

On the logical complexity of cyclic arithmetic

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Irrationality of $\sqrt{2}$ via infinite descent

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$$\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \hline b^2 = 2c^2 \Rightarrow \bullet \\ \hline c < a, 4c^2 = 2b^2 \Rightarrow \\ \hline \Rightarrow 2 \text{ is prime} \quad \exists x < a. a = 2x, a^2 = 2b^2 \Rightarrow \\ \hline a^2 = 2b^2 \Rightarrow \bullet \\ \hline \Rightarrow \forall x, y. x^2 \neq 2y^2 \end{array}$$

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- Apparently **non-wellfounded** reasoning.
- Why is it **sound**?

- 1 Peano and Cyclic Arithmetic
- 2 Summary of previous work and contributions
- 3 From induction to cycles
- 4 From cycles to induction
- 5 Some further results
- 6 Conclusions

Cyclic proofs

- Proof theory for FOL with **inductive definitions**.
- (Automated) proofs of **program termination** in separation logic.
- Proof systems for the **modal μ -calculus** and other fixed point logics.
- **Type systems** based on fragments of linear logic with fixed points.
- Metalogical results, like **interpolation**.
- **Proof search** procedures.
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A motivating abstract question:

Question (Brotherston-Simpson conjecture)

*Are inductive proofs and cyclic proofs **equally powerful**?*

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This talk is about the special case of **first-order arithmetic**.

A sequent calculus presentation of PA

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Peano Arithmetic, written PA, can be specified by a deduction system as follows:

- Δ_0 -initial sequents for the instances of Q: defining properties of 0, s, +, \times , <.
- An induction rule:

$$\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, A(0) \quad \Gamma, A(a) \Rightarrow \Delta, A(sa)}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, A(t)}$$

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Definition

$I\Phi$ is the **fragment of PA** where induction is restricted to formulae $A \in \Phi$. In particular $I\Sigma_n$ has induction only on formulae $\exists x_1. \forall x_2. \dots. Qx_n. A$, with A **recursive**.

Proposition (Folklore)

For $n \geq 0$ we have that $I\Sigma_n = I\Pi_n$.

Some proof theory of arithmetic

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Theorem ((Free-)cut elimination)

If $\text{PA} \vdash S(\vec{a})$, then there is a sequent proof π of $S(\vec{a})$ containing only *subformulae* of $S(\vec{a})$, an *induction formula* of π or an *initial sequent* of π .

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Corollary

For $n \geq 0$, if $I\Sigma_n \vdash \forall \vec{x}. \varphi(\vec{x})$, for $\varphi \in \Sigma_n$, then $\Rightarrow \varphi(\vec{a})$ has a sequent proof containing *only* Σ_n *formulae*.

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- S_i concludes a θ -sub step and $t = \theta(t')$; or
- S_i concludes any other step and t' is t ; or
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A **trace** along an infinite branch $(S_i)_i$ is a sequence $(t_i)_{i \geq n}$ such that:

- 1 t_i is a precursor of t_{i+1} ; or
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Definition (∞ -proofs)

A **∞ -proof** (or just 'proof') is a preproof where each infinite branch has an **infinitely progressing trace**.

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There is an **infinitely progressing trace** $(a, c, b)^\omega$.

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- Simultaneously build **assignments** ρ_i witnessing the invalidity.

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Proof idea.

- Suppose otherwise, and build a **branch of invalid sequents** $(S_i)_i$.
- Simultaneously build **assignments** ρ_i witnessing the invalidity.
- By definition, there is an infinitely progressing trace $(t_i)_{i \geq n}$ along $(S_i)_i$.
- Can induce an **infinite descending sequence** $\rho_{i_1}(t_{i_1}) > \rho_{i_2}(t_{i_2}) > \dots$ □

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Proof.

Let π be a regular preproof. Define:

- \mathcal{A}_b^π a (deterministic) Büchi automaton recognising **infinite branches** of π .
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NB: inclusion of Büchi automata is **PSPACE-complete**.

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Previous work

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- Formalises soundness argument for ∞ -proofs in an appropriate fragment of SO arithmetic (ACA_0).
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Theorem (Implicit in Berardi & Tatsuta '17)

CA + \mathcal{I} = PA + \mathcal{I} for any set of Martin-Löf **ordinary inductive definitions** \mathcal{I} and their associated rules.

- '**Structural**' argument, relying on proof-level manipulations.

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- '**Structural**' argument, relying on proof-level manipulations.
- Relies on some nontrivial **infinitary combinatorics** specialised to arithmetic.
- **High logical complexity**.

Some questions

Definition

Write $C\Sigma_n$ for the theory axiomatised by the **universal closures** of CA proofs containing only Σ_n -formulae.

NB: A $C\Sigma_n$ proof of a Σ_n sequent will contain only Σ_n formulae anyway, by **free-cut elimination**.

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- 2 How does the **proof complexity** of PA and CA compare?
- 3 Does **cut-admissibility** hold for any non-trivial fragment of CA?

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Example (Simpson '17)

Recall the Ackermann-Péter function:

$$A(x, y) = \begin{cases} y + 1 & x = 0 \\ A(x - 1, 1, z) & x > 0, y = 0 \\ A(x - 1, A(x, y - 1)) & x, y > 0 \end{cases}$$

Let $A(x, y, z)$ be an appropriate Σ_1 formula computing its graph.

