 2025].

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- We shall need this result later on.

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- Ordinal measures are $< \omega^{\omega}$, and they control the closure ordinal.
- ▶ By $H(\alpha)$ (for $\alpha \le \omega^{\omega}$) we denote the α iteration of Turing jump.
 - ▶ In particular, H(n) is the standard Σ_n^0 -complete set.

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 - Our notation here is not entirely standard, as usually (see [Rogers 1967]) on limit steps an extra Turing jump is added.

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- ▶ This gives a reduction from derivability in the given fragment of !ACT_{ω} to $H(\omega^{\omega})$, i.e., establishes a $\Sigma^{0}_{\omega^{\omega}}$ upper bound [K., Pshenitsyn, Speranski 2025].
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- ▶ The lower bound is proved via encoding truth of computable infinitary propositional formulae of rank $< \omega^{\omega}$ [Ash, Knight 2000; Montalbán 2022].
- As a matter of fact, a similar technique applied to \mathbf{ACT}_{ω} computes Π_1^0 -formulae defining derivability for sequents of given ordinal measure. This gives an alternative Π_1^0 upper bound proof.

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- ▶ From this, using strong completeness and complexity results, one derives Π_1^1 -completeness for the equational theory of formal language algebras, in the language of \, \\, \wedge , 1.

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- ▶ Thus, we get Π_1^1 -completeness for the equational theory of algebras of binary relations, in the language of \, \\, \wedge , 0, 1.
 - ▶ This solves an open problem by Buszkowski [1982], who conjectures Π_1^0 -completeness.

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- ► Hopefully we hear more on non-associative systems in the talk by Michael Moortgat.
- ▶ In NL without additives and in the distributive version of NL with additives, entailment from finite sets of hypotheses is decidable [Buszkowski, Farulewski 2009].

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- ▶ In the associative setting, in contrast, distributivity is usually an obstacle.
- ▶ In particular, we do not know exact complexity of distributive versions of MALC and ACT_{ω} .
- ▶ Decidability of distributive **MALC** shown by Kozak [2009].

Thanks

Thanks!*

- This talk is partially based on joint work with Eben Blaisdell, Max Kanovich, Glyn Morrill, Vivek Nigam, Elaine Pimentel, Tikhon Pshenitsyn, Andre Scedrov, and Stanislav Speranski, all of whom the author is indebted to.
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