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Let $A(x, y, z)$ be an appropriate Σ_1 formula computing its graph. We have:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{x=0 \Rightarrow A(x, y, y+1)}{x > 0, y=0 \Rightarrow \exists z. A(x, y, z)}{\exists z. A(x-1, 1, z)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\vdots}{\exists z. A(x, y-1, z)}{\exists z, y'. A(x, y-1, y') \wedge A(x-1, y', z)}{\exists z. A(x-1, y', z)} \quad \frac{\frac{\vdots}{\exists z. A(x-1, y', z)}{\exists z. A(x, y, z)}}{\exists z. A(x, y, z)}}{x > 0 \Rightarrow \exists z. A(x, y, z)}}{x > 0 \Rightarrow \exists z. A(x, y, z)}}{\Rightarrow \exists z. A(x, y, z)}$$

On the other hand, some intuitions have simple proofs:

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Proof.

Simply replace every sequent $\vec{p}, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta$ with $\vec{p}, \bar{\Gamma} \Rightarrow \bar{\Delta}$, where \vec{p} exhausts all **atomic formulae** in the antecedent. □

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Theorem

PA and CA proof size differs only *elementarily*.

Proof idea.

Soundness argument can be made **uniform** in PA. Relies on:

- **Deterministic** acceptance of branch automaton is **arithmetical**.
- Well-foundedness of only **finite ordinals** is needed for the argument.
- \rightsquigarrow **arithmetical approximation** of non-deterministic acceptance. □

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Let π be a Π_{n+1} proof, containing *only* Π_{n+1} formulae, of

$$\Gamma, \forall x_1.A_1, \dots, \forall x_l.A_l \Rightarrow \Delta, \forall y_1.B_1, \dots, \forall y_m.B_m \quad (1)$$

where Γ, Δ, A_i, B_j are Σ_n and \vec{x}, \vec{y} occur only in \vec{A}, \vec{B} respectively.

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where Γ, Δ, A_i, B_j are Σ_n and \vec{x}, \vec{y} occur only in \vec{A}, \vec{B} respectively.

Then there is a $C\Sigma_n$ derivation $[\pi]$ of the form:

$$\frac{\{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, A_i\}_{i \leq l}}{[\pi]} \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, B_1, \dots, B_m$$

Moreover, no free variables of (1) occur as *eigenvariables* in $[\pi]$.

Translation of an induction step to a cyclic proof, idea

If π extends proofs π_0, π' by an **induction step**,

$$\text{ind} \frac{\Gamma, \forall \vec{x}. \vec{A} \Rightarrow \Delta, \forall \vec{y}. \vec{B}, \forall z. C(0) \quad \Gamma, \forall \vec{x}. \vec{A}, \forall z. C(c) \Rightarrow \Delta, \forall \vec{y}. \vec{B}, \forall z. C(sc)}{\Gamma, \forall \vec{x}. \vec{A} \Rightarrow \Delta, \forall \vec{y}. \vec{B}, \forall x. C(t)}$$

we define $\lceil \pi \rceil$ to be the following **cyclic proof**:

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\{ \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, A_i \}_{i \leq l}}{\lceil \pi_0 \rceil}}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, A(0)}}{b = 0, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, C(d)} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, C(d)}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, C(c)}}{\lceil \pi' \rceil, \vec{B}} \quad \{ \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, A_i \}_{i \leq l}}{c < d, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, C(sc)}}{d = sc, \Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, C(d)} \bullet}{\text{sub} \frac{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, C(d)}{\Gamma \Rightarrow \Delta, \vec{B}, C(t)}} \bullet$$

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Theorem (Kolodziejczyk, Michalewski, Pradic & Skrzypczak '16)

$$\text{RCA}_0 + \Sigma_2\text{-IND} \vdash \forall \text{NBA } \mathcal{A}. \forall X. (X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}^c) \equiv X \notin \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A})) \quad (2)$$

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NB: (3) is **implicit** in that work. It is **not trivial!**

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Theorem

$I\Sigma_1(X)$ + “ \mathcal{A}_2 has a complement” proves:

$$\forall \text{DBA } \mathcal{A}_1. (\mathcal{A}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{A}_2 \wedge X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}_1)) \supset \text{ArAcc}(X, \mathcal{A}_2)$$

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Corollary

- 1 PA *elementarily simulates* CA.
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Outline

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Interestingly, Ackermann-Péter has a 'type-0' cyclic proof:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\rightarrow 1} \quad \frac{}{\rightarrow 1^*}}{\rightarrow 1^*} \quad 1 \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{1 \rightarrow 1} \quad \frac{}{1^* \rightarrow 1^*}}{1, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{*l} \quad \frac{}{\vdots}}{1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{s}}{\frac{}{1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{w}}{\frac{}{1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{*l}}{\frac{}{1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{c}}} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\rightarrow 1} \quad \frac{}{\rightarrow 1^*}}{\rightarrow 1^*} \quad 1 \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdots (1)}}{1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{c}}{1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{cut}}{\frac{}{1, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{2w}}{\frac{}{1, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{*l}}{\frac{}{1, 1^*, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{cut}}} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdots (2)}}{1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{c}}{\frac{}{1^*, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{2w}}{\frac{}{1, 1^*, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{cut}}} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{}{\vdots (3)}}{1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{c}}{\frac{}{1, 1^*, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{2w}}{\frac{}{1, 1^*, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{cut}}} \quad \frac{\frac{}{1^*, 1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{c}}{\frac{}{1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{c}}{\frac{}{1^*, 1^* \rightarrow 1^*} \quad \text{c}}} \quad \text{A}
 \end{array}$$

Question

Does 'cyclic- T ' exhibit a 1-level improvement over T ?

Work-in-progress: a Dialectica-style **functional interpretation** of CA.

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Thank you